

Animals And Their Feeding Habits

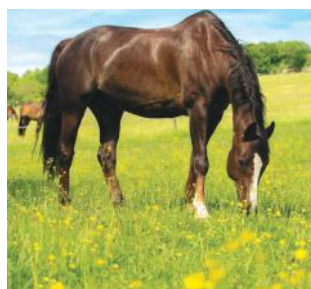
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All living things need food to live. Plants make their own food. Animals depend directly or indirectly upon plants for their food. Animals eat either plants or other animals.

Different animals eat different kinds of food. Their methods of eating food are also different.



Cow



Horse



Rabbit

Some animals eat only plants and are known as **herbivores**. Cows, horses, rabbits and giraffes are herbivorous animals.

Some animals only eat the flesh of other animals. They are known as **carnivores**. Tigers, lions, wolves and snakes are carnivorous animals.



Tiger



Lions



Wolves



Lion eating flesh

Activity

Bring pictures of twelve animals. Classify the pictures into three groups : herbivore, carnivore and omnivore. Paste them under suitable headings in your notebook.

Some animals eat plants as well as the flesh of other animals. They are called **omnivores**. Bears, crows, dogs and humans are omnivorous animals.



Bear



Dog



Scavengers

Scavengers are animals that live on dead animals. Amongst birds, the vulture, crow and seagull also eat dead animals. In the seas, sharks and young eels feed on dead and dying fish.

FOOD CHAIN

A herbivore such as deer eats grass. A tiger or lion, which is a carnivore, eats deer.



Grass



Deer



Tiger

Do You Know ?

An animal that hunts is called the predator and animal that is hunted is the prey.

Do You Know ?

The kingfisher bangs fish on a rock to kill it before eating it. This is because if a live fish is eaten, it will open its fins inside the kingfisher's throat and choke it to death.



An eagle eats small animals such as the mouse. A mouse eats grain which it gets from plants.



Grain



Mouse



Eagle

You can make several of these **food chains**. You will find that all food chains begin from plants. So all animals on the earth depend on plants for their food.

Do You Know ?

An anteater has no teeth. It has a long sticky tongue to catch ants from inside an anthill.



EATING HABITS

Carnivores such as lion, tiger, wolf and fox have long pointed teeth called **canines** to tear the flesh. They chew the meat and bones with strong grinding teeth called **molars**.



Teeth of a lion

Animals that eat grass and leaves have flat grinding teeth to chew their food. Their front teeth are sharp, but not pointed.



Cow



Buffalo

Some of the animals, like cows and buffaloes first swallow their food and after sometime they bring it back into the mouth out of the stomach and begin to chew it. This is known as **chewing the cud** or **rumination**.

It would be fun if we could do that too! Swallow our breakfast quickly, and then chew it slowly in class !

Some animals like frogs, snakes, crocodiles and lizards swallow their food without chewing.



Frog



Snake



Lizard

Some animals like dog and cat lick up milk and water with their tongues.



Cats and dogs lick up milk.

Insects such as butterflies suck the sweet nectar of flowers. Instead of teeth they have a long hollow tube in their mouth. They use it to suck the nectar in the same way as you use a straw for drinking cold drinks.



Butterfly



Mosquito

Has a mosquito ever bitten you ? A mosquito does not really bite. It has a sharp hollow tube in its mouth. It stabs you with this and sucks your blood in the same way as you drink using a straw !

CARE OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS

All animals need care and protection. We keep certain animals at home as pets or to do some work for us. These animals are called **domestic animals**.

Domestic animals need more care because they serve us. They must be fed properly. They also need the right amount of food at the right time to stay healthy. They also need enough water to drink. They need a place to stay and sleep. We must make proper shelter for them.



Proper care of animals

Domestic animals should be washed or given regular baths. The dung or droppings should be removed from their shelter everyday. Even a well-cared domestic animal may fall sick.

We should always be alert to any signs of injury or illness. Sick animals should not be treated at home. They should be taken to an animal doctor called **veterinarian**.

Some animals are kept as pets. We love them. We keep them for fun. We play with them. Pets live with us as a part of our family. All the animals are our friends. We should be kind to them.



Dog



Cat



Parrot



Know the Keywords :

- Grinding : Crush or rub to a power.
Nectar : Sweet liquid collected from flowers.
Dung : Faeces from animals such as cattle.
Hollow : Having hole or space inside.

Point to Remember

- All animals get their food directly or indirectly from plants.
- There are three kinds of animals according to the food they eat.
- Food chains show that every animal depends on plants for food.
- Animals have different food habits. They have mouth parts according to their eating habit.
- Some animals are kept as pets while others are trained to work for us.
- Domestic animals need proper care and protection.

EXERCISE TIME

A. Multiple choice questions (MCQs).

Tick (✓) the correct option :

1. _____ make their own food.

- a. birds b. human beings c. plants

2. Scavengers are animals that live on _____ animals.

- a. dead b. tiny c. big

3. An eagle eats _____ animals.

- a. small b. big c. strong

4. An ant-eater has no _____.

- a. mouth b. tongue c. teeth

5. All animals need care and _____.

- a. protection b. late c. harm

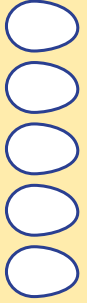
B. Fill in the blanks :

1. The cow is a _____ eating animal.

2. Snake _____ its food as a whole.
3. The butterfly sucks _____ from flowers.
4. A _____ does not really bite.
5. _____ live with us as a part of our family.

C. Write T for true and F for false statements :

1. Carnivores also depend on plants for their food.
2. Some animals do not chew their food at all.
3. All animals have teeth.
4. Mosquito eats small insects.
5. All animals are our friends.



D. Define the following terms :

1. Carnivores : _____
2. Herbivores : _____
3. Omnivores : _____
4. Scavengers : _____
5. Rumination : _____

E. Answer the following questions :

1. Why do animals need food ?
2. Differentiate between herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.
3. What is the food of a mosquito ? How does it get it ?
4. What does a snake do with its food ?
5. Why does every food chain end at a plant ?



Creative Work

- Try to visit a National Park or a Zoo. You can have a closer look at various wild animals.