

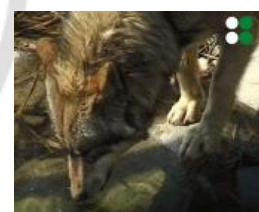
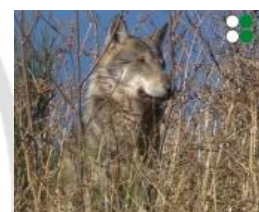


Animals A to Z

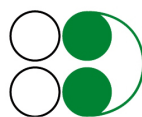
Directed by: Lodovico Prola
Produced by: SD Cinematografica & Ditta Prola
Duration: 38x8'
Versions:  
Format: SD

This series includes 38 short docs, each one 8 minutes long, and has been created for an audience of children between the ages of 4-10. It is like a big container of information, and it answers many of questions frequently asked by children about the natural world. The series' objective is to depict, reveal, and therefore help them understand the extraordinary world of nature, and unveil the secret life of the wild inhabitants of our planet, their characteristics, their habits, as well as their behavior, and the interesting facts that explain their incredible adaptation to the natural environment surrounding them. Being familiar with the natural world represents the first step towards loving, respecting, and defending our extraordinary natural treasures. The entire series is like an adventure journey with different stops, each one unique, but all linked by a common topic: an exploratory journey in the fascinating world of animal life!



Episodes:

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| - Beaver | - Porcupine | - Fox | - Cuttlefish | - Deer | - Puma |
| - Wolf | - Badger | - Great crested grebe | - Ostrich | - Seal | - Swallow |
| - Cubs (Baby animals) | - Lizards | - Nests | - Elephant | - Cat | - Shark |
| - Seaturtle | - Chamois | - Avocet | - Horse | - Otter | |
| - Hedgehog | - Frogs | - Mantis | - Eggs | - Bear | |
| - Octopus | - Kingfisher | - Hermit crab | - Cheetah | - Bats | |
| - Snakes | - White stork | - Butterflies | - Seahorse | - Raccoon | |



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Episodes



Beaver

Lodovico Prola

We are beavers and we have a wide tail which is flat and covered with scales which function like a paddle! The soft bark and the sprouts make a delicious lunch! The dam is also our house. Fresh mud and straw serve as cement for our marvellous constructions. In our den my babies will be born: usually from 2 to 4.



Wolf

Lodovico Prola

Hello, I am the wolf. Our typical prey is fast and agile, and since they know us well, they are always on the look out, ready to run away at the smallest sign of danger. Once the prey is in sight, we alternate in the chase to tire it out. Then, we surround and launch a final attack. We may seem mean and bloody, but we predators hunt only the amount necessary to survive. We often look for weak or ill prey, because they are easier to catch. By getting rid of them, we fulfill an important task towards the health of the species.



Cubs (Baby animals)

Lodovico Prola

FOAL: Hi everyone! After spending eleven months in mum's tummy, it's time for me to come out! It's been pretty hard, right mum?! Just born and I already weigh more than forty kilos! Ok, now I'm going to get up...whoah! I didn't know it was so difficult! whooooooah...Here we go! Well, you humans take a whole year to learn to walk...and perhaps thanks to my having four legs, I only needed a few hours!



Seaturtle

Lodovico Prola

Hi, I am a sea turtle. I look a lot like my land cousins, the tortoises, although my legs are shaped like fins and I am a true champion at swimming. I can even reach a speed of 20 miles per hour...that's four times faster than any Olympic champion. Also when I hold my breath, I am a world-record owner: after taking one big mouthful of air, I can hold my breath up to 90 minutes!!



Hedgehog

Lodovico Prola

My day starts very early: I am a mother hedgehog and I need to take care of my little ones. Look how beautiful they are! I built my nest inside a hole in a tree, and I'll keep it warm with dry leaves and hay. Come on over here, all of you! It's snack time. The best thing for them is fresh milk: I am a mammal too, just like you humans, and I nurse my little ones. Hey, be careful, or you'll sting me...



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Octopus

Lodovico Prola

My silhouette is a little funny, I admit it...Well, keep in mind I am a mollusk...But a very special one! I have eight arms: the tentacles, covered by suckers. I have big eyes, for a better view...and a siphon which allows me to breathe by pumping water through my gills. And if you are really bothering me...thanks to the siphon I can move like a real turbo jet! Your vision will be confused even more by a sudden spray of ink!



Snakes

Lodovico Prola

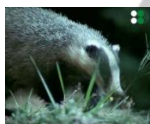
Almost everywhere around the world people are afraid of us...Who are we? It's easy: snakes! Some of us are poisonous and may seem threatening but that doesn't mean we're bad guys...Just think...in some African countries we are trained by humans! We dance to music!...Even though we're not crazy about the latest hits!



Porcupine

Lodovico Prola

Who am I? It's me: The porcupine! It's true, I look quite thorny, and some say that I look like a rock star. Well, that's the reason why I get some respect around here. The fox avoids me, but I'm not a bad guy...even if my spiky coat looks like a bush gone wild! To tell the truth, I am quite shy, I like being by myself and looking for roots and tasty fruit.



Badger

Lodovico Prola

We badgers like to live in groups, in big families who live in the same place for generations and generations: we inherit our grandparents' homes after all! With summer the time comes to look for a girlfriend. Where could she be?



Lizards

Lodovico Prola

My relatives are lizards, monitors, chameleon and slow-worms. We are all saurian, just like the dinosaurs of prehistoric times which disappeared 65 million years ago. We still exist because we are small and know how to adapt!



Chamois

Lodovico Prola

I want to introduce myself: I am the chamois. Years ago, only 20 of us were left in the mountains of the Abruzzi region of Italy!! What a disaster. Luckily, a park has been built just for us, and now there are almost 600 in our group. We run fast in the mountains...Follow us so we will tell you our stories that'll love very much!



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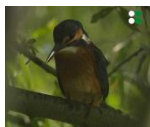
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Frogs

Lodovico Prola

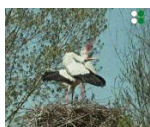
We are champions at swimming, as everybody knows! Our favourite style? Brest-stroke!! - Go ahead and try...you'll never beat us! We're also champions in another specialty: the high jump! And besides, many insects fly, so if we don't jump high...we skip dinner!



Kingfisher

Lodovico Prola

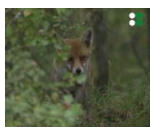
Many birds migrate during the winter months in search of warmer climates...But not me! I have a favourite spot, perched on my special branch on my stream. And I don't intend to give it up! I am a kingfisher: snow, ice, rain and storms don't bother me at all!



White stork

Lodovico Prola

Are children born in a cabbage patch...?...or are they carried by me, the white stork...?! Kids, I am not really sure about how were you born, but I know for sure about this one, my child!! I only know how to carry little storks, and that's a hard task right there, I can ensure you...They are always hungry!



Fox

Lodovico Prola

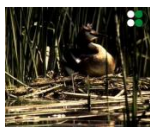
Hello, I'm the red fox! And now that you've seen me you can imagine where my...colourful...name comes from. We can adapt to the countryside and to cities alike and when we find a suitable place to live, we normally get fond of it and stay there all our lives...



Great crested grebe

Lodovico Prola

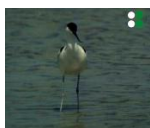
I look this way, I look that way...We are a little shy...but it's you I like! We are grebes and water is our natural element. Wedding present! The first brick of our grassy nest...I'll accept to marry you once we get along perfectly...In the meantime let's dance!...



Nests

Lodovico Prola

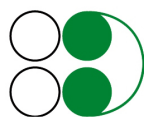
I am a penduline tit and if you look at my nest, it's easy to see why I'm called that way...Suspended in the branches, my nest is woven with stalks, plant fibres, leaves, spider webs and soft, fluffy seeds. A soft and comfortable shelter to win over my loved one and protect my chicks.



Avocet

Lodovico Prola

I am slender and elegant, my name is avocet. An immaculate lagoon is the ideal spot to live: shallow waters and bushes full of life...and hiding places. I have quite an aristocratic aspect, I know...I look like a princess with my long blue legs and beak pointing up! Also, white and black look great on me!



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Mantis

Lodovico Prola

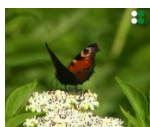
I love summer, warmth and sunny days...Mediterranean climate, that is! I can look scary to some, and my long legs look like hands in prayer...I am the praying mantis. My name sounds funny, doesn't it: follow me and I'll tell you my story...



Hermit crab

Lodovico Prola

I know...I look funny with this weird hat! And how about my eyes which look like two periscopes? I am actually a shellfish...My name is...hermit crab! This beautiful transparent flower is an animal...Her name is Snakelocks Anemone and she lives with me. She is a good friend of mine! Well, I like to have company over...and she is a perfect ally, she protects me with her poisonous tentacles, which don't bother me at all...



Butterflies

Lodovico Prola

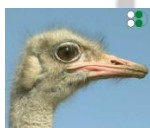
A sea of fragrant flowers swaying in the spring breeze...It's paradise on earth for us butterflies...who add colour to colour! Follow us, and we will lead you into our secret world...



Cuttlefish

Lodovico Prola

Sometimes you can encounter strange and mysterious creatures in this big sea...Just like little aliens, we hide behind a shipwreck...A scuba diver! Actually, we were waiting for something good to eat, but...you're welcome anyway! We little cuttlefish are eager to grow up, before somebody eats us up!



Ostrich

Lodovico Prola

Big eyes, the better to see with. A mighty beak. Strong legs, to run very fast. My name is ostrich and I am the biggest bird on Earth! I live in the wide African prairies. To become so big and muscular I had to give up something...I can't fly any more and I only have two toes...well, you can't have everything...



Elephant

Lodovico Prola

Do you recognize me? I'm the largest animal on Earth! My incisors have turned into precious ivory tusks. Human beings are jealous of them. Unfortunately, they are so beautiful that we are hunted for them. I breathe, communicate, explore the world and drink with my trunk...We live in groups and it's we females who give the orders!



Horse

Lodovico Prola

Free, strong and wild...This is the way we horses feel...even though we are no longer wild. Our friendship with human beings started 5000 years ago and gradually horse breeds became domestic.



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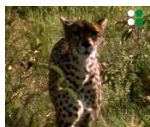
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Eggs

Lodovico Prola

Eggs are the most precious things to birds: they guarantee the survival of the species...That's why we, Eleonora's falcons, have chosen steep cliffs to build our nests. They are really safe here! Hi there, I am the little bustard, look at me...I am a true rarity! I can't lay golden egg...but greenish ones!



Cheetah

Lodovico Prola

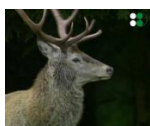
Slender and elegant...I am unique among cats...My name is cheetah, which means "spotted" in Indian. Do you want to race with me? My specialty is running... Watch out, because nobody can beat me in the whole world! The fastest men on Earth take three times longer to travel the same distance as me!



Seahorse

Lodovico Prola

We have long narrow snouts and our little mouths are adept at sucking our food just like with a straw. There are 33 species of seahorse in the world, of differing colors and shapes. It's a trick even we know well, we're pygmy seahorses, we're tiny and reach a maximum length of 2.5 centimeters. But here's the real surprise...among seahorses, we males are the ones who watch over the eggs and take care of the little ones!!



Deer

Lodovico Prola

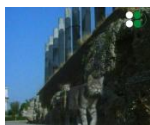
We love living together in harmony. When autumn comes and our great love begins, we adult males sing a special song...it's called Bellowing. And it's so loud and powerful that truly everyone can hear it...The winner is usually the deer with the deepest and strongest bellow, but sometimes it's not enough. If the competition gets tough, it becomes body to body. Or rather...horn to horn!



Seal

Lodovico Prola

A long time ago, I lived on dry land and looked sort of like a bear. Then I decided that I enjoyed being in the water and chasing fish. Eventually my body adapted and little by little my paws began to look like actual fins, and for this reason, along with walruses and seas, they call us all fin-feet.



Cat

Lodovico Prola

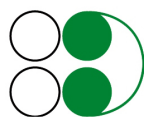
We cats have been your friends for a long time...It's a friendship that dates back 5.000 years of living together under the same roof...But in all this time, I've never forgotten my wild nature!



Otter

Lodovico Prola

I'm the Queen of the river...the crystal waters are our passion. Luckily we otters are champion swimmers and unbeatable fishermen. Humans are taking all the available space! Don't pollute, have you heard??? We don't want that, leave us in peace, agreed? OK? Streams, waterfalls, clear waters...I'm sure all of you like them too. And for us they mean life!



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Bear

Lodovico Prola

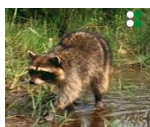
I am the largest carnivore on earth, and can grow to 900 kilos and 3 meters of height...but I'm not mean, on the contrary. For the most part I am very timid and pass my days alone in search of something good to eat. My diet is made of fruit, vegetables, insects and meat. I eat everything!



Bats

Lodovico Prola

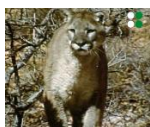
I live in caves. When I sleep, I hang from my claws. I close myself in my wings like a sleeping bag and...Good night! Actually, good morning! Because we bats sleep in dark caves while you are out and about...But when night arrives...it's our moment...to come out of the cave!



Raccoon

Lodovico Prola

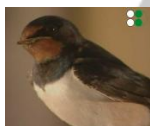
Hello, we are raccoons! Our origins are in North America, but nearly 100 years ago humans brought us to Europe. Finally I can breathe some good air...The water's clear, fresh and sweet...And fish!



Puma

Lodovico Prola

They call me mountain lion, cougar, and even panther...But maybe you know me better by the name Puma. I am a champion jumper...I weight 50 kilos, and can leap more than 10 meters thanks to my strong muscles...I can jump as high as 5 meters!!



Swallow

Lodovico Prola

I am a swallow! One fine morning we leave for the great migration: 10 thousand kilometres in 6 weeks... we're going to Africa!! I love to eat flies, midges, mosquitos and every kind of insects. We are useful animals but nowadays we are rare because of insecticides.



Shark

Lodovico Prola

First of all, you should know that we are an ancient species: we have lived on the earth, well, I should say, we have swam in the oceans, since before the times of the dinosaurs...More than 400 million years ago! We haven't changed much since then, as you can see we were already perfect...Our eyesight works very well too. Even though we are fish and we live in the water, we are able to keep our bodies fairly warm, and, in particular, our eyes!



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