

Comparing Traits in Animal Groups (Classes)

LS4.D: Biodiversity and Humans

- There are many different kinds of living things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water.
- Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.

Mammals



Birds



Reptiles



Amphibians



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Mammals



- Have body hair that protects them from sun, scratches, and predators (acts as camouflage).
- Make milk to feed young
- Have specialized teeth for a variable diet
- Have 3 small ear bones that improve hearing

Birds



- Have a beak and feathers
- Have wings and most have large chest muscles for flight
- Most can fly
- Most have hollow bones for flight
- Have a crop and gizzard to help digest food.

- Warm blooded
- Babies are small and totally dependant on adults for care.
- Takes care of young until they are old enough to be out on their own

- Lay eggs

Reptiles



- Lay leathery eggs
- Lay eggs on land buried in soil, sand or leaf debris
- Can take care of themselves soon after hatching
- Are covered in tough, dry skin and protective scales or plates

Amphibians



- Live on land and returns to water to mate and lay eggs
- Lay eggs in water
- Breathe through gills after hatching and develop lungs later.
- Go through a complete physical metamorphosis from hatchling to adult

- Cold blooded
- Leaves young after laying eggs
- Not active in cold weather