

Most Common Animal Names – Local African Languages!

Animal Species/ Local Language	Afrikaans	Nama/Damara	Ndebele	Shona	Siswati	Swahili	Tswana	Venda	Zulu
Baboon, Chacma	<i>Bobbejaan</i>	<i>/ Norab, / Nerab, / / Erub</i>	<i>Indwanguly</i>	<i>Bveni, Gudo</i>	<i>Mfene</i>	<i>“Baboon” = Nyani</i>	<i>Tshwene</i>	<i>Pfene</i>	<i>Mfene</i>
Buffalo	<i>Buffel</i>	<i>/ Goab</i>	<i>Inyathi</i>	<i>Nyati</i>	<i>Inyatsi</i>	<i>Nyati</i>	<i>Nari</i>	<i>Nari</i>	<i>Nyathi</i>
Cheetah	<i>Jagluiperd</i>	<i>!Arub</i>	<i>!hlosi, Hlosi</i>	<i>Dindingwe</i>	<i>Lihlosi</i>	<i>Duma</i>	<i>Lengau</i>	<i>Dagaladzhie</i>	<i>!hlosi</i>
Eland	<i>Eland</i>	<i>!Khanni</i>	<i>!mpofu</i>	<i>Mhofu</i>	<i>!mpophi</i>	<i>Pofu</i>	<i>Phofu</i>	<i>Phofu</i>	<i>Mpofu</i>
Elephant	<i>Olifant</i>	<i>!Khoab</i>	<i>Ndlovu</i>	<i>Nzou, Zhou</i>	<i>Ndhlovu</i>	<i>Ndovu</i>	<i>Tlou</i>	<i>Ndou</i>	<i>Ndhlovu</i>
Giraffe	<i>Kameelperd</i>	<i>!Garonaib</i>	<i>Htundla</i>	<i>Twza</i>	<i>!ndlulamitsi</i>	<i>Twiga</i>	<i>Thutlwa</i>	<i>Thuda</i>	<i>Ndhulamithi</i>
Hippopotamus	<i>Seekoei</i>	<i>!Khaos</i>	<i>!mvubu</i>	<i>Mvuu</i>	<i>Mvubu</i>	<i>Kiboko</i>	<i>Kubu</i>	<i>Mvuvu</i>	<i>Mvubu</i>
Hyena, Spotted	<i>Gevlekte hiëna</i>	<i>Gara ≠ hiras</i>	-	<i>Bere</i>	<i>Mpisi</i>	<i>“Hyena” = Fisi</i>	<i>Phiri</i>	<i>Phele</i>	<i>Mpisi</i>
Impala	<i>Rooibok</i>	<i>Arab</i>	<i>Mpala</i>	<i>Mhara</i>	<i>Mpala</i>	<i>Swala pala</i>	<i>Phala</i>	<i>Phala</i>	<i>Mpala</i>
Leopard	<i>Luiperd</i>	<i>/ Garub</i>	<i>Ngwe, Ingwe</i>	<i>Mbada</i>	<i>Ngwe, Ingwe</i>	<i>Chui</i>	<i>Nkwe, Inkwe</i>	<i>Ngwe, Ingwe</i>	<i>Ngwe, Ingwe</i>
Lion	<i>Leeu</i>	<i>Xammi</i>	<i>!silwane</i>	<i>Shumba</i>	<i>Ngwenyama</i>	<i>Simba</i>	<i>Tau</i>	<i>Ndau</i>	<i>Ngonyama</i>
Mongoose, Banded	<i>Gebande muisehond</i>	-	<i>!Usikibhoror</i>	<i>Dzvoror</i>	-	<i>“Common Name” = Ngushiro</i>	<i>Letototo</i>	<i>Tshihoho</i>	<i>Buhala</i>
Porcupine	<i>Ystervark</i>	<i>!Noab</i>	-	<i>Nungu</i>	<i>Ngungubane</i>	<i>Nungu</i>	<i>Noko</i>	<i>Nungu</i>	<i>Nungu</i>
Rhinoceros, Black	<i>Swartrenoster</i>	<i>!Nabas</i>	-	<i>Chipembere, Nhema</i>	-	<i>“Rhino” = Faru</i>	<i>Tshukudu</i>	<i>Thema</i>	<i>uBhejane</i>
Rhinoceros, White	<i>Witrenoster</i>	-	-	<i>Chipembere</i>	<i>uMkhombe</i>	<i>“Rhino” = Faru</i>	<i>Tshukudu</i>	<i>Tshugulu</i>	<i>uMkhombe</i>
Warthog	<i>Vlakvark</i>	<i>Dirib, gairib</i>	<i>Ngulube</i>	<i>Njiri</i>	<i>Budzayikatana</i>	<i>Ngiri</i>	<i>Kolobe</i>	<i>Phangwa</i>	<i>Ndlovudalana</i>
Waterbuck	<i>Waterbok</i>	<i>/ / Gampiris</i>	<i>!sidumuka</i>	<i>Dhumukwa</i>	<i>Phiva</i>	<i>Kuru</i>	<i>Pitlhwa</i>	<i>Phidwa</i>	<i>Phiva</i>
Wild Dog	<i>Wildehond</i>	<i>!Gaub</i>	<i>!nganyana</i>	<i>Mhumhi</i>	<i>Budzatje</i>	<i>Mbwa mwitu</i>	<i>Lethalerwa</i>	<i>Dalerwa</i>	<i>Nkontshane</i>
Wildebeest, Blue	<i>Blouwildebees</i>	<i>Gaob</i>	<i>Nkhonhoni</i>	<i>Ngongoni</i>	<i>Ngongoni</i>	<i>“Wildebeest” = Nyumbu</i>	<i>Kgokong</i>	<i>Khongoini</i>	<i>Nkhonhoni</i>
Zebra, Burchell’s	<i>Bontsebra</i>	<i>!Goreb, !Goareb</i>	<i>!dube</i>	<i>Mbizi</i>	<i>Lidvubu</i>	<i>“Zebra” = Punda milia</i>	<i>Pitse ya naga</i>	-	<i>Dube</i>

Africafreak.com – The African Safari Guide, 2010

NB: Most of the names come from **Clive Walker**'s book "[Signs of the Wild](#)." This compact [field guide](#) to the identification of Southern African mammals based on their spoor, droppings and skulls has been accepted as the standard work on the subject. This edition offers up-to-date information on identification through signs.

[This edition](#) provides new illustrations for a number of species. It also features illustrations of skulls for all of the carnivores. The 8-page section of comparative spoor is still a feature, updated with the most recent information available. It includes [distribution maps](#) (88 in all) and full-colour photographs (some 150) of each species within its habitat.