What's at the End of Your Arm?

Overview: The students will be introduced to the different types of limbs mammals have and will discuss differences and similarities. Additionally, children will analyze the implications of having a specific type of limb and how it impacts the mammal's abilities.

Grade Levels: Pre-K - 3

Subjects: Art

Anatomy Language Arts

Skills: Reading

Listening Analyzing Drawing Categorizing Materials: Babies Nurse

Paper

Coloring Pencils

NGSS:

- K-LS1-1 > Science and Engineering Practices > Connections to Nature of Science
- LS3-1 > Disciplinary Core Ideas in Life Sciences > LS3.B: Variation of Traits

Getting Ready

Discuss with the children the five different extremities mammals typically have (i.e. wings, hooves, paws, flippers, or hands). Go over every illustration in *Babies Nurse* and have the children point out what kind of limb each mammal has. (Note: animals may have more than one kind of limb.)

Assessment

Have the students choose one of the five types of limbs mammals have. Then, the students will draw pictures of mammals with the same limbs.

Enrichment

More advanced students will create a list of abilities animals with certain limbs have. For example, bats have wings that allow them to fly and humans have hands, which gives us the ability to mold, hold, and shape our environment.



Vocabulary

Extremity: one of the projecting, usually paired appendages of an animal body used especially for movement and grasping. Wings, arms, legs, flippers, and paws are all extremities. Some extremities are more specialized than others. Extremities are also called limbs.

Concepts

Mammals have different extremities: wings, hooves, paws, flippers, tails, and/or hands. Many of them use these limbs for locomotion (walking, climbing, etc.), but they can also be used to manipulate food and other objects and to carry them. Human hands are not as strong in comparison to other mammals' extremities, but we possess very specialized limbs that are capable of grasping and fine manipulation. Extremities give each mammal different abilities and they develop depending on their habitat, environment, and needs.



This activity is exerpted from the Teacher's Guide to:

Babies Nurse

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