

## Amazing discoveries – Glossary

**amaze** verb [intransitive/transitive]

to surprise someone very much, especially by being very impressive

*These guys continue to amaze with their excellent music.*

**amazing** adjective

used about something surprising that is also very impressive

*Their last CD sold an amazing two million copies.*

**amphibian** noun [countable]

BIOLOGY an animal such as a frog or toad that lives mainly on land, but produces its eggs and develops into its adult form in water

**extinct** adjective

an extinct animal, plant, or language no longer exists

*The Tasmanian tiger was declared extinct in 1936.*

**habitat** noun [countable]

BIOLOGY the type of place that a particular animal usually lives in or a particular plant usually grows in, for example a desert, forest, or lake

*a rare bird that is in danger of losing its natural habitat*

**hunting** noun [uncountable]

the activity of chasing and killing wild animals

*a campaign to ban the hunting of wild animals*

**illegal** adjective

not allowed by the law

*I was charged with illegal possession of firearms.*

**increase** verb [intransitive]

to become larger in amount or number

*An increasing number of people are choosing not to have children.*

**invertebrate** noun [countable]

BIOLOGY a small animal without a backbone, for example an insect or a worm

**jungle** noun [countable/uncountable]

a thick tropical forest

*the Amazon jungle*

**lizard** noun [countable]

a small animal with a long tail and rough skin that lives mainly in hot places. A lizard is a type of reptile.

**mammal** noun [countable]

BIOLOGY an animal that is born from its mother's body, not from an egg, and drinks its mother's milk as a baby. Humans, dogs, and cows are all mammals.

**natural** adjective

existing in nature and not produced or caused by people

*This cloth is made from natural fibres.*

**rainbow** noun [countable]

a curved line of colours that appears in the sky when the sun shines while it is raining

**reduce** verb [transitive]

to make something smaller or less in size, amount, importance etc

*Try to reduce the amount of fat in your diet.*

**reptile** noun [countable]

BIOLOGY a type of cold-blooded animal that gives birth to young animals as eggs and whose body is covered in scales (=flat hard pieces of skin).

Snakes and crocodiles are reptiles.

**rest** noun [singular]

the part of something that remains

*I'm not really hungry – do you want the rest?*

**shark** noun [countable]

a large fish with sharp teeth that lives in the sea. Some types of shark attack people.

**snail** noun [countable]

a small animal that has a soft body, no legs, and a hard shell on its back. Snails move very slowly.

**species** noun [countable]

BIOLOGY a plant or animal group whose members all have similar general features and are able to produce young plants or animals together

*the human species*

**turquoise** adjective

bright green-blue in colour

**unknown** adjective

if something is unknown, people do not know about it or do not know what it is

*Several hundred people were affected by the previously unknown virus.*