



Bestiary: Animals that Never Were

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

Drawing, combining factual knowledge, and imagination.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

drawing paper, pencils, color pencils and crayons.

"TIPS": Talk about animals you know from visits to a farm or the zoo. Look at pictures of a variety of creatures. As you talk, point out and sketch on scratch paper the most important features of each animal.

GETTING STARTED: A long time ago people used to believe that there were many odd animals in this world. These animals combined the features of familiar birds and beasts. For example, the bannacon has the body and mane of a horse and the head of a bull. Its horns are so curly it cannot injure anyone. It defends itself by setting fire to trees in a very unpleasant way. Now imagine a lion with the head of an eagle (a griffin). Imagine a creature with the head of a man, the body of a lion and the tail of a dragon (a manticore). There were other strange combinations too. Think about putting the front part of a giraffe onto the body of an elephant. What other weird combinations can you think of? Don't forget: insects, birds, and fish are part of the animal kingdom too. Let your imagination play!

1. Sketch an imaginative animal onto your large paper. Study your drawing. Think where you might add something from a *third* animal. Use your crayons or color pencils to color in your creature.

2. Where does your animal live? Show its home and maybe some of the things it likes to eat. Fill up the rest of the picture with colors and designs, if you wish. You could make tiny drawings of its family.

3. Make up a name for your animal. Print it on the back of your picture.

