

# Animal Classification Cards

July 2011

The following set of 70 animal classification cards were created to use as you read through children's books. It is recommended that you print the classification cards onto cardstock and laminate them to make them more durable for younger hands. You can punch a hole in the bottom of the cards and create a fandex of the cards. Group classification cards are also provided if you would like to sort the animals into categories/classes {mammals, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, fish and birds}.

Each card includes the animal's name and a brief tidbit about that animal. Along the bottom of the cards, you will also find a listing of various books that animal can be found in. Please note that some of the animals may be stuffed animals on the shelf or part of a picture on the wall.

When starting any book unit, you can pull out the cards that go along with that book and have your child find those animals in the story. At the end of this printable there is a reference page that lists the animals found in each of the books so that you can quickly pull out the cards needed.

**Note: When printing, do NOT use 'Shrink to Printable Area' in settings or the cards will NOT print out correctly in size! Choose the "NONE" setting under page scaling options so cards will be same size.**

You can also find extra go-along printables to use with many other children's books on my website:

<http://homeschoolcreations.com/LiteratureBasedPrintables.html>

Created by Jolanthe @ <http://homeschoolcreations.com>

## **MAMMALS**

Mammals are warm-blooded, have fur or hair, have lungs and need air to breathe, give birth to live young, and produce milk for their babies to drink.

## **INVERTEBRATES**

Invertebrates do not have a backbone or a vertebral column. Over 95% of all animals are invertebrates. In this class, you will find insects, spiders, and more!

## **BIRDS**

Birds have feathers or wings, and are born out of hard-shelled eggs. They have two legs, they lay eggs, are warm blooded and have ear holes instead of ears.

## **REPTILES**

Reptiles have scaly skin, not fur. They are cold-blooded and are born on land. They have ear holes instead of ears.

## **AMPHIBIANS**

Amphibians are born in the water. When they are born, they breathe with gills like a fish. When they grow up they develop lungs and can live on land. They have moist, cool skin (no fur or hair) and lay many eggs

## **FISH**

Fish breathe under the water and have gills, not lungs. They live in the water, have scales and fins {no fur or hair}, are cold-blooded and lay many eggs.

# Blue Jay



Male and female blue jays look the same. The male is slightly larger than the female. When looking for food blue jays can mimic the sound of hawks, to scare and make other birds think that a hawk is close-by.

Found in these Children's books:  
The ABC Bunny & Play With Me

# Porcupine



Male porcupines are called boars, females are called Sows and babies are called pups or piglets. When threatened, a porcupine raises its sharp quills. The average life span of a wild porcupine is 5 to 7 years.

Found in these Children's books:  
The ABC Bunny

# Wild Rabbit



A male rabbit is called a buck. A female rabbit is called a doe. A baby rabbit is called a kit. A rabbits teeth never stop growing. A group of rabbits is called a herd.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me, Little Rabbit, If Jesus Came to My House, & Katy No Pocket

# Lizard



There are about 3,000 species of lizards. The scaly skin of a lizard is made of keratin, the same substance that human fingernails are made of. Some lizards' tongues are longer than their entire bodies!

Found in these Children's books:  
The ABC Bunny and Katy No Pocket

# Squirrel



Squirrels can live ten to twelve years. There are over 300 varieties of squirrels around the world. Squirrels can fall up to 100 feet without being hurt. They use their tail both for balance and as a parachute.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
The ABC Bunny, Angus Lost, and Katy No Pocket

# Frog



Frogs don't actually drink water with their mouths. They drink water through their skin. Frogs hibernate in the wintertime. The male frog is the only one who can croak.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
The ABC Bunny, Play With Me, Ask Mr. Bear, and Katy No Pocket

# Owl



A group of owls is called a parliament, wisdom or study. A baby owl is called an owlet. The tiniest owl is the Elf Owl, which is 5 - 6 inches tall and weighs about 1 ½ ounces.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
The ABC Bunny, Angus Lost, Katy No Pocket, and I Am an Artist

# Quail



If startled, ground quail explode into short, fast flight. They prefer to run from threats. The average life expectancy for a wild quail is 1.5 years although they may live for up to four years.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
The ABC Bunny and I Am an Artist

# Kitten



The nose pad of a cat is ridged in a pattern that is unique, just like the fingerprint of a human. At birth, kittens cannot see or hear. The color of a kitten's eyes change as it grows older.

*Found in these Children's books:*

The ABC Bunny, Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}, The Quiet Way Home, Goodnight Moon & If Jesus

# Dragonfly



Dragonflies are the fastest flying insects. They can reach a speed of 60 mph. A dragonfly can fly in any direction: up, down, forward or backward.

*Found in these Children's books:*

The ABC Bunny, Katy No Pocket, and I Am an Artist

# Butterfly



There are about 24,000 species of butterflies. Butterflies can see red, green, and yellow. Many butterflies can taste with their feet to find out whether the leaf they land on is good to lay eggs on.

*Found in these Children's books:*

The ABC Bunny, Little Rabbit, Jesse Bear If Jesus Came to My House, and I Am an Artist

# Fly



There are more than 240,000 species of flies. Some male flies sing to female flies. A fly lives only 30 days.

*Found in these Children's books:*

The ABC Bunny

# Bee



Bees are the only insect that produces a food eaten by humans. Bees communicate with one another by dancing. This tells the other bees the distance and direction of flowers.

Found in these Children's books:  
The ABC Bunny, Katy No Pocket, The Quiet Way Home and I Am an Artist

# Bear



A male bear is called a boar. The female bear is called a sow and a baby bear is called a cub. Many species of bears hibernate for 3 to 5 months.

Found in these Children's books:  
We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Blueberries for Sal, Jesse Bear, Corduroy, Goodnight Moon, Ask Mr. Bear, and Prayers for a Child

# Dog



A dogs' sense of hearing is ten times more acute than a human's. Dogs don't like rain because the sound is amplified and hurts their very sensitive ears. The only sweat glands a dog has are between their paw pads.

Found in these Children's books:  
We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Angus Lost, Big Green Pocketbook, Corduroy, Red Carpet, Runaway Bunny, The Quiet Way Home, If Jesus Came to My House, & Katy No Pocket

# Duck



Male ducks are called drakes. Females are called hens. A baby duck is called a duckling. Ducks' feet can't feel cold.

Found in these Children's books:  
We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Angus Lost, and Snowy Day

# Seagull



Seagulls usually live anywhere from 5 to 15 years. Some have been known to live 25 years. Male seagulls have red legs. They can drink both fresh and salt water.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
We're Going on a Bear Hunt , Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}, and My Blue Boat

# Sandpiper



Sandpipers are ground feeders that dine on crustaceans, insects, worms, and other coastal creatures. They retrieve them by pecking and probing with their short bills.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
We're Going on a Bear Hunt and Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}

# Monkey



A group of monkeys is called a troop. Grooming is important in a monkey's life. They spend several hours a day removing parasites, dirt or other material from one another's fur.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Caps for Sale and Katy No Pocket

# Crow



Crows are usually black in color all over. Crows can mimic sounds made by other birds and animals and have been taught to mimic the human voice.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Blueberries for Sal and The Quiet Way Home



# Partridge



There are over 47 types of partridges. The habitat of the partridge, and its preferred type of nesting site, is on the ground.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Blueberries for Sal

# Cat



A cat's sense of smell is 14 times stronger than a human's. Cats have 32 muscles in each ear. A cat laps liquid from the underside of its tongue, rather than the top.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Angus Lost, Big Green Pocketbook, Red Carpet, Katy No Pocket, & Prayers for a Child

# Goat



Goats can live up to 20 years. Baby goats are called kids. Goats are great swimmers. Wild goats don't sleep.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Angus Lost and Ask Mr. Bear

# Horse



A male horse is called a stallion. A female is called a mare. A baby is called a foal. Horses have the largest eyes of any land animal. A horse's brain is the size of a potato.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Angus Lost, Katy No Pocket, and The Red Carpet

# Robin



In one year, robins can produce three successful broods. The male American Robin sings a lovely and continuous song that is often described as a cheerful carol.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}, Katy No Pocket, & The Quiet Way Home

# Hermit Crab



Hermit crabs grow out of their shells as they get bigger. They are nocturnal, so they move around more at night than during the day. Hermit crabs are not actually crabs, but arthropods. Hermit crabs have 5 pairs of legs.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}

# Crab



Crabs can be very small or as wide as 13 feet. Crabs are omnivores; they eat both meat and plants. Marine crabs breathe underwater with gills. Land crabs use two cavities that act like lungs. Crabs typically walk sideways.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}

# Fish



Fish are cold-blooded animals and their temperature changes as the water temperature around them changes. Fish have an excellent sense of sight, touch, and taste, and many also have a good sense of smell and hearing.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}, Play With Me, The Runaway Bunny, Katy No Pocket, and I Am an Artist

# Starfish



Starfish can live in every ocean in the world. They can drop an arm to get away from a predator and can grow one back. Starfish also have tiny eyes on the ends of their arms.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}

# Snail



Snails cannot hear, so, in order to find food, they use their sense of smell. They can live for 15 to 20 years! Snail's tongues have lots of teeth on them to grind up their food. Some people eat snails as food.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}  
and Katy No Pocket

# Horseshoe Crab



The horseshoe crab has 10 eyes. Its tail is not used as a weapon, but helps it get through sand and steer it in the right direction. The horseshoe crab is not actually a crab and is more closely related to scorpions and spiders.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}  
and I Am an Artist

# Clams



Some clams have snorkels so they can breathe when they bury themselves in the sand. The largest known clam weighed over 700 pounds! Clams have a foot to help them navigate in the ocean. Clams eat plankton, just like whales.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}

# Snake



Snakes are cold blooded and change their temperatures by lying in the sun or in the shade. Snakes do not have eyelids, so, when they are shedding their skin, they become temporarily blind.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me

# Grasshopper



Grasshoppers migrate in groups like birds. You can use a grasshopper's chirps to determine the temperature outside by counting the number of chirps in 15 seconds and adding 39 to it.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me and The Quiet Way Home

# Ant



Ants antennae allow them to hear, taste, touch, and smell. Ants communicate with each other by touching their antennae with each other. When ants find food, they leave a scent trail for the others in their colony to follow. Only the queen ant can lay eggs.

Found in these Children's books:  
Jesse Bear and Katy No Pocket

# Turtle



A group of turtles is called a bale. Turtles spend most of their time in water and have webbed feet. A turtle shell is flatter than a tortoise shell. Some turtles can live a year without food. All turtles lay their eggs on land.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me, Little Rabbit, Corduroy, and Katy No Pocket

# Fawn



Fawns are baby deer. They are born in May or June. The spotted markings on a fawn help it blend in with the forest. A fawn's mother will stick her white tail up if there is danger so the fawn can follow her easier.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me and Katy No Pocket

# Salamander



Salamanders have slender bodies, four legs, a small head and eyes and a tail. If attacked, their tail can detach and continue to twitch, giving the salamander a chance to escape. They come in a variety of colors and patterns.

Found in these Children's books:  
I Am an Artist

# Chipmunk



A chipmunk usually lives by its self in a large burrow that it continually expands for its entire life. Chipmunks are good climbers, but like to stay on the ground. Their burrows have separate compartments for sleeping, storage, and trash.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me

# Tortoise



Tortoises are land dwelling animals and have a more rounded shell than turtles. Tortoises cannot swim or float in water. The largest tortoises are called Galapagos and live to be over 100 years old. They can be up to 5 feet long.

Found in these Children's books:  
Play With Me and Katy No Pocket

# Bunny



Domesticated rabbits live from 8 to 10 years. Baby rabbits are called kits. Rabbits are very smart and can learn to open cages. Rabbits have large eyes, but they have a blind spot directly in front of them.

*Found in these Children's books:*

The ABC Bunny, Little Rabbit, Corduroy, Goodnight Moon, and Runaway Bunny

# Lion



Lions live in prides of up to 40 members. A pride of lions has a territory and no other animals are allowed to hunt in that territory. The male lion eats first, then the female lioness and then the cubs. Lions sleep 16 to 20 hours a day.

*Found in these Children's books:*

Corduroy, Goodnight Moon, and Katy No Pocket

# Giraffe



Giraffes are the tallest land animals and can grow up to 19 feet tall. The pattern of spots on a giraffe is distinct just like person's fingerprints. A giraffe's tongue can grasp and hold on to things. Giraffe's front legs are longer than their back legs.

*Found in these Children's books:*

Corduroy and Goodnight Moon

# Koala



Koalas are not actually bears, but marsupials. They can go for many days without drinking any water. Koalas get all the water they need from eucalyptus leaves. Baby koalas stay in their mother's pouch for 7 months, then ride on their backs until they can care for themselves.

*Found in these Children's books:*

Corduroy

# Rooster



Roosters are male chickens. They are larger than hens and more brightly colored. They have long flowing tail feathers. Roosters can crow anytime during the day.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Red Carpet

# Cow



Cows produce the milk that most people drink. Cows drink about a bathtub full of water each day. A baby cow is called a calf. Cows chew their cud for up to 8 hours a day.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Red Carpet, Goodnight Moon, Runaway Bunny, If Jesus Came to My House, Ask Mr. Bear, and Katy No Pocket

# Mouse



A mouse can have up to a dozen babies at one time. A baby mouse is called a pinky. Mice are nocturnal and can see best when in a dimly lit area. Mice can jump 12 feet down without being injured. They are the smallest animal to be domesticated.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Goodnight Moon and Katy No Pocket

# Tiger



The tiger is the largest wild cat in the world and can weigh up to 720 pounds. They live in dense forests. A group of tigers is called an ambush. Tigers are very good swimmers and enjoy swimming in ponds. A tiger's stripe pattern is unique to each tiger.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Goodnight Moon

# Elephant



Elephants are the largest land mammal in the world. Their trunks have over 100,000 muscles.

An elephant can eat almost 300 pounds of food in a day.

Found in these Children's books:  
Goodnight Moon , If Jesus Came to My House, and Prayers for a Child

# Donkey



A male donkey is called a Jack. The female donkey is called a Jennet or Jenny. Their babies are foals.

A donkey can live up to 40 years.

Found in these Children's books:  
Runaway Bunny

# Kangaroo



Male kangaroos are known as Bucks, Boomers, or Jacks. Females are known as Does, Flyers or Jills. All baby kangaroos, boys and girls, are called Joeys.

Found in these Children's books:  
Runaway Bunny and Katy No Pocket

# Ostrich



Ostrich only have two toes. All other birds have three or four toes.

An ostrich's eye is almost two inches across and it has 3 sets of eyelids.

Found in these Children's books:  
Katy No Pocket



# Sheep



A female sheep is called a ewe. A baby sheep is called a lamb. A male sheep is called a ram. Sheep are born with long tails. Shortly after birth, their tails are shortened or docked.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Ask Mr. Bear

# Goose



A male goose is called a gander and the female is called a goose. Baby geese are called goslings. Geese have webbed feet and feed on grass, seed and other grains. The female goose is the one that always builds the nest.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Ask Mr. Bear

# Crocodile



The crocodile has a thinner snout than an alligator. Crocodiles lay eggs and they eat small mammals, birds, fish, crabs, insects, snails, and frogs. They can grow up to 6 feet long.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket

# Chicken



Chickens are omnivores that eat seeds, bugs and other small insects. Male chickens are called roosters, females are called hens and babies are called chicks. A hen can lay almost 300 eggs a year.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Ask Mr. Bear and Prayers for a Child

# Lady bug



There are 5,000 different species of ladybugs, in many colors and patterns. They are also known as ladybird beetles. A ladybug can eat up to 5,000 insects in its lifetime!

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket

# Earth worm



Worms, also known as night crawlers, are usually seen feeding above ground at night. During the day they burrow in the ground, but can dig down as far as 6 feet. The tunnels that worms dig help bring air into the soil for our gardens.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket

# Possum



The possum, also called an opossum, is the only marsupial (pouched mammal) found in the US and Canada. They are known to 'play possum' or pretend they are dead when they are threatened.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket

# Raccoon



Raccoons are nocturnal animals that live in much of the world. They make their dens in trees or above the ground. A raccoon's front paws have five fingers, similar to a human hand.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket

# Beetle



Beetles can be found in almost every habitat on Earth, except freezing polar areas. There are more than 350,000 species on Earth. Beetles help out by eating debris and other things that are decomposing.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket

# Caterpillar



Caterpillars are the larvae of moths and butterflies. They can be poisonous, but most lose their venom when they turn into a moth or a butterfly.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
Katy No Pocket and I Am an Artist

# Dolphin



Dolphins are part of the whale family and live in together in groups. They can live up to 40 years or more. They can be found worldwide, in shallow seas. They are carnivores, and mostly eat fish and squid. Dolphins are usually gray in color.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
My Blue Boat

# Whale



Humpback whales are found near coastlines, and are omnivores. They feed on krill, plankton and small fish. Baby whales are called calves. Their songs can be heard underwater for miles.

*Found in these Children's books:*  
I Am an Artist and My Blue Boat

# Spider



Most spiders live for one year. Female spiders carry their egg sacs behind them. Baby spiders are called spiderlings. Spiders eat more insects than birds and bats combined!

Found in these Children's books:  
Katy No Pocket

# Skunk



A skunk's spray is an oily liquid produced by glands under its large tail. The spray can travel up to ten feet. Skunks are nocturnal animals and eat fruit and plants, insects, larvae, worms, eggs, reptiles, small mammals, and even fish.

Found in these Children's books:  
Katy No Pocket

# Deer



A female deer is called a doe. Deer have a great sense of hearing, vision and smell. They have the ability to move their ears in any direction without moving their head, which gives them their great sense of hearing.

Found in these Children's books:  
Katy No Pocket

# Buck



A male deer is called a buck. Each year the buck grows new antlers (also called a rack) from spring until fall. The antlers fall off in the winter and new ones begin to grow. The points on the antlers are called tines.

Found in these Children's books:  
Katy No Pocket

# Ram



A ram is an adult male sheep. Some sheep have horns, but the horns on a ram are larger than those on sheep. Their horns are hollow and grow the fastest in the first three years of a ram's life.

Found in these Children's books:  
I Am an Artist

# Blue Frog



The blue frog is found in the rainforest. They are poisonous and their skin releases toxins to predators. They do not have webbing between their toes and are never found in the water.

Found in these Children's books:  
Katy No Pocket

# Mussels



Mussels are found in the ocean and they attach themselves to rocks. They can be found easily during low tide. Mussels eat plankton, just like clams.

Found in these Children's books:  
Kittens for Keeps {Jenny's Surprise Summer}

# Book Quick Reference Key

## Blueberries for Sal

Bear  
Crow  
Partridge

## Angus Lost

Cat  
Dog  
Squirrel  
Goat  
Owl  
Horse  
Ducks

## Little Rabbit

Rabbit  
Turtle  
Butterfly  
Wild Rabbit  
Baby bunny

## Goodnight Moon

Cow  
Bunny  
Bear  
Tiger {rug}  
Giraffe  
Elephant  
Lion  
Kitten  
Mouse

## Ask Mr. Bear

Sheep  
Goat  
Goose  
Chicken  
Bear  
Cow  
Frog

## Corduroy

Giraffe {stuffed}  
Lion  
Bunny  
Bear  
Turtle  
Dog

## If Jesus Came to my House

Butterfly  
Cow  
Dog  
Kitten  
Elephant  
Rabbit

## Runaway Bunny

Bunny  
Fish  
Dog  
Donkey  
Kangaroo  
Cow

## Katy No Pocket

Kangaroo  
Crocodile  
Dragonfly  
Ladybug  
Turtle  
Bee  
Monkey  
Fish  
Raccoon  
Possum  
Caterpillar  
Beetle  
Lion {male & female}  
Lion cubs  
Ostrich  
Bird {Robin}  
Owl  
Spider  
Lizard  
Green Frog  
Snail  
Skunk

Dog  
Cat  
Horse  
Cow  
Mouse  
Ants  
Tortoise  
Earthworm  
Butterfly  
Squirrel  
Deer {both & fawn}  
Rabbit  
Blue Frog

# Book Quick Reference Key

## Play With Me

Grasshopper  
Frog  
Turtle  
Chipmunk  
Fish  
Blue Jay  
Rabbit  
Snake  
Fawn

## Kittens for Keeps or

## Jenny's Surprise Summer

Kitten  
Robin  
Seagull  
Hermit Crab  
Crab  
Fish  
Starfish  
Snail  
Horseshoe Crab  
Clams  
Sandpiper

## ABC Bunny

Rabbit  
Squirrel  
Porcupine  
Blue Jay  
Lizard  
Frog  
Owl  
Quail  
Kitten  
Dragonfly  
Butterfly  
Fly  
Bee

## Going on a Bear Hunt

Dog  
Bear  
Seagull  
Duck  
Sandpiper

## Yellow Ball

Fish  
Seagull

## My Blue Boat

Whale  
Dolphin  
Seagull

## Big Green Pocketbook

Cat  
Dog  
Koala

## Quiet Way Home

Kitten  
Bee  
Grasshopper  
Dog  
Bird  
Blackbird/crow

## Caps for Sale

Monkey

## Prayers for a Child

Elephant {stuffed}  
Chickens  
Bear {stuffed}  
Bunny {stuffed}  
Cat

## The Red Carpet

Dog  
Cat  
Rooster  
Cow  
Horse

## Jesse Bear

Bear  
Butterfly  
Ants

## I am an Artist

Horseshoe Crab  
Caterpillar  
Ram  
Whale  
Bee  
Owl  
Butterfly  
Fish  
Dragonfly  
Salamander  
Quail

## Snowy Day

Duck

## The Carrot Seed {none}