



Author: Steve Jenkins

Illustrator: Steve Jenkins

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of pages: 48

AR level: —

Lexile: 940

Curriculum Connections: Natural Science, Animal Adaptations, Animal Classification, Animal Characteristics, Biodiversity, Extinction, Animal Migration, Animal Habitats,

Best lends itself for instruction of: Close reading, finding information, compare/contrast, understanding infographics

How many species are there across the globe? How much do all the insects in the world collectively weigh? Who is faster: a cheetah or a blue whale? Steve Jenkins answers these fascinating questions and more using a mix of eye-popping infographics and his signature cut-paper illustrations.

Common Core Standards

Primary:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.6](#)

Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.7](#)

Explain how specific images (e.g., a diagram showing how a machine works) contribute to and clarify a text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8](#)

Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.3.3.C](#)

Decode multi-syllable words.

Intermediate:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.5](#)

Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.B](#)

Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

[CCSS.Math.Content.4.MD.A.1](#) Solve problems involving measurement and conversion of measurements from a larger unit to a smaller unit. 1. Know relative sizes of measurement units within one system of units including km, m, cm; kg, g; lb, oz.; l, ml; hr, min, sec. Within a single system of measurement, express measurements in a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit. Record measurement equivalents in a two column table. For example, know that 1 ft is 12 times as long as 1 in. Express the length of a 4 ft snake as 48 in. Generate a conversion table for feet and inches listing the number pairs (1, 12), (2, 24), (3, 36), ...

Text Features:

Headings, Sidebars, Infographics, Bibliography

Lesson Ideas	Text Set Options
<p>Primary:</p> <p>Art activity: Share a variety of animal books, including those by Steve Jenkins. Offer textured papers and other materials, have the students each pick an animal to illustrate in paper collage. Have students explain why they picked the materials they did in terms of their animal's physical characteristics.</p> <p>Collect data about the class's household pets; make a pie chart representing how many dogs, cats, horses, guinea pigs, etc. the class has at home</p> <p>Page 22 of <i>Animals by the Numbers</i> shows a graph representing the life spans of a variety of animals. Pick two animals to compare as a math problem: how many more years does X animal live than Y?</p> <p>Discovery Education lesson plan on animal classification http://www.discoveryeducation.com/teachers/free-lesson-plans/animal-classification.cfm</p> <p>International Fund for Animal Welfare Lesson Plan on Elephant Conservation: http://www.ifaw.org/united-states/our-work/education/big-trunks-tiny-tales</p>	<p><i>Animal Ark: Celebrating Our Wild World in Poetry and Pictures</i>, by Kwame Alexander, 2017, National Geographic Society</p> <p><i>The Blobfish Book</i> by Jessica Olien, 2016, Balzer and Bray AR 2.6</p> <p><i>Lifetime: the amazing numbers in animal lives</i>, by Lola M. Schaefer, 2013, Chronicle Books, AR: 3.0</p> <p><i>How Much Does a Ladybug Weigh</i>, by Alison Limentali 2016, Boxer Books, AR: —</p> <p><i>Storyworlds: Nature</i>, by Thomas Hegbrook, 2016, 360 Degrees, AR: —</p> <p><i>Whose Poop Is That?</i> By Darrin Lunde, 2017, Charlesbridge Publishing, AR: —</p>
<p>Intermediate:</p> <p>Pages 44-45 of <i>Animals by the Numbers</i> talks about ages of extinction and how we are currently in the sixth age of mass extinction. What are some of the environmental threats we face and what are some ways animals could survive this age of extinction?</p> <p>Read <i>Animal Ark</i> by Kwame Alexander and explain how haikus are constructed. Have students each select an animal and write a haiku about it.</p> <p>Have everyone work in small groups to create an infographic representation of the most dangerous animals in the world.</p> <p>Read the <i>Blobfish Book</i>. Talk about how, in addition to the humorous text about the blobfish, you learn real facts about other ocean animals and their environment. Have students select an animal to write a mini book about with selected facts about other animals that might live in your animal's environment. Borrow facts from <i>Animals by the Numbers</i>, including heartbeats per minute, endangered status, decibels of sound produced, etc.</p> <p>National Wildlife Federation lesson plan on animal habitats https://www.nwf.org/~media/PDFs/Be%20Out%20There/Schoolyard%20Habitats/HabitatHunt.pdf</p>	<p><i>The Animal Book: a collection of the fastest, fiercest, toughest, cleverest, shyest and most surprising animals on earth</i>, by Steve Jenkins, 2013, Houghton Mifflin, AR 6.0</p> <p><i>Feathers and Hair: What Animals Wear</i> by Jennifer Ward, 2017, Beach Lane Books, AR: —</p> <p><i>The Deadliest Creature in the World</i>, by Brenda Guiberson, 2016, Henry Holt and Company AR 4.4</p> <p><i>Flying Frogs and Walking Fish: Leaping lemurs, tumbling toads, jet-propelled jellyfish, and more surprising ways that animals move</i>, by Steve Jenkins, 2016, Houghton Mifflin, AR: 4.7</p> <p><i>Animalium: Welcome to the Museum</i>, by Jenny Broom, 2014, Big Picture Press, AR: —</p> <p><i>Hopping Ahead of Climate Change: Snowshoe Hares, Science, and Survival</i>, by Sneed B. Collard, 2016, Bucking Horse Books, AR: 7.0</p>