

Title: Join the Herd

Objective: Classify animals within four categories

Time: 5 minutes

Materials Needed: Sticky notes with animal names (see Background information for ideas)

News and Announcements

Suggested Season: Any

Suggested Grade Level: 1-5

Indoors or Outdoors: Indoor

Theme: Animal Characteristics

Topic: Animal Classification

Directions:

1. On the News and Announcements chart, draw a square and divide it into four equal sections.
2. Label each section with one of the following: MAMMAL, AMPHIBIAN, REPTILE or BIRD.
3. Write: "Choose one sticky note and place it in the category it belongs to."

Discussion Questions:

1. What do the animals in the MAMMAL section have in common? AMPHIBIAN? REPTILE? BIRD?
2. What other animals could we put into these categories?

Variation:

Students that are familiar with these classifications could simply write an animal in one of the categories.

Standards Addressed:

Science: 0.4.1.1.1.; 0.4.1.1.2.; 1.4.1.1.1.; 2.1.1.2.1.; 3.1.1.1.1.; 5.4.1.1.1.; 6.1.3.1.1.

Language Arts: K.I.B.; K.I.C.; K.II.B.; K.III.A.; 1.I.A.1.; 1.I.C.; 1.III.A.; 1.III.B.1.; 2.I.C.; 2.III.A.; 2.III.B.; 3.I.B.1.; 3.III.A.5.; 4.I.B.1.; 5.I.B.

Math:

Social Studies:

Background Information:

- **Mammals:** Nearly all mammals give birth to live young and all are warm-blooded. They are vertebrates, use lungs to breathe air, and are the only animals that grow hair. For example: squirrel, fox, coyote, sheep, porcupine, polar bear, and camel.
- **Amphibians:** Amphibians lead one life in water and one on land. Many begin life with gills and then develop lungs as they age. They are vertebrate animals and are cold-blooded, using the environment to regulate their body temperature. For example: frog, toad, salamander, and newt.
- **Reptiles:** Most reptiles live on land and most lay eggs. They are vertebrates and are covered in scales. They are cold-blooded as well. For example: alligator, turtle, gecko, snake, crocodile, and lizard.
- **Birds:** There are about 10,000 species of birds found in every shape and size. All birds lay eggs to incubate their young and all have feathers. Birds also have wings which most use for flight. For example: robin, bald eagle, blue jay, and flamingo.

Additional Resources:

- <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>
This site includes a lot of information about specific animals.

Correlates with:

Greeting – Join the Herd

Activity – Join the Herd