

LESSON No. 5



FRIENDS OF ANIMALS AND UNUSUAL FEATURES OF SOME ANIMALS

We all live with our family. We spend time in the company of friends and neighbours.

Do you think animals also live in families or groups ?

Animals are also social beings like us. They also live together in groups. Animals, mostly plant eaters like to move in groups. Cows, buffaloes, sheep, pigs, elephants etc. are some animals that move in groups. They move in groups in order to search for food and water and to stay safe from enemies.



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Female elephants move with their calves in herd of twenty to thirty. Other animals like Horses, Zebras and Giraffes also move in herds. While animals move in groups the young ones are kept in the middle. It is dangerous to go near any animal that is with its young one.

Lions live in groups called 'Prides'. Each pride may have four to twelve lionesses and their cubs. Lions and Hyenas hunt in group.

Give the group name of the following:

1. Fishes _____
2. Cows _____
3. Hyenas _____
4. Monkeys _____

5. Penguins _____ While animals move in groups the young ones are kept in the middle. It is dangerous to go near any animal that is with its young one.

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Migration

Some birds and animals move from one part of the world to another, according to the season. This is called migration. Usually birds from very cold countries migrate to warmer countries during winter. Animals also migrate from one place to another during certain time of the year, for greener pastures. Birds from Russia and other European countries flock in during the winter season at Loktak Lake of Manipur.



† With the help of your teachers, find out the names of some birds that come to Loktak Lake.

Group Living

Insects also live in groups. Bees, ants and termites live in groups. Termites live in their house called **termitary**. Life in an ant colony is very organized. Thousands of ants live together. Bees are also social and live in colonies. The queen bee, worker bees and drones live together in a hive. Worker bees collect food, guard and look after the young ones.



UNUSUAL FEATURES OF SOME ANIMALS

Hearing is one of the senses of animals. All animals depend upon the sound for information about the world around. Animals listen to hunt for food and also listen to hide from enemies. They make sounds to call each other or warn of danger.



How does hearing take place in animals? Most of the animals have ears. Ears are of different sizes and shapes in animals. Birds have a small hole like ear and an elephant have a big ear.



Observe the other uses of Ears:

An elephant uses his ears as a fan to keep the body cool. Sometimes big ears are used for other things than hearing.

Bats and foxes use their big ears to find prey and escape from enemies.

The ears of birds are small with two holes in their heads. Bird's ear may be tiny but they are very powerful.

A bird flying high in the air can hear a fish jump in the water.

Have you seen a dog prick up its ears and move them from front to back? These movable ears help them detect from where the sound is coming.



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Bats use their ears to 'see'. Flying bats produce sound and this sound bounce off every object and echo back. The bat's ear catches the echo and helps the bat know the location of the object.



The ears of men, bears, foxes, dogs, cats, cows and elephants can be seen from outside. They are called external ears. Birds, frogs, lizards, snakes, cockroaches, etc. do not have external ears.

The sound of hearing is caught only by the external ears. The actual hearing occurs inside the ears.

Body Coverings

What is your body covered with?

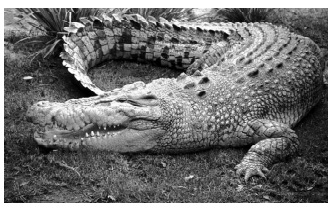
Animals have different types of body coverings.

Some animals have skin with hairs, feathers and scales. Scales are flat plates on the body of an animal.



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Scales help the animal from harm and prevents loss of water. Animals, like-snakes, tortoises, lizards, crocodiles, etc. do not have hair on their bodies, instead they have scales.



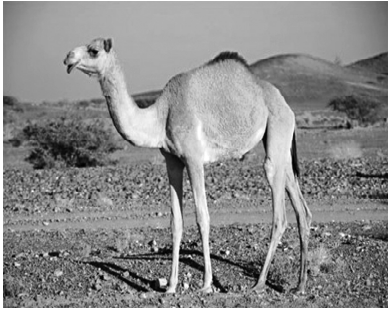
Hairy Animals

Make a list of animals that have hair on their body, Compare with the list of animals with external ears. What do you find?

Sl.No.	Name of the animal having hair	External ear (Yes/No)

Animals with external ears have body covered with hairs. Such animals do not lay eggs but give birth to young ones and mother feeds the baby with her own milk. Such animals are known as **Mammals**. We humans also belong to mammals.

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Some animals have thick hairs while others have less hairs on their body.

Camels have little hairs. They live in hot deserts.



Bears have thick hairs on their body surfaces. They live in cold regions.

Do you know why animals like cats, dogs, and lions lick the coat of their young ones?

Yes, they do it to show their affection and love for them. They also do it to keep their skin clean and cool.



ACTIVITY

1. *Observe the birds flying together. In which month or season do they fly in groups? Imagine why they are flying. Comment upon the statement. Paste a picture of birds flying together.*
2. *Find out which of these – Mouse, Dog, Hen, Cow, Cat, Sparrow, Parrot, Pigeon, Elephant, Pig have the characters given in the column.*

Animal	External ear	Internal ear	Hair on skin	Feather on skin
Mouse				
Dog				
Hen				
Cow				
Cat				
Sparrow				
Parrot				
Pigeon				
Elephant				
Pig				