2ND-3RD



9 Australian Animals with Research Activities

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL RESEARCH BUNDLE

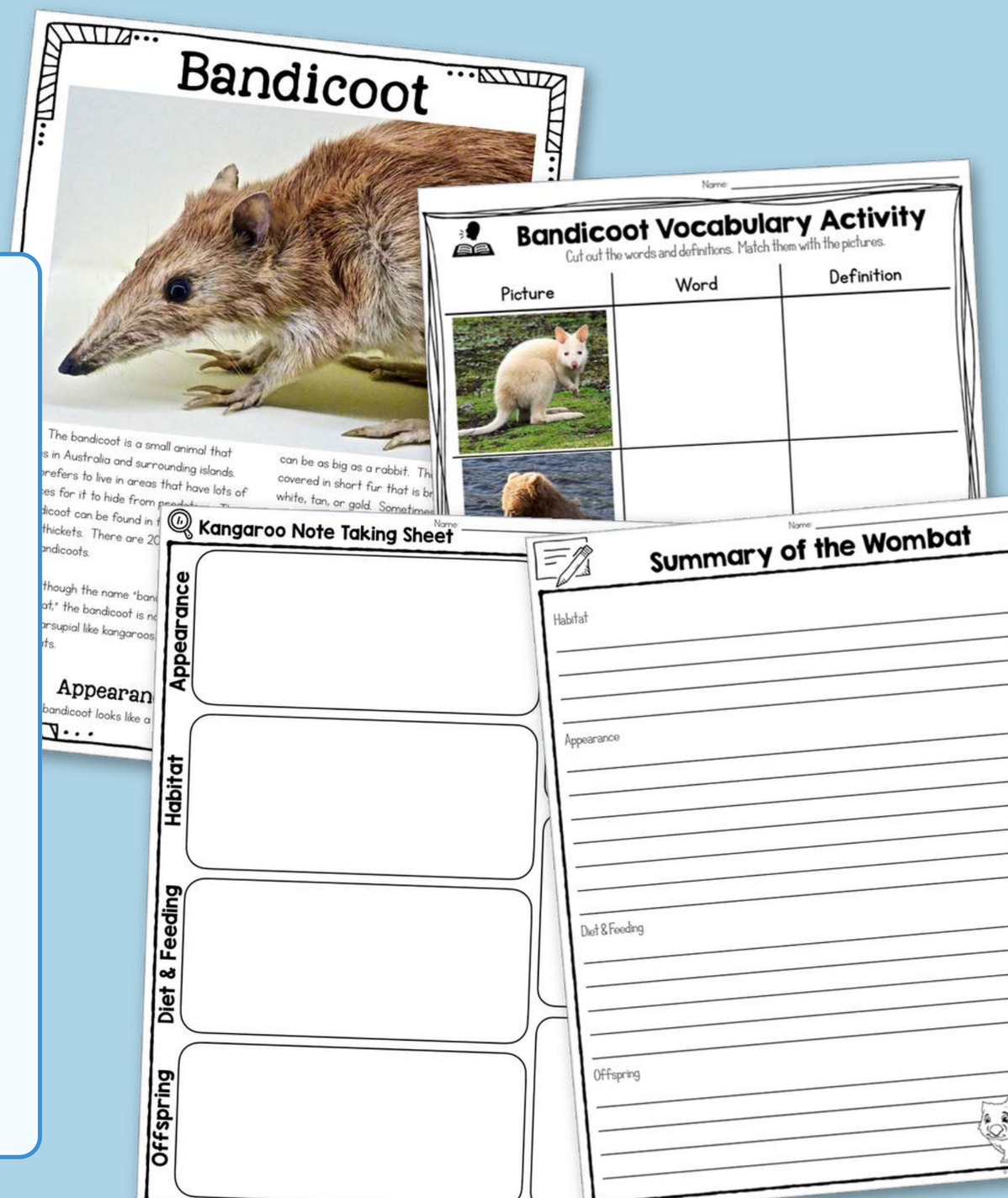
Reading, Comprehension, and Informational Writing

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

WHAT'S INCLUDED

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL RESEARCH BUNDL

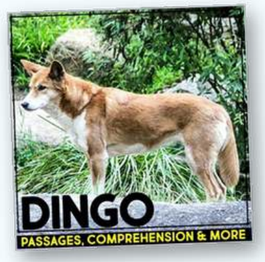
- 9 animal research packs
- 410+ pages across the complete bundle
- 1-page and 2-page informational articles
- Vocabulary cards and interactive vocabulary activities
- Comprehension questions and note-taking organizers
- Fact sorting activities for key information
- Informational writing pages
- Answer keys for easy grading
- QR-code research pages where included
- Consistent layouts across every animal study



9 Australian ANIMALS INCLUDED



Bandicoot



Dingo



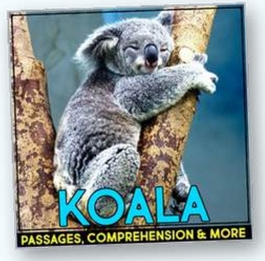
Echidna



Emu



Kangaroo



Koala



Platypus



Tasmanian Devil

Each study follows the same predictable structure so students can focus on reading, research, and writing.

INSIDE THE ANIMAL STUDIES

Bandicoot



KEY CONCEPTS

- Animal features, habitat, and adaptations
- Reading, research, and informational writing

Dingo

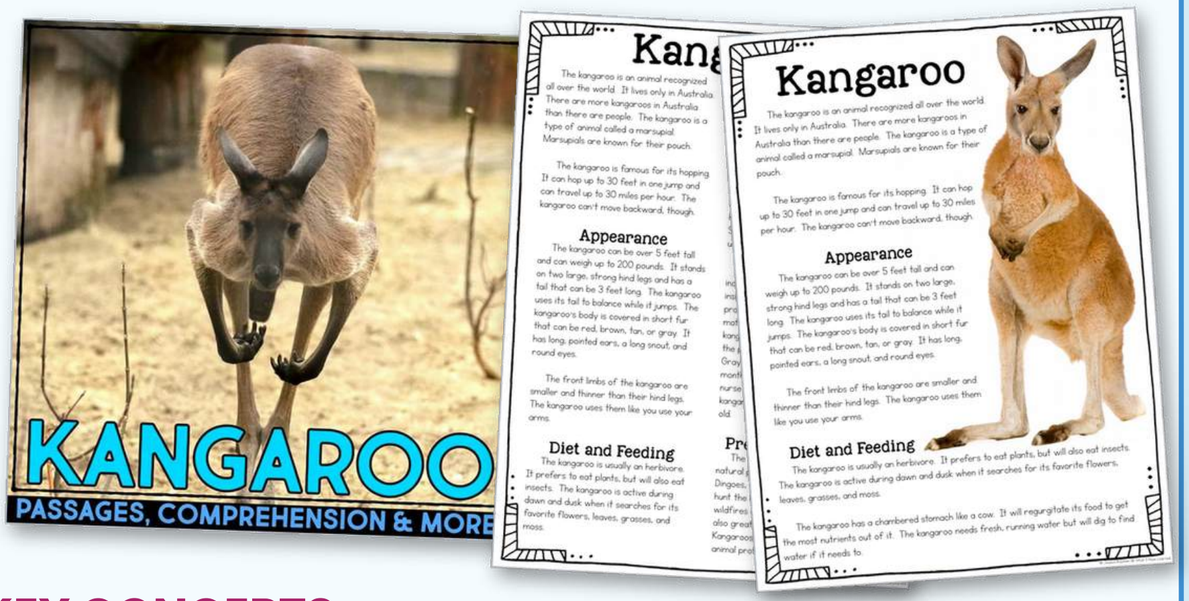


KEY CONCEPTS

- Animal features, habitat, and adaptations
- Reading, research, and informational writing

HABITATS, FEATURES, AND ADAPTATIONS

Kangaroo



KEY CONCEPTS

- Animal features, habitat, and adaptations
- Reading, research, and informational writing

Wombat

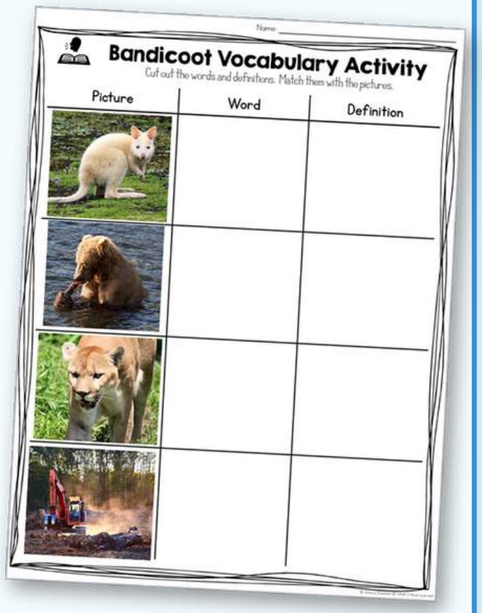


KEY CONCEPTS

- Animal features, habitat, and adaptations
- Reading, research, and informational writing

EVERY ANIMAL STUDY FOLLOWS A SIMPLE ROUTINE

LEARN


Name:

Bandicoot Vocabulary Activity

Cut out the words and definitions. Match them with the pictures.

Picture	Word	Definition

Students build vocabulary with picture cards and activities.

READ


Dingo

The dingo is known as Australia's famous wild dog. However, it is as much a wolf as it is a dog. It howls and often travels in packs with other dingoes. The dingo lives in many different habitats in Australia and Southeast Asia. It is considered a pest by Australian farmers who built a fence to protect their sheep. Known as The Dingo Fence, it is 3,488.14 miles long and the longest fence in the world.

Appearance

The dingo can grow 4 feet long and weighs up to 33 pounds. Its tail is about 13 inches long. There are different types of dingoes. The Desert dingo is reddish, golden, or sand-colored. The Alpine dingo is cream-colored. The Northern dingo is also reddish or golden but does not have the double coat that the Desert and Alpine dingoes have.

The dingo's paws have wrists that can rotate like human wrists. This helps the dingo use its paws like hands to catch prey, climb, and even open doors. The dingo can also turn its head 180 degrees. This helps it keep an eye on its prey.

Diet and Feeding

The dingo is a carnivore. It prefers to hunt small animals like rabbits, mice, birds, snakes, and lizards. The dingo also hunts the livestock of Australian farmers. It will eat farmers' sheep, chickens, and other animals. Farmers often use donkeys to keep dingoes away. Donkeys scare away dingoes by braying loudly or chasing them.

The dingo usually lives and hunts in packs of up to ten dingoes. Some young males will live alone. Packs are led by the strongest female and her mate.

Offspring

A female dingo is pregnant for 63 days. She gives birth to about five baby dingoes, called pups, once a year. The female leader will often kill the pups of the other females in the pack.

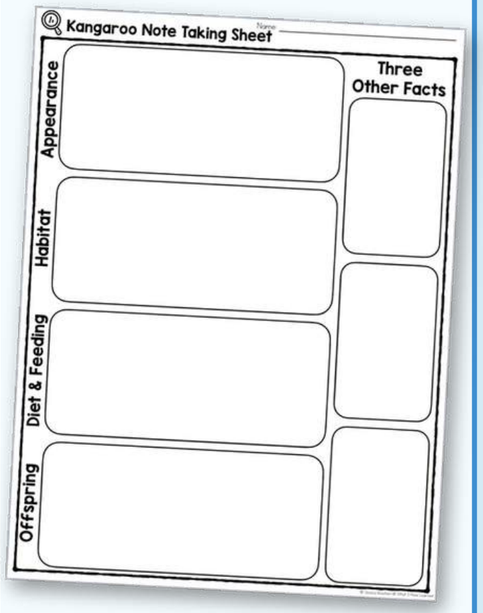
The pups stay with their mother until they are 6 to 8 weeks old. They are fully grown and ready to live on their own at that age. When they are three years old, the dingo will find a mate. When a dingo finds a mate, it will usually stay with that mate for life.

Predators & Threats

The dingo's population is large and spread out across Australia and Southeast Asia. The dingo is the largest predator in Australia and does not have any natural predators. People are their biggest threats. They hunt the dingo because it is a pest and a threat to other animals. The dingo is a threat to itself as well. It often mates with other dog breeds, which creates a new breed of dog. The more of these new types of dogs there are, the less pure dingoes there are.

Students read the article in a format that fits their needs.

RESEARCH


Name:

Kangaroo Note Taking Sheet

Appearance

Habitat

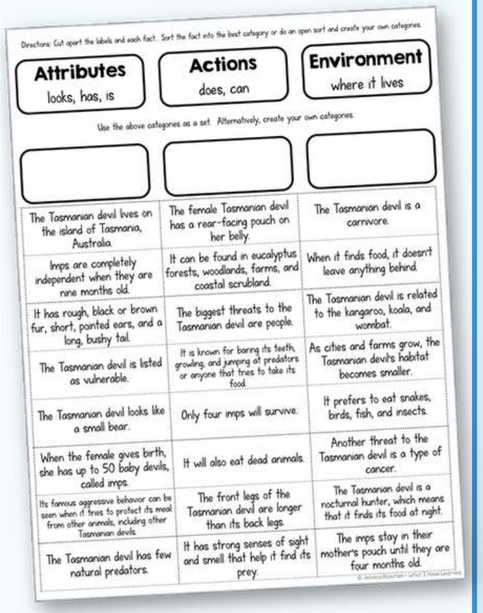
Diet & Feeding

Offspring

Three Other Facts

Students gather facts with note-taking organizers.

ORGANIZE


Directions: Cut apart the labels and each fact. Sort the fact into the best category or do an open sort and create your own categories.

Attributes looks, has, is

Actions does, can

Environment where it lives

Use the above categories as a set. Alternatively, create your own categories.

The Tasmanian devil lives on the island of Tasmania, Australia.	The female Tasmanian devil has a rear-facing pouch on her belly.	The Tasmanian devil is a carnivore.
Imps are completely independent when they are nine months old.	It can be found in eucalyptus forests, woodlands, farms, and coastal scrubland.	When it finds food, it doesn't leave anything behind.
It has rough, black or brown fur, short, pointed ears, and a long, bushy tail.	The biggest threats to the Tasmanian devil are people.	The Tasmanian devil is related to the kangaroo, koala, and wombat.
The Tasmanian devil is listed as vulnerable.	It is known for baring its teeth, growling, and jumping at predators or anyone that tries to take its food.	As cities and farms grow, the Tasmanian devil's habitat becomes smaller.
The Tasmanian devil looks like a small bear.	Only four imps will survive.	It prefers to eat snakes, birds, fish, and insects.
When the female gives birth, she has up to 50 baby devils, called imps.	It will also eat dead animals.	Another threat to the Tasmanian devil is a type of cancer.
Its famous aggressive behavior can be seen when it tries to protect its meal from other animals, including other Tasmanian devils.	The front legs of the Tasmanian devil are longer than its back legs.	The Tasmanian devil is a nocturnal hunter, which means that it finds its food at night.
The Tasmanian devil has few natural predators.	It has strong senses of sight and smell that help it find its prey.	The imps stay in their mother's pouch until they are four months old.

Students sort facts into clear categories before writing.

WRITE


Name:

Summary of the Wombat

Habitat

Appearance

Diet & Feeding

Offspring

Students turn notes into a focused animal report.

ARTICLES, VOCABULARY, AND RESEARCH PAGES

ARTICLES IN TWO FORMATS



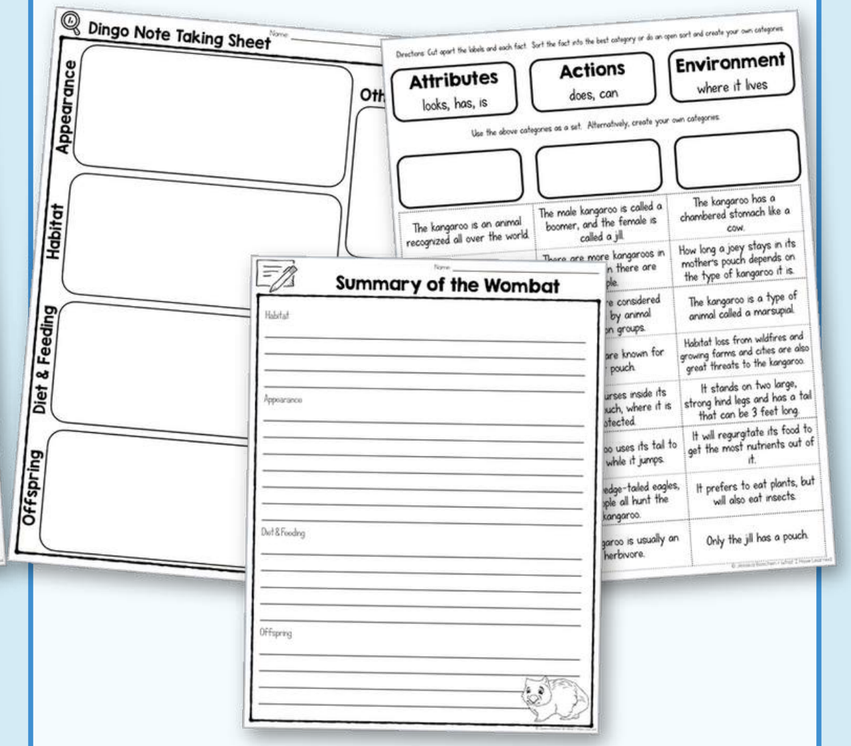
The same animal information comes in a one-page and a two-page format.

VOCABULARY SUPPORT



Picture cards and activities help students understand important animal words.

RESEARCH AND NOTE-TAKING



Questions and note-taking pages help students prepare to write.

WAYS TO USE THIS BUNDLE



1 **HABITAT STUDY**

Study the animals together while students compare habitats, traits, and behaviors.

2 **READING GROUPS**

Choose the article format, vocabulary, and comprehension pages that fit each group.

3 **RESEARCH CENTER**

Students use note-taking pages and research resources to gather facts independently.

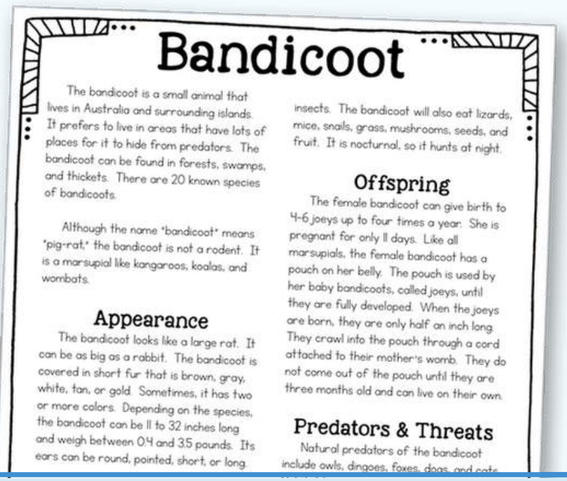
4 **INFORMATIONAL WRITING**

Move from organized notes to a summary or animal report.

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE

HIGH-INTEREST TOPICS

9 animals give students many ways to explore habitats, features, and adaptations.



Bandicoot

The bandicoot is a small animal that lives in Australia and surrounding islands. It prefers to live in areas that have lots of places for it to hide from predators. The bandicoot can be found in forests, swamps, and thickets. There are 20 known species of bandicoots.

Although the name "bandicoot" means "pig-rat," the bandicoot is not a rodent. It is a marsupial like kangaroos, koalas, and wombats.

Appearance

The bandicoot looks like a large rat. It can be as big as a rabbit. The bandicoot is covered in short fur that is brown, gray, white, tan, or gold. Sometimes, it has two or more colors. Depending on the species, the bandicoot can be 11 to 32 inches long and weigh between 0.4 and 3.5 pounds. Its ears can be round, pointed, short, or long.

insects. The bandicoot will also eat lizards, mice, snails, grass, mushrooms, seeds, and fruit. It is nocturnal, so it hunts at night.

Offspring

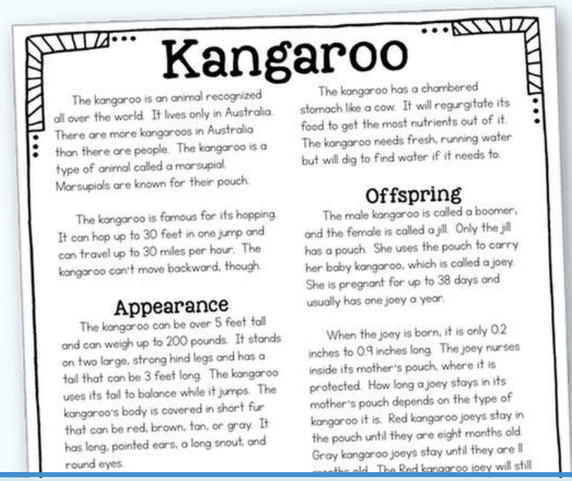
The female bandicoot can give birth to 4-6 joeys up to four times a year. She is pregnant for only 11 days. Like all marsupials, the female bandicoot has a pouch on her belly. The pouch is used by her baby bandicoots, called joeys, until they are fully developed. When the joeys are born, they are only half an inch long. They crawl into the pouch through a cord attached to their mother's womb. They do not come out of the pouch until they are three months old and can live on their own.

Predators & Threats

Natural predators of the bandicoot include owls, dingoes, foxes, dogs, and cats

CONSISTENT AND READY

The repeated structure makes it easier to teach, model, and assign independent work.



Kangaroo

The kangaroo is an animal recognized all over the world. It lives only in Australia. There are more kangaroos in Australia than there are people. The kangaroo is a type of animal called a marsupial. Marsupials are known for their pouch.

The kangaroo is famous for its hopping. It can hop up to 30 feet in one jump and can travel up to 30 miles per hour. The kangaroo can't move backward, though.

Appearance

The kangaroo can be over 5 feet tall and can weigh up to 200 pounds. It stands on two large, strong hind legs and has a tail that can be 3 feet long. The kangaroo uses its tail to balance while it jumps. The kangaroo's body is covered in short fur that can be red, brown, tan, or gray. It has long, pointed ears, a long snout, and round eyes.

The kangaroo has a chambered stomach like a cow. It will regurgitate its food to get the most nutrients out of it. The kangaroo needs fresh, running water but will dig to find water if it needs to.

Offspring

The male kangaroo is called a boomer, and the female is called a jill. Only the jill has a pouch. She uses the pouch to carry her baby kangaroo, which is called a joey. She is pregnant for up to 38 days and usually has one joey a year.

When the joey is born, it is only 0.2 inches to 0.9 inches long. The joey nurses inside its mother's pouch, where it is protected. How long a joey stays in its mother's pouch depends on the type of kangaroo it is. Red kangaroo joeys stay in the pouch until they are eight months old. Gray kangaroo joeys stay until they are 11

FLEXIBLE FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

Use the studies for science, nonfiction reading, literacy centers, or informational writing.



Wombat

The wombat is a marsupial related to koalas and kangaroos. There are three species of wombats: the common, the northern hairy-nosed, and the southern

nose. The hairy-nosed wombat has longer, softer fur, larger ears, and a hairy nose.

Wide, strong legs with claws help the wombat dig deep burrows in the ground. From the burrows, it digs tunnels that can be 650 feet long.

TEACHERS LOVE IT!

★★★★★

My students really enjoy these passages about animals. I have bought other bundles of animal passages from you as well. Thank you.

Alicia H.

★★★★★

I really enjoyed this resource. We use it every day in my classroom and I could not ask for anything better.

Jessica A.

★★★★★

Fabulous resource, using kid-friendly language. Information accurate and presented attractively.

Julie W.





READY FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

- **Instant digital download**
- **Print and use the activities**
- **Science, reading, and writing support for grades 2 to 3**



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