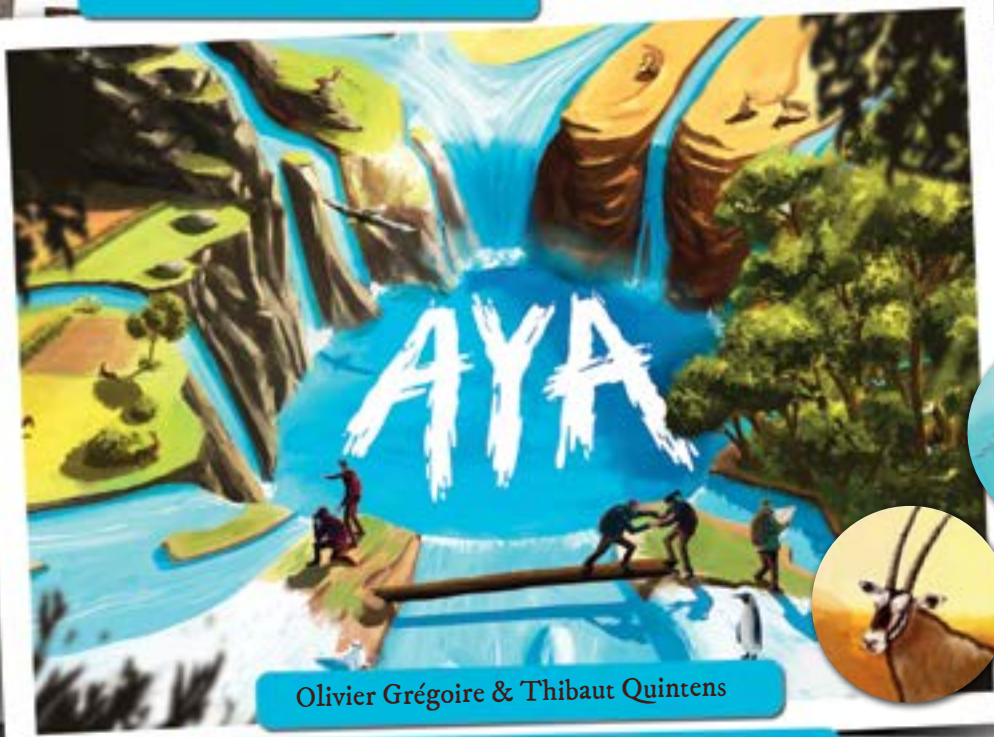


Rules



Olivier Grégoire & Thibaut Quintens

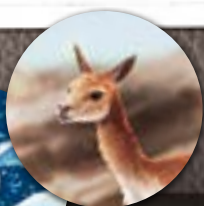
Julien Hanoteaux (illustration) & Cédric Michiels (design)



Welcome to the world of Aya, the goddess of water. You will embark on a journey up the river to seek out nature's treasures and marvel at the variety of landscapes and animals that will emerge as you glide along. Be clever and cooperate for the best photos so you can share your incredible journey! Create and discover a new world each time you play with family and friends.

PRINCIPLE OF THE GAME

In Aya, you will have to cooperate to connect as many *Landscape* tiles and *Animal Photo* tokens as possible to arrange a chain of dominoes placed upright one after another. At the end of the game, they will fall onto each other, each one toppling the next – in a cascade effect – to reveal the ultimate number of landscapes and animals and bring back the greatest photos.



Landscape tiles



Animal Photo tokens



Start tile



Retrigger tokens



10-minute hourglass



Extraordinary Garden dominoes



Dominoes



Landscape Photo tokens



CONTENTS

- 16 round *Landscape* tiles:
1 *Start* tile, 3 *Forest* tiles, 3 *Mountain* tiles, 3 *Desert* tiles, 3 *Pole* tiles, and 30 *Field* tiles. Each *Landscape* tile has front and back sides, the front side being the irrigated face.
- 156 *River* dominoes:
30 *Forest*, 30 *Mountain*, 30 *Desert*, 30 *Pole*, 30 *Field*, and 6 *Extraordinary Garden*. 40 of the dominoes show a *Camera* icon.

- 25 *Animal Photo* round tokens:
5 *Forest*, 5 *Mountain*, 5 *Desert*, 5 *Pole*, and 5 *Field*. Each token has front and back sides, the front side representing the animal.
- 15 rectangle-shaped *Landscape Photo* tokens: 3 *Wood*, 3 *Mountain*, 3 *Desert*, 3 *Pole*, and 3 *Field*.
- 10 *Retrigger* tokens.
- A 10-minute hourglass.

Insertion of a *Landscape Photo* token between each tile.



STOCK at the beginning of the game, the dominoes being face down.

RESERVE during the game, the dominoes being in a face up pile.

SET-UP

The play area is defined by the edges of your game space... whatever it is!

1. Place the *Start* tile anywhere on the play area, so that all the players can reach it.
2. Arrange the *Animal Photo* tokens and the *Landscape* tiles with their back side up, dividing them into piles corresponding to their types, on the edge of the play area. Insert a *Landscape Photo* token of the same type between each *Landscape* tile.
3. Place the *Retrigger* tokens in a pile aside. If you are skilful enough... You will keep them! (See the Counting phase below).
4. Place the hourglass next to the piles, so that it is visible to all the players.
5. Deal the *River* dominoes face down to the players so as to form their STOCKS:

- 78 dominoes in a 2-player game;
- 52 dominoes in a 3-player game;
- 39 dominoes in a 4-player game;
- 31 dominoes in a 5-player game (32 for the first player).

Choose the first player, be nice and let the youngest start!



Tip

Aya gives a lot of flexibility to the players; few rules are strict. However, if you want to be efficient, we advise you to follow carefully the advice ("Tips") given by experienced domino topplers.

GAME FLOW

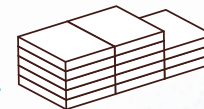
A game is divided into 3 phases:

- A. A phase of placing the dominoes, the tiles, and the *Animal Photo* tokens. It is the heart of the game. It lasts the time of two 10-minute hourglasses, with possibly a break between.
- B. A toppling phase, which lasts... a few seconds, and is the outcome of the game!
- C. A counting phase, which lasts one minute, and embodies the result of your teamwork.



Tip

We advise you to "arrange" the face down dominoes from your STOCK into 5-domino piles.



Tip

Before your first game, you should practice placing the dominoes one after the other, and toppling them on each other. This will allow you to better assess the distance that you need to leave between 2 dominoes. If they are too far apart, they will not fall, and you will have to topple them again (retrigger)! If they are too close, you might use too many dominoes, and not have enough left to connect them all. It is all a matter of finding the "right balance". You should also train with the Y-junction *Extraordinary Garden* dominoes and the turns on the *Landscape* tiles.



A. PLACING PHASE

1. First of all, start the hourglass!

Once it has run out for the first time, turn it over again for 10 more minutes. Between the two hourglasses, moving or placing dominoes or tiles is not allowed.

2. Draw ONE domino:

- EITHER randomly from your STOCK, face down;
- OR the first domino of your RESERVE, which is face up on top of the pile. (Note: on the 1st round, the players do not have any domino in their RESERVE.)

3. Then, beginning with the first player, the players take turns placing the *River* domino they have in hand:

- EITHER vertically, anywhere on the play area;
- OR on a *Landscape* tile that was previously placed (including the *Start* tile);
- OR on top of their RESERVE piles, face up.

Once he has laid a domino, the player can immediately draw the following domino so as to get ready for his next turn.

A player can draw (and therefore have in hand) only one domino. It is never possible to put a drawn domino back into the STOCK and take another one.

If a player accidentally topples dominoes, they must be put back up as quickly as possible, and before the end of the Placing phase. All the players can help.

Any player can redirect a domino during his turn, but its position within the chain cannot be changed.

The dominoes show water on only one of their sides. You have to place them such that the flowing direction of the River is always respected.



Tip

Take advantage of this break before starting the hourglass again to talk more calmly and adjust your strategy. Everyone around the table must stay cool, this is one of the keys to success!



Tip

Do not hesitate to announce the type of domino you draw to facilitate anticipation and team-work.



Tip

A domino can be placed after other dominoes to extend a chain or somewhere else to start a chain that will be connected later.



Tip

On the *Landscape* tiles, you must place dominoes of the same ground type to have them validated at the end of the game. On the *Start* tile, you can lay any type of domino.

Dominoes with a camera

When a player draws a domino showing a *Camera* icon, he CAN:

- EITHER take a *Landscape* tile and the *Landscape Photo* token which lies on it, of the type corresponding to the domino (see the "Placing a Landscape tile" section);
- OR take an *Animal Photo* token of the type corresponding to the domino (see the "Placing an Animal Photo token" section);
- OR use it as a "standard" domino.

Placing a Landscape tile

The player can place the *Landscape* tile anywhere on the play area and choose its orientation. Once the tile is laid, the player puts the *Landscape Photo* token next to it (don't forget, it will bring points at the end



of the game!). This *Landscape* tile cannot be moved any more. Then, the *Camera* domino is placed upright, outside of the *Landscape* tile, in front of an "entrance" of the river (in the flowing direction so as to ensure that this "Camera" domino falls face up on the tile. See Phase B).

Some *Landscape* tiles show a fork with several entrances and exits. It is up to you to orientate the tile correctly so as to determine the entrances and exits.



Tip

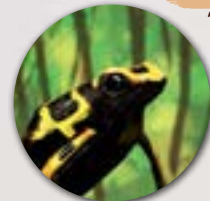
To connect the *Landscape* tiles to each other, you have to "orientate" them correctly by imagining the *River* domino chains you will have to join between the two tiles.



Tip

In order to optimize the available space, we suggest that you leave a distance of approximately the diameter of a tile between each tile.

Placing an Animal Photo token



The player lays the *Animal Photo* token astride the *Camera* domino and another domino that was placed earlier. Be careful not to put the *Animal Photo* token too close or on a *Landscape* tile (see the

"Token Validation" section).



Tip

To create a "buffer zone" in the domino chain (in order to prevent the chain toppling from occurring too early because of a clumsy player), you can place the *Animal Photo* token and the *Camera* domino flat, just next to the location where it will be put back up later.

Note: don't forget to set this domino back upright and to put the *Animal Photo* token on it before the end of the Placing phase (2nd hourglass run out)! After that, it will be too late.



Extraordinary Garden dominoes

When a player draws an *Extraordinary Garden* domino, he CAN use it:

- EITHER to create a fork in the domino chain;
- OR as a standard domino.

In both cases, an *Extraordinary Garden* acts a wild domino, and can be used for any type of domino.

A fork enables to place 2 *Animal Photo* tokens on the chain, on either side of the *Extraordinary Garden* domino.



4. The Placing phase ends immediately when one of the 2 following conditions is fulfilled:

- EITHER the 2nd hourglass has run out (which is the most frequent);
- OR one of the players has exhausted his STOCK (even if his RESERVE is not empty!)



B. TOPPLING PHASE

Hold your breath... with the tip of his finger, a player slightly pushes the 1st domino of the *Start* tile so as to topple it on the following one, and to bring all the others down in a striking domino-toppling effect. The fall of the dominoes will also result in the *Animal Photo* tokens placed astride dominoes dropping.

The chain toppling can possibly stop because of a "gap" in the chain or because the dominoes have been wrongly placed (too close, too far away, diagonally, etc.). In this case, the following player pushes again a domino which is still upright so as to retrigger a toppling chain reaction.

For each retriggering (except the first), a *Retrigger* token is taken out of the pile. When the 10-token pile is exhausted, don't worry, losing more tokens is impossible!

Important: you must retrigger the chain reaction until no domino is left standing!



C. COUNTING PHASE

It is now time to validate (or not) the *Animal* and *Landscape Photos* you successfully took during your journey. From the *Start* tile, go up along the run of the river and count your points.

Animal Photo tokens validation

An *Animal Photo* token is validated if ALL the following conditions are fulfilled:

- it touches the chain through at least the edge of a domino (it was not ejected aside);
- it is connected by dominoes of the same type to a *Landscape* tile of the same type - don't forget that *Extraordinary Garden* dominoes are wild dominoes which do not disrupt the continuity of the domino type of a chain;
- it is strictly outside a *Landscape* tile;
- there is only one *Photo Animal* token on the chain between the 2 *Landscape* tiles except if a fork (created by an *Extraordinary Garden* domino) was placed between both photos.

When an *Animal Photo* token is validated, you win it.

Landscape Photo tokens validation

The *Landscape Photo* tokens are validated if ALL the following conditions are fulfilled:

- ALL the *River* dominoes lying on it and touching it are of the same type as the *Landscape* tile;
- ALL the entrances and exits of the *Landscape* tile are irrigated, that is, covered by a domino of the same type.

When a *Landscape Photo* token is validated, you win it.

Important: if you validate the 3 *Landscape Photo* tokens of the same type – SURPRISE! – you can create a panoramic triptych!

Calculation

- Each validated *Photo Animal* token is worth 1 point.
- Each validated *Landscape Photo* token is worth 1 point.
- Each triptych of *Landscape Photos* is worth 1 bonus point.
- Each *Retrigger* token you kept is worth 1 point.

THE NUMBER OF POINTS YOU GATHERED DETERMINES YOUR SUCCESS RATE:

10 points: False start! You went for the trip but forgot the film rolls. Everybody has to start somewhere... Don't get discouraged. It can happen to the best of us.

15 points: Beginner's mistake! Once you arrived, you realised your batteries were discharged. But congratulations for the effort!

20 points: What potential! You aren't afraid of anything. It is unfortunate that most of your pictures are out of focus. But this is a good start... Keep trying.

25 points: Nice shots! Not bad, you are starting to take good photos! A few are beautiful.

30 points: Very well! Your team is skilful and solid. A few outstanding pictures will even be published in the local newspaper!

35 points: The dream team! With only a few adjustments, your next report will be sold worldwide!

40 points: Your report is sold! You are outstanding! All the agencies call you, and fight to get your report.

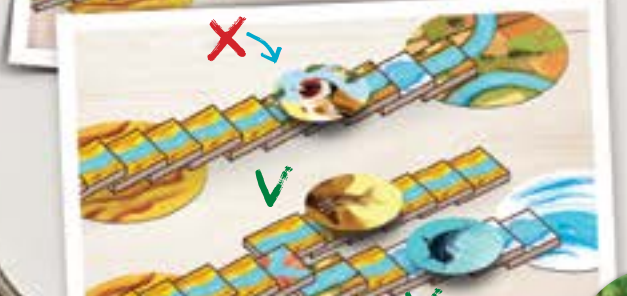
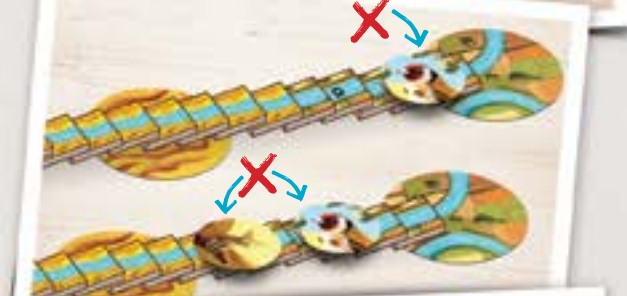
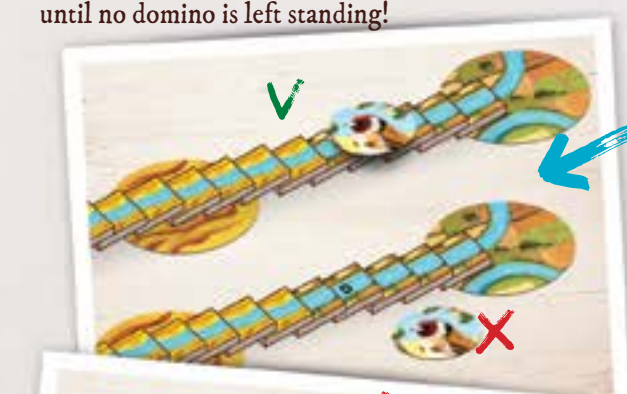
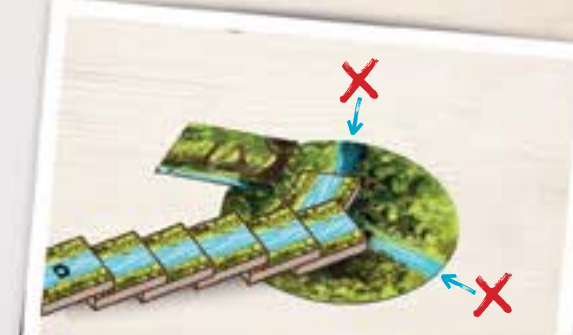
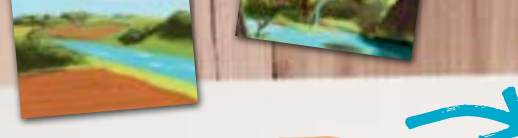
45 points: On the cover! We are dumbstruck! You are on the FRONT PAGE of every magazine. You are going to have an amazing career.

50 points: Respect! Send us a photo. Even we (the designers) have never made it!

55 points: It was a dream! Well... it seems there is a bug... It is humanely impossible. Would you have cheated?

SPECIAL THANKS

For the time they spent, and their valuable advice, to: Sarah Fitton, Amandine Pourbaix, Valérie Vancaeneghem, Sabrina Messahel, Nicolas Ovineur, Cécile Thoulén, Typhaine and Charlotte Calais Marie-Germaine Mapessa, Jean-Luc Tricot, Frédéric Rupf, Christine Beriaux, Charline Wansart, Ivana Kronic, Felipe Reina, Lucian, Julie, Nicolas, Daniela and Jean-Christophe, Sophie Joniaux, Mailis Quintens, Marc Sibille, Jim Dratwa, Yannick Gobert, Jean-Ba Bourgeois, Charles Hanus & Noémy Daur, Hugo and Jeanne Grégoire, Bénédicte Lesculier, Cyril Marbaix, Ilya Knudsen, Muriel Lejuste, Charlotte Van Driessche, Charlotte Urger, Jean-Marc Piron and the participants to the training "Jouer pour coopérer", the participants to Ludoweekend, Nounet, Cedrox and Ketch, David Clerc, Aurélien and Nathalie Bollin, Yahndrev and the entire Blackrock Games team.



The extraordinary wildlife
of AYA's world

FOREST



Eurasian Lynx

Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) weighs up to 35 kg and can reach a length of 1.35 m. It lives in temperate and boreal forests. It primarily eats small ungulates.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The Lynx was likened to a wolf in the Middle Ages and was given the name "hermit wolf". It was described as being fierce. This belief is far removed from reality and from the reserved and shy nature of this species.



Blue Morpho

Blue Morpho (*Morpho aurora*) is a large butterfly, with a wingspan of 20 cm. The inner side of the wings has a metallic blue sheen. It lives in the rainforests of Central and South America.

IUCN conservation status :

NOT CLASSIFIED

Did you know ?

The Native Americans say that the blue Morpho represents the soul of the dead and that its blue colour attracts men who become lost in the forest. This is, of course, a legend.



Blue Peacock

Blue Peacock (*Pavo cristatus*) is native to Asia (Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh). It measures up to 1.1 m, not counting its tail which can reach 1.5 m. It can weigh up to 6 kg. Its habitat is limited to deciduous forests near streams.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The introduction of the Blue Peacock to Europe dates back to ancient times, probably over 3,000 years ago, thanks to King Solomon.



Okapi

Okapi (*Okapia johnstoni*) can measure up to 1.80 m to the shoulder. It weighs a maximum of 230 kg. It lives in the equatorial forests of Central Africa. It is a herbivore, feeding on a wide range of plants and fruit.

IUCN conservation status :

ENDANGERED

Did you know ?

At the time of its discovery, it was thought that the Okapi was a species of zebra. Later, it was discovered that it was a new kind of mammal similar to a giraffe.



Green and Black Poison Dart Frog

Green and Black Poison Dart Frog (*Dendrobates auratus*) lives in Central America. It is recognisable by its bright lime-green colour, with patches of black. It is no more than 4 cm long. It is limited to tropical rainforests.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

These poison dart frogs produce a very powerful poison. Some of these poisons contain alkaloids having analgesic properties that are 200 times more potent than morphine.



The extraordinary wildlife
of AYA's world

MOUNTAINS



Bearded Vulture

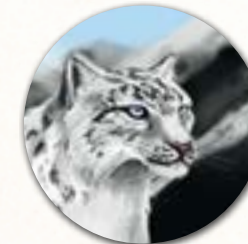
Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*) is a large vulture. Its wingspan can reach 2.85 m and it weighs up to 7 kg. It is characterised by a tuft of feathers at the base of the beak and orange plumage on its stomach. It is found in the mountains of Europe and as far as Asia.

IUCN conservation status :

NEAR THREATENED

Did you know ?

It feeds primarily on bones that it drops from the air onto rocks to break them and feed on their marrow. Watch your head if you meet one!



Snow Leopard

Snow Leopard (*Panthera uncia*) lives in the mountains of Central and Eastern Asia. This cat is characterised by its thick coat with long fur that varies from light grey to dark grey. It measures up to 1.3 m long and weighs up to 55 kg.

IUCN conservation status :

ENDANGERED

Le saviez-vous ?

Unlike other big cats, the Snow Leopard purrs like small cats, making it an unusual exception.



Vicuña

The Vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*) is a small ungulate of the camelid family. It measures up to 1 m at the shoulder and weighs between 40 and 60 kg. It lives in the highlands of the Andes.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The wool of the fleece is particularly fine and warm. It is used for manufacturing luxury garments.



Wild Yak

The Wild Yak (*Bos grunniens mutus*) is a large species of ruminant with a long fleece, and is currently only found in Tibet. It can reach 1,000 kg with a shoulder height of up to 2 m.

IUCN conservation status :

VULNERABLE

Did you know ?

The Yak has been domesticated for more than 10,000 years. This domesticated form is widely used by the people of the Himalayas as a working and riding animal, and for the production of milk, meat and wool.



Rosalia longicorn

The Rosalia longicorn (*Rosalia alpina*) is a longhorn beetle that is very recognisable from its blue-grey colour and large size of up to 3.8 cm. Its habitat covers the mountains of Europe to the Caucasus.

IUCN conservation status :

VULNERABLE

Did you know ?

Threatened with extinction, this species suffers especially from the disappearance of the old mountain beech forests, where the larvae develop in the dead trunks.

The extraordinary wildlife
of AYA's world

DESERT



Fennec Fox

Fennec Fox (*Vulpes zerda*), this little fox with very big ears lives in the desert regions of the Sahara. It is the smallest species of canid in the world. Its length does not exceed 40 cm and it has a maximum weight of 1.7 kg.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The bottom of the Fennec's paws is covered with thick hair to protect it from the heat of the sand and also so it can silently creep up on its prey.



Arabian Oryx

The Arabian Oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*) is an ungulate similar to an antelope, adapted to desert areas. It has a shoulder height of 1 m and weighs 70 kg. It was previously found throughout the Arabian Peninsula. Today it survives only in certain regions (Saudi Arabia, Oman) where it has been reintroduced.

IUCN conservation status :

VULNERABLE

Did you know ?

The Oryx is able to survive for many weeks without drinking. However, it can detect rain over long distances.



Desert Beetle

The Desert Beetle (*Onymacris unguicularis*) belongs to the coleoptera family. It measures about 2 cm and is characterized by very long legs that allow it to hold his body away from the hot sand and move very quickly. It is endemic to Namibia.

IUCN conservation status :

NOT CLASSIFIED

Did you know ?

This species of beetle is able to feed itself on water from the morning fog of the Namibian desert that condenses on its body.



Western Diamondback Rattlesnake

The Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*) belongs to the Viperidae family. It is found in the United States, Canada and northern Mexico. It can reach up to 2.5 m in length. It is easily recognised thanks to the tip of its tail that makes a rattling noise when it is threatened.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

This is the most feared North American snake. It kills many people each year through its bite and the injection of its powerful venom.



Greater Roadrunner

The Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) is a flightless bird that lives in the southern United States and northern Mexico. Its can reach 62 cm long with a wingspan of 56 cm. It weighs up to 380 g. It is adapted to the arid surroundings of the North American desert.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

This species became famous worldwide after its depiction as the Road Runner in the Wile E. Coyote and Road Runner cartoon.

The extraordinary wildlife
of AYA's world

POLES



Narwhal

The Narwhal (*Monodon monoceros*) is a cetacean nicknamed the "sea unicorn", living in Arctic waters. The males have a unique defence in the upper left incisor that can grow to 3m in length. Adults reach up to 4 m in length.

IUCN conservation status :

NEAR THREATENED

Did you know ?

The horn is riddled with millions of tubules containing a nerve ending. It is thought to play a role in the search for food and in detecting females from their hormones.



Emperor penguin

The Emperor penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) is the largest and heaviest of all penguins. It is native to the Antarctic region. Males and females are the same size, up to 1.2 m tall and weighing 40 kg.

IUCN conservation status :

NEAR THREATENED

Did you know ?

The Emperor Penguin is a great swimmer and can dive to a depth of 500 m for a period of nearly 20 minutes.



Polar Bear

The Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*) is the largest of the carnivorous land mammals. Males can reach a height of 3 m and weigh up to 800 kg. It is native to the Arctic regions and can be found from northern Canada to northern Russia.

IUCN conservation status :

VULNERABLE

Did you know ?

The polar and grizzly bears are cousin species that can cross-breed when they meet. They are thought to have been separate species for only 200,000 years.



Harp Seal

Harp Seal (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*) is native to the Arctic regions. It is distinguished from other species by the white coat of the young at birth, known as whitecoats. Adults reach 1.6 m and a weight of 150 kg.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The hunting of whitecoats for their fur has led to the extermination of tens of thousands of them. This hunt is now more or less banned, particularly following the actions of campaigners like Brigitte Bardot.



Snowy Owl

The Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) can be easily identified by the white colour of its plumage and its large yellow eyes. Its wingspan reaches 1.8 m and it weighs up to 2.5 kg. Its habitat is limited to the Arctic tundra of North America, Asia and Europe.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The "Harry Potter" series created a problem for the conservation of the species, as fans want to get hold of these owls despite their fragility and rarity.



The extraordinary wildlife
of AYA's world

COUNTRYSIDE



Buff-tailed Bumblebee

The Buff-tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus terrestris*) is a hymenoptera insect up to 23 mm long. It is characterised by the white colour on the end of its abdomen. It lives in the temperate regions of Europe.

IUCN conservation status :

NOT CLASSIFIED

Did you know ?

The Buff-tailed Bumblebee is much more effective than the bee in pollinating spring plants. This species is active below 15°C and in overcast conditions, unlike its cousin.



European Goldfinch

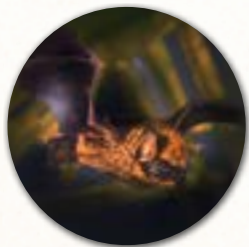
The European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) is a small passerine recognisable by its brightly coloured plumage. It has a 25 cm wingspan and weighs 18 g. Its range covers Europe, northern Africa and Asia as far as Japan.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The European Goldfinch is represented in many paintings of the Italian Renaissance. It symbolises the thistle and so the coming sacrifice of Christ.



Common Pipistrelle

The Common Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) is the smallest of the European bats. It is common around houses and in attics. Its body is barely 2 cm long with a wingspan of just 20 cm. Its reaches a maximum weight of 8 g.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

During the breeding season, it sets up a nursery where many females gather to look after their young.



Grove Snail

The shell designs of this small Grove Snail (*Cepaea hortensis*) are very variable, making it difficult to identify. It grows to no more than 2 cm. It is found in woods, hedges and gardens. It is native to central and western Europe.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

The Grove Snail hibernates by burying itself in the ground and tightly sealing its shell with a solidified mucus barrier.



European Hare

The European Hare (*Lepus europeus*) is characterised by its large ears with black tips. It is taller and more slender than the rabbit and weighs nearly 4 kg. Its habitat includes Europe as far as the plains of Central Asia.

IUCN conservation status :

LEAST CONCERN

Did you know ?

Once very common, it is rapidly declining in Europe as a result of the use of pesticides, habitat degradation and new diseases.

These animal identification sheets have been prepared by our scientific advisor Johan Michaux, research director at FNRS.