

10 Fascinating Facts About Hedgehogs That Will Amaze Kids



When it comes to cute and cuddly animals, hedgehogs are definitely up there on the list. These spiky creatures have intrigued and delighted people of all ages throughout history. If you're a kid who loves animals, here are some fascinating facts about hedgehogs that will amaze you!

1. Hedgehogs Got Their Name For a Reason

Did you know that the name "hedgehog" comes from their habitat? These small creatures are often found roaming among hedges and bushes, using their sharp

spines as a protective shield against predators. Their spines, which are actually modified hairs, serve as a defense mechanism.



All About Hedgehogs: Amazing Facts About Hedgehogs For Kids: Hedgehogs' Information And Interesting Facts For Kids by Margaret Hubert(Kindle Edition)

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2. Hedgehogs are Master Escapologists

Despite their adorable appearance, hedgehogs are notorious escape artists. They can squeeze through incredibly tiny spaces due to their flexible bodies. This helps them find their way out of tricky situations and find shelter.

3. Hedgehogs Are Nocturnal Creatures

Hedgehogs are mainly active during the night (nocturnal). This lifestyle helps them avoid predators and allows them to search for food, such as insects, snails, and even small frogs. Their excellent hearing and sense of smell make them efficient hunters in the darkness.

4. Hedgehogs Have Quills, Not Spikes

Contrary to popular belief, hedgehogs do not have sharp spikes. Their spiky coat is covered with hollow hairs called quills, which provide protection. Their quills are

sharp at the ends but not enough to be used as a weapon. When threatened, hedgehogs roll themselves into a tight ball, which makes them even more difficult for predators to attack.

5. Hedgehogs are Excellent Swimmers

Hedgehogs may look like land experts, but they are surprisingly good swimmers. They can cross streams and swim through small ponds easily. They use their tiny legs and partially inflated lungs to float on the water's surface while paddling with their feet.

6. Africa Has Its Own Hedgehog

Most people are familiar with the European hedgehog, but did you know that Africa has its own unique species? The African pygmy hedgehog is smaller in size and has a friendlier demeanor. Due to their small size and calm nature, they have become a popular choice as pets in many households.

7. Hedgehogs Communicate Through Sniffs and Snuffles

Hedgehogs are not very vocal animals. Instead of using sounds to communicate, they rely on scents. They have a highly developed sense of smell and use it to identify other hedgehogs, mark their territory, and find potential mates.

8. Hedgehogs Clean Themselves Regularly

Hedgehogs are known for their cleanliness. They take regular baths by licking themselves clean. Their spines are naturally resistant to parasites, such as fleas and ticks, which helps them maintain good hygiene. However, sometimes they may need a little extra help from their owners in certain situations.

9. Hedgehogs Have Been Around for Millions of Years

The ancestors of hedgehogs have been roaming the Earth for millions of years. Fossils suggest that hedgehogs have been around for at least 15 million years. They have evolved and adapted to various environments, making them fascinating creatures to study.

10. Hedgehogs Need Our Help

Unfortunately, hedgehog populations are declining globally due to habitat loss and human activity. It is important for us to protect these adorable creatures by creating safe habitats, avoiding the use of pesticides, and providing food and water sources. By taking small steps, we can ensure a better future for hedgehogs and other wildlife.

Did you learn something new about hedgehogs? These spiky little creatures have many more interesting facts waiting to be discovered. Remember to spread the word about the importance of protecting hedgehogs and their habitats!



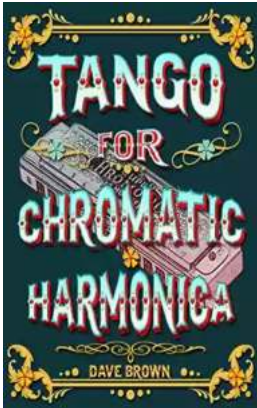
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Do you want to be amazed by Hedgehog pictures? Let's see color photos of Hedgehogs! This book will tell you everything you should know about Hedgehog in their natural habitats. You and your child will find pictures of Hedgehogs in short simplified text for children learning to read or those who like picture books.



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