

Resource Summary Report

Generated by NIF on Aug 19, 2026

Animal Diversity Web

RRID:SCR_013658

Type: Tool

Proper Citation

Animal Diversity Web (RRID:SCR_013658)

Resource Information

URL: <http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/index.html>

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Description: Animal Diversity Web (ADW) is an online database of animal natural history, distribution, classification, and conservation biology at the University of Michigan :Animal Diversity Web Has: Thousands of species accounts about individual animal species. These may include text, pictures of living animals, photographs and movies of specimens, and/or recordings of sounds. Students write the text of these accounts and we cannot guarantee their accuracy. Descriptions of levels of organization above the species level, especially phyla, classes, and in some cases, orders and families. Hundreds of hyperlinked pages and images illustrate the traits and general biology of these groups. Professional biologists prepare this part. :Animal Diversity Web Is An Online Encyclopedia: ADW is a large searchable encyclopedia of the natural history of animals. Every day, thousands of classroom students and informal visitors use it to answer animal questions. Other sites specialize in local, endangered, or particular kinds of animals. We aim to be as comprehensive as possible. :A Science Learning Tool: ADW facilitates inquiry-driven learning, that is, teaching about science by leading students to use the methods of science. Our large database is structured, providing consistent information for all species to foster comparisons. An advanced search tool allows a user to call up species accounts fitting any combination of descriptors. Students can explore for patterns and relationships, learn how to frame and answer scientific questions and, with the help of a good teacher, experience the excitement and satisfaction of doing science. Our long-term goal is to create a database rich enough that students can discover for themselves basic concepts in ecology and conservation biology. :A Virtual Museum: ADW provides a way to make the contents of research museums available globally for teaching and research. So far, our efforts have been directed mainly at mammals. Photographs of scientific specimens are available for representative species from most mammal families. We've also included several hundred Quick Time Virtual Reality Movies of skulls. These allow the user to rotate the specimen, providing an excellent impression of its 3-dimensional structure. We've written in depth about and illustrated many of the characteristics of interest to students of mammals. An important goal for the future is to

expand to cover other groups of animals and include other media such as animal behavior video. :Wiki features, database, teaching tool :

Synonyms: Animal Diversity Web

Resource Type: database, data or information resource

Resource Name: Animal Diversity Web

Resource ID: SCR_013658

Alternate IDs: nif-0000-00419

Record Creation Time: 20220129T080317+0000

Record Last Update: 20260819T044340+0000

Ratings and Alerts

No rating or validation information has been found for Animal Diversity Web.

No alerts have been found for Animal Diversity Web.

Data and Source Information

Source: [SciCrunch Registry](#)

Usage and Citation Metrics

We found 3 mentions in open access literature.

Listed below are recent publications. The full list is available at [NIF](#) .

Wang G, et al. (2010) More functional V1R genes occur in nest-living and nocturnal terricolous mammals. *Genome biology and evolution*, 2, 277.

Pavlin BI, et al. (2009) Risk of importing zoonotic diseases through wildlife trade, United States. *Emerging infectious diseases*, 15(11), 1721.

Bisson IA, et al. (2009) Evidence for repeated independent evolution of migration in the largest family of bats. *PLoS one*, 4(10), e7504.