

Grades K-2: Who Eats Whom?

Topic:

Fangs, beaks, and tusks, oh my! Did you know that animals have different types of teeth? Come join us as we visit some of our animals at the zoo to uncover what their teeth can tell us about what they eat and where they get their energy.

This Topic Includes:

- 3 pre-recorded videos about the reticulated python, Geoffrey's marmoset, Mexican red brocket deer
- 15-minute virtual, live Q&A session with a Zoo Educator
 - This can take place before or after the students complete the review activity and worksheet. Have students prepare questions prior to your session start time!
 - Option to add a 15-minute virtual, live encounter with ambassador animals to your Q&A session for an additional fee
- Review activity
- Worksheet to accompany the videos
- Challenge Activity

Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Explain how animals get energy from the food they eat
- Identify three different animal diets
- Classify whether an animal is an herbivore, carnivore, or omnivore based on their teeth

AZ Standards Alignment

Science:

K.L1U1.6 Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about how organisms use different body parts for survival.

1.L2U1.8 Construct an explanation describing how organisms obtain resources from the environment including materials that are used again by other organisms.

2.L2U1.10 Develop a model representing how life on Earth depends on energy from the Sun and energy from other organisms.

Background Information and Definitions:

Herbivores are plant eating animals; **carnivores** are meat eating animals; **omnivores** will eat both plants and meat. All animals get energy from their food to live and grow.

Review Activity:

- After viewing the 3 videos, review with students the 3 types of diets that were discussed (plant eaters, meat eaters, plant and meat eaters).
- Share the images below with students as additional examples and discuss their teeth/diet.
- Explore how we can compare our own teeth to those of the animals we are learning about.
 - What kind of teeth do you have? Encouraging them to feel with their tongue and not their fingers, ask students to share how their teeth feel in their mouth. Draw conclusions about what types of food we can eat and where our own energy comes from.
- Review worksheet instructions with students and do the first one together

Herbivores

- Elephant: Elephants are some of the largest herbivores on the planet, so they eat huge amounts of vegetation. They have a set of 4 huge, flat, wide teeth that get replaced when they wear out.

Carnivores

- Tiger: The diet of an adult tiger can consist of a variety of small and big animals, from rabbits and fish to deer and cattle. Large pointed teeth help them incapacitate their prey.
- Shark: Meat-eating fish, like the great white shark in the image, usually need teeth too.

Omnivores

- Bear: Many bears can hunt other large animals but may also eat huge amounts of fruit and nuts when available. The image shows pointed teeth in front and wider teeth in back, much like our own.
- Chicken: Not all animals have teeth like we do. Birds have different beak shapes depending on their diet. Chickens may eat leafy plants, grains, bugs, and even small lizards!

Animals must eat food to get energy.

Use the pictures below (and on the next page) to review different animal diets and how an animal's teeth can give us clues as to what kind of food they may eat.

Herbivores have all flat (and often wide) teeth to help them grind plants.

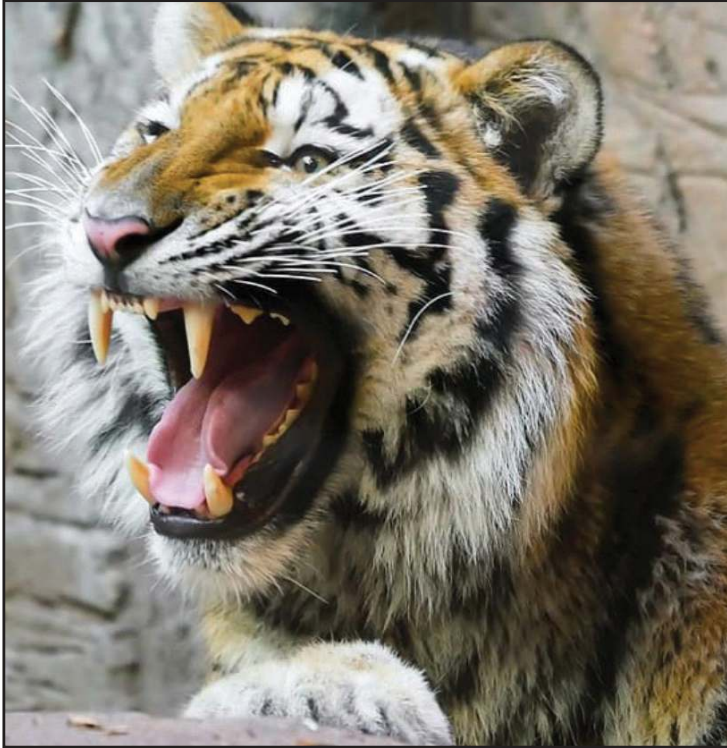


Asian Elephant



Elephant Tooth

Carnivores have sharp, pointed teeth to help them rip and tear meat.



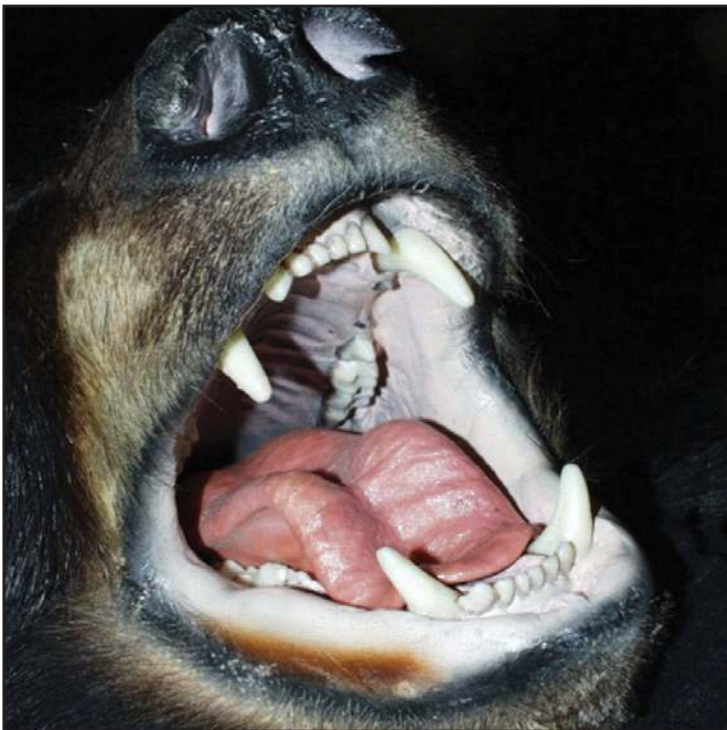
Tiger



Great White Shark

Omnivores have flat and pointed teeth so that they can eat plants and meat!

But not all animals have teeth...



Black Bear



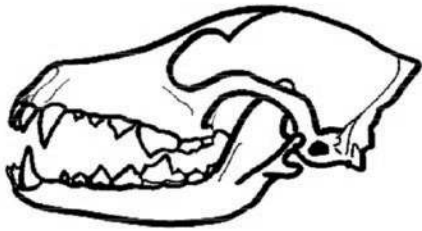
Chicken

Name: _____

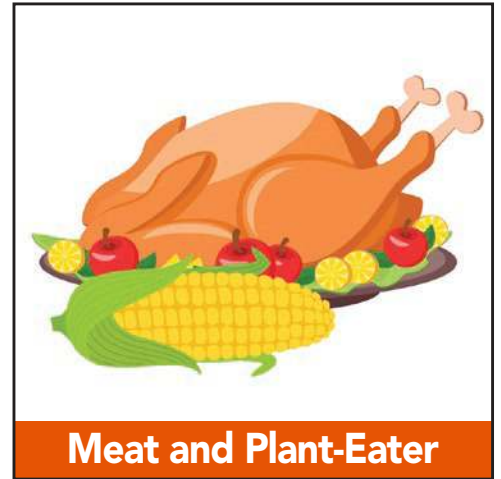
Instructions:

Draw a line to match the pictures of the teeth with the type of food they would eat.

Pointed teeth



Carnivore

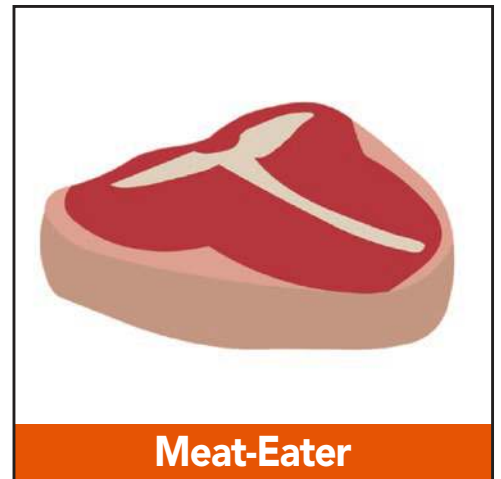


Meat and Plant-Eater

Flat & pointed teeth

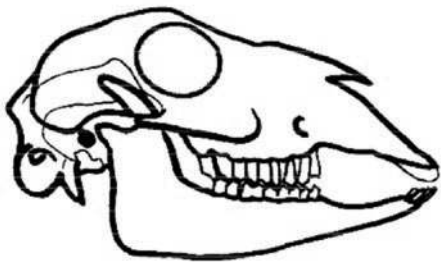


Omnivore



Meat-Eater

Flat teeth



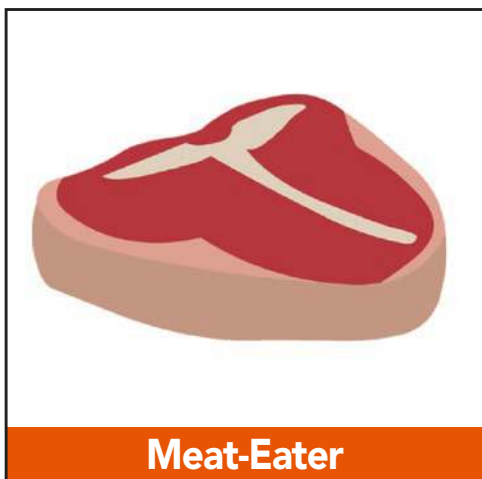
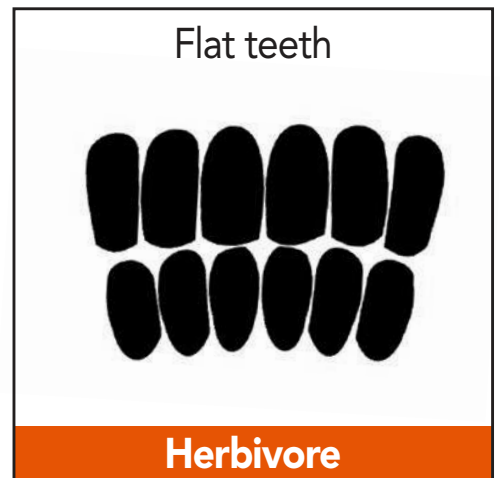
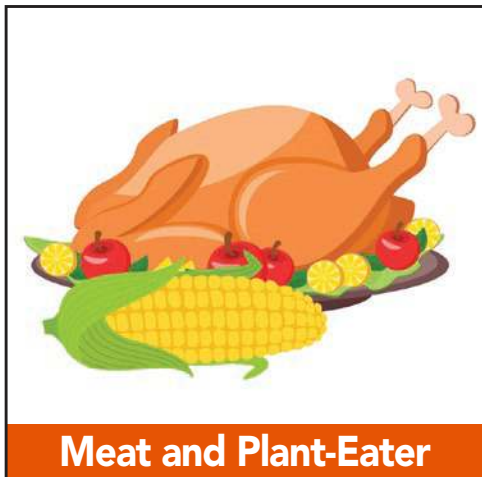
Herbivore



Plant-Eater

Instructions:

Draw a line to match the pictures of the teeth with the type of food they would eat.

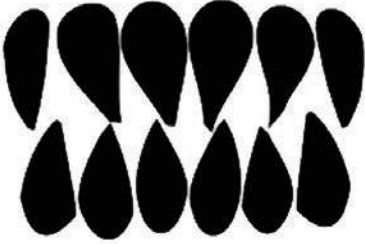


Name: _____

Instructions:

Draw a line to match the type of teeth with each animal. You may draw more than one line from each set of teeth.

Pointed teeth



Carnivore

This diagram shows two rows of pointed teeth. The top row has six sharp, triangular teeth, and the bottom row has six similar sharp teeth.

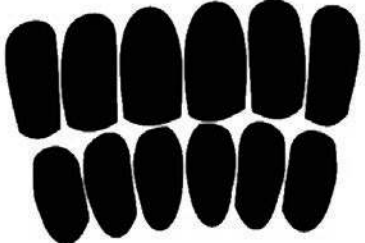
Flat & pointed teeth



Omnivore

This diagram shows two rows of teeth. The top row has four flat, rounded teeth and two pointed teeth. The bottom row has two flat, rounded teeth and four pointed teeth.

Flat teeth



Herbivore

This diagram shows two rows of flat teeth. The top row has six flat, rounded teeth, and the bottom row has six similar flat teeth.



Deer
Eats plants

An illustration of a brown deer with small antlers, standing and facing left.



Monkey
Eats plants and meat

An illustration of a brown monkey hanging from a branch, facing left.



Snake
Eats meat

An illustration of a yellow and brown spotted snake, coiled and facing left.



Tiger
Eats meat

An illustration of a yellow and black striped tiger, standing and facing left.



Elephant
Eats plants

An illustration of a grey elephant, standing and facing right.



Humans
Eats plants and meat

An illustration of four diverse children (two boys and two girls) standing together.

Challenge Activity

Instructions:

Read each question, then circle the correct answer.

1. Animals get energy from the food they eat.

- A. True
- B. False

2. Another word for an animal that eats only plants is:

- A. Carnivore
- B. Herbivore
- C. Insectivore
- D. Omnivore

3. An omnivore might like to eat:

- A. Some delicious leaves from a tree
- B. A tasty piece of meat
- C. Both A and B
- D. None of the above

4. A carnivore:

- A. Might hunt other animals for food
- B. Is a meat-eating animal
- C. Has sharp, pointed teeth
- D. All of the above