



# Deadliest Animals

*Melissa Stewart*

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## **Deadliest Animals** Melissa Stewart

Did you know that a tiny golf ball-sized creature called the blue-ringed octopus contains enough venom to kill 26 adult humans? Or why the Sydney funnel web spider is one of the most dangerous creatures in the world? In this Level 3 book, kids will be fascinated by 12 species that you hope you'll never come across! Sharks, snakes, jellyfish and more—these creatures are among the most threatening—and interesting—in the world!

## **Deadliest Animals Details**

Date : Published July 5th 2011 by National Geographic Children's Books (first published 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Melissa Stewart

Format : Kindle Edition 48 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Animals, Science, Childrens

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# **From Reader Review Deadliest Animals for online ebook**

## **Kristine says**

Great mentor text to use with students for informational writing.

Possible mini-lessons: author's craft, word choice, organization

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## **katsok says**

Interesting early reader on deadliest animals. Love the different text features.

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## **OCLS Staff says**

Explore 12 species that you hope you'll never come across, from sharks, snakes, jellyfish, bears, tigers and mosquitoes.

Dream Big (Summer Reading Program 2012) recommended book

Available from OCLS in print.

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## **Ruth Ann says**

Page 27 - Stonefish: are masters of disguise. The blend in well to their rocky surroundings. Unwary predators may step or grab a stonefish and will be surprised by a "painful blast of venom," which can paralyze muscles and possibly result in death!

Page 30-31 Ten Cool Things about Deadly Animals

Glossary and Index

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## **Elisa says**

Deadliest Animals! by Melissa Stewart is a great nonfiction book for children who are interested in learning about different animals in nature. The book is filled with interesting facts about deadly animals and features that make them deadly. The book introduces deadly animals that are large, small, carnivores, and herbivores. This book uses realistic photographs of animals in their natural habitats. The text also includes many fact bubbles that introduce students to facts and statistics related to the featured animal on the page.

This text can be used for 3rd grade to 4th grade students. I would use this book to introduce students to science vocabulary such as "predator," "prides," and "prey." As an activity, students can make their own vocabulary books based on the vocabulary that they learn from the text. Students can also rate the animals featured in this text from least deadliest to most deadliest and support their ratings with justifications based on facts in the book! Students can even use the facts that they learn in this text to hold a verbal debate discussing what features make an animal "deadly."

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### **Allison says**

Genres: Picture Book/Informational

Grades: 1 - 4

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### **Debra says**

I love this series and hope National Geographic adds more. Terrific early readers.

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### **Shari says**

What is the deadliest animal? You'd be surprised. Great informational book loaded with text features making it a good teaching resource.

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### **Mary Ann says**

Kids are fascinated by powerful, ferocious animals. But what animals are truly dangerous? Stewart grabs kids' attention and then provides fascinating information. While some animals like the Great White Shark use their deadly features to hunt prey, others depend on these traits for protection. As always, National Geographic readers combine eye-catching photographs with a design that helps new readers learn great facts.

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### **Manybooks says**

While much of Melissa Stewart's [Deadliest Animals](#) does contain informative and even enlightening enough factual details regarding some of the most dangerous and deadly animals species found on earth (and yes, I do indeed appreciate that she shows and explains just how dangerous, how lethal and destructive the mosquito is and can be), the deliberate and cinematic sensationalism encountered both textually and illustratively truly leaves more than a bit to be personally desired, as especially many of the presented photographs look and feel rather like terror portraits. And frankly, considering that many if not even the vast majority of snakes are actually non venomous, and that even amongst the truly dangerous and deadly toxic serpents, only a select few are actually inherently potentially lethally threatening to humans, why does

Melissa Stewart seem to strive to make all snakes appear as monstrosities of destruction and danger? Furthermore, and quite frankly, I am also getting more than majorly and utterly sick and tired of supposedly non fiction zoology (read science and biology based) book offerings geared to children presenting (as a prime and annoying example) sharks as somehow univocally threatening to humanity, with accompanying pictures that totally remind me of the movie Jaws (as come on, many to most species of sharks are in fact and indeed considerably less dangerous and deadly to and for humans than vice versa and actually often critically endangered, with the undeserved reputation of sharks being ruthless, even evil killing machines one of the main reasons for this sad scenario).

Combined with the fact that I for one have found the attempts at lame humour and truly groan-worthy riddles distracting at best (not to mention off-topic and repetitive as heck), what has really and lastingly soured me on Deadliest Animals is the frustrating lack of any type of source acknowledgments and suggestions for further reading and study (no bibliographical information and details whatsoever) and indeed the sad truth that author Melissa Stewart obviously also does not dare or perhaps even want to realise (and present) that one of the MOST dangerous, that one of the MOST deadly species of animals are human beings, are homo sapiens sapiens. For honestly, if one looks at the level and at the vast amount of both historic and recent destruction we (as members of kingdom animalia) have wrought and continue to cause to the environment, to the world's ecosystems, to other species of animals and yes, also to our own species, humans (humanity) should most definitely have been included (and prominently featured at that) in Deadliest Animals and that we are not, that author Melissa Stewart has not chosen to present us humans as a deadly and dangerous, as a threatening animals species, this does indeed and in fact massively infuriate and frustrate me, and has most definitely moved my star ranking for Deadliest Animals to but one star (and a rather grudging one star rating at that).

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## **Peacegal says**

While I appreciate the effort to educate youngsters about animals, I worry that books like this may trigger a sort of environmental “mean world syndrome.” The photographs run toward the sensational, and the only attribute of each species discussed is its ability to attack and kill. (Nat Geo, can we please retire the great white shark “Jaws” imagery? Sharks already have a tough enough time clinging to survival without children worrying that a hideous gape-jawed beast is going to eat them alive next time they visit the seashore.)

Note: Some of the images in this book might upset more sensitive children.

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## **Hannah Rosenhen says**

July/2013

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## **Amber Johnson says**

Awesome, concise facts about the deadliest animals in the world!

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## **Stephanie Ann says**

Title- Deadliest Animals

Author- Melissa Stewart

National Geographic Children's Books - 2011, 48 pages, grade level 1-4, Genre- Informational, Lexile level 940, GR level P

Summary- This is a creepy, crawly, informational book about the deadliest animals that are alive. This non-fiction text is full of information about how vicious some animals can actually be. There are twelve species that you hope that you will never come face to face with in your life! Did you know that the Cape Buffalo are able to charge with their heads down at their enemy? They use this because they have hooked horns and sharp hooves that can kill their predators quickly. Explore many other of the deadliest animals and see what traits make them so dangerous. Is it their speed, or their claws, or even their speed? What do you think that the deadliest animal is? Read to find out in the book with bright, detailed pictures to make you feel like you are there!

Teaching Points- I would have the students break into groups of two or three. I would have the students pick out an animal from the Deadliest Animals book to create a poster to present to the class. I would have the students do this assignment before the book was read and give them a copy of the pages that they would need for their specific animal. The students would do research to find out more about the animals to inform the rest of the class. At the end, the students would do presentations about their animals and then the book would be read to the class.

NYS ELA CCSS-W.4.8

ISBN- 978-1426307577

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## **McKenna Paul says**

Published January 11th 2011 by National Geographic Children's Books

Level 3 readers- Fluent readers. Includes a table of contents and a glossary. Informational book on deadliest animals.

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