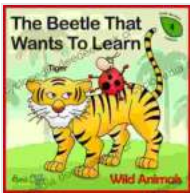


# Wild Animals Names Meaning Of Words Early Reader Edition

The world of wild animals is filled with an incredible diversity of creatures, each with its own unique characteristics and behaviors. Part of the beauty and fascination of these animals lies in their names, which often convey meaningful insights into their appearance, habits, or origins.



## Dictionaries for Kids: - Wild Animals Names (Meaning of Words - Early Reader Edition Book 4) by Joshua Seigal

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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This article explores the meanings behind the names of a wide range of wild animals, providing an engaging and educational experience for young readers. By delving into the etymology of these names, we can uncover hidden stories and connections that bring these magnificent creatures to life.

## Animal Names and Their Meanings

- **African Elephant:** The name "elephant" originates from the Greek word "elephas," which means "ivory." This refers to the animal's large

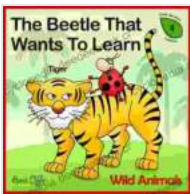
tusks, which are made of dentin and covered in ivory.

- **Bengal Tiger:** "Bengal" refers to the region in India where this subspecies of tiger is commonly found. The word "tiger" is derived from the Persian word "tigri," which means "arrow." This may have been due to the tiger's swiftness and sharp claws.
- **Blue Jay:** The name "jay" originates from the French word "geai," which is onomatopoeic and refers to the bird's distinctive vocalizations. The word "blue" is added to distinguish this species from other members of the jay family.
- **Brown Bear:** The name "bear" is thought to derive from the Proto-Indo-European root "bher," meaning "brown." This refers to the animal's characteristic coat color.
- **Chimpanzee:** The name "chimpanzee" is believed to have originated from the Tshiluba language of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It means "mock man," reflecting the animal's close relationship to humans.
- **Dolphin:** The name "dolphin" is derived from the Greek word "delphis," which means "fish with a womb." This refers to the dolphin's ability to give birth to live young.
- **Eagle:** The name "eagle" originates from the Latin word "aquila," which means "bird of prey." Eagles are known for their impressive size, keen eyesight, and powerful hunting abilities.
- **Giraffe:** The name "giraffe" comes from the Arabic word "zarafah," which means "tall." This refers to the animal's extraordinary height, which allows it to reach high into trees for food.

- **Hippopotamus:** The name "hippopotamus" is derived from the Greek words "hippos," meaning "horse," and "potamos," meaning "river." This refers to the animal's large size and its preference for aquatic habitats.
- **Jaguar:** The name "jaguar" originates from the Tupi language of Brazil and means "beast of prey." This reflects the jaguar's powerful hunting abilities and its status as a top predator in its ecosystem.
- **Kangaroo:** The name "kangaroo" is believed to have come from the Guugu Yimithirr language of Australia. It means "I don't know," as the Aboriginal people who first encountered these animals were unfamiliar with them.
- **Lion:** The name "lion" originates from the Greek word "leon," which means "king." This refers to the lion's majestic appearance, powerful presence, and dominance within its social group.
- **Meerkat:** The name "meerkat" comes from the Dutch word "meerkat," which is a combination of the words "meer" (lake) and "kat" (cat). This refers to the animal's habitat near water bodies and its cat-like appearance.
- **Narwhal:** The name "narwhal" is derived from the Old Norse word "nárhvalr," which means "whale with a horn." This refers to the male narwhal's distinctive tusk, which is actually a modified tooth.
- **Okapi:** The name "okapi" comes from the Lingala language of the Democratic Republic of Congo and means "forest horse." This refers to the animal's resemblance to a horse, despite being more closely related to giraffes.
- **Platypus:** The name "platypus" is derived from the Greek words "platys," meaning "flat," and "pous," meaning "foot." This refers to the

animal's unique webbed feet and flattened bill.

- **Quokka:** The name "quokka" comes from the Nyungar language of Australia and means "small short-tailed animal." This refers to the quokka's small size and its short tail.
- **Rhinoceros:** The name "rhinoceros" originates from the Greek words "rhino" (nose) and "ceros" (horn).



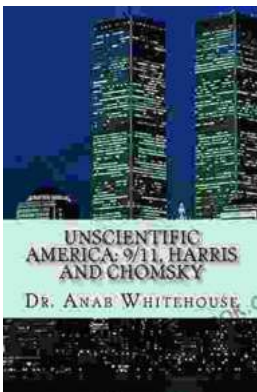
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