

Fascinating animals

Unit 4

In this unit

- you will imagine what it is like to be an animal.
- you will get to know the newest facts about animal behaviour.
- you will find out what dogs and other pets need and how to be a good pet owner.

- you will learn how to use possessive words like my, your, his, her.
- you will learn how to use the present tense.



Warm-up

- 1 *What is your favourite animal and why do you like it?*
- 2 *If you could be an animal, which one would you be? Why?*
- 3 *Do you have a pet? If not, would you like one?*
- 4 *Do you know any fascinating facts about animals?*



TOPIC What does it feel like to be an animal?

We cannot know what it is like to live in water in the body of a fish or in the air in the body of a bird. But we know that animals need enough food and safe places to raise their children. They also need to protect themselves from enemies.

In this unit we're going to try to get inside a few different animals.



Storks

This big, beautiful, black and white bird likes to make its nest on roofs and chimneys in Europe. Storks do not like cold weather, so every year they fly south to spend the winter in Africa. To get back from Africa to Europe storks must fly thousands of kilometres, but they find the same nest every summer! We are still not sure how they find their way home, but we now know the route that storks take across the continents.



Pigs

Pigs are intelligent animals. In nature, pigs live in social groups. They have special ways of greeting each other. They say hello to a friend by making nose-to-nose contact or by licking him or her. Pigs' snouts (noses) are delicate and help them find a lot of foods such as fruits, mushrooms, grasses, worms, snakes, rats and mice.



Chickens

Did you know that chickens can talk to each other? They make about 20 different calls. For example, a hen tells other hens in her group when she finds food. But not only that, she even makes a special call when she finds food that she likes very much. Hens also use different alarm calls to warn each other of danger. They can tell each other if there is a fox nearby, if an enemy is travelling on land, or if the enemy is in the sky. A mother hen also talks to her babies in their eggs. She turns over the eggs as many as five times an hour and softly clucks to her chicks, who will chirp back to her.

Ants

Ants do not have lungs. They breathe through small holes all over the body.

If you watch ants, you will see that they really communicate with each other and very well, too. Ants communicate by touching each other with their antennae. Ants also use chemicals to leave scent trails for other ants to smell and follow.



Cows

Cows have good ears and can hear higher and lower sounds than humans. They can also see everywhere around them without moving their heads.

These animals communicate with each other in a number of ways. Cows can show different feelings such as excitement, frustration, interest, pleasure or stress. When newborn calves are taken from their mothers, the cow will call to her calf for days. Smells are also important: cows can smell things up to five miles away.



Fish

Most fish don't have eyelids, so they never close their eyes. To give their bodies a break from swimming, some fish stay in one place, some build a nest, and some hide themselves in coral.

Fish use their mouths like we use our hands. In addition to collecting food, fish use their mouths to build homes and take care of their children. Some fish open their mouths and let their babies swim inside if they are in danger.

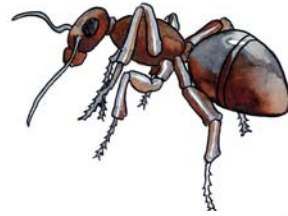


TASKS **Animal world**

1 Read the texts about animals carefully and choose the best answer.

1 Storks make their nests

- a in trees
- b on chimneys
- c on the ground



2 When a pig meets a friend, it will

- a make a loud noise
- b touch the friend with its nose
- c give the friend some food



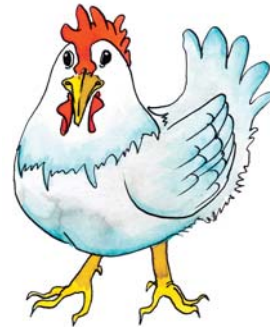
3 A mother hen will do this five times an hour:

- a cluck to her chicks
- b make alarm calls
- c turn over her eggs



4 Ants leave scent trails

- a to help them breathe
- b to make other insects go away
- c so other ants can come the same way

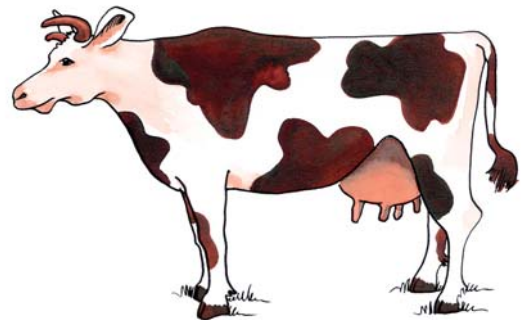
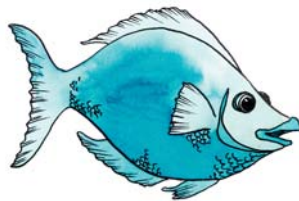


5 In the text, it says that cows can do this up to five miles away:

- a hear things
- b smell things
- c see things

6 Fish let their babies come into their mouths

- a to clean them
- b to help them swim
- c to keep them safe



2 **Poster: Animal World**

- a Work in groups. Make a poster about one of the animals on pages 30 and 31. Create the world of the animal on your poster: where it lives and how it experiences other animals and the rest of its world.
- b Show and describe your poster to the others in your class.

KEY LANGUAGE Possessives



1 Listen carefully. Can you find the missing words?

I've got a cat called Blackie.
... is called Blackie.

You've got a ... called Bonnie.
... is called Bonnie.

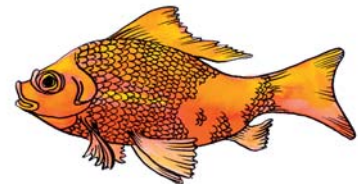
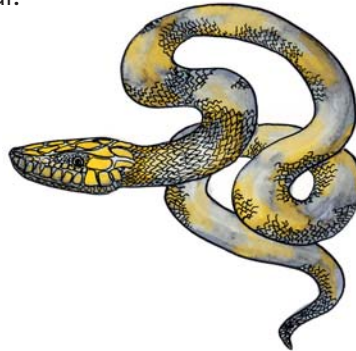
He's got a ... called Snoopy.
... is called Snoopy.

She's got a pet ... called Mike.
... is called Mike.

We've got two ... with lovely soft fur.
... have got lovely soft fur.

You've got three ... with long tails.
... have got long tails.

They've got a ... in the garden.
... lives in the garden.



2 Let's play a game!

For this you need a dice. The dice gives you the word for a possessive:
1 = my, 2 = your, 3 = his or her, 4 = our, 5 = your (pl), 6 = their. Now write
animal words on a piece of paper and give each animal a name.

Work in groups of three. One person throws the dice. The two others make
a sentence to fit the number. The person who says a correct sentence first
gets a point.

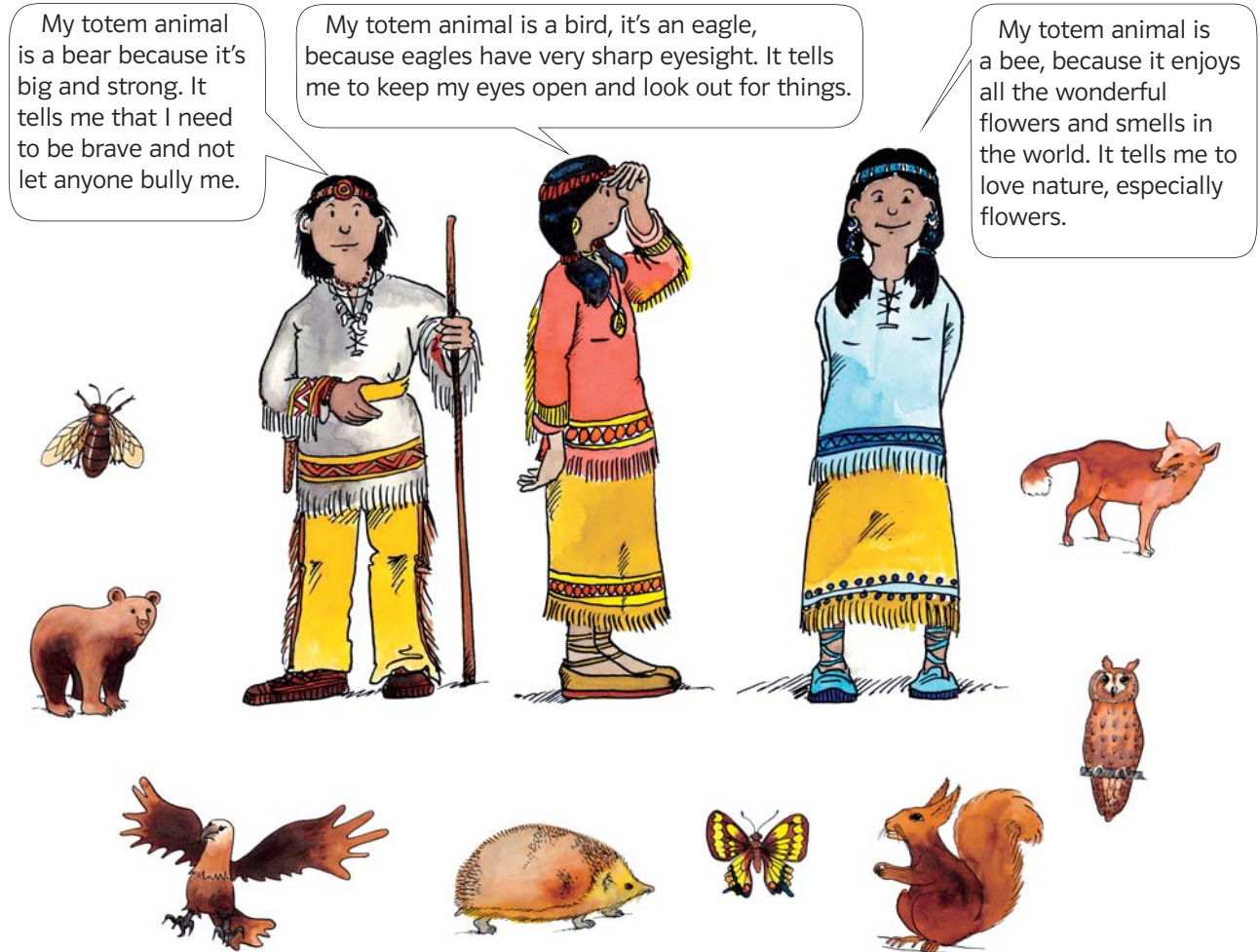
Example number on dice = 3
Sentence: Her rabbit is called Flopsy.





LET'S GET TALKING **Totem animals**

For American Indians, animals are very important. Each person has an animal which they feel especially close to. It is called a totem animal. Sometimes a totem animal comes to people in dreams and gives them an important lesson on how to live. Here are a few examples:



- 1 Look at the animals in the pictures and read what the children say. Can you match the animals to the children?
- 2 Do you remember the names of the other animals in the pictures? Make a list of all the animals you know in English.
- 3 Choose a totem animal for yourself. What is special about the animal? Tell your partner.

My totem animal is ... or: my totem animal has ... or: my totem animal can ...
It tells me to ...
Let your partner guess the animal.

- 4 Make a group of three or four and find a totem animal you all like. Then tell another group about it. Give your group a name that fits.