

MEET the ape-peeling (two jokes in one for you, there!) bunch of besties that form the animal cast of Disney's new summer blockbuster, *The One and Only Ivan*.

# ANIMAL MAGIC

It's time for the whole family to go ape, because 2020's feelgood film of the summer, *The One and Only Ivan*, has finally dropped on Disney+. The star-studded, live-action film tells the real-life story of Ivan, a 180kg (28 stone) silverback gorilla, who shares an enclosure inside an American shopping centre with several other animals. Their job is to perform for humans every day at an indoor circus, and some of them have never known a life in the wild. But, when a baby elephant named Ruby arrives, something awakens inside Ivan; an incredible skill that truly paints a picture.

## MEET THE ONE AND ONLY IVAN – AND HIS BESTIES!

### ● IVAN

**Voiced by Sam Rockwell**  
A huge silverback gorilla who lives in a small enclosure at the attraction, Ivan is the show's star attraction. Ivan is a gentle giant with a gruff exterior and a soft heart. When Ruby – a new baby elephant – arrives, Ivan begins to think about his life and finds a way to express himself through art. This changes his life in unimaginable, incredible ways.

### ● STELLA

**Voiced by Angelina Jolie**  
An older African elephant who has been in the circus for years and never been free. She is a calming, comforting presence to all the animals.

### ● BOB

**Voiced by Danny DeVito**  
A scrappy, scruffy stray dog who calls the mall his home and befriends all the animals in the circus. Bob loves to hang out with his best friend Ivan and take naps on his big belly.

### ● SNICKERS

**Voiced by Helen Mirren**  
A beautiful white poodle, always super clean and groomed. Snickers is pampered and lives a life of luxury with the circus's owner, Mack. Would she really want to walk away from all that?

### ● RUBY

**Voiced by Brooklynn Prince**  
An adorable baby elephant who comes to join the circus at the mall. She immediately bonds with the other elephant, Stella, and quickly endears herself to all of the other animals.

## FILM FACT

*The One and Only Ivan* was inspired by the true story of a real-life gorilla who lived inside an American shopping centre in Tacoma, Washington, for almost 27 years before being moved to a sanctuary.



### ● HENRIETTA

**Voiced by Chaka Khan**  
A unique-looking, quirky chicken who says exactly what she thinks.

### ● FRANKIE

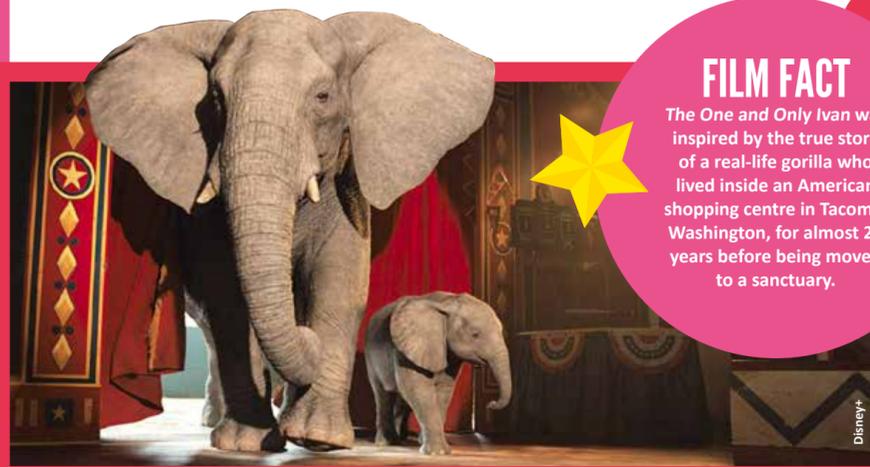
**Voiced by Mike White**  
This over-sensitive seal spends his days balancing a ball on the tip of his nose. As far as Frankie is concerned, that is his main purpose in life.

### ● MURPHY

**Voiced by Ron Funches**  
A white rabbit whose job in the circus is to drive around in a little red fire truck and squirt people with a hose. Murphy and his truck are so inseparable that Murphy has actually forgotten how to just be a rabbit.

### ● THELMA

**Voiced by Phillipa Soo**  
A bright and colourful macaw who likes to view the goings-on from her perch on Mack's shoulder.



Catch *The One and Only Ivan* exclusively on Disney+ from 21 August

# PICS OF THE WEEK

STEVE Backshall and his family went on a magical adventure this week when they opened a new play area (and rescued a fairy) at Hobbledown adventure park and zoo in Epsom, Surrey.

Steve officially opened the brand-new magical play castle at the park, as well as visiting the two new animal walk-throughs starring ring-tailed lemurs and lorikeets.

Hobbledown is home to more than 40 species of animals and has zip wires, zorbing and secret tunnels to explore. See [www.hobbledown.com](http://www.hobbledown.com).



## FEDERICO IELAPI

A MAGICAL new version of *Pinocchio* has hit the cinemas, so we chatted to the young star who plays the puppet who becomes a boy.



### ■ What makes this version of *Pinocchio* so special?

I think it is so special because in this version we had the fortune of having a live-action Pinocchio, while in the past versions there wasn't the opportunity to use prosthetic make-up. Also the cast had a huge impact on the movie, since every single actor fits their role perfectly.

### ■ Were you familiar with the story of *Pinocchio* before you took the role?

Yes, because I read, more than once, Carlo Collodi's original novel. I had watched the Italian TV series as well as Roberto Benigni's version, since it is a universal story for every age. I mainly based myself on the directions of [director] Matteo Garrone and on my emotions because I believe that every one of us has a part of Pinocchio inside.

### ■ What was the hardest thing about playing such a well-known character?

The hardest thing for me was to act with the prosthetic make-up, because some of the facial movements weren't possible. I had to transmit all of my emotions through my eyes.

### ■ What was it like being transformed using prosthetics?

Being transformed into Pinocchio was amazing. Every morning, I had to undergo four and a half hours of

## THIS WEEK

1 Tom Fletcher has written a new book. *The Danger Gang* will be released in October and is full of brilliant children and a large dose of magic! There are no dinosaurs this time, though...



2 Little Mix are performing a live online concert today (Friday) exclusively for Meerkat Music on Facebook. The gig starts at 8pm and is free to watch, but you must be aware of social media age restrictions and ask a grown-up for permission before joining the event.

3 Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson has been named the highest-paid male actor for the second year running. His latest film, Disney's *Jungle Cruise*, was due to be released this summer but has been postponed to 2021.

4 Little Mix star Leigh-Anne Pinnock is making a documentary for BBC Three about racism. *Leigh-Anne: Colourism & Race* will be about racism in the UK and her own experiences of racism. Bandmate Jesy Nelson won praise for her 2019 documentary about online bullying.



make-up. It wasn't that easy or comfortable and it was really hard because the weather conditions influenced the prosthetics' temperature. It's worthwhile because it doesn't happen every day, to get to work with a director such as Matteo Garrone and actors like that.

### ■ Which was your favourite scene to film?

My favourite scene was when Pinocchio meets his dad, Geppetto, in the whale's mouth because I felt some real emotions, like if I had met my dad again after a long period of time.

### ■ What was it like seeing the finished film?

It was like living again all of the emotive scenes, which made me remember every single shooting day. It was amazing!

### ■ What advice would you give to other kids who would like to be actors?

I would only like to tell everyone that they need to have fun and enjoy themselves in any role they play.

*Pinocchio* by Matteo Garrone is in cinemas now