

# Wonders of GOD'S Creation

## ***Cold Runnings***

A snowshoe hare is custom-built to survive in snowy terrain. Its large hind feet provide it with the power to escape predators—sprinting in zigzag patterns at speeds up to 27 miles an hour or leaping 10 feet in a single bound!

The soles of its natural snowshoelike feet are furry to provide insulation against the chilling snow, and its white fur is hollow due to a lack of coloring pigment. In other words, the hair of the hare is filled with air (making the insulation even more effective).

But that's not all—God also designed the hare's circulatory system to be self-warming. The cold blood traveling back from the hare's extremities is piped right beside the warm blood leaving the heart. By keeping the veins and arteries in close proximity, God gave the snowshoe hare an efficient way to maintain its own body temperature.

But what happens when the snow melts? Well, the hare's fur begins to change, shifting to a mottled brown that allows it to blend in with the newly revealed earth and leaves around it.

Pictured: snowshoe hare (*Lepus americanus*)



***Photography by James Capo***

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