



Glossary

P4-P7 panda pack

giant panda

giant panda – a member of the bear family with characteristic black and white markings and native to China. Historic distribution throughout southeast China but now only found in six distinct populations in south Gansu, Shaanxi and Sichuan. The Chinese name literally means ‘big bear cat’.

dà xióng māo

大熊猫

red panda

red panda – a mammal with thick reddish-brown fur and a bushy tail, native to high bamboo forests from the Himalayas to southern China. The red panda is not related to the giant panda. Red pandas are raccoon-like mammals but are also not related to raccoons. Red pandas are the only living member of the Ailuridae family. The Chinese name literally means ‘small bear cat’.

xiǎo xióng māo

小熊猫

Amur tiger

Amur Tiger - the largest of the tiger species. The wild population is estimated less than 400 and mainly found in Russia. There is a small population in the northeast of China. The Chinese name literally means 'northeast tiger'.

dōng běi hǔ

东北虎

bharal sheep

bharal sheep - a Himalayan wild sheep with a bluish coat and backward curving horns. Although the species, *Pseudois nayaur*, is found across the Tibetan plateau, the Sichuan bharal, *Pseudois schaeferi*, is only found in a narrow area along the Jingshajiang Valley. The Chinese name literally means 'cliff sheep'.

yán yáng

岩羊

Steller's sea eagle

Steller's sea eagle – a black eagle with massive yellow bill. They mainly breed in eastern Russia but in winter a small number can be seen in northeast China. The Chinese name literally means 'tiger head sea eagle'.

hǔ tóu hǎi diāo

虎头海雕

mammal [class]

mammal – the group of vertebrate animals with body covering of hair or fur and females which have mammary glands to feed their young. The Chinese word literally means ‘breast feeding class’.

Note – to say, an animal is a mammal, use 哺乳动物 bǔrǔdòngwù

bǔ rǔ lèi
哺乳类

bird [class]

bird – the group of vertebrate animals with a body covering of feathers and females which lay eggs. The Chinese word literally means ‘bird class’.

niǎo lèi
鸟类

reptile [class]

reptile – the group of vertebrate animals with a body covering of dry scales and females that typically lay soft shelled eggs. The class includes snakes, lizards, crocodiles, turtles and tortoises. The Chinese word literally means ‘crawling class’

Note – to say, an animal is a reptile, use 爬行动物 páxíngdòngwù

pá xíng lèi
爬行类

amphibian [class]

amphibian – the group of vertebrate animals with a body covering of just plain skin and typically have gills at a larval stage then lungs when adult. The class includes frogs, toads, newts, salamanders and caecilians. The Chinese word literally means ‘dual (two) living class’.

liǎng qī lèi
两栖类

fish [class]

fish – the group of vertebrate animals with a body covering of wet scales. The class includes sharks and rays. The Chinese word literally means ‘fish class’.

yú

lèi

鱼类

skull

skull – the skeleton of an animal's head. The Chinese word literally means 'head bone'.

tóu gǔ

头骨

tooth

tooth – a hard, enamel coated structure in the jaws of most vertebrates.

chǐ

齿

For human tooth use

yáchǐ 牙齿

incisor tooth

incisor tooth – a narrow edged tooth at the front of the mouth, adapted for biting. The Chinese word literally means ‘opening tooth’.

mén chǐ

门齿

For human incisor use

qiēyá 切牙

[cutting tooth]

canine tooth

canine tooth – a pointed tooth between the incisors and premolars, adapted for killing. The Chinese word literally means ‘dog tooth’.

quǎn chǐ

犬齿

For human canine use

jiānyá 尖牙

[sharp, pointed tooth]

pre-molar tooth

pre-molar tooth – a tooth between the canine and the molar teeth. The Chinese word literally means ‘front molar tooth’.

qián jiù chǐ

前臼齿

molar tooth

molar tooth – a chewing or slicing tooth at the back of the mouth. Carnivore’s usually have sharp, slicing back teeth. Herbivores have flat, chewing back teeth. The Chinese word literally means ‘mortar tooth’.

jiù chǐ

臼齿

For human molar use

móyá 磨牙

[grinding tooth]

chewing molars

chewing molars – back teeth that are usually flat and able to chew or grind food. The Chinese word literally means ‘chewing tooth’.

jǔ jué chǐ
咀嚼齿

slicing molars

slicing molars – back teeth that are usually sharp and slice past each other to cut or slice food. The Chinese word literally means ‘split or crack open tooth’.

liè chǐ
裂齿

no teeth

To say 'no teeth' use 没有 méi yǒu - not have.

méi yǒu yá chǐ
没有牙齿

stem

stem – the main body or stalk of a plant. The Chinese word literally means stem or stalk.

jīng gàn
茎 干

leaf

leaf – a flat, thin plant organ that uses the sun to make its own food.

yè
叶

node

node – the part of a plant stem from which one or more leaves emerge. The Chinese word literally means ‘stem node’.

jīng

jié

茎节

root

root – the part of the plant which attaches it to the ground or to a support.

gēn

根

rhizome

rhizome – a continuously growing horizontal underground stem which puts out shoots. The Chinese word literally means ‘root state stem’.

gēn zhuàng jīng

根状茎

wildlife conservation

wildlife conservation – protecting plants and animals. The Chinese word literally means ‘wild animal protection’.

yě shēng dòng wù bǎo hù

野生动物保护

endangered species

endangered species – a species of animal or plant that is seriously at risk of extinction. The Chinese word literally means ‘near danger species’.

bīn wēi wù zhǒng

濒危物种

threat

threat – something likely to cause damage or danger. The Chinese word literally means ‘to threaten’.

wēi xié

威胁

climate change

climate change – a change in the world’s climate. The Chinese word literally means ‘climate change’.

qì hòu biàn huà

气候变化

habitat loss

habitat loss – the process in which a natural habitat has been displaced or destroyed. The Chinese word literally means ‘life boundary loss’.

shēng jìng sàng shī

生境丧失

over-hunting

over-hunting – a hunting to excess. The Chinese word literally means ‘excessive capture’.

làn bǔ

滥捕

pollution

pollution – the introduction into the environment of a substance which has harmful or poisonous effects. The Chinese word literally means ‘dirty contamination’.

wū rǎn

污 染

habitat

habitat – the natural home of an animal or plant. For habitat loss (page 27) use 生境 shēngjìng but when using the word habitat on its own use 栖息地 qīxīdì. The Chinese name literally means ‘life border’ or ‘dwelling ground’ respectively.

shēng jìng or qī xī dì
生境 or 栖息地

mixed forest

mixed forest – a forest with two or more types of trees, usually a mix of deciduous and coniferous. The Chinese word literally means ‘mixed forest’.

hùn jiāo lín
混交林

mountain range

mountain range – a large natural elevation of the earth's surface, a series of large steep hills. The Chinese word literally means 'mountain arteries and veins'.

shān mài

山脉

mountain forest

mountain forest – forests with an elevation of 2500m above sea level or higher or an elevation of 300-2500m and a slope with sharp changes in elevation within a short distance. The Chinese word literally means 'mountain forest'.

shān lín

山林

rainforest

rainforest – a dense forest rich in biodiversity, typically found in tropical areas with heavy rainfall. The Chinese word literally means ‘rain forest’.

yǔ lín

雨林

ocean

ocean – a large expanse of sea. The Chinese word literally means ‘ocean’.

Note 海 sea; 洋 ocean or vast.

hǎi yáng

海洋

river

river – a large natural stream of water flowing in a channel to the sea, a lake, or another river.

jiāng

江

or

or

hé

河

Also, an old word for river is chuān, which is part of Sìchuān a province of China. Sìchuān 四川 literally means 4 rivers.

chuān

川

China

China – a country in eastern Asia with a population of over 1.3 billion. Officially called the People's Republic of China. The Chinese name literally means middle kingdom.

zhōng guó

中国

Beijing

Beijing – the capital of China. The Chinese name literally means north capital.

běi jīng

北京

Shanghai

Shanghai – a large coastal city in China. The Chinese name literally means on the sea.

shàng hǎi

上海

Chengdu

Chengdu – the provincial capital of Sichuan. The Chinese name literally means to become a city.

chéng dū

成都