



Create a Creature

You are an explorer, like Charles Darwin, and you have discovered a fantastical creature on your travels... teach your family about it by making an informative poster.

You will need:

- Dice
- Some paper
- Coloured pens or pencils

Step one: Invent your creature

Roll the die and use the grid below to see what kind of fantastical creature you can create! Roll once each for body, legs and head. For example, if you roll 4, 2, 6 and 1, you would have a creature with the body of a bear, the legs of a millipede the head of an elephant and the tail of a rabbit!

If you don't have dice you can write the numbers 1-6 on scraps of paper, and draw them out of a hat.

Dice number:	1	2	3	4	5	6
Body of a...	Tortoise	Bird	Snake	Bear	Fish	Tiger
Legs of a...	Octopus	Millipede	Pig	Spider	Duck	Kitten
Head of a...	Lion	Elephant	Mouse	Shark	Wolf	Monkey
Tail of a...	Rabbit	Fox	Chameleon	Squirrel	Lemur	Cow

Step two: Draw your creature

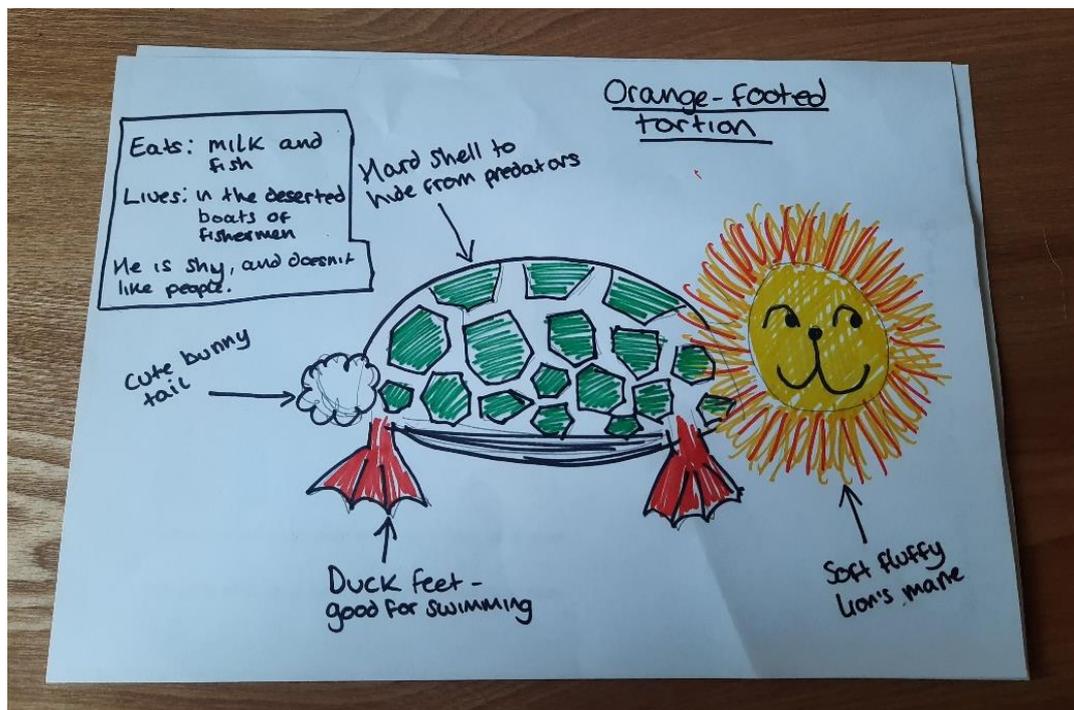
Make it fun and colourful!

Step three: Label your creature

Describe its body parts and how they might help it in the wild. Is it furry? Scaly? Skinny? Does it run, swim or hop? Is it cute? Scary? Shy? What does it eat? Where did you discover it? Is it friendly to humans?

Step four: Give your creature a name

This can be a mash-up of the animals that have inspired your creature's body parts, or a completely new name! You could even name the creature after yourself in true explorer-style



Extension activity for 9-12 year olds

“July 24th, 1833.—The Beagle sailed from Maldonado, and on August the 3rd she arrived off the mouth of the Rio Negro.” — Charles Darwin, *A Naturalist's Voyage Round the World: The Voyage of the Beagle*

Write a diary entry about your voyage to discover this creature. Were you on a walk? Exploring the jungle? Swimming in the ocean? Were you looking specifically for evidence that this creature exists, or was it a surprise? Write the date at the top of your diary entry, and write in the 'first person'- using 'I' and 'me' to describe your adventure.