

On Defense

What would you do if something big and hungry wanted to eat you? Some animals face this problem every day. They're called *prey*, and the animals that hunt them are called *predators*. Read on to learn some tricks prey animals use to stay alive.

Run Fast

For some animals, running away is the best defense. This **basilisk lizard** has an extra advantage. Thanks to flaps of skin on its feet and fast sprinting speeds, it can run across the surface of water to get to safety.



Be a Copycat

Why does this fly look so much like a bee? Insect eaters know that bees sting. So if this fly can fool predators into thinking it's a stinging bee, it's home free. This kind of fake-out is called *mimicry*.



Blend In

What a predator can't see, it can't catch and eat. So in the winter, this **snowshoe hare** grows a white fur coat to match the snow. When the snow melts, the hare grows brown fur to match the bare ground. This kind of blending in is called *camouflage*.



Stand Out

Poisonous animals would rather be seen and remembered. This **poison arrow frog's** bright orange markings really stand out against a green leaf. The message? "I'm dangerous. Don't even try to eat me."