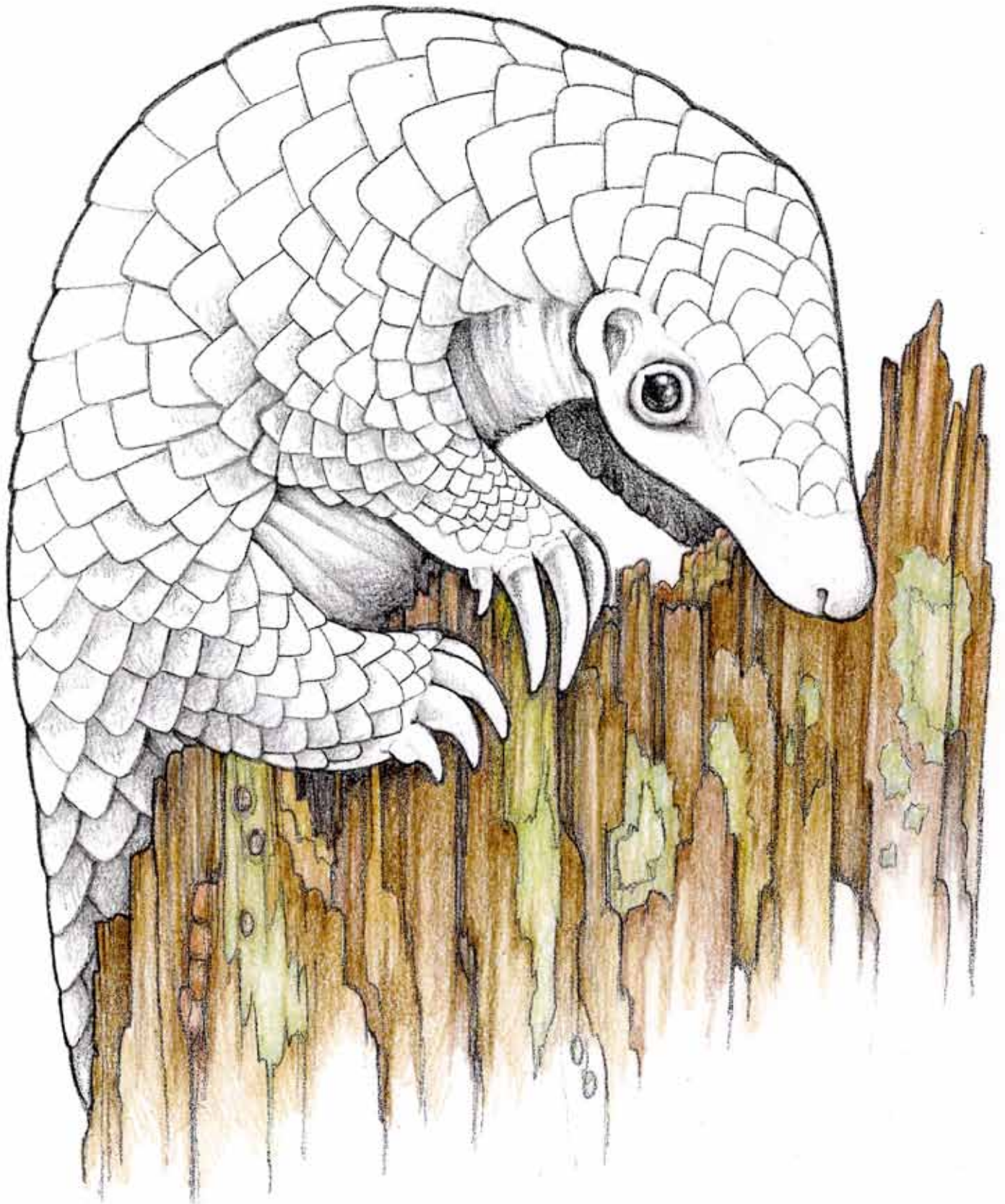
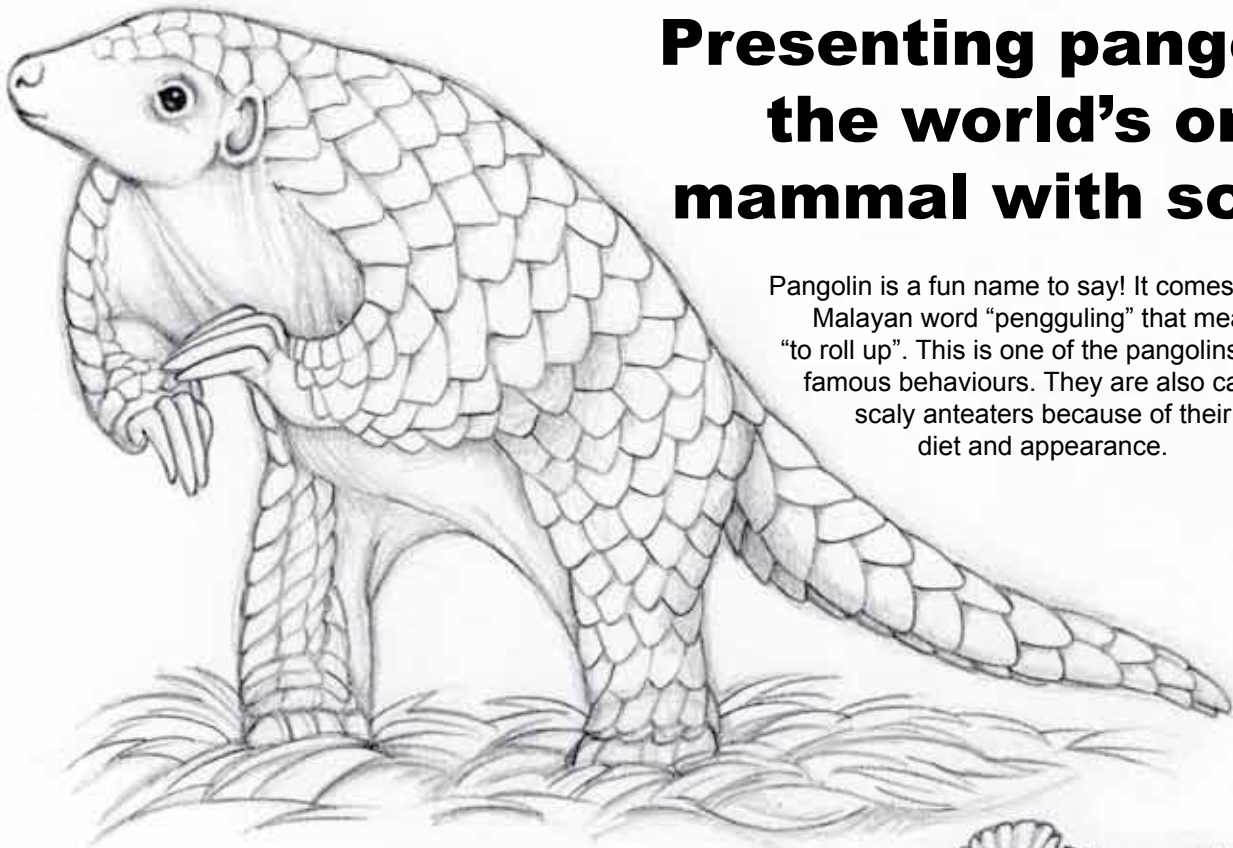


PANGOLINS

Coloring Book



Presenting pangolins— the world’s only mammal with scales!



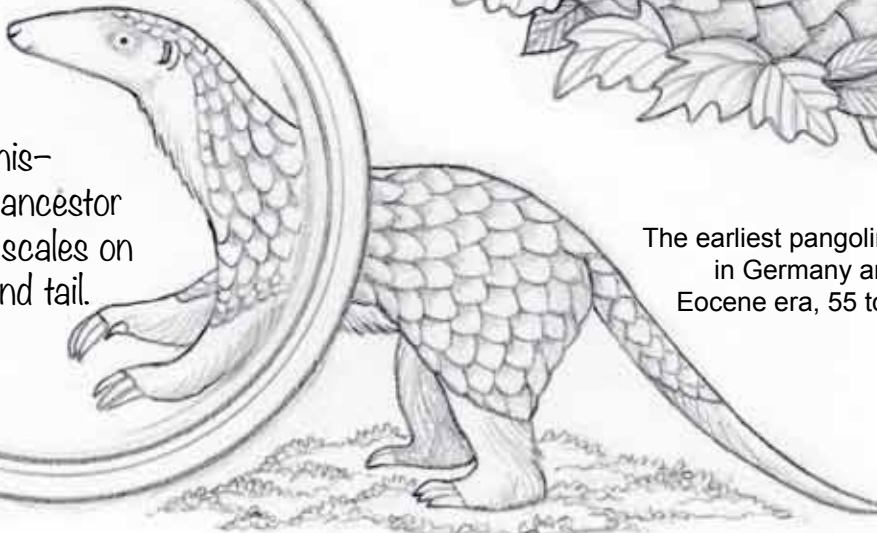
Pangolin is a fun name to say! It comes from a Malayan word “pengguling” that means “to roll up”. This is one of the pangolins most famous behaviours. They are also called scaly anteaters because of their diet and appearance.

Scientists originally thought pangolins were related to armadillos and anteaters. DNA testing has proven that they actually belong in a scientific order all their own--Pholidota which means “scaled animals”.



47 Million Years Ago

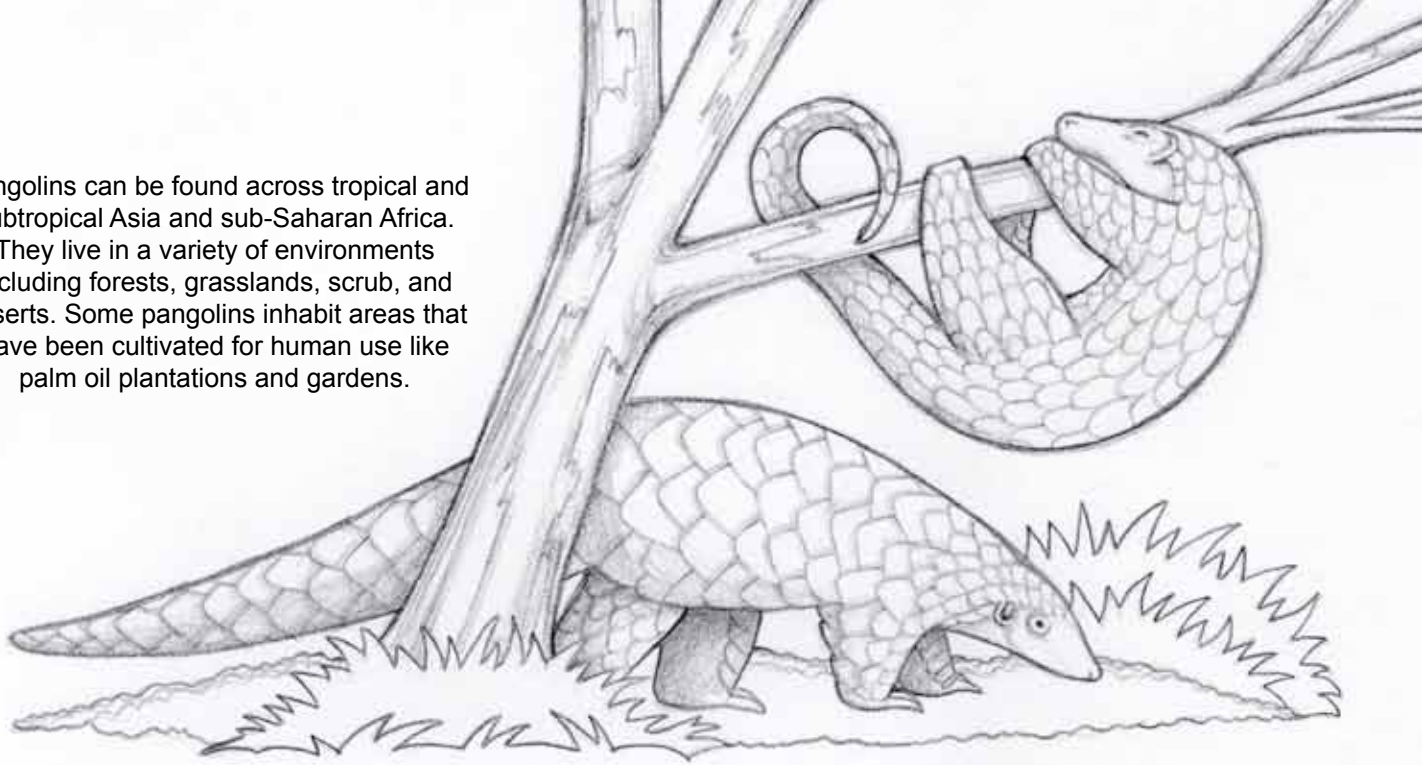
Eomanis—
A pangolin ancestor
that had no scales on
its legs and tail.



The earliest pangolin fossils were discovered in Germany and date back to the Eocene era, 55 to 48 million years ago.

Pangolins can be found across tropical and subtropical Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

They live in a variety of environments including forests, grasslands, scrub, and deserts. Some pangolins inhabit areas that have been cultivated for human use like palm oil plantations and gardens.



8 PANGOLIN SPECIES

There are eight species of pangolin. Four live in Africa and four are found in Asia.

Temminck's pangolin, *Smutsia temminckii*

white-bellied pangolin, *Phataginus tricuspis*

AFRICA

black-bellied pangolin, *Phataginus tetradactyla*

giant pangolin, *Smutsia gigantea*

Philippine pangolin, *Manis culionensis*

ASIA

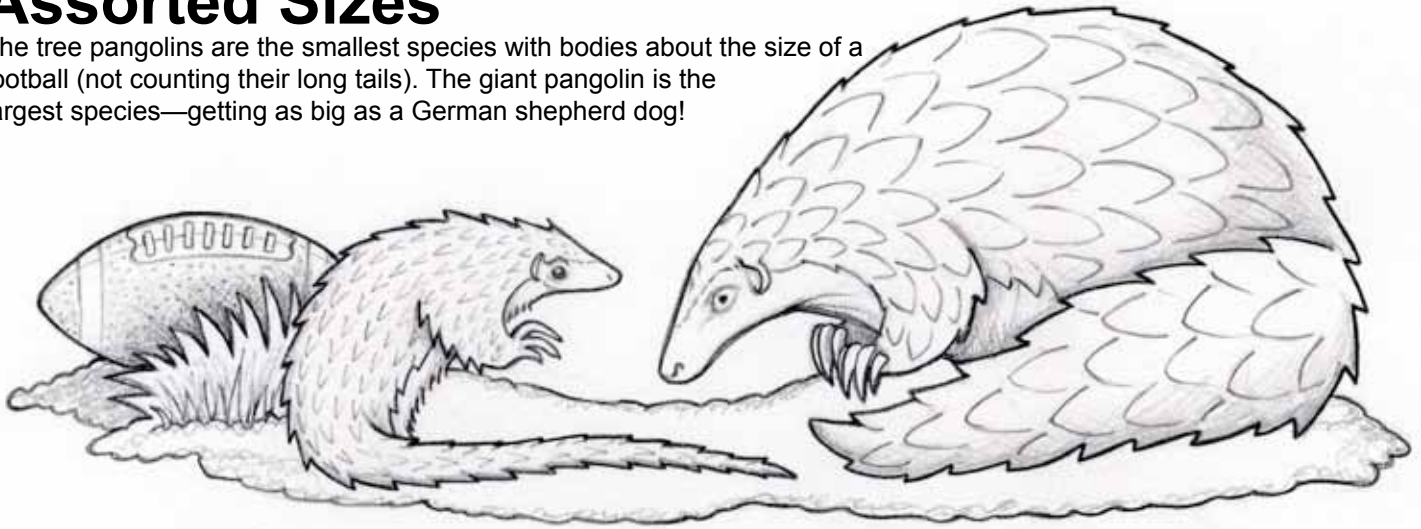
Chinese pangolin, *Manis pentadactyla*

Sunda pangolin, *Manis javanica*

Indian pangolin, *Manis crassicaudata*

Assorted Sizes

The tree pangolins are the smallest species with bodies about the size of a football (not counting their long tails). The giant pangolin is the largest species—getting as big as a German shepherd dog!



Easy on the Eyes

Pangolins have thick eyelids to protect them from swarms of biting ants. Pangolins are not believed to have good eyesight.

Ear Gear

Pangolins have external ears on either side of their heads that vary in size and shape by species. Some pangolin ears look a bit like a human's. Pangolin hearing is not well developed.

Super Sniffers

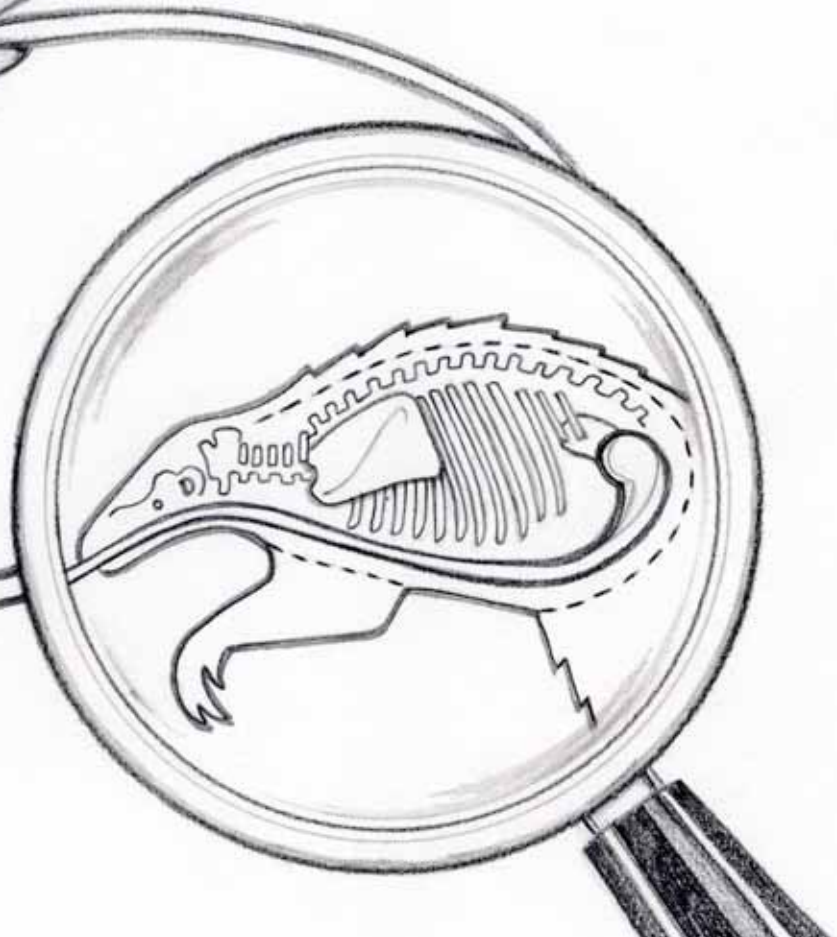
The pangolin's nostrils seal shut to prevent ants from entering. Their sense of smell is highly developed to help them search out their insect prey and to locate mates.

Bug Specialists

Pangolins have teeny tiny mouths and super slender, saliva-coated tongues to slurp up ants and termites.

This tremendous tongue can be longer than the pangolin's head and body! Instead of teeth,

they have spines and gravel in their gut to grind up the tough exoskeletons of their prey. Pangolins play an important role in controlling ant and termite populations. A 3 kg pangolin can consume as much as 300 to 400 g of termites in one feeding!



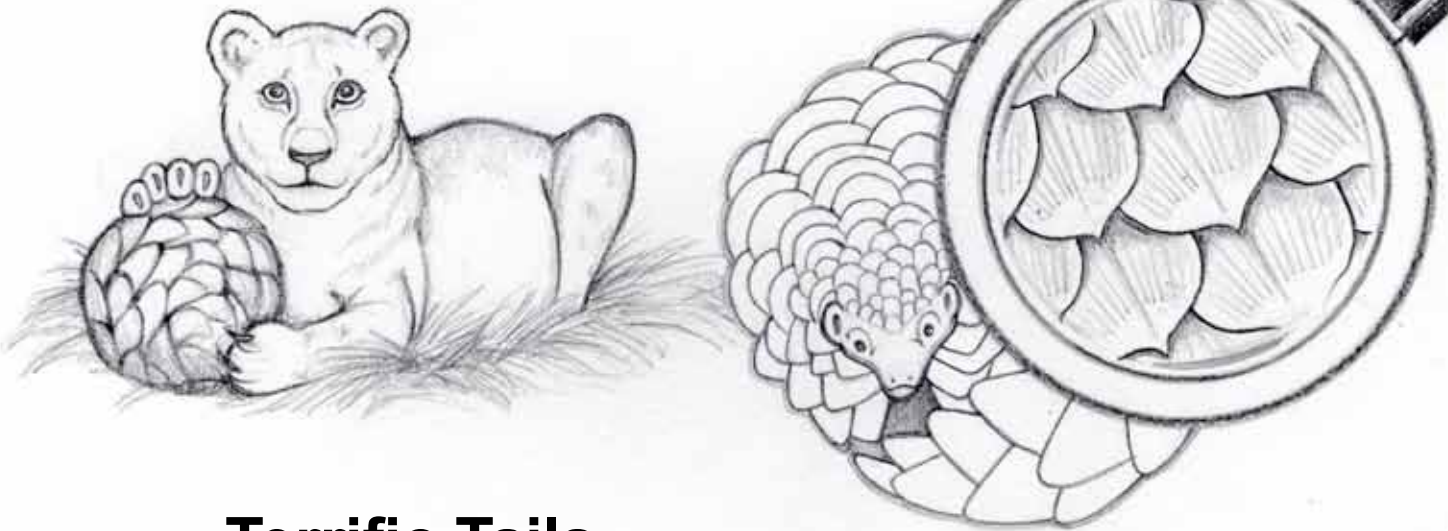
Claws and Paws

Pangolins have thick, sharp front claws for breaking open termite and ant mounds, as well as excavating deep burrows and climbing trees. To move about on all four legs, pangolins curl their front paws and walk on their wrists. The Temminck's pangolin walks on its hind legs, hunched over with the front paws held to its chests.



Suit of Armour

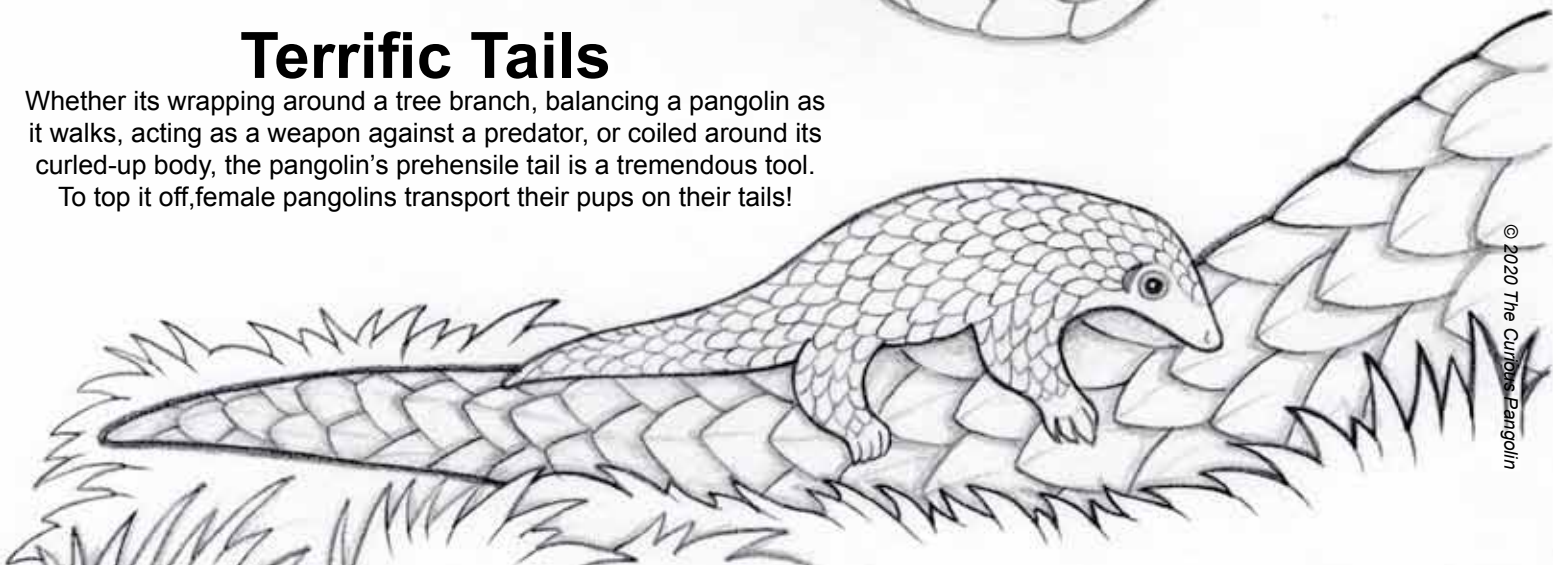
Pangolins are the only mammals with scales covering their bodies. The scales are made of keratin, the same material that hair and fingernails are made of. This heavy suit of armor is about twenty percent of a pangolin's total body weight!



Terrific Tails

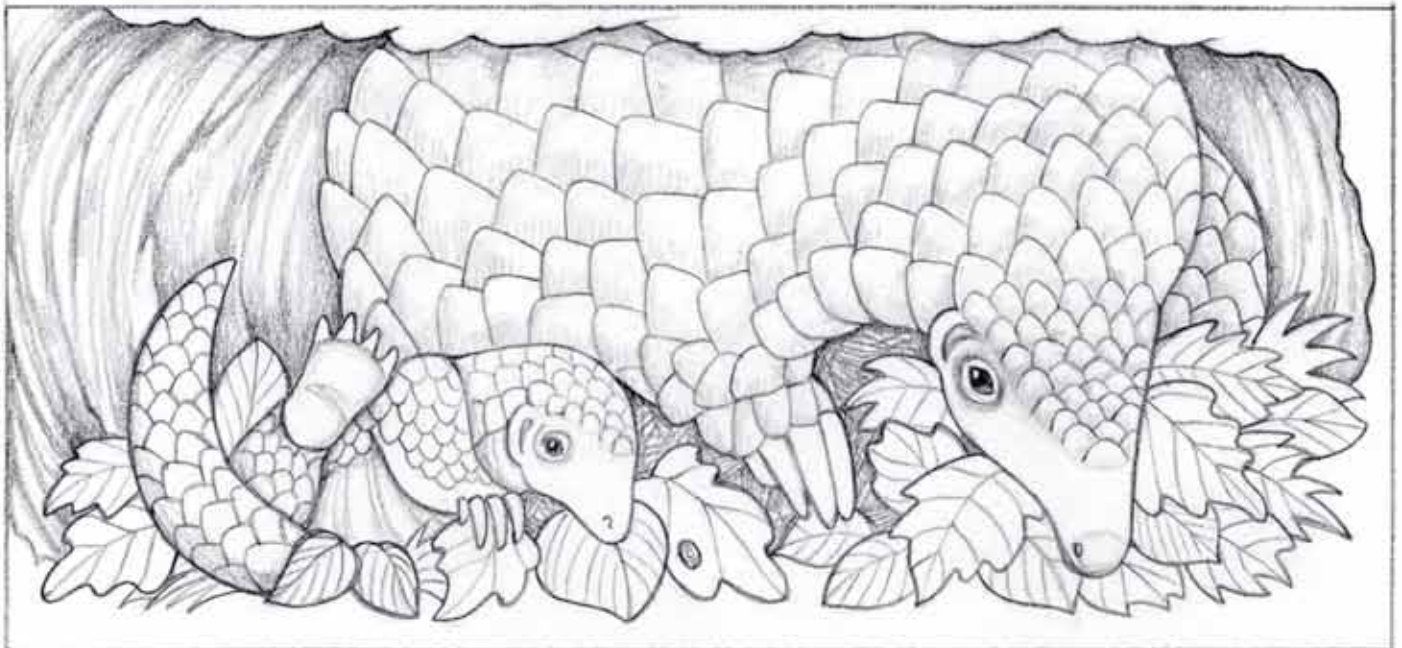
Whether its wrapping around a tree branch, balancing a pangolin as it walks, acting as a weapon against a predator, or coiled around its curled-up body, the pangolin's prehensile tail is a tremendous tool.

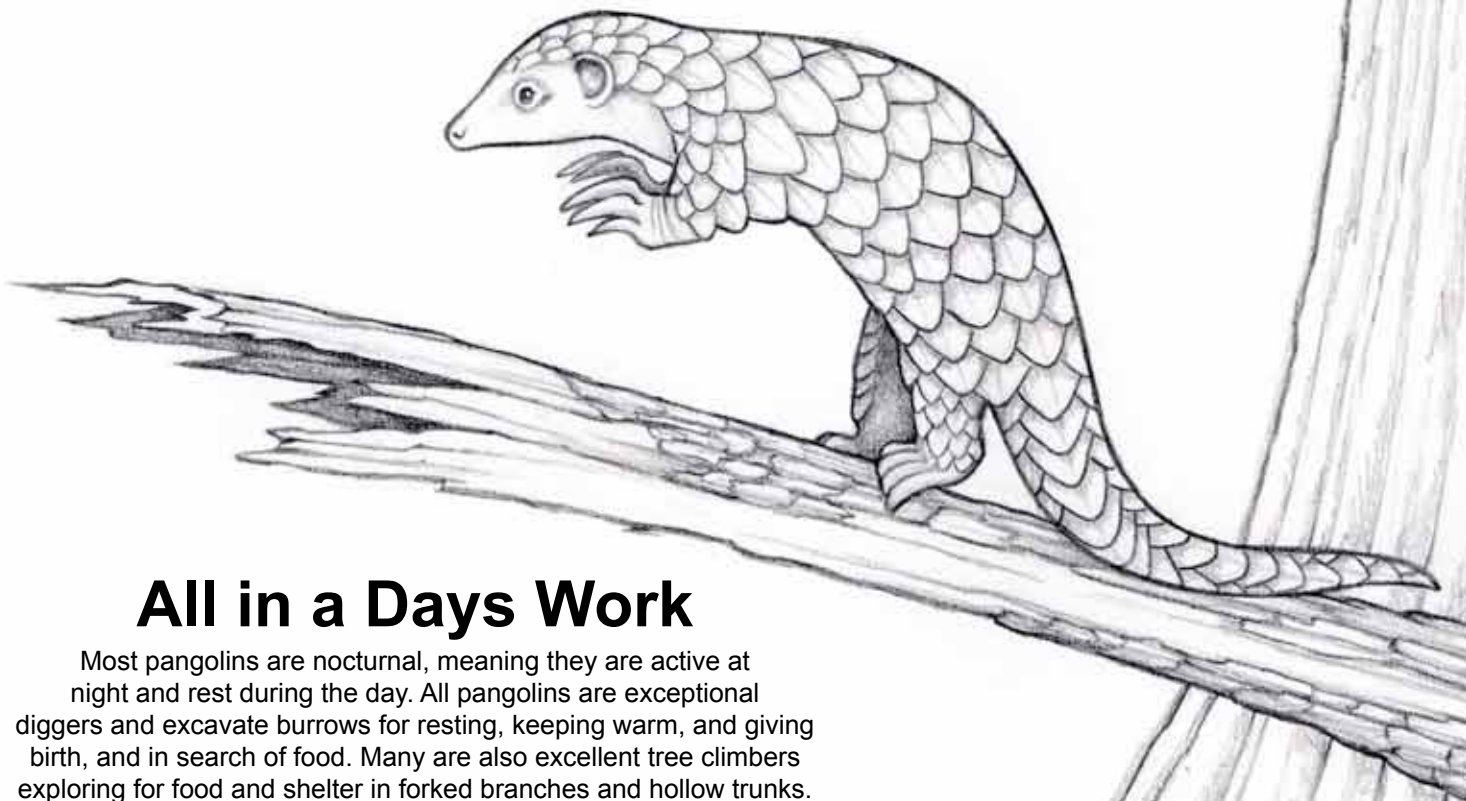
To top it off, female pangolins transport their pups on their tails!



Social Skills

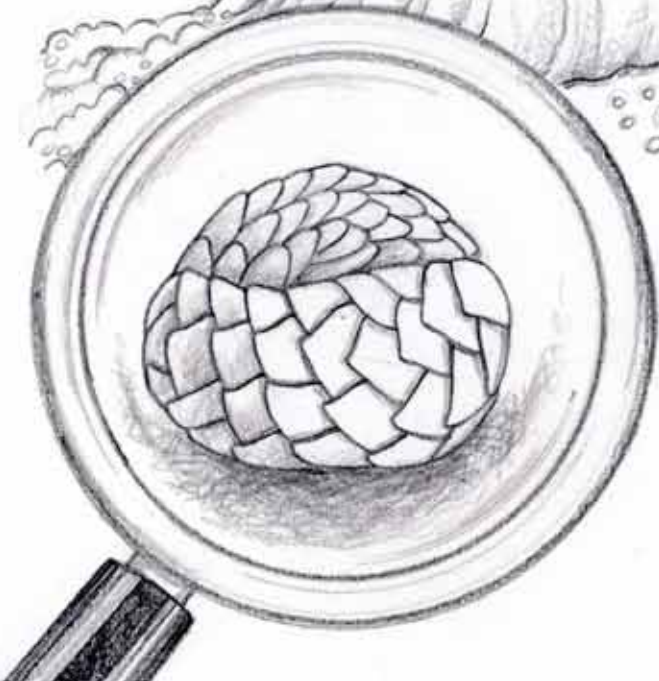
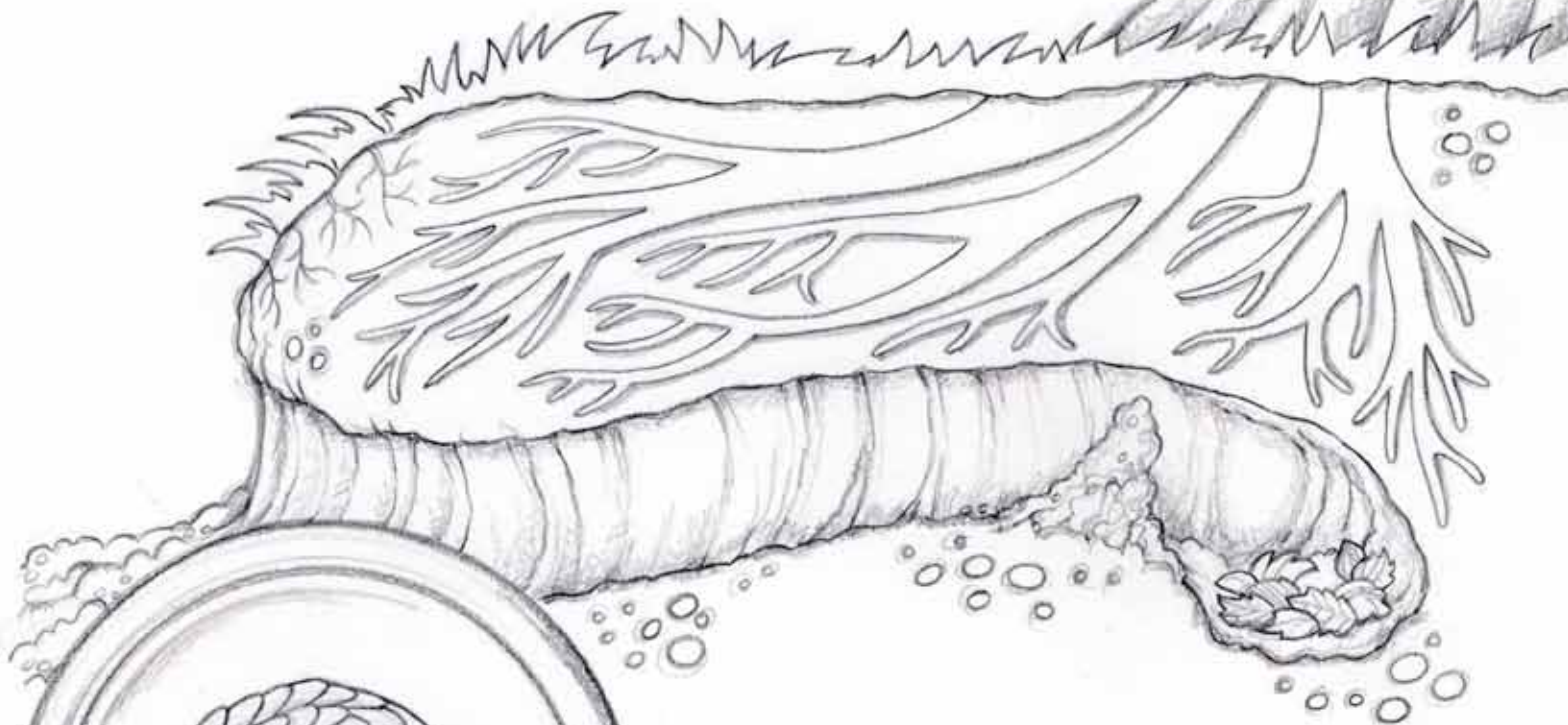
All eight pangolin species are solitary. Males have territories and will fight over females. Breeding seasons and pregnancy lengths are different for each species. Females usually give birth in burrows or hollow trees to one offspring, but twins have been recorded. The mother curls her body around the baby, holding it to her chest while it nurses. As the pup gets older, it will cling to its mother's back while riding on her tail. At about six months, the young pangolin becomes independent.





All in a Days Work

Most pangolins are nocturnal, meaning they are active at night and rest during the day. All pangolins are exceptional diggers and excavate burrows for resting, keeping warm, and giving birth, and in search of food. Many are also excellent tree climbers exploring for food and shelter in forked branches and hollow trunks.

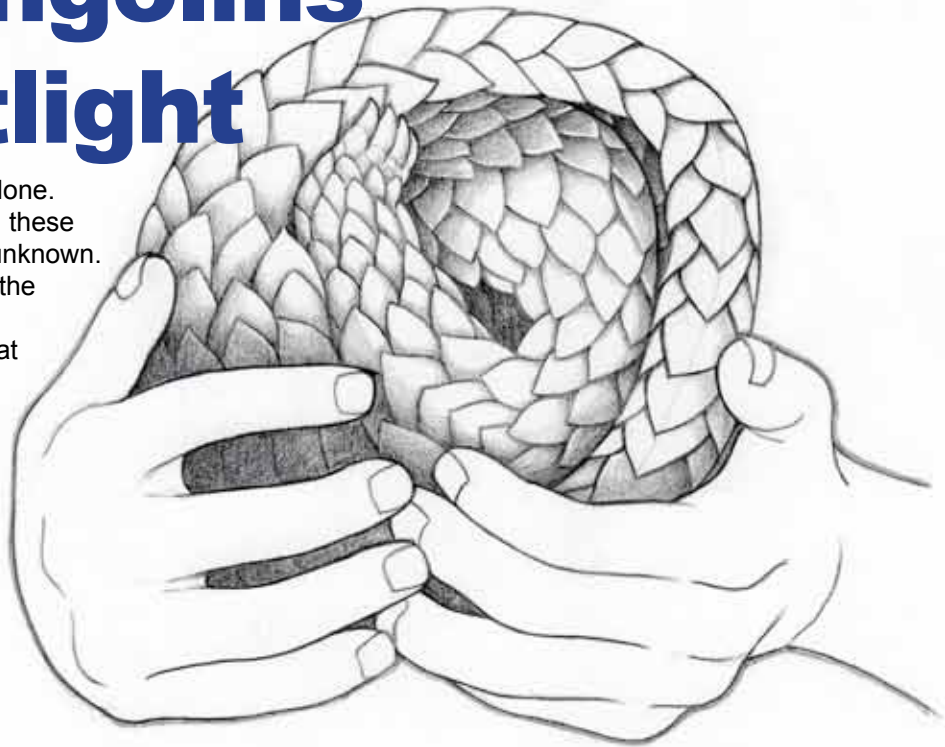


Roly-poly Pangolin

When a pangolin is scared, it rolls into a tight ball with its sharp scales pointing outward. This makes it practically impossible for a predator to get to the pangolin's vulnerable soft belly. However, this behavior doesn't prevent poachers from easily picking up and transporting pangolins for the illegal wildlife trade.

Putting Pangolins in the Spotlight

If you've never heard of a pangolin, you're not alone. Outside of their native ranges in Africa and Asia, these solitary, secretive, scaly mammals are virtually unknown. Sadly however, pangolins are very popular with the illegal wildlife trade (called trafficking). All eight pangolin species have been hunted for their meat and scales. Thousands are killed each year and some species are even facing extinction. Pangolins are unique. They are precious. They need your help! Through awareness campaigns and conservation efforts, individuals, organizations, and governments are coming together to protect pangolins.

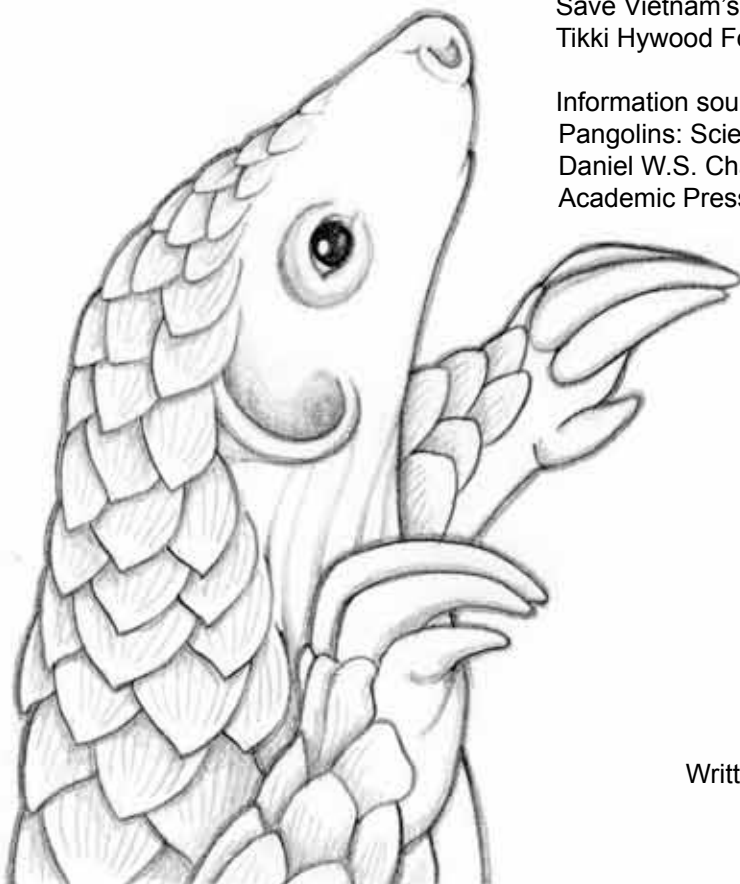


You can be a pangolin protector, too!

Join your voice with others to spread the word about pangolins. Research and support pangolin conservation programs like:

African Pangolin Working Group (africanpangolin.org)
IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group (pangolins.org)
Save Pangolins (savepangolins.org)
Save Vietnam's Wildlife (SaveVietnamsWildlife.org)
Tikki Hywood Foundation (tikkihywoodfoundation.org)

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Written by Lori Schildwachter • Illustrations by Laurie Allen Klein
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