

Used in **Corbett Charter School** – Supplied by **Sheri Dunton**.



## Wildlife Migration

- Migration makes it possible for animals to survive. They move to new environments to find food, escape predators or cold, and find mates.
- The Arctic Tern may have the longest migration, flying from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back each year. He gets more sun than any other bird. When you add up all the miles he flies in his life, he could have gone to the moon and back!
- Scientists have learned a lot about how animals find their way to new homes but it is still a big mystery!

## Whales

- The blue whale is the largest animal that has ever lived. It is bigger than any known dinosaur!
- Dolphins are a kind of whale.
- A person who studies whales is called a cetologist.

## Birds

- While a bird can be a real “bird brain”, birds can also be very smart. Some birds play games and tricks, solve problems and learn other bird languages.
- The Peregrine Falcon may be the fastest animal in the world when he dives out of the sky at 200 mph to catch his dinner.
- Some birds can’t fly at all. Instead, birds like ostriches are great runners and the Emperor Penguin “flies” underwater.

## Counting Systems

- Before the invention of paper, people kept track of amounts using notches on bones, rocks, sticks, clay balls or tablets, or knots in strings.

- Many thousands of years ago, people had no words for amounts. Maybe they used the word “nose” for one and “eyes” for two, then had another word that meant “many” .
- Western number systems use a base ten system. Other number systems have used a base twenty or even a base sixty.

## Amphibians

- Amphibians include frogs and toads, salamanders and sirens, and caecilians (which are similar to worms but have sharp teeth and no eyes).
- Amphibians have lungs to breathe, but can also breath through their skin under water. Newts also have gills like fish.
- Frogs can use their eye balls to help push down their food.

## Color

- The sun’ s rays contain all the colors of the rainbow mixed together. Its called “white light” . White reflects all the colors and black reflects none.
- All the colors of the rainbow can be made by mixing red, yellow and blue. Black and white make them lighter or darker.
- We have objects of many colors now. But, long ago colors were very hard to make and get so only rich people could have them.

## Butterflies and Moths

- Butterflies sleep at night with their wings together. Most moths sleep in the day with their wings open flat.
- Monarch Butterflies fly 2,000 miles to winter in Mexico, then fly 2,000 miles back in Spring.
- Many butterflies can taste with their feet!



## Bears

- During the cold season, bears may sleep for as long as six months without waking up to eat or go to the bathroom. The length of time they sleep depends on where they live.
- Polar bears can swim as much as a hundred miles without resting.
- A brown bear living on a steady diet of spawning salmon can get to be as big as 1,500 pounds, –bigger than a polar bear.

## Forests

- The three main types of forest are rainforest, deciduous forest and coniferous forest.
- When the leaves fall off the trees in a deciduous forest, lots of sunlight gets to the ground. When the weather warms in the spring, plants on the ground have to grow really fast before the tree leaves grow back and block their sun.
- In stories, forests can be places to hide from danger or dark and scary places. Many stories have forests filled with strange, secret creatures.

## Farm Animals

- Farmers have some animals to eat for food, some to use their hair and some to do work on the farm.
- Chickens take dust baths instead of showers and comb their feathers with their beak.
- Some dogs are amazing herders. They are fast, strong and very smart and can make a herd of cows, sheep or ducks go where they want. If they don't have any other animals to herd, they may herd the children!

## Dinosaurs

- The word “dinosaur” means “terrible lizard” . But dinosaurs were not lizards at all. Dinosaurs had legs underneath their bodies and lizards have legs that go out to the side. All the dinosaurs lived on land.
- Birds are the closest living relatives to dinosaurs. The smallest known dinosaur was about the size of a chicken.
- Oviraptor is latin for Egg Thief. Scientist used to think they were stealing eggs but now they think they were just taking care of their babies. Poor, falsely accused oviraptor!

## Marsupials

- There are more than 300 types of marsupials. Most of them, like kangaroos and koala bears, live in Australia. The Virginia opossum is the only one in the United States.
- Most marsupial mothers have a furry pocket on their bellies to hold their babies. Their babies start out as tiny as a jelly bean or even a grain of rice.
- Koala bears eat only poisonous eucalyptus leaves and never drink water!

## Habitations

- Habitations are the homes where people or animals live.
- People and animals build their homes out of materials that are nearby. This could include wood, mud, rock, leaves or other parts of plants or animals. Weaver ants use the silk from their larvae to weave leaves together into soccer-sized balls for their homes. Some weaver birds build giant “apartment complexes” from straw.
- Archeologists found ancient homes built of mammoth bones and tusks.

