

Unit 3 Animals

★Activities to learn the names of animals.

Unit Aims

Activities dealing with animals are popular among children in all grades of elementary school. However, it is important to carefully consider how animals are dealt with according to the grade level of children. If it is simply the names of animals, children in kindergarten and the lower grades of elementary school know quite a few names of animals in English. In this unit, targeted at the middle grades, the activities are designed in a quiz format. Children look at the body parts of animals or pictures of animals that their friends drew and guess what the animals are. It will be a good opportunity for children to get to know various things about animals, rather than simply learning the names of animals.

Vocabulary

cat dog pig horse mouse tiger lion zebra elephant giraffe
monkey bear

Classroom English

Is this a dog?

What's this animal?

What number is the elephant's foot?

Please design your animals.

Step of Activities

- (1) Looking at the pictures of animals on the page and learning the names of them in English. P.13
- (2) Looking at the body parts of various animals and guessing what the

animals are. P.14-P.15

- (3) Watching friends mime animals and guessing what the animals are.

P.15

- (4) Adding legs and other body parts to the shapes on the page and drawing animals the children like. P.16

Reference

The sound for dogs barking in Japanese is “*wan-wan*”, but in English it is “bow-wow”. There are many differences in animal cries between English and Japanese. Some examples are listed below. The Japanese cries are shown in brackets.

cat : meow (neow-neow)

dog : bow-wow (wan-wan)

pig : oink (boo-boo)

horse : neigh (hi-heen)

mouse : squeak (chew-chew)

Other Possible Activities

The teacher gives hints stating various characteristics of animals and children guess what the animals are. For hints that are difficult for children to understand, mimes and gestures can be added for support. Some examples are shown below.

Ex.1 : It has four legs. It lives in Africa. It's a tall animal. It has a long neck. What's this animal? (Answer : giraffe)

Ex.2 : It has a tail. It eats grass. It runs fast. It says neigh. What's this animal? (Answer : horse)

Ex.3 : It eats meat. It lives in Africa. It's a strong animal. It's the king of all animals. What's this animal? (Answer : lion)