

Lesson Plan



What colors are the animals? What colors are their homes?
Color helps some animals, because other animals cannot see them.

CEFR Level Pre-A1

YLE Starters

Text type: non fiction

Word count: 612

Lexile measure: 340L

Lesson objectives

Vocabulary focus

Animals: *cat, frog, gecko, ibex, insect, rat, snow leopard*

Colors: *black, brown, green, orange, pink, white, yellow*

Habitats: *desert, grasslands, jungle, mountains*

Verbs: *change, eat, hear, help, live, see, want*

General: *color, fur, home, picture, rock, sand, snow*

Grammar focus

Present simple

Reading skills

Gaining information

Cross-curricular connections

Art (design a poster)

Geography (habitats)

Music (song)

Science (animals)

Resources

Reader

Audio (UK/US) tracks 1, 2

Flashcard download 1–14

Timing: 40–60 minutes

This is to be used as a general guide and will depend on group size, the pace of learning, and the children's language ability.

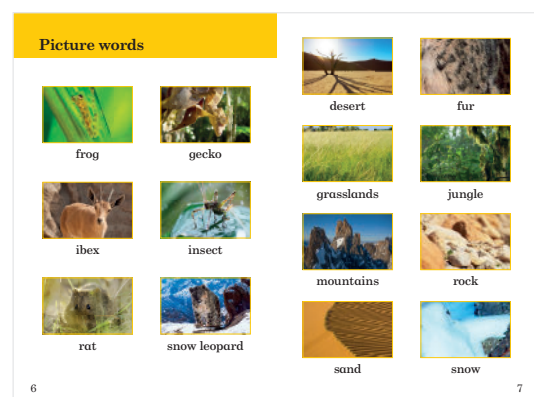
We would suggest 10 minutes for **Before reading**, 20 minutes for **During reading**, and 10 minutes for **After reading**. Additional time can be used for further activities.

Lesson plan

Before reading

Show the children the cover of the Reader but hide the title. Ask: *What animal is this?* and elicit *a big cat*. Ask: *Where is it?* and establish that it lives in the mountains in the snow. Teach the name *snow leopard*. Ask *What colors is it?* and elicit *black, brown and white*. Reveal the title and encourage the children to think about the colors of other animals they know.

Ask the children to look at Reader pages 6–7. Introduce the different animals and ask: *Which of these animals do you know? What colors are they?* Go over the habitats on page 7 and focus on the colors. Ask: *What color are grasslands?* and elicit *green*.



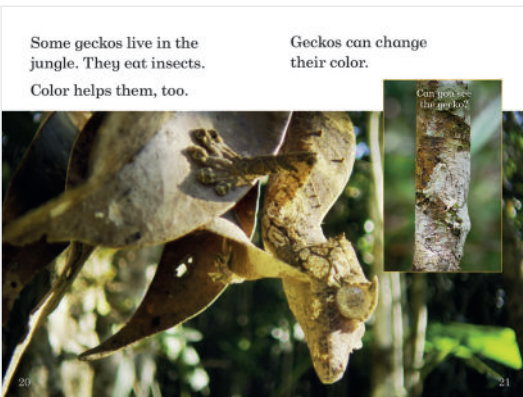
Help the children to match the animals on page 6 with the pictures on page 7. Ask: *Can you find a green animal? Where do you think it lives?* Make sentences and ask the children to tell you if the information is right or wrong, for example: *The snow leopard is orange. The frog lives in the desert.* Award points for correct answers.

During reading

Read out or play the Audio recording of the text (Audio track 1) and ask the children to follow in their books. Every few pages, stop and ask questions to check their understanding of the information, especially regarding colors. For example, after Reader pages 16–17, ask: *What animal is this? What color is its fur? What color are the rocks?*



Read out or play the text again. Every few pages, stop and ask questions to practice the present simple tense. For example, after Reader pages 20–21, ask: *Where do these geckos live? What do they eat? What can they do?*



After reading

Divide the class into teams. Hold up a Flashcard of one of the animals in the book, but cover the name. Ask the children to identify the animal and tell you what colors it is. If they answer correctly, they get a point. Then ask them to tell you a fact about the animal. If they get the fact right, and use the present simple correctly, they get another point. For example, for the snow leopard they can say: *It lives in the mountains.* If they can add other facts, they get extra points.

The children can do the following activities to focus on specific information about the animals and their habitats, and to practice the present simple: 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 18.

Differentiation

Extra support

Before the children do the Reader activities, show them Flashcards 1–14 again. Help them match the animal Flashcards with the Flashcards of the habitats, and *fur, rock, sand* and *snow*. Ask the children to find the part of the book which features each animal.

Extension

Fast finishers can design a poster of their favorite animal featured in the book, in its environment. They can write two or three sentences about it, using the present simple. For example: *This is an ibex. It is orange. It lives in the mountains. Some animals eat it.*

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