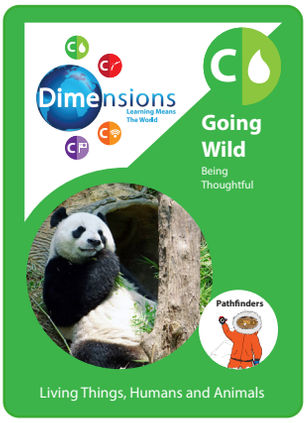
Pathfinders - Going Wild



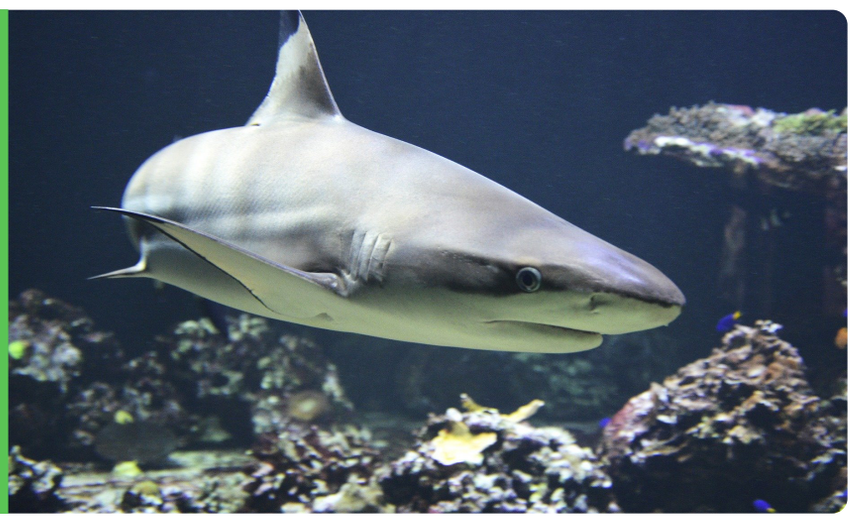
Overview

"Going Wild" is a thematic unit based around humans and animals, with a science focus. We will look at humans and animals, beginning with characteristics of living and non-living things through to classifying birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. There will be a particular focus on looking after animals and we will learn about extinction, wildlife conservation, habitat destruction and endangered species.

What?

What is the difference between a whale and a shark?
- A shark is a fish and a whale is a mammal. What is the difference between a fish and a mammal?

What does 'omnivore' mean?
- An omnivore is the least fussy eater and will east both plants and meat.



The Animal Kingdom

Mammals
- deer, goat, dog, monkey, seal, horse, sheep, kangaroo - what do they all have in common?

Reptiles
- turtle, snake, lizard, komodo dragon, crocodile - what do they all have in common?

Amphibians
- toad, frog, salamander - what do they all have in common?

Fish
- salmon, shark, cod, bass, goldfish - what do they all have in common?

Birds
- stork, eagle, sparrow, kingfisher, owl, blackbird - what do they all have in common?

Why?

Why are certain animals becoming extinct?
- The cause of an animal's extinction is almost certainly related to human activity, in particular hunting, deforestation, egg theft and habitat loss.

When?

When are young animals classed as adults?
- A young animal can be considered to be an adult when it has the ability to reproduce.

How?

How do we know that something is alive?
- We know something is alive because it does certain things. Living things breathe, eat, grow, are sensitive to their surroundings, reproduce, move and get rid of waste.

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How to...

...identify different types of birds

- The things to look for when trying to find out what kind of bird you can see are:- size, shape, colour, beak shape and where you are (habitat)

Concept Flow

- To understand the difference between things that are living and things that have never been alive
- To know that animals, as well as humans, have offspring, which grow into adults
- To learn about the basic needs of animals, as well as humans, for survival (which are water, food and air)
- To identify and name a variety of common animals that are birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals
- To describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets)
- To identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores
- To know that some animals are endangered, the reasons why and what is being done to preserve these species

Vocabulary

Adult: grown up

Amphibian: a cold-blooded animal with gills, that hatches from an egg, living the first part of its life in water and the last part on land

Bird: a warm-blooded animal with feathers, a beak, no teeth, wings and lays eggs

Carnivore: an animal that feeds only on the flesh of other animals

Endangered: in danger of extinction

Extinction: dying out

Fish: a cold-blooded animal with fins, that lives in water and gets oxygen through its gills

Habitat: the natural environment where an animal or plant lives

Herbivore: an animal that only feeds on plants

Mammal: a warm-blooded, hair-covered animal that gives birth to live young who feed on their mother's milk

Offspring: baby, human or animal

Omnivore: an animal that lives on a diet of both plant and animal food

Reptile: a cold-blooded animal that crawls or moves on its belly or on short legs

Species: a group of living things that can mate with one another but not with those of other groups

Survival: staying alive

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