

Rainbow Readers

Title: Mammals

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

stinky	backbone	claws	flippers	fur
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1. All mammals have a backbone and hair or fur.
2. Some mammals protect themselves with their claws.
3. Skunks spray a stinky liquid to protect themselves.
4. Fur can help a mammal stay warm.
5. Dolphins have flippers instead of legs.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Some mammals lay eggs. T / F
2. Marsupials are not mammals. T / F
3. Some mammals can fly. T / F
4. Antlers and horns are made of the same material. T / F
5. Mammals have to do something to keep their bodies at a good temperature.
T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. The (mouse / bumblebee bat) has one of the shortest lives.
2. A kangaroo uses its (legs / arms) to crawl into its mother's pouch.
3. Seals are graceful (on the land / in the water).
4. Bears and bats (hibernate / hunt) during the winter.
5. Seals, leopards, and wolves are all (carnivores / omnivores).

C. Choose the best answer.

1. Which is NOT a trait of all mammals?

- a. They make milk for their babies.
- b. They have a backbone.
- c. They have hair or fur.
- d. They give birth to live babies.

2. Which feature(s) can mammals have?

- a. flippers
- b. fingers
- c. wings
- d. all of the above

3. What do carnivores eat?

- a. Plants
- b. Insects
- c. Animals
- d. Fish

4. What do some animals do to cool off in the summer?

- a. They hibernate.
- b. They grow a thick coat of fur.
- c. They shed their fur.
- d. They lie in the sun.

5. How do hedgehogs protect themselves?

- a. Hiding
- b. Curling into a ball
- c. Spraying a stinky liquid
- d. Diving into a hole

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

fur	crawl	omnivores	species	hibernate
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All mammals have a few things in common. They all have a backbone and fur or hair. They can also keep their bodies at an even temperature. All mammal mothers make milk for their babies. But the similarities stop there. Most mammals give birth to live babies. But a few lay eggs. Other babies develop in their mothers' pouches. Some mammals have one baby at a time, while others have many. Mammals come in all shapes and sizes. They have very different habitats, too. They live everywhere, from hot deserts to freezing seas. Different mammals can swim, crawl, hop, and even fly! They also have a variety of ways to protect themselves. Depending on the animal, they can grow a thick coat, hibernate, or wear clothing for warmth. Mammals eat a variety of diets. Some are carnivores, like the cat and wolf. Others are herbivores, eating only plants. Still others are omnivores, meaning they eat meat and plants. Mammals vary greatly from one species to the next.