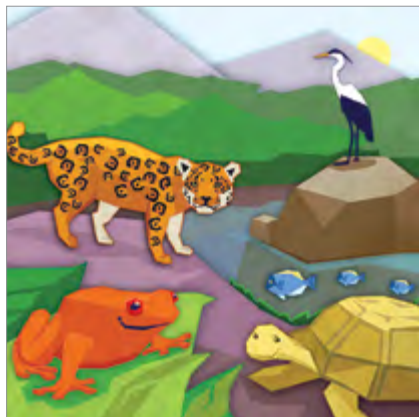


Grade 3

Unit 2: *Scales, Feathers, and Fur:* *Animal Classification*



Unit-level Essential Question

Why is it important to classify animals?

Lessons 1–5

Guiding Question: Which groups of animals can be classified by their backbones?

Writing Prompt: How are the ideas in “Vertebrates and Invertebrates” similar to or different from the ideas in “Vertebrate Animals”?

Lessons 6–10

Guiding Question: How do animals change as they grow?

Writing Prompt: Think of the transition words you heard when you learned about amphibian metamorphosis. Write a short paragraph using those words to describe the metamorphosis of a butterfly.

Lessons 11–15

Guiding Question: What can we learn from observing animals?

Writing Prompt: How were the chimps that Jane Goodall studied similar to human beings? Why was this discovery important?

Unit 2 Culminating Activity

Consider a type of animal you see every day. For one week, you will be just like Jane Goodall studying primates! You will observe the animal you selected and make notes, preparing a presentation you will give to your class about your chosen animal. Remember to record facts like habitat, diet, characteristics, and classification.