

Life Science Stories



Mammals

Story by Andrew Frinkle

Mammals are a kind of animal. Mammals can be found all over the world, on land or in the sea. Dogs, cats, cows, monkeys, and whales are common mammals. People are mammals, too!



Mammals are vertebrates, so they have backbones. They are the only kind of animal with fur or hair, except for some insects. Most mammals have four legs and a tail. Some mammals have two arms and two legs. Marine mammals that live in water, like whales or dolphins, have fins and a tail.

Mammals all feed their babies milk. Other types of animals, like fish or reptiles, can't make milk. Mammals are warm-blooded, just like birds. This means their bodies can make their own heat from food they eat.



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NAME:

Mammals

1. People are _____, too!

- (A) mammals (B) birds (C) reptiles (D) insects

2. Which of these is a mammal?

- (A) goldfish (B) bluebird (C) butterfly (D) monkey

3. What kind of body covering do mammals have?

- (A) feathers (B) slime (C) scales (D) fur or hair

4. DEFINITION: a word for something in the sea

- (A) cloudy (B) marine (C) land (D) sky

5. Warm-blooded animals make their own body heat.

- (A) True (B) False

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ANSWER KEY

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