



NORTH AMERICA

North America has everything from snow-capped mountains to scorching-hot deserts. Its animal life is just as varied...



Largest deer
Alaskan moose can measure 2.3 m (7 ft 6 in) tall and weigh as much as a small car. Most of their height comes from their long legs, which help them to walk through deep snow. Moose are not carnivores, but their size and strength mean they are still very dangerous.



Largest canid
The grey wolf, which is found throughout the northern hemisphere, is the **largest canid** (dog-like animal). Grey wolves measure up to 81 cm (2 ft 7 in) at the shoulder and can be as much as 1.6 m (5 ft 2 in) long, excluding the tail. Some of the biggest live in Canada and Alaska, USA.



Smelliest mammal
The striped skunk is famous for its unusual defence mechanism. When threatened, it sprays its foes with a foul-smelling liquid, which puts them right off the idea of eating a skunk (or anything really) for a long time. Skunks can spray this liquid as far as 3 m (10 ft)!

Fastest mammal on land (long distance)
Everyone knows that the **fastest land mammal** is the cheetah, right? But this cat's top speed of 100 km/h (62 mph) lasts for short sprints only. The antelope-like pronghorn – found in the USA, Mexico and Canada – can cruise at 67 km/h (42 mph) for a mile (1.6 km).



Largest bear
Weighing in at about 500 kg (1,100 lb), polar bears are the largest predators in North America. They're also the **fastest bears**, with running speeds of 35 mph (56 km/h)! Membranes in their eyes block out UV light, while their huge paws act like snowshoes.



Heaviest venomous snake
The heaviest eastern diamondback rattlesnake on record tipped the scales at 34 lb (15 kg) – as much as two bowling balls. Diamondbacks have a powerful venom that can kill if not treated, but prefer to leave humans alone unless directly threatened.



- KEY**
- 1. Arctic fox
 - 2. Moose
 - 3. Caribou (**longest terrestrial animal migration**)
 - 4. Mountain goat
 - 5. Narwhal (**longest whale tooth**)
 - 6. Harp seal
 - 7. Brown bear (**most subspecies for a bear**)
 - 8. Fur seal
 - 9. Musk ox
 - 10. Snowy owl (**most northerly owl**)
 - 11. Lemming
 - 12. Black bear (**most common bear**)
 - 13. Grey wolf
 - 14. Lynx
 - 15. Raccoon
 - 16. Striped skunk
 - 17. Great white shark (**largest predatory fish**)
 - 18. Willow ptarmigan
 - 19. Coyote
 - 20. American bison (**largest migrant on land**)
 - 21. Polar bear
 - 22. Walrus (**fewest teeth for a seal**)
 - 23. Wolverine (**largest weasel**)
 - 24. Puma/cougar (**mammal with most names**)
 - 25. California sea lion
 - 26. Elk
 - 27. American red squirrel
 - 28. Eastern diamondback rattlesnake
 - 29. Jaguar (**strongest bite for a big cat relative to body size**)
 - 30. Brown pelican (**smallest pelican**)
 - 31. Seagull
 - 32. Atlantic cod
 - 33. Barracuda
 - 34. Pronghorn
 - 35. California condor
 - 36. Bottlenose dolphin (**highest jump by a dolphin**)