

Animals, Animals

A Science A-Z Life Series

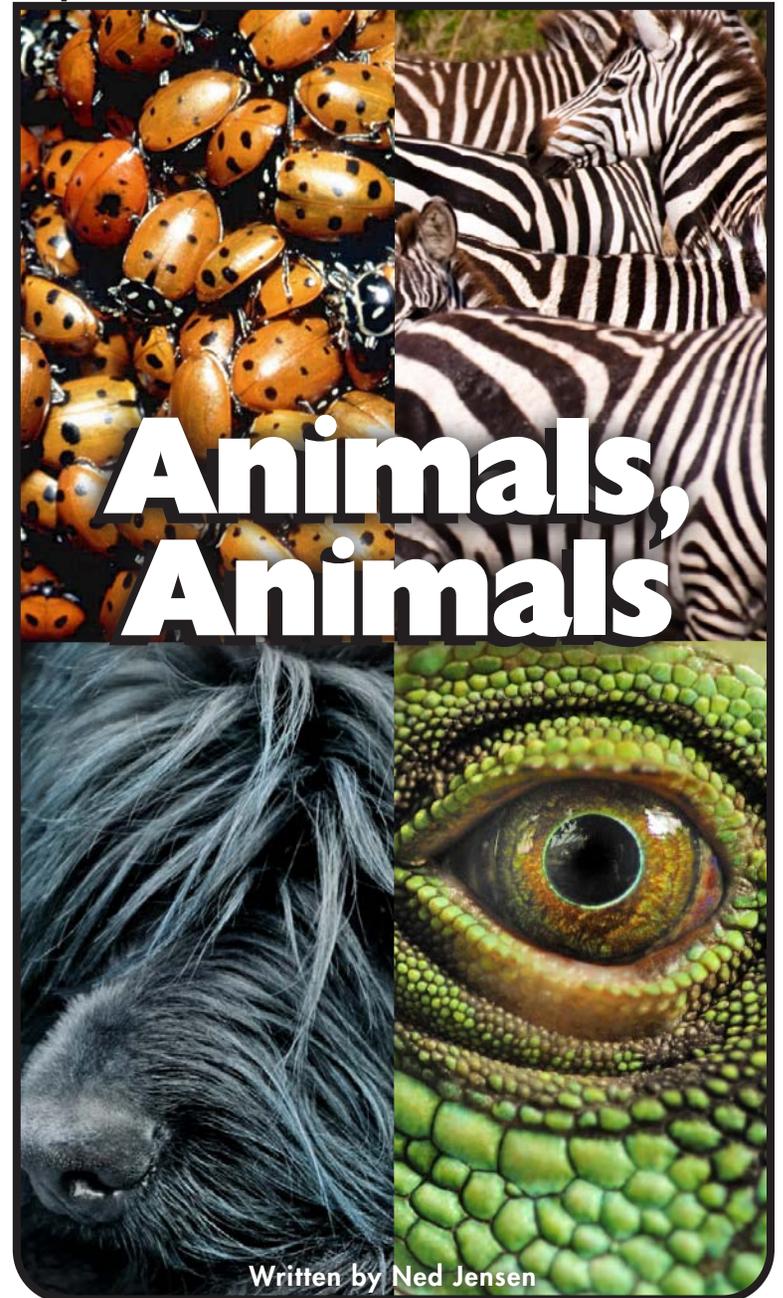
Word Count: 469



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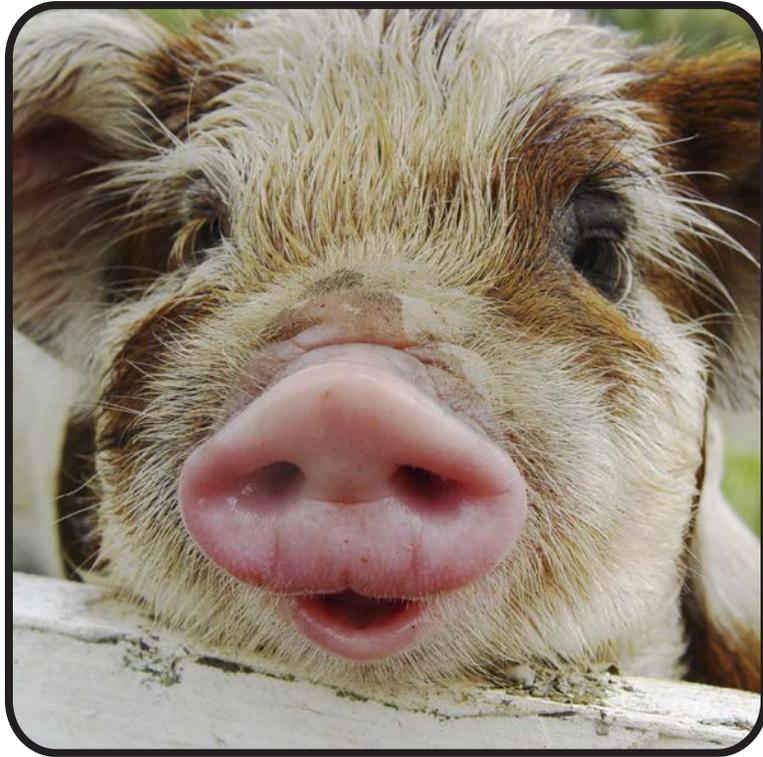
**Science a-z**



Written by Ned Jensen

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KEY ELEMENTS USED IN THIS BOOK

The Big Idea: Understanding the diversity among animals helps us appreciate and enjoy the uniqueness of all creatures. We may also think about how we treat animals and how we as humans fit into the animal kingdom.

Key words: animals, babies, body, body coverings, change, claws, color, different, feathers, fresh water, fur, grow, habitat, human being, parents, plants, salt water, same, scales, shape, shed, shell, size, skin, stages, survive, talons, teeth, water

Key comprehension skill: Compare and contrast
Other suitable comprehension skills: Main idea and details, make inferences, author's purpose

Key reading strategy: Connect the text to prior knowledge
Other suitable reading strategies: Ask and answer questions, retell and summarize

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Reading Levels

Learning A-Z	L
Lexile	500L

Correlations

Fountas and Pinnell*	K
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*Correlated independent reading level

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Mexican red-kneed tarantula



Introduction

Everywhere in the world, you can see many kinds of animals. All these animals are living things that move, eat, grow, and have babies. All animals need certain things. They need food, water, and air. They also need a place to live.



Bird eggs in nest



Zebras



Deer



Basset hound



Tortoise (shell)

Body Coverings and Parts

When you look at animals, you probably see that some are covered with fur and others are covered with feathers. Still others have scales or a shell. And some are covered only with skin.

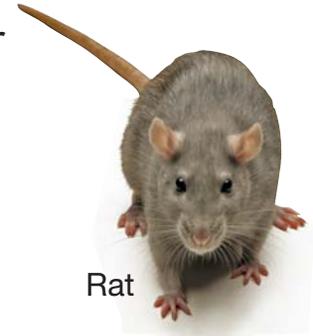


Tree frog (skin)

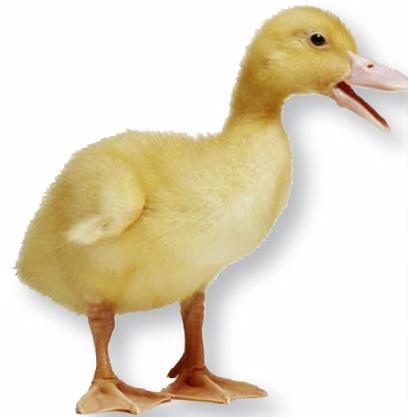
WOWSER!

As a snake grows, it has to shed its old skin and grow new skin.

Animals come in many shapes and sizes. Most animals have many of the same parts. The parts of one kind of animal often look different from the parts of other kinds of animals.



Rat



Duck



Rabbit



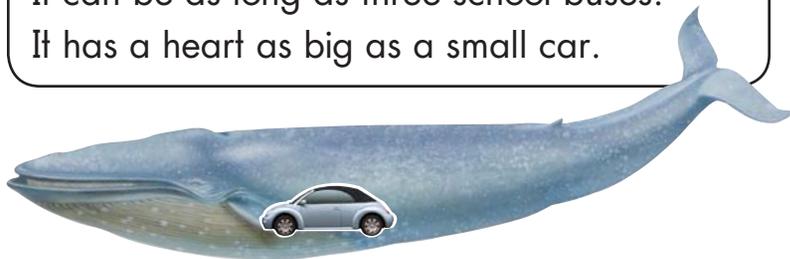
Ring-tailed lemur



For example, the nose of an elephant looks different from the nose of a rabbit. The elephant's ears look different than the ears of a rat. What parts of the animals on page 6 look different?

WOWSER!

The blue whale is the biggest animal.
It can be as long as three school buses.
It has a heart as big as a small car.



Animals come in many colors. Some animals are only one color. Other animals have many different colors. Some have stripes, while others have spots.



Angel Fish



Ladybug



Polar bears



Zebra



Chameleon



Chameleon



Arctic fox in the summer



Arctic fox in the winter

Some animals change color to match the color of their surroundings. Others change color from one season to another.

Where Animals Live

The place where an animal lives is called its **habitat**. Animals live in many different habitats. Some live on land. Some live where it is hot and dry. Some live where it is very cold. Many live on the ground and some live under the ground.

Camels



Emperor penguins



Prairie dogs



Horned frog

River otter

Some animals live in **fresh water**. They live in lakes, rivers, and ponds. Others live in **salt water**. They live in oceans and seas.



Bottlenose dolphins



Green sea turtle

How Animals Move and Eat

Animals move in many different ways. Some have strong legs for running or hopping over the ground. Some have wings for flying through the air. Others have fins and flat tails for swimming through water. Others have special feet for digging through the ground or for climbing trees.



Kangaroos hop.



Birds fly.



Fish swim.



Moles dig.



Eagle catching a fish



Eagle talons

Animals eat many different things. Some only eat other animals. They have claws, **talons**, or special arms for catching other animals. They have sharp teeth or beaks for ripping and tearing their food.

Some animals only eat plants. They have special body parts for eating plants. They have flat teeth for grinding their food.



Horse grazing



Horse teeth

Some animals eat both plants and animals. They have flat and sharp teeth for eating plants and animals.



Human being

Animal Babies

When most animal babies are born, they have the same body parts as their parents.



Ewe with lamb



Monarch butterfly, caterpillar, and pupa



Frog



Tadpoles

When some animal babies are born, they do not look like their parents. They change as they grow. They grow through different stages. In time they will look like their parents.

WOWSER!

When born, a baby kangaroo is about the size of a large bean. After it is born, it crawls into a pouch on its mother's stomach.

Conclusion

Animals have many needs. Animals live where their needs can be met. Different animals have body shapes and parts to help them get food and survive in their habitat.

Glossary

fresh water	water found in most rivers, lakes and ponds
habitat	the place where an animal lives
salt water	water found in oceans and seas
talons	claws on the feet of birds like owls and hawks