

Identifying Mammals



Content Area(s):

- science
- technology

Objectives:

In this section students:

- navigate their way around Web sites and find required information.
- identify the common characteristics of a mammal.
- examine the characteristics of a mammal.
- explore the diets of different mammals.
- compare the different body parts of mammals.

Materials Required:

- computer with Internet access
- Internet Activity Pages
- pencil or pen

Web Site(s):

- Students need to access the TCR Web page for the Mammals book.

<http://www.teachercreated.com/books/3411>

They then click on the link to the page they are working on.

Allow the children time to familiarize themselves with the Web site before starting the activity sheets.

Time:

- approximately 40 minutes per lesson

Teaching Suggestions:

What is a Mammal?—1 (Page 7)

- Have a variety of mammal pictures available for the children to view.
- Have a variety of other resources such as dictionaries and non-fiction books available to assist the children in their research.
- Identify mammals that live in the area in which the children live. Discuss the common characteristics of the mammals.

What is a Mammal?—2 (Page 8)

- As an introduction to the lesson, use pictures of mammals to identify the different types of limbs that mammals can have.
- Discuss how the limbs are used and how their use differs from mammal to mammal.
- Examine the features of different mammal limbs and relate them to their use.

Name: _____

What is a Mammal?—1

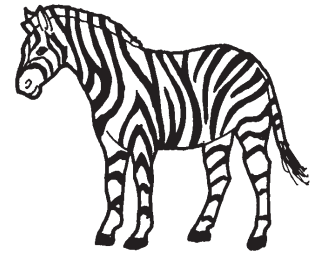
Go to <http://www.teachercreated.com/books/3411>

Click on **Page 7, Site 1**

There are many different kinds of mammals that live in and on the earth. They all have special features that make them different from other living beings.

☉ Visit the site listed above to find out what makes a mammal a mammal.

1. List some common features that all mammals share.



2. Mammals are “warm blooded.” What does warm-blooded mean?

3. All mammals have one of four different types of body hair. What are these?

Give an example of a mammal with each type of body hair. Draw a picture of one of them in the box.

Type 1: _____

Example: _____

Type 2: _____

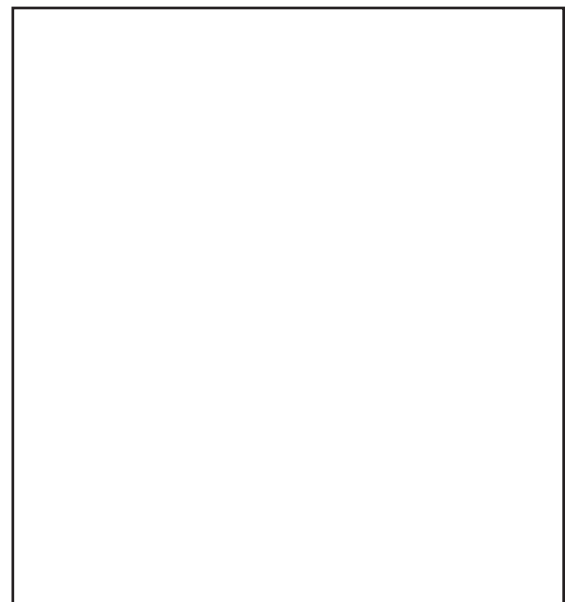
Example: _____

Type 3: _____

Example: _____

Type 4: _____

Example: _____



Name: _____

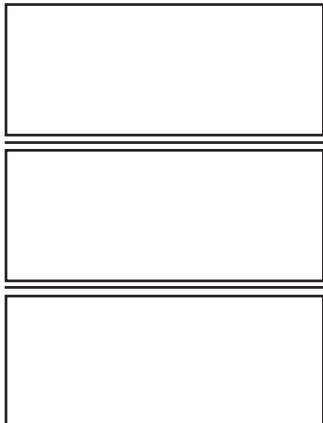
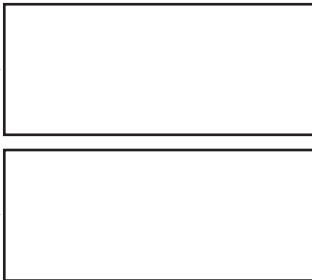
What is a Mammal?—2

Go to <http://www.teachercreated.com/books/3411>

Click on **Page 8, Site 1**

The many kinds of mammals that live in and on the earth have special features that make them different from other living creatures.

1. Most mammals have limbs. Can you think of some mammals that have the following types of limbs? Draw and name an example of an animal with each type of limb in the boxes.

arms _____		
legs _____		
wings _____		
flippers _____		
fins _____		

2. The following terms used in the Web site relate to the diet of mammals. Explain what each one means.

carnivorous _____

herbivorous _____

omnivorous _____

Extra: Think about the uses of the limbs that mammals have. Apart from their position on the body how is . . .

an arm used differently from a leg? _____

a wing used differently from a flipper? _____

Answer Key

What is a Mammal?—1 (Page 7)

1. Fur; breathe with their lungs; give birth to live young; feed their young mother's milk; warm-blooded
2. Is able to regulate body temperature
3. Fur; hair; bristles; quills. Examples will vary.

What is a Mammal?—2 (Page 8)

1. Answers will vary.
2. Meat eating; plant eating; meat and plant eating. Extra—Answers will vary.

The Snow Leopard (Page 10)

1. Panthers uncia.
2. 4–5ft (120–150 cm); 90–110 lbs (45–55 kg); 3 ft (100 cm); pale gray covered with brown blotches; black fur on edges
3. Scattered high mountain forests below the snow line
4. Altai, Hindu Kush, and Himalayas. Mongolia, Afghanistan, China, and Tibet
5. Endangered.
6. Jumping ability, claws, rough tongue, good eyesight

The Asian and African Elephants (Page 11)

1. Asian Elephant African Elephant

Scientific name *Elephas maximus* *Loxodonta*

weight	12,000lbs (6000kgs)	17,000lbs (8500kgs)
length	18–21ft (6–7m)	20–24ft (7–8m)
skin	gray with coarse hair	craggy
ears	small large	
feet	thick padded soles	thick padded soles
trunk	one “finger”	two “fingers”
toes	5 front	4 front, 3 hind
range	India	Sri Lanka Africa
habitat	thick forests	grassy plains savanna
food	bamboo shoots	grass, leaves
life span in the wild	15–30 years	15–30 years

2. Answers will vary.

The Polar Bear—Page 12

1. *Ursus maritimus*
2. It means “Bear of the Sea” in Latin.
3. 8.2–9.8 ft. (2.5–3 meters); 330–1,400 lbs (150–650 kg); narrow head with long neck; long body; very small ears; pad covered in fur.
4. Cold
5. Answers will vary.
6. Food availability; ice melting in summer.

Malayan Sun Bear—Page 13

1. 4.5 ft (135 cm); 60–140 lbs (30–70 kg); black with grayish or orange muzzle; large with strongly curved claws and naked soles; 2 in. (5 cm) long and not easily seen
2. Dense tropical and subtropical forests.
3. Burma; Southeast Asia; Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, and Borneo
4. Descriptive words: meat and plant eating; one breeding partner; tree dwelling; active at night; clumsy walk

The Tasmanian Devil—Page 14

1. The Tasmanian devil is black in color, bad-tempered, and has a spine-chilling screech.
2. Thick set, squat build with relatively broad head, short, thick tail, fur is mostly black, weigh up to 26lbs (12 kg).
3. Fossils
4. All over Tasmania from the coast to the mountains
5. Shelter to hide in at day and a food source at night
6. Small mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, carrion, and carcasses of farm animals