

Animal Ways of Life

Summary

Animals can be grouped by where they live, what they eat, or what traits they have. One way to group animals is by whether or not they have a backbone. An animal may hatch from an egg or grow from an egg in its mother's body. Animals have life cycles that happen in a set order. Animals have adaptations that help them survive. Animals also have behaviors that help them survive. Some behaviors are learned. Others are instincts. Scientists study fossils to see how animals have adapted and changed over time.

Before Reading

Activate Prior Knowledge

Provide background for students by previewing the book. Discuss the text features and preview the key vocabulary and concepts.

Vocabulary

adaptation, hibernate, inherited, larva, migrate, pupa, trait, vertebrate

Comprehension Skill: Sequence

Remind students that some things happen in a certain order. Ask students to name some examples of things that happen in order. Have them use sequence words such as *first*, *next*, and *last* to retell the sequence of events.

During Reading

Think Critically

Have students answer the *What Did You Learn?* questions located on the inside back cover of their book.

1. What are the vertebrates that live in your area? What do they look like?

Answers and descriptions will vary depending on where students live.

2. What are the different stages of an animal's life cycle? The stages include birth, growth, adulthood, and death.

3. What adaptation helps a cheetah get food? A cheetah can run very fast to help it catch its food.

After Reading

Writing in Science

Animals can be grouped in different ways. Using your own paper, describe some of the ways animals can be grouped. Use details from the book to support your answer.

Organize Information

Graphic Organizer: Sequence Have students complete the Sequence chart on the BLM for this Leveled Reader to describe the life stages of a butterfly.

Related Resources

Vocabulary Cards	Equipment Kit
Every Student Learns	LabZone
Activity Flipchart	Quick Study
Graphic Organizer Transparencies	
Quick Activity Transparency	
www.pearsonsuccessnet.com	

Write your answers.

1. What are animals with backbones called?
Animals with backbones are called vertebrates.
2. What adaptation helps a camel live in the desert?
The camel's long, thick eyelashes are an adaptation that protects its eyes from sand.
3. Name a behavior that is an instinct.
Possible answer: One animal instinct is to migrate, or move.
4. Describe the life stages of a butterfly in order. Use the words *first*, *next*, *then*, and *finally* in your answer. Use the graphic organizer to help you.

Possible answer:

Sequence

First

A caterpillar hatches from the egg.

Next

The caterpillar eats and grows and is called a larva.

Then

The caterpillar becomes a pupa with a hard shell around it.

Finally

The butterfly comes out of the shell.