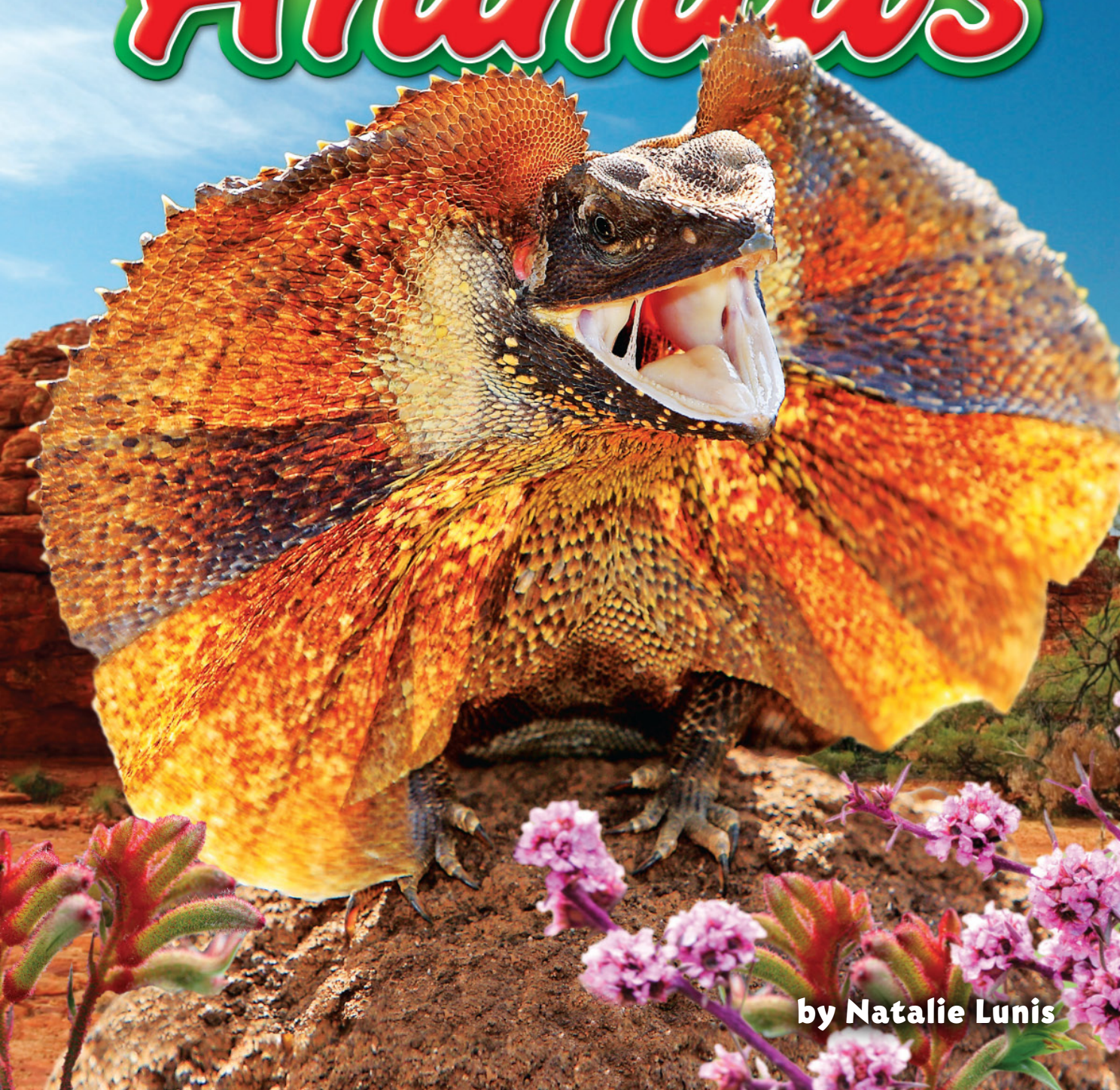


**Animals with  
Super Powers**

**Shape-Shifting**

# **Animals**



**by Natalie Lunis**



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Animals with  
Super Powers

# Shape-Shifting Animals



by Natalie Lunis

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# Shape-Shifters

For hundreds of years, people have told stories about creatures that can change their shapes. For example, there are tales of vampires who turn into bats and humans who become werewolves. Does shape-shifting ever happen in real life, though? Are there any creatures that have the power to **transform** themselves into something else?



Three-banded  
armadillo



Puffer fish





In fact, such animals do exist—and you'll meet eight of them in this book. Among them are a sea creature that can pretend to be a rock, a caterpillar that can rise up like a snake that is about to strike, and a fish that can blow itself up into a big spiky ball. These animals may all take on very different shapes, but they do have one thing in common. They use their shape-shifting abilities to scare off, escape from, or appear less tasty to their enemies. In other words, they use their special powers to survive.



Cuttlefish



Snake mimic  
caterpillar



# Cuttlefish

A cuttlefish isn't really a fish. Instead, this creature with eight arms and two long **tentacles** is a relative of the **octopus** and the **squid**. A cuttlefish isn't a plant or a rock either—but it can change its shape to look like either one!

Cuttlefish need a good way to hide from hungry fish and other **predators**. After all, these undersea creatures have soft bodies and no shell to protect them. Luckily, their ability to quickly change both their color and their shape lets them blend right in to the background. In less than a second, they can go from being a tasty-looking dish to being just another part of the scenery.



There are more than 100 species, or kinds, of cuttlefish. They live in warm ocean waters near Africa, Asia, Australia, and Europe.





Cuttlefish can make their skin bumpy or spiky when they take on the shape of underwater plants or objects.

After changing the way it looks, a cuttlefish can hold its new shape for hours.



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## Learn More Online

To learn more about shape-shifting animals, visit  
[www.bearportpublishing.com/AnimalswithSuperPowers](http://www.bearportpublishing.com/AnimalswithSuperPowers)

## About the Author

Natalie Lunis has written many science and nature books for children.  
She lives in the Hudson River Valley, just north of New York City.



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**Animals with  
Super Powers**

# Shape-Shifting *Animals*

Do some creatures really have the power to change their shapes? In fact, such animals do exist. Look inside to find out about eight of these extraordinary creatures, including a caterpillar that can rise up like a snake that is about to strike and a fish that can blow itself up into a big spiky ball.

**Color-Changing**  
*Animals*

**Gravity-Defying**  
*Animals*

**Electric**  
*Animals*

**See-Through**  
*Animals*

**Glow-in-the-Dark**  
*Animals*

**Shape-Shifting**  
*Animals*

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