



Lesson Plan: Animals and Their Needs

Grade Level: 3

Subject: Life Science

Duration: 45–60

NGSS 3-LS4-2: Use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- **Identify** the basic survival needs of animals, including water, food, shelter, and oxygen.
- **Describe** how animals use different body parts and characteristics to obtain food, water,



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Materials Needed: (all links are included in this PDF)

- Printed copies of the Study Guide (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs.pdf>)
- Practice Worksheet 0 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-0.pdf>)
- Practice Worksheet 1 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-1.pdf>)



- Practice Worksheet 2 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-2.pdf>)
- Vocabulary matching worksheet (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-1.pdf>)

Lesson Procedure

Step 1: Introduction (5 minutes)

- Hook students by asking: 'What are four things every animal needs to survive?'
- Show the first page of the Study Guide and discuss how all animals require water, food, shelter, and oxygen to survive. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs.pdf>)



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[their-needs-0.pdf](#))

Step 4: Independent Practice (15 minutes)

- Have students independently complete Practice Worksheet 1 to reinforce concepts about animal protection and reproduction. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-1.pdf>)
- Circulate the room to offer guidance and ensure students understand the differences between live births and egg-laying animals.



Step 5: Assessment (10 minutes)

- Administer Practice Worksheet 2 to evaluate students' understanding of predator/prey dynamics and animal shelters. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-2.pdf>)
- Review the assessment together to identify any areas where students need further clarification.

💡 Differentiation Strategies

For advanced learners:

- Have students research an animal of their choice and present how its specific body parts and characteristics help it survive.
- Ask students to write a short story from the perspective of a predator or prey animal in its



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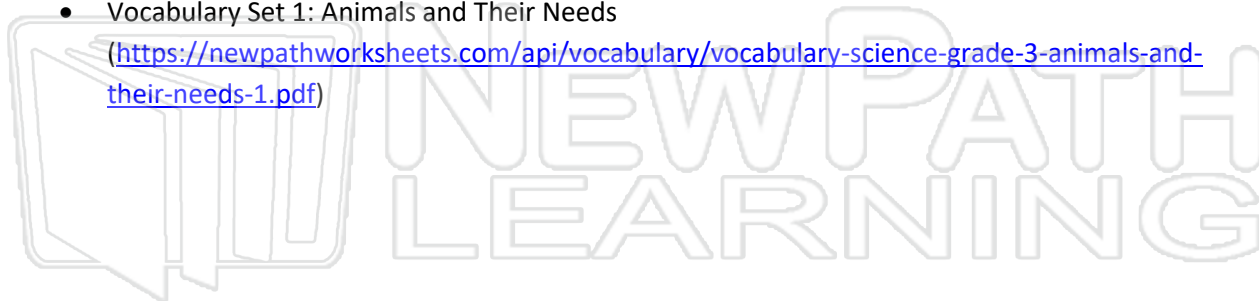
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📚 Complete List of Available Resources:

- NewPathWorksheets: Animals and Their Needs (<https://newpathworksheets.com/science/grade-3/animals-and-their-needs>)
- Study Guide: Animals and Their Needs (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs.pdf>)
- Worksheet 0: Animals and Their Needs (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-0.pdf>)



- Worksheet 1: Animals and Their Needs
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-1.pdf>)
- Worksheet 2: Animals and Their Needs
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-2.pdf>)
- Vocabulary Set 1: Animals and Their Needs
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-animals-and-their-needs-1.pdf>)



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ANIMALS

All plants and animals are living organisms. Both plants and animals need certain things in order to survive and use certain parts and structures in order to get what they need from the environment.

Animals need water, food, shelter, and oxygen to survive, and they have many different body parts to get these things they need.

Lesson Checkpoint:
What are four things an animal needs to survive?

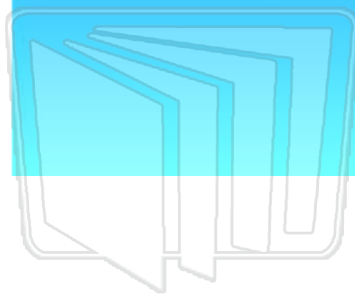
Water

Animals use certain body parts to drink. Animals need water. Whereas



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Food

Animals have body parts to help them catch and eat the particular food they need. When an animal is the **predator** trying to catch its **prey** (which is the animal it wants to eat), these characteristics are important. When an owl is chasing a mouse to eat, the owl is the predator and the mouse is the prey.

Here are some examples of the ways different species use their physical traits to get and eat the food they need.

- An owl has **sharp claws** for catching and killing its prey.
- A humming bird uses its **long beak** to get nectar out of tube like flowers.
- An elephant use its **trunk** to pick up food and to feed it into his mouth.
- Tigers and lions have **sharp teeth** that they use to tear and chew tough meat.



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What is an example of a body part an animal uses to eat?

Movement

Animals have different body parts that help them move. For example, an elephant has four large feet to support its very large body and help it move quickly and surely. A duck has webbed feet for faster swimming. A monkey has long arms, long legs, and even a tail, for moving easily through the dense forests on tree limbs and vines.



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Lesson Checkpoint:
What do many snakes have that they use as protection against predators?

Shelter

Animals need shelter to survive, too. A **shelter** is a place that covers and protects an animal.

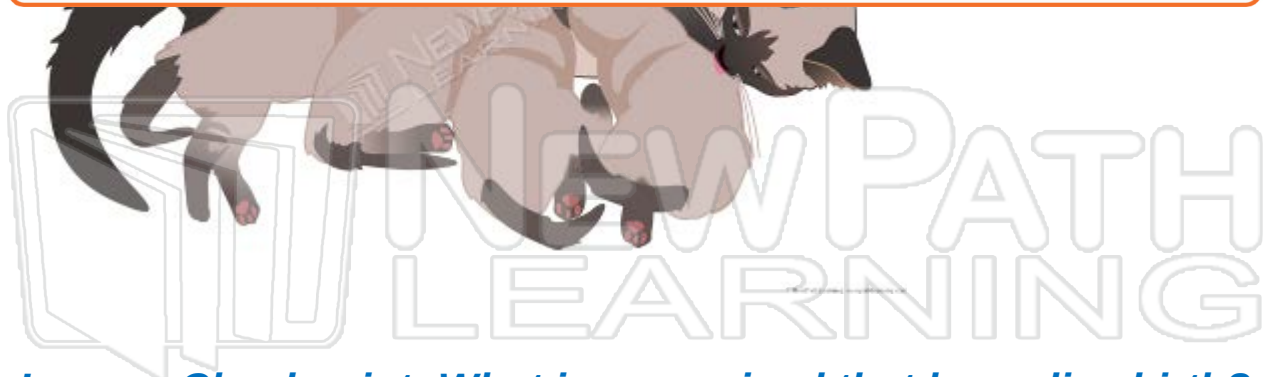


Lesson Checkpoint



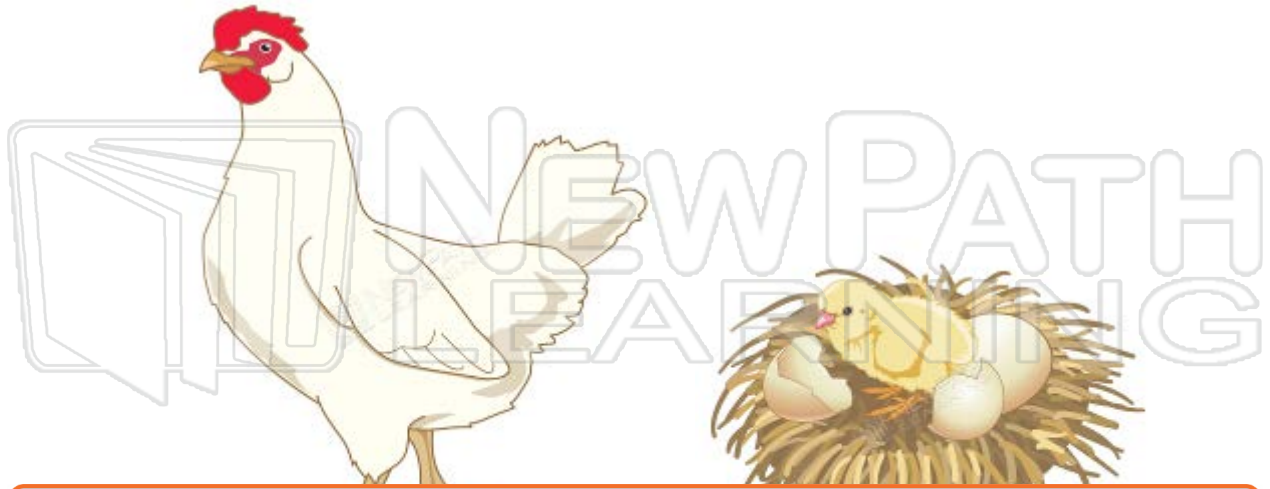
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Lesson Checkpoint: What is one animal that has a live birth?

Some animals lay eggs instead of having live births. The mother lays the eggs, the offspring develop inside the eggs, and then the babies hatch when they are fully developed. A chicken is an animal that lays eggs.



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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

- 1 All plants and animals are _____ **organisms**.

A large
B living
C nonliving
D breathing



- 2 Plants and animals have **different parts and structures** that help them **survive**.

A true
B false



- 3 What do animals need to **survive**?

A water, food, shelter, and oxygen
B water only
C food only



- 4 What is something that most **animals** need to survive that most plants do **not**?

A soil
B water



5



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C shed
D breathe



D to help it dig in the mud



9

Animals have certain body parts used for **catching and eating** their food. Which is an example of a body part an animal uses for catching food?

A a rabbit's fur
B a bird's feathers
C a bear's stomach
D an owl's claws



10

A **hummingbird** uses its **long beak** to get _____ out of tube-like flowers.

A nectar
B seeds
C flower petals
D milk





Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

- 1 All plants and animals are _____ **organisms**.

A large
B living
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D breathing



(B)

- 2 Plants and animals have **different parts and structures** that help them **survive**.

A true
B false



(A)

- 3 What do animals need to **survive**?

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B water only
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(A)

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A soil
B water



(C)

5



(B)

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(A)

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(D)

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D milk



(A)

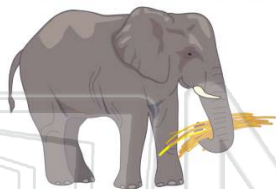


Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

What does an **elephant** use to **pick up food** and to feed it into his mouth?

- A** its ears
- B** its feet
- C** its tail
- D** its trunk

**2**

Animals like **tigers and lions** have sharp _____ that they use to tear food and to chew tough meat.

- A** feet
- B** fur
- C** teeth
- D** ears

**3**

What is one reason a **turtle** has a **shell**?

- A** to collect food in
- B** to help them swim
- C** to eat

**4**

What part of its body serves as **protection** for a **porcupine**?

- A** scales
- B** feathers
- C** quills

**5**

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- C** Growth
- D** A phase

**B** false**9**

All animals give birth to **one offspring**, or baby, at a time.

- A** true
- B** false

**10**

Which of the following **usually** gives birth to just **one offspring** at a time?

- A** cat
- B** dog
- C** snake
- D** kangaroo



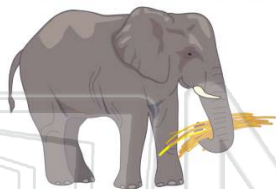


Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

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- D its trunk



D

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- B fur
- C teeth
- D ears



C

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D

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C

5



D

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A

- C Growth
- D A phase



- B false



9

All animals give birth to **one offspring**, or baby, at a time.

- A true
- B false



B

10

Which of the following **usually** gives birth to just **one offspring** at time?

- A cat
- B dog
- C snake
- D kangaroo



D



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

Which of the following **usually** gives birth to **more than one** offspring at time?

- A elephant
- B human
- C cat
- D giraffe

**2**

Some animals **lay eggs** instead of having live births. Where do their babies develop and grow until they are fully developed?

- A underground
- B outside the egg
- C inside the mother
- D inside an egg

**3**

Which of the following is an example of an animal that **lays eggs** instead of having a live birth?

- A chicken
- B cow

**4**

Most of the time the _____ **take care of the eggs** while waiting for them to hatch by keeping the eggs warm and by protecting them from any danger.

5

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D horse**D** chasers**9**

What animal is the **prey** in this picture?

- A snake
- B frog
- C no predators in this picture
- D no prey in this picture

**10**

Animals need to have **shelter** in order to survive. **What is shelter?**

- A a place animals avoid
- B a place to get rain
- C a place to get food
- D a place that covers and protects





Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

- 1 Which of the following **usually** gives birth to **more than one** offspring at time?

A elephant
B human
C cat
D giraffe



C

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A underground
B outside the egg
C inside the mother
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D

- 3 Which of the following is an example of an animal that **lays eggs** instead of having a live birth?

A chicken
B cow



A

- 4 Most of the time the _____ **take care of the eggs** while waiting for them to hatch by keeping the eggs warm and by protecting them from any danger.

C

5



A

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C

D horse



D chasers



- 9 What animal is the **prey** in this picture?

A snake
B frog
C no predators in this picture
D no prey in this picture



B

- 10 Animals need to have **shelter** in order to survive. **What is shelter?**

A a place animals avoid
B a place to get rain
C a place to get food
D a place that covers and protects



D



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Match each of the following terms to its definition:

Live birth

Predator

Reproduction

Venomous

Shelter

Prey

1. - a place that covers and protects an animal



2. - an animal that hunts and eats other animals



3. anim

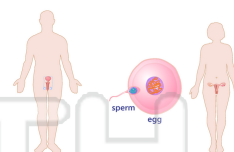


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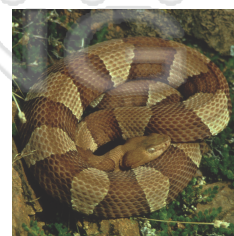
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5. - the creation of a new individual or individuals
from existing individual or individuals



6. - having venom; poison produced by some
animals such as some snakes





Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Match each of the following terms to its definition:

Live birth

Predator

Reproduction

Venomous

Shelter

Prey

1. shelter - a place that covers and protects an animal



2. predator - an animal that hunts and eats other animals



3. prey

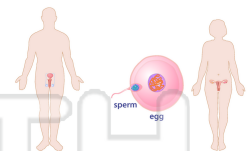


4. live birth
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5. reproduction - the creation of a new individual or individuals
from existing individual or individuals



6. venomous - having venom; poison produced by some animals
such as some snakes

