



## Atlantic Horseshoe Crabs

*Limulus polyphemus*

**Prime Hook Beach, Delaware**

Horseshoe crabs have been around longer than most organisms alive now. Their lifestyle and morphology are so successful, they have survived changes to our planet that have wiped out thousands of more imposing lineages. In nearly half-a-billion years, they have changed surprisingly little and look the same as when dinosaurs walked the earth.



## Queen Ant

*Polyrhachis armata*

**Virachey National Park, Cambodia**

A portrait of a queen ant from Cambodia.



## Foam Bushhopper

*Dictyophorus spumans*

**Karoo National Park, South Africa**

The southern tip of Africa is one of the world's most botanically diverse places. Its diverse flora supports an equally spectacular fauna of insects, including an abundance of grasshoppers. The foam bushhopper feeds on poisonous plants and advertises this fact with its striking coloration.



## Black-winged Clonia

*Clonia melanoptera*

**Cederberg, South Africa**

Spiny, with powerfully muscled legs outstretched, a giant predatory katydid waits for a victim to saunter by. These large insects are classic sit-and-wait predators, pouncing on any animal that will fit between their first two pairs of legs. Massive jaws quickly disembowel cicadas, other katydids, or even small lizards, while extra spines on the ventral side of the thorax help keep the struggling victim from escaping.



## Natal River Crab

*Potamonautes sidneyi*

**Silaka Nature Reserve, South Africa**

Freshwater crabs are highly sensitive to habitat disturbance, including introduction of invasive species. In Africa, non-native North American crayfish were accidentally introduced and pose a serious threat to the survival of these animals.



## Leafcutter ants

*Atta cephalotes*

**Guanacaste, Costa Rica**

Leafcutter ants display a finely developed division of labor, often accompanied by extreme differences in body size. “Minims” are tiny workers that hitch a ride on a leaf fragment to protect the larger ones carrying it from parasitic flies that attempt to lay eggs on them. Larvae of some species of these flies develop inside the head of the ant, eventually decapitating the insect.



## Peacock Katydid

*Pterochroza ocellata*

**Sipaliwini, Suriname**

The South American peacock katydid is a master bluffer; when faced with a threat it lifts its brown, leaf-like wings to reveal a pair of fake eyes. This usually is enough to give the predator pause and allows the katydid to escape unharmed.



## Armored Katydid

*Acanthoproctus cervinus*

**Karoo National Park, South Africa**

Known in South Africa as “koringkrieke,” armored katydids are quite different from the common green and long-winged variety. They are plump and flightless, and their bodies are well protected by painfully sharp spines. Some species, in addition to their spiky armature, defend themselves by squirting their own blood at the attacker.