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# TIME FOR A BATH, *Animals*



This book belongs to:

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To my parents,  
with love. – M.L.

Ben Lerwill Maribel Lechuga

# TIME FOR A BATH, Animals





# TIME FOR A BATH!

Bathtime is special. When you have a bath, it's time to wash, play and feel relaxed. It can be lots of splishy, splashy fun!



Just like you, some animals need to wash to stay nice and healthy.

But the things they do at bathtime are sometimes very different to the things you do...

Shall we take a look?



# BIRDS

Sparrows like to wash in garden bird baths. They flutter their little wings to splash off any dirt or dust on their feathers.

Do you ever have dirty knees or elbows?  
How do you clean them?

Birds like the water  
to be fresh and clean.



Blackbirds and starlings like to wash in bird baths too.  
Sometimes, different birds splash around together!



# ELEPHANTS

Elephants live in hot countries. To cool down, they sometimes have big, squelchy mud baths!

Have you ever cooled down in a bath or a paddling pool on a sunny day?

Elephants use their long trunks to throw wet mud behind their ears and over their backs.

The mud keeps them cool, and it also stops the Sun from burning their skin.



# TIGERS

Tigers have a special way of washing their cubs. They lick them!

Who helps you to wash and stay clean?

Adult tigers also use their tongues to lick their own stripy paws clean.

Tigers have tongues that are very long, strong and scratchy. They can use them to remove insects and dirt from the cubs' fur.



# CROCODILES

Some river crocodiles have very brave helpers. Plovers are birds that pick out bits of food stuck between a crocodile's teeth.

How do you keep your teeth clean?

Crocodiles have more than 60 sharp, pointy teeth.  
How many teeth do you have?

The crocodile and the plover are both happy.  
One gets its teeth cleaned and the other gets a free meal!



# GORILLAS

Gorillas groom each other, picking out insects and dirt from the hair of other gorillas.

How do you keep your hair clean?

Grooming is also a way for gorillas to show each other friendship.

Gorillas have fingers and thumbs just like we do. They use them to feed, to climb and to grab and hold onto things.



# OSTRICHES

Ostriches keep their feathers clean by having dust baths. They shake dust all around. What a big, floppy, feathery sight!

Do you ever splash bathwater around?



By wriggling their wings, ostriches get dust in between their feathers. The dust soaks up oil in the feathers and stops them getting greasy.

Dust baths let ostriches stay clean when there's no water nearby.



# POLAR BEARS

Polar bears like to roll around in the snow to keep their fur nice and clean.

*Can you imagine if your bath was full of snow instead of water?*



Polar bears live in cold places, but they can still get too hot.  
Rolling in the snow helps them cool down.



Some polar bears wash  
in a different way – by taking  
a big chilly swim in the sea!





# GROUPER FISH

Grouper fish keep their skin healthy by letting much smaller fish nibble at their scales.

Have you ever helped anyone else to get clean?

When they clean bigger fish, they peck off dead skin and teeny creatures that shouldn't be there. They keep working for around four hours a day!

These two little fish are called cleaner wrasses. They have 'cleaning stations' underwater for bigger fish to visit.



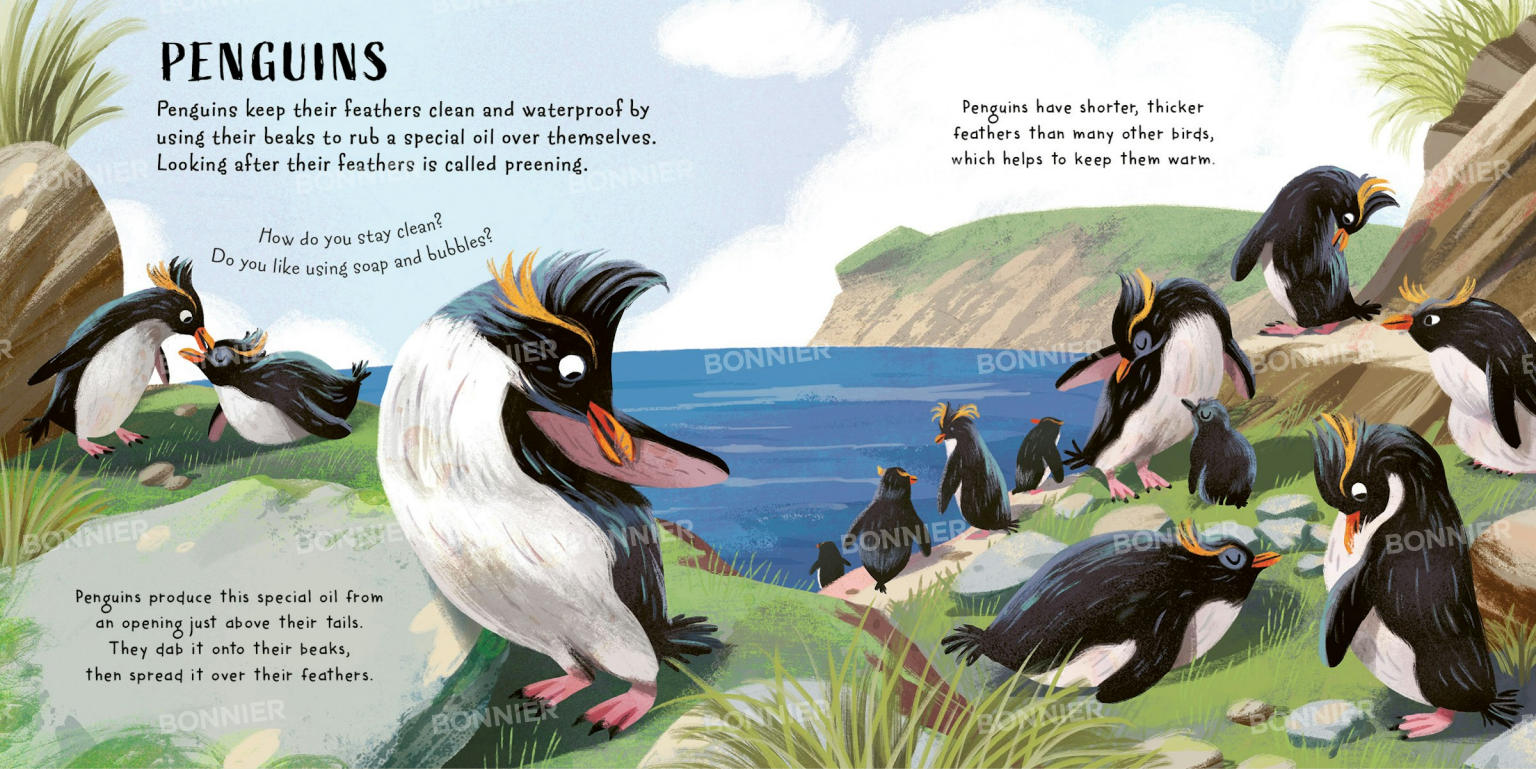
# PENGUINS

Penguins keep their feathers clean and waterproof by using their beaks to rub a special oil over themselves. Looking after their feathers is called preening.

Penguins have shorter, thicker feathers than many other birds, which helps to keep them warm.

*How do you stay clean?  
Do you like using soap and bubbles?*

Penguins produce this special oil from an opening just above their tails. They dab it onto their beaks, then spread it over their feathers.





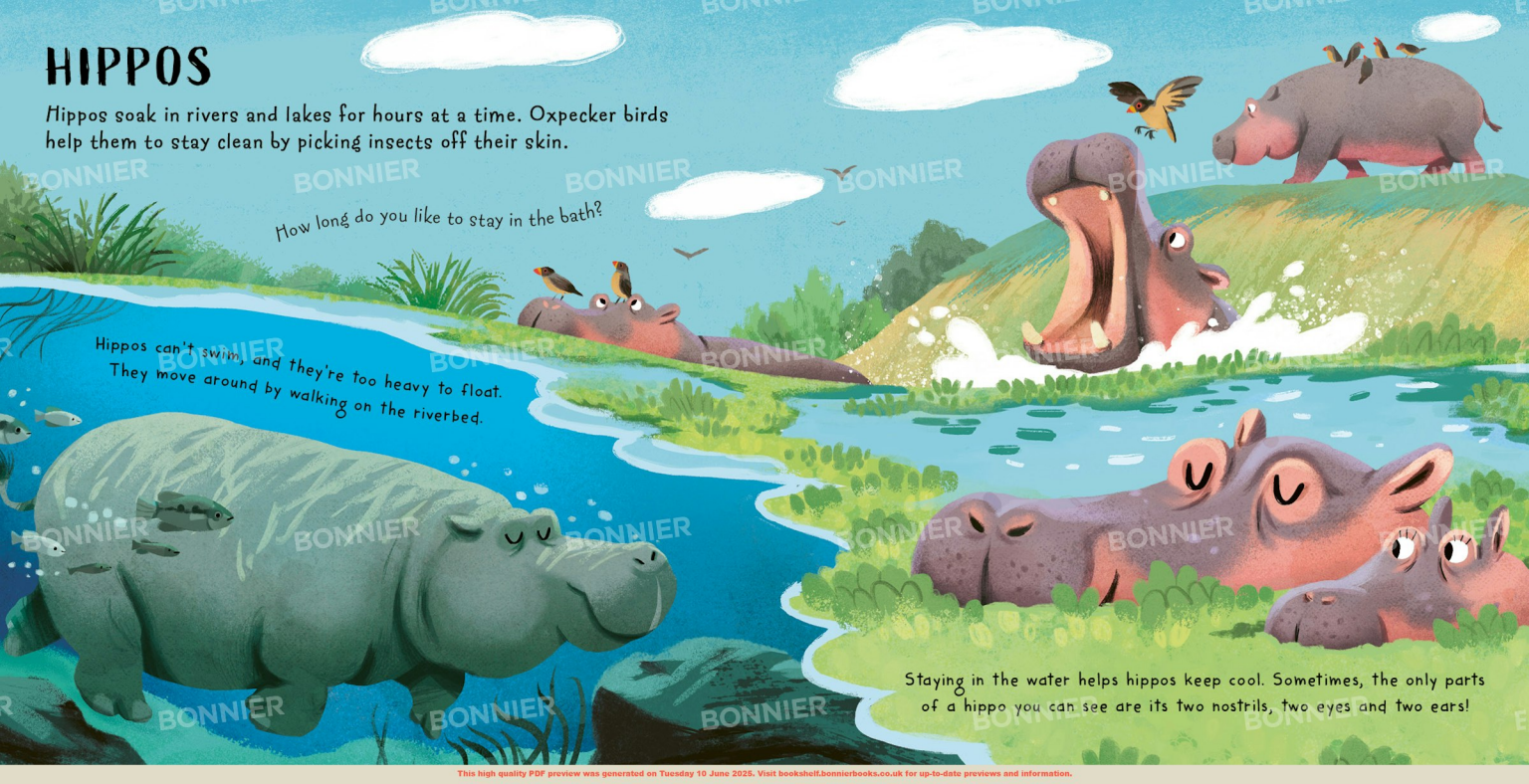
# HIPPOS

Hippos soak in rivers and lakes for hours at a time. Oxpecker birds help them to stay clean by picking insects off their skin.

How long do you like to stay in the bath?

Hippos can't swim, and they're too heavy to float. They move around by walking on the riverbed.

Staying in the water helps hippos keep cool. Sometimes, the only parts of a hippo you can see are its two nostrils, two eyes and two ears!





# BEAVERS

Beavers are very good at staying clean.  
After washing themselves, they use  
their long claws to comb their fur.

Beavers have a pair of  
see-through eyelids that  
they use underwater like goggles.

Do you use a hairbrush when you get out of the bath?

Beaver fur is very warm – like a nice fluffy towel!

Do you ever wear goggles at bathtime?

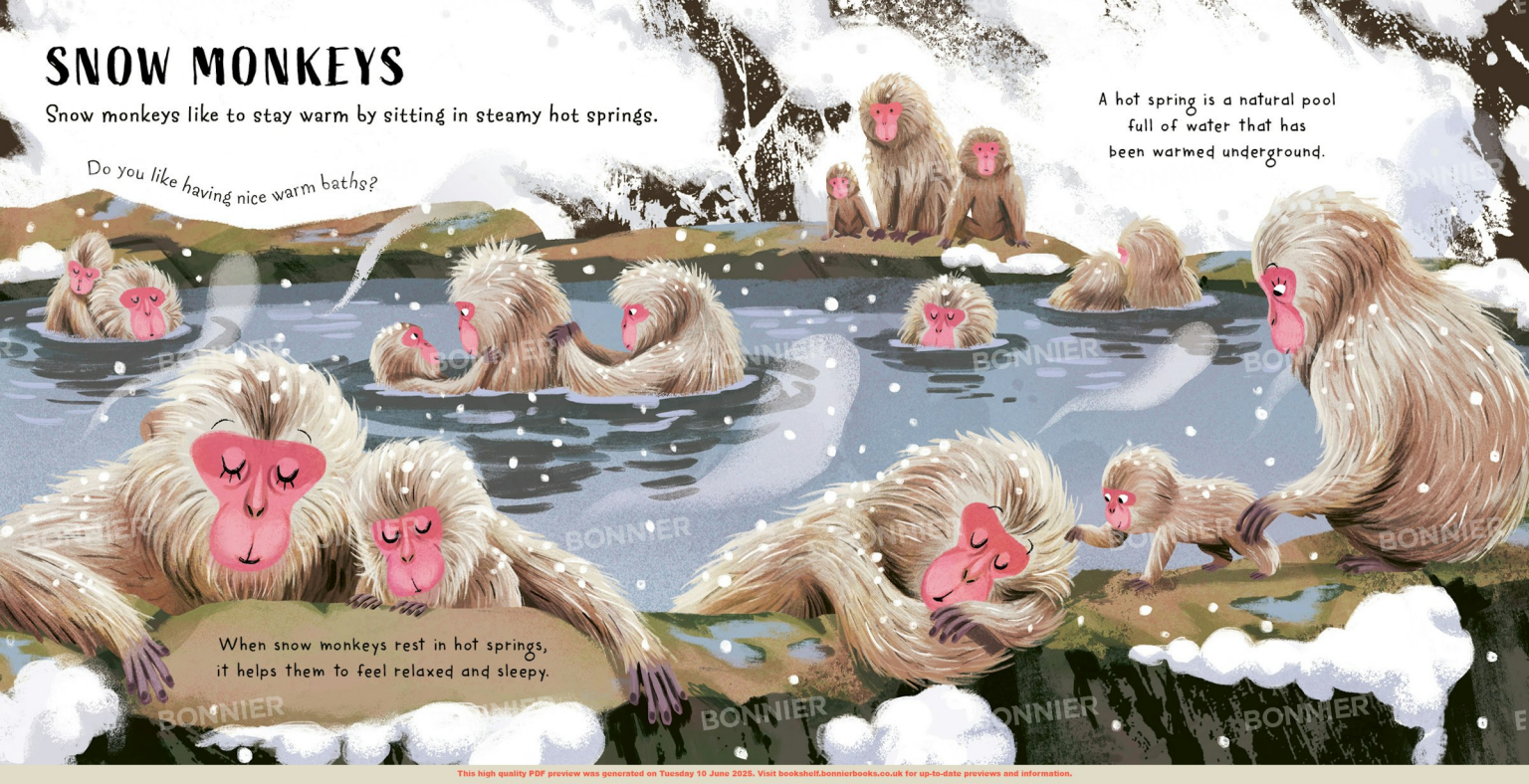


# SNOW MONKEYS

Snow monkeys like to stay warm by sitting in steamy hot springs.

Do you like having nice warm baths?

A hot spring is a natural pool  
full of water that has  
been warmed underground.



When snow monkeys rest in hot springs,  
it helps them to feel relaxed and sleepy.



# BATHTIME

Bathtime is BRILLIANT!



Playing in the bath can  
make you feel happy.

Washing helps you to stay healthy.



And the best thing of all? Afterwards,  
you feel clean and snuggly and ready for bed!





# Five TOPTIPS

for a brilliant bubbly bathtime

1. Make sure your bath is just the right temperature.  
The water can hurt if it's too hot, but if it's too cold, you'll get chilly!

2. Keep your favourite bath toys in the bathroom,  
so you can play with them at bathtime.

3. Make sure you wash all over with soap  
to keep yourself clean!

4. Try having a bath close to bedtime – it will help you feel  
calm and relaxed before you go to sleep.

5. Stay warm straight after your bath by wrapping  
yourself up in a cosy towel.