



CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM

NASSAU GROUPE

(*Epinephelus striatus*)



CRITICALLY
ENDANGERED

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DESCRIPTION

Living on the coral reefs of the Caribbean Sea, the Nassau grouper is a huge fish (can weigh about the same as a labrador!) with big, pouty lips.

OPTIMISM

Too much fishing was making this 'puppy of the sea' (they're super friendly!) disappear, but from 2003 to 2015, the Nassau groupers living around Little Cayman Island more than tripled thanks to conservationists!



FUN FACT

Nassau groupers swallow their prey whole by using their huge mouths to suck them in. They do not chew!





CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM

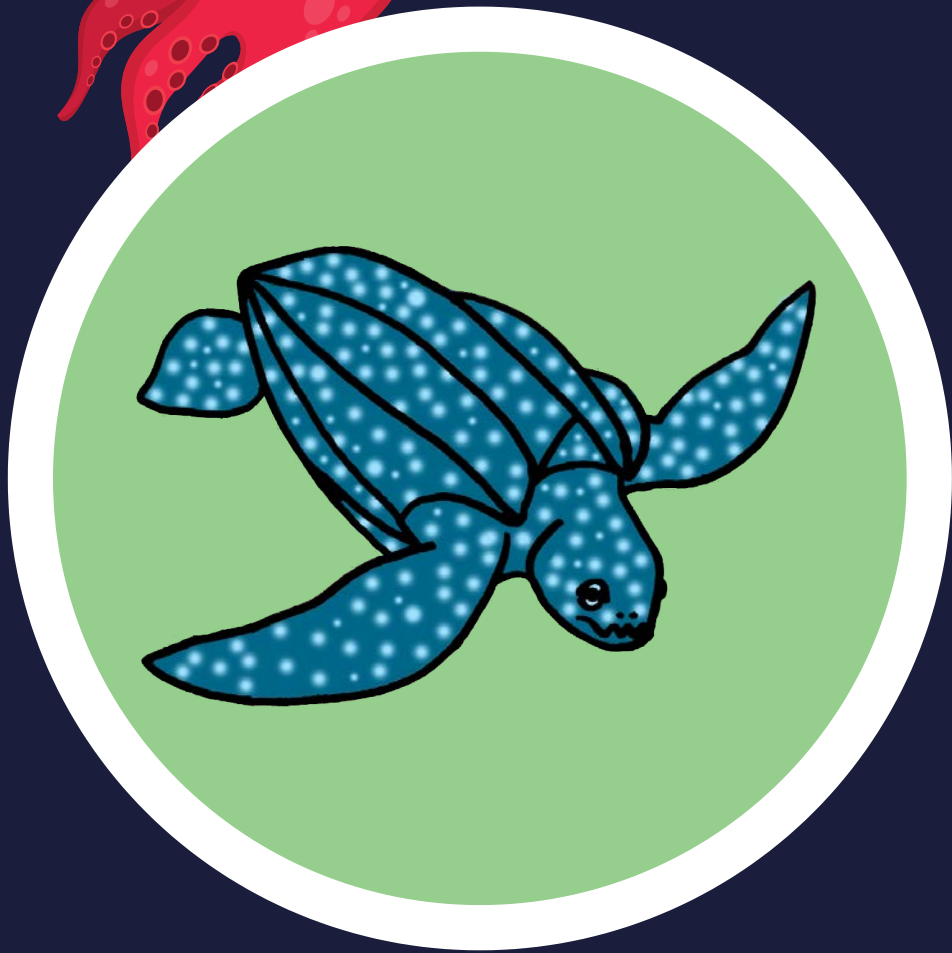
LEATHERBACK

(*Dermochelys coriacea*)



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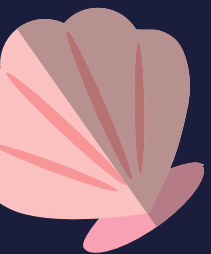
DESCRIPTION

Leatherbacks are the largest sea turtle species with leather-like shells. Females nest on beaches at night-time. They dig big holes and will lay around 100 eggs in one night!



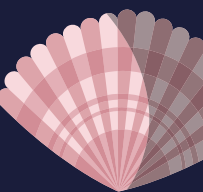
OPTIMISM

The number of leatherback nests has increased by 350% (wow!) in Brazil between 1988 and 2017.



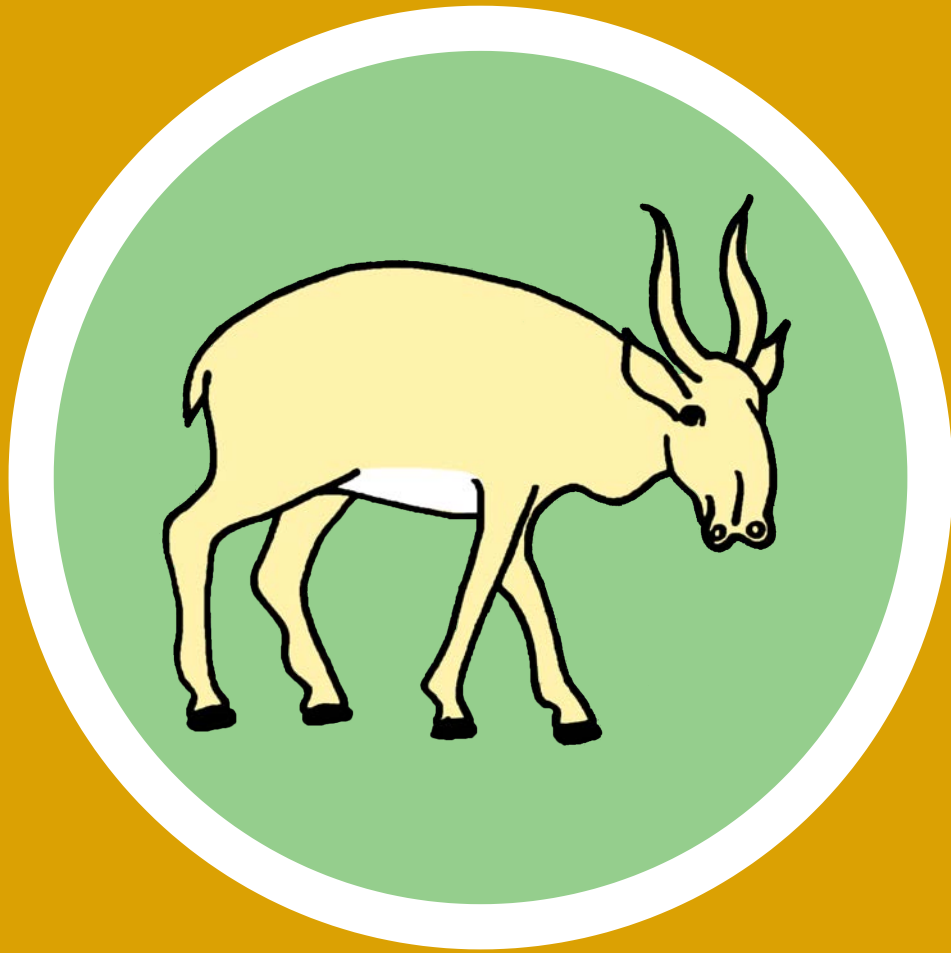
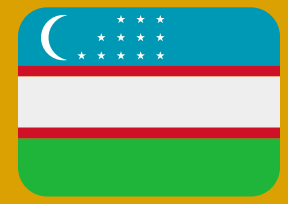
FUN FACT

Leatherback turtles were already around during the time of the dinosaurs and have not changed in millions of years!





CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM



SAIGA

(*Saiga tatarica*)

DESCRIPTION

Saigas are antelopes and live in some of the harshest habitats in the world. They are hunted for their meat and valuable horns, which are believed to be useful for medicine.

OPTIMISM

Saiga numbers in Kazakhstan have tripled over the last 4 years!

FUN FACT

A newborn saiga is able to outrun a human when it is two days old!





CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM

KĀKĀPŌ

(*Strigops habroptila*)



CRITICALLY
ENDANGERED
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DESCRIPTION

The kākāpō is a large, nocturnal parrot found only in New Zealand. It used to be common, but predation by cats and rats introduced to the island by humans brought it to the brink of extinction!

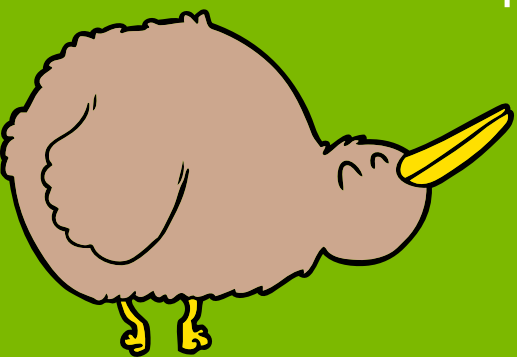


OPTIMISM

In 2019, the kākāpō population has reached a record high of 213 birds for the first time in more than 70 years.

FUN FACT

Kākāpōs can't fly! They are the only flightless species of parrot in the entire world. They use their wings for balance rather than flapping.



HUMPBACK WHALE

(*Megaptera novaeangliae*)



DESCRIPTION

Humpback whales are found in every ocean in the world! The small hump in front of their dorsal fin got them the common name of "humpback".

OPTIMISM

Thanks to a protected status from the 1960s which made whaling illegal, the humpback whale population is back to 93% of its pre-exploitation size!

FUN FACT

Humpback whales are known to swim around their prey as a group and to blow bubbles to herd the fish into a tight ball so they can swallow them all at once.





CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM

RED KITE

(*Milvus milvus*)

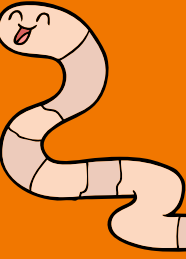


NEAR
THREATENED
NT



DESCRIPTION

Red kites have a reddish-brown body and a deeply forked tail. They mainly eat carrion and worms, but can occasionally take small mammals.



OPTIMISM

Red kites were successfully reintroduced in 1989 in England. 10 years later at least 121 pairs bred in southern England, rearing over 200 young!



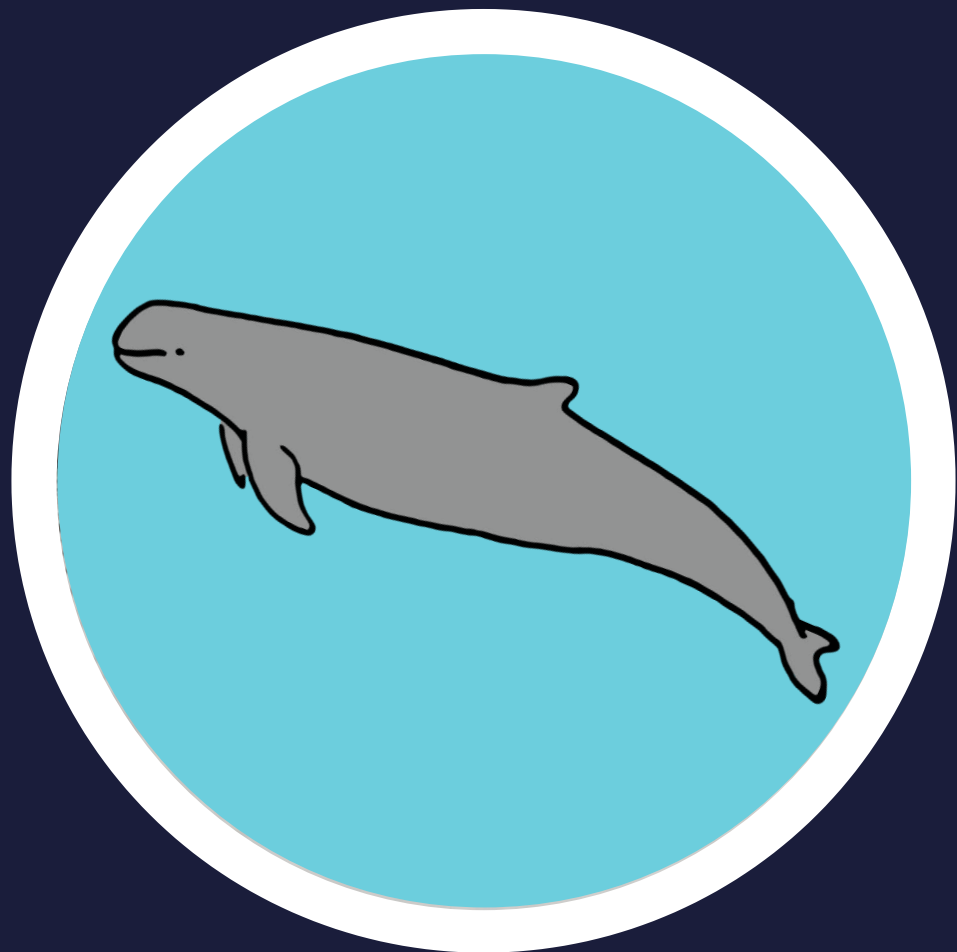
FUN FACT

The species was commonly seen in London during the Shakespearean era. They fed on scraps in the streets.



IRRAWADDY DOLPHIN

(*Orcaella brevirostris*)

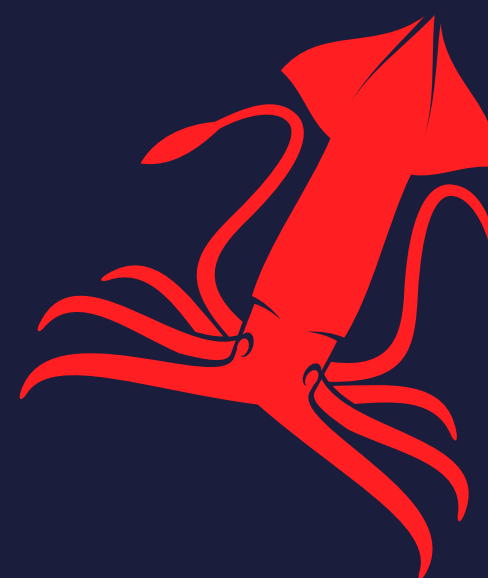


DESCRIPTION

Irrawaddy dolphins are small, sociable and chatty dolphins which can be found in rivers as well as the sea.

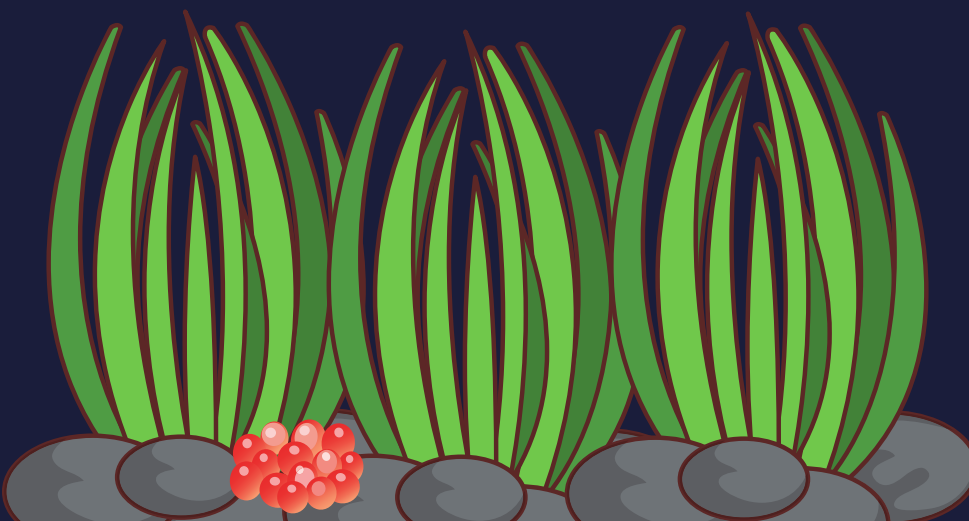
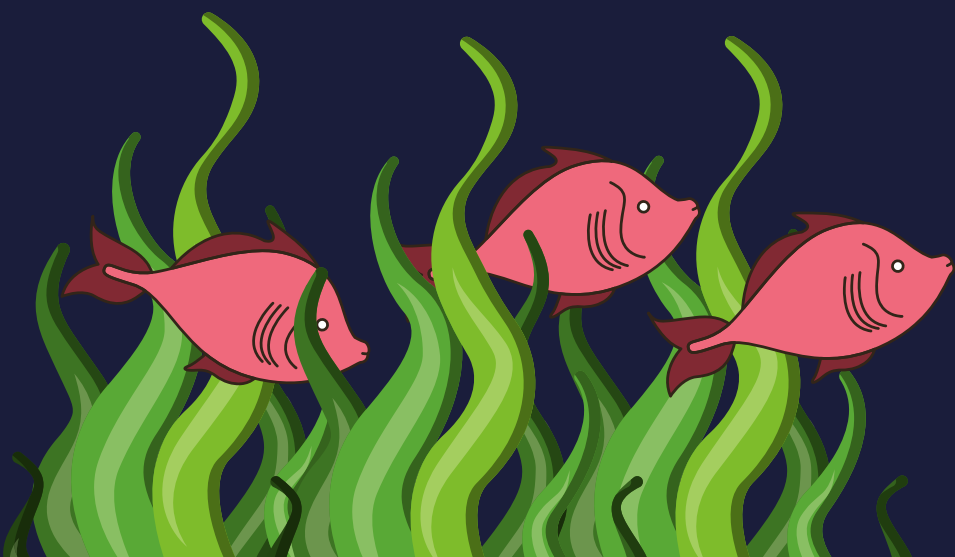
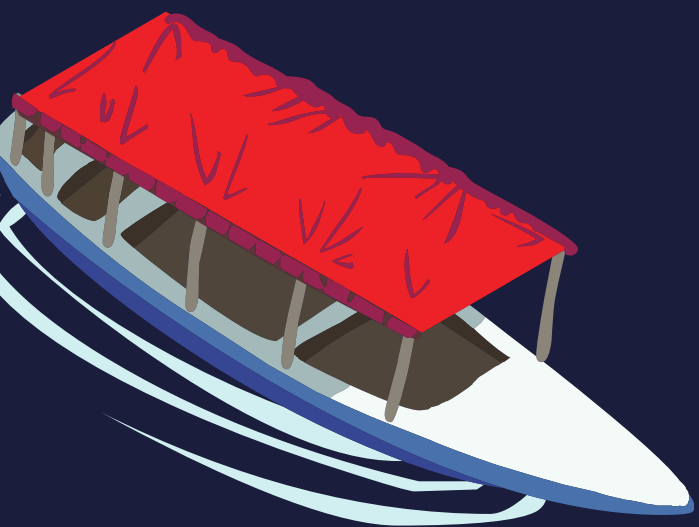
OPTIMISM

146 dolphins were just counted in Chilika Lake, India, and they were spotted in new areas of the lake- which is 1,165 square kilometres (a little bit smaller than Greater London!).



FUN FACT

Although big fishing boats and nets are a threat to the Irrawaddy dolphin, some have working 'friendships' with local fishermen where they help drive fish into nets in return for a meal.



CONSERVATION
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ADMIRABLE RED-BELLIED TOAD

(*Melanophryniscus admirabilis*)

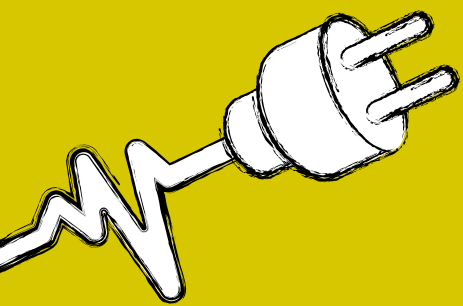


DESCRIPTION

This colourful species from the Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest is known to live only along 700m of a river.

OPTIMISM

Joint efforts between universities, government, and NGOs managed to stop the construction of a hydroelectric power plant which was threatening to wipe out its habitat!



FUN FACT

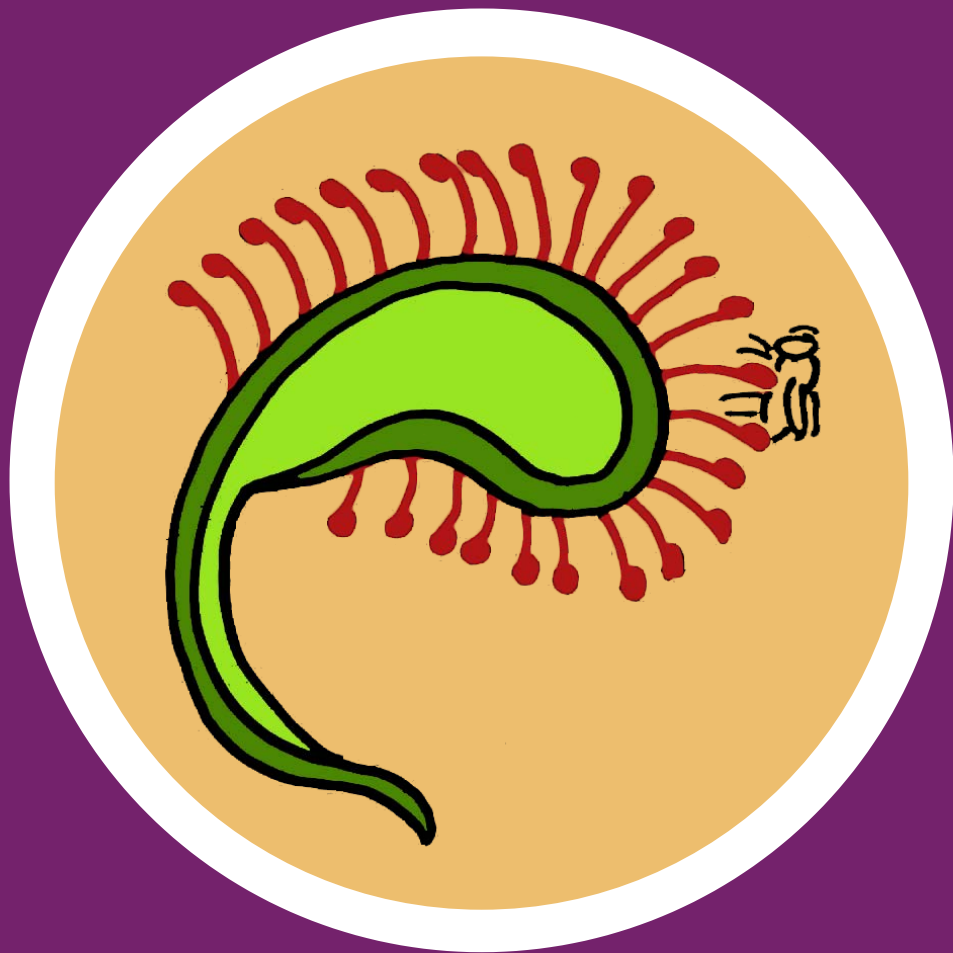
When threatened, the admirable red-bellied toad stays very still and reveals the red parts of its body to tell predators it is toxic to eat.





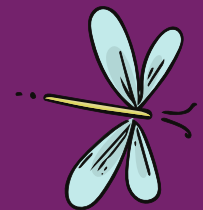
GREAT SUNDEW

(*Drosera anglica*)



DESCRIPTION

The English sundew or great sundew is a carnivorous plant that eat insects. Its long tentacles are tipped with red colored glands which ooze tasty nectar.



OPTIMISM

Great sundews have made a comeback in Manchester thanks to a reintroduction project after more than a century of absence in the North West of England!

FUN FACT

The great sundew's leaves unfurl once the plant is done digesting and leave behind the skeleton of the insects it has eaten.



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OPTIMISM

WALLACE'S GIANT BEE

(*Megachile pluto*)



DESCRIPTION

The Wallace's giant bee lives in the rainforests of Indonesia. It has giant jaws and a wingspan of six centimetres.

OPTIMISM

The Wallace's giant bee was rediscovered in 2019 by a group of scientists after not having been seen for almost 40 years!

FUN FACT

The Wallace's giant bee is the largest known living bee species and is four times the size of a European honey bee.

