

GRADE

- 1st Grade

STATE STANDARDS

- 1-LS3-1

MATERIALS

- Clipboards
- Pencils
- Worksheet

Animal Family Traits

Introduction: Students explore the zoo and observe different animals to discover how baby animals look like their parents.

Goal: Students will use their observation and critical thinking skills to identify traits animals have and recognize that young animals often look similar to their parents but are not exactly the same.

Instructions: Give each student a worksheet and encourage them to observe each animal listed. Students will observe each animal and think about what traits baby animals might share with their parents. Students should observe the animals' traits (such as fur color, pattern, size), then write the differences and similarities they notice on the worksheet. Encourage your students to talk with the group about the differences and similarities they observed.

Background Information: All living things have traits, which are features that help describe what they look like. Traits can include things like body size, tails, or patterns. Young animals usually look similar to their parents because they inherit many traits from them. For example, a baby giraffe will have long legs and a long neck like its parents. However, baby animals are often smaller and may have different colors or patterns.

Conservation Message: Animal families are very important in nature. Parent animals help protect and care for their babies while they grow and learn how to survive. When people protect animal habitats and take care of the environment, they help animal families stay safe and healthy. We can help animals by respecting the environment, throwing away trash, and recycling.

Examples:

- Zebra Shark: Difference: their pattern > Similarity: their fins.
- African Penguin: Difference: their fur > Similarity: their feet.
- Red-Eye Tree Frog: Difference: their bodies > Similarity: their green color.
- Kangaroo: Difference: their ears > Similarity: their sense of smell.

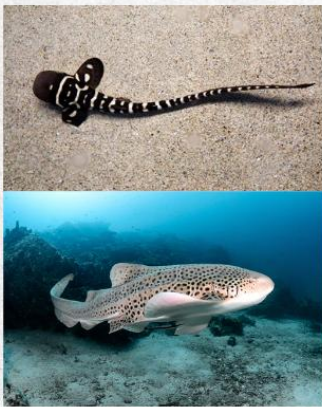
Name _____



Directions:

Look at the pictures of the animal offspring and identify one difference and one similarity that they have compared to their parents. Write your answers below.

Zebra Shark



Difference:

Similarity:

Red-Eyed Tree Frog



Difference:

Similarity:

Eastern Grey Kangaroo



Difference:

Similarity:

African Penguin



Difference:

Similarity:
