


Have you ever heard a story or seen a picture that you knew was just too strange to be true? What about an animal that seems more fiction than fact? Sometimes things are just too strange to make up! Meet ten animals that are almost too weird to believe. You'll discover that for these—and many other—creatures, “weird” is a wonderful way to be!



**THE PEACOCK
MANTIS SHRIMP HAS THE
FASTEST PUNCH OF ANY
LIVING ANIMAL—AND CAN
HIT HARD ENOUGH TO
BREAK GLASS!**



Platypus

Your eyes aren't playing tricks on you; the *platypus* is a real animal! People once believed that this Australian mammal was a fictional beast that was assembled by combining the bodies of several different animals. With a tail like a beaver, a furry body like an otter, and a flat bill like a duck, you can understand why people may have been suspicious. And just when you think the platypus can't get any more fascinating—surprise! The platypus is a *monotreme*, which means that they, along with echidnas, are the only egg-laying mammals on the planet!



Yeti Crab

Scientists discovered this strange-looking crab deep in the Pacific Ocean. They thought those hairy claws looked like the arms of Yeti, also known as the "Abominable Snowman."



Why would a crab have hairy claws? Well, a *yeti crab* is blind, so maybe these hairs act as "feelers" for getting around. Also, the hairs collect loads of **bacteria**. Maybe the crab uses the bacteria for food. Scientists are still trying to learn more about these curious furry creatures.