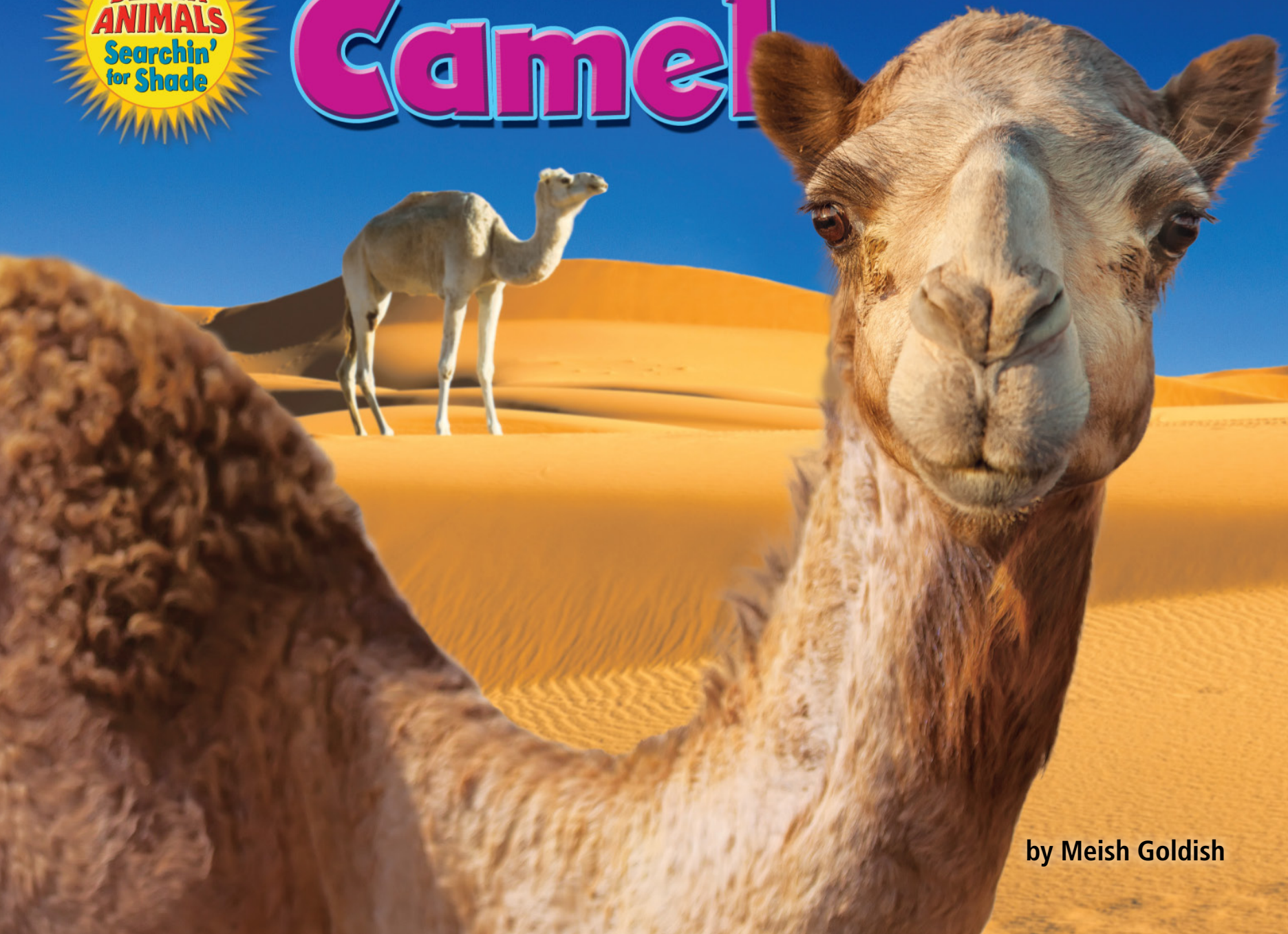


Camel



by Meish Goldish

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Taking the Heat

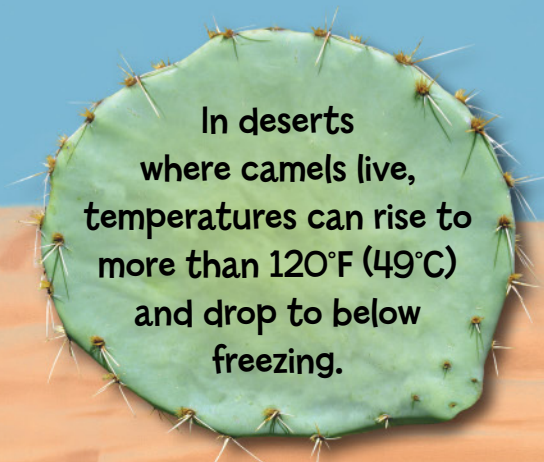
It's a summer day in the **desert**.

A tall animal with a **hump** on its back walks slowly across the hot sand.

It's a camel looking for plants to eat.

The animal hasn't had a drink of water in a week—but it's not thirsty.

The camel is very comfortable in its hot, dry home!



In deserts where camels live, temperatures can rise to more than 120°F (49°C) and drop to below freezing.

A full-page photograph of a camel standing in a vast desert with rolling sand dunes under a clear blue sky. A yellow arrow points from a label to the camel's hump.

hump

How would you describe
a camel to someone who
has never seen one?

One Hump or Two?

Most camels have one hump.

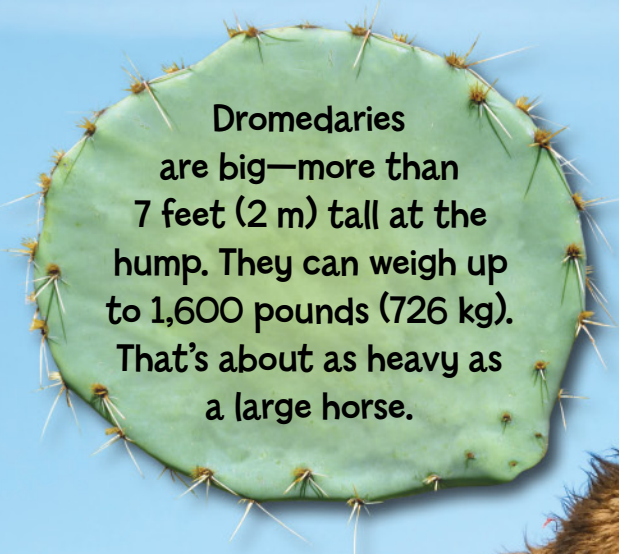
They are called **dromedary**, or Arabian, camels.

The other kind of camel—the **Bactrian**—has two humps.

Dromedaries live in deserts throughout Asia, Africa, and Australia.

Bactrian camels live only in a few desert areas in Asia.





Dromedaries
are big—more than
7 feet (2 m) tall at the
hump. They can weigh up
to 1,600 pounds (726 kg).
That's about as heavy as
a large horse.

Why do you think
camels have humps?

dromedary
camel



Bactrian camel

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Read More

Borgert-Spaniol, Megan. *Camels (Blastoff! Readers: Animal Safari)*. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media (2012).

Gish, Melissa. *Camels (Living Wild)*. Mankato, MN: Creative Education (2013).

Riggs, Kate. *Camels (Amazing Animals)*. Mankato, MN: Creative Education (2014).

Learn More Online

To learn more about camels, visit www.bearportpublishing.com/DesertAnimals

About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 200 books for children. His book *Surf Dog Miracles* was a Children's Choices Selection in 2014. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, and enjoys visiting the camels at the Bronx Zoo.

Answers for Page 22

1. carrying a person
2. eating a desert plant
3. a baby drinking its mother's milk
4. drinking water
5. carrying goods
6. resting on the hot sand

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**DESERT
ANIMALS**
Searchin'
for Shade

Camel

A tall, furry animal with a big hump walks across the burning hot desert sand. It's a camel looking for food to eat. The giant animal hasn't had a drink of water in a week—but it's not thirsty. How can it survive so long without water? The answer is in its hump. Welcome to life in the desert!

Look inside to learn all about this intriguing desert dweller, including where the camel lives, what it eats, and how it survives in its hot, dry home.

Bark Scorpion

Bobcat

Camel

Collared Lizard

Roadrunner

Sidewinder

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