

This I Believe

By Kami Steele

I believe in animals. Animals come in many shapes and sizes, and we can learn from seeing them in the wild, or even in our backyards. Dogs, cats, raccoons, fishes, wolves, whales, lions, tigers, bears, and various other animals have a lot of things to teach us, both in a scientific sense and a spiritual sense.

Many, many animals have interesting things about them. Did you know the cheetah is one of the fastest animals on Earth, at up to 120 miles per hour? What about the krill, one of the smallest animals around, feeding blue whales, the largest animal that ever existed? Or how snakes smell with their tongue? Overall, animals are fascinating creatures once you learn about them. Learning about the creatures of our planet can be a exciting experience, like reading about the Mola Mola, also known as the Ocean Sunfish (they're those big fish at the aquarium that look like they only have a head, tail, and fins), or learning about the lives of jaguars, and about how they can crush skulls with their jaws. There are many fascinating details about them.

But, they can also teach us about life. It has its goods and bads. Take, for example, the elephant. Elephants are something you don't want to upset. Countless people have died in some way due to upsetting them, and you have to be really careful around them. But, elephants are extremely intelligent creatures, and can learn easily, to the point where it's

often said that they never forget. They can also be compassionate creatures; they have been observed to mourn the dead and show concern for other members of their herd. Like most humans, they can have their bad sides and their good sides.

Many animals are also determined to survive, often taking advantage of the environments they live in and learning to thrive in them. For example, many animals live in the desert and despite the harsh living conditions actually do well in those environments. They have learned how to survive over countless generations, and are tremendously successful at it.

There are plentiful things that animals can help us learn about the world. Animals tend to teach us about their environment, and why they important in our world. Learning about animals can make us realize just how vital they are on our planet, and one day we will be able to protect them.
