

Animal classification: Outcomes and activities

God is Creator (Creation Day 6) Year 5

Spiritual Awareness

God created each animal according to its own kind. This meant that there were animal families (i.e. kinds), such as the dog family, the cat family, the horse family etc. Each of the animal families/kinds created in the Garden of Eden had a large genetic pool, giving rise to a great variety of animals within the particular animal family. For example, horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, zebras, are all of the same kind or family. However, there was no interbreeding between kinds. This meant that one species, (e.g. a horse), could not develop into another, (e.g. a dog). The genetic information for each kind was unique.

Values: Our response to 'God is Creator'

- **Thankfulness** to God for His supernatural ability to create and provide the things we need to live; thankfulness for His provision of animals.
- **Stewardship**: Care for the universe He has created; care for animals
- **Trust** in God's greatness and recognize that He is in control of all He has made.

Outcomes: Students will

- understand that living things grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves
- classify animals within the major groups, understanding that animals were created after their own kind
- understand that the variety of animals we see today developed from a large gene pool present in the animals aboard Noah's Ark

Bible stories and passages

- Genesis 1 The Creation story
- Genesis 1:29 In the perfect creation there was no killing. Animals ate plants. Permission to eat animals for food was only given after the Great Flood.
- Genesis 6-8 The animals were saved through Noah
- Romans 8:19-22 Creation waits to be freed from the curse.
- Isaiah 11:6-8 In the New Jerusalem the lion will lay down with the calf. Revelation 21:4 No more death or sorrow, crying or pain. Creation restored to perfection.

Bible verses

- Genesis 1:31 "God looked over all that He had made and He saw that it was very good."
- Luke 12:6 "Are not five sparrows sold for two cents? And yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Do not fear; you are of more value than many sparrows."
- Luke 12:24 "Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap; and they have no store room or barn, and yet God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than the birds!"

Key questions

About God:

Why does God say that humans are different to animals?

What do we mean by 'body, soul and spirit'?

Do animals have a personality?

Who spoiled God's perfect creation?
What is God's rescue plan?
What was the world like before the fall?
Were all animals once vegetarian? How do you know?
What has God told us to do about caring for animals?
How can we be God's caretakers?
What can people do today to help preserve endangered species of animals?
How could we explain to someone that God did not create the world through evolution?
Could God create the universe in six 24-hour days? Why do some people think He couldn't?
Did dinosaurs and humans live at the same time on the earth?
What happened to the dinosaurs?
How can we convince someone that man did not evolve from apes?

About animals:

What are the main groups of animals?
What makes an animal different to a plant?
What colours are animals?
How do animals move?
Which animals lay eggs?
Which animals do not have teeth?
Which animals do not have legs?
Does every animal have a mouth?
Which animals have warm blood and which animals have cold blood?

Activities

- Classify animals: reptiles, mammals, marsupials, fish, birds, amphibians.
- Classify according to: domestic animals and wild animals; pets and farm animals; pets and wild animals.
- Classify animals within their families e.g. different types of cats, dogs.
- Compare structural characteristics - eyes, ears, wings, limbs, teeth, beaks.
- Make collections of animal hair, fur, feathers, skin.
- Classify animals according to locomotion structures.
- Estimate speeds of various animals and compare these speeds using graphs.
- Give examples of where man has copied God's strategies and designs for locomotion in His creation.
- Collect photographs and drawings of animals.
- Observe wildlife videos.
- Discuss the reasons for animal extinction.
- Find out what is being done to protect endangered species.
- Discuss importance of animals to man.
- Discuss the value of pets and responsibilities in caring for them.

Assessment

1. Make a fact sheet about your favourite animal. Include a picture.
2. What have I learned from the study of animals about God and the Bible and about doing what God wants me to do?

Values education Year 5

God is Creator

Caring for the environmental

God tells us that we are to care for His creation and the resources He has given us.

Ways to care for the environment:

- look after the plants, animals, soil and water in the environment
- think about the future and doing things that will keep the environment safe from destruction in the future
- act responsibly when we use plants, animals, soil and water in our environment
- show wisdom in using and preserving our nation's resources
- be wise stewards of the earth's resources
- make wise use of the resources that God has provided
- recycle

What does the Bible say about environmental sustainability?

Genesis 1:28-31 God said, "Be fruitful, fill the earth and subdue it."

Genesis 1:29 "God said, Look I have given you all the plants that have grain for seeds in them. They will be food for you."

Genesis 2:15 God put man in charge of the creation

1 Cor 4:2 Stewards should be trustworthy

Proverbs 4:7 The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.

Psalms 96:11-12 Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice, the sea and all that is in it...

Art year 5

God is Creator

Animal classification

Bible theme and Wall display: Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind”; and it was so.

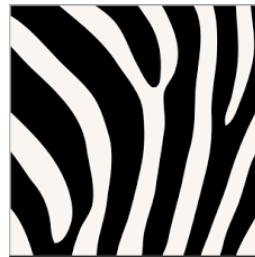
Drawing / Painting / Collage

Make a large mural of the creation. Students can create and add individual pieces, e.g. plants or animals.



Drawing: Patterns in nature

Students can draw animals, thinking about visual patterns. Once the shape of the animal is drawn, the shape can be filled with patterns. These patterns can be abstract.



Thinking Skills Creator Yr 5

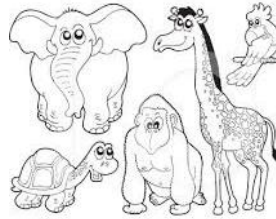
| | |
|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Animals 1</p> <p>List as many different 'kinds' of animals as You can.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Animals 2</p> <p>Invent a mythical animal that could survive in the desert. List it's food, habitat and defense mechanisms.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Animals 3</p> <p>Imagine that you are in an animal's body for one day. Make a list of your activities and adventures, from morning to night.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Animals 4</p> <p>Make a list of animals from A-Z. Write one fact about each one.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Animals 5</p> <p>Make a plan for saving an endangered species.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Animals 6</p> <p>Think of 3 ways to help homeless dogs and cats.</p> |

Living Things 1

How do we know that something is living?

A living thing

- grows
- breathes
- has babies



What are the main types of living things?

- humans
- animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, frogs, mini-beasts, sea creatures, germs)
- plants

How do humans and animals grow?

- eat food
- drink water

How do plants grow?

- take in food and water through the roots and leaves

How do humans and animals breathe?

- Humans and most animals breathe through lungs.

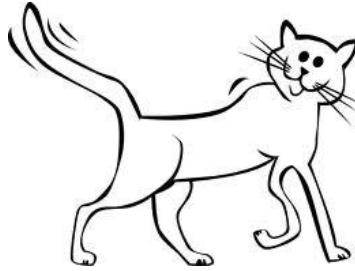
What do lungs look like?

How do plants breathe?

- take in air through small holes in the leaves

Living Things 2

What is a mammal?



Mammals are animals that

- have warm blood
- have backbones
- have babies that grow inside the mother and are born
- have babies that feed on their mother's milk
- do not lay eggs

Here are some examples of mammals:

- humans
- tigers
- cows

WAIT!

There are just two mammals that DO lay eggs!

They are from Australia.

- echidna
- platypus

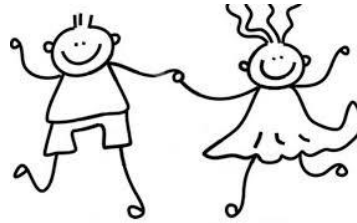
Most mammals have hair, wool or fur.

WAIT!

There are two mammals that do not have hair, wool or fur.

- whales
- dolphins

Living Things 3



Why are people special?

People are different from animals because

- we are God's special creatures
- God made us to be His friends
- God loves us more than anything else in His creation
- we can do very special things that animals cannot do
- we can talk to God and God can talk to us
- we have been told by God to look after all of His creation

Some Bible verses from the Good News Bible:

Then God said, "And now we will make human beings; they will be like us. They will have power over the fish, the birds and the animals." (Genesis 1:26)

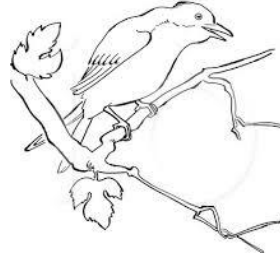
God created them male and female, he blessed them and said, "Have many children so that your children will live all over the earth. I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds and the wild animals." (Genesis 1:27 -28)

Who made the world? (Remember that God is made up of three people – that's why the Bible says 'we will make human beings'.

What can we do to look after God's creation?

Living Things 4

About birds



What makes a bird a bird?

- has warm blood
- lays eggs
- makes a nest
- keeps its eggs warm
- has a backbone
- has wings
- can fly

WAIT!

A few birds have wings but cannot fly:

- emus from Australia
- ostriches from Africa
- kiwis from New Zealand
- penguins

What do birds eat?

- some eat only seeds.
- some eat insects and worms
- some eat fish or small animals

What kinds of birds live in your area?

What different kinds of beaks do they have?

What kind of nests do they make?

What do they eat?

How can birds fly?

Living Things 5

About reptiles



What makes a reptile a reptile?

- cold blooded
- breathes with lungs
- has a backbone
- lays eggs
- has scales on the skin

Which reptiles crawl on short legs?

- lizards
- alligators
- crocodiles
- turtles and tortoises
- chameleons

Which reptiles crawl with no legs?

- snakes

How do tortoises and turtles protect themselves?

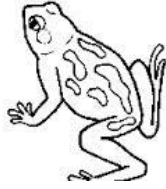
Why do reptiles like to lie in the sun?

How do reptiles survive when it is cold?

- hibernate (go to sleep)

Living Things 6

What is an amphibian?



- lives on land some of the time and in water some of the time
- lays eggs
- babies hatch in water

Frogs and salamanders are amphibians.

Find out what kind of frogs live in your area.

What do frogs eggs look like?

What do they hatch into?

- tadpoles

How do tadpoles breathe?

- They breathe underwater with gills, like fish.

How do frogs breathe?

- They breathe with lungs, like we do.
- They also breathe through their skins.

How does a frog swim?

- with its legs and feet
- The feet are webbed to help it swim.

What do frogs eat?

- worms and insects
- They catch insects with their sticky tongues.

Living Things 7

About fish



How does a fish breathe?

- has gills to breathe under water

What kind of body does a fish have?

- scales on its skin
- a backbone and smaller bones
- most fish have a narrow body.
- some are streamlined to help them swim fast.

How does a fish swim?

- tail and fins

What do fish eat?

- seaweed
- insects
- shellfish
- other fish

Is a fish warm blooded like a human?

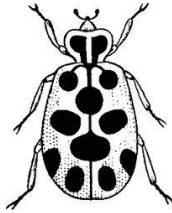
- No. Fish are cold blooded like reptiles.
- Their blood is the same temperature as the water.
- Tropical fish cannot live in very cold water.

What kinds of fish live in the sea or rivers in your area?

Living Things 8

What is an insect?

- an animal
- a mini-beast with six legs



What is special about its body?

- three parts – head, chest and tail part
- the tail part is the stomach.
- insects do not have backbones but a hard covering.

Do all insects have wings?

- No

Which insects have wings?

Do ants have wings?

- only some

How do these insects help us?

- bees
- insects that eat other insects

Why are these insects a pest?

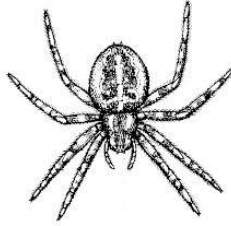
- flies
- mosquitoes

Do insects lay eggs? Yes.

Have you seen any insect eggs?

Living Things 9

About spiders



What is a spider?

- an animal
- a mini-beast with 8 legs

What is special about a spider's body?

- Two parts: head and chest together as one part; the stomach is the other part
- Spiders do not have backbones but a hard covering.

Why do spiders bite?

- to kill the insects they catch

Why do spiders spin webs?

- to catch insects

How do spiders spin webs?

- They have silk that comes from tiny holes at the tail end.

Do all spiders spin webs?

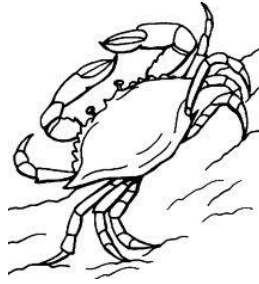
- No. Some have holes in the ground with a trap door at the top.

What kinds of spiders live in your area?

Are any of them poisonous to humans?

Living Things 10

About crabs



What is special about a crab?

- a sea creature with ten legs
- a crustacean
- front legs have claws or nippers
- does not have bones
- has a strong thick shell to protect it
- carries its eggs under its body
- breathes with gills like fish do

What does the crab use its nipper for?

- to pick up food
- to fight other crabs

What do crabs eat?

- dead fish and dead sea animals

What is special about crab's eyes?

- on the end of stalks
- can see in all directions
- can see when there is danger

How does a crab hide when there is danger?

- digs itself under the sand

*Did you know that **slaters** are in the same family as crabs?*

Living Things 11

About shellfish



Some shellfish have one shell. Some have two shells.

What is special about shellfish with one shell?

- live on rocks
- have one large foot for clinging on to the rock
- move along with its foot

What is special about shellfish with two shells?

- live in sand or mud
- have one large foot that's used to dig into the sand or mud

Which of these have one shell? Which have two shells?

- oyster
- sea snail

What do shellfish eat?

- sea weed and tiny sea plants floating in the water
- other shell fish

Do all shellfish live in the sea?

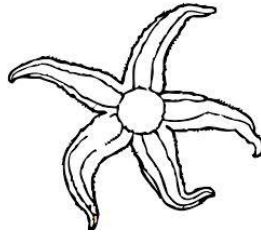
- No. Some live in rivers.

Is a land snail a shell fish?

- No, but it belongs to the same animal family.

Living Things 12

About starfish



Are starfish really fish?

- No. They are also called sea stars.

How does a starfish move?

- with many tiny feet under its arms

How does a starfish cling on to rocks?

- with its feet
- feet are suction tubes

What does a starfish eat?

- shellfish, seaweed and dead sea animals

What does a starfish use its arms for?

- to open shellfish

How does a starfish eat?

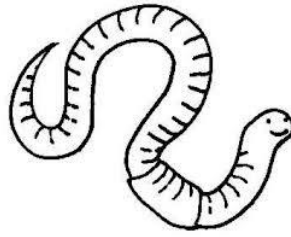
- has a mouth in the middle of its body
- mouth is on the underside

How many arms do starfish have?

- most have five but can have more

What happens if a starfish loses an arm?

- can grow another arm



Living Things 13

About earthworms

What job does the earthworm do for us?

- breaks up the soil to help our plants grow
- makes little tunnels under the soil so that the plant roots can get air

An earthworm has no eyes, ears or feelers so how does it know when there is danger about?

- feels vibrations in the earth

How does an earthworm move?

- uses bristles on his body to help it wriggle along
- stretches out long and thin, then shrinks again

What is special about an earthworm's body?

- made up of 16 sections
- has five hearts (in sections 7,8,9,10,11)

What does an earthworm eat?

- soil that has dead plants in it (compost)

How does an earthworm produce babies?

- lays eggs in a cocoon around its middle

What colours are earthworms?

- red or grey

Living Things 14

About green plants



Why are plants different to animals?

- cannot move along
- do not eat

What are the parts of a plant?

- leaves, roots, stems, flowers

How do green plants get their food?

- green parts of the plant are like a food making factory
- use air, sunlight and water to make sugar which gets stored

Why are leaves important?

- to make food for the plant
- so that the plant can breathe

What are roots for?

- to hold the plant in the ground
- to get water and nutrients for the plant

Why are stems important?

- to hold up the plant so it can get sunlight

Why are the flowers important?

- their seeds make new plants

Living Things 15

About flowering plants



What makes up the bright coloured part of the flower?

- petals

What is in the middle of the flower?

- the seed box

What is around the seed box?

- yellow stalks that have pollen on them

Seeds in the seed box need the pollen to grow. How does the pollen get into the seed box?

- Bees take it there when they feed from the flower.
- Pollen sticks to the bee's furry body.
- Sometimes wind moves it into the seed box.

Why do most flowers have bright colours?

- God gives us colour to make us happy.
- Bees can see the bright colour and go to the flower.

Why do some flowers have a strong smell?

- Bees can find the flower because of its smell.

Once pollen is in the seed box, the seeds need to find some soil to grow in.
How do seeds travel? (birds, animals, wind)

What kinds of flowers grow in your area?



Living Things 16

About green plants with no flowers

Not all plants have flowers. Some plants do not need bees and flowers for their seeds to grow.

Pine trees do not have flowers.

They have cones.

When the cones are dry the seeds fall out and start new trees.

Where do pine trees grow?

Ferns do not have flowers.

Ferns have little brown spots on the back of their leaves. Seed dust comes from these spots. It falls to the ground and makes new ferns.

Where do ferns grow?

Moss does not have flowers.

It does not need seeds to grow. If you break a piece off and plant it, it will grow into a new plant.

Where does moss grow?

Living Things 17

About fungi



What colours are fungi?

- brown, red, orange, white, black, purple, pink

Fungi are not green plants so they cannot make their own food.

What do fungi need to grow?

- dead plants, dead animals or animal droppings in the soil
- water
- most don't need sunlight

What types of fungi are there?

- mushrooms, toadstools, mould, yeast and more

Fungi do not have flowers, so how are new fungi made?

- spores underneath drop into the soil and start a new fungi

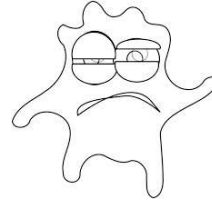
What kinds of fungi can we eat?

What kinds of fungi are poisonous to eat?

What kinds of fungi grow in your area?

Living Things 18

About germs



What are germs?

- tiny living things that can act like plants or animals

Where do germs live?

- everywhere on the earth – even on you

Are germs good or bad?

- There are good and bad germs.
- Bad germs make you sick.
- Bad germs rot your teeth.
- Good germs can help us.
- Yoghurt is made by putting good germs into milk.

What do germs eat?

- everything that humans eat
- dead stuff, dirty stuff
- fungi

How do bad germs spread?

- flies and mosquitoes
- dirty water, dirty hands, decayed food
- dirty dishes, dish cloths and tea towels
- coughs and sneezes

How do we stop bad germs from making us sick?

Reptiles 1

Reptiles are vertebrates

This means that they have backbones. Animals with backbones are called vertebrates.

The small bones in the backbone are called vertebrae.

Vertebrae help the reptiles to bend easily.

How many reptiles have you seen?

Snake

Lizard

Gecko

Turtle

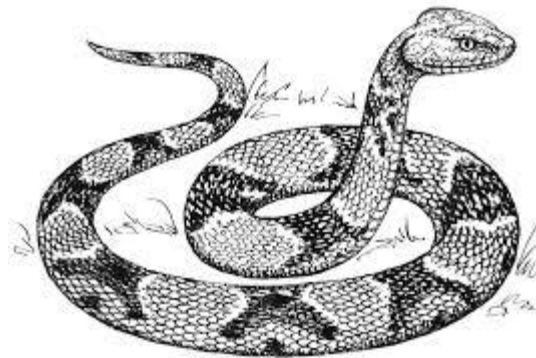
Tortoise

Alligator

Crocodile

Iguana

Chameleon



*Find out which reptiles live in your area. Write a list.
Are any of them dangerous?*

Reptiles 2

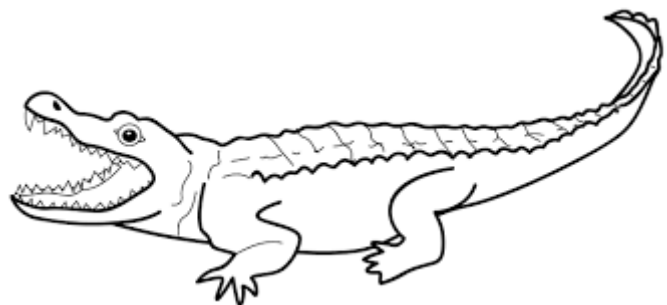
Reptiles are cold blooded

Their body temperatures change with the areas around them. A gecko that is too cold sits in the sun to warm up.

On a hot day, an alligator's body temperature gets very warm. It lies in the water to cool off.

Why do reptiles need to stay in a warm place?

What does an alligator do when it gets too hot?



Reptiles 3

Bodies of reptiles

Reptile bodies come in many shapes.

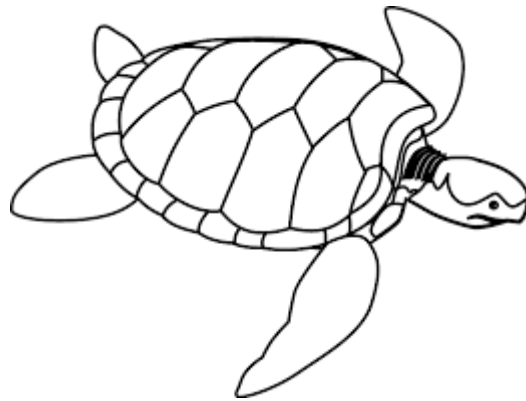
Tortoises and turtles have four legs and a short tail.
A hard shell covers their bodies.

Iguanas and other lizards have four legs and a long tail.

Crocodiles also have four legs and a tail.

Snakes are long reptiles without legs.

Draw two different kinds of reptiles and write about the differences in their bodies.



Reptiles 4

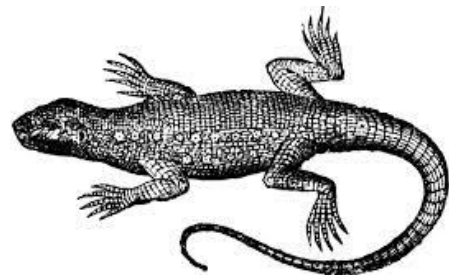
Reptiles have scales

All reptiles have hard, dry skin.

Reptiles are covered with folded pieces of hard skin called scales.

Most reptiles shed their skin. New scales grow under the old ones. The old scales fall off.

Draw a reptile showing the scales on its skin.



Reptiles 5

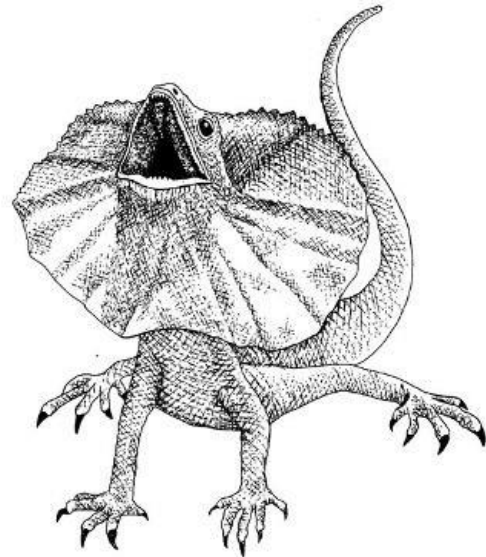
How reptiles breathe

Reptiles breathe air through lungs. Most reptiles have two lungs. Some snakes have only one lung. Reptiles breathe in air through their noses or mouths.

Reptiles open their mouth when they are too hot, to help them cool down.

Draw a reptile with its mouth open.

A frilled-neck lizard from Australia



Reptiles 6

What reptiles eat

Most reptiles eat meat. They eat mice, frogs and insects.

Some snakes have venom in a sac in their head. When they bite their prey it becomes paralyzed.

Alligators and snakes catch prey with their teeth.

Some reptiles eat plants.

Iguanas live in central and south America. They eat flowers and fruit.

Green sea turtles eat seaweed and sea grasses.

Draw some meat eating reptiles and list their food.

Draw some plant eating reptiles and list their food.

Iguana



Reptiles 7

Eggs and young

Most reptiles hatch from eggs.

Turtle and alligator eggs have hard shells.

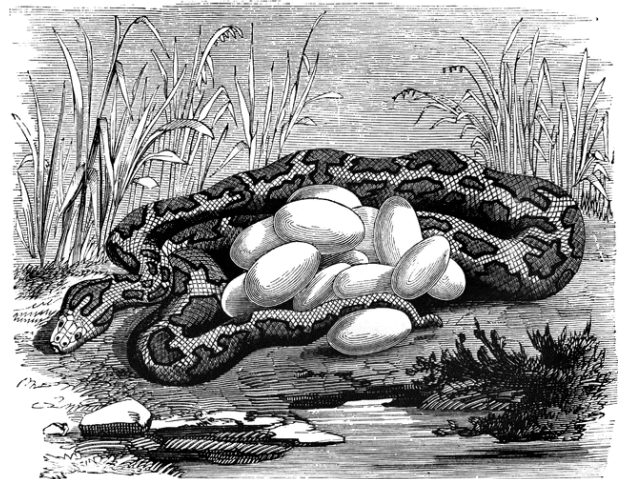
Turtles come ashore to lay their eggs. When the babies hatch they make walk to the sea. Many get eaten by birds.

Snake and lizard eggs are soft.

Some snakes and lizards are born live. Baby snakes must hunt for food as soon as they are born.

What is the difference between snake's eggs and turtle's eggs?

What are the dangers for young turtles?



Reptiles 8

The Komodo Dragon

Komodo dragons are the largest living lizards in the world. They have flat heads, bowed legs and long, thick tails. Komodos are very rare and are found in the wild only on five islands of Indonesia. One of these islands is called Komodo.

Males can grow to 3 meters in length. Females grow to 1.8 metres.

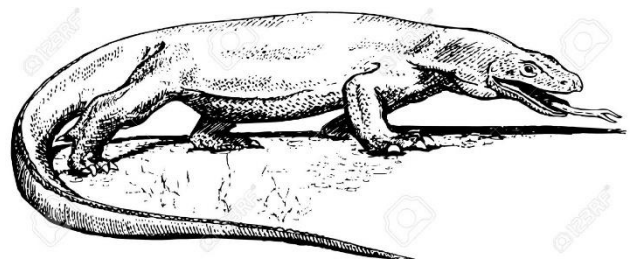
Komodos come in a variety of colors, including blue, orange, green and grey. Their skin is rough and has bony plates.

They have long claws and a large, strong tail.

Komodos have good vision; they can see objects as far away as 300 metres. They are also fast. They can run for short distances up to 20 kph

They have a good sense of smell. This helps them to hunt. They are such fierce hunters they can eat very large prey, such as large water buffalo, deer, pigs and even humans. They will also eat smaller dragons. They can eat 80 percent of their body weight in one feeding

Write five facts about the Komodo dragon.



Birds 1

About birds

Student activities

All birds have wings, although not all birds can fly. Kiwis, penguins, emus and ostriches are birds which have wings but do not fly.

A bird's blood is warm. Even penguins have warm blood.

All birds lay eggs. Some birds make their nests in trees. Some birds make their nests on the ground. Some birds make their nests in holes in banks.

Eggs can be white, coloured or speckled. All birds keep their eggs warm.



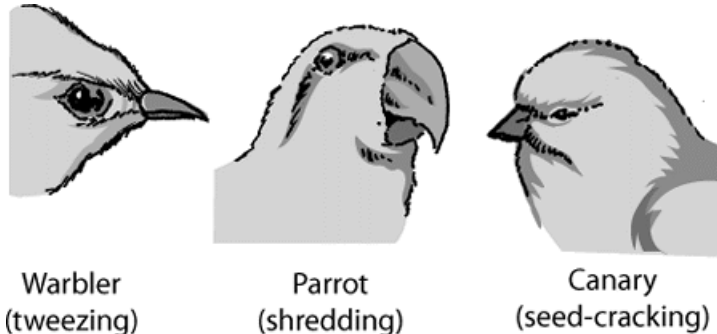
Some birds eat insects. Some birds eat seeds. Some birds eat worms, some birds eat fish. Some birds eat small animals.

1. Draw a picture of a bird that cannot fly.
2. Name a bird that builds a nest in a tree.
3. Name a bird that makes a nest on the ground.
4. Why do birds keep their eggs warm?
5. Name a bird that eats fish or small animals.

Birds 2

Food and beaks

Birds have no teeth but have beaks. There are many different kinds of beaks.



All birds have backbones. Birds are not mammals. They do not feed their young on milk but find food to feed their babies.

1. Name a bird that eats seeds.
2. Name a bird that eats insects.
3. Name a bird that eats worms.
4. What do mother birds feed their babies?
5. Draw some birds showing different kinds of beaks.

Birds 3

Types of birds

Perching birds

More than half of the different types of birds in the world are perching birds, for example, hens, finches and wrens. They have special feet for gripping the branches. Three toes point forward and one points backwards. This means that the bird can sleep without falling off its perch.

Birds of prey

With their sharp talons, hooked beak, excellent eye-sight and powerful wings, birds of prey are designed for hunting. Many birds of prey, such as eagle and hawks, spot their prey from the air. It may be a fish, a mouse or a snake. Then they swoop down and scoop it up with their feet.

Water birds

Many birds live near rivers, lakes or the sea. Ducks, swans and geese have waterproof feathers and webbed feet for swimming. Flamingoes have long legs for wading through shallow water. To feed, they stick their heads upside-down in the water and catch tiny water animals with their beaks.

Flightless birds

Not all birds can fly but they have other ways of getting about. Penguins are fast swimmers, using their wings and flippers. Ostriches and emus have long legs and are very fast runners.

Name and draw one bird from each group above. Write a sentence or two about each bird.

Birds 4

Long journeys

Some birds make long journeys to find warmer places to live. In places with cold winters, there is less food for the birds, so they fly together in a group to a warmer place that has more food. Then they fly back again for the summer. This is called migration.

Birds find their way by watching the sun during the day and following the stars by night. Something inside them acts like a clock. It tells them when to set off.

Before they set off birds eat plenty of food to store up energy for their long journey.

Migrating birds travel over oceans, deserts, mountains and arctic regions.

1. Why do birds migrate?
2. How do they find their way?
3. Who do you think gave them the ability to know when it is time to set off?



Birds 5

A bird's body

To help birds fly, God made their bodies very light and streamlined. This means they have a smooth shape so they can slip through the air easily.

Feathers

Birds are the only animals that have feathers. Small birds have about 1,000 feathers. Large birds can have as many as 25,000.

Eggs

All birds lay eggs. God planned this so that they would not have to carry their young around inside them before they are born.

Wings

Birds have wings instead of arms. They are strong and light enough to make a bird fly when it flaps them. This makes the air pass through.

Necks

Birds have very flexible necks. They can turn their heads backwards to clean themselves.

Ears

A bird's ears are hard to see. But they can hear very quiet sounds.

1. What is special about a bird's body?
2. What would happen if birds carried their babies around in their bodies?
3. What happens when a bird flaps its wings?

Birds 6

Feathers

Feathers keep birds warm, stop their bodies from getting wet and help them to fly. Here are some different types of feathers on a bird's body:

Down feathers

These are the very soft ones next to the bird's skin. They help keep the bird warm.

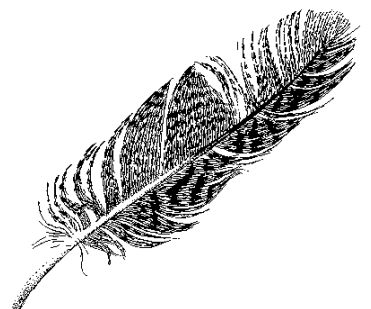
Tail feathers

Birds use their tail feathers to steer themselves in the air and to balance on the ground.

Body feathers

Body feathers lie smoothly over the down feathers. They are oily so that they are waterproof. This stops the bird getting cold and wet.

1. What type of feathers keep a bird warm?
2. What type of feathers stop the bird from getting wet?
3. How do these feathers stop the bird from getting wet?
4. What do birds use their tail feathers for?



Birds 7

About the Kakapo

Read the following and write three facts about the Kakapo

The kakapo is a parrot of New Zealand. It almost became extinct. Although the kakapo has wings it does not fly. It climbs trees using its claws and beak. It hunts by night and sleeps during the day. The kakapo is a friendly bird, quite happy to be up close to humans. To attract the females, the males make a booming sound at night which sounds like distant thunder. He does this by inflating air into special sacs in his body, a bit like blowing up a balloon, and then releasing the air.



Why did the kakapo almost become extinct?

When Maori people arrived in New Zealand about 1000 years ago, the kakapo was an easily hunted because it was asleep during the day. When Europeans came to New Zealand about 200 years ago they brought with them animals like cats, foxes and weasels, so by the late 19th century kakapos were almost extinct. In 1970 it was thought that the kakapo was extinct, but in 1977 a colony of about 200 kakapos was found on Stewart Island, an island just off the southern most point of New Zealand. The kakapos were moved to another island that had no cats and dogs. That is how the kakapo has survived.

The Kakapo: a parrot from New Zealand that does not fly.

What can we learn from the kakapo? Write three points.

- When parrots were released from Noah's ark, they could ALL fly.
- The flying parrots reached New Zealand from the ark, but one day in New Zealand, a flightless parrot hatched from an egg of a flying parrot. This was not meant to be. It was an example of something that went wrong. The Bible tells us that because of Adam and Eve's sin back in the Garden of Eden, things in the creation started going wrong. (Romans 8:19-22)
- The flightless parrot had flightless babies, and they grew up and produced flightless babies. These flightless birds were able to survive in New Zealand because there were no animals there that would eat them. They had not made the sea crossing.
- When humans came, and brought with them predators like cats and weasels, the kakapo almost became extinct.
- When something goes wrong in the process of animals producing their young, we call it a mutation.

- Mutations are when living things go from being perfect to less perfect.
- God's original creation was perfect, but things have gone wrong over the years, and now the creation is not so perfect.
- People who believe in evolution would say that things go from nothing into something fantastic, like slime that turns into a more complex animal, and that animals turn into an ape that turns into a human.

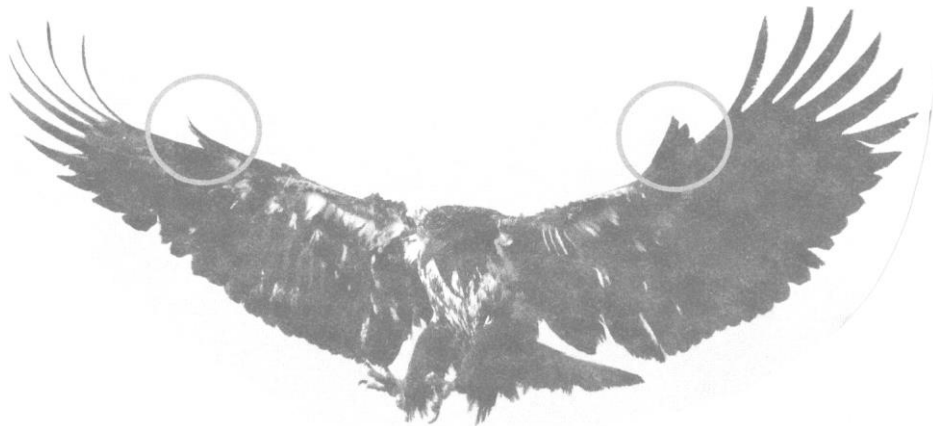
But we can see from the kakapo that our creation is not getting better. God made it perfect in the beginning.

Birds 8

What do jumbo jets and eagles have in common?

When a jumbo jet approaches an airport to land, the pilot deploys flaps on the leading edges of the wings. This allows the plane to fly at a low speed without stalling. Leading edge flaps were unknown in birds until now. A study of the Steppe eagle, at the Oxford University of England, shows that this bird has special leading edge feathers that it uses during takeoff and landing. These special feathers have been captured on video footage. The eagle deploys a wing flap on the front edge of the wing, just as a jumbo jet does. This flap helps the eagle to lift off when flying at low speeds and high angles of attack. It stabilizes the wing during unsteady flying movements.

Such wonderful design features did not come about by chance, but were designed by the Great Designer.



What does the eagle use its leading-edge feathers for?