

Starters for Science: Y5 Animals, including humans



Starters for Science are 4 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science alongside the key learning and vocabulary children are using at school. The activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to learn and talk about their science topic. Encourage children to use the correct vocabulary as they talk about what they are doing and finding out. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

Key Learning:

All living things reproduce, create one or more new organisms of the same kind.

Gestation periods in mammals vary. In general larger animals will have a longer period of gestation.

The dependency of a young animal upon its parents varies greatly across the Animal Kingdom.

Mammals reproduce sexually and the embryo develops inside the female. They give birth to live young.

Amphibians reproduce by laying eggs in water.

Birds reproduce by laying eggs. They need incubating, where a parent sits on the egg, to maintain a warm temperature so the growing embryo can develop.

Humans and other animals grow and develop from birth to old age.

Vocabulary:

life cycle
stage of life
reproduction
fertilisation
pregnancy
embryo
foetus
chick
tadpole
metamorphosis
gestation
develop
grow
offspring

Do cats lay eggs?

Some animals give birth to live young, others lay eggs, which they sit on until they hatch. Find out about the life cycle of a cat, a frog and a robin. What is the same and what is different about the life cycles?

Babies can't walk!

Make a list of the things that a baby able to do by themselves. What do adults have to do for them? What kind of things are you able to do by yourself now, that you couldn't as a baby? When did you learn to do these things by yourself? You may need to ask a parent or carer. Can you think of any things adults can do that children are not able to do? Why can humans do different things at different stages of our lives.

Gestation periods

Ask your mum how long she was pregnant with you before you were born. The time an animal is pregnant is a gestation period. Research other animals' gestation periods. Are they the same as humans? Which animal has the longest gestation period? Which has the shortest? <https://www.stem.org.uk/rx34kx>

Leaving home

Human children stay with their parents for a very long time when compared with other animals. Can you find out how long the young of other animals stay with their parents? You could choose from: cat, orangutan, penguin, frog, kangaroo and wolf.