

Differentiated Activities

Grade Level: 4

Subject: Science

Topic: Animal Habitats

Learning Goal:

Help students explain where an animal lives and how it survives in its environment.

Step 1: Clear Task Overview

Main Task :

Students will learn about an animal and its habitat, then choose how they want to show their learning.

Step 2: Student Choice Menu

How would you like to show what you have learned? Choose one:

Option	Description
Draw	Make a labelled diagram of an animal in its habitat.
Write	Write 3-5 sentences using sentence starters.
Speak	Record or present a short oral explanation.
Act out	Show how the animal survives in its habitat.

Step 3: Language Level Supports

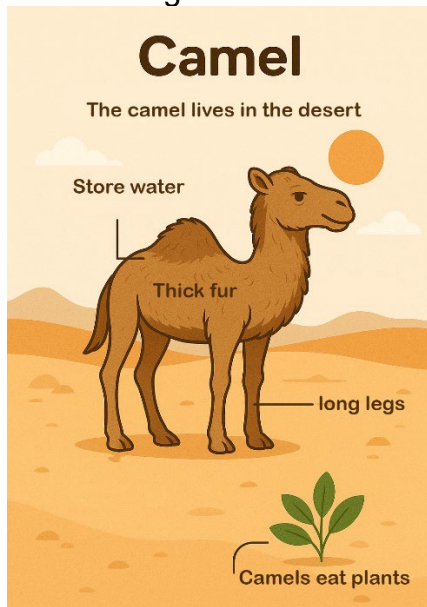
Built-in Scaffolding

1. Beginning ELLs: Use sentence frames like:

“The tiger lives in the _____. It eats _____.”

2. Developing ELLs:

- Write full sentences :
“The camel lives in the desert. It has long legs and thick fur to stay cool. Camels eat plants and store water in their bodies.”
- or label diagrams :



3. Advanced ELLs: Compare two animals or explain environmental threats

- **Animal comparison:** The polar bear and the fox both live in cold habitats, but they survive in different ways. The polar bear swims and hunts seals in the icy water. It has thick fur and fat to stay warm.
- **Environmental threats:** The Arctic fox has a white coat in winter to hide from predators. Both animals are in danger because their ice homes are melting from climate change.





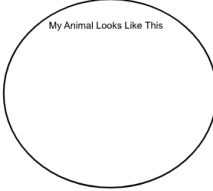
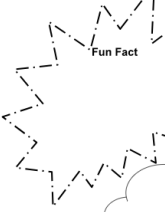
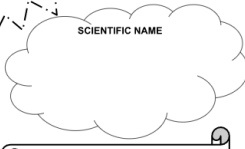

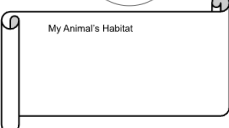
Step 4: Visual and Hands-On Supports

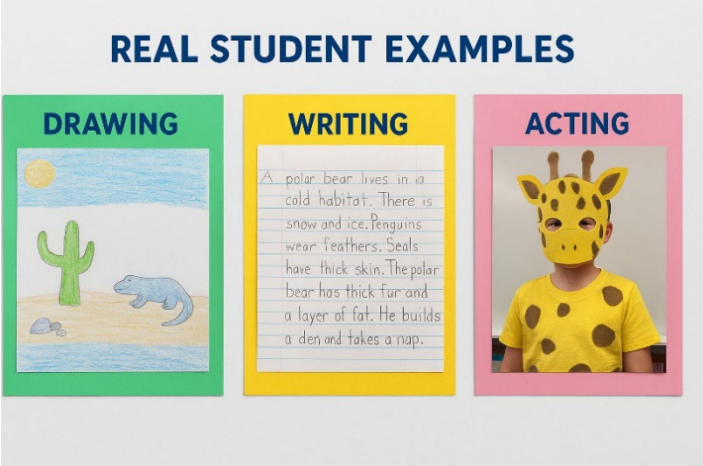
To support learning :

- Use picture cards or real photos of animals and habitats.
- Provide a hands-on model station with craft materials.
- Offer a graphic organizer (Animal | Habitat | Survival Needs).

Teaching Tip:

Let students present their work to a peer or small group before sharing with the whole class. This boosts confidence and oral language development.

Description	Visual
<p>A sample student choice board</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <h3>ANIMAL HABITATS</h3> <p>LEARNING GOAL: Explain where an animal lives and how it survives in its environment.</p> <p>Show What You Learned! Choose one way to show your learning:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">DRAW</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Make a labeled diagram of an animal in its habitat.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">WRITE</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Write 3-5 sentences using sentence starters</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">SPEAK</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Record or present a short oral explanation</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">ACT OUT</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Show how the animal survives in its habitat</p> </div> </div> </div>
<p>A downloadable “Habitat Organizer” template</p>	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Name of Animal: _____ Student Name: _____</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Physical Description</p> <hr/> <p>My Animal Loves to EAT</p> <hr/> <p>My Animal Looks Like This</p>  </div> <div style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"> <p>Fun Fact</p>  </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>My Animal's Babies</p> <hr/> <p>SCIENTIFIC NAME</p>  <p>My Animal's Predator</p>  <p>My Animal's Habitat</p>  </div> </div> </div>

Description	Visual
Real student examples (photos or anonymized samples)	 <p>REAL STUDENT EXAMPLES</p> <p>DRAWING</p> <p>WRITING</p> <p>ACTING</p>