



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

SCIENCE: LOOKING AT ANIMALS

YEAR ONE

KEY KNOWLEDGE:

QUESTION 1: What is a mammal?

ANSWER

What makes an animal a mammal?

Mammals are a particular class of animal. What makes an animal a mammal are several things. First, they must have glands that give milk. This is to feed their babies. Second, they are warm-blooded. Third, all mammals have fur or hair. Humans are mammals and so are dogs, whales, elephants, and horses. Most mammals have teeth with the exception of the ant eater which doesn't have any teeth.

Where do they live?

Mammals live in all sorts of environments including the ocean, underground, and on land. Some mammals, bats for example, can even fly.

QUESTION 2: What is a fish?

ANSWER

All fish are cold-blooded animals that live in the water. They have backbones, fins, and gills. There are 32,000 different species of fish. There are three major types or classes of fish. Fish vary in all sorts of colors and sizes. Fish can be as large 40 ft long to 1/2 inch long. There are some animals that live in the water and we may think of as fish, but really aren't classified by scientists as fish. These include whales, dolphins, octopus, and jellyfish.

QUESTION 3: What is a bird?

ANSWER

The main characteristic of a bird is feathers. No other animal has feathers. Other important features for birds are wings and hollow bones. Birds also lay eggs, like reptiles, however they are warm-blooded, like mammals. There are all sizes of birds. Hummingbirds are some of the smallest birds, while ostriches are some of the biggest. Different types of birds eat different things. Some birds feed on plants, some birds eat insects, and still others eat other animals like fish, snakes, or rodents. Some birds will travel long distances each season to stay in a climate that is good for their survival.

QUESTION 4: Which animals are busy at night?

ANSWER

Nocturnal Animals

Nocturnal animals are animals that prefer to come out during the night. Some nocturnal animals can be seen during the day, others spend the whole day resting or sleeping.