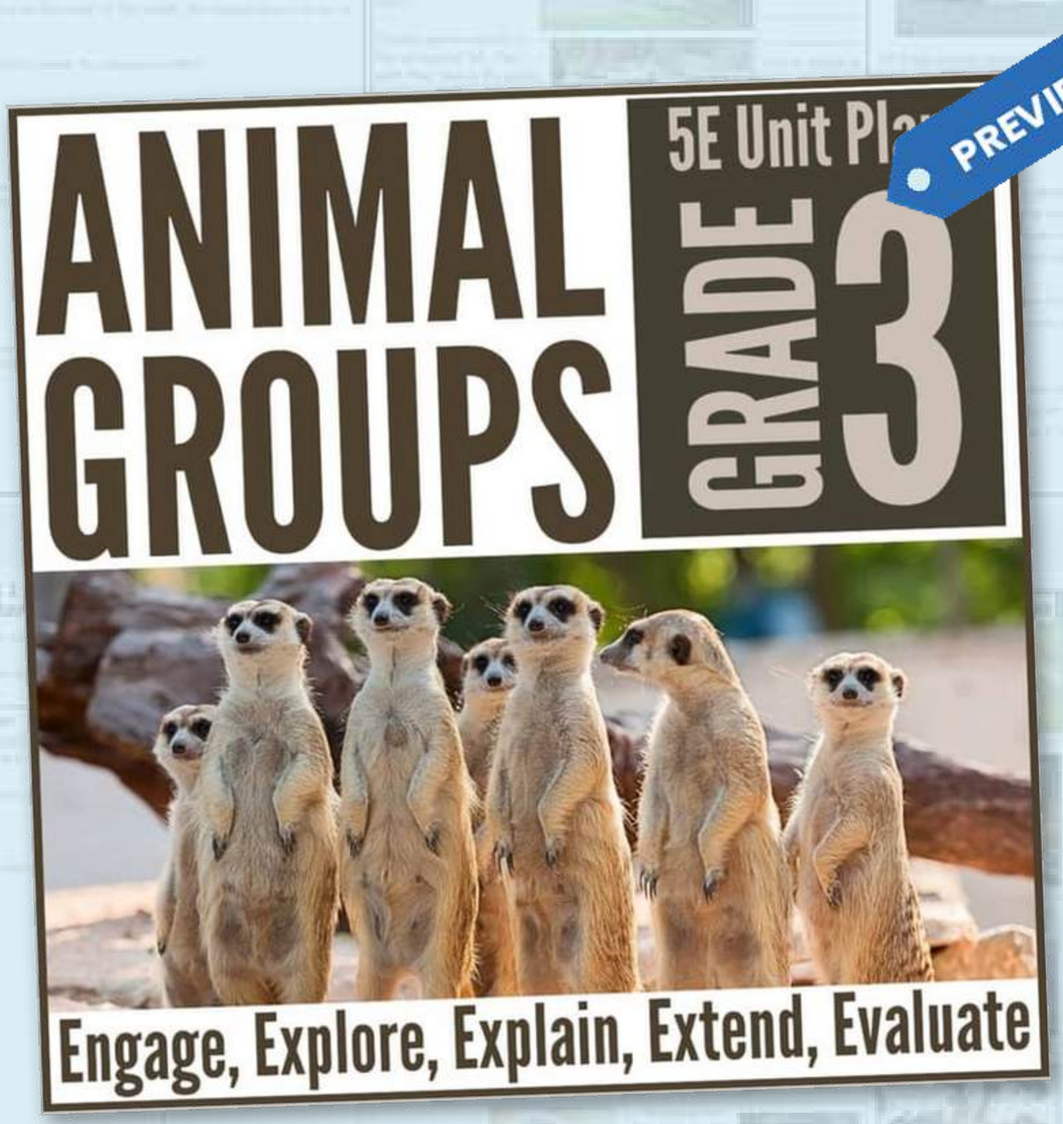


A Complete 5E Science Unit with Lesson Plans

3RD GRADE

ANIMAL GROUPS & SURVIVAL

Engage, Explore, Explain, Extend, Evaluate
NGSS 3-LS2-1

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

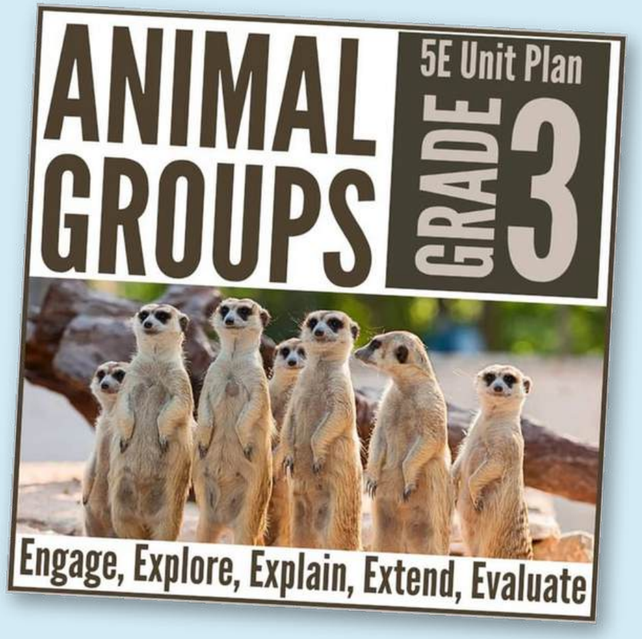
WHAT'S INCLUDED

5E ANIMAL GROUPS UNIT

- 190+ Page 5E Unit Plan
- Lesson Plans for All 5 Phases
- Teacher Notes and Misconceptions
- Materials Checklist and 4 Timelines
- Predator and Prey Investigations
- Animal Group Reading Passages
- Vocabulary Cards and Big Idea Posters
- Exit Tickets in 3 Formats
- Performance Assessment
- Answer Keys for Student Pages
- Google Slides and Google Forms Versions



UNIT AT A GLANCE



- Students huddle water balloons, swirl paper fish, and play a predator and prey game.
- Teacher background, lesson plans, and student pages in every phase.
- Aligned to NGSS 3-LS2-1.

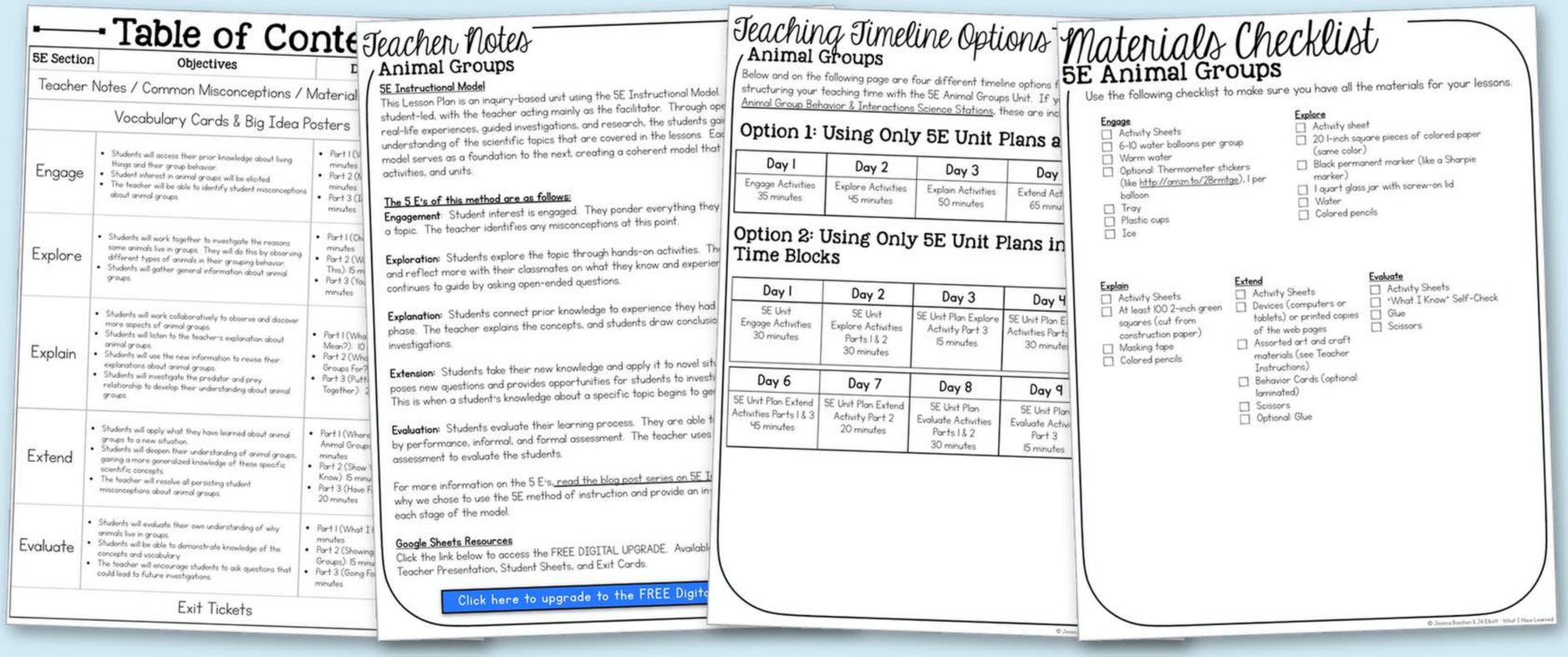


Table of Contents **Teacher Notes** **Timeline Options** **Materials Checklist**

ENGAGE



Teacher background, lesson plans, student pages, and answer key

E E E E E

Spark curiosity with water balloons

1 What Is This?

Students think about the many kinds of animals that live in groups.

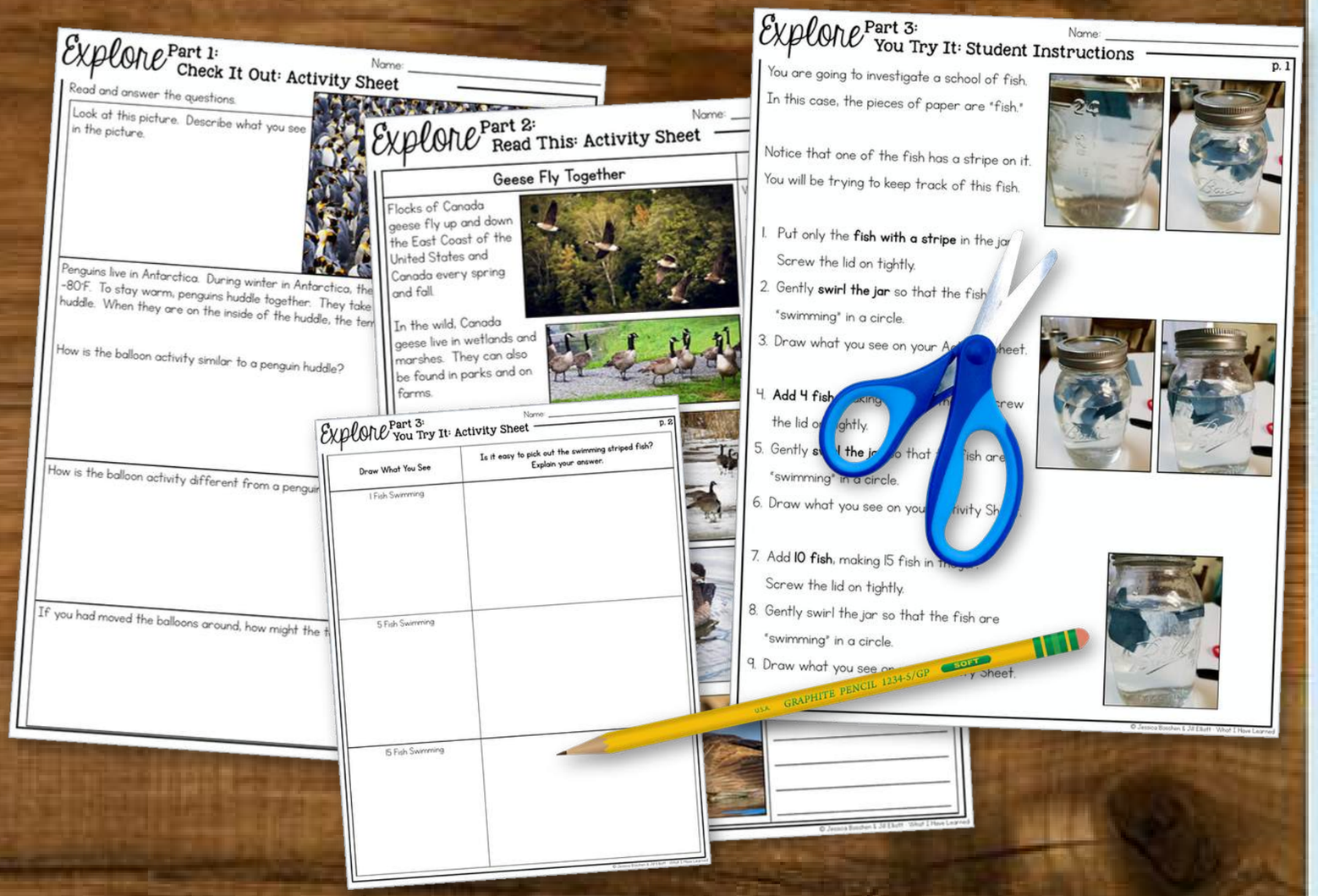
2 My Experiences

Students write about who lives in their home and why animals live in groups.

3 Introducing Animal Groups

Students huddle water balloons, add ice, and record how the temperatures change.

EXPLORE



Teacher background, lesson plans, student pages, and answer key

E E E E E

Investigate huddles, geese, and fish

1 Check It Out

Students read about penguin huddles and compare them to the balloon activity.

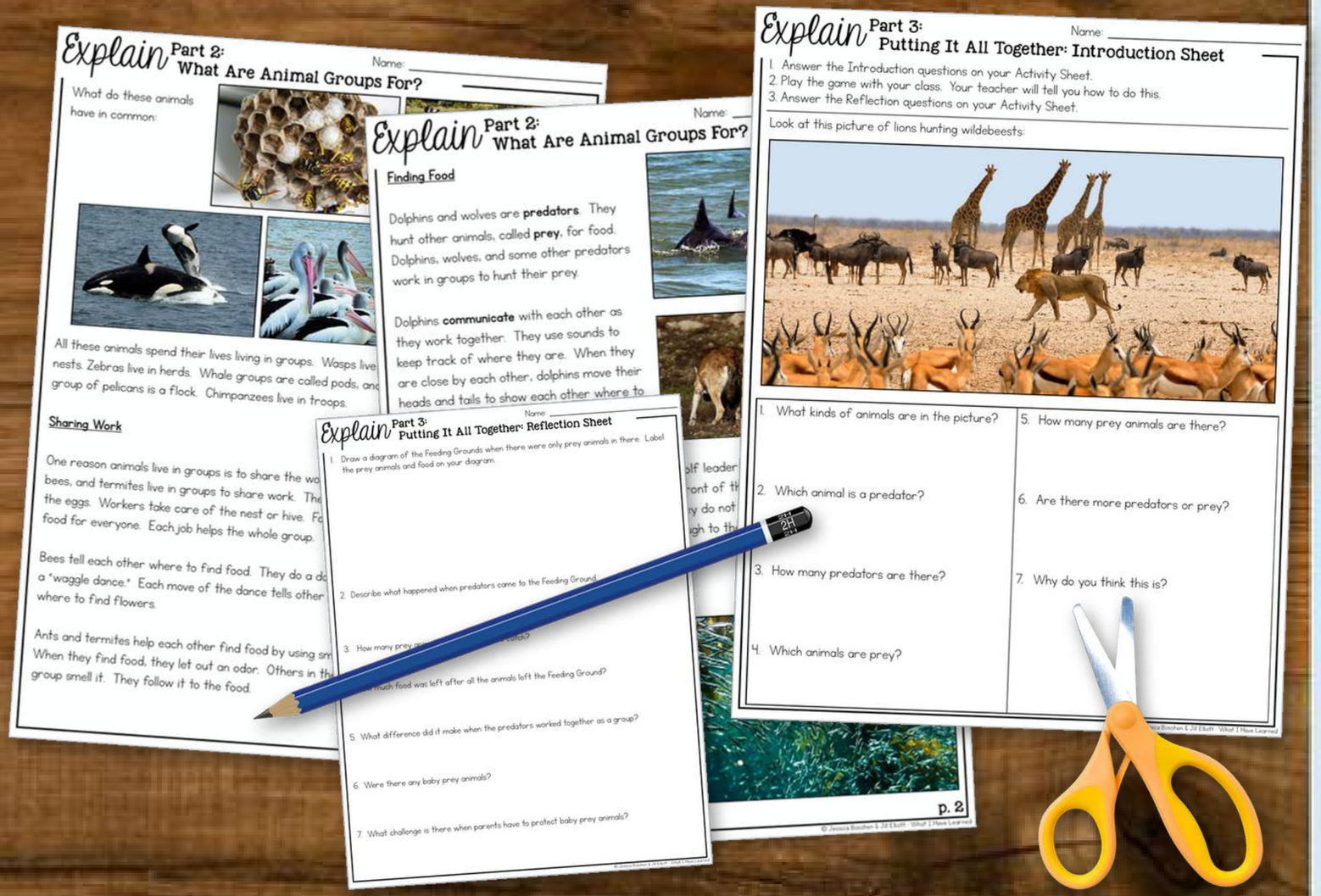
2 Watch and Read This

Students read about Canada geese flying together and answer guiding questions.

3 You Try It

Students swirl a jar of paper fish to see how a school hides one striped fish.

EXPLAIN



Teacher background, lesson plans, student pages, and answer key

E E E E E

Build explanations from evidence

1 What Does It Mean?

Students use their fish results to explain why animals swim in schools.

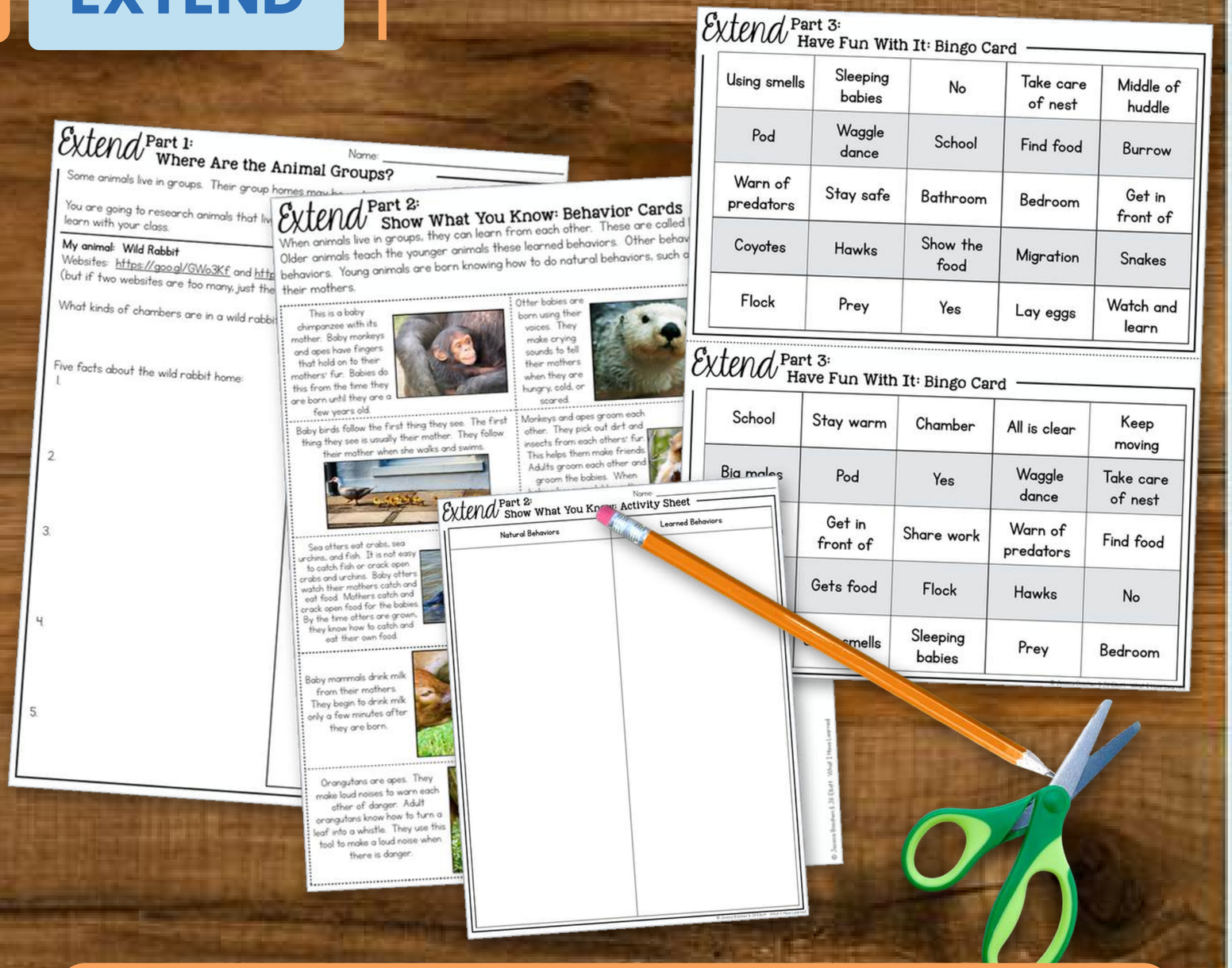
2 What Are Animal Groups For?

Students read about sharing work, finding food, staying safe, and staying warm.

3 Putting It All Together

Students play a predator and prey game with paper squares and diagram the results.

EXTEND



Teacher background, lesson plans, student pages, and answer key

E E E E E

Apply animal groups to new examples

1 Where Are the Animal Groups?

Students research animals with underground homes, like rabbits, prairie dogs, and moles.

2 Show What You Know

Students sort behavior cards into learned and natural behaviors.

3 Have Fun With It

Students play bingo with animal group question cards.

EVALUATE



Teacher background, lesson plans, student pages, and answer key

E E E E E

Check understanding with evidence

1 What I Know

Students answer questions with key words like burrow and predator, then score themselves.

2 Showing Animal Groups

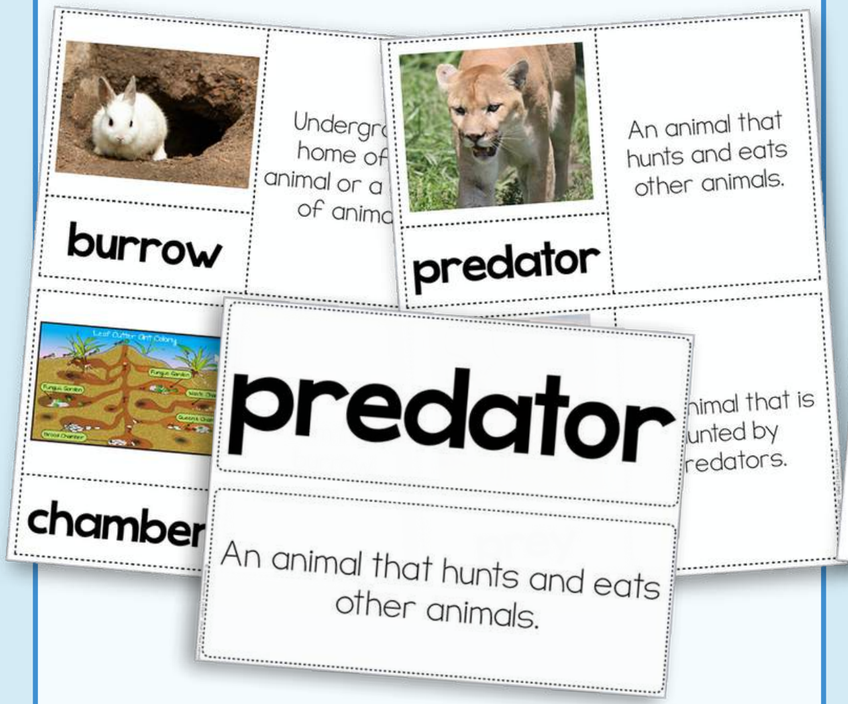
Students sort animal pictures by why each animal lives in a group.

3 Going Forward

Students write a new question and hypothesis about animal groups.

VOCABULARY, POSTERS & EXIT TICKETS

VOCABULARY CARDS



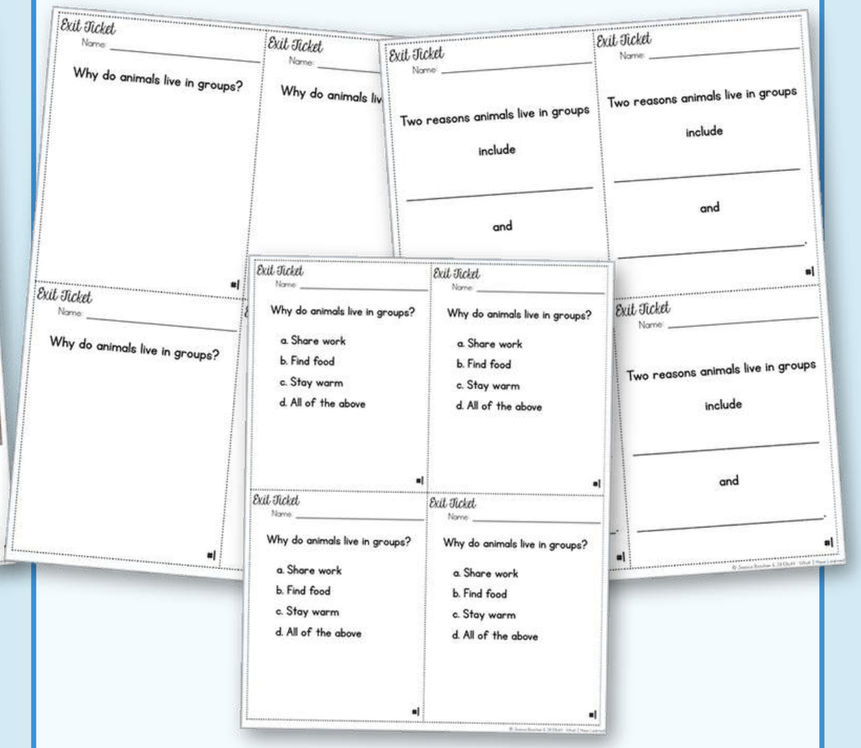
Picture cards and word cards for burrow, chamber, communicate, migrate, predator, and prey.

BIG IDEA POSTERS



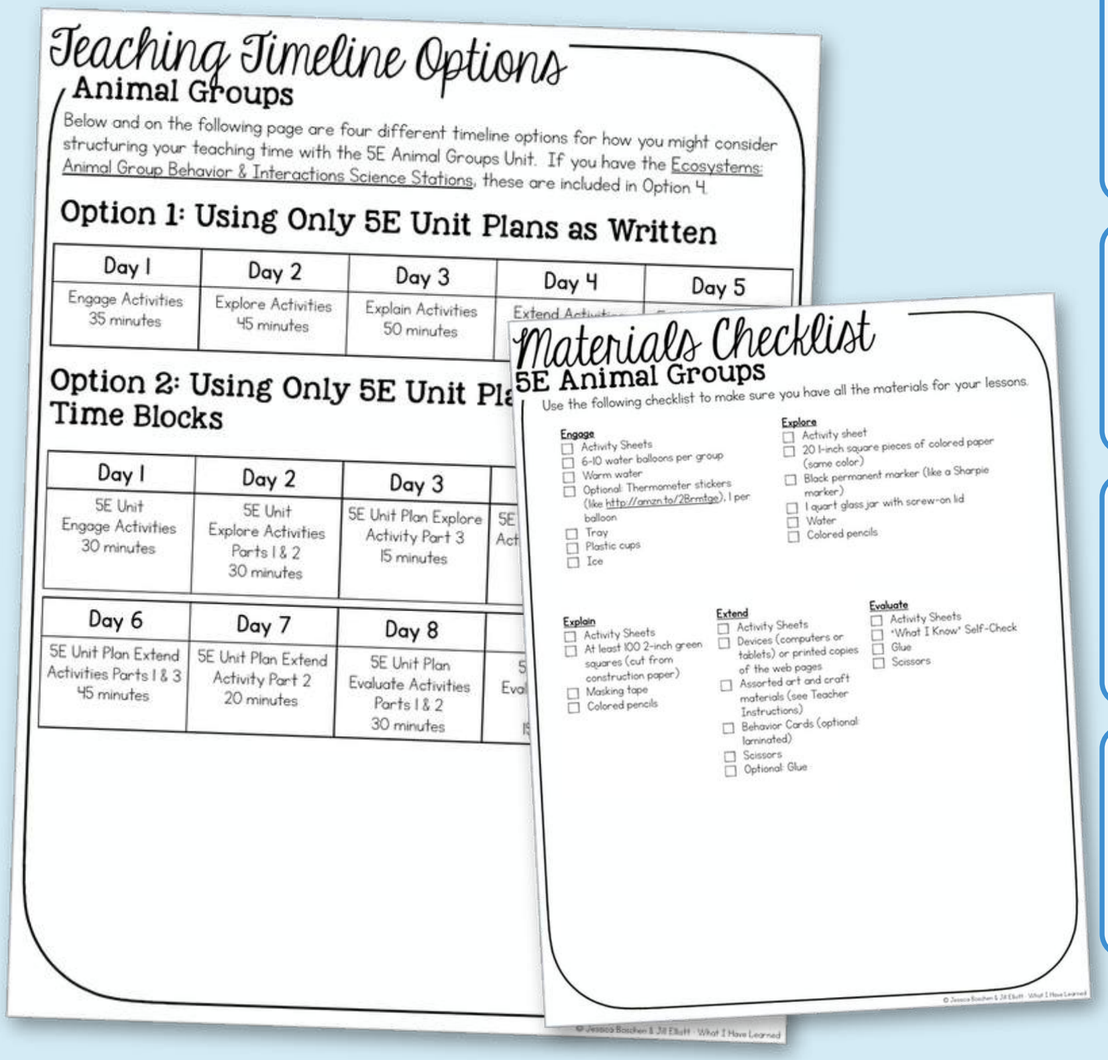
Four posters on animal groups, burrows, predators and prey, and how animals communicate.

EXIT TICKETS



11 exit tickets, each in short answer, fill-in-the-blank, and multiple choice formats.

WAYS TO USE IN YOUR CLASSROOM



Teaching Timeline Options

Animal Groups

Below and on the following page are four different timeline options for how you might consider structuring your teaching time with the 5E Animal Groups Unit. If you have the Ecosystems: Animal Group Behavior & Interactions Science Stations, these are included in Option 4.

Option 1: Using Only 5E Unit Plans as Written

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Engage Activities 35 minutes	Explore Activities 45 minutes	Explain Activities 50 minutes	Extend Activit...	

Option 2: Using Only 5E Unit Pla... Time Blocks

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	
5E Unit Engage Activities 30 minutes	5E Unit Explore Activities Parts 1 & 2 30 minutes	5E Unit Plan Explore Activity Part 3 15 minutes	5E Act...

Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	
5E Unit Plan Extend Activities Parts 1 & 3 45 minutes	5E Unit Plan Extend Activity Part 2 20 minutes	5E Unit Plan Evaluate Activities Parts 1 & 2 30 minutes	5 Eva... 1

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Materials Checklist

5E Animal Groups

Use the following checklist to make sure you have all the materials for your lessons.

Engage
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ 6-10 water balloons per group
- ☐ Warm water
- ☐ Optional: Thermometer stickers (like http://amzn.to/2Rrmtge), 1 per balloon
- ☐ Tray
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Ice

Explore
- ☐ Activity sheet
- ☐ 20 1-inch square pieces of colored paper (same color)
- ☐ Black permanent marker (like a Sharpie marker)
- ☐ 1 quart glass jar with screw-on lid
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Colored pencils

Explain
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ At least 100 2-inch green squares (cut from construction paper)
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Colored pencils

Extend
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ Devices (computers or tablets) or printed copies of the web pages
- ☐ Assorted art and craft materials (see Teacher Instructions)
- ☐ Behavior Cards (optional: laminated)
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Optional: Glue

Evaluate
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ "What I Know" Self-Check
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Scissors

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1

Whole-Class 5E Unit

Teach one phase a day over 5 days as written, with 35 to 65 minutes per phase.

2

Shorter Science Blocks

Spread the unit across 9 days in shorter time blocks when science minutes are limited.

3

Alongside Science Stations

Add the Animal Group Behavior and Interactions Science Stations for a 10-day plan.

4

Formative Checks

Use the exit tickets throughout the unit to see who needs reteaching before the performance activity.

TEACHING TIMELINE OPTIONS

Option 1 — 5 days
As Written

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Engage	**Explore**	**Explain**	**Extend**	**Evaluate**
35 min	45 min	50 min	65 min	45 min

Option 2 — 9 days
Shorter Time Blocks

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9
Engage	**Explore 1–2**	**Explore 3**	**Explain 1–2**	**Explain 3**	**Extend 1, 3**	**Extend 2**	**Evaluate 1–2**	**Evaluate 3**
30 min	30 min	15 min	30 min	20 min	45 min	20 min	30 min	15 min

Option 3 — 5 days
Abbreviated

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Engage 3	**Explore 3**	**Explain 2**	**Extend 3**	**Evaluate 1**
20 min	15 min	20 min	20 min	15 min

Option 4 — 10 days
With Science Stations

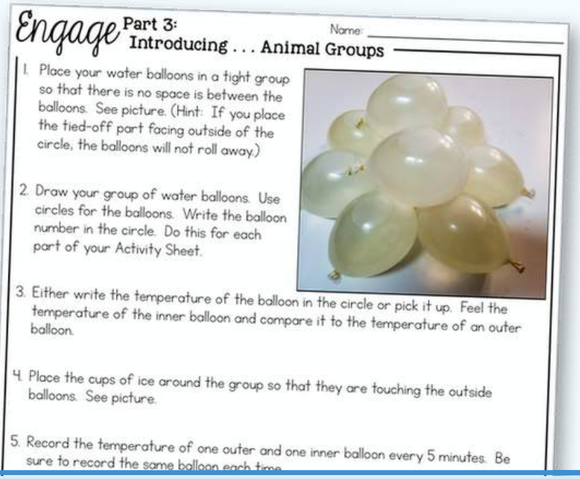
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
Engage	**Video**	**Explore 1–2**	**Explore 3**	**Explain 1–2**	**Explain 3**	**Extend 1–2**	**Extend 3**	**Evaluate 1–2**	**Evaluate 3**
35 min	15 min	30 min	15 min +20 station	30 min	20 min +20 station	45 min	20 min +20 station	30 min	15 min +20 station

Orange days are Science Station lessons. Magenta notes are extra station activities you can add that day.

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE

Hands-On From Day One

Students huddle water balloons, swirl paper fish, and play a predator and prey game, so group behavior makes sense.


Engage Part 3: Introducing . . . Animal Groups

Name: _____

1. Place your water balloons in a tight group so that there is no space is between the balloons. See picture. (Hint: If you place the tied-off part facing outside of the circle, the balloons will not roll away.)

2. Draw your group of water balloons. Use circles for the balloons. Write the balloon number in the circle. Do this for each part of your Activity Sheet.

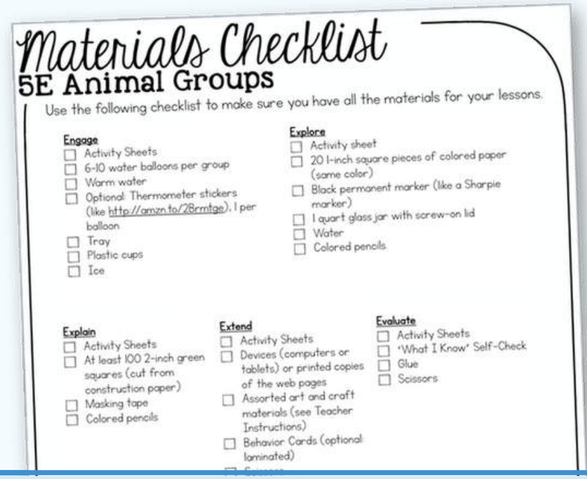
3. Either write the temperature of the balloon in the circle or pick it up. Feel the temperature of the inner balloon and compare it to the temperature of an outer balloon.

4. Place the cups of ice around the group so that they are touching the outside balloons. See picture.

5. Record the temperature of one outer and one inner balloon every 5 minutes. Be sure to record the same balloon each time.

Planned and Ready to Teach

Teacher notes, a misconceptions guide, a materials checklist, and answer keys are done for you.


Materials Checklist

5E Animal Groups

Use the following checklist to make sure you have all the materials for your lessons.

Engage
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ 6-10 water balloons per group
- ☐ Warm water
- ☐ Optional: Thermometer stickers (like http://amzn.to/2Brmtge), 1 per balloon
- ☐ Tray
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Ice

Explore
- ☐ Activity sheet
- ☐ 20 1-inch square pieces of colored paper (same color)
- ☐ Black permanent marker (like a Sharpie marker)
- ☐ 1 quart glass jar with screw-on lid
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Colored pencils

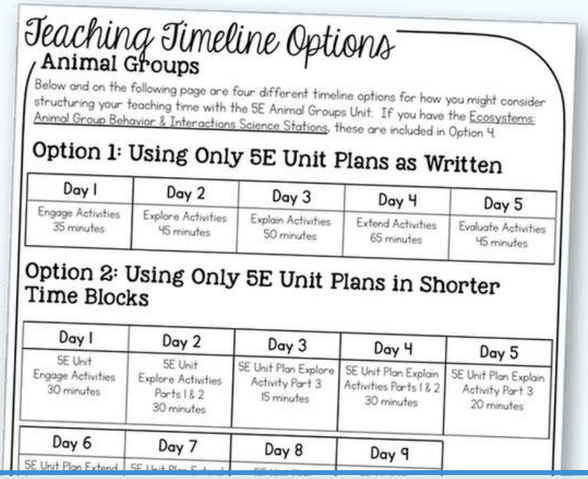
Explain
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ At least 100 2-inch green squares (cut from construction paper)
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Colored pencils

Extend
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ Devices (computers or tablets) or printed copies of the web pages
- ☐ Assorted art and craft materials (see Teacher Instructions)
- ☐ Behavior Cards (optional: laminated)

Evaluate
- ☐ Activity Sheets
- ☐ "What I Know" Self-Check
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Scissors

Fits Your Schedule

Choose from 4 timeline options, and use the Google Slides and Google Forms versions for a print or digital classroom.


Teaching Timeline Options

Animal Groups

Below and on the following page are four different timeline options for how you might consider structuring your teaching time with the 5E Animal Groups Unit. If you have the Ecosystems: Animal Group Behavior & Interactions Science Stations, these are included in Option 4.

Option 1: Using Only 5E Unit Plans as Written

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Engage Activities 35 minutes	Explore Activities 45 minutes	Explain Activities 50 minutes	Extend Activities 65 minutes	Evaluate Activities 45 minutes

Option 2: Using Only 5E Unit Plans in Shorter Time Blocks

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
5E Unit Engage Activities 30 minutes	5E Unit Explore Activities Parts 1 & 2 30 minutes	5E Unit Plan Explore Activity Part 3 15 minutes	5E Unit Plan Explain Activities Parts 1 & 2 30 minutes	5E Unit Plan Explain Activity Part 3 20 minutes

Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9
5E Unit Plan Extend			

TEACHERS LOVE IT!

★★★★★

Lots of good reading texts for informational writing. It was very organized and made planning easy!

Kristy B.

★★★★★

This unit had a lot of great activities that were engaging for my students.

Megan Mason

★★★★★

My students loved this and were very engaged!

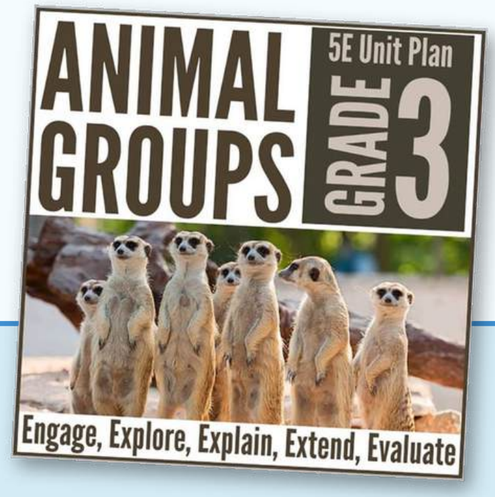
Elyse Nicole





READY FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

- **Instant digital download**
- **Print and use the activities**
- **Google Slides and Forms versions**

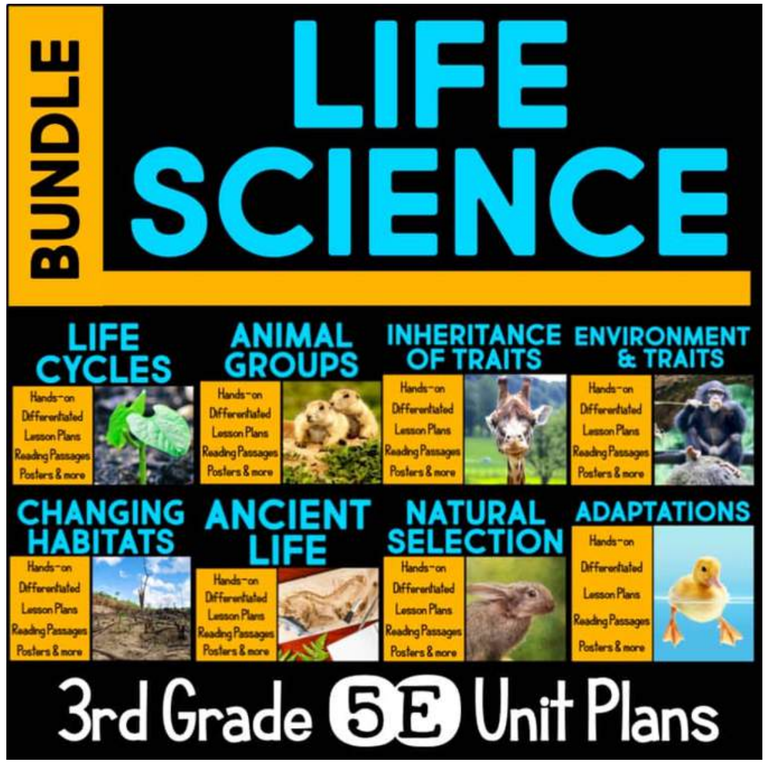


WANT MORE 3RD GRADE 5E UNITS?

Save with a topic bundle or the full-year bundle.

TOPIC BUNDLE

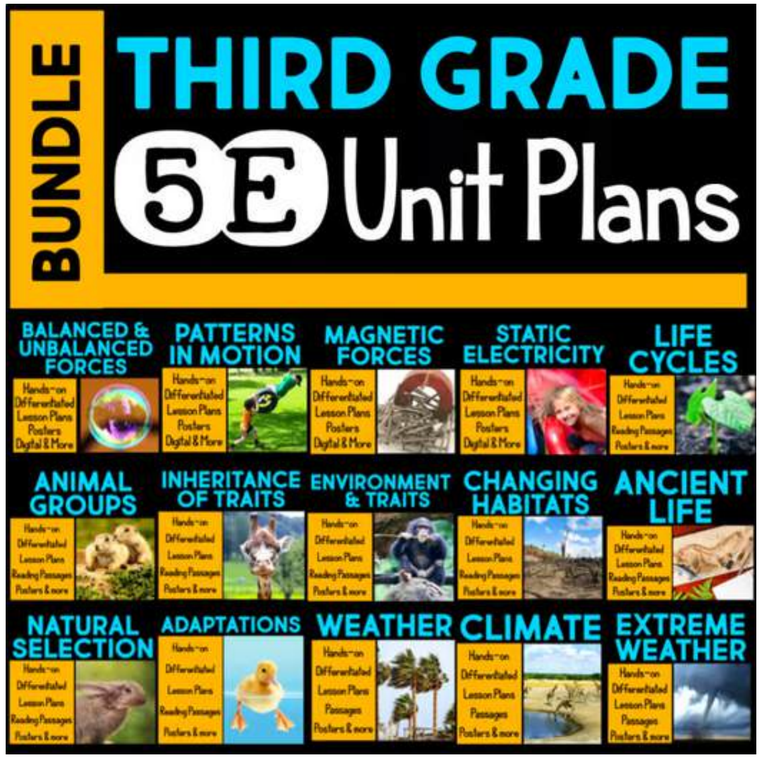
GOOD VALUE



SEE THE BUNDLE

FULL-YEAR BUNDLE

BEST VALUE



SEE THE BUNDLE

My passion is making learning accessible to all students.
I love scaffolding learning, breaking down the concepts and building them up so that students can see the connections.
I love figuring out the small components that build up to the big ideas and helping students see it all.



teach MATH | teach SCIENCE | teach READING | teach WRITING

What I have LEARNED