



Pink Is for Blobfish: Discovering the World's Perfectly Pink Animals

Jess Keating

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Pinkalicious meets National Geographic in this nonfiction picture book introducing the weirdest, wildest, pinkest critters in the animal kingdom!

Some people think pink is a pretty color. A fluffy, sparkly, princess-y color. But it's so much more. Sure, pink is the color of princesses and bubblegum, but it's also the color of monster slugs and poisonous insects. Not to mention ultra-intelligent dolphins, naked mole rats and bizarre, bloated blobfish.

Isn't it about time to rethink pink?

Slip on your rose-colored glasses and take a walk on the wild side with zoologist Jess Keating, author of *How to Outrun a Crocodile When Your Shoes Are Untied*, and cartoonist David DeGrand.

A New York Public Library Best Book for Kids, 2016

"The 2016 Ambassador to Young People's Science and Nature books is unquestionably the blobfish."

--*Shelftalker*

"Readers will never look at pink the same way." --*Publishers Weekly*

Pink Is for Blobfish: Discovering the World's Perfectly Pink Animals Details

Date : Published February 2nd 2016 by Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers

ISBN : 9780553512281

Author : Jess Keating

Format : Hardcover 48 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Science, Environment, Nature

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From Reader Review Pink Is for Blobfish: Discovering the World's Perfectly Pink Animals for online ebook

Manybooks says

Engagingly recounted, and even with a bit of gentle humour (but not ever to the point of the narrative becoming silly or feeling artificial, of the humour taking over or taking the place of factual explanations and scientific information) and above all, most appreciatively, exceedingly well researched and scientifically sound (with each of the seventeen animal species having their common name, their Latin species name, size, diet, habitat, predators and threats listed, as well as there being a location map, glossary and basic suggestions for further study and research included), Jess Keating's Pink is for Blobfish does in fact, totally and utterly practice what the title claims and shows, namely presenting animal species that are pink in colour (from insects to mammals, including the gelatinous and voted as the "ugliest animal in the world" blobfish).

As to David DeGrand's accompanying illustrations, while personally, I would tend to consider them a trifle too cartoon like and (yes) even a bit too brightly pink for my personal tastes, they do work very well with Jess Keating's text, with her narrative. And considering the title (Pink is for Blobfish) and the fact that this is a book entirely devoted to pink hued animal species, the illustrations do provide a fun and engaging (accurate in colour) mirror and complement (although I personally, have not paid all that much attention to them, preferring the photographs of the animal species to the cartoon like and kind of sillily fun illustrations, but I can well imagine David DeGrand's pictorial offerings being a hit with the target audience, with older children from about the age of nine onwards).

Now one of my GR friends (Krista) has lamented the fact that flamingoes have not made the cut so to speak, that flamingoes are not featured as a pink animal species in Pink is for Blobfish. There actually is, however, a very good reason why flamingoes are generally NOT considered as bona fide pink animals by scientists, by zoologists (even if the general public does often tend to see them, to consider them as being a pink hued bird, a pink animal species). For flamingoes are born with grey feathers which only turn pink over time because of the type of prey they consume, a brine shrimp and blue-green algae that contains a natural pink dye (canthaxanthin) which slowly turns a flamingo's feathers pink (and in areas where flamingoes do not consume this type of blue green algae and this type of brine shrimp, or do not consume as much, their feathers will of course be less pink and sometimes not even pink at all).

But that all being said, and while I in fact and from a scientific and zoologic point of view appreciate that Jess Keating has decided to NOT include flamingoes (because really, flamingoes are NOT pink hued birds by nature but turn pink because of their diet), taking into account that many of us do tend to view flamingoes as the pink animal species, and especially the pink bird species par excellence, I think that the author should have mentioned why she has not included flamingoes in Pink is for Blobfish. And really, since roseate spoonbills like flamingoes also have their feathers turn pink because of the shrimp and algae they eat, why are THEY listed by Jess Keating, by the author, as a pink animal species, why are they included, when flamingoes are not? And if Keating did not want to include two bird species which feathers turn pink due to their diet, if she did not want to include both roseate spoonbills and flamingoes in Pink is for Blobfish, she really should have at least mentioned in the section featuring roseate spoonbills that flamingoes also have their feathers turn pink due to what they consume, due to what type of food they eat.

Joyce Yattoni says

This a superbly written and clever picture book about the world of pink animals. The pictures/illustrations are stunning. This will make for a great read aloud for MS especially tackling organizational patterns but more specifically classifications. I sure hope students enjoy the interesting topic as they explore their own topics to research.

Niki (Daydream Reader) says

I loved this book when I got to catch a sneak peak of it....and I love it even more now. Awesome nonfiction book!! I can't wait for the next book in the series!

Michelle Simpson says

This book is awesome! It is filled with amazing pictures and fascinating information about a variety of pink animals. It is very appealing to kids.

Krista the Krazy Kataloguer says

I didn't know there were so many different pink animals in the world! But what kind of a book on pink critters doesn't include the flamingo and the piggy? Ok, so the animals in this book are all wild, so I'll excuse the piggy. But the flamingo?? Is it because the roseate spoonbill was included, and that bird is too much like the flamingo (except for the beak)? Anyway, I did learn quite a bit about the animals included here. I have to agree that the blobfish is pretty ugly, but the picture in the book seems to be out of water, and somewhere (I think) I read that blobfish look different in the water--not quite so ugly. I could be wrong, though. I do like like that the author provided information on threats to and predators of each animal. Guess what's threatening most of them? Habitat destruction/people! One thing I wish the author had included is a size comparison chart. In the photos all the animals are shown the same size, yet if you look at the actual sizes stated on the right-hand side of each 2-page spread, some are tiny, while others are huge. For example, the Hopkins' rose nudibranch looks so big in the photo, but it's really only 8/10 of an inch to 1.2 inches in length--eentsy! I was excited to read that a new species of river dolphin was discovered in 2014. I have a particular fondness for the pink river dolphins of the Amazon. I was also interested to read that the naked mole rat had the ability to stay cancer-free. Having cancer myself, I'd love to know their secret! I had never heard of red uakaris. What's interesting about them is that the pinker/redder their faces are, the healthier and therefore more attractive to potential mates they will be. One animal that was included that I didn't expect was the hippopotamus. Apparently it oozes a pink sweat to protect itself from sunburn. The most amazing critter in the book, however, was the pink fairy armadillo. Now, most armadillos are pretty big, but this little thing is only 4 inches long, pink on top with white on the bottom, and kinda cute. It looks like a cross between an armadillo, a mole, and a caterpillar. I'd love to see a book like this for other colors of animals. Wouldn't that be fun? I think young readers (and older ones too) will enjoy this book, even without the flamingo. Recommended.

Sandra says

Do you think pink is only for princesses? Then you should take a look to this book! In it you will find seventeen fascinating animals such as tarantulas, river dolphins, armadillos, rat moles and uakaris; animals from 0.5 inch to 14 feet long; animals from every continent; animals who live in rivers, rain forests, ponds, swamps and underwater; all of them pink.

Many interesting facts are explained in a funny way. The book has pictures and cartoons, and also a glossary and a map at the end.

Amusing science is always welcome. Highly recommended!

Age range: 6 to 9 years old.

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Celeste_pewter says

I'll be honest: I was completely fascinated and slightly weirded out, when I first saw the Pink is for Blobfish cover. The more I read about the book, the more curious I became to learn just what a pink blobfish was, and just what other pink creatures may exist in our world.

Zoologist/author Jess Keating walks readers through a number of familiar and unfamiliar pink-shaded creatures, including the naked mole rat, the pinky pygmy seahorse and the pink fairy armadillos. For each animal, Keating dedicates a two-page spread, including photographs, descriptions and fun scientific facts, all designed to challenge burgeoning young minds.

Though Keating makes her information friendly and accessible with cheerful illustrations that will engage readers into looking at these creatures with a different eye, she also challenges readers to think harder and deeper about what they're reading. Her use of Latin names and terms like "eusocial" - I wasn't even really sure what that meant! - will inspire curious readers to research more about these animals, and about science in general.

All in all, this book is a winner all around.

Bottom line: Jess Keating has written an enjoyable, educational and accessible book for young readers who are looking to better apply their love of pink and for science.

Highly recommend for all young readers, especially for those who are looking to learn more about unique creatures and explore their love of science.

LauraW says

This is a very enjoyable light science book. The pictures of all of the pink animals are very engaging. It is a bit discouraging that so many of the animals are struggling with environmental challenges, but I am glad it is pointed out and not glossed over.

Lesley Burnap says

Perfect for my 3rd graders! Love the structure and great photographs! Jess's writing is clever and fun!

Sarah says

I only read this book because I needed something for the PopSugar Reading Challenge that had my favorite color in the title. Yes, I have *The Secret History of the Pink Carnation* on audio, but what with how many other audio books I have waiting for me (I'm addicted to Audible), I'm not sure I'll get to it by the end of the year. So after a search for other books with "pink" in the title, I decided this one looked suitably easy, plus it was available online at my library. But it turned out it was also a very cute and informative children's book, and I learned about animals I'd never heard of. I'm sure I would have loved this as a kid! My favorite was the Hopkins' Rose Nudibrach! (A very cute hermaphroditic sea creature.)

*Used for PopSugar 2018 Reading Challenge prompt "A book with your favorite color in the title."

Margie says

If you were to ask a roomful of students to play a word association game using the primary, red, blue, and yellow, and secondary, orange, green and violet, colors, will all their answers be the same? Based upon their ages, past experiences and thinking processes certainly some answers will be identical. For the same reasons many will be different. Colors are attached to some powerful memories.

If you were to throw out a shade made when adding white to a primary color such as pink, what will they say? Does pink remind them of cotton candy, cherry blossoms, roses, candy or cupcakes, flamingos, pigs or tongues? I'll bet not a single one would reply with the title of this new book, *Pink Is For Blobfish: Discovering the World's Perfectly Pink Animals* (The World of Weird Animals series) (Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, February 2, 2016). Zoologist Jess Keating (How To Outrun A Crocodile When Your Shoes Are Untied, How To Outswim A Shark Without A Snorkel, and How To Outfox Your Friends When You Don't Have A Clue) has authored one of the most captivating and fun nonfiction books of 2016.

My full review: <http://librariansquest.blogspot.com/2016/02/pink-is-for-blobfish-discovering.html>

Linda says

One thrill this week was finding *Pink Is For Blobfish* by Jess Keating, with illustrations by David DeGrand. So many have been shouting good things about it, and now I know why. The book makes me want to know more, and that's the best thing about non-fiction picture books. One full size spread/photo of the actual animal. On the right is a short description, a cartoon drawing of the animal (clever and creative), and another piece that tells interesting "stuff" about it. On the right, a column gives the facts, species name, size, etc. Each time one wants to pore over the pages, reading, then looking back at the animal, checking what is said, looking again. Loads of extra information is at the back: a map, a glossary, additional resources, and a "When I Grow Up" column showing kinds of scientists. It's terrific.

Lisa says

Nate gives this one 5 stars! It's a great book about weird pink animals! Perfect amount of text and nice, big, interesting photos of some really fascinating animals! We had a great time reading this one last night. Lots of laughs too. Don't miss this one for your own kids.

Michele Knott says

Readers are in for a treat with this book! I read an early e-copy and I cannot wait to hold the real copy in my hands and pass on to students!

Kendra says

Everyone should know these creatures exist, they made my whole life better.
