**AUTHOR:**

Steve Jenkins

As the title suggests, this book gives examples of the world-record holding animals in categories such as tallest, longest, strongest, etc. Many of the illustrations compare the animal to a human.

**Ages:** 3 to 8 years**Interest Level:**

Preschool to 3rd Grade

**ATOS Reading Level:**

2.3

**Lexile:** AD840L**ISBN:** 9780613036115**Copyright:** 1995**Genre:** Non-Fiction**Classification:** Picture Story Book

# Biggest, Strongest, Fastest

**Who can win a foot race with a cheetah?**

**Topics:** comparison, measurement, ratio

**Math Connections:** Use *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* to discuss comparison words and how the meaning changes with the suffix. For example big, bigger, and biggest; fast, faster, and fastest etc. Compare the heights of three people the child knows: Hanna is tall, Mom is taller, and Dad is tallest.

You can also use this book to talk about the different ways we measure things: height, weight, speed, strength, etc. Then, within each of those categories, we use different scales of measurement; for example we would measure the height of a flea in millimeters or a fraction of an inch, but the height of a giraffe in meters or feet. Ask your child, "What would you use to measure the size of your room or the height of your favorite toy?"

This book is also a great introduction to ratios such as speed. We measure the speed of a cheetah in miles per hour - how many miles a cheetah could travel in one hour. Compare the speed of a cheetah to something more familiar to your child such as the speed of a car. Ask your child which is faster.

**Extension Questions:**

1. Design a new animal who could break one of the records discussed in the book. Describe your animal in detail. Draw a picture of your animal and name it. What type of animal is it? What record does it break?
2. The land snail moves about 8 inches in one minute. How long would it take to go across your desk/table? How did you get your answer?
3. A flea can jump about 8 inches upward in a single jump. How many jumps would the flea have to make to land on Miss Entomologist's head (she is 64 inches tall)?

4. If an African Elephant eats three-hundred pounds of grass and leaves every day, how many pounds of grass and leaves can she eat in two days? One week? One month? Explain how you know.



**Early Math Project Resources:**

[Big, Bigger, Biggest](#) (English)

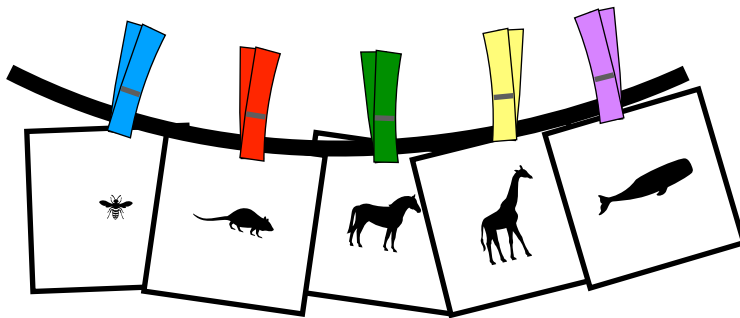
Grande, Más grande, El más grande (Spanish)

[Information Cards](#) (English)

Information Cards (Spanish)

**Online Resources:**

[National Geographic Kids](#)



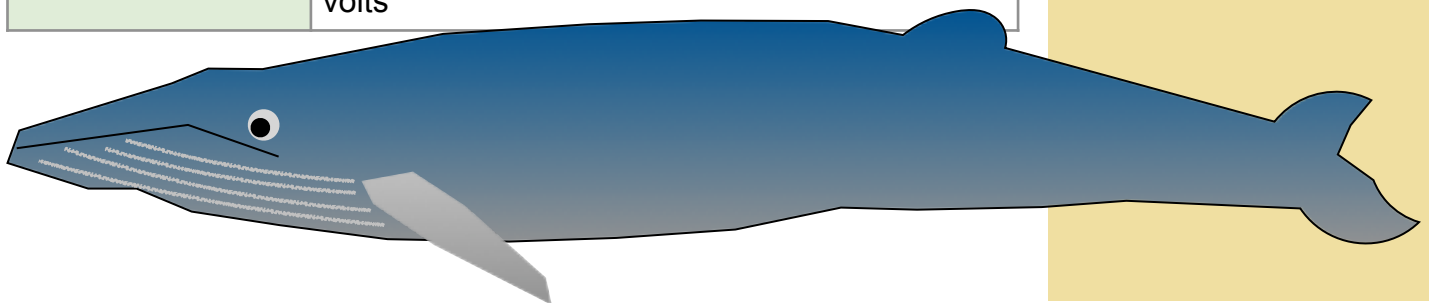
**Spanish Title:** Not available.

**Also available in:** French and Japanese.

**Related Books:** *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins; *Just a Second* by Steve Jenkins

**Find this book at your local library:** [http://www.worldcat.org/title/biggest-strongest-fastest/oclc/433582496&referer=brief\\_results](http://www.worldcat.org/title/biggest-strongest-fastest/oclc/433582496&referer=brief_results)

<p><b>Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts</b></p>	<p>average, bigger, biggest, dime, faster, fastest, five times, half, half an hour, height, hundred, largest, less than, longest, measured, mile, miles per hour, minute, ounce, pounds, shorter, slowest, smaller, smallest, speeds, strongest, tallest, teaspoon, twice</p>
<p><b>Vocabulary for Extending Math Concepts</b></p>	<p>comparison, distance, ratios, speed, time</p>
<p><b>Vocabulary for Reading Comprehension</b></p>	<p>acrobat, acrobatic, average, danger, electricity, expect, filaments, flexible, fortunately, Galapagos, hummingbird, jumper, leap, microscope, poisonous, prey, swallow, tentacles, tortoise, voltage, volts</p>



Age Level	Related Preschool Foundations and CA State Standards
Preschool	<b>Measurement 1.0:</b> Children expand their understanding of comparing, ordering, and measuring objects. <b>1.1:</b> Demonstrate awareness that objects can be compared by length, weight, or capacity, by noting gross differences, using words such as bigger, longer, heavier, or taller, or by placing objects side by side to compare length
Kindergarten	<b>Measurement and Data K.MD 1, K.MD 2;</b> Describe and compare measurable attributes.
Grade 1	<b>Measurement and Data 1.MD.1, 1.MD.2</b> Measure lengths indirectly and by iterating length units.
Grade 2	<b>Measurement and Data 2.MD.3, 2.MD.4;</b> Measure and estimate lengths in standard units.
Grade 3	<b>Measurement and Data 3.MD.2</b> Measure and estimate liquid volumes and masses of objects. <b>3.MD.4</b> Generate measurement data by measuring lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch.

