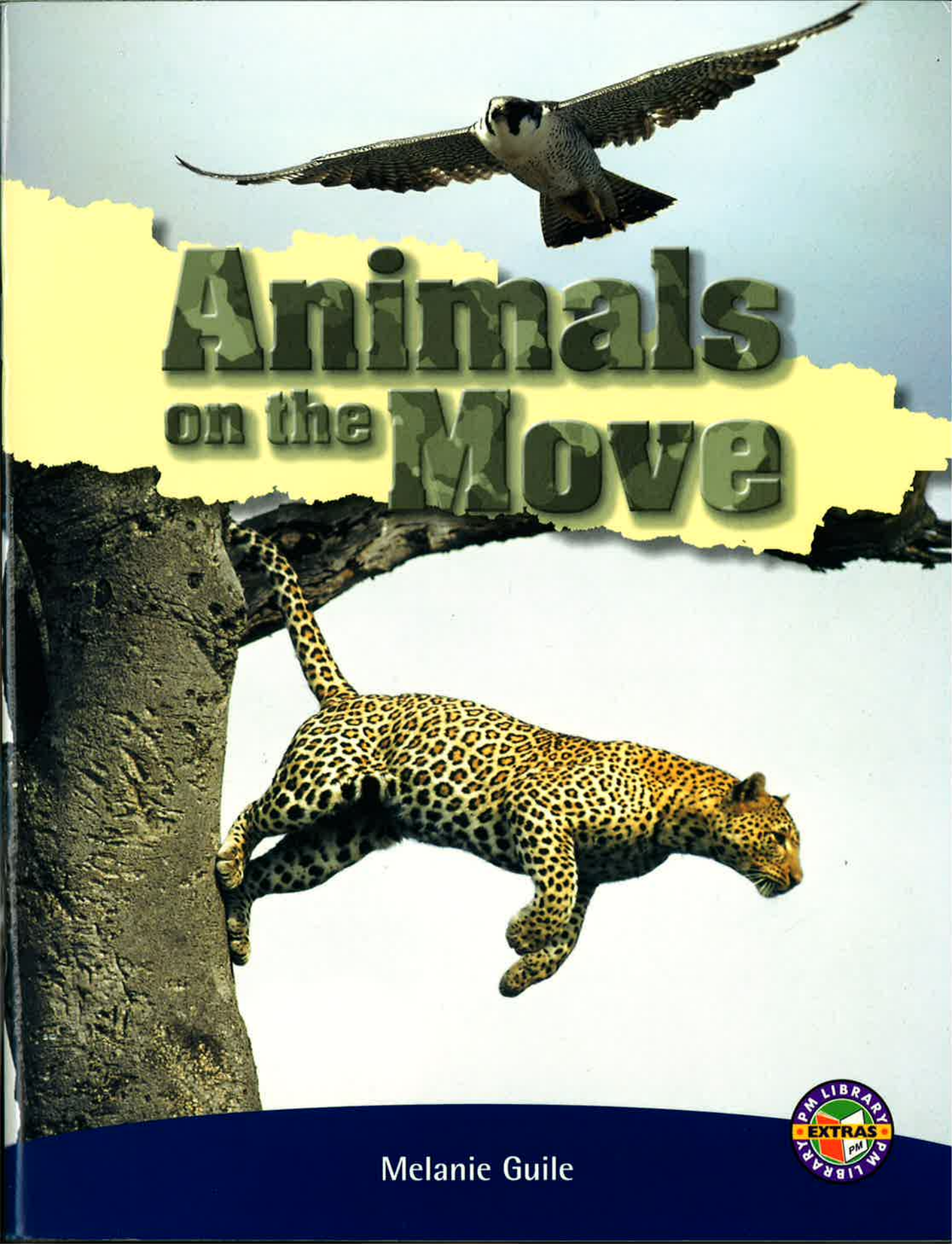


Melanie Guile

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Animals on the Move

Key vocabulary

ambush, carcass, carnivores, flanks, mammals, plumage, predators, prey, spoor, stalk

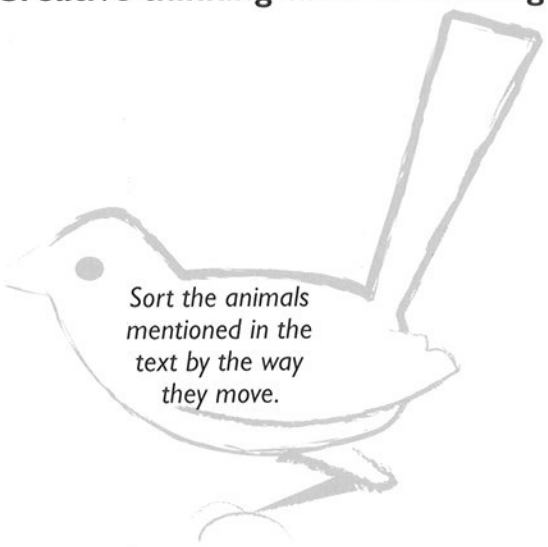
Grammatical conventions

- Action verbs: catch, crawl, dive, flutter, grab, jump, kill, suffocate, waft, wriggle
- Adverbs that modify verbs: actively, deadly, slowly, silently, suddenly, tightly, violently
- Adjectives of comparison: fastest, greatest, highest, swiftest

Spelling

- Negative prefixes: invertebrates, unsuspecting
- Suffixes: digestion, protection, vibration
- Dropping the 'e' to add 'ing': amazing, mating, migrating, shaking, suffocating, undertaking

Creative thinking task – Knowledge



Sort the animals mentioned in the text by the way they move.

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Introduction

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Think about the similarities between animals and plants. Both are living things, they both need light, food and air, and both reproduce, having seeds or babies. Some animals even look just like plants.

But there is a key difference between them – animals move about in their environment. They swim, fly, hop, slither, hover, run, jump and dive.

In fact, all animals need to move in order to survive. Just like humans, they need to be able to fetch food or water, run from danger, and find a good place to rest. And the kind of life they lead dictates how they move.



eastern grey kangaroos



leaf insect



leopard frog

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Did you know?

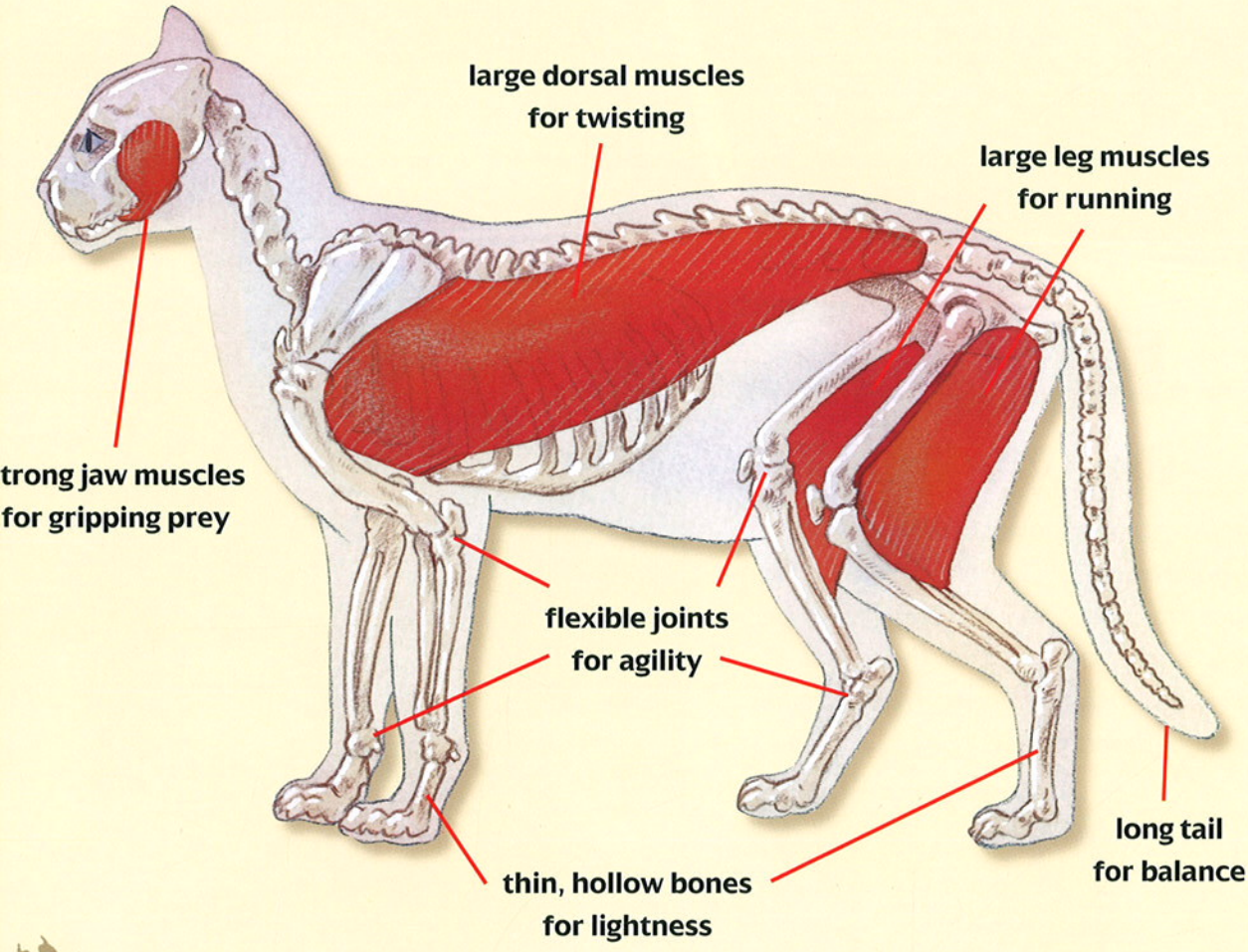
Sloths are the slowest moving of all ***mammals****. They travel only forty metres each day, sleep for eighteen hours per day, and spend most of their time clinging upside down to tree branches, munching leaves.*

Chapter 1

How Animals Move

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There are two main animal designs – animals with skeletons (*vertebrates* like birds, fish, dogs and frogs) and animals without (*invertebrates* like squid, flies and worms). Both kinds are perfectly adapted to moving in their own environments.



Cats are vertebrates. The bones of the skeleton provide a rigid framework; the muscles move the animal. Cats are expert hunters, designed for speed and flexibility.

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No Bones!

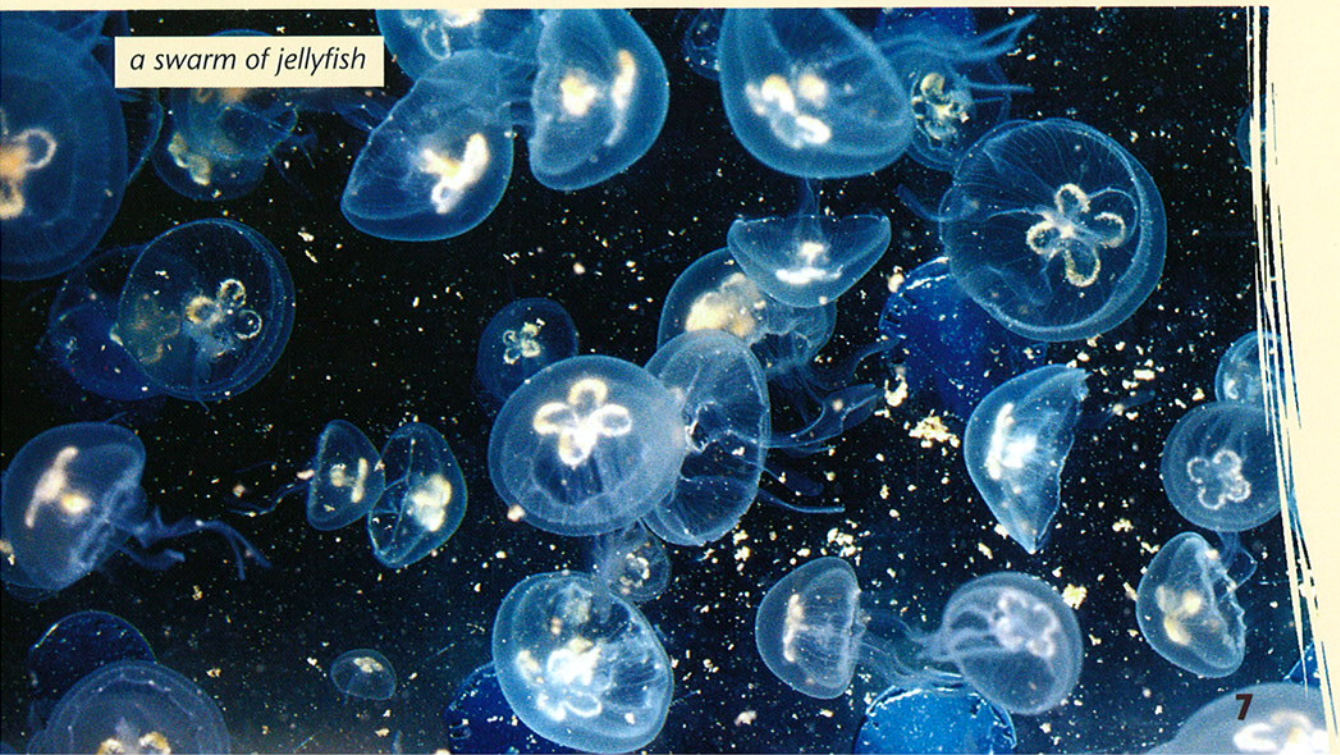
Invertebrates move in a huge variety of ways. Jellyfish waft in water, worms wriggle or squirm and insects use a hard outer shell called an *exoskeleton* to fly, flutter, crawl or jump. Squid move by jet propulsion, pulling water through their bodies and forcing it out behind. They swim backwards, their eight legs and two tentacles trailing behind them. Octopi breathe underwater, but they can crawl out of the sea and over rocks – and even up walls to reach their **prey**.

Did you know?

Because they have no legs, snakes move by tightening and relaxing their muscles in sequence, using their rough belly scales for grip. Tree snakes can leap between trees and jump down from branches onto their prey, and almost all snakes are good swimmers.



inchworm caterpillar



a swarm of jellyfish

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Aerial Acrobats

Light-weight bones, strong muscles and feathers enable birds to fly. Powerful muscles flap the wings for lift, and the air rushing over their outspread wings keeps them up.

Bats are the only mammals that can truly fly. A web of skin stretches between their elongated finger bones to make wings. Bats use their back feet and claws for hanging upside down from perches.



snow geese

Did you know?

Birds can fly as high as aeroplanes! In 1973 a vulture crashed into a jet liner over Africa. It was flying at 12,500 metres.