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# 大熊貓爲何是國寶?



▼大熊貓的形 象能夠體現中 國傳統文化蘊 含的意義。

渾圓的腦袋上點綴着黑色的圓耳朶,再加上兩個標誌性 黑眼圈,就是大熊貓的可愛形象。小朋友們,你們知道大熊 貓為什麼是中國的國寶嗎?

大熊貓能穩坐國寶之位, 首先絕非是因為數量最少。斑 鱉在世界僅剩幾隻;而中國特 有的虎亞種——華南虎,僅分 布在中國境內,自上世紀80年 代以來未見身影;亞洲象也僅 近300頭。而目前野生大熊貓就 有近兩千隻,圈養大熊貓逾六 百隻,數量不是最少的。

其次,在歷史上,大熊貓 亦沒有特別被古人留意到,在 詩詞歌賦和文學作品中鮮少見 到熊貓的身影。那麼,牠們是 如何從籍籍無名的熊一躍成為 中國名片呢?

> 在近一個世紀的時間裏,大熊貓一 直面臨被屠殺的 境遇。大量的大

熊貓被人們捕殺,製作成標本 送到德國、英國和美國等。後 來中國意識到大熊貓的數量大 量減少,到20世紀40年代開始 限制外國人捕獲大熊貓,但只 是面子工作。

## 艱苦環境下屹立不倒

當時中國正處於戰火紛飛的年代,所以幾乎無暇去管這些面臨屠殺的大熊貓。直到1949年新中國成立後,保護大熊貓才逐漸提上曰程,又因其憨態可掬的外表、悠久的生物學歷史、稀少的數量、強壯的身體、不爭的秉性與中國傳統文化蘊含的意義相近,與現代中國的形象和倡導理念相符,故正式榮登國寶之位,以代表國家的形象。

國寶熊貓可愛的外表也受 到不少國外動物園的關照,旅 韓大熊貓「福寶」更被當地飼 養員寵成「福公主」,其直播 每次都能帶來大量的互動。

然而,近年來部分旅美大熊貓卻遭受所在動物園苛刻的對待,例如住在美國華盛頓動物園的「添添」、「美香」和「小奇跡」一家三口,以及已經回國、曾住美國孟菲斯動物園的大熊貓「丫子」。與日網上發布的「丫子」兒照時回到北京動物是上發有原先的黝黑邋遢。至於「小奇跡」一家也將於今年底回國,希望牠們盡快過上優待的生活。

# Crow's Feathers

#### Characters

King Peacock, Crow and some birds

### Settings

Near the river; in the palace

Fun Stories

### The Borrowed Feathers

One day, King Peacock decided to hold a competition to choose the most beautiful bird in the Bird Kingdom. Many birds wanted to join. The winner could stay in King Peacock's amazing palace for one month.

5 Crow thought, 'My black feathers are not attractive at all. I stand no chance of winning! What should I do?'

Crow walked along the river. Some birds were washing their feathers. They left some of their feathers there.

Crow came up with a good idea! She picked up the 10 feathers and stuck them on her body.

The day of the competition has come. All of the competitors looked gorgeous! They went on the stage one by one.

It's Crow's turn. When she appeared on the stage, King
15 Peacock said, 'Wow! I have never seen a bird with
feathers of so many colours!'

Crow tried to catch the birds' eyes by flying high. She flew faster and faster. The birds clapped loudly! Suddenly, one of her feathers fell off! And then more

20 and more feathers fell off too!

Finally, all the borrowed feathers fell off. King Peacock and all the other birds laughed at Crow! Crow was so upset that she flew away from the palace. Crow thought, 'I should not cheat.'

Smart Kids



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