



**Press Contact:** 

Chelsey Saatkamp, The WNET Group, 513.266.1748, <a href="mailto:saatkampc@wnet.org">saatkampc@wnet.org</a>
Press Materials: <a href="mailto:pbs.org/pressroom">pbs.org/pressroom</a> or <a href="mailto:thirteen.org/pressroom">thirteen.org/pressroom</a>

# Spy in the Ocean, A Nature Miniseries Dives Deep with Groundbreaking Undersea Spy Cam Creatures

New animatronic spy creatures explore the seas and capture neverbefore-seen animal behavior in a new four-part miniseries, premiering Wednesdays, Oct. 25 – Nov. 15 at 8/7c on PBS

The ocean depths are full of mysteries, but luckily there are intrepid spies up to the task of discovering them for us. Go on a mission deep beneath the waves in *Spy in the Ocean, A Nature Miniseries,* premiering Wednesdays, October 25 – November 15 at 8/7c on PBS (check local listings), pbs.org/spyinthewild, YouTube and the PBS App.

John Downer Productions created dozens of new waterproof animatronic spy cameras for this latest installment of the popular *Spy in the Wild* series, including a whale calf, shark, dolphin, manatee, cuttlefish, octopus, seal, crab and many more. Utilizing the latest subsea technology, these uncanny robot lookalikes venture to the depths of the ocean floor to interact with their animal counterparts, communicating with them and mimicking their patterns. Watch as they swim, float, paddle, waddle, drift and fly into every nook and cranny to film rarely seen behavior that reveals how ocean animals possess emotions and behavior similar to humans – including the capacity to love, grieve, deceive and invent.

Witness Thailand macaques catching fish with their bare hands, one of the many firsts caught on camera. Spy Coconut Octopus gives a helping tentacle to a new octopus friend. Spy Seal joins a gang of young fur seals on an emotional rollercoaster ride to safety. The sophisticated Spy Cuttlefish replicates the changing patterns of real cuttlefish to disentangle itself from the

complexities of courtship. In a rarely captured moment, watch as a group of sperm whale families join together in a close and intimate gathering to socialize.

"Creating spies capable of exploring the depths of the sea provided the greatest challenge yet for the producers," said Fred Kaufman, executive producer for *Nature*. "What they were able to capture was remarkable. The ocean is a harsh place, but these spy cameras reveal that it is also full of beauty and wonder, and that the creatures who call it home are full of intelligence and emotion."

# "Deep Thinkers" premieres Wednesday, October 25 at 8/7c on <u>PBS</u> (<u>check local listings</u>), <u>pbs.org/spyinthewild, YouTube</u> and the <u>PBS App.</u>

Spy creatures reveal an ocean full of startling ways of thinking, including large-brained whales, smart octopi, diving monkeys, creative fish and other intelligent animals.

## "Deep Feelings" premieres Wednesday, November 1 at 8/7c on <u>PBS</u> (<u>check local listings</u>), <u>pbs.org/spyinthewild</u>, <u>YouTube</u> and the <u>PBS App</u>.

Spy creatures explore animal emotions and the deep feelings we share. With surfing dolphins, kissing manatees and sensitive cuttlefish, witness the emotional rollercoaster of life in the sea.

## "Deep Relationships" premieres Wednesday, November 8 at 8/7c on <u>PBS</u> (<u>check local listings</u>), <u>pbs.org/spyinthewild</u>, <u>YouTube</u> and the <u>PBS App</u>.

Spy creatures uncover surprising undersea relationships as sharks befriend fish, whales play with dolphins, and lobsters do the conga in seas where even spider crabs have friends.

# "Deep Trouble" premieres Wednesday, November 15 at 8/7c on <u>PBS</u> (<u>check local listings</u>), <u>pbs.org/spyinthewild</u>, <u>YouTube</u> and the <u>PBS App</u>.

Spy creatures showcase the challenges of ocean life. From a baby whale in danger and marine iguanas battling storms, to a mantis shrimp's knockout punch, the spies are never far from trouble.

Since 1982, *Nature* has pioneered a television genre that is now widely emulated in the broadcast industry, bringing the natural world to millions of viewers. The series has won more than 700 honors from the television industry, the international wildlife film communities and environmental organizations, including 21 Emmys and three Peabodys. *Nature* is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on all station-branded PBS platforms, including <u>PBS.org</u> and the <u>PBS App</u>, available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. Classic episodes are available on various <u>FAST channel platforms</u> and on <u>PBS Passport</u>.

**Nature** is a production of The WNET Group. Fred Kaufman is Executive Producer. Bill Murphy is Series Producer. Janet Hess is Series Editor. Danielle Broza is Digital Content & Strategy

Lead. *Spy in the Ocean, A Nature Miniseries* is a John Downer Production for BBC, PBS and The WNET Group. With John Downer as Creative Director, the miniseries is produced by Matthew Gordon and Huw Williams. For John Downer Productions, Philip Dalton is Executive Producer. Jayce Bartok narrates the miniseries.

Support for *Spy in the Ocean, A Nature Miniseries* was provided in part by The Hite Foundation. Series funding for *Nature* is made possible in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The Arnhold Family in memory of Henry and Clarisse Arnhold, The Fairweather Foundation, Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, Charles Rosenblum, Kathy Chiao and Ken Hao, Sue and Edgar Wachenhaim III, Filomen M. D'Agostino Foundation, Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust, Gregg Peters Monsees Foundation, Koo and Patricia Yuen, Sandra Atlas Bass, and public television viewers.

#### Websites:

pbs.org/nature; facebook.com/PBSNature; twitter.com/PBSNature; instagram.com/pbsnature; youtube.com/naturepbs, tiktok.com/@pbsnature, #NaturePBS

### **About The WNET Group**

The WNET Group creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York's THIRTEEN - America's flagship PBS station - WLIW21, THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; NJ PBS, New Jersey's statewide public television network; Long Island's only NPR station WLIW-FM; ALL ARTS, the arts and culture media provider; newsroom NJ Spotlight News; and FAST channel PBS Nature. Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group's award-winning productions include signature PBS series Nature, Great Performances, American Masters and Amanpour and Company and trusted local news programs MetroFocus and NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group's award-winning Kids' Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series Cyberchase, interactive Mission US history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for more than 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

### **About PBS**

PBS, with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 120 million people through television and 26 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS's broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS's premier children's media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math, and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV — including a 24/7 channel — online at pbskids.org, via an array of mobile apps, and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at PBS.org, one of the

leading dot-org websites on the internet, <u>Facebook</u>, or through our <u>apps for mobile and connected devices</u>. Specific program information and updates for press are available at <u>pbs.org/pressroom</u> or by following <u>PBS Communications on Twitter</u>.

###