

# Science Center Activities for Learning the Animal and Food Groups



Mammals



Reptiles



Dairy

## SCIENCE CENTER ACTIVITIES FOR LEARNING THE FOOD AND ANIMAL GROUPS

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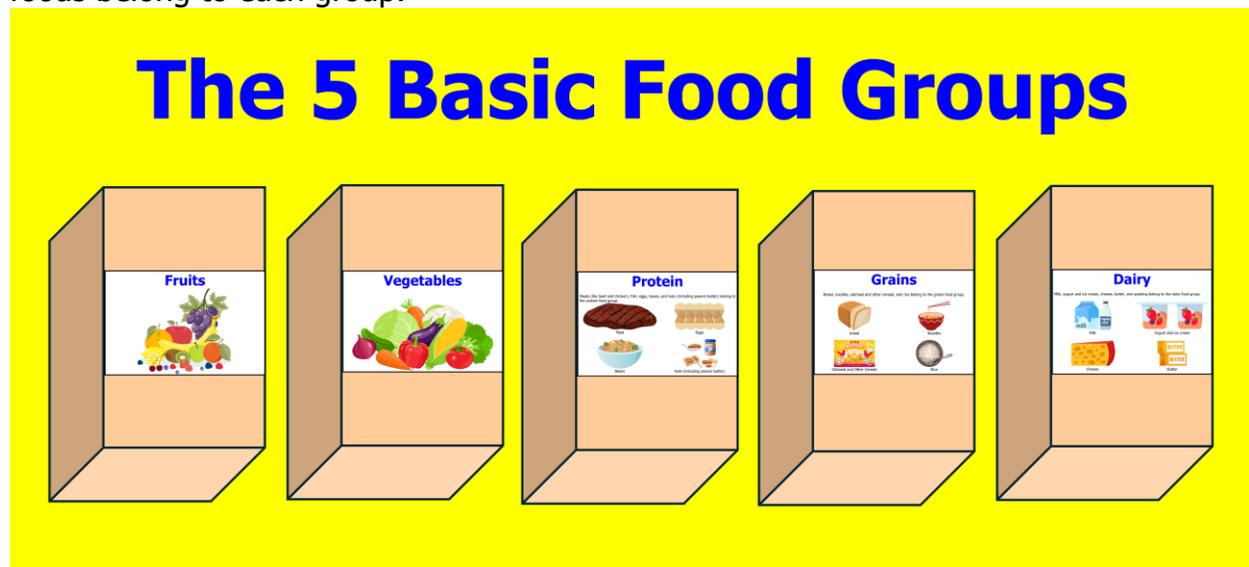
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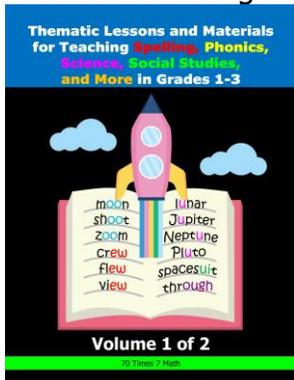
# Science Center Activities for the Five Basic Food Groups

**The 5 Basic Food Groups:** Reproduce the *Fruits, Vegetables, Protein, Grains, and Dairy* heading cards on white cardstock and laminate. Tape each card to a paper lunch bag, a paper gift bag without handles, or to a jumbo plastic envelope (the envelopes are available in various colors). Use wall-safe tape to tape the envelopes to the wall in the science center or in the large group area. Tape laminated letters above the envelopes to title the wall display “The 5 Basic Food Groups.” During centers, let students cut food pictures from magazines or coupons and categorize them appropriately.

Note that Lesson 21 in *Thematic Lessons and Materials for Teaching Spelling, Phonics, Science, Social Studies, and More in Grades 1-3: Volume 2 of Two* by 70 Times 7 Math can be used to help students learn about the five basic food groups (fruits, vegetables, protein, grains, and dairy). The heading cards included in this section also note what foods belong to each group.

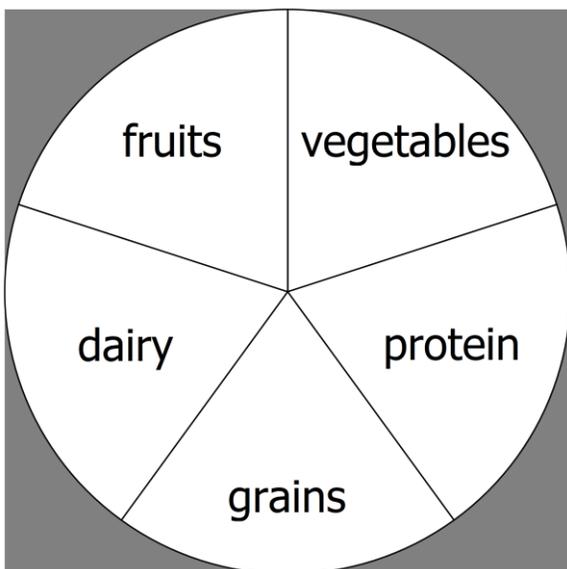


**The 5 Basic Food Groups Matching Game:** Reproduce the matching game included in this section, laminate, and cut apart. The cards are placed face down on the table, and a student turns over two in an attempt to match pictures of foods with the group to which they belong. If a match is made, the child keeps the cards until the end of the game. If a match is not made, the cards are returned to their original positions. The student with the greatest number of pairs after all cards have been removed is the winner.



**Thematic Units Game for the Five Basic Food Groups:** The chart shown on the previous page can also be used with the unit questions for the five basic food groups taken from Lesson 21 of *Thematic Lessons and Materials for Teaching Spelling, Phonics, Science, Social Studies, and More in Grades 1-3: Volume 2 of Two* by 70 Times 7 Math. These questions can be reproduced on cardstock, cut apart, and distributed between the bags. Question cards from previous lessons can also be included in the bags. A student spins the spinner with the five basic food groups, identifies the food group that the spinner lands on, and then draws a question card from the lunch bag with the corresponding food group. If he answers the question correctly, his team receives one point.

<p>What are the five basic food groups?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>	<p>What food group do foods like bread, cereal, noodles, oatmeal, and rice belong in?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>
<p>What food group do foods like apples, bananas, and berries belong in?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>	<p>What food group do foods like broccoli, cabbage, and corn belong in?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>
<p>What food group do meats (like beef and chicken), fish, eggs, beans, and nuts belong in?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>	<p>Milk, which is good for your bones and teeth, belongs in what food group?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>
<p>How many times a day should you brush your teeth?</p> <p><i>Lessons 9 and 10 (Science)</i></p>	



To prepare the spinner, you will need a brad and a large paperclip. Reproduce the spinner on cardstock. Put a brad through the end of a paperclip and push it through the middle of the spinner. Turn the spinner over to fasten the brad to the back. Students will spin the paperclip.

# Fruits



# Vegetables

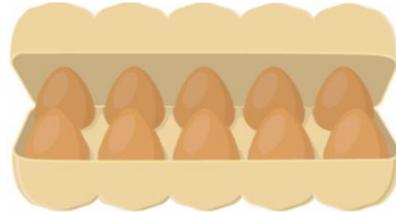


# Protein

Meats (like beef and chicken), fish, eggs, beans, and nuts (including peanut butter) belong to the protein food group.



Meat



Eggs



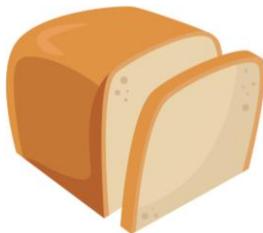
Beans



Nuts (including peanut butter)

# Grains

Bread, noodles, oatmeal and other cereals, and rice belong to the grains food group.



bread



Noodles



Oatmeal and Other Cereals



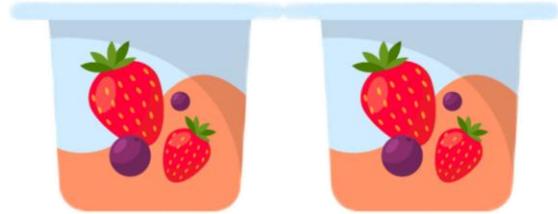
Rice

# Dairy

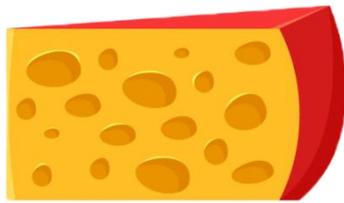
Milk, yogurt and ice cream, cheese, butter, and pudding belong to the dairy food group.



Milk



Yogurt and ice cream



Cheese



Butter

# The 5 Basic Food Groups Matching Game



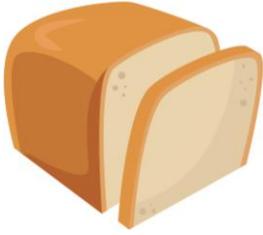
Fruits



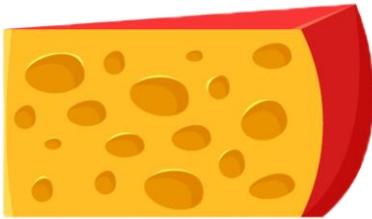
Vegetables



Protein



# Grains

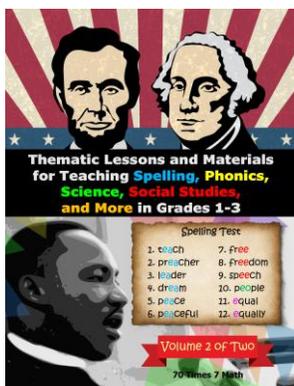
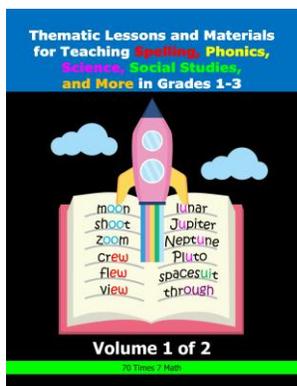


# Dairy

# Science Center Activities for the Six Basic Animal Groups

**The 6 Basic Animal Groups:** Reproduce the *Mammals, Birds, Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles,* and *Invertebrates* heading cards on white cardstock and laminate. Tape each card to a paper lunch bag, a paper gift bag without handles, or to a jumbo plastic envelope (the envelopes are available in various colors). Use wall-safe tape to tape the envelopes to the wall in the science center or in the large group area. Tape laminated letters above the envelopes to title the wall display “Animal Groups.” Reproduce the animal picture cards on white cardstock, laminate, cut apart, and store in a Ziplock bag. The child identifies the class to which an animal belongs, tells how he/she knows it belongs to a certain class by describing its characteristics, and then classifies it by dropping it in the envelope labeled with the class name and having appropriate illustrations.

Note that Lesson 33<sub>2</sub> in *Thematic Lessons and Materials for Teaching Spelling, Phonics, Science, Social Studies, and More in Grades 1-3: Volume 2 of Two* by 70 Times 7 Math is devoted to help students learn the six basic animal groups (mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates) and to be able to classify animals according to their characteristics. The heading cards included in this section note their characteristics as well (e.g., mammals have hair or fur and can feed their young with milk).



**Animal Groups Matching Game:** Reproduce the matching game included in this section, laminate, and cut apart. The cards are placed face down on the table, and a student turns over two in an attempt to match pictures of mammals with the *Mammal* card, pictures of birds with the *Birds* card, and so forth. If a match is made, the child keeps the cards until the end of the game. If a match is not made, the cards are returned to their original positions. The student with the greatest number of pairs after all cards have been removed is the winner.

# Animal Groups

**Mammals**



Mammals have hair or fur and can feed their young with milk. Most mammals live on land, but whales, dolphins, and manatees are classified as mammals also. Unlike fish, they need to breathe air just like other mammals do. Another tricky mammal is the bat, which is the only mammal that can fly. People are also mammals. A mammal is a vertebrate.

**Birds**



A bird has feathers, wings, and a beak. Most birds can fly, but some birds like ducks also spend a lot of time in water. A penguin is a bird that cannot fly. A bird is a vertebrate.

**Fish**



A fish has gills so that it can breathe under water. It also has scales on its body. A fish is a vertebrate.

**Amphibians**



Frogs and salamanders are examples of amphibians. They have moist and slimy skin. An amphibian is a vertebrate.

**Reptiles**



Reptiles like alligators, snakes, lizards, and turtles are reptiles. They have dry and scaly skin. Reptiles are vertebrates.

**Invertebrates**

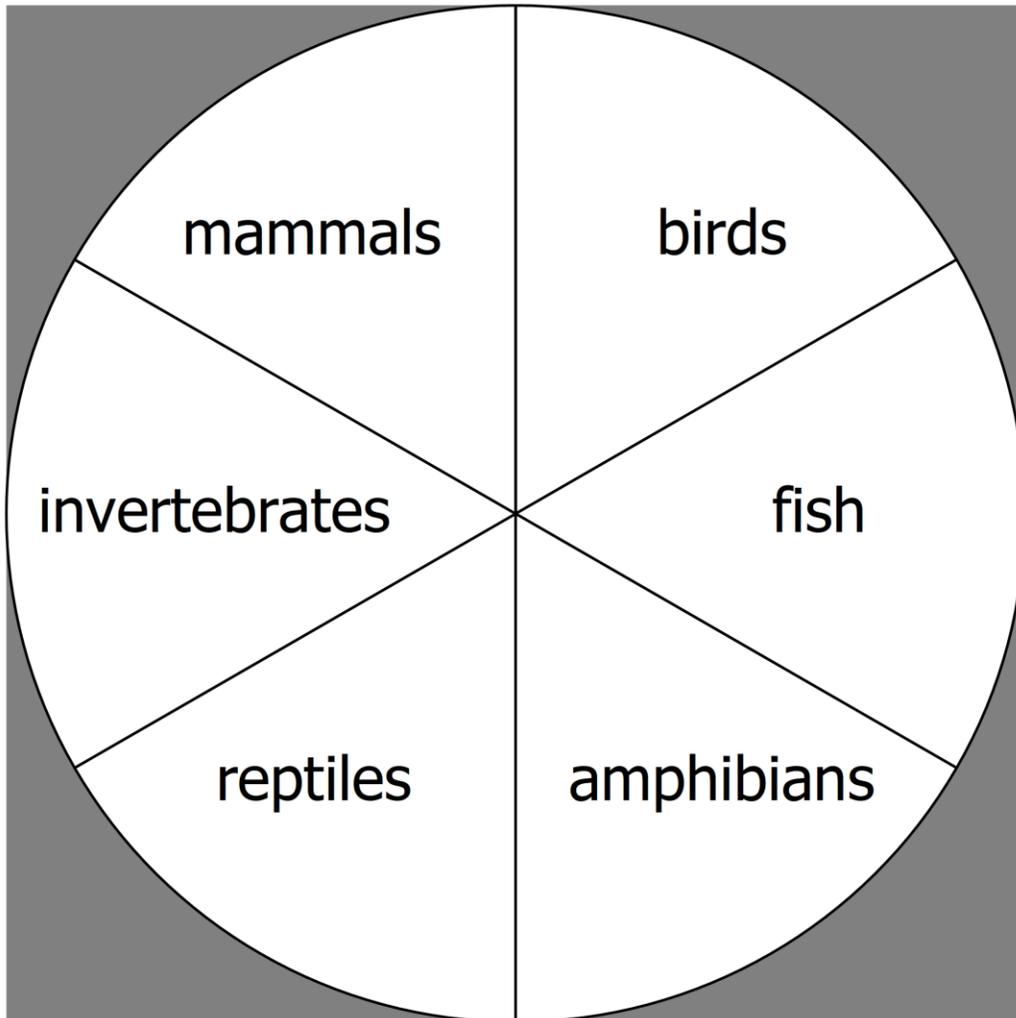


All the animals listed on the other cards are vertebrates because they have a backbone or a spinal column. Invertebrates, which do not have a backbone or a spinal column, include insects, crabs, scorpions, starfish, jellyfish, and octopuses.

**Thematic Units Game for Animal Groups:** The chart shown on the previous page can also be used with the unit questions for the six basic animal groups taken from Lesson 33<sub>2</sub> of *Thematic Lessons and Materials for Teaching Spelling, Phonics, Science, Social Studies, and More in Grades 1-3: Volume 2 of Two* by 70 Times 7 Math. These questions can be reproduced on cardstock, cut apart, and distributed between the bags. Question cards from previous lessons can also be included in the bags. A student spins the spinner with the six basic animal groups, identifies the animal group that the spinner lands on, and then draws a question card from the lunch bag with the corresponding animal group. If he answers the question correctly, his team receives one point.

<p>What are the six basic animal groups?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>Which animal group has hair or fur and can feed their young with milk?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>
<p>Which animal group has feathers, wings, and a beak?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>Which animal group has gills so that it can breathe under water and also has scales on its body?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>
<p>Which animal group do dogs, lions, dolphins, whales, and bats belong in?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>Which animal group do ducks belong in?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>
<p>Which animal group do sharks belong in?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>Which animal group do frogs belong in?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>
<p>Which animal group do alligators, snakes, lizards, turtles, and dinosaurs belong in?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>Which animal group do insects, crabs, scorpions, starfish, jellyfish, and octopuses belong in?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>
<p>Animals that are not invertebrates are what?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>What is the only mammal that can fly?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>
<p>What is an example of a rainforest animal?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>	<p>What is the fastest land animal in the world?</p> <p><i>Lesson 14 (Science)</i></p>

To prepare the spinner, you will need a brad and a large paperclip. Reproduce the spinner on cardstock. Put a brad through the end of a paperclip and push it through the middle of the spinner. Turn the spinner over to fasten the brad to the back. Students will spin the paperclip.



**Instructions for preparing the spinners:** To prepare the spinners, you will need brads and large paperclips. Reproduce the spinners on cardstock. Put a brad through the end of a paperclip and push it through the middle of the spinner. Turn the spinner over to fasten the brad to the back. Students will spin the paperclips.

# Mammals



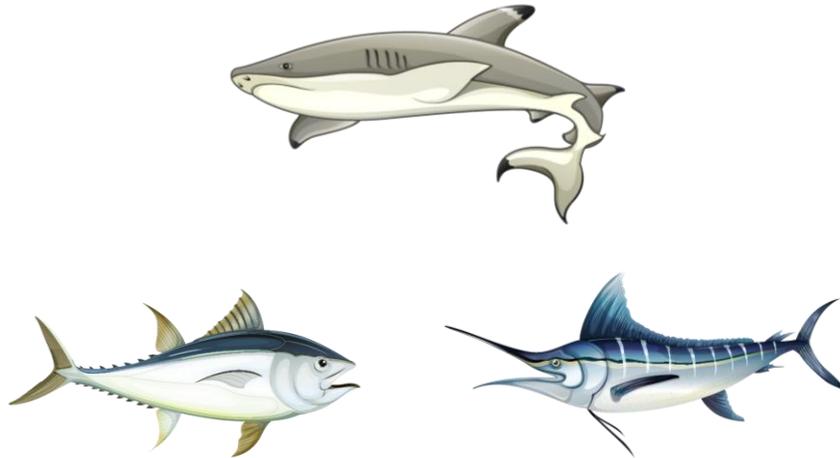
Mammals have hair or fur and can feed their young with milk. Most mammals live on land, but **whales**, **dolphins**, and **manatees** are classified as mammals also. Unlike fish, they need to breathe air just like other mammals do. Another tricky mammal is the **bat**, which is the only mammal that can fly. People are also mammals. A mammal is a *vertebrate*.

# Birds



A bird has feathers, wings, and a beak. Most birds can fly, but some birds like ducks also spend a lot of time in water. A penguin is a bird that cannot fly. A bird is a *vertebrate*.

# Fish



A fish has gills so that it can breathe under water. It also has scales on its body. A fish is a *vertebrate*.

# Amphibians



Frogs and salamanders are examples of amphibians. They have moist and slimy skin. An amphibian is a *vertebrate*.

# Reptiles



Animals like alligators, snakes, lizards, and turtles are reptiles. They have dry and scaly skin. Reptiles are *vertebrates*.

# Invertebrates

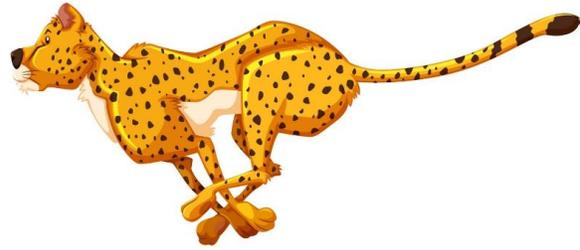


All the animals listed on the other cards are *vertebrates* because they have a backbone or a spinal column. *Invertebrates*, which do not have a backbone or a spinal column, include insects, crabs, scorpions, starfish, jellyfish, and octopuses.

TOUCAN (Habitat: In rainforests of Central and South America)



CHEETAH



(Habitat: Africa)

Fun Fact: The cheetah is the world's fastest land animal.

COW (Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica)



CROCODILE



(Habitat: North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Australia)

SEAL



(Habitat: Arctic and Southern oceans)

SEAHORSE



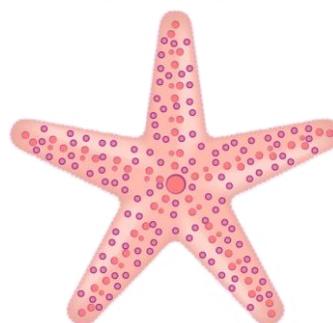
(Habitat: Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans)

WOLF



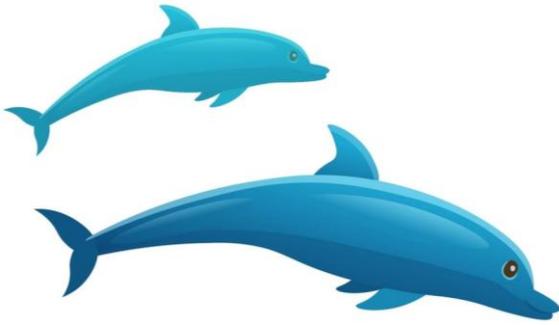
(Habitat: North America, Europe, Asia, and parts of Africa)

STARFISH



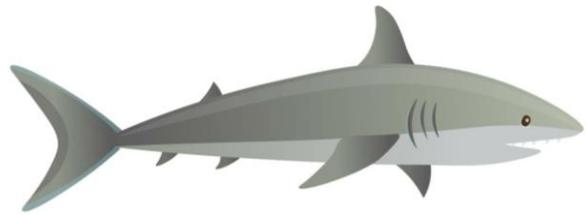
(Habitat: All of the world's oceans)

DOLPHIN



(Habitat: All of the world's oceans)

GREAT WHITE SHARK



(Habitat: The Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans)

JELLYFISH



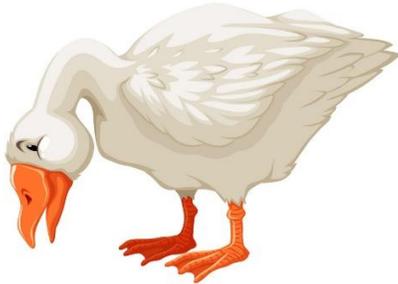
(Habitat: All of the world's oceans)

LIZARD



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

GOOSE



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica)

PIG (Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica)



KANGAROO

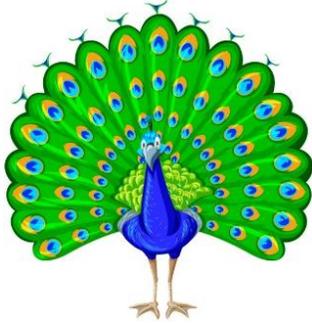


(Habitat: Australia)

CRAWFISH (North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Australia)



PEACOCK



(Habitat: Africa, Asia, and Australia)

DOG



(Habitat: All of the world's continents)

RACCOON (Habitat: North America, South America, Europe, Asia)



RATTLESNAKE (Habitat: Parts of North America and South America)



BUTTERFLY



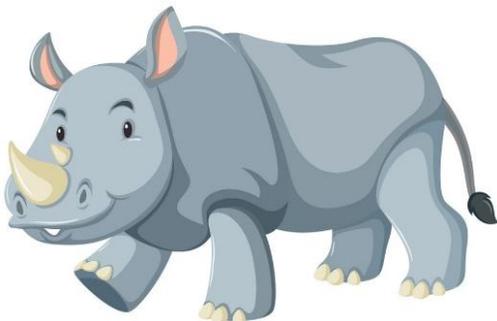
(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

PANDA BEAR



(Habitat: Southwest China in Asia)

RHINOCEROS



(Habitat: Asia and Africa)

COPPERBAND BUTTERFLYFISH



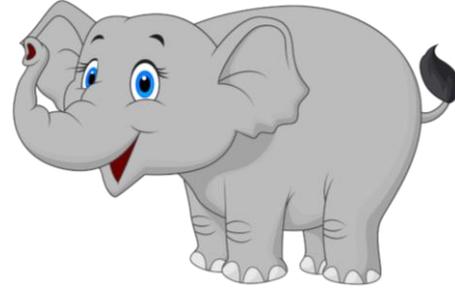
(Habitat: In saltwater reefs in the Pacific and Indian Oceans)

CAMEL



(Habitat: Africa and parts of Asia)

ELEPHANT



(Habitat: Parts of Africa and Asia, including in the rainforests of Africa)

PELICAN (Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica)



ANGELFISH (Habitat: The Amazon River basin in South America)



SCORPION



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

SWAN (Habitat: North & South America, Europe, Asia, & Australia)



IGUANA



(Habitat: North and South America & Africa, including in rainforests)

GORILLA



(Habitat: Rainforests in Africa)

LION (Habitat: Parts of Africa, Europe, and Asia)



TORTOISE (Habitat: North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, including in the rainforests)

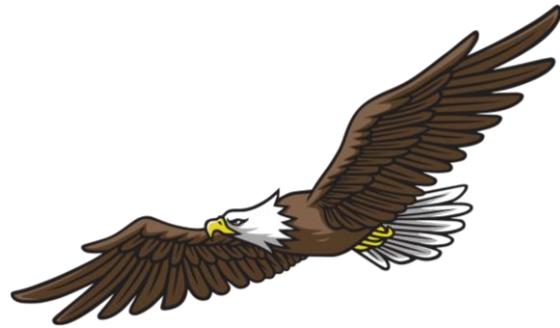


TREE FROG



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

BALD EAGLE



(Habitat: North America)

OSTRICH



(Habitat: Africa)

GRASSHOPPER



(Habitat: All continents except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

MONKEY



(Habitat: South America, Asia, and Africa, including in the rainforests)

OCTOPUS



(Habitat: All of the world's oceans)

PENGUIN



(Habitat: South America, Africa, Australia, and Antarctica)

DINOSAUR



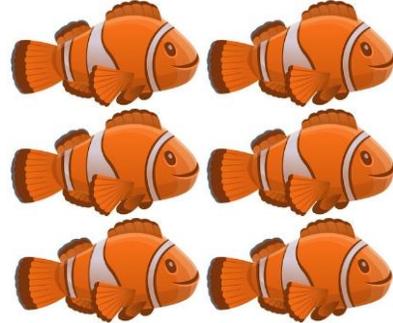
(Dinosaurs are extinct.)

SPIDER



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

CLOWNFISH



(Habitat: Pacific and Indian Oceans)

BAT



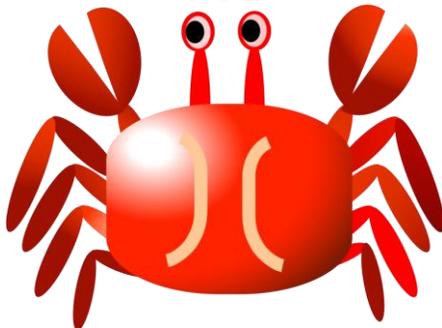
(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

KING COBRA



(Habitat: Rainforests in Asia)

CRAB



(Habitat: Oceans, rivers, lakes, ponds)

OWL



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

WALRUS



(Habitat: The Arctic, Pacific, and Atlantic oceans)

SHEEP (Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica)

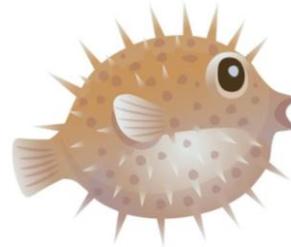


GIRAFFE



(Habitat: Africa)

PUFFERFISH



(Habitat: Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans and in some rivers like the Amazon River in South America)

TIGER



(Habitat: Asia, including in rainforests)

BLUE WHALE



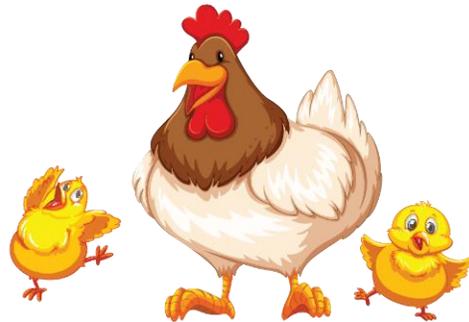
(Habitat: All of the world's oceans except the Arctic)  
Fun Fact: The blue whale is the world's largest animal.

SNAKE



(Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica, including in the rainforests)

CHICKEN (Habitat: Every continent except Antarctica)



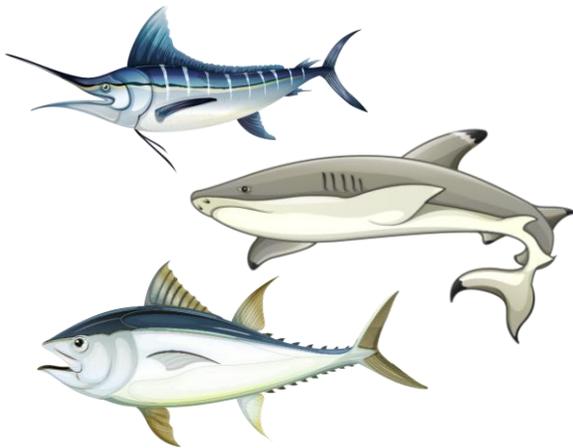
# Animal Groups Matching Game



Mammals



Birds



Fish

# Animal Groups Matching Game



Amphibians



Reptiles



Invertebrates