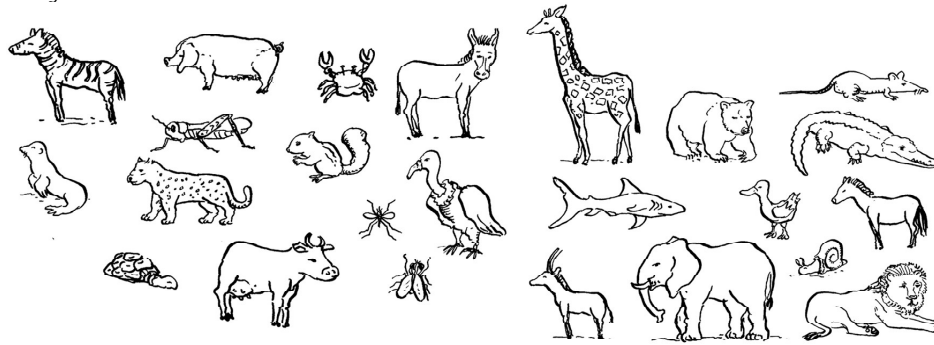


LESSON No. 15



WHERE ANIMALS LIVE

We see a number of animals around us. Make a list of animals you see around you.



Do the animals need shelter? Animals also need shelters like us. A shelter protects them from heat, cold, rain and enemies. Many animals spend their time on the move. They do not have a true home. Some creatures build their homes. Have you seen creatures making their shelter? List them.

Animals like elephant and deer do not make homes. They just live under the shade of trees. Some animals are seen only at night. During day time they take shelter in a safe place.

Lions live in dens.





Rats dig burrows in the ground.
They live safely in the burrows.

Snakes live in the holes dug by others.



A spider makes a web. It serves as its shelter as well as a trap for insects. Look how it traps an insect.

The web is made out of a substance produced by the spider. See how the web is made.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CLASS- IV

Some spiders make the web in a nice pattern.

Have you seen some creatures making their homes covering their own bodies?

These are called **cocoons**.



Cocoons are made out of the silk produced by the worm.

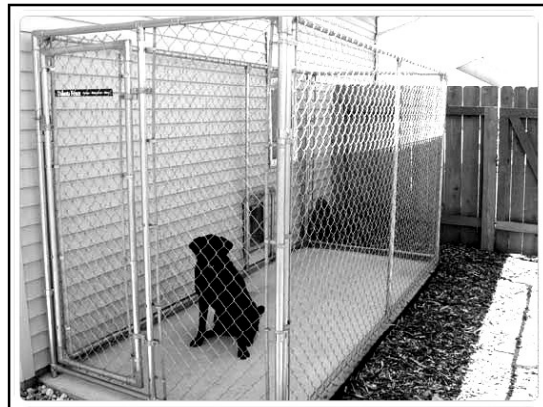
Observe how silk cocoons are made by the silk worms.

Domesticated animals live in the shelters made by us. Do you know the names of the shelters of different animals?



Cows live in sheds.

Dogs live in kennels.





Horses live in stables.

Birds live in the nests. Why do the birds make nests?

Birds build their nests to lay eggs, hatch eggs and keep the young ones safe from heat, cold and rain.

Birds protect and feed their young ones till they are ready to fly.

Birds have many enemies - human beings and other animals. Squirrels, cats and rats wait for a chance to steal away the eggs. Many times they destroy the nests.

Where do the birds build their nests? Birds build their nests in such a place where their enemies can not reach. They select the safest place.

We have a lot of things to learn from the birds. Seeing the height where the crows make their nest, our forefathers used to predict the rain or storm expected that year. If the nests are at the lower heights strong wind is predicted in that year.

Have you seen old nests in the bushes, old buildings, trees, ventilators or even in the cover ups of ceiling fans? What materials do they use to build the nests? Observe an old nest. The birds use grass, straw, feather, cotton, wool, mud, etc. to build the nests.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CLASS- IV

The designs of the nests are so wonderfully different from one another. Some designs are given below

Tailor birds:

Two or more adjacent or nearby leaves in the bushes are stitched together to make like a sack or a leaf is folded and stitched. They use threads like silk, wool, or vegetable fibres to stitch the leaves together. Their beaks are like needles.



Weaver birds : They use dry grass and twigs to make their nests. It ties grasses into knots. The entrance is at the lower end pointing downwards. It is lined with soft materials.

DO YOU KNOW

Male weaver bird makes two or more beautifully woven nests when the female bird is about to lay eggs. The female bird looks at all the nests. She chooses one she likes and lays eggs there.

Vulture : Vultures make their nests high up on the trees. Their nests look like a shallow cup. They use sticks, even hard materials to make their nests. It seems to be carelessly made.



Owl : Owls take shelters in the hollow of tree or wall. They do not make their own nests.



Crow : A crow's nest is made of all kinds of materials even pieces of wire and wood.



Woodpecker: Woodpeckers make their nests on the wood trunks. They make a hole on the wood trunk with their chisel like beaks.



ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CLASS- IV

Sun bird:

Sun birds make nests that hang from the branches of tree or bushes. They use hairs, grasses, thin twigs, dry leaves, pieces of tree, rags, cotton, wool and even spider's cobwebs in making their nests.



Cuckoo:

Cuckoo is a very clever bird. It does not make nest of its own. It lays its eggs in a crow's nest. The crow hatches them along with its own eggs.

**Remember: Do not go too near bird's nest and do not touch it.
If you do so the bird will not come to the nest again.**