

Video Transcript

Amazing Animals

MAX: Hi Sarah, what are you doing?

SARAH: The science homework.

MAX: Oh, the most amazing animal story. Would you mind if I joined you?

SARAH: Of course not. Let's do it together.

MAX: Hmm, a story about an amazing animal.... What should we look for...?

SARAH: A record holder? Weird animal?

MAX: Some special abilities?

SARAH: An endangered one?

MAX: Or perhaps a hero?

MAX: Wait!!! Yesterday, I saw something on the news! There was a story about a pigeon that was sold for 1.9 million dollars!

SARAH: A pigeon? You mean the bird?

MAX: Yeah, its name is New Kim, and it is a Belgium pigeon.

SARAH: Wow that's unbelievable.

MAX: They say it's the fastest pigeon on Earth and that a Chinese man bought it at an auction.

SARAH: But why?

MAX: It's a racing pigeon. Pigeon racing is still popular. Especially in China.

SARAH: Hmm, I didn't know about that.

MAX: So, what do you think about it? Amazing, isn't it?

SARAH: If you ask me, it's amazing, but I would never pay that much for a pigeon.

MAX: You're absolutely right.

SARAH: This reminds me of Magawa.

MAX: Oh, look at the cute rat.

SARAH: It's Magawa. A soldier rat. They used him to search for landmines in Cambodia. Magawa was better at it than people, and faster. He was specially trained.

MAX: Hmm, I see. And it was less dangerous for people this way, so he helped to save people's lives.

SARAH: Definitely! He was a real hero and he got a gold medal for heroism.

MAX: Wow. You are right, he was a real hero!

SARAH: Respect!

MAX: But is it the most amazing animal?

SARAH: Maybe. But wait a minute. That reminds me of a story about an animal that saved an Australian island.

MAX: An animal saving an island? Are we talking about the bravest animal?

SARAH: Actually, the cutest. Quokka.

MAX: I have no idea what quokkas look like. Can you show me a picture?

SARAH: Just a second.

MAX: Wow, look at that! It looks like a kangaroo! But it is much smaller and cuter!

SARAH: Yeah, and friendlier. People started to take selfies with quokkas and post them on social media, and they went viral. Since then, a lot of tourists have been visiting the island, as it is the only place in the world where you can get a selfie with quokkas. Also, celebrities come and post their selfies. And the island, once a forgotten place, is totally full of tourists now.

MAX: I'd like a selfie with a quokka too! It looks like the friendliest and happiest animal on the planet.

SARAH: Well, there are a lot of really cool animals. But which is the most amazing? What do you think?

MAX: For me, it's the pigeon. It must be really amazing if someone paid so much money for it.

SARAH: Well, I know what you mean, but in my opinion it's the rat. The fact that such a small animal helped save people's lives makes Magawa the most amazing animal for me.

MAX: On second thoughts, I guess you are right. Let's go for the rat. I really like it.

SARAH: So do I. I wonder what our classmates will say. Will they agree with us?