An Animal That Starts With The Letter X

X-Ray Tetra: The Amazing, Transparent Fish – SEO Optimized Summary Discover the X-ray Tetra, a fascinating freshwater fish named for its translucent body. Learn about its unique appearance, habitat, care requirements, and the fascinating science behind its transparency. Explore the challenges and rewards of keeping these unique creatures in a home aquarium. XRayTetra Fish Aquarium TransparentFish UniquePets The X-ray Tetra (*Pristella riddlei*) isn't exactly a household name, but this tiny, mesmerizing fish deserves more recognition. Its scientific name might not be as catchy as its common name, but the "X-ray" moniker perfectly captures its striking feature: a largely transparent body. Through its nearly see-through scales, you can partially observe its internal organs, giving it an ethereal, almost otherworldly quality. This remarkable transparency isn't just visually stunning; it also plays a role in its survival strategies in the wild.

Habitat and Natural Behavior

X-ray Tetras are native to the freshwater rivers and streams of the Amazon and Orinoco basins in South America. They inhabit slow-moving waters, preferring areas with dense vegetation and submerged wood providing cover from predators. These schooling fish are naturally social creatures, thriving in groups of six or more. In the wild, their transparency provides camouflage, allowing them to blend seamlessly into their environment and avoid predation by larger fish and birds. | Feature | Description | ||| | Origin | Amazon and Orinoco River basins, South America | | Water Type | Soft, slightly acidic freshwater | | *Social Behavior* | Highly social, prefers schooling | | *Diet* | Omnivorous, flakes, live food, small invertebrates | | Size | 1.5 - 2 inches (3.8 - 5 cm) | Their diet in the wild consists of a variety of small insects, crustaceans, and other invertebrates. Their small size and peaceful nature make them an ideal addition to a community aquarium, provided that the tank mates are similarly peaceful and not large enough to view them as prey.

Keeping X-Ray Tetras in a Home Aquarium

Maintaining a healthy and thriving X-ray Tetra school requires careful consideration of several factors: • *Tank Size:* A minimum of a 10-gallon tank is recommended for a school of six, with larger tanks preferred for bigger groups. • **Water Parameters:** Soft, slightly acidic water (pH 6.0-7.0) with a temperature range of 72-82°F (22-28°C) is crucial. Regular water changes (25% weekly) help maintain water quality. • Tank Mates: Choose peaceful, non-aggressive tank mates of similar size to avoid predation. Avoid larger, predatory fish. • **Substrate:** A dark substrate helps to enhance the fish's visibility and provides contrast against their translucent bodies. • **Plants and Decorations:** Live plants provide hiding places and mimic their natural habitat, reducing stress. Driftwood and other decorations add visual interest. • *Filtration:* A good quality filter is essential to maintain clean water and remove waste.

The Science of Transparency

The transparency of the X-ray Tetra is a fascinating example of natural adaptation. While not entirely transparent (their eyes, internal organs and spinal column are partially visible), the reduced pigmentation in their scales and tissues minimizes their visibility in their natural environment. This transparency is achieved through a combination of factors, including the arrangement of their scales and the reduced amount of melanin (the pigment responsible for color) in their bodies. Scientists are studying the genetic and physiological mechanisms

behind this transparency, potentially leading to breakthroughs in camouflage technology and other fields.

Challenges of Keeping X-Ray Tetras

Despite their relatively undemanding care requirements, some challenges can arise when keeping X-ray Tetras: • **Sensitivity to Water Quality:** They are highly sensitive to changes in water parameters, necessitating regular monitoring and maintenance. • **Prone to Diseases:** Like other small fish, they can be susceptible to various diseases, requiring quick intervention if illness is suspected. • **Difficulty in Spotting Disease:** Their transparency can make it challenging to detect early signs of illness, requiring close observation. • **Shy Behavior:** In unfamiliar surroundings, they may initially display shy behaviour, hiding amongst plants. Patience is key.

The Benefits of Owning X-Ray Tetras

While not providing direct, tangible benefits, owning X-Ray Tetras offers several rewarding experiences: • **Unique Visual Appeal:** Their ethereal appearance is a captivating spectacle, offering a unique aesthetic to any aquarium. • **Peaceful Community Fish:** Their peaceful nature makes them ideal for community tanks, adding to the biodiversity and tranquility of the ecosystem. • *Observational Learning:* Observing their behaviour provides insight into the fascinating world of aquatic life. • **Stress Relief:** The calming effect of watching fish swim can contribute to stress reduction and relaxation. **Conclusion:** The X-ray Tetra, with its captivating transparency and peaceful nature, makes a wonderful addition to any community aquarium. While requiring attentive care, the rewards of observing these unique fish far outweigh the challenges. By understanding their needs and creating the right environment, you can enjoy the beauty and intrigue of these captivating creatures for years to come. *FAQs:* 1. How long do X-ray Tetras live? X-ray Tetras typically live for 3-5 years in a home aquarium. 2. What is the best food for X-ray Tetras? A varied diet of high-quality flake food, supplemented with occasional live or frozen foods like bloodworms or daphnia, is ideal. 3. **Can X-ray Tetras live with other types of fish?** Yes, but choose peaceful, non-aggressive tank mates of similar size. Avoid larger, predatory fish. 4. **How often should I clean my X-ray Tetra tank?** Perform 25% water changes weekly to maintain water quality and remove waste. 5. Why is my X-ray Tetra hiding? New fish often hide initially. Ensure the tank is well-planted and provides ample hiding places. If hiding persists, check water parameters and look for signs of illness.

When you think of animals that start with the letter "X," your mind might immediately go blank. It's a tricky letter for animal names, isn't it? Most of us can easily rattle off lions, tigers, and bears (oh my!), but "X" presents a unique challenge. However, fear not! While not as common as other letters, there are indeed fascinating creatures that begin with the letter X. Today, we're going to dive deep into the world of one such animal, exploring its habitat, characteristics, and the importance of its conservation. Get ready to meet the… Xenops!

The Elusive Xenops: A Small Bird with Big Adaptations

The Xenops is a genus of small passerine birds belonging to the ovenbird family (Furnariidae). These aren't your typical backyard songbirds; they are specialized inhabitants of Neotropical forests, meaning they are found in the tropical regions of the Americas. Their name, "Xenops," itself is derived from Greek words meaning "strange face," which is a rather fitting description for these unique avian creatures.

Why "strange face," you ask? Well, it's all about their remarkable beaks. Xenops possess short, stout, wedge-shaped bills that are slightly upturned. This seemingly simple feature is a powerful adaptation, perfectly suited for their foraging habits. Unlike many birds that peck or probe, the Xenops uses its beak to chip away at bark and decaying wood, searching for insects and other small invertebrates hidden within.

Where Do Xenops Call Home? Exploring Their Habitat

The primary domain of the Xenops is the lush, diverse forests of Central and South America. You'll find them flitting through the understory and mid-story layers of various woodland types, from humid lowland forests to montane cloud forests. Their distribution is quite extensive, stretching from southern Mexico down through Central America and into the Amazon Basin and the Atlantic Forest of Brazil.

These birds are not typically found in open areas or heavily disturbed environments. They thrive in areas with plenty of mature trees, deadwood, and decaying vegetation – the perfect buffet for their specialized feeding strategy. The presence of a healthy understory is also crucial, providing them with cover from predators and access to the smaller insects that frequent these dense layers.

Within their forest homes, Xenops are often observed hopping along branches and tree trunks, much like a woodpecker or nuthatch. However, their method of locomotion and feeding is distinctly their own. They are adept climbers, using their strong feet and tail feathers for support as they maneuver their way across the barky surfaces.

A Closer Look: Physical Characteristics and Behavior

As mentioned, the most striking feature of the Xenops is its beak. But beyond that, these birds are relatively small, typically measuring around 10-15 centimeters in length. Their plumage varies between species, but generally, they exhibit earthy tones of brown, rufous, and gray, often with streaky patterns on their undersides. This cryptic coloration provides excellent camouflage against the bark and foliage of their forest environment, making them surprisingly difficult to spot.

Their behavior is characterized by their busy, energetic nature. They are almost constantly on the move, meticulously searching for food. You'll often hear them before you see them – their calls are typically described as sharp, high-pitched chips or trills. They are not particularly vocal birds in terms of complex songs, but their calls serve to maintain contact with mates and warn of potential dangers.

Socially, Xenops are often seen singly or in pairs, and sometimes as part of mixed-species foraging flocks. These flocks are common in Neotropical forests, where various bird species move together through the forest, collectively flushing out insects and making them easier for all to catch. The Xenops, with its unique foraging niche, plays its part in this intricate ecosystem.

The Diversity Within the Genus Xenops

While we're talking about "the Xenops," it's important to note that this is a genus, meaning there are several distinct species within it. Some of the most well-known Xenops species include:

1. **Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*):** As its name suggests, this species has more subdued plumage, primarily grayish-brown with some streaking.
2. **Streaked Xenops (*Xenops rutilans*):** This species is more boldly marked, with distinct streaks on its back

and underside, and often a reddish rump.
3. **Flat-billed Xenops (*Xenops genibarbis*):** This species has a slightly flatter, wider beak compared to others in the genus, and its coloration is often a warm rufous-brown.

Each species has its own specific geographic range and subtle differences in appearance and vocalizations, but they all share the fundamental adaptations and foraging strategies that define the Xenops genus.

The Importance of a Specialized Diet: What Xenops Eat

The Xenops' unique beak is tailor-made for a very specific diet. Their primary food source consists of insects, spiders, and other small invertebrates that dwell within or beneath tree bark and in decaying wood. They will tap and chip away at the bark, dislodging their prey, which they then quickly snatch up with their bills. This methodical approach to foraging allows them to access food sources that are unavailable to many other bird species.

They are particularly adept at finding larvae and pupae of insects hidden deep within crevices and under loose bark. This not only provides them with a nutritious meal but also plays a role in controlling insect populations within the forest. By consuming wood-boring insects, for example, they can help to prevent excessive damage to trees.

Occasionally, Xenops may supplement their diet with small fruits or berries, but their primary focus remains on arthropods. Their role in the ecosystem, therefore, is multifaceted, contributing to insect population regulation and acting as a predator in the intricate web of forest life.

Conservation Concerns: Protecting the Xenops and Their Homes

Like many forest-dwelling birds, Xenops species are facing increasing threats to their survival. The primary driver of these threats is habitat loss and fragmentation. As Neotropical forests are cleared for agriculture, logging, and urban development, the specialized habitats that Xenops rely on are shrinking and becoming more isolated.

Habitat Loss: The Biggest Threat

The reliance of Xenops on mature forests with plenty of deadwood and decaying vegetation makes them particularly vulnerable to deforestation. When forests are logged or cleared, these essential resources are removed, leaving the birds with nowhere to forage or nest. Small, isolated patches of forest are less able to support healthy populations of these specialized birds.

Furthermore, the fragmentation of forests can make it difficult for Xenops to move between suitable habitats, leading to reduced gene flow and increased susceptibility to local extinction. Climate change also poses a significant threat, as it can alter forest composition and potentially impact the availability of insect prey.

The Role of Conservation Efforts

Protecting Xenops populations hinges on the conservation of their forest habitats. This involves a multi-pronged approach:

1. **Preserving Existing Forests:** The most effective way to conserve Xenops is to protect the intact forests

they inhabit. This includes establishing and effectively managing protected areas, national parks, and wildlife reserves.
2. **Sustainable Forestry Practices:** Where logging is permitted, promoting sustainable forestry practices that leave behind sufficient deadwood and standing snags can help to maintain suitable foraging habitat.
3. **Reforestation and Habitat Restoration:** In degraded areas, efforts to reforest and restore forest habitats can provide future homes for Xenops and other forest-dependent species.
4. **Community Engagement and Education:** Educating local communities about the importance of biodiversity and the role of species like the Xenops can foster a sense of stewardship and encourage conservation-minded practices.

While individual Xenops species may not be globally endangered, the cumulative impact of habitat loss across their range means that ongoing monitoring and conservation efforts are crucial to ensure their long-term survival.

Beyond the "X": A Deeper Appreciation for Biodiversity

The Xenops may not be the most famous animal starting with "X," but its story is a compelling reminder of the incredible diversity and specialized adaptations found in nature. From its unique "strange face" beak to its vital role in forest ecosystems, the Xenops is a testament to the intricate beauty of evolution.

Learning about these less-common creatures expands our understanding of the natural world and highlights the importance of protecting even the most seemingly obscure species. Every organism, no matter how small or unusual, plays a part in the grand tapestry of life. So, the next time you think about animals that start with "X," remember the industrious Xenops, a small bird with a big impact, silently working away in the heart of Neotropical forests.

The challenge of finding animals starting with the letter 'x' often leads us to some of the most fascinating and specialized creatures. The Xenops is a perfect example of this. Its entire existence is shaped by its specific environment and its unique adaptations for survival. By understanding and appreciating these animals, we can foster a greater desire to protect the wild places they call home, ensuring that future generations can marvel at the diversity of life on Earth.

The Xoloitzcuintli: A Remarkable Canine with Ancient Roots

The Xoloitzcuintli, often affectionately called the Xolo or Xolo, is a distinctive dog breed that begins with the letter X, standing out not only for its unique appearance but also for its deep cultural heritage and functional versatility. Originating in Mesoamerica, this ancient breed has been treasured by indigenous civilizations such as the Aztecs for thousands of years, where it served as a companion, protector, and even a guide for the living and the dead. The name itself reflects its symbolic importance—the Xoloitzcuintli honors Xolotl, the Mesoamerican god of lightning, lightning serpents, and the night, embodying themes of transformation and spiritual connection.

This remarkable dog comes in three size varieties: toy, miniature, and standard, with distinctive physical traits that set it apart. Its most striking feature is often its hairless coat, though variations include short-haired and coated forms; the skin may display natural pigmentation ranging from black, grey, and bronze to reddish hues. Despite its sleek, smooth appearance, the Xoloitzcuintli boasts a strong, athletic build, reflecting its historical role as a hunting and working companion. Its ears are typically erect and alert, conveying a keen sense of awareness

and intelligence. Beyond aesthetics, the breed's skin tone and lack of fur offer practical advantages, allowing greater heat retention in cooler climates and easier temperature regulation—an adaptation that speaks to its enduring resilience.

Beyond cultural symbolism, the Xoloitzcuintli offers meaningful benefits in modern contexts. Known for its gentle and loyal temperament, it forms deep bonds with families, excelling as both a devoted pet and a watchful guardian. Its low-shedding coat reduces grooming demands, making it a practical choice for individuals seeking an active yet manageable canine companion. Veterinarians and animal behaviorists note the Xolo's intelligence and trainability, which enhance its suitability for diverse roles, from therapy work to service tasks. Additionally, the breed's historical connection to spiritual traditions continues to inspire cultural appreciation, fostering a growing interest in preserving its legacy through responsible breeding and education.

Looking to the future, the Xoloitzcuintli is poised to gain broader recognition as awareness of its unique traits spreads globally. Conservation efforts are underway to protect its genetic purity and prevent dilution from crossbreeding, ensuring future generations inherit both its ancestral character and modern adaptability. Advances in canine genetics may further illuminate the breed's fascinating lineage, deepening our understanding of its origins and health profiles. As more people seek meaningful connections with dogs rooted in history and purpose, the Xoloitzcuintli stands ready to captivate hearts worldwide—bridging ancient wisdom with contemporary companionship. Its journey from Mesoamerican sacred guardian to global companion exemplifies the enduring bond between humans and animals, reminding us that some breeds carry not just form, but centuries of meaning.

Xenops: The Elusive Xylophagous Marvels of the Neotropics

In the vast and diverse tapestry of the animal kingdom, some creatures remain shrouded in mystery, their existence known only to dedicated naturalists and the fortunate few who have encountered them in their natural habitats. Among these enigmatic beings is a genus of birds whose very name, *Xenops*, hints at their peculiar nature and unusual habits. These remarkable avian inhabitants of the Neotropics, often overlooked in broader ornithological discussions, offer a fascinating case study in adaptation, niche specialization, and the intricate relationships within tropical ecosystems. This article delves deep into the world of Xenops, exploring their morphology, behavior, diet, habitat, conservation status, and the scientific fascination they inspire.

Unveiling the Xenops: Etymology and Classification

The genus name *Xenops* itself is derived from the Greek words "xenos" (strange, foreign) and "ops" (face, eye). This moniker aptly reflects their somewhat unusual appearance, particularly their often disproportionately large eyes and their specialized foraging techniques. Xenops belong to the family Furnariidae, commonly known as the ovenbirds or baked-bean birds, a diverse group of passerine birds found throughout Central and South America. Within this family, Xenops are recognized for their distinctly wedge-shaped bills, a key morphological adaptation for their unique feeding strategies.

Several species fall under the *Xenops* genus, with the most widely recognized and studied being:

1. **Plain Xenops** (*Xenops minutus*)
2. **Streaked Xenops** (*Xenops rutilans*)

3. **Slender-billed Xenops** (*Xenops tenuirostris*)
4. **Scalloped Woodcreeper** (*Xenops cryptus*) – While historically placed in *Xenops*, recent taxonomic revisions have led to its reclassification as a woodcreeper, highlighting the dynamic nature of scientific understanding and the ongoing efforts to accurately group species based on genetic and morphological evidence.

The subtle differences in plumage and bill structure among these species often make identification challenging, even for experienced birdwatchers. Their cryptic coloration and preference for dense vegetation further contribute to their elusive nature, making sightings a rewarding experience.

Morphological Adaptations: A Bill for a Purpose

The most striking feature of any Xenops is its bill. Unlike the bills of many other forest birds, the Xenops' bill is short, stout, and distinctly wedge-shaped, often described as slightly decurved. This specialized morphology is not coincidental; it is a finely tuned instrument for their primary foraging method: xylophagy. While not strictly wood-eaters in the sense of boring through solid timber, Xenops are adept at probing and prying bark, dead wood, and leaf litter in search of their insect prey. The sharp, chisel-like tip of their bill allows them to dislodge fragments of bark and wood, exposing hidden arthropods.

Their feet are also well-adapted for their arboreal lifestyle. Xenops possess zygodactyl feet, meaning two toes point forward and two point backward, providing an excellent grip on vertical surfaces like tree trunks and branches. This arrangement, common among climbing birds, is crucial for navigating the complex three-dimensional environment of the forest canopy and understory.

Plumage in Xenops generally consists of cryptic brown and rufous tones, offering excellent camouflage against the bark and foliage of their forest homes. Subtle streaking or barring on the underparts and wings can vary between species, providing a key diagnostic feature for identification. Their eyes are typically large and dark, likely an adaptation for foraging in the dim light of the forest interior.

Behavior and Ecology: Masters of the Microhabitat

Xenops are primarily insectivores, their diet consisting of a wide array of arthropods, including insects, spiders, and larvae found within decaying wood, bark crevices, and accumulated leaf litter. Their foraging behavior is distinctive. They are often observed methodically working their way up or down tree trunks and branches, using their specialized bills to excavate and probe. They may also glean insects from foliage and even pursue flying insects on occasion, though this is less common.

A fascinating aspect of Xenops behavior is their association with other bird species. They are frequently seen in mixed-species foraging flocks, a common phenomenon in tropical forests where birds of different species forage together, potentially increasing foraging efficiency and predator detection. Within these flocks, Xenops often occupy a specific niche, focusing on the smaller invertebrates accessible through their unique bill manipulation.

Reproduction in Xenops, like many furnariids, involves the construction of a nest, often a spherical or dome-shaped structure made of mud, grass, and other plant materials. These nests are typically placed in tree cavities or dense vegetation. The parental care and chick-rearing strategies are characteristic of passerine birds, with both parents usually involved in feeding the young.

Habitat and Distribution: The Neotropical Domain

The distribution of Xenops is confined to the Neotropics, spanning Central and South America. They inhabit a variety of forest types, including humid lowland forests, montane forests, and even some drier woodlands, depending on the specific species. Their presence is intrinsically linked to the availability of suitable forest structure, particularly areas with abundant decaying wood and leaf litter that harbor their insect prey.

The Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*), for instance, is found from southern Mexico through Central America and into South America, favoring humid lowland forests. The Streaked Xenops (*Xenops rutilans*) has a broader distribution, extending further south into the Andes and eastern Brazil. The Slender-billed Xenops (*Xenops tenuirostris*) is more restricted in its range, primarily found in the Amazon basin.

The ecological role of Xenops within these ecosystems is significant, though often subtle. By consuming invertebrates found in decaying wood and leaf litter, they contribute to nutrient cycling and the decomposition process. Their presence can also influence insect populations, acting as a natural form of pest control.

Conservation Status and Threats: Facing the Challenges of Habitat Loss

The conservation status of Xenops species varies, but many face threats primarily due to habitat loss and degradation. Deforestation, driven by agricultural expansion, logging, and infrastructure development, is the most significant challenge to their survival. As forest habitats shrink and become fragmented, the specialized microhabitats that Xenops rely on for foraging and nesting are destroyed or altered.

The Streaked Xenops, for example, is listed as of Least Concern by the IUCN, suggesting a relatively stable population. However, the Plain Xenops and Slender-billed Xenops are also considered Least Concern, though localized threats can still impact their populations. It is crucial to remember that "Least Concern" does not mean invulnerable; continued habitat fragmentation and degradation can lead to declines over time. The broader family Furnariidae, to which Xenops belong, contains numerous species that are facing more severe conservation challenges.

Understanding the precise habitat requirements and population dynamics of each Xenops species is vital for effective conservation planning. Continued research into their breeding biology, foraging ecology, and migratory patterns (if any) will be essential to ensure their long-term survival. The protection of large, intact forest tracts is paramount, as these provide the complex structural diversity that Xenops and countless other neotropical species depend upon.

Scientific Fascination and Future Research

Xenops continue to captivate ornithologists and evolutionary biologists. Their unique bill morphology represents a remarkable example of adaptive radiation and niche partitioning within the avian world. Studying their foraging mechanics and the biomechanics of their bills can provide insights into the evolution of feeding strategies in birds. Comparative studies with other bark-foraging birds, such as woodpeckers and some woodcreepers, can shed light on convergent evolution and the independent development of similar adaptations in response to similar ecological pressures.

Further research into the vocalizations of Xenops could reveal more about their social communication and territorial behavior. Genetic studies are also crucial for refining our understanding of their phylogenetic relationships within the Furnariidae family and for identifying distinct subspecies or cryptic species that may have

been overlooked. The impact of climate change on their tropical forest habitats also warrants continued investigation, as shifts in temperature and rainfall patterns could alter the distribution and availability of their food sources and nesting sites.

Conclusion: The Enduring Mystery of the Xenops

The Xenops, with their peculiar bills and cryptic habits, are more than just another group of tropical birds; they are living testament to the power of natural selection and the incredible diversity of life that flourishes in the Neotropics. While their elusive nature makes them challenging to study, each observation and each piece of research brings us closer to understanding these fascinating xylophagous marvels. Their continued existence is intrinsically tied to the health of their forest ecosystems, underscoring the importance of conservation efforts that protect these vital natural environments. The next time you find yourself in the lush forests of Central or South America, keep an eye out for the subtle movements and distinctive foraging of a Xenops – a true gem of the avian world.

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Questions & Answers About an animal that starts with the letter x

No	Question	Answer
1	What's the most famous animal that starts with 'X'?	The Xenops is a small, often brightly colored bird found in the Americas, known for its distinctive upturned beak used for probing bark for insects.
2	Are there any large mammals that start with 'X'?	While not as common, the Xantus's Hummingbird, though small, is a striking bird often mistaken for a larger creature due to its iridescent plumage. There are no large mammals widely known by a common name starting with 'X'.
3	What does a Xenops eat?	Xenops primarily feed on insects and other small invertebrates found in the bark of trees. They use their specialized beaks to extract prey from crevices.
4	Where can I find a Xenops?	Xenops are found in various habitats across Central and South America, typically in forests and woodlands.
5	Is the Xenops endangered?	While some Xenops species are considered common, others might face localized threats due to habitat loss. Conservation status varies by species.
6	What's another animal starting with 'X' besides Xenops?	The Xantus's Murrelet is a small seabird found in the Pacific Ocean, known for its distinctive call and for nesting on islands off the coast of Baja California.
7	What's unique about the Xantus's Murrelet?	The Xantus's Murrelet is a colonial breeder that undertakes long foraging trips at sea. They are also known to be monogamous for the breeding season.

8	Are there any reptiles or amphibians that start with 'X'?	Yes, there are several species of frogs in the genus 'Xenopus', commonly known as African clawed frogs. They are aquatic and have distinctive claws on their hind feet.
9	Why are African clawed frogs (Xenopus) so well-known?	African clawed frogs are significant in scientific research due to their use in pregnancy tests (historically) and their role in understanding amphibian biology and development.
10	Are there any fictional animals starting with 'X'?	While not real, the 'Xenomorph' from the 'Alien' movie franchise is a prominent fictional creature whose name starts with 'X'. It's a terrifying extraterrestrial organism.

Xenops bird, Xerus animal, Xenarthra group, Xenodictyoptera insect, X-ray tetra fish, Xerus striatus, Xenocerca mammal, Xenocyon species, Xenocyon related fauna, Xenopus frog

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