

DON'T GIVE UP!



What is the world's slowest marine animal?

What is the slowest bird in the world?

And what is the world's slowest land animal?

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Did you guess the sea horse (marine), the American woodcock (bird), and the three-toed sloth (land animal)? Congratulations! These are pretty slow creatures.

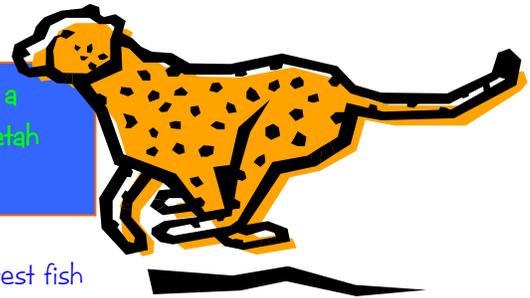


The sea horse takes 15 months to swim a mile (1.6 km).

The sloth  takes a whole month to walk a mile, whereas you could do it in 20 minutes.

The woodcock would feel pretty slow compared to the fastest bird – the Peregrine falcon – because the woodcock travels only 5 miles per hour, compared to the falcon, which swoops and dives at up to 200 miles per hour (325 km/hr). **Wow!**

The sloth would look awfully sluggish in a race with a cheetah – the fastest land animal – because the cheetah can run 466 times faster than the sloth.



And the poor sea horse would be washed away by the fastest fish in the world – the sailfish – which moves almost 7000 times faster!



God created very slow creatures and very fast ones. But one isn't better than the other. God made his creatures to be good at what they do, whether they do it slowly or quickly. And He made them to stick with it – or they won't eat!

The sea horse, woodcock, and sloth don't give up and say, "I'm so slow compared to everyone else, I may as well not even try." They keep working.

And so should you. You may not be as fast as your friend, or as gifted in a particular sport or subject. But you have been created by God to do well in a special way. God rewards us when we're diligent and faithful in what we do. He's not worried about our speed. He loves you – whether you're like a sea horse or a sailfish.

So don't give up!

God will be pleased,
and so will you!

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.
– Proverbs 21:5