

UNDER ONE sky

Why Animals Matter

From the smallest insects to the largest mammals, animals are vital threads in the web of life that sustains us all. Animals have been our close companions and workmates for thousands of years. They fascinate and inspire us, and are woven into the fabric of cultures around the world. There are a myriad of animal wonders to be found, even in your own back yard. It may be a spider's web, which is stronger than the equivalent weight in steel; a rabbit that can see behind itself without turning its head; or an ant that can carry ten times its body weight. Come along on a journey to discover the many ways that animals matter.

A special exhibit presented by the Museum and IFAW, the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

Exhibit Developers

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Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
Volunteers, Staff and Trustees



Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

Robert F. Dwyer, Executive Director

The Cape Cod Museum of Natural History was founded in 1954 in Brewster, Massachusetts, to inspire appreciation, understanding and stewardship of our natural environment through discovery and learning. We have three strands of organizational identity – a museum of natural history, a nature education center, and steward of conservation land.

- As a small museum of natural history, we preserve, exhibit, and interpret our own collections of natural history artifacts and display relevant traveling and loan exhibits. We also collaborate with local and regional organizations on co-sponsored exhibits.
- As a nature education center, we engage children and adults in high-quality programs that reveal the many facets of the natural world and the reciprocal impacts that humans and nature exert on each other.
- As a steward of 400-plus acres of museum-owned land in Stony Brook Valley and Brewster conservation land adjacent to the museum, including Wing Island, the salt marsh, and the beach along Cape Cod Bay, we monitor and protect the land and focus our programming on its varied habitats – our outdoor classroom and teaching tool.



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A Special Exhibit



**Cape Cod Museum
of Natural History**

May 23 - Dec 30, 2009

IFAW's founding campaign to end the commercial seal hunt in Canada has made tremendous progress in achieving bans on imports of seal products – from the U.S. and Mexico to Europe – closing key markets that fuel the largest marine mammal hunt in the world.

IFAW promotes responsible whale watching as a viable, economic alternative to whale hunting and has helped make one-fifth of the world's ocean a sanctuary for whales.

IFAW works on the ground and in the halls of government to prevent cruelty to animals.

IFAW trains customs and law enforcement officials from the Middle East to the Caribbean to combat illegal wildlife trade, which is pushing many species to the brink of extinction.

IFAW provides vital care for needy pets in the poor communities of South Africa, Mexico, Canada, the Navajo Nation, Indonesia, and other places where veterinary services are scarce.

IFAW is a world leader in rescuing and rehabilitating orphaned and injured animals, then releasing them back to the wild, from bear cubs in Russia to elephants in India, penguins in South America, and raptors in China.

From Asia to Africa, IFAW works in dozens of countries to protect wildlife habitat, prevent human-animal conflict, and fight against poaching, all of which are critical to the survival of elephants, rhinos, tigers, and other species.



Founded in 1969, IFAW works in more than 40 countries to protect animals and our shared environment. IFAW's Animal Action education program raises awareness, encourages respect and promotes action for animals and habitats worldwide, reaching some seven million young people, families and educators in 16 countries.