

# off the fence.

## Nature's Greatest Moments - Animal Antics - Wildlife (Series 6)

3 x 5'

### EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

#### 1. Giraffe - Legs

The name Giraffe comes from the Arabic word “Zirafah” which means “the tallest of all” and they are undoubtedly the tallest of all mammals. Having such long legs presents a challenge when drinking water. They must precariously spread their legs and lower their bodies to the ground. Their long necks must carry the water all the way back to their bodies and prevent too much blood going to their brain causing them to faint. But being so tall has a big advantage. It allows the giraffe to get the juiciest leaves that other animals just can't reach.

#### 2. Giraffe - Necking (not Leguaan)

The sight of two giraffes necking would normally bring romantic thoughts to the casual observer but this conclusion would be incorrect. Two giraffes necking are normally two males competing for the affections of a female. Those with boney horns are able to deliver extra heavy blows. The winner has the privilege of mating with the female, as long as she is receptive. After fourteen months a six foot cow will drop two metres to the ground – the latest member of the family.

#### 3. Grasshoppers & Crickets (Orthoptera)

A still African night brings a whole new meaning to the meaning quiet. Male crickets are competing vigorously for the attentions of the females and it's usually he who sings loudest gets the girl. A smaller cricket has been rather cunning and is using the entrance of his burrow to enhance his sound. However his loud solo has also caught the attention of another male whose intention is to combat for the right to mate with the female. What he lacks in song he makes up in size and soon sees the smaller noisier male off. A new sweet love-song lets the female know he is not only the winner but also new owner of the burrow.