



## DESCRIPTION

In this lesson students will learn about some of the most popular animals at the zoo by imitating some unique animal characteristics. Students can then reinforce dictionary skills while becoming more familiar with basic animal terms.



### OBJECTIVE:

#### Learners will-

recognize animal characteristics, adaptations, and vocabulary.

### DESCRIPTION

Ask students to name some characteristics of animals that enable us to tell them apart. Write their answers on the board (if possible).

Add characteristics they leave out.

Ask students to describe a specific animal in detail (shape, color, size, texture, # of legs, etc.).

Explain that there is more to understanding an animal than just knowing what it looks like and its name. (Examples: Where does it live, does it like dry or wet places, how does it get its food, when is it active, how does it protect itself?)

### CUB-LEVEL ACTIVITY:

Place the animal names from the Animal Names Worksheet in a hat. Allow students to pick out one name.

Explain that they will have to imitate the animal that they pick without using their voices.

Let the class guess which animal the student is portraying. Allow guessing to continue for as long as you think is best.

Tell the students which animal is being portrayed if nobody guesses correctly.

Continue the game if desired.

### TIGER-LEVEL ACTIVITY:

Give each student a ZOOcabulary sheet and make sure they have access to a dictionary.

Explain that they will be matching each word to a definition.

Explain that dictionaries can be used if needed.

### CLOSURE:

Encourage students to find adaptations in animals that they see everyday.

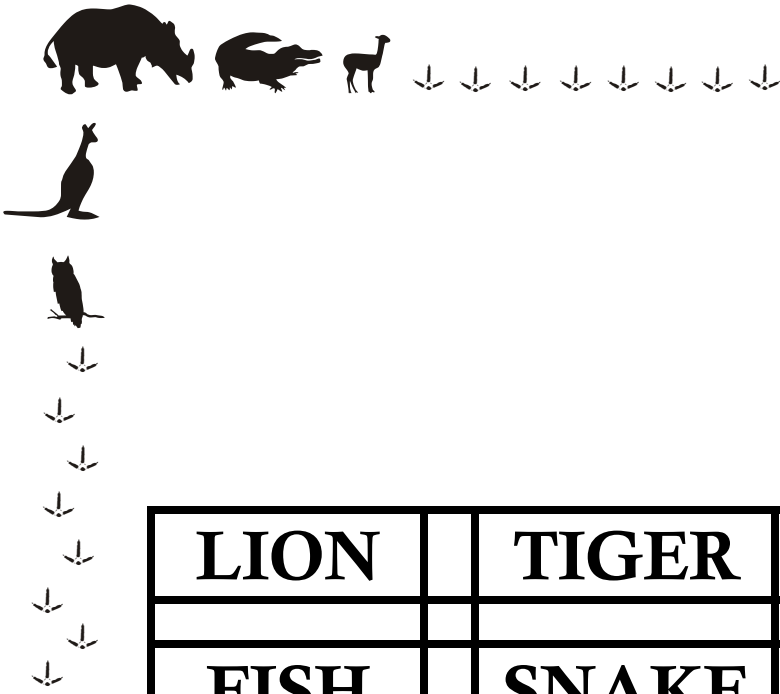
### MATERIALS:

**CUB:** Animal Names Worksheet

**TIGER:** ZOOcabulary Worksheets, writing utensil, dictionary

## CLASSROOM ACTIVITY



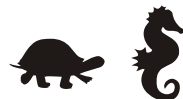


**ANIMAL NAMES WORKSHEET**

LION		TIGER		KANGAROO
FISH		SNAKE		ALLIGATOR
BAT		GOAT		GIRAFFE
DUCK		WOLF		MONKEY
DEER		FROG		LIZARD
SHARK		CAMEL		PARROT
DOG		RHINO		TURTLE



**CLASSROOM ACTIVITY**





Fill in each blank with the words from the list that best match the definitions.



- |              |            |                       |         |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------|---------|
| adaptation   | arboreal   | camouflage            | algae   |
| conservation | diurnal    | endangered            | bigfoot |
| feral        | habitat    | herbivore             | mammals |
| nocturnal    | omnivore   | predator              | prey    |
| species      | vertebrate | protective coloration |         |



- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ An animal that is hunted by predators.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ Active at night.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ Concealment of an animal by its color or shape.
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ A Change in structure, function, or behavior that produces better adjustment to the environment.
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ Plant eater.
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ Area where a plant or animal species lives.
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ Domesticated animal that has been returned to the wild.
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_ Active during the day.
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ An animal with a backbone.
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_ Coloration that makes an animal look dangerous or undesirable.
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_ Eats both plants and animals.
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_ Inhabits trees.
- 13) \_\_\_\_\_ Protecting plants, animals, and their environment.
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_ An animal that feeds on other animals.
- 15) \_\_\_\_\_ A specific type of animal or plant whose populations can or do interbreed and successfully reproduce their own kind.



**CLASSROOM ACTIVITY**





# ANSWER SHEET

- 1) PREY
- 2) NOCTURNAL
- 3) CAMOUFLAGE
- 4) ADAPTATION
- 5) HERBIVORE
- 6) HABITAT
- 7) FERAL
- 8) DIURNAL
- 9) VERTEBRATE
- 10) PROTECTIVE COLORATION
- 11) OMNIVORE
- 12) ARBOREAL
- 13) CONSERVATION
- 14) PREDATOR
- 15) SPECIES

**ZOOcabulary! ANSWERS**



**CLASSROOM ACTIVITY**

