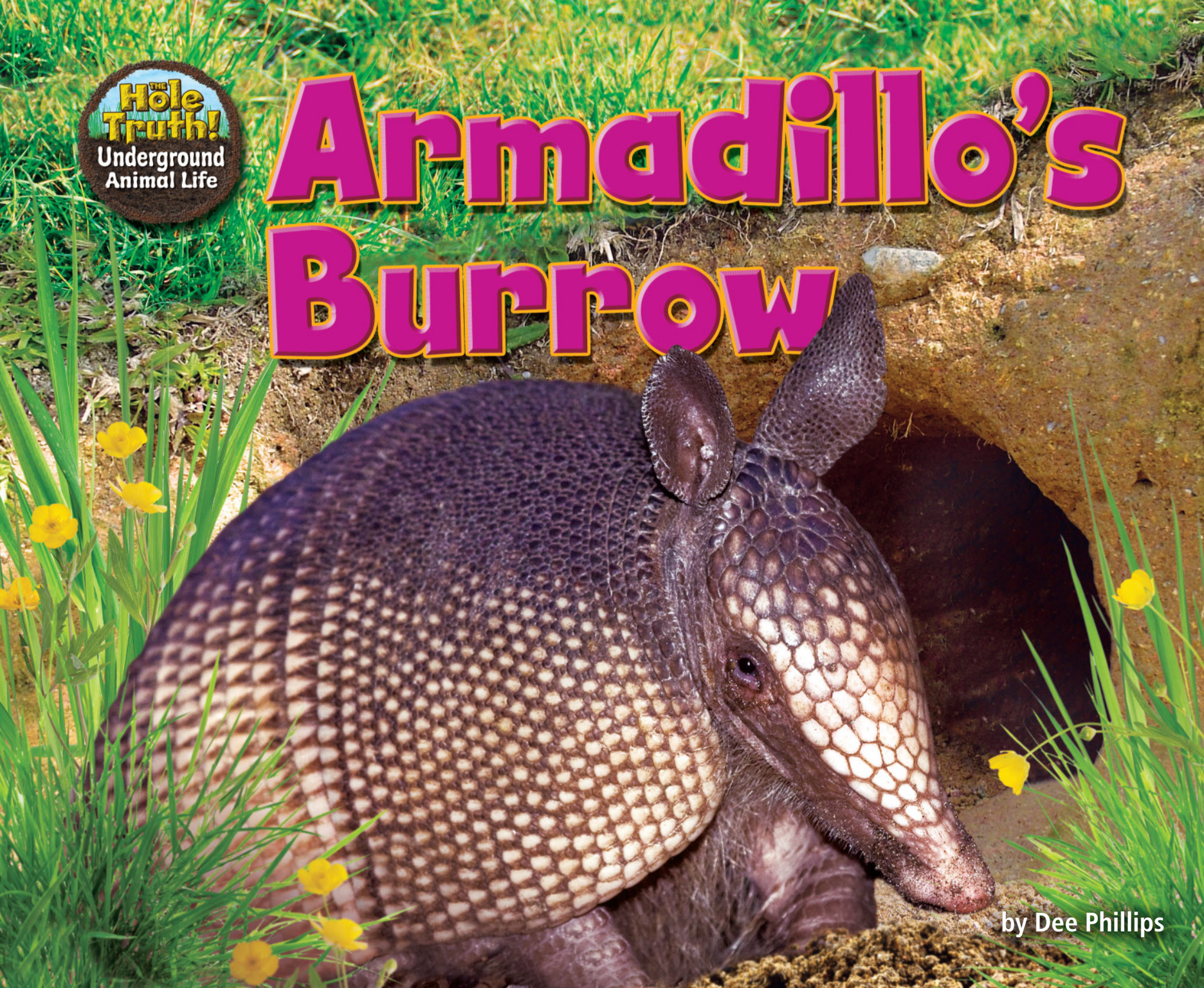


# Armadillo's Burrow



by Dee Phillips



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# An Armadillo's New Home

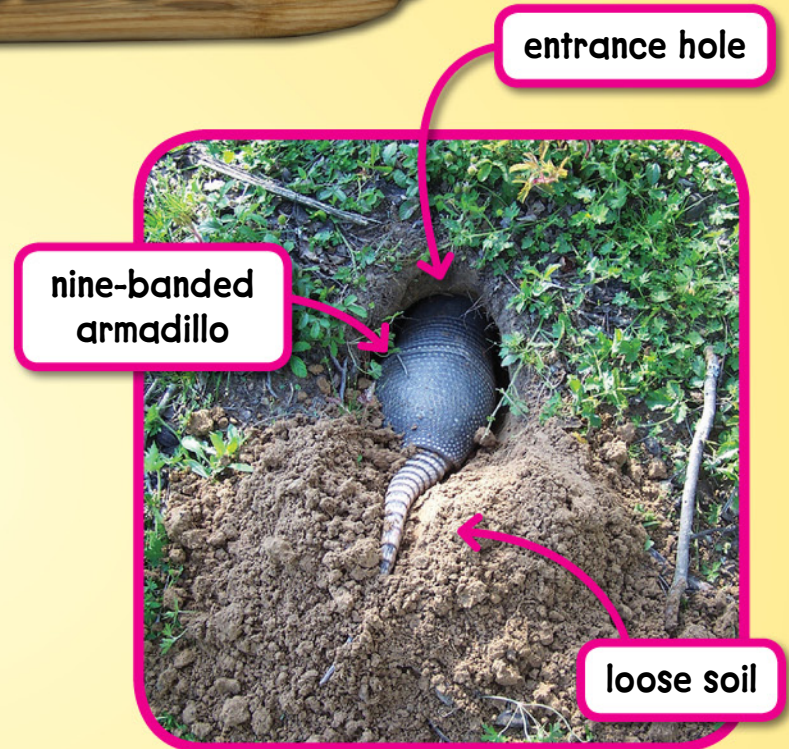
It's a warm, summer evening in a forest.

Hidden under a tree is a hole surrounded by loose soil.

Suddenly, a very unusual-looking creature backs out of the hole.

The animal is a nine-banded armadillo, and the hole is the entrance to its **burrow**.

Deep underground, the busy armadillo has been digging a new home!



Armadillos sleep  
and raise their babies  
in their burrows.



Why do you think the nine-banded armadillo was given that name?





# Check Out an Armadillo

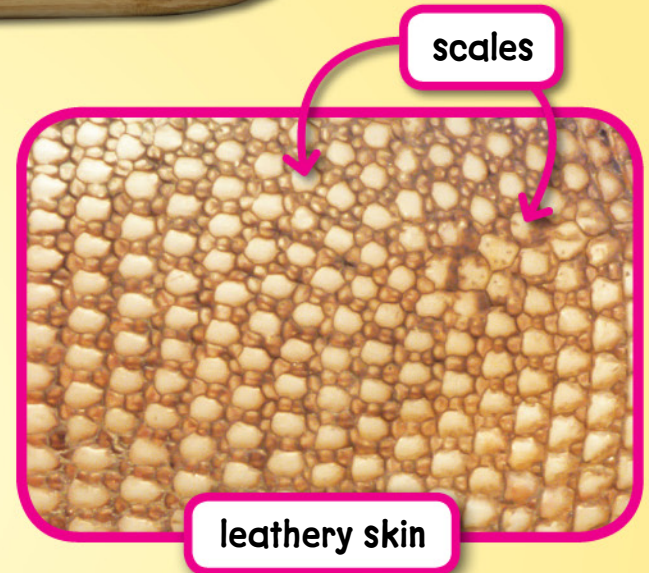
Armadillos have bodies covered in sections of bony **armor** called plates.

The plates are covered in tough, leathery skin that is made up of small **scales**.

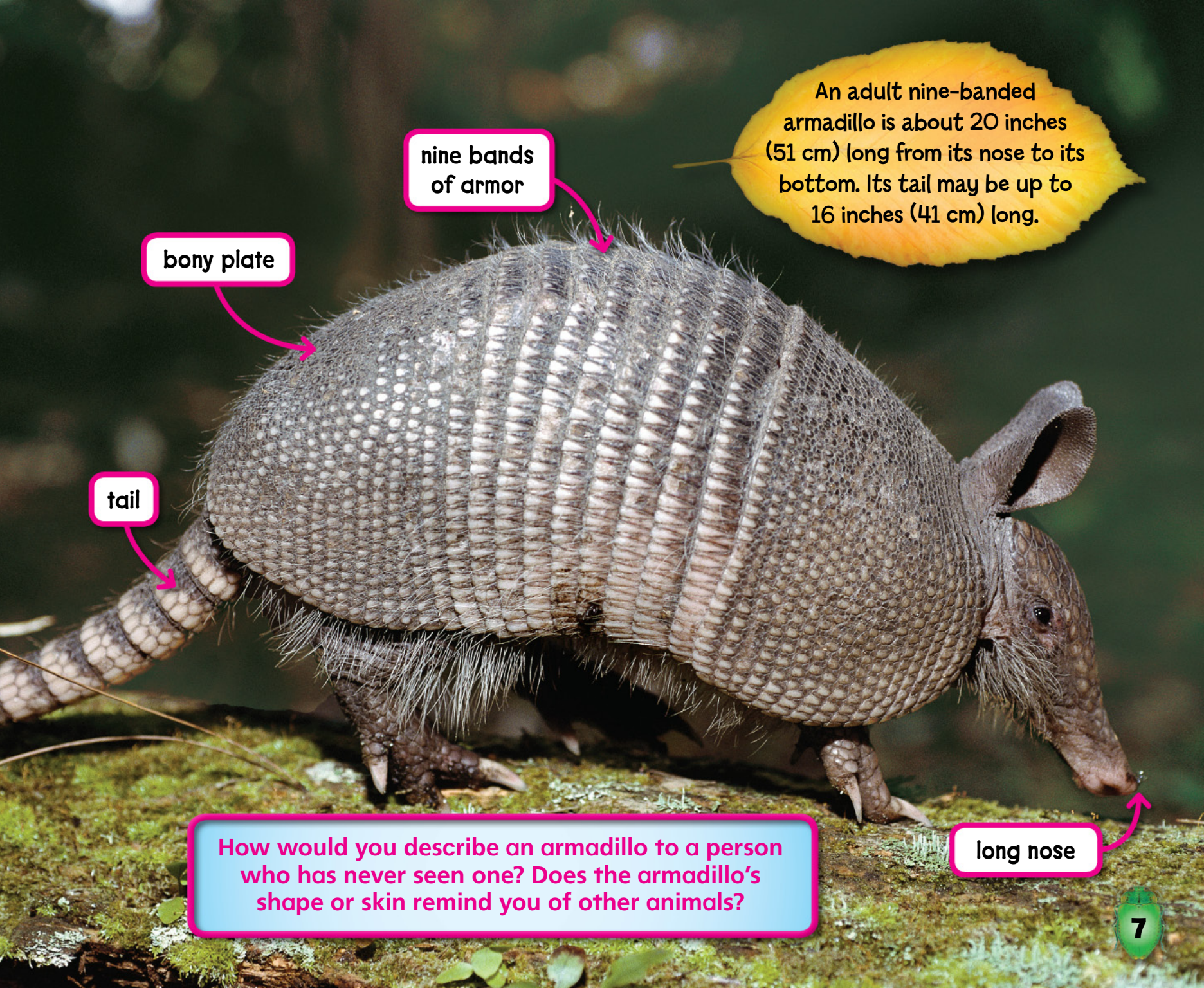
Nine-banded armadillos usually have nine bands of scaly armor on their backs.

They live in places that are warm all year round.

Some of these animals live in forests, while others live on open, grassy **prairies**.







nine bands  
of armor

bony plate

tail

An adult nine-banded armadillo is about 20 inches (51 cm) long from its nose to its bottom. Its tail may be up to 16 inches (41 cm) long.

How would you describe an armadillo to a person who has never seen one? Does the armadillo's shape or skin remind you of other animals?

long nose



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## Read More

McKerley, Jennifer Guess. *Amazing Armadillos (Step into Reading)*. New York: Random House Children's Books (2009).

Sebastian, Emily. *Armadillos (Animals Underground)*. New York: PowerKids Press (2012).

Townsend, Emily Rose. *Armadillos (Desert Animals)*. Mankato, MN: Capstone (2004).

## Learn More Online

To learn more about armadillos, visit [www.bearportpublishing.com/TheHoleTruth](http://www.bearportpublishing.com/TheHoleTruth)

## Answers

### Answers to the activity on page 22

- A is an armadillo's foot
- B is a bird's foot
- C is a cat's foot
- D is a dog's foot

## About the Author

Dee Phillips lives near the ocean on the southwest coast of England. She writes nonfiction and fiction books for children. Dee's biggest ambition is to one day walk the entire coast of Britain—it will take about ten months!





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# Armadillo's Burrow

Why would an animal choose to live underground? Follow the armadillos in this book to find some interesting answers to that question. Along the way, you'll discover some surprising facts. For example, an armadillo can jump four feet (1 m) into the air in order to startle an attacker. So get ready for an underground adventure as you dig into *Armadillo's Burrow*.

**Armadillo's  
Burrow**

**Fox's  
Den**

**Badger's  
Burrow**

**Groundhog's  
Burrow**

**Chipmunk's  
Hole**

**Prairie Dog's  
Hideaway**

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