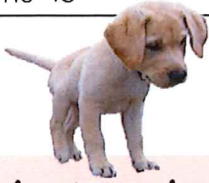


ELEMENTARY INSIDER

Volume 10

Science & Reading

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Animal Offspring



Animals have babies. These babies are offspring to the animals. You are offspring of your parents.

TAKING CARE OF OFFSPRING

Most **offspring** need their parents to help them survive. Baby animals, or **offspring**, will stay with their parents until they are old enough to take care of themselves. Parents help their babies survive in many ways. Parents help their **offspring** with:

- Food
- Shelter
- Protection
- **Interactions**

Interacting with others is how an animal acts with other animals. Parent animals will teach their **offspring** how to **interact**, or get along, with others.

ANIMAL PARENTS & OFFSPRING



A mother penguin shelters her chick from the cold weather.



A father bird feeds bugs to its **offspring**.



A mother tiger protects her cub by moving it to a new place.



A mother elephant teaches her calf how to **interact** with others

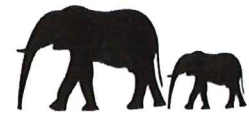
WE ARE OFFSPRING!

How do your parents or other adults help take care of you?





Traits



WHAT'S A TRAIT?

Traits are features that get passed down from parents to their **offspring**. Examples of **traits** are hair color and size. Features like having a mouth or a beak is a **trait**. Another **trait** can be the way that someone moves or acts.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

An adult rabbit and its offspring have many of the same traits. Both the rabbit and the kit (the baby rabbit) move around by hopping. They both have long ears, two large eyes, and four legs.



WHO IS YOUR MOM?

Most **offspring** look like their parents. However, some types of baby animals look very different from the adult animal. They have different **traits**.

Baby tapir, or tapir calves, look different from their parents. Tapir calves have white stripes. When the tapir calves get older, their stripes will go away. They will have the same **traits** as their parents.



Glossary

interact: communicate with others nearby

offspring: children or babies of parents or adults

trait: a feature that is passed down from a parent to their offspring

Riddle For You!

I am called a bear, but I am not.
I carry my offspring on my back.
I live in trees in Australia.

WHAT AM I?

Circle the correct answer.



opossum



koala



kangaroo

Comprehension Questions

1. List the four ways that parents help their offspring survive.

1 _____

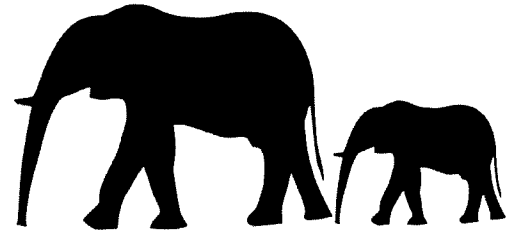
3 _____

2 _____

4 _____

2. What is another word for child or baby?

- a) offspring
- b) parent
- c) human
- d) father



3. Hair color and eye color are examples of _____.

- a) offspring
- b) parents
- c) traits
- d) interactions

4. A kit, or baby rabbit, has _____ traits as its parents.

- a) similar
- b) different

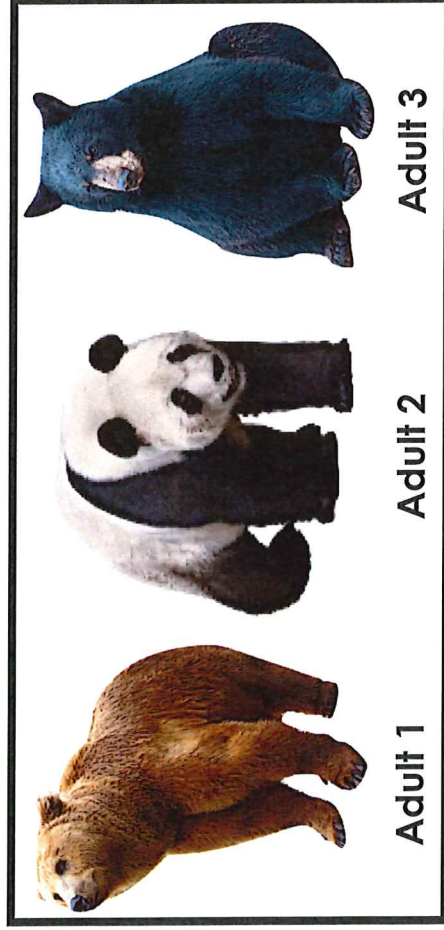
5. A tapir calf has _____ traits as its parents.

- a) similar
- b) different

Patterns in the Same Types of Plants and Animals

Plants and animals from the same family share patterns. These patterns are features that we can see, like the shape of their bodies, their colors, or how they grow. For example, all apple trees have the same kind of leaves, but some apple trees might be taller or have bigger apples. Elephants all have big ears and long trunks, but baby elephants' ears and trunks are smaller than their parents. These patterns help us know that even when plants or animals look a little different, they are still from the same specie or family.

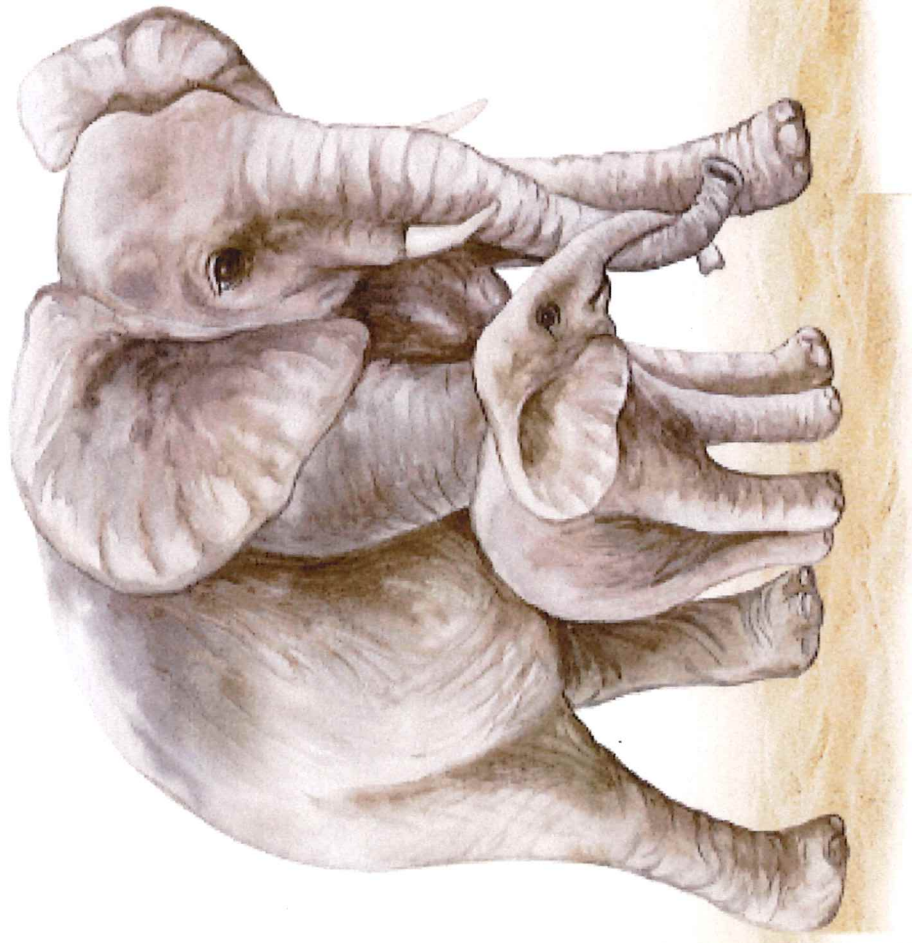
Observe the 3 adult bears and the baby panda below. **How are the adult bears similar to the baby panda?**



Which adult bear is the baby panda's parent? How do you know? Draw a line from the baby panda to it's parent.

Patterns of Features

Using Reasoning to Explain Patterns of Features in Plants and Animals



Name _____

How Are Young Plants and Animals Similar Their Parents?

When we look at young plants and animals, we notice that they are a lot like their parents, even if they aren't exactly the same. For example, a puppy has fur, four legs, and a tail like a grown-up dog. Young plants are also like their parent plants. A small tree has the same kind of leaves as a big tree.

Draw a baby plant or animal and its parent.

How is the baby similar to its parent?

Why is the baby similar to its parent?

How Are Young Plants and Animals Different From Their Parents?

Even though young plants and animals look like their parents, they can still be different in some ways. A kitten might have shorter fur than its parent, or a baby bird might have lighter feathers than its parent. Some plants start small and don't have as many leaves as their parent plants. These differences don't mean they aren't part of the same family, though. We can see that the young plant or animal will grow up to look even more like its parent.

How is the apple seedling different from its parent?

Why are they different?

Seedling



Adult



How Animal Parents Protect Their Offspring

When danger is near, animal parents protect their babies.

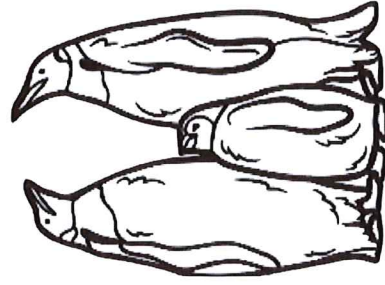
- A mother deer hides her baby in the tall grass. **Draw tall grass to hide the fawn.**



- A mother bird and a father bird will chase away predators from their babies. **Draw two birds chasing the hawk away from the nest.**

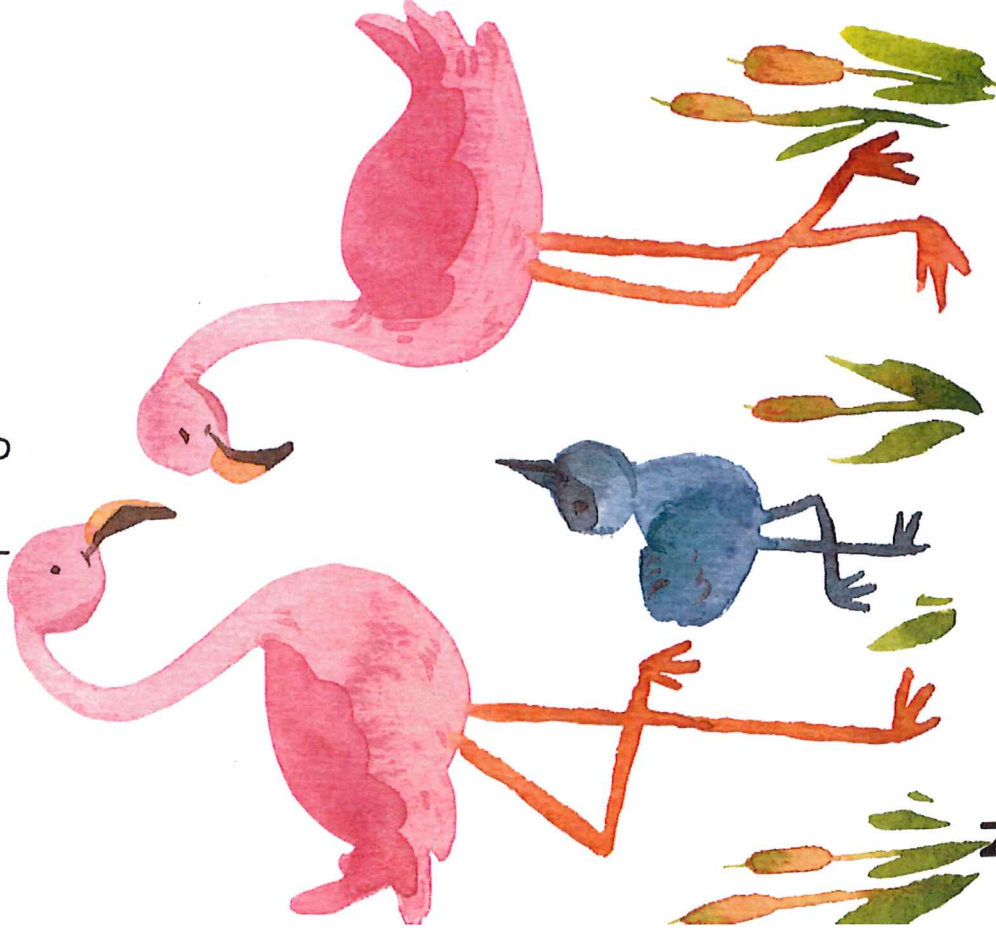


- Penguins will form a huddle, or circle, to keep their chicks warm and protected from the cold. **Color the penguin family.**



Animals and Their Babies

How Animal Parents Help Their Offspring Survive



Name _____

Do you have a little baby brother or sister? If not, maybe you know someone who does. Why do little babies cry? Color the teardrops below for why babies might cry. Be careful! Some teardrops contain reasons that aren't true. Don't color those!

The baby is hungry.

The baby wants to go shopping.

The baby wants to be held.

The baby is tired.

The baby is bored of playing with toys.

The baby needs a diaper change.

The baby is ready to run and play.

The baby wants to watch TV.

The baby is sick.

How Animal Babies Ask For Help

Just like little baby brothers and sisters, animal babies will do things, like cry, chirp, or nuzzle, to let their parents know they need something.

Kittens will...

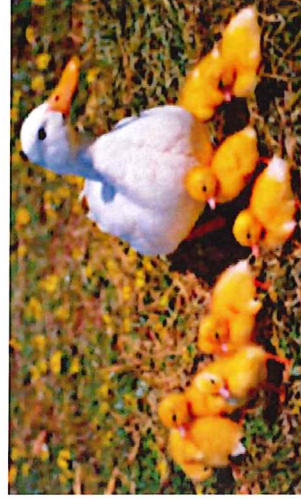
- **meow** to get attention, especially when they are hungry
- **nuzzle or nudge** with their nose when they want to nurse or need comfort
- **cuddle** to keep warm
- **paw or touch** their mother to play or help them



meow, meow

Ducklings will...

- **chirp** or make a high pitched noise when they are hungry or lost
- **follow closely** to stay safe and warm
- **nudge or gently peck** at their mother when they want food or comfort



chirp, chirp

Animals and Their Babies

NAME _____

Write a story about an animal family. Include details about how the parents are taking care of their offspring (babies).

Handwriting practice area with solid lines and a dashed rectangular box for drawing.

Four additional solid horizontal lines for writing.

