

Amazing Animal Glossary



- Amphibians:** animals that spend most of their time on land but return to the water to lay eggs; [example: frogs]
- Arthropod:** an animal with jointed limbs and a hard outer shell; [examples: insect, spider]
- Backbone:** a series of bones that interconnect to protect the spinal chord that runs down the back connecting the skull;
- Birds:** small animals that have beaks instead of teeth and feathers instead of fur; they are warm-blooded;
- Carnivores:** meat-eating animals;
- Diurnal:** animals that sleep at night and are active during the day;
- Fish:** water animals that have gills, fins, scales;
- Herbivores:** plant-eaters
- Insects:** invertebrates with a three-segmented body (head, thorax, abdomen), a hard outer shell and 6 legs; [example: grasshoppers, butterflies, dragonflies]
- Invertebrates:** animals without backbones, usually with a hard outer shell;
- Mammals:** animals that are fur bearing or have hair, and feed their young milk; [examples: humans, bears];
- Migration:** a seasonal habit that involves the movement of an entire species from one habitat to another (example: monarch butterfly);
- Nocturnal:** animals that sleep during the day and are active at night; [example: rabbits, owls]
- Omnivores:** meat and plant eaters;
- Reproduction:** the stages of a life cycle; the way that animals have babies;
- Reptiles:** animals covered with a protective covering of scales or plates; most are egg-layers and eat other animals; [examples: turtles, crocodiles, alligators, lizards and snakes]
- Vertebrates:** animals with backbones.

