



Move Like an Animal!

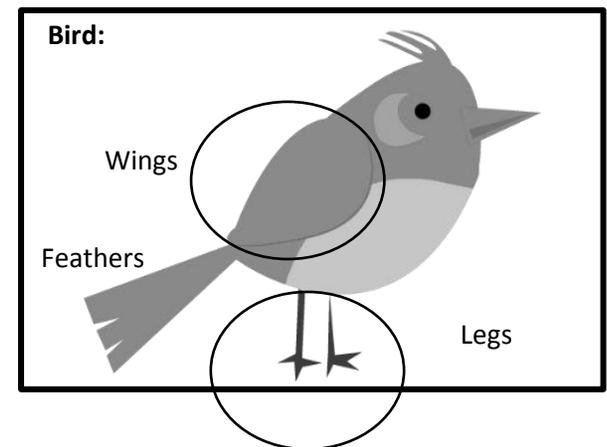
Pre-K | Kindergarten

Students will look at animals around the zoo to see how different kinds of animals move and what they use to move. They will also make observations about what their body is covered with.

GSE Connections: SKL2: A

Overview: Animals move in a variety of ways, using a variety of physical features to do so! Birds use their wings to fly and feet to hop or walk. Snakes use their whole body to slither either along the ground, across rocks, or even up trees. Mammals use their legs and feet to walk, crawl and even jump from one place to the next. Fish use their fins to push through the water. At Zoo Atlanta, we have animals from around the world that move in a variety of ways. Ask your students to think about how they move and what they use to move. They can run, walk, jump and crawl. They can pull themselves up with their arms and wiggle on their bellies. Ask them to think about animals that they already know and to describe how those animals move. Ask them to also think about what body covering their animals have. Scales help protect the bodies of reptiles and fish and can make them move faster. Feathers allow birds to fly. Fur and spines may cover mammals, but does it help them to move?

Activity: Provide students with the data sheet or a blank piece of paper and a pencil. As they tour the zoo, explain that they want to look for animals moving and describe what body part(s) make their movement possible. Spend a few minutes watching the animal and then draw the animal on their data sheet. After they are finished drawing the animal, they should circle and label the body part(s) that is responsible for movement. They can also spend a few minutes adding details such as body coverings - fur, scales, or feathers. Once the students have completed their data sheets, talk through the observations that they made and see if they can compare and contrast any animals that they observed. For example, did animals with similar body coverings move in a similar fashion? Why do they think that is?





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Mammal:	Bird:
Reptile:	Fish (at Scaly, Slimy, Spectacular):