

An illustration of a mother rabbit and her two babies in a field of grass. The mother rabbit is white with black spots and large black ears, lying on her side. Two smaller white rabbits with black spots are nestled near her. The background is a warm yellow-orange color with stylized grass blades.

# Mammals

# Aim

- I can describe the life cycles of different mammals.

# Success Criteria

- I can describe the process of reproduction in mammals.
- I can describe different types of mammals.
- I can describe and compare the life cycles of different mammals.

# Life Cycle of a Mammal

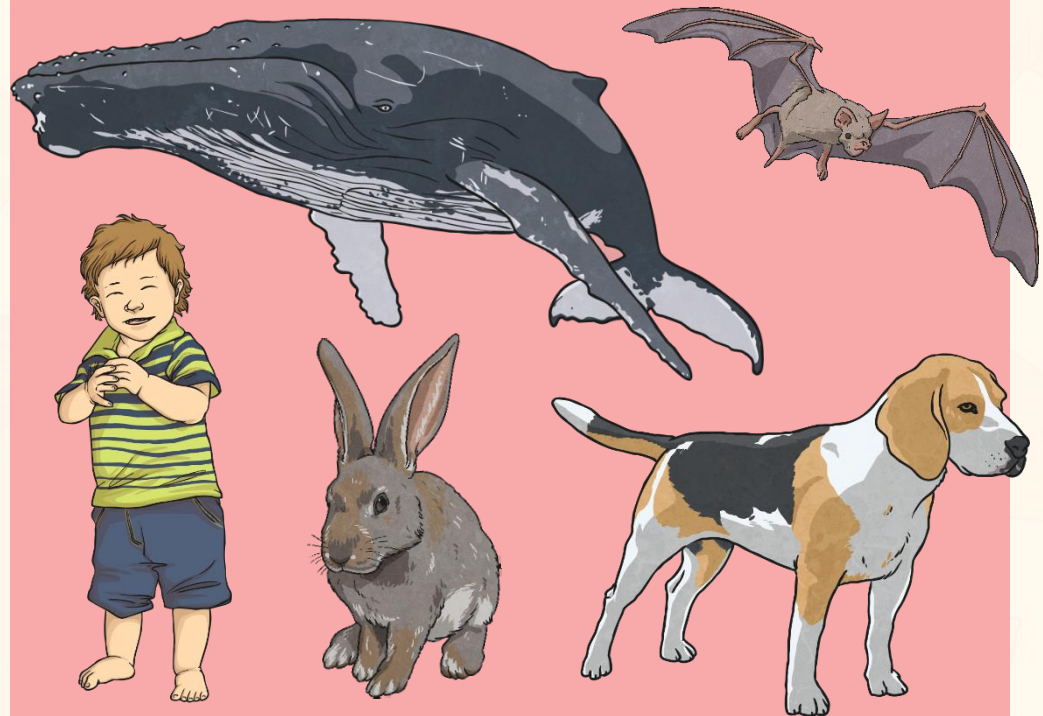


A mammal is a particular type of animal. There are two things that make mammals special:

Mammals make milk to feed their babies.

They are all warm blooded. This means they can maintain a constant body temperature, independent of the temperature of their environment.

These creatures are all mammals:

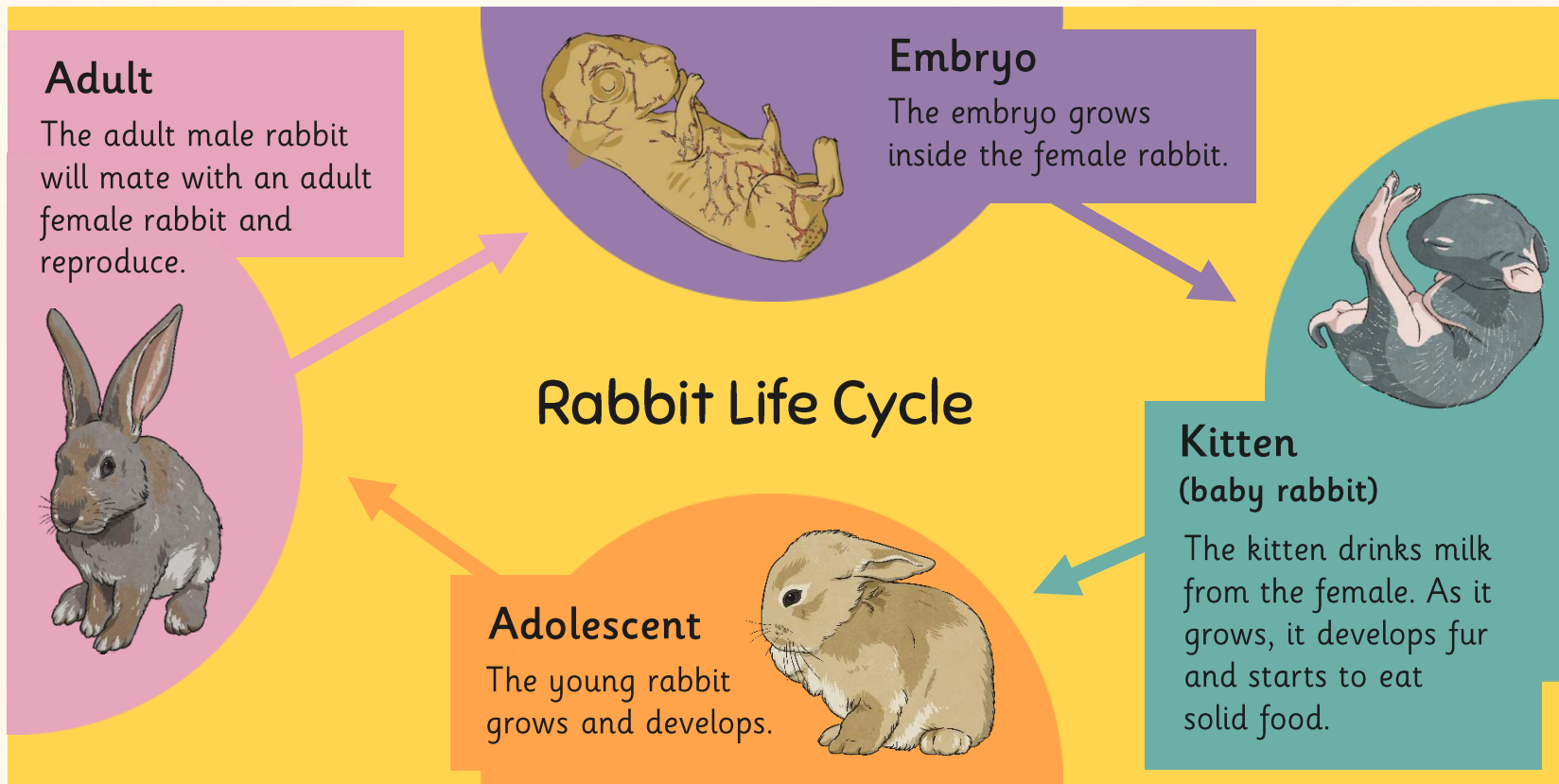


Talk to your partner about any other animals that are mammals.

# Life Cycle of a Mammal



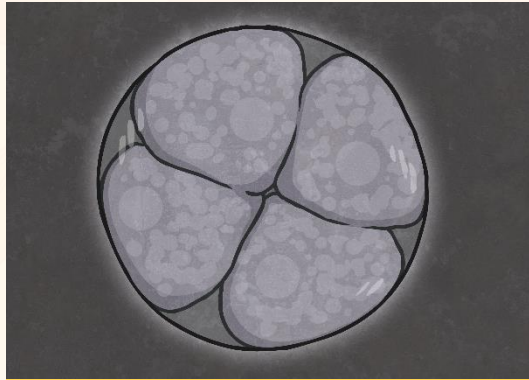
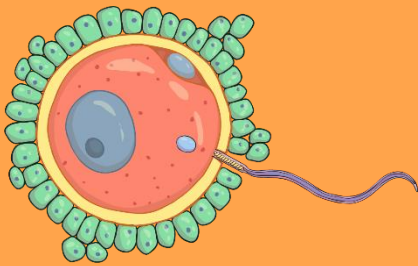
Here are the stages of the life cycle of a rabbit, a mammal. Talk to your partner about how you know the stages are in the correct order.



# Sexual Reproduction

Mammals use sexual reproduction to produce their offspring.

The male gamete is called sperm. The sperm travels down the male's penis and enters the female's body through the vagina. A sperm cell will fuse with the ovum, the female gamete. When this happens, the ovum is fertilised.



This fertilised cell splits in half, creating two cells. These cells continue to divide, so that the number of cells doubles each time. Eventually, the cells will form a baby, and the heart starts to beat.

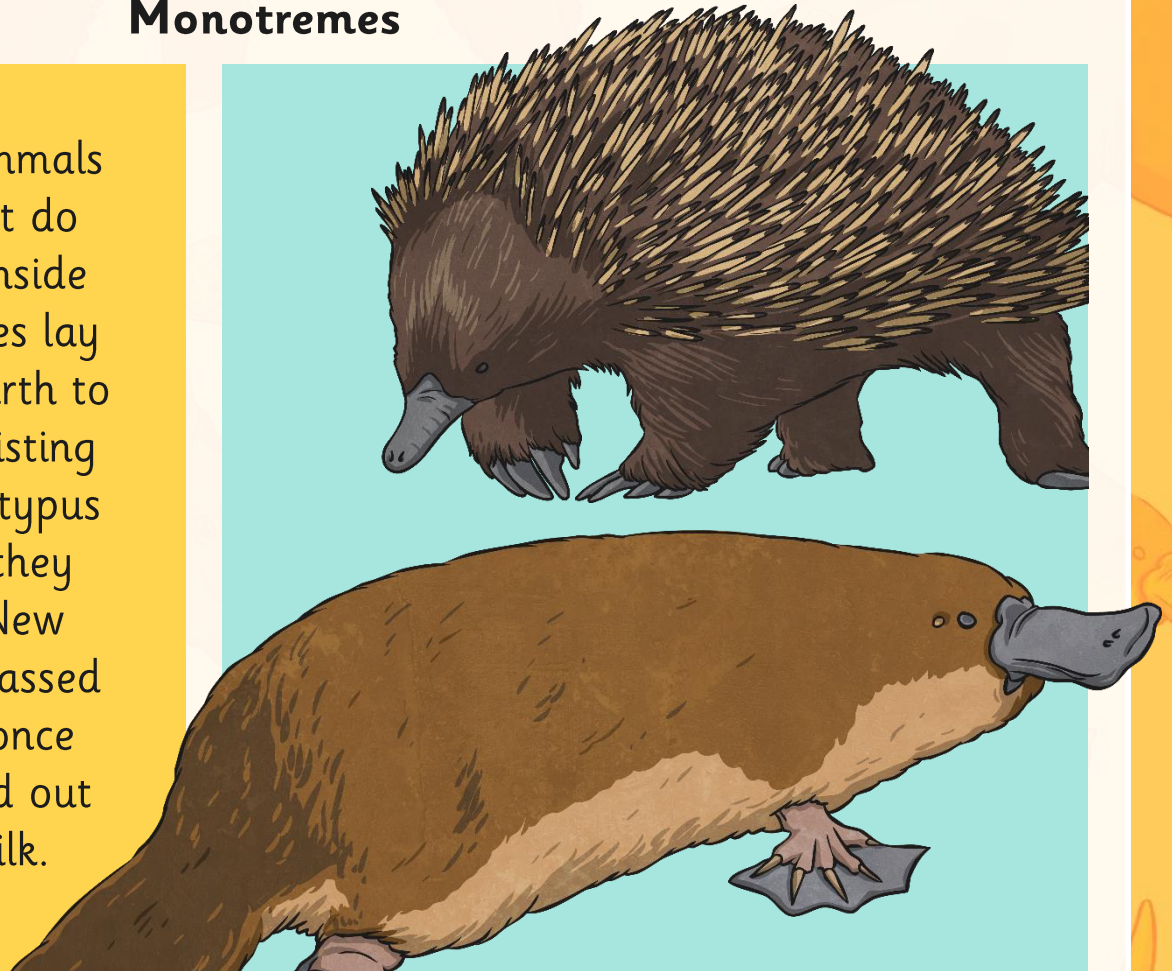
The baby will grow inside the female for the length of the pregnancy. This is known as the gestation period. At the end of the pregnancy, the baby is born.



# Sexual Reproduction

## Monotremes

There is a group of mammals called monotremes that do not grow their young inside their bodies. Monotremes lay eggs instead of giving birth to live babies. The only existing monotremes are the platypus and the echidna, and they live in Australia and New Guinea. They are still classed as mammals because once their babies are hatched out they do feed them milk.



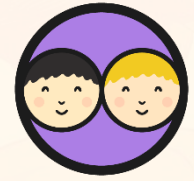
# Sexual Reproduction

Watch this clip to see how the sperm and the ovum meet and join, and then grow into a baby.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zpmqxn>



# Describing Reproduction



Cut out the pictures on your Describing Reproduction Activity Sheet and stick them in the correct order with their descriptions.



## Describing Reproduction


Cut out these pictures and place them in the correct order in the boxes above. Add a caption beneath each picture to explain what is happening.



# Different Mammals

There are three different groups of mammals:

**Placentals:** their young grow inside the female's body and are born fully developed.



**Monotremes:** their young hatch from eggs.

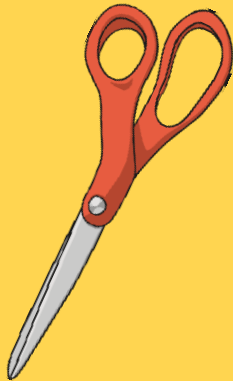
**Marsupials:** their young are born incompletely developed. They are then carried and fed in a pouch on the female's stomach until they are fully developed.



# Life Cycles of Mammals



Make a Life Cycle Wheel to describe the stages of a mammal's life cycle using your Life Cycle Activity Sheet.



**Rabbit Life Cycle**

**Rabbit Life Cycle**

cut out

cut out

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Science | Year 5 | Living things and their habitats | Mammals | Lesson 3

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