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Opening extract from
Magnificent Creatures

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Sea Turtles

Sea turtles have swum in our warm, tropical seas since dinosaurs roamed the land. They can live to be over a hundred years old, and their bodies and shells are beautifully patterned. When it is time to lay their eggs, the female turtles return to the same nesting point where they were born, sometimes thousands of miles away. Unlike their female partners, male turtles have no reason to return to the land, which means they almost never leave the ocean.

Springboks

South African springboks are very social animals that form huge herds – sometimes tens of millions strong! When disturbed, springboks leap into the air with their legs extended, sometimes as high as four metres! This is called ‘pronking’. Springboks are one of the fastest land animals in the world.





Jellyfish

Jellyfish have been swimming the Earth's oceans for over five hundred million years, and can be found in seas all over the world. These creatures are beautifully translucent and move through the water with incredible grace. When jellyfish swarm it is known as a 'bloom'. If a jellyfish is cut into two, the pieces of jellyfish will survive and create two new jellyfish! Some jellyfish can even glow in the dark.