

mammal



fish



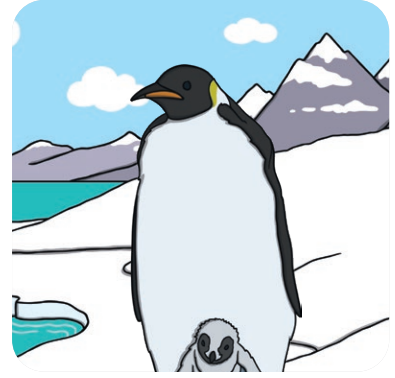
amphibian



reptile



bird



Animal Offspring Challenge

To match, sort and group young animals and their adults.



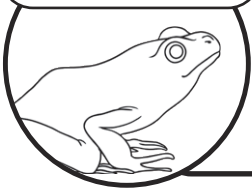
Can you explain what you have noticed about the adults and their offspring in each animal group? Use the word bank at the bottom of the page to help you.

Reptiles



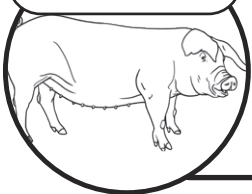
I noticed that _____

Amphibians



I noticed that _____

Mammals



I noticed that _____

Birds



I noticed that _____

Fish



I noticed that _____

Word Bank

reptile

amphibian

bird

mammal

fish

adult

offspring

egg

hatch

live young

young

grow

looks like

does not look like

Animal Offspring Challenge

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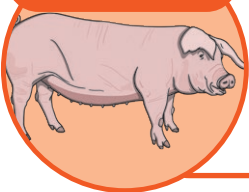
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Awesome Animals

What do all animals have in common?

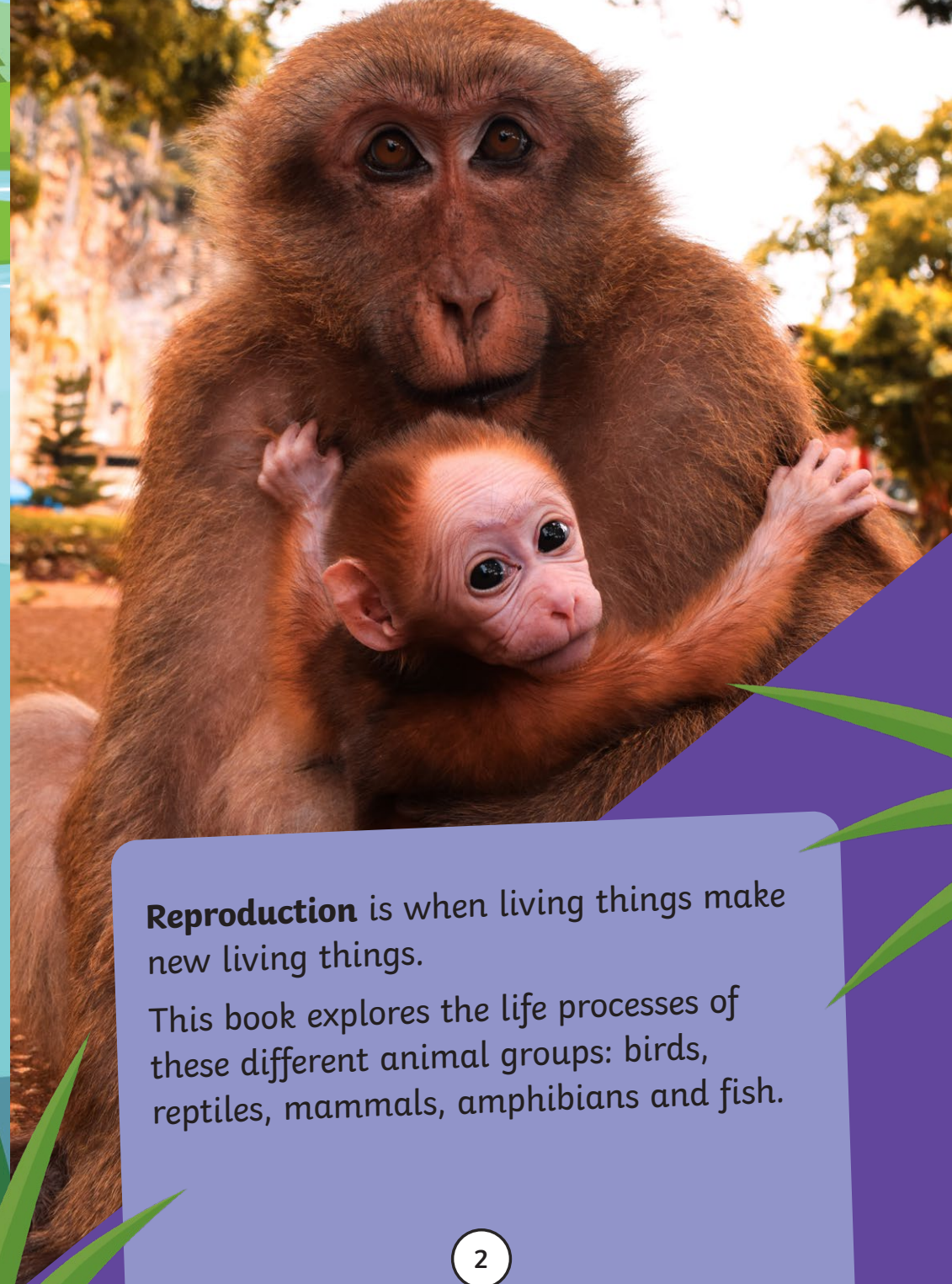
Animals, and all living things, do certain things to stay alive. These are called life processes.

Some examples of life processes include:

having
offspring

taking in
nutrients

growing



Reproduction is when living things make new living things.

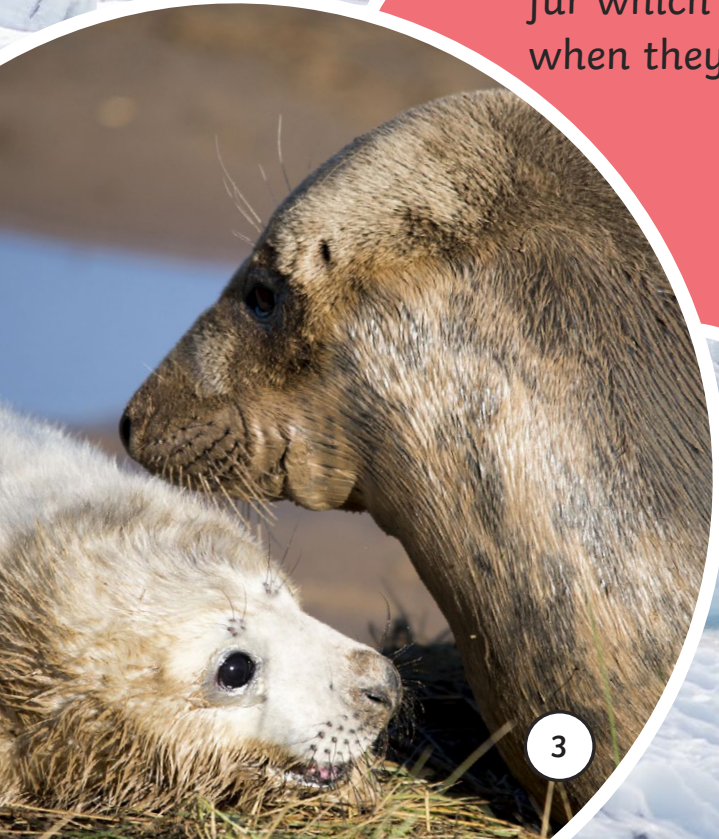
This book explores the life processes of these different animal groups: birds, reptiles, mammals, amphibians and fish.

Beautiful Babies

Do all animal offspring look like their adult when they are born?

Some **offspring** look like their parent when they are born, but some look very different.

Grey seals have a brown-grey coat of fur which is white when they are born.



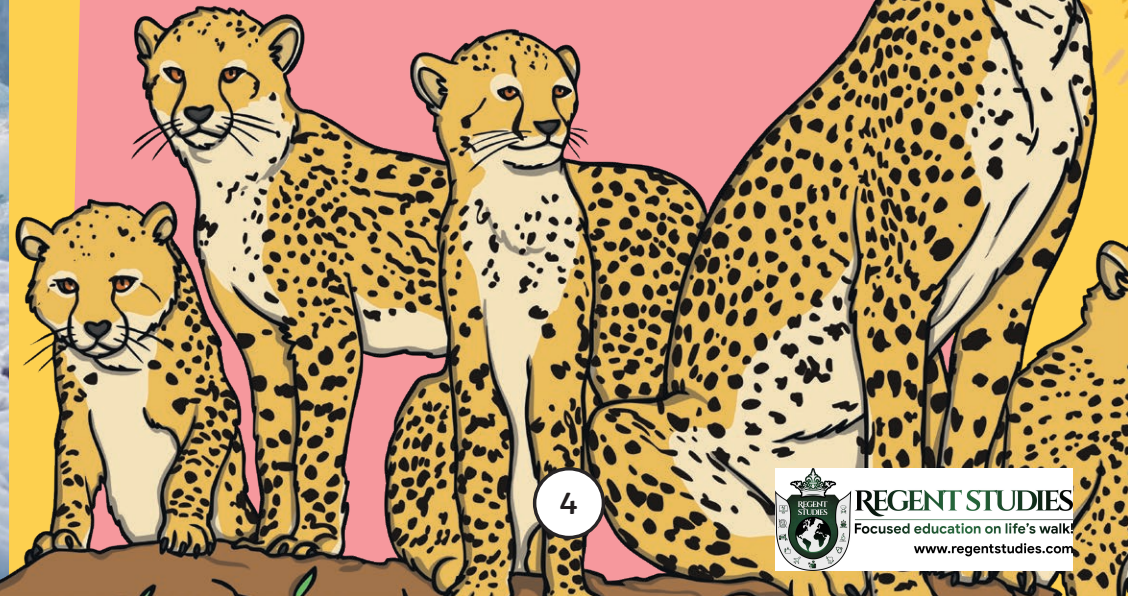
When tapirs are born, they have unusual markings which they lose as they grow up.



Live Young

Some animals give birth to **live young**. These babies are much smaller than the parent.

Although they may be a different colour, or have a different **body covering** when they are first born, often **live young** do look like the **adult** animal.



Some animals lay eggs which hatch into **offspring**. Some of these babies look like their **adult** when they hatch but some look very different.



Tiny bog turtle **young** are only about 2.5cm long when they hatch from their eggs. **Adults** can grow to about 10cm long.



Swans are white but baby swans (cygnets) are a greyish colour when they are born.

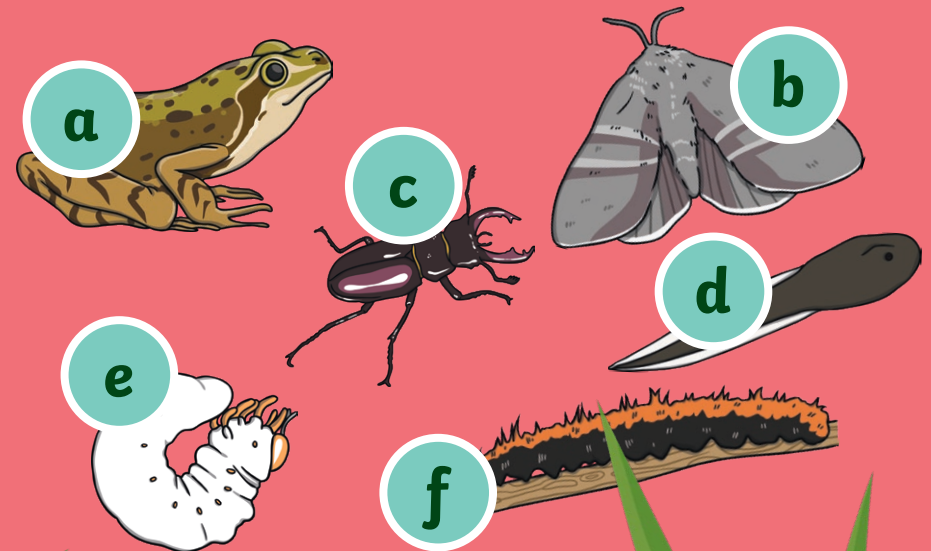
5

Offspring That Do Not Look Like Their Adult

Some animals look totally different to their **adult** when they are born and must go through many big changes to finally look like the grown-up animal. This process is called **metamorphosis**.

Find out more about this in the section called 'Life Cycles'.

Here are the **adults** and **offspring** of a frog, a moth and a stag beetle. Can you match the **adults** to the correct **offspring**? The answers are found at the side of this page.



6

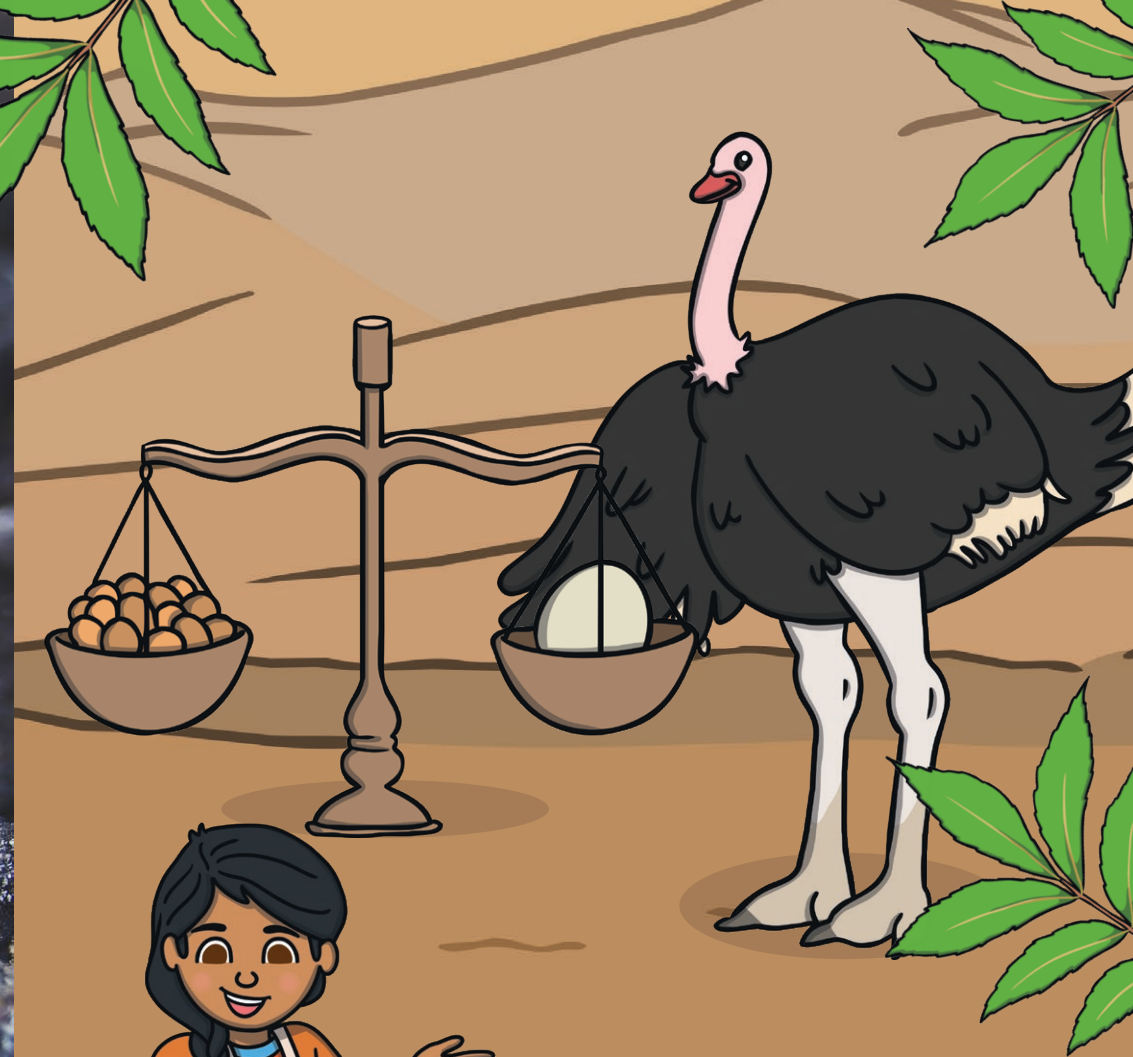
Excellent Egg Facts

The African driver ant can lay between three and four million eggs every 25 days! This little insect is thought to lay more eggs than any other animal in the world.



Research It!

Use the internet and non-fiction books to discover more excellent egg facts for yourself. Can you find out which animal lays the world's smallest egg or how many eggs a rattlesnake lays? What else can you discover?



Did you know
?

The world's biggest egg was laid by an ostrich in Sweden in 2008. It weighed 2.5kg. This is the same weight as about 50 chicken eggs!

Mammals

What are mammal offspring like?

Baby mammals grow inside their mother's body until they are ready to be born. Mammals give birth to **live young** that often look just like them, only smaller. Sometimes, their **body covering** might be different in colour, pattern or feel.

Echidnas and platypus are mammals but they lay eggs rather than giving birth to **live young**.



Different animals take different lengths of time to grow inside their mother before they are born. What do you notice about the mammal examples below?

Hamster	16 days (but varies with type)
Sheep	5 months
Human	9 months
Dolphin	12 months (1 year)
Elephant	22 months



Did you know



Although dolphins and whales seem like fish, they are actually mammals. They come to the surface to breathe air through a **blowhole** and give birth to **live young**.

Reptiles

What are reptile offspring like?

Most reptiles lay eggs but some give birth to **live young**. Reptiles lay their eggs on dry land. The female builds a nest to lay her eggs in. Some reptiles stay with the eggs until they are ready to hatch but some leave them.

When the eggs hatch, the **hatchlings** often look like their parent but they are much smaller.



a crocodile **hatchling**

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Did you
know

?

Rattlesnakes don't lay eggs. Instead, they give birth to **live young**. The **offspring** are about 25cm long but **adults** can grow to over two metres long!

Sea turtles lay their eggs on beaches. After laying their eggs and covering them with sand, female turtles leave them and return to the sea. The **hatchlings** must find their way to the sea when they hatch.



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Birds

What are bird offspring like?

Female birds lay eggs that hatch into **hatchlings**. Most male and female birds take it in turns to **incubate** the egg.

The **hatchlings** usually look similar to their **adult**, only smaller. Some baby birds can be a different colour to their adult and their **body covering** may change as they grow up.



Did you know?
?

Baby flamingos are born with grey or white feathers. It can take two years for them to turn a proud pink!



In the harsh Antarctic environment, male emperor penguins look after the eggs and keep them warm. They put the egg on their feet and cover it with a 'brood pouch', a special layer of feathery skin.

Do you recognise these baby birds? Which adult do they grow into?



owl



eagle



duck

Fish

What are fish offspring like?

Most fish lay eggs. Female fish lay eggs (called roe) in water. They can lay anywhere from one hundred to one thousand eggs. Not all of these eggs will grow into babies.

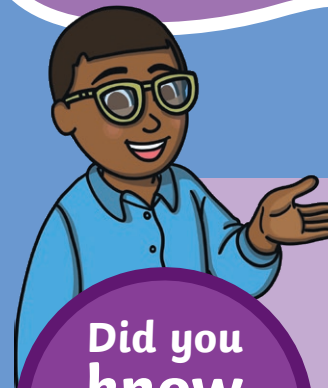
When the **offspring** hatch out of the eggs, they are known as **larvae**. Fish **larvae** do not look like their **adult**.

Look at how different the cod **larvae** and **adult** cod are!



fish roe

Why do you think jellyfish and crayfish have the word 'fish' in their name?



Did you know

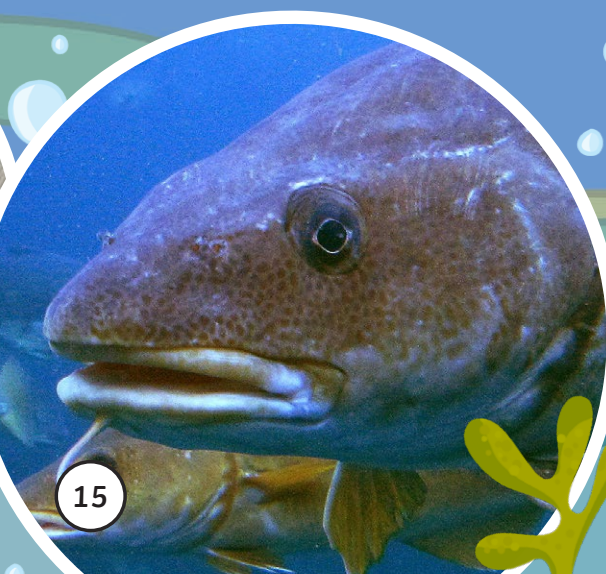
?

Although jellyfish and crayfish have the word 'fish' in their name, they aren't actually fish. This is because they do not have a backbone like all fish have.

Some sharks give birth to **live young**. However, all sharks are classed as fish, not mammals. This is because they breathe with gills, not **blowholes** like whales and dolphins.



15



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Amphibians

What are amphibian offspring like?

Most amphibians lay their eggs in water. These eggs are also known as spawn. Most amphibians produce **larvae** which hatch from these eggs and do not look like their **adult**. The **larvae** then go through a series of big changes until they do. This is called **metamorphosis**.



Have you ever seen tadpoles (frog **larvae**)?
How do they change to become an **adult** frog?



Some amphibians have their **offspring** on dry land. They either lay their eggs on land which hatch into **young**, or give birth to **live young**.

Did you know
?

Newts can lay up to 300 eggs which hatch after two to three weeks.

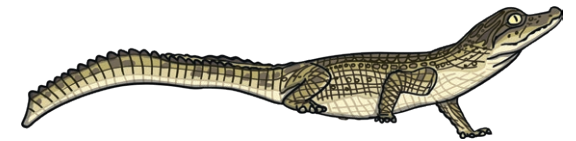
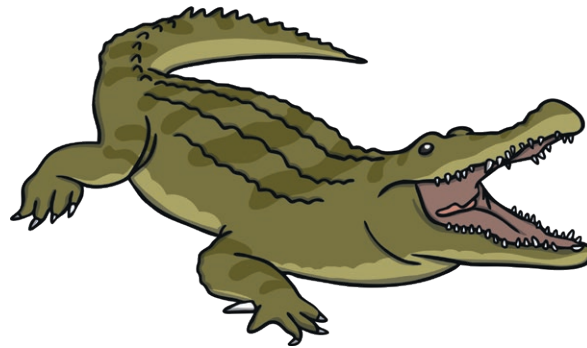
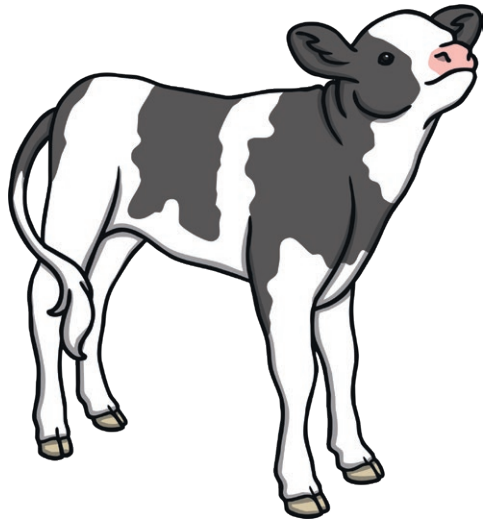
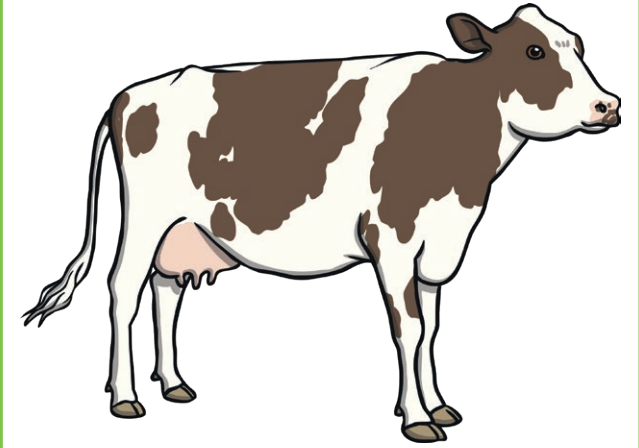
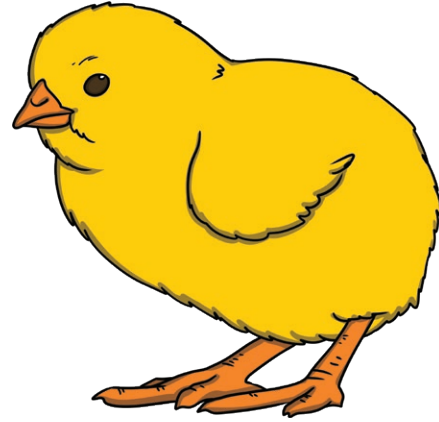
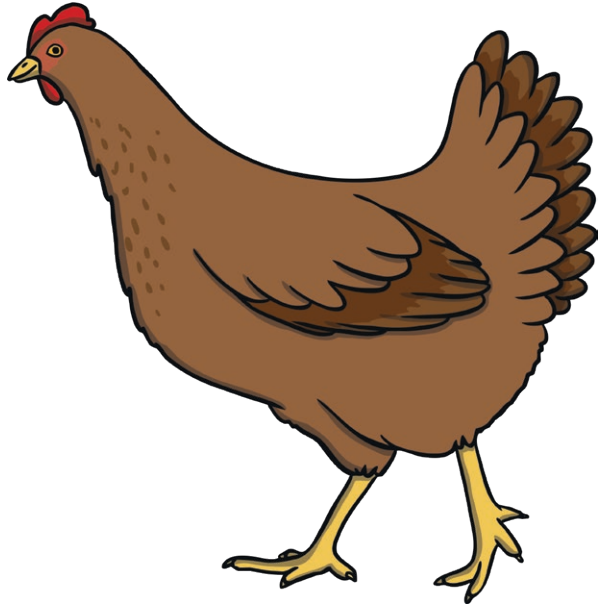


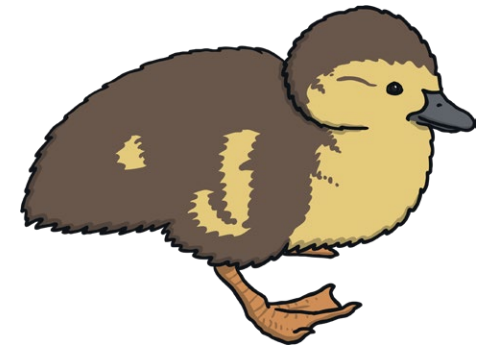
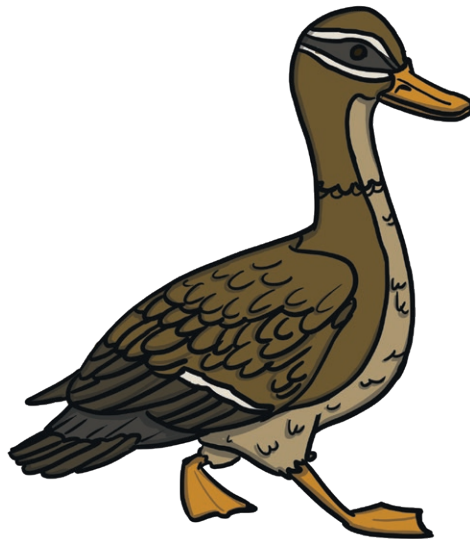
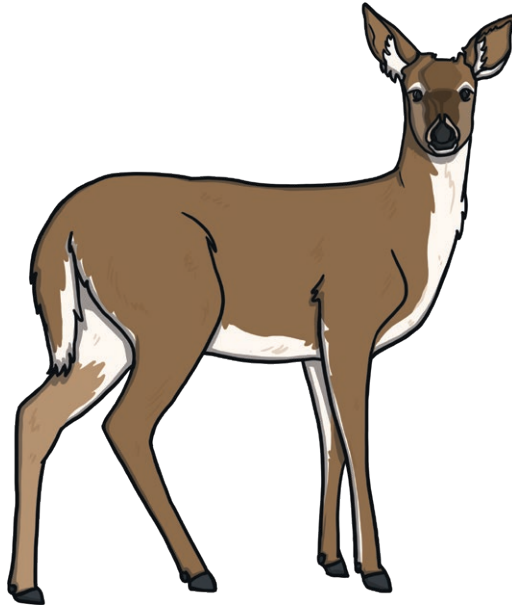
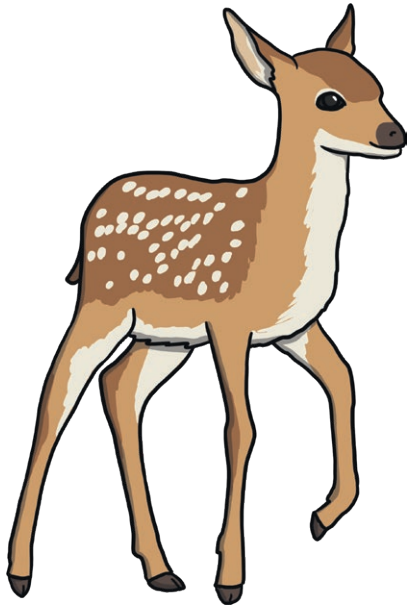
Strawberry poison dart frogs lay their eggs on land.

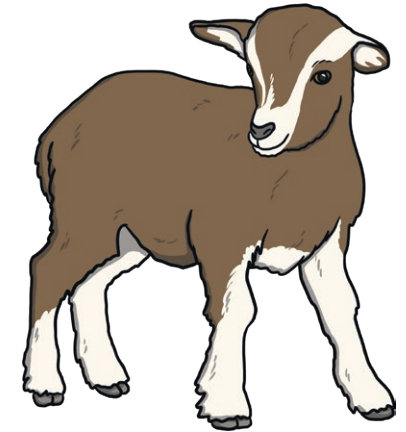
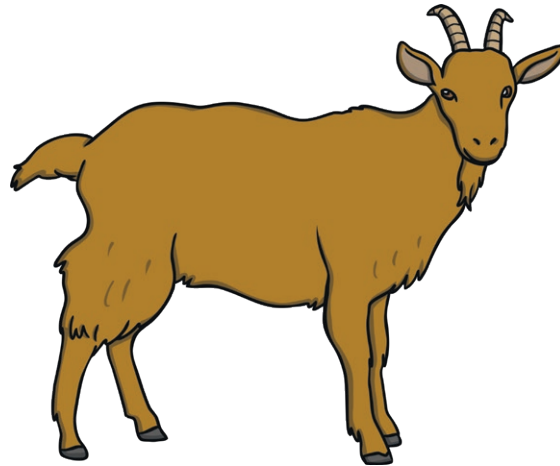
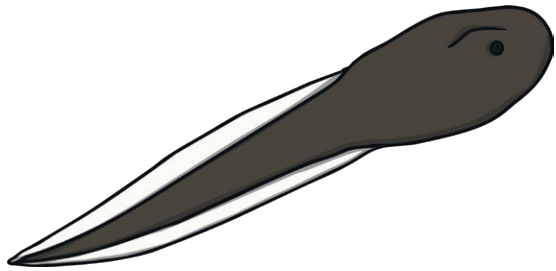
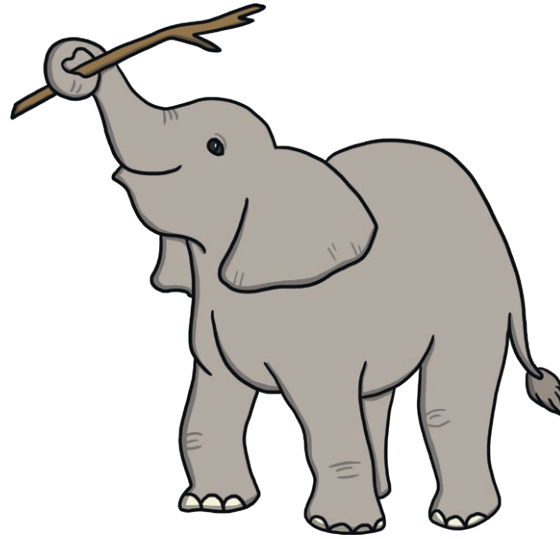
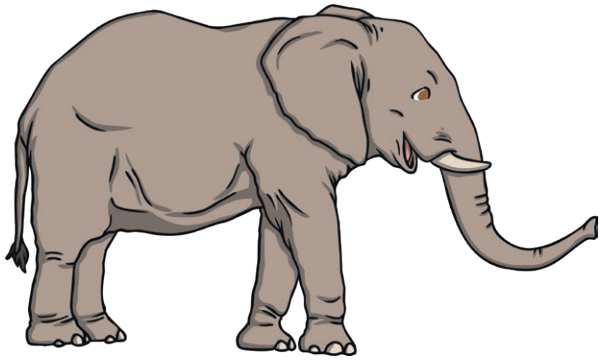
Fire salamanders give birth to **live young**.

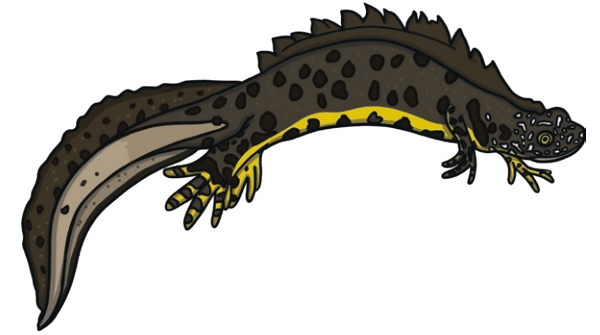
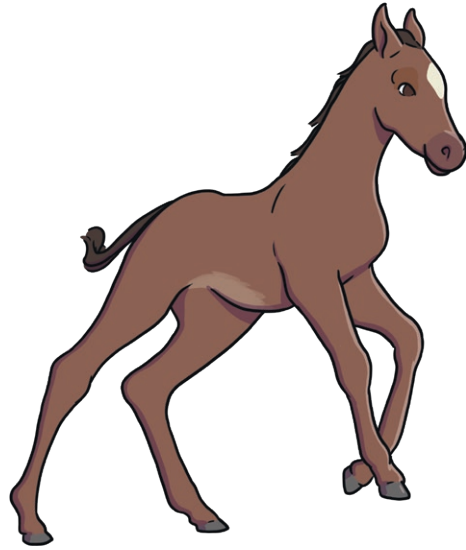
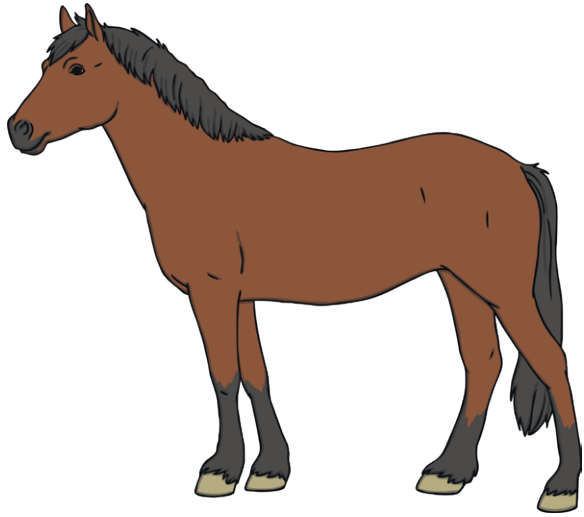


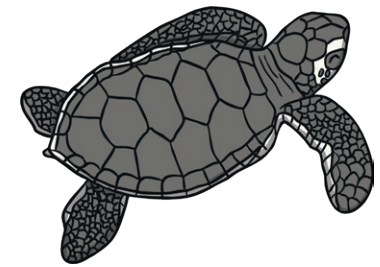
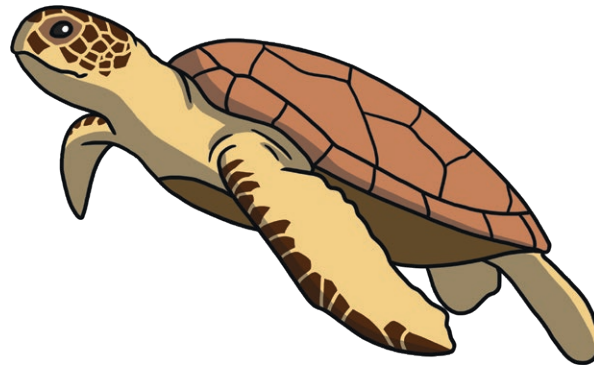
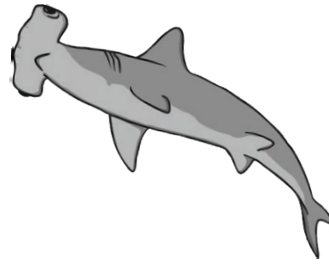
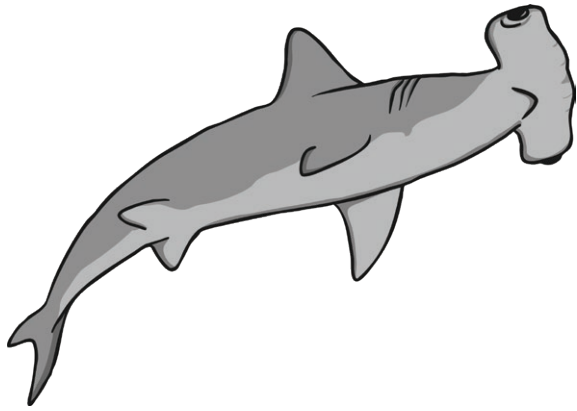


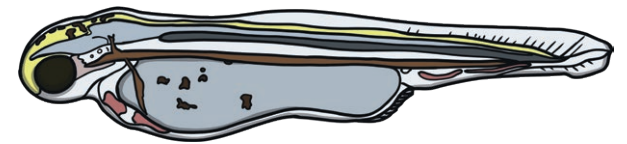
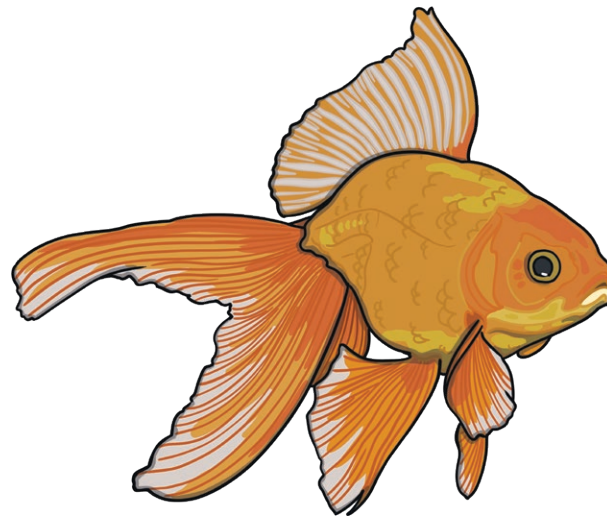
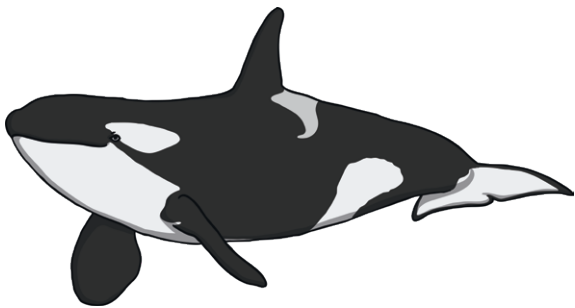
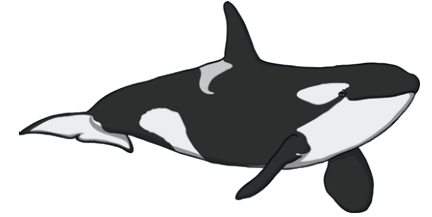
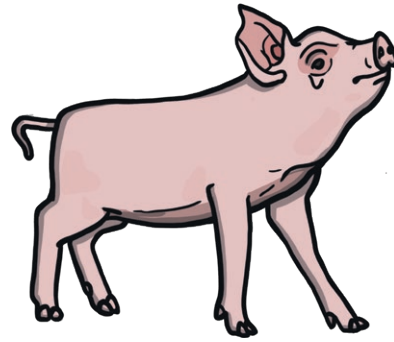
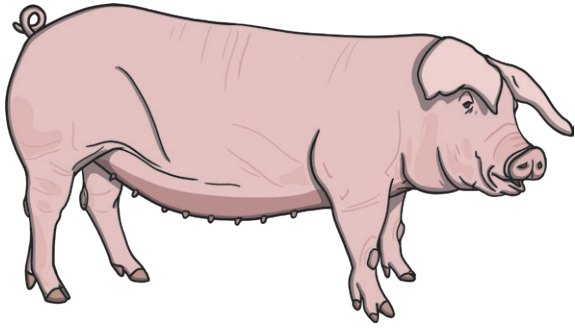












Animal Offspring



develop

baby

eggs

looks like

reptile

bird

grow

amphibian

hatch

young

adult

mother

does not look like

mammal

spawn

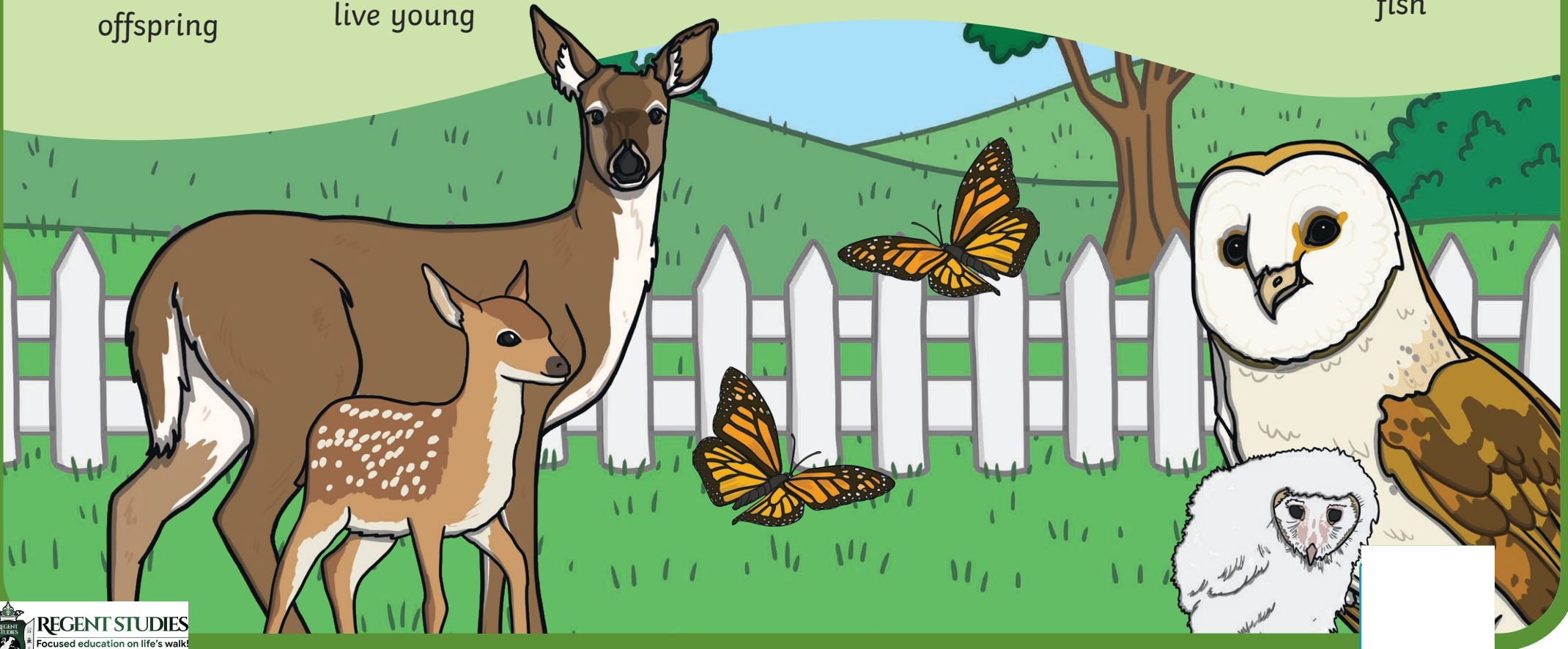
lay

change

fish

offspring

live young



Look like their adult.

Look like their adult.

**Do not look like
their adult.**

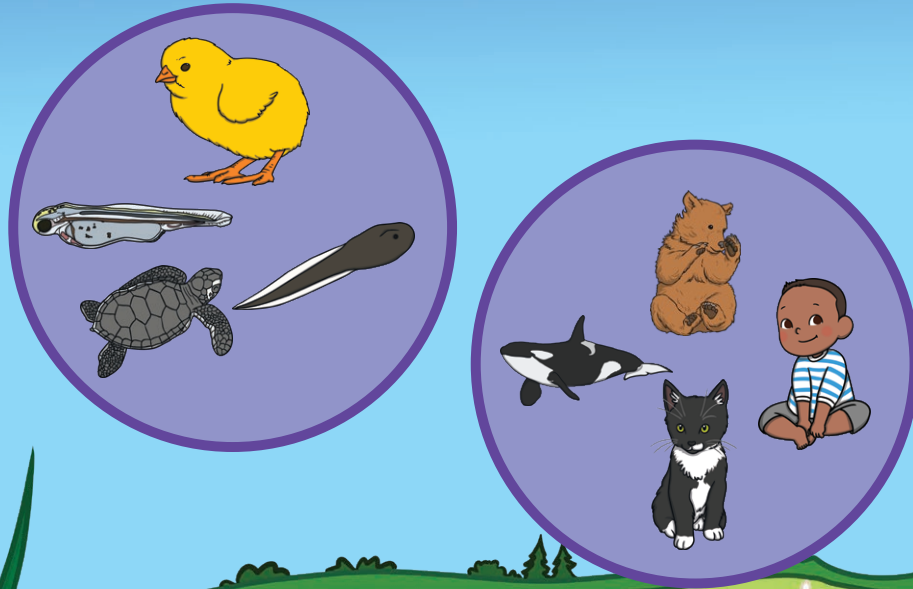
**Do not look like
their adult.**



Reasoning Cards

1

Here are some young animals sorted into two groups.



What could the titles of these groups be?

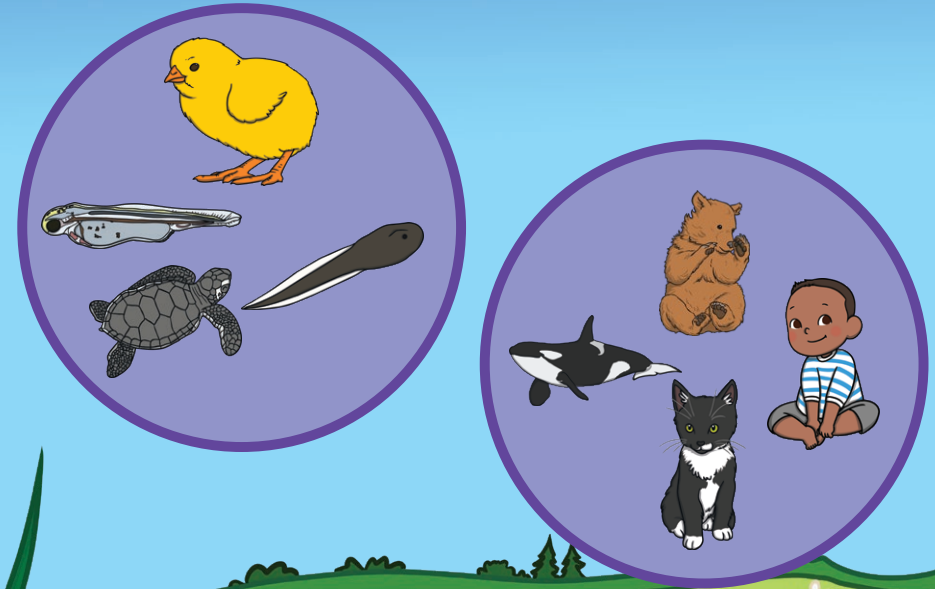
Can you think of another example of an animal to add to each group?

Can you sort the same animals into two different groups to these?

Reasoning Cards

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What could the titles of these groups be?

Can you think of another example of an animal to add to each group?

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Reasoning Card ①

What could the titles of these groups be?

'Animals That Lay Eggs' and 'Animals That Have Live Young' (or similar).

Can you think of another example of an animal to add to each group?

Answers may vary. Examples of egg-laying animals could include butterflies or types of birds (e.g. ducks). Examples of animals that have live young are likely to come from the mammal group (e.g. sheep or dogs) but children may mention other examples such as some snakes.

Can you sort the same animals into two different groups to these?

Children could sort the animals into those offspring that do look like their adult when they are born (turtle, chicken, orca, bear, human, cat) and those that do not (frog and goldfish).

Sorting Animals Question Prompts

To match, sort and group young animals and their adults.



Can you think of a different way to sort the animal picture cards?

Use these questions when looking at each animal to help you to think about how else to sort them.

? What sort of animal is this? Think about the animal groups.

? Does this animal give birth to live young?

? Does this offspring start as an egg?

? How is the offspring like its adult?

? How is the offspring different to its adult?

? How does the offspring change to become an adult? Does it just grow bigger? Does it change colour?



What Are Birds?

- ▶ Birds have wings, two legs and a beak.
- ▶ They are covered in feathers.
- ▶ Most birds can fly.
- ▶ All birds lay eggs.

Most birds are omnivores (animals that eat plants and meat) and eat small mammals, reptiles, fish, insects, seeds and berries.



blue tit

A few birds, including parrots, are herbivores and have a plant-based diet.

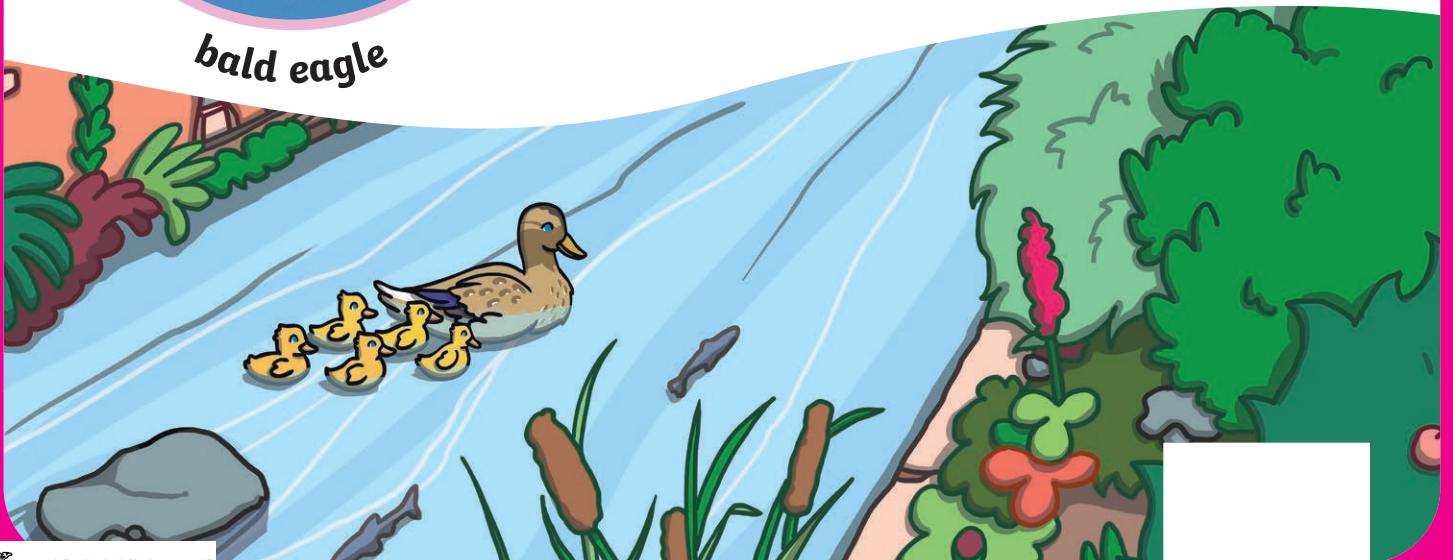


parrot



bald eagle

Some birds are carnivores, having a meat-based diet. Others are scavengers, hunting around for live prey and food left over from people and other animals.



What Are Reptiles?

- ▶ All reptiles live on land but some can also live in water.
- ▶ They breathe air.
- ▶ They are covered in dry scales.

Most reptiles have four legs. Snakes are an exception as they don't have any legs!



snake

Reptiles can be herbivores (animals that only eat plants), carnivores (animals that eat mostly meat) and omnivores (animals that eat both meat and plants).



crocodile



chameleon

Most reptiles lay eggs but some types of snakes and lizards give birth to live young.



What Are Fish?

- ▶ All fish live in water.
- ▶ They have gills to breathe with.
- ▶ Their fins and tail help them to swim.
- ▶ They are covered with scales.



Goldfish

Most fish are carnivores (animals that eat only meat) and eat small sea animals. A few fish are herbivores (animals that only eat plants) and eat seaweed and sea plants.

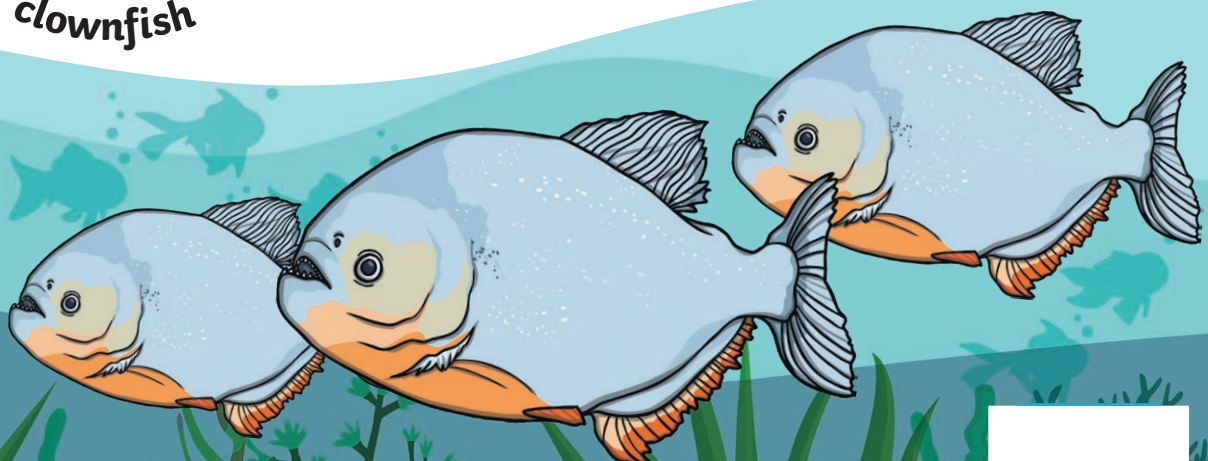


trout



clownfish

Most fish lay eggs, but there are some sharks that give birth to live young.



What Are Amphibians?

- ▶ They all have four legs.
- ▶ Some adult amphibians have a tail and some do not.
- ▶ They have moist, smooth skin.
- ▶ Most amphibians lay eggs.



frog

They are carnivores (animals that eat only meat) and eat small creatures such as spiders, beetles and worms.



toad



newt

Amphibians live in water when they are young but live on both land and water when they grow older.



What Are Mammals?

- ▶ Mammals are animals that breathe air, grow hair or fur and feed on milk as a baby.
- ▶ Mammals walk on two or four legs. There are some mammals that live in the sea and swim like fish do.
- ▶ Many mammals have a tail.



cat

Some mammals are herbivores (animals that only eat plants), some are omnivores (animals that eat both meat and plants), and other mammals are carnivores (animals that only eat meat).



elephant



platypus

Mammals give birth to live young, although there are a couple, such as platypuses, that lay eggs.

