

Unusual, endangered animals

We know a lot about the big, endangered animals like tigers and rhinos, but there are **thousands** of animals in trouble. These beautiful animals may not be famous, but they do need our help.



The lemur frog

This small frog is only about 4cm long. It is green in the day but brown at night! It lives in the rainforests in Central America, in Costa Rica, Panama and Colombia. It sleeps under leaves in the day and eats insects at night. It is endangered for two reasons: people are cutting down the rainforest where it lives and there is a disease that is killing many frogs around the world.

Source: **Frogmana** - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=72959123>

The tree kangaroo

This cute animal looks like something between a kangaroo, a lemur and a bear! It is bigger than a cat and has a long tail. It lives in the trees in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and Australia, and is an excellent climber. It can jump down from a tree 18 metres high! But there are not many of them left. People are cutting down the forest where they live and hunting them for meat. Cars sometimes hit them on the road.



The coconut crab

This crab is really big! It can grow to one metre long! It lives on islands in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. When it is young it finds shells and lives in them, but when it is older it is very strong and doesn't need a shell for protection. It eats fruit and nuts, including coconuts which it finds on the floor. They can live for 60 years! Unfortunately, they are a popular food in restaurants, and there aren't many crabs left.

The axolotl

This strange animal is an amphibian like a frog, but it lives all its life underwater. It has legs, so it is sometimes called a 'walking fish'. It lives in just one lake in Mexico, Lake Xochimilco, which is in one of the biggest cities in the world, Mexico City. Sadly, the axolotl is endangered. The lake where it lives doesn't have much water, and the water is dirty because so many people live near it and use it.



The Popa langur monkey

This funny-looking monkey lives on one volcano in Myanmar. People didn't know it existed until 2020, so we don't know very much about it. But we do know that there aren't many left. It's possible there are only 200 of them! People are building roads and towns through the forests where they live, but the good news is that some of them live in a protected area.

Image of Popa langur monkey: Source: German Primate Center (DPZ) – Leibniz Institute for Primate Research | Photographer: Thaug Win