

Live webcams offer fascinating views of animals and more

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Image 1. Cheetah cubs play at the Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington, D.C., in 2012. You can watch cheetah mom Echo and her new cubs in one of the zoo's many webcams. Photo: KenfromMD/Flickr

Have you ever wondered what wild animals do? Or what Earth looks like from space? Then check out a webcam. These are video cameras. They are put in places that most humans can't reach.

Webcams show live video on the internet. Read on to learn more. Or check out [Newsela's Virtual Field Trips](#).

Zoo Webcams

The Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington, D.C., has many [webcams](#). One is for [Echo](#), a cheetah, and her cubs.

Other webcams are for [pandas](#), [lions](#) and [naked mole-rats](#).

The San Diego Zoo in California is a very famous zoo. The [Ape Cam](#) has orangutans and siamangs. Orangutans have orange or reddish-brown fur. Siamangs have black fur.

The zoo also has nine African elephants. Watch them on the [Elephant Cam](#). There are also webcams for [tigers](#), [polar bears](#) and [koalas](#).

Aquarium Webcams

Watch sea creatures in aquarium webcams. You never have to get wet!

The Monterey Bay Aquarium is in California. It has many [webcams](#). One of them shows the aquarium's [largest tank](#). It holds animals like stingrays and green sea turtles.

You can also watch [African penguins](#) or [sea otters](#).

The Georgia Aquarium is the largest aquarium in the country. It has American alligators. Check out the [Gator Crossing Webcam](#). See the gators swim around. You might even see an albino alligator. These gators have white skin.

They have other webcams. You can see [fish](#), [sea lions](#) and [beluga whales](#).



You can see even more marine life with Newsela's [Virtual Aquarium Field Trips](#).

Webcams In The Wild

The National Park Service has webcams across the country. Channel Islands National Park is in California.

The park is home to many animals. This includes bald eagles. The park has [two bald eagle webcams](#). They give you a close look at the birds' nests.

You can also watch other webcams. You can see [fish](#) swim through kelp. This is a type of seaweed. Or you can watch [park rangers](#) as they dive underwater.

Space Webcam

Want to see what's happening in space? Check out [NASA's webcam](#). NASA is the U.S. space agency. It shows you views from inside the International Space Station. The station is called the ISS for short. The ISS is a large spacecraft. It travels around Earth. It is a home where astronauts live. You can sometimes see the astronauts floating around.

Other times, the webcam shows Earth from the ISS. You could see lightning or city lights.