

ANIMALS

Memory Activity

Look at the picture for 1 minute. Turn it over. How many animals can you remember?

Animal Names

Here are the names of all the animals. Complete the names. Then write the number next to the picture.

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|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. A fr_g | 9. A d_ck | 17. A f_sh |
| 2. An _l_ph_nt | 10. A p_g | 18. A fl_ |
| 3. A b_rd | 11. A m_nk_y | 19. A m_ _ s_ |
| 4. A b_tt_rfl_ | 12. A d_g | 20. A ch_ck_n |
| 5. A sp_d_r | 13. A t_rtl_ | 21. A h_rs_ |
| 6. A l_ _n | 14. A b_ _tl_ | 22. A w_sp |
| 7. A c_t | 15. A t_g_r | 23. A c_w |
| 8. A b_ _r | 16. A cr_c_d_l_ | 24. A sh_rk |

Now organise the animals into categories. Make your own categories.

Animal Body Parts

Write the name of the animal next to the description.

1. This animal has hooves, a tail and a mane.

2. This animal has sharp teeth, a tail and fins.

3. This animal has a tail, paws and whiskers.

4. This animal has wings, claws and a beak

5. This animal has a shell. _____

Can you write similar descriptions for some other animals on the picture? Use a dictionary to help you. Then test a partner.

Odd animal Out

Which is the animal that doesn't belong? Why?

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-------|---------|-----------|--------|
| 1. COW | HORSE | PIG | CHICKEN | MONKEY |
| 2. DOG | CAT | HAMSTER | CROCODILE | TURTLE |
| 3. BIRD | BEAR | WASP | BUTTERFLY | BEETLE |
| 4. SPIDER | MOUSE | BEETLE | WASP | BEE |

American Slang

Here are some famous slang expressions. What is the missing animal?

1. See you later, _____ = See you soon!
2. I am as hungry as a _____ = I am very hungry.
3. He has the memory of an _____ = He has a good memory.
4. It's time to take the _____ by the horns! = It's time to take the initiative.
5. You can't teach an old _____ new tricks! = You can't teach an older person anything new.
6. It's raining _____ and _____ = It's raining very hard.
7. I'm tired of the same old _____ race. = I'm tired of the same old fast work routine.
8. My brother eats like a _____. = My brother overeats.

Try to write an original sentence to include the expressions you have learnt.

Memory Activity 2.

Look at the picture of the animals again for thirty seconds. Then turn the page over. How many animals can you remember and say in English now?

Animals Vocabulary Teacher's Notes – by Lindsay Clandfield

Level: Intermediate

Aims: Students review twenty four items of animal lexis and extend their vocabulary by learning animal body parts (hoof, claw etc.) The tasks in this vocabulary lesson are all based around a picture of many different animals and involve students using the picture as a study guide for later revision of the animals. There is a thinking activity – Odd One Out – for students to use the vocabulary they have learnt (refer to the teaching notes for this activity). Like many of the American vocabulary lessons, there is a cultural sub-aim. In this lesson, students learn some American slang connected with animals.

Warmer – Looking at a picture of animals

If possible, photocopy the picture of animals onto an overhead projection and show it to the class. Otherwise make enough copies of it for every student in the class. Ask students to look at the picture for 1 minute, then turn it over (or turn the OHP off). How many animals can they remember seeing?

Animal names

Students should work together in pairs or small groups to do this. Give each group a copy of the worksheet. Most of the words should be familiar. At the end, check and drill pronunciation of the new words.

Categorise the animals

Now that the students are familiar with the animal names ask them to do exercise 3, which involves putting animals into categories. Students decide their own categories here. Here are some examples: WHERE THE ANIMALS LIVE, ANIMALS THAT FLY, ANIMALS THAT ARE PETS etc.

Animal Body Parts

Ask students to do this in pairs. Have a dictionary on hand to help them.

Answers:

1. a horse
2. a shark
3. a cat, a tiger or a lion
4. a bird
5. a turtle

When students are finished, ask them to write some descriptions for other animals in the picture.

Odd Animal Out

This is a thinking activity. Most students will be familiar with the odd one out activity. You could ask them to do it that way. Or you could make it more challenging like this:

- write the five animals on the board
- ask students to eliminate an animal from the list and say why; if it is a good answer, rub out the word
- there should be four words left on the board; ask the students to decide now which one is the odd one out (it gets harder)
- keep going until you have only one animal. Accept reasons to eliminate an animal only if voiced in English and are plausible

American Animal Slang

Write on the board: "See you later ___! In a while ___!" (alligator/crocodile) Ask students to fill in the gaps. Many will be familiar with this common expression. Set them to do the next task on the worksheet.

ANSWERS: 1. alligator 2. horse 3. elephant 4. bull 5. dog 6. cats and dogs 7. rat 8. pig

You could follow this up by asking students what these expressions are in their own language. If the animal is different, can they translate it back into English? Comparing idioms like this can often be fun and motivating for students and teacher alike.

Memory activity 2

Do this activity either at the end of the class or at the beginning of the next class. Ask students to take out their animal pictures again (or put up the OHP again) and look at it for thirty seconds. Then turn it over. How many can they remember now?