



[▶ Link to Video](#)

LESSON PLAN

ANIMALS HELP THEIR BABIES SURVIVE GRADES K-2

SUMMARY

Students will categorize a variety of animal photos to show different ways parents help offspring survive.
Duration: 30 minutes.



1-LS1-2. Read texts and use media to determine patterns in behavior of parents and offspring that help offspring survive.

Science & Engineering Practices

Obtaining, Evaluating and Communicating Information

Obtaining, evaluating and communicating information in K-2 builds on prior experiences and uses observations and texts to communicate new information.

Read grade-appropriate texts and use media to obtain scientific information to determine patterns in the natural world. (1-LS1-2)

Connections to Classroom Activity

- Students will observe pictures of animals helping their babies and discuss observations and categorization of the pictures.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms

Adult plants and animals can have young. In many kinds of animals, parents and the offspring themselves engage in behaviors that help the offspring to survive. (1-LS1-2)

Connections to Classroom Activity

- Photos depicting animals helping their babies in a variety of ways will be available for students to observe, discuss, evaluate and categorize.

Crosscutting Concepts

Connections to Classroom Activity

Patterns

Patterns in the natural world can be observed, used to describe phenomena and used as evidence.
(1-LS1-2),(1-LS3- 1)

- Students will notice that almost all animals help their babies in some way or another.



ENGAGE

Show students a picture of a newborn baby from the attached or show them a baby doll. Ask students to discuss with a partner, “When a baby is born, what are some things the parents do to take care of it?” Have student pairs share out loud some of the ideas they discussed. They should come up with feeding the baby, changing the baby’s diaper, holding the baby, rocking the baby to sleep, etc. Segue to the lesson by telling students that today they will be observing ways that animals take care of their babies.



EXPLORE

Put students into small groups. Provide a baggie to each group containing photos of animals caring for their babies in different ways; some protecting, some feeding, some carrying. (See table below.) Tell the students their job today is to make observations about each picture and decide how to categorize the pictures by placing them into groups based on how the parents are helping their babies. At first, don’t provide any group titles, see if the students can come up with the groups on their own.

After students have had some time to organize their photos into categories, call on different groups to have them share how they decided to categorize and which photos they put in each category.

Next pass out paper to each group and have them fold the paper into thirds. At the top of each column, have students write “Feeding” “Carrying” and “Protecting”. Students will now sort using these categories and then glue the pictures in the column it belongs to.



EXPLAIN



WATCH THE GENERATION GENIUS ANIMALS HELP THEIR BABIES SURVIVE VIDEO AS A GROUP

Then facilitate using the Discussion Questions.

MATERIALS

Per Group

- Attached photos
- Piece of paper
- Pencil
- Ziploc bag
- Glue sticks

DIY Activity

- Sheet of colored paper
- 3 Colored markers
- Roll of tape
- Pair of scissors
- Pencil



ELABORATE

Ask students if there are any other ways that parents help babies (animals or humans) besides feeding, carrying and protecting. Some ideas students may come up with (or you can discuss with them if they don't):

- **Teaching:** Teaching babies is important since many animals must teach their babies how to hunt for food or protect themselves from predators.
- **Cleaning:** Some animals clean their babies. Monkeys, for example, use their hands to pick bugs and dirt from their babies' fur. Cats lick their babies' fur to clean them.
- **Playing:** Many animals play with their babies to simulate hunting or defensive behaviors. This helps the baby animals learn to catch food or fight off predators.



EVALUATE

Students can also play the online Kahoot! quiz game located below the video which provides downloadable scores at the end of the quiz game. Alternatively, you can use the paper quiz or the exit ticket questions. All these resources are located below the video in the Assessment section.



EXTENSION

For more advanced students, challenge them to research a specific animal to find out how that animal cares for its offspring. There are plenty of books and internet resources available, and more advanced readers can read material independently.



FEEDING BABIES



CARRYING BABIES



PROTECTING BABIES

