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Animal Life Cycles

Subject Area

The Natural World

Topics & Curriculum Links

life cycles (Science)

animal classification (Science)

parts of the body (Science)

animals and their environments (Science; Geography)

dangers in the environment (Geography; Civics)

protecting animals (Science; Civics)

quantities and measurements (Mathematics)

Vocabulary

animals; parts of the body; places; food; weather; plants; measurements; numbers

Grammar

present simple; past simple; future simple; question forms; imperative; passive; adjectives; prepositions; adverbs

Teaching Ideas

See also [pages 6–7](#) for general ideas that you can adapt. Or go to www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readanddiscover

READ & TALK A Life Cycle Presentation

After completing Project 1, students present their animal life cycle poster to the rest of the class. They can describe their animal and its life cycle, or other students can ask the questions on page 52 of the Reader. Posters can then be displayed together, organizing them by type of animal.

READ & TALK A Life Cycles Quiz

Ask the class true/false quiz questions, using facts from the Reader. Students can work in pairs or small groups. Then in pairs or small groups, students can ask their own questions.

Life Cycles Research

Students choose another animal and do research on its life cycle, using books or the Internet. They can choose an animal from their country, or an animal with a really amazing life cycle. Students then write about their findings and display the information. They can work in groups, and posters can then be displayed together, organizing them by type of animal, or habitat.

Activities Answers

Page 36–37 1 1 backbone 2 very small 3 arthropods 4 invertebrates 5 vertebrates 2 Invertebrates: Arthropods, snail, sponge, Flatworms, threadworm; Vertebrates: frog, Reptiles, Mammals 3 1 animals that eat plants and animals: omnivores 2 when sperm joins with an egg: fertilization 3 animals that have a backbone: vertebrates 4 animals that produce sperm: males 5 animals that eat plants: herbivores 6 an important group of invertebrates: arthropods 7 an important group of vertebrates: reptiles 8 animals that eat other animals: carnivores 9 animals that produce eggs: females 10 animals that have no backbone: invertebrates 4 **Example answers** 1 When animals are the same in many ways. 2 Because they hunt, cut down trees, and build houses and roads on land. 3 150 years 4 a few hours 5 No, they lay eggs. 6 They feed them milk, and some stay with them for many years.

Page 38–39 1 1 pupa 2 hatches 3 exoskeleton 4 larvae 5 cockroaches 6 molt 7 metamorphosis 8 nymphs 9 caterpillar 10 fireflies 2 1 insect 2 an egg 3 incomplete 4 complete 5 30,000 3 1 a larva 2 a nymph 3 It comes off. 4 by singing 5 in a hole in dead wood 6 So that they are camouflaged.

Page 40–41 1 Insects: bee, butterfly, cricket, locust; Other Invertebrates: spider, lobster, octopus, earthworm; Vertebrates: frog, hummingbird, gorilla, snake 2 **Example answers** 1 They produce silk. 2 Most hatch after a few days or weeks. 3 Baby spiders are also called spiderlings; Another thing: free answers 3 1 200,000 2 three 3 ten 4 12 5 10,000, ten 6 25 4 1 Lobsters live at the top of the ocean after they hatch. 2 Earthworms are hermaphrodites. 3 Octopuses put their eggs in strings. 4 Lobsters carry their eggs hidden under their tail. 5 Earthworms have male and female parts. 6 Octopuses die after their eggs hatch. 7 Lobsters often eat their old shell after molting. 8 Earthworms keep their eggs in special rings. 9 Octopuses live in dens at the bottom of the ocean.

Page 42–43 1 Fish: water, cold-blooded; Young Fish: no fins, can't swim well, predators (seals, birds, frogs, and other fish), Food: yolk bag, small plants, insect eggs or larvae 2 1 seahorse 2 shark 3 tuna fish 4 whale shark 5 stickleback 6 salmon 3 1 true 2 false 3 true 4 true 5 false 6 false 4 1 hatch 2 swim 3 breed 4 die; (picture order, left to right): 2, 1, 4, 3

Page 44–45 1 Amphibian Larvae: (X), (✓), (✓), (X); Amphibian Adults: (✓), (X), (X), (✓); 1 Amphibian larvae don't have lungs. They have gills. 2 Amphibian adults have lungs and usually live on land. 2 1 salamander 2 midwife toad 3 tadpole 4 darwin's frog 3 1 Most amphibians live for some of their life in air water and for some of their life on land. 2 Only 50% 5% of the eggs that frogs lay will become adults. 3 During metamorphosis, many amphibians become herbivores carnivores. 4 Most amphibians go to dry wet places to breed. 4 1 thousands 2 They close. 3 Through their skin and their lungs. 4 Because they can only breathe through their skin if it's wet. 5 They croak and shout.

Page 46–47 1 1 turtle 2 lizard 3 snake 4 crocodile 2 1 If a predator catches a lizard, the lizard can break off its tail. 2 Monitor lizards fight for a mate. 3 To find a mate, crocodiles blow bubbles in the water. 4 When a snake grows, its old skin come off. 5 Alligators make a nest from mud and leaves. 3 1 cold-blooded 2 scales 3 legs 4 whiptail 4 1 true 2 true 3 false 4 true 5 1 Most reptiles hatch from eggs. 2 Chameleons can change color. 3 Alligators lay their eggs in a big nest. 4 Snakes find their mate by smell.

Page 48–49 1 (top to bottom, left to right): (✓), (X), (✓), (✓), (✓), (X); 1 Birds have feathers. 2 Birds don't have fur or hair. 3 Birds lay eggs. 4 Birds have wings. 5 Birds built nests. 6 Birds don't feed their babies milk. 2 1 It's when male birds try to find female birds that they can mate with. 2 To keep their eggs and chicks safe and warm. 3 Usually brown and speckled. 4 To fly to warmer places for winter. 3 1 frigate bird: he pushes his red throat out 2 blue-footed booby: he shows his big blue feet 3 songbird: he sings 4 bower bird: he builds a special place with bright colored things inside 4 **Example answers** 1 grass, mud, twigs 2 trees, cliffs, ground 3 to fly, to feed, to sing, to keep safe 5 1 Birds keep their eggs warm. 2 Ostriches lay the biggest eggs. 3 Chicks have a special 'tooth' on their beak. 4 Cuckoos lay their eggs in other birds' nests.

Page 50–51 1 1 polar bear 2 anteater 3 giraffe 4 person 5 leopard 6 kangaroo 7 shrew 8 elephant; (in correct order) 1 It digs a den in the snow so its babies will be warm. (polar bear) 2 It carries its babies on its back for the first year. (anteater) 3 It fights with its neck with other males when it's ready to mate. (giraffe) 4 You are one! (person) 5 It makes marks on trees when it's looking for a mate. (leopard) 6 It grows in its mother's pouch for up to a year after it is born. (kangaroo) 7 Its gestation time is only two weeks. (shrew) 8 It stays close to its mother until it's ten years old. (elephant) 2 1 2 2 5 3 females 4 milk 5 fur or hair 3 1 gestation 2 placenta 3 marsupials 4 habitats 4 Insects: butterfly (and free answers)