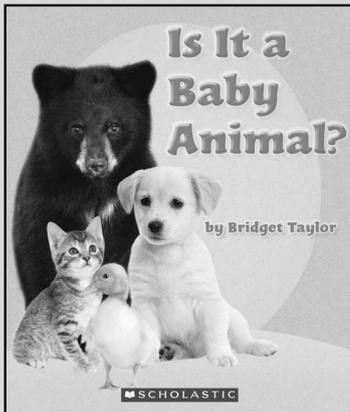


Is It a Baby Animal?



Is It a Baby Animal? Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: CLL Reading: Show an understanding of ... how information can be found in non-fiction texts

Key words: is, yes

Cross-curricular/theme links: Animals

Genre: Non-fiction

NC level: Foundation stage

Assessment: Check that children can use a non-fiction book to find out the answer to a question

Word count: 57

Getting started

Read the title and back cover blurb to the children. Ask: 'What do you think this book is about? Does it look like a story book or a non-fiction book? What type of information do you think will be in it?' Share any knowledge the children may already have about the names of different types of baby animals.

Speaking and listening

- After reading the story, ask the children what adult animals have to do to look after a baby animal. How do they keep their babies safe, warm, fed and so on?
- Talk about differences and similarities between baby animals and human babies. Is there anything a human baby can do that a kitten can't do, for instance?

Guided reading

Page 2: Children working at Letters and Sounds Phases 3 and 4 may need help to decode 'baby', but encourage them to use their knowledge of letter and sound correspondences as much as possible to work out any unknown words.

Pages 3-8: Pause after reading each right-hand page so children can predict what the answer will be when they turn the page. Talk about the animals as they work through the book. Which baby animal names did they know? Were any of the names surprising?

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the book.

- What baby animals are in this book?
- Can you remember what a baby dog is called?
- Have you ever seen a baby animal or helped to look after one? What was it like?

Reading into writing

Encourage the children to draw a labelled picture of one of the baby animals in the book. They could add a sentence about it if they wish.

Book quiz for children

- 1 What is a baby bear called?
- 2 Which page do you have to turn to, to find out what a baby duck is called?
- 3 Which baby animal is biggest, and which is smallest? (Looking at the cover might help!)

Support for less confident readers

Less confident readers may find it helpful if you introduce the animal names before they read the book.

Extension for more confident readers

Children could write and illustrate two new pages for the book, about a different type of baby animal (for example, a chick or a lamb).