

COMMON CORE
Lessons & Activities

MAMMALS

Reading for Information

Higher-Order Thinking

Writing Prompts

Current Events Analysis

Vocabulary

Cause & Effect

Graphic Organizers

& More!

SAMPLE

REPRODUCIBLE

One teacher is allowed to make copies for use in her/his classroom!



About this Book

This Common Core Lessons and Activities Book allows you to immediately meet new Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, as well as Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies. It is designed to supplement your Social Studies resources, adding new Common Core rigor, analysis, writing, inference, text-dependent questions, and more into your daily instruction.

How to Use this Book:

- Work through the lessons and activities as a class to teach your students higher-order thinking, analysis, and 21st century skills necessary to meet new Common Core expectations.
- Allow students to work through the lessons independently to build and practice these new skills.
- Include technology, collaboration, presentation, and discussion in the activities as you desire—you can decide how in-depth to go.
- Watch your class develop new abilities to meet the rigor of Common Core State Standards, right before your eyes!

Tips:

- Use some of the pages—or use them all—based on your grade, your students, your curriculum, and your needs.
- Use the pages at their current size, or if you prefer them to be 8-1/2" x 11", enlarge them 125% on your copy machine.
- Download graphic organizers labeled “GO” in the Table of Contents by going to: www.gallopade.com/client/go
- Use the correlations grid to easily see which Common Core standards are covered in each lesson.

Common Core Lessons & Activities: Mammals

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G: Includes Graphic Organizer

GO: Graphic Organizer is also available 8½" x 11" online
download at www.gallopade.com/client/go

(numbers above correspond to the graphic organizer numbers online)

Meeting Basic Needs

Read the text and complete the graphic organizer.

All mammals, including humans, have basic needs they must meet in order to survive. The basic needs of mammals are food, water, and protection.

The place where an animal lives and grows is called its habitat. For most mammals, a habitat provides the water and food the mammal needs to survive. The Giant Panda, for example, primarily eats bamboo. An adult panda can consume around 20 to 45 pounds of bamboo per day. The panda's natural habitat is the bamboo forests of China, where it can find enough bamboo to eat.

Mammals are usually suited to their habitats, meaning they have special characteristics that allow them to find food, water, and protection in their habitat. The striped coat of a Bengal Tiger allows it to hide in its habitat—the jungle. Tigers also have sharp claws and teeth to use when killing and eating animals. The desert might seem like an unlikely habitat for life, but the camel, which stores water in its hump, is perfectly suited to the dry habitat.

1. A. What is the main idea of this text?
2. A. Define habitat as it is used in the text.
B. List three ways mammals benefit from their habitats. Cite evidence from the text to support your answer.
3. Which of the entry below best describes the purpose of a Bengal Tiger's stripes?

- A) *Deceive* — causing someone to believe something untrue
 B) *Camouflage* — To hide or disguise by use of shape or coloring
 C) *Imitate* — To follow or copy a style or way of doing something

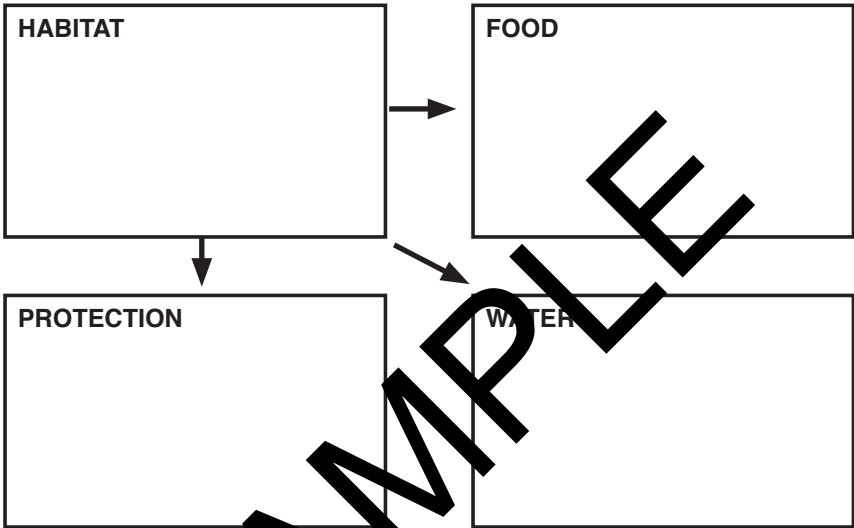
4. Explain why the Giant Panda only lives in China.
5. Over many years, the people of China have cut down much of the bamboo forests.
 - A. How does bamboo cutting affect the panda's natural habitat?
 - B. Predict how bamboo cutting might affect the Giant Panda.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

My Needs

Complete the graphic organizer by describing each of your basic needs and how you fulfill those needs. Then read the text and answer the writing prompt.

MEETING MY BASIC NEEDS



Humans are very complicated mammals. Humans have a higher level of intelligence than any other mammal. To survive in human society, humans need many years of care from parents and many years of education. Humans must learn to solve problems, think creatively, and use many different tools to be successful in life.

Writing Prompt

Answer the following questions in short paragraphs using complete sentences. Draw evidence from your own experience and support your conclusions with logical reasoning.

- How did your parents/guardian help you meet your basic needs when you were first born?
- How do they help you meet your basic needs today?
- What people or groups in your life help you learn and grow?
- How are you preparing to survive in your "habitat" as in adult?

CAUSE & EFFECT

Keeping Cool & Staying Warm

Read the text and answer the questions.

Staying Warm

Mammals are warm-blooded, which means they produce heat from inside their bodies. Producing body heat takes a lot of energy, because body heat is continuously lost through the skin. In order to stay warm, mammals eat a lot of food for energy. Larger animals typically need more food to keep their larger bodies warm.

Controlling Body Temperature

Mammals have many special characteristics for keeping warm and staying cool. Mammals in different habitats adapt to their environments to control body temperature.

In hot weather, some mammals sweat to cool off. Sweat covers the skin with a layer of water, which carries heat away as it evaporates. Some mammals, like dogs, cool off by panting, and cats lick their coats to cause cooling.

In cold weather, mammals' hair and fur traps body heat close to the skin. Polar bears stay warm in freezing temperatures by trapping body heat under ruffs of fur. Whales keep warm in freezing waters because of a thick layer of fat, called blubber.

A few mammals, including bears, hibernate in the winter to save energy and conserve body heat. In hibernation, a mammal goes into a deep sleep. The mammal's heartbeat, breathing, and life processes slow down to save energy that would have been lost searching for food and staying warm. The mammal survives off fat that it has stored from the summer. When the spring comes, the mammal revives, and continues normal body functioning.

PART A: Use the text to answer the questions.

1. Another word for warm-blooded is endothermic. Choose the correct meaning for the prefix and suffix of this word.
Endo- a) outside b) inside c) adapt
-thermic a) hibernation b) energy c) heat
2. List an advantage and disadvantage of being warm-blooded.
3. Why do most warm-blooded animals eat frequently?

4. List at least four ways that mammals regulate or maintain their body temperatures. Describe the effects of each.

Way of regulating Temperature	Effect

PART B: Look at the table and answer the questions.

AVERAGE FOOD & WATER CONSUMPTION

MAMMAL	AVERAGE WEIGHT	DAILY FOOD CONSUMPTION	DAILY WATER CONSUMPTION
Beluga Whales	1,000 kg	200 kg	50 L
Horses	550 kg	10 kg	60 L
Bottle-nose Dolphins	175 kg	5 kg	11 L
Black Bears	135 kg	4 kg	8 L
Deer	90 kg	3 kg	6 L
Dogs	15 kg	1 kg	3 L
Raccoons	12 kg	530 g	930 mL
River Otters	10 kg	800 g	790 mL
Guinea Pigs	700 g	45 g	65 mL
Gray Squirrels	600 g	45 g	50 mL

Equivalents: 1 kilogram (kg) = 1,000 grams (g); 1 liter (L) = 1,000 milliliters (mL)

5. A. What type of information are shown in this table?
 B. How is the information organized in the table?
6. **True or False:** All river otters weigh 10 kg. Explain.
7. A. Describe the relationship between an animal's weight and the amount of food and water it consumes.
 B. What is the reason for this relationship?
8. Explain how and why each of these factors affects how much food a mammal eats:
 A. size B. climate C. hibernation
9. During hibernation, would a black bear's daily food consumption be 4 kg? Explain why or why not.

VOCABULARY

Mammal Vocabulary

Use what you have learned and a dictionary to write a definition for each vocabulary word. For each group of words, write a title that describes that group of words.

Title: Mammal Characteristics	
Vocabulary	Definition
fur/ hair	
mammary gland	
vertebrate	
warm-blooded	

Title:	
Vocabulary	Definition
carnivore	
herbivore	
insectivore	
omnivore	

Title:	
Vocabulary	Definition
marsupial	
monotreme	
placental mammal	

Title:	
Vocabulary	Definition
extinct	
fossil	
prehistoric	

Common Core Lessons & Activities Books

Social Studies Titles:

- Declaration of Independence
- U.S. Constitution
- Bill of Rights
- Road to the Civil War
- The Civil War: Key Battles & Events
- Jamestown
- Key Events of World War II
- Civil Rights Movement
- Branches of Government
- Basic Economic Concepts
- Women's Suffrage and the 19th Amendment
- The American Revolution
- Explorers
- The Olympics
- Underground Railroad
- Forms of Government: Democracy, Monarchy, & Oligarchy & More
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Egypt
- Native Americans
- Indian Removal & the Trail of Tears
- Inventors & Inventions
- Map Skills
- Westward Expansion
- Communities

Science Titles:

- Habitats
- States of Matter
- Cell Structure
- Weather
- Water Cycle
- Energy
- Solar System
- Sound
- Mammals
- Light
- Rocks and Minerals
- Oceans
- Heredity & Genetics
- Magnetism
- Natural Resources
- Ecosystems
- Force & Motion
- History of the Earth
- Life Cycles
- Wave Properties
- Landforms
- Classification of Organisms
- Electricity
- The Scientific Method

COMMON CORE Lessons & Activities

Are you expected to change how you teach because of new CCSS for English Language Arts & new CCSS for Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies and Science?

Are you expected to continue to meet existing science and social studies standards, AND integrate new, more rigorous expectations for reading, writing, analysis, inference, and more into your daily instruction?

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-Amy Johnson, Common Core Specialist

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