

Year One

Animals, including Humans

Key Learning

Animals vary in many ways having different structures e.g. wings, tails, ears etc. They also have different skin coverings e.g. scales, feathers, hair. These key features can be used to identify them. Animals eat certain things - some eat other animals, some eat plants, some eat both plants and animals. Humans have key parts in common, but these vary from person to person. Humans (and other animals) find out about the world using their senses. Humans have five senses – sight, touch, taste, hearing and smell. These senses are linked to particular parts of the body.

Key vocabulary

Head, body, eyes, ears, mouth, teeth, leg, tail, wing, claw, fin, scales, feathers, fur, beak, paws, hooves

Names of animals experienced first-hand from each vertebrate group

Parts of the body including Senses – touch, see, smell, taste, hear, fingers (skin), eyes, nose, ear and tongue

N.B. The children need to be able to name and identify a range of animals in each group e.g. name specific birds and fish. They do not need to use the terms mammal, reptiles etc. or know the key characteristics of each, although they will probably be able to identify birds and fish, based on their characteristics. The children also do not need to use the words carnivore, herbivore and omnivore. If they do, ensure that they understand that carnivores eat other animals, not just meat. Although we often use our fingers and hands to feel objects, the children should understand that we can feel with many parts of our body

Common misconceptions

Some children may think:

- only four-legged mammals, such as pets, are animals,
- humans are not animals ,
- insects are not animals,
- all 'bugs' or 'creepy crawlies', such as spiders, are part of the insect group ,
- amphibians and reptiles are the same.

