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ILLUSTRATOR:**

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Biggest, Strongest, Fastest focuses on the world record holders of the animal kingdom. Find out which animals are longest, smallest, tallest, and slowest.

Ages: 4 to 8 years

ATOS Reading Level:
2.3

Lexile: AD840L

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Biggest, Strongest, Fastest

Could you win a race with a cheetah?

What is STEAM? Learning through Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics. Through STEAM, children problem solve, innovate, create, and collaborate.

STEAM Topics in this Book: comparison, measurement, ratios

Activities To Do Together:

Use *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* to explore attributes that are commonly measured, for example, height, weight, and speed.

Before reading the book:

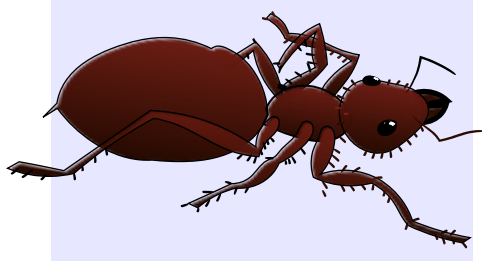
- Tell your child that *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* is a book of superlatives. Explain that a superlative is a comparison word used to describe something that has more of a particular quality than anything or anybody else in a group. Words like tallest, biggest, smallest, heaviest, strongest, and fastest are superlatives. Ask your child which superlative they would use to describe themselves - tallest, funniest, strongest, fastest, happiest, or something else?

While reading the book:

- Notice together the units of measurement used in the story; for example, the giraffe is measured in feet and the Etruscan shrew is measured in inches (height). Talk about why these units of measurement make sense given the size of these animals.
- Ask your child how the elephant, giraffe, blue whale, and sun jellyfish are each biggest in their own way.

When you have finished reading the book.

- Design an animal that could break one of the records discussed in the book. Draw a picture of your animal and name it. What record could it break and why?
- A land snail moves about 8 inches in one minute. Encourage your child to figure out how long it would take a land snail to travel 4 feet and explain how they figured it out.



Questions for STEAM Thinking:

1. Which animal record holder do you think is most interesting and why?
2. Which is biggest, the blue whale or the sun jellyfish? Why do you think so?
3. If you had the strength of an ant, how much weight would you be able to carry? Explain how you figured it out.
4. How do you think the giraffe's height is an advantage? What do you think might be difficult for an animal that is so tall?
5. If you could have the special abilities of any of the animal world record holders in this book, which ability would you like to have and why?

Early Math Project Resources:

Visit [Biggest, Strongest, Fastest](http://countplayexplore.org/book/biggest-strongest-fastest) (countplayexplore.org/book/biggest-strongest-fastest) to find activities and related California Learning Foundations, Mathematics Standards, and/or Next Generation Science Standards for this book.

**Vocabulary**

STEAM words found in the story: average, bigger, biggest, dime, faster, fastest, five times, half, half an hour, height, hundred, largest, less than, longest, measured, mile, miles per hour, minute, ounce, pounds, shorter, slowest, smaller, smallest, speeds, strongest, tallest, teaspoon, twice

Related STEAM

words: comparison, distance, ratios, speed, time, weight, wingspan

Words to build reading

comprehension: acrobat, acrobatic, average, danger, electricity, expect, filaments, flexible, fortunately, Galapagos, hummingbird, jumper, leap, microscope, poisonous, prey, swallow, tentacles, tortoise, voltage, volt

Related Books: *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins; *Just a Second* by Steve Jenkins

Click this link to the [World Catalog](http://WorldCatalog) or enter bit.ly/3SzCcUT to find *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* in the public library.