

Mammals

UNIT
1

NAME



GOD'S
DESIGN®

Lessons 1-7

Animals
for Beginners

Lesson 1

World of Animals

Animals

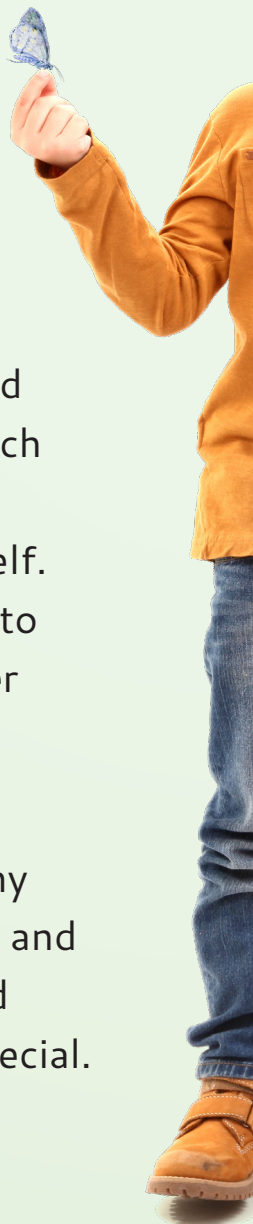
Do you like animals? Most people do. Animals are very interesting. They come in all shapes and sizes.

Some animals are big such as an elephant or whale. Others are small such as butterflies and ants.

In the Bible, God tells us that he created the heavens and the earth, and he created animals according to their kinds (Genesis 1:24–25). We still see these kinds today!

You probably know the cat kind and the dog kind and the horse kind. Each kind of animal makes more animals like itself. Cats never give birth to dogs, and horses never give birth to elephants.

In this book we will be looking at many different animals and learning how God made each of them special.



- ? What are some of your favorite animals?
- ? What animals would you like to learn about?



Animal Charades

Make a list of animals you know, starting with big animals and ending with small.



Now, pretend to be each animal. See if anyone else can guess what animal you are.

Lesson 2

Learning about Animals

Some people study animals, plants, and other parts of nature for their job. These people are called

scientists.

Scientists share what they learn with others. Most of what we know about animals was discovered by scientists.

Scientists group animals by things they have in common. In this book we are going to be learning about some of these groups like mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish, and more!

? What are some things that animals have in common?

? How are animals different from one another?



Mice and horses may seem very different to you. One is small and one is big. But they both have eyes, ears, and mouths. They both have hair. And they both have tails.

There are many things that animals have in common.



Same and Different

Draw a circle ○ around the animals that have fur.

Draw a square □ around the animals that have feathers.

Draw a triangle △ around the animals that live in the water.



Lesson 3

What Is a Mammal?

Mammals

are animals that have fur or hair. Mice and bears are both mammals because they have fur. Most mammals give birth to live young, or babies.

They also feed milk to their babies. This

is called nursing. Some

mammal babies nurse for a few weeks, while others nurse for many months.

Lions, dogs, cats, horses, and cows have fur or hair, too. And there are hundreds of other mammals as well.

This fur often helps to keep the animal warm in the winter. Sometimes this fur helps the animal to blend in with its surroundings so it can hide from its enemies. God gave mammals their fur or hair.

If you have a pet that is a mammal, like a dog, cat, or hamster, look at its fur. How does it feel? Where does it grow on your pet's body? Do you think its fur helps to keep your pet warm?





Mammals Have Fur

Look closely at the pictures of these mammals. Circle the hair on each one. Some mammals have a lot of hair. Other animals have only a little hair.

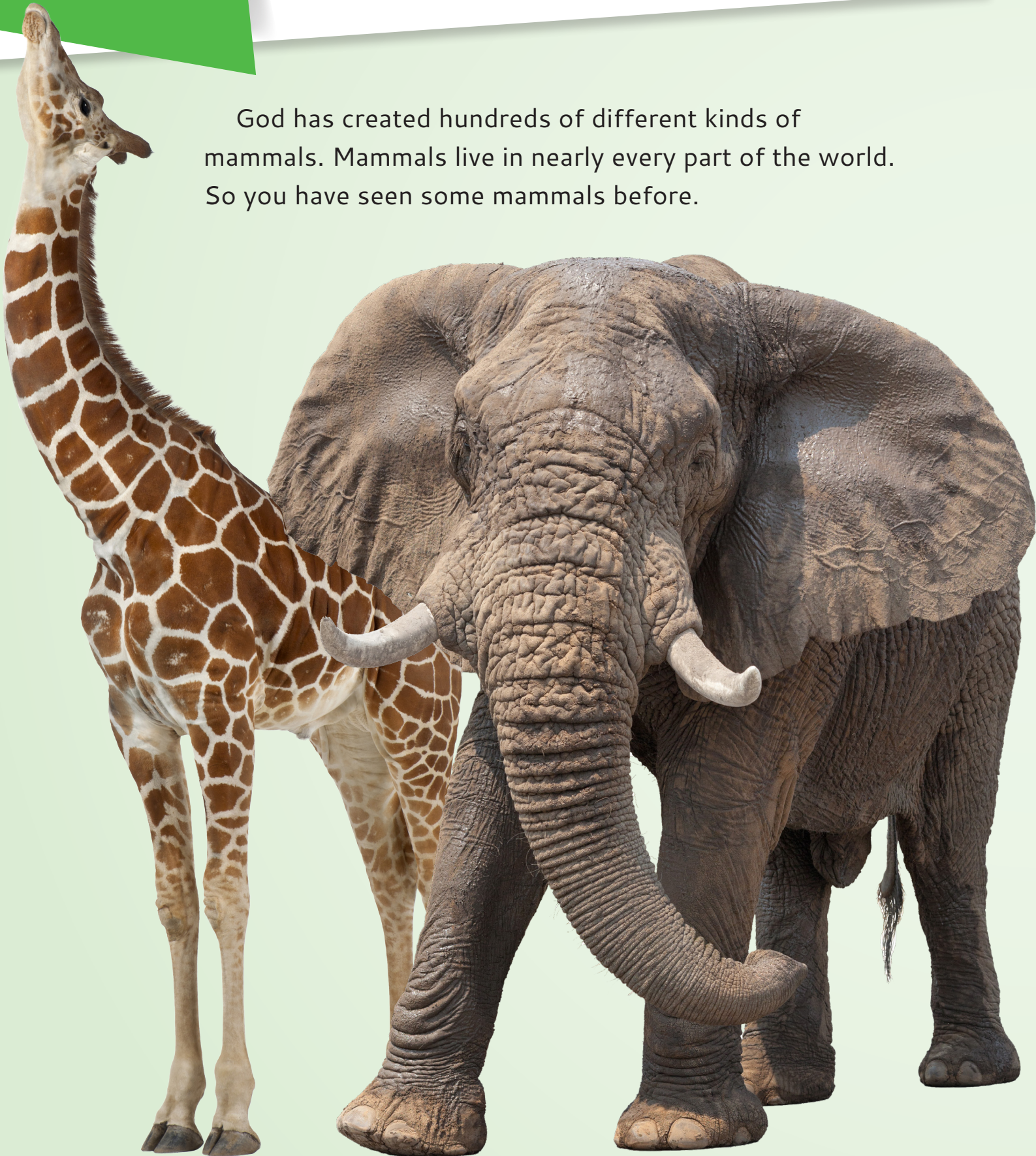


- ? What other animals can you think of that have fur or hair?
- ? What do mammals feed to their babies?

Lesson 4

Large & Small Mammals

God has created hundreds of different kinds of mammals. Mammals live in nearly every part of the world. So you have seen some mammals before.



Giraffes are the tallest land mammals. They are so tall they can eat leaves from the tops of many trees. Giraffes have very long tongues. They use their tongues to pull leaves off trees.

Elephants are very large. They have long noses called trunks. They use their trunks for drinking water and putting food into their mouths.

Bears

are also big mammals. Bears usually live by themselves but mother bears can often be seen with their cubs. Bears usually eat plants and berries, but sometimes they eat small animals and fish. A bear cub drinks milk from its mother until it is old enough to eat what its mother eats.





Did you think a bat was a bird? It does not have feathers, so it is not a bird.

Bats have hair, so they are mammals. Bats are mammals that fly!



Other mammals are very small, like a mouse or a hamster. These animals are mammals, too.

- ? Can you name a really large mammal?
- ? Can you name a really small mammal?



Bats Coloring Page

Color the picture of the bats.



Lesson 5

Monkeys & Apes

Monkeys

are always a favorite at the zoo. It is fun to watch them as they play and swing from place to place. Monkeys have ten fingers and ten toes—just like you do!

All monkeys have tails. Some monkeys can use their

tails

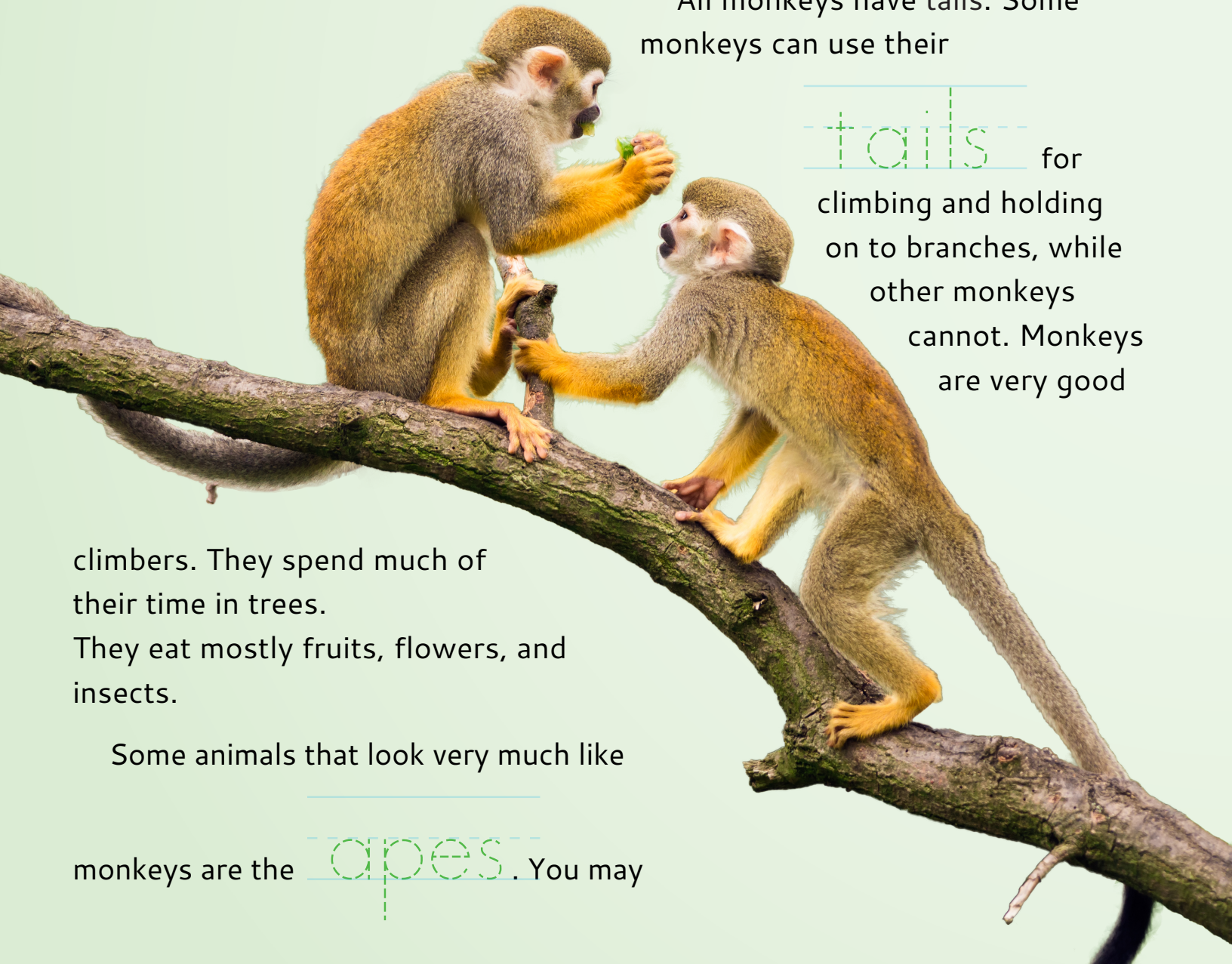
for climbing and holding on to branches, while other monkeys cannot. Monkeys are very good

climbers. They spend much of their time in trees.

They eat mostly fruits, flowers, and insects.

Some animals that look very much like

monkeys are the apes. You may





? What do all monkeys have that apes do not?

? What do monkeys typically eat?

have thought that apes were the same as monkeys. But there is one big difference. Apes do not have tails. Gorillas are the largest apes. Chimpanzees are also apes. Chimps are very playful.

Some scientists try to show that mankind came from apes, but is this true? There is no proof for this idea. The Bible says that God formed man from the ground and woman from man's rib (Genesis 2:7, 2:22). The Bible also tells us that people are made in God's own image (Genesis 1:26–27). So we can see that apes are apes and humans are humans. We can believe the Bible.



Scripture Trace

"The LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground..."

Genesis 2:7

Lesson 6

Water Mammals

dolphins

Some mammals live near and around water such as seals, otters, and sea lions. Other mammals live their entire lives only in the water such as dolphins, whales, and manatees.

Dolphins and whales look very much like fish, but they are not fish. They are actually mammals that live in the water.

- ? Have you ever seen a dolphin?
What about a manatee or a whale?
- ? How are whales different from fish?

Dolphins

and whales have hair. Fish have scales. Dolphins and whales breathe air with their lungs. Fish breathe by using their gills to get oxygen from the water. Whales give birth to live babies instead of laying eggs, and they feed their babies milk from their bodies. These facts make them mammals. So dolphins and whales are not fish.

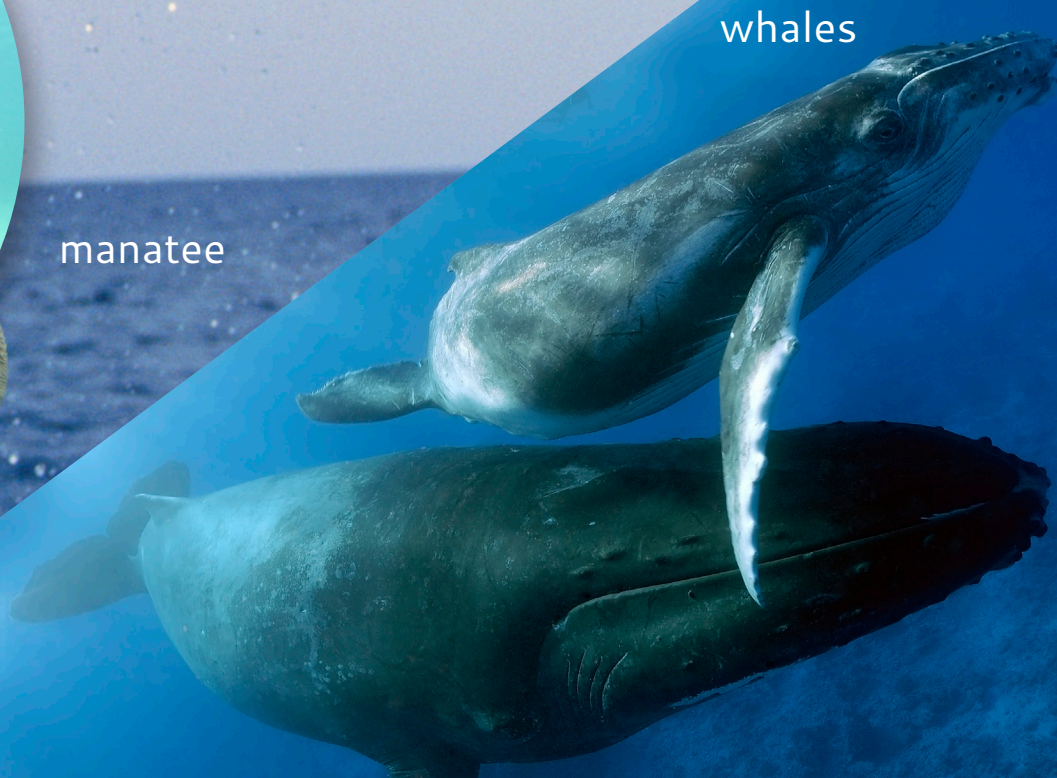
whales

God specially designed dolphins and whales to live in the water. They have a special hole called a blowhole on the tops of their heads. This helps them get a quick breath when they reach the surface of the water. These animals also have special tails that help them to dive and move through the water.

Another mammal that spends its entire life in the water is a manatee. Manatees live in areas with warm water such as Florida.



manatee



whales



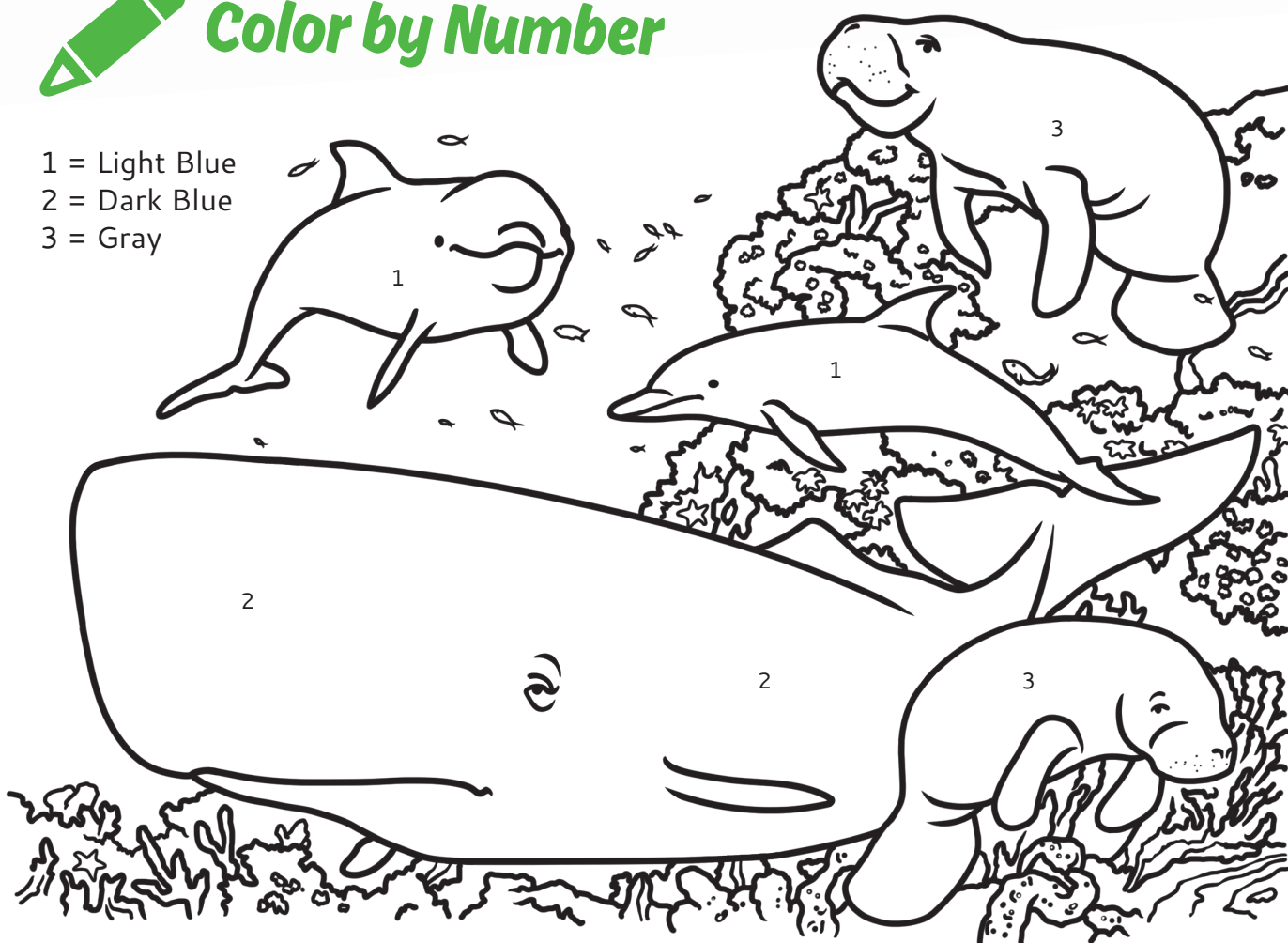
Holding Your Breath

Whales and dolphins live in the water, but they breathe air. So they have to hold their breath when they are underwater just like you do when you go swimming. God designed these animals to be able to hold their breath for a long time compared to humans. Some dolphins can stay underwater for 15 minutes. The sperm whale can hold its breath for more than an hour. How long can you hold your breath? Take a deep breath and have someone time how long you can hold it.



Color by Number

- 1 = Light Blue
- 2 = Dark Blue
- 3 = Gray



Marsupials

Lesson 7

Marsupials

are mammals that have pouches. This means that a baby marsupial lives in a pouch on its mother's belly. Kangaroos are a well-known marsupial. Other marsupials include the koala, the opossum, and the Tasmanian devil.

Kangaroos are some of the funniest animals to watch. Kangaroos live in Australia. They hop instead of walking or running.

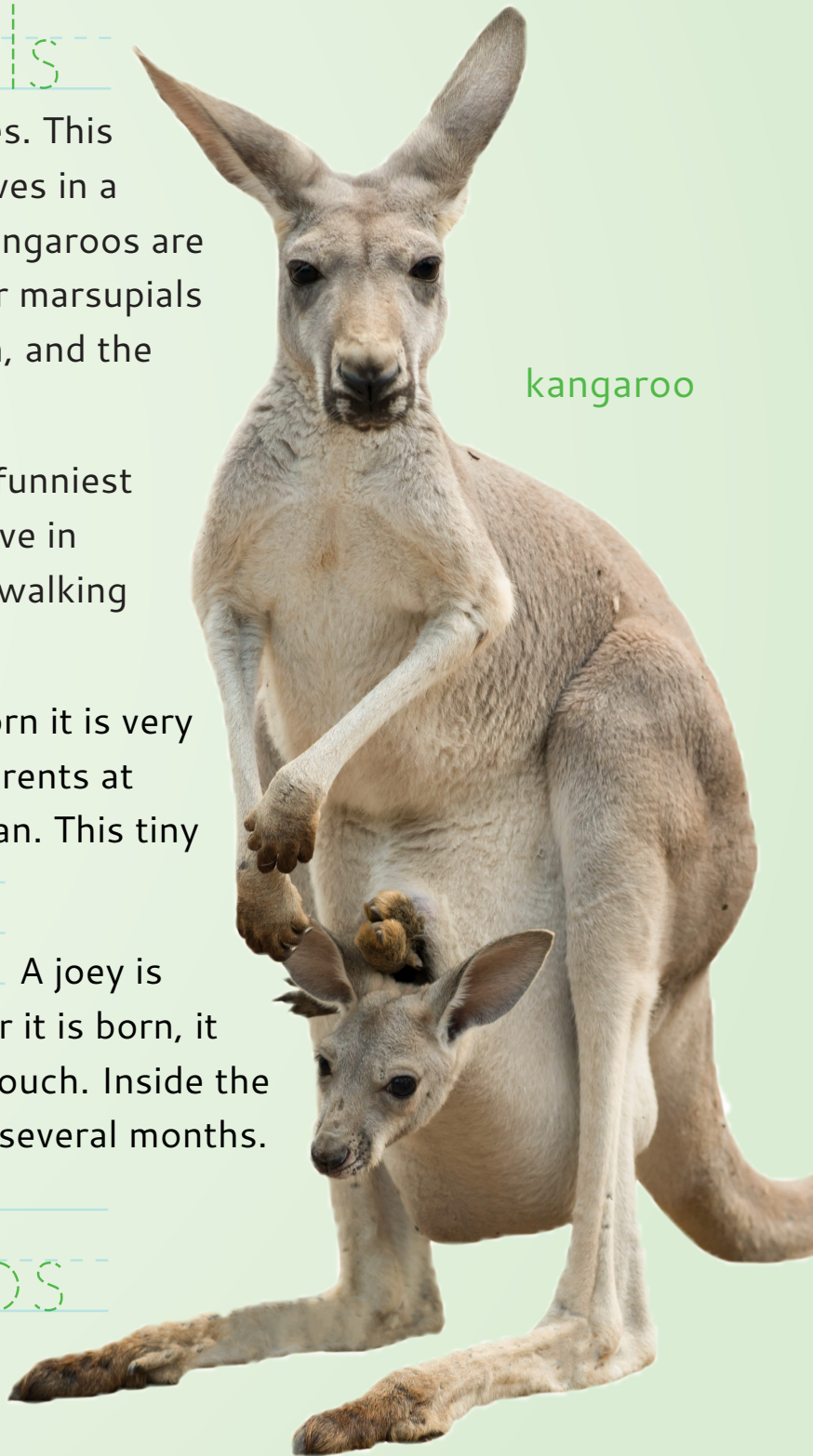
When a kangaroo baby is born it is very tiny. It does not look like its parents at all. It looks more like a jelly bean. This tiny

baby is called a joey. A joey is hairless and blind. Shortly after it is born, it slowly crawls to its mother's pouch. Inside the pouch it nurses and grows for several months.

Kangaroos

have large hind legs and very

kangaroo



large feet that are perfect for hopping. Kangaroos can hop faster than many animals can run. Kangaroos are usually awake at night and sleep during the day.

The opossum is the only marsupial that lives in the United States. It's about the size of a large cat. If an opossum is threatened, the first thing it does is hiss and show its sharp teeth. If the predator



tasmanian devil

Most of the marsupials in the world come from Australia.

koala



Australia

doesn't go away, the opossum rolls over, goes stiff, and stays perfectly still, as if it were dead. Some predators lose interest and go away. After a while, the opossum "wakes up" and goes on its way.

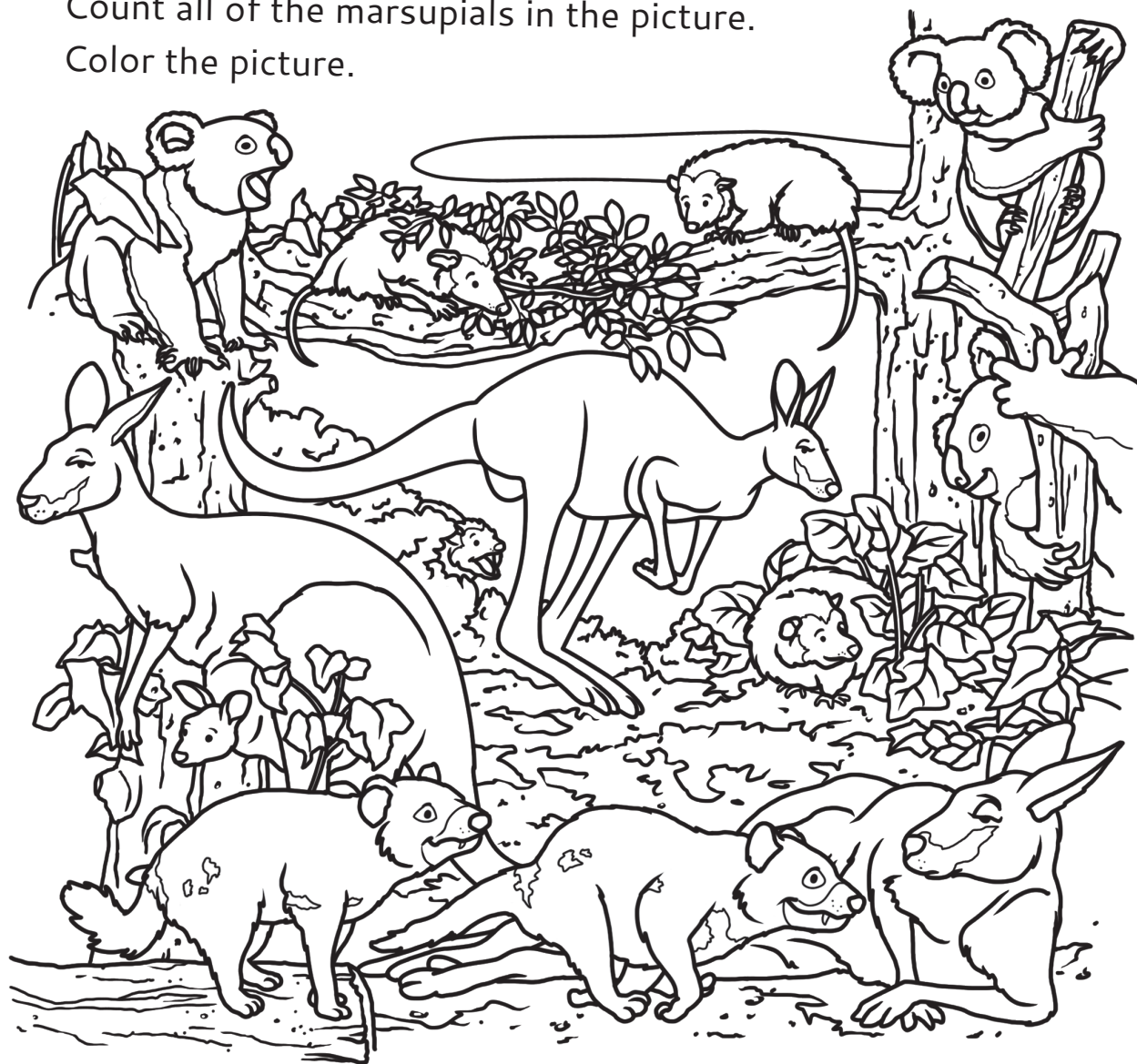


opossum



Count the Marsupials

Count all of the marsupials in the picture.
Color the picture.



How many marsupials did you find?

- ? What is special about a marsupial?
- ? Can you name three marsupials?



Unit Vocabulary Review

Complete the crossword puzzle by using the clues.

DOWN

1. Monkeys have these
3. People who study nature
4. Animals with fur or hair
6. Mammals with fingers, toes, and a tail
8. Large mammals that look like fish
9. Small mammals that fly
10. Gorillas and chimpanzees

ACROSS

2. Large mammals whose young are called cubs
5. Living creatures
7. Mammals that live in water
11. Mammals with pouches
12. Baby kangaroo

