

Animal Needs

Year 2 Term 1

In this unit, the children will learn about the basic needs of animals for survival.

Key Vocabulary

mammal	A mammal is an animal that grows hair or fur on its body.
bird	A bird is a type of animal. All birds have a beak, feathers, legs and wings.
fish	Fish are animals that live in water. All fish have gills and fins and most have scales.
amphibian	An amphibian is a type of animal. As babies, they live in water. When they grow older, they can live on land and in water.
reptile	A reptile is a type of animal. Reptiles have dry scales covering their bodies.

Animal Groups

Mammals

- They grow hair or fur.
- They feed on milk as babies.
- Some live on land and some in water.
- Some can fly.



Birds

- They grow feathers.
- They have two wings.
- They lay eggs.
- Some can fly and some cannot.



Amphibians

- They have moist, smooth skin.
- They have gills as babies and most lose their gills when they are older.
- They lay eggs.
- They can live both on land and in water.



Fish

- Most have wet scales.
- They have gills and fins.
- They live mostly in water.



Reptiles

- They have dry scales.
- They often bask in the sun.
- Most lay eggs.



Key Vocabulary

insect	An insect is a small animal and a type of minibeast. Insects have six legs and three body sections.
carnivore	A carnivore is an animal that only eats other animals (meat).
herbivore	A herbivore is an animal that only eats plants.
omnivore	An omnivore is an animal that eats both plants and other animals.
insectivore	An insectivore is an animal that eats minibests such as insects, worms and spiders.

Basic Needs for Survival

Food

Animals must eat food to survive. They may be **carnivores**, **herbivores** or **omnivores**.



Air

All animals breathe. There are a variety of ways animals breathe.



Shelter

Animals need shelter to help keep them safe.



Water

All animals need water to survive.



Direct Heat

Many **reptiles** need direct heat from the sun.



Humans



Humans are also animals. They are **mammals**. They have the same basic needs for survival as other **mammals** but may have them met in different ways.

Babies will need an adult to provide them with food, water and shelter until they are older.



Assessment questions

1. What are the five animal groups?
2. What are the four basic needs of animals?
3. What is the extra need that a reptile has?

