

# off the fence.

## Wildest Survival (Series 2)

10 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

### 1. Life in Miniature

Enter the world of the mini beasts, and discover how some of the world's most ingenious and extraordinary animals are also the smallest. This action packed episode will take you deep into rainforests, under the oceans and across vast deserts to meet incredible tiny species, from jungle dwelling pygmy elephants to exotic and flamboyant dancing spiders. These incredible animals use their tiny size to find love, outsmart deadly predators, and adapt to life in the world's most extreme environments. In the cloud forests of South America we meet an amazing hummingbird that uses his incredible agility and tiny size to feed on flowers unnoticed by his larger hummingbird competitors. In the tropical islands of the Galapagos we find a tiny lizard that lives happily alongside massive sea lions. We cross the oceans to Hawaii, where a tiny fish has evolved to climb up the slippery, sheer rock faces of the islands biggest waterfalls. Deep in the jungles of the Amazon incredibly organised leaf cutter ants have been farming their own food for millennia. And in the forests of Borneo, we stumble across a tiny elephant that has evolved in isolation from its Asian counterparts. These are just some of the animals featured in Episode One. These tiny creatures may not have size on their side, but nature's smallest have found their own place in this big, wide world. They've adapted, overcoming huge obstacles, and developing extraordinary skills. They dominate our world and have turned their size into an advantage, proving that even the littlest creatures have what it takes in the fight for survival.

### 2. Giants

Explore the complex world of supersize species. For nature's giants, being the biggest brings huge advantages - and enormous challenges. From massive land mammals to ocean behemoths, how nature's giants overcome life's big problems is awe inspiring. Whether it's finding ways to move their massive bodies, survive in extreme environments, or feed giant appetites, these animals have learned to use their size in extraordinary ways to survive. This colossal episode will feature epic battles in the frozen wilderness, reveal the world's largest living organism and take us deep into Europe's wild alpine forests to witness big beasts do battle. In a forgotten corner of the Amazon we meet highly sociable giant otters that rule their complex river systems. In the Australian outback, we bounce across the desert with the kangaroos that have a highly unusual approach to keeping their large frames cool. In Malaysia we come face to face with one of the worlds biggest insects, super strong beetles that can lift 850 times their own body weight. And on the edge of the Sahara we travel with elephants that can hear the approach of a storm - and water - from hundreds of kilometres away. These are just some of the species featured in this Episode - natures giants that have found astonishing solutions to life's biggest problems.

From using their size to find food and win over a mate, to enduring the world's most extreme environments and overcoming the challenges of moving their massive frames, these goliaths stand tall in the face of adversity.

Nature's giants are amongst earth's greatest survivors.

### **3. Out at Night**

Enter the world of nocturnal animals... Living your life at night can present extreme challenges - and massive opportunities. In this world without light, danger lurks around every corner. This episode takes us into a world we can barely see - but for many animals it is all they know. Primates like owls, hyenas with super senses and insects that glow have evolved to succeed in this world without light. Whether it's finding food, searching for a mate, or battling off predators, in this murky world only the strongest - and smartest - will survive. In the jungles of Madagascar a secretive relative of the hedgehog communicates through noises produced by its spines. On the dusty plains of southern Africa a fierce trio of honey badgers fends off a ravenous hyena. Deep in a cave in an isolated part of New Zealand an underground lightshow is produced by millions of tiny insects. And on the coast of Chile, a bat emerges from its roost. It's time to eat - and it only feeds on blood... These are just some of the species featured in the third episode. As darkness descends these nocturnal animals have found their own place in a world without light. They've adapted to life in the dark, from finding a mate, to overcoming life's biggest challenges, these creatures have developed some extraordinary skills.

They've found their own way to survive - and thrive - when the sun goes down

Even when facing seemingly impossible odds animals can still win their fight for survival.

### **4. Ice Worlds**

Meet the creatures uniquely adapted to life in the deep freeze. Animals have evolved to live on every corner of the planet - but none are as resilient as those who live in the coldest climes. We'll reveal the surprising adaptations earth's cold weather creatures have evolved to survive. This episode takes us to lands of freezing temperatures, scarce food and shortened daylight hours. Flourishing amidst ice and snow is one of nature's extreme challenges. At the southern tip of Chile we follow a lost Puma as she searches for her mother in a blizzard. In Finland a brown bear desperately searches for his last meal before entering hibernation for the approaching long, cold winter. In the vast national park of Yellowstone, a pack of wolves hound a herd of elk through the deep snow. And in the Carpathian Mountains of Romania, a Lynx uses his incredible eyesight to track down and kill even the smallest prey. For all animals winter brings unique challenges. But

nature's toughest creatures have found incredible ways to survive in our planet's coldest regions. Whether it's finding food, impressing a mate, or avoiding the worst of the weather these animals have evolved remarkable adaptations to outsmart the cold and succeed in the relentless struggle to survive.

## **5. Ingenious Animals**

Meet the animals that live in the extremes who have created unique tools and techniques to cope with the harshest challenges to their continued survival. From finding scarce water beneath desert ground to crossing thousands of miles in the skies, these amazing animals have evolved - and learnt - to succeed where other species have failed. In the arid plains of Sri Lanka, a herd of elephants use their impressive memories to track down what little water is left. In the rainforests of Madagascar, a tiny Giraffe Necked Weevil creates an impressive piece of engineering to give her young the best start in life. On a coastal cliff in Portugal White Storks work together to build the largest nests of any bird and fend off any predators that choose to attack them. And in lagoons on the edge of the Black Sea, a Dice Snake uses a range of adaptations to demonstrate why he is one of the most successful snake species in the world. All these animals may live in extreme environments but over time they have developed the tools and techniques to thrive. When the environment seems to be against them each animal fights to live another day, proving that it's the smartest creatures that have what it takes in the fight for survival.

## **6. Challenges of Life**

From birth life is filled with risk - and reward. To reach adulthood animals must constantly overcome incredible obstacles. They must learn to find food, secure a home, attract a mate, and raise the next generation with only one thing on their mind - survival. From tiny Mantids taking their first steps in the jungle, to Scimitar Horned Oryx fighting over mates in the arid scrublands of Tunisia, these animals have adapted in surprising ways to ensure they make it to old age unscathed.

## **7. Life in the Trees**

Wildest Survival returns for a second series, heading to new extreme locations to explore the rich and varied world of animal behaviour. For wild animals, life is all about survival. To overcome nature's toughest challenges, every species on earth has evolved its own unique anatomy, and learnt amazing tricks and behaviours to help them stay alive. Surviving in the wild is tough - but intelligence can make life that little bit easier. When the world presents extreme challenges that seem impossible to surmount some surprising species rise to the challenge.

## **8. Animal Defences**

Nature's smartest prey species have evolved some remarkable defenses to stay one step ahead in the constant battle against predators. By employing unique skills to avoid detection, outsmart their enemies, or when all else fails - retaliate - they have found a way to fight another day. In the ongoing evolutionary arms race between predator and prey these ingenious creatures have gained the upper hand in the ultimate fight for survival.

## **9. Cold Blooded Creatures**

Reptiles, amphibians, insects and fish are found in every corner of our world - and for this special group of animals, life is regulated by the sun. But when you can't control your own temperature, even daily life can prove a struggle - so they have evolved unique adaptations to overcome their shortcomings. They may look primitive but nature's cold-blooded creatures have developed an array of extraordinary strategies in order to survive.

## **10. Animal Oddities**