Introduction

1. Read and enjoy this poem.

I SPEAK, I SAY, I TALK

Cats purr.
Lions roar.
Owls hoot.
Bears snore.
Crickets creak.
Mice squeak.
Sheep baa.
But I SPEAK!

Monkeys chatter.
Cows moo.
Ducks quack.
Doves coo.
Pigs squeal.
Horses neigh.
Chickens cluck.
But I SAY!
Flies hum.
Dogs growl.
Bats screech.
Coyotes howl.
Frogs croak.
Parrots squawk.
Bees buzz.
**But I TALK!**

—Arnold L. Shapiro

2. Work in pairs. Rearrange the jumbled letters in the following words to find animal names.

(i) TCEOSYO

(ii) YOKMNSE

(iii) HEELPANT

(iv) SHOESR

(v) LICEDOROC

3. Match each baby animal with its parent.

(i) calf ▶ ▼ (a) dog
(ii) joey ▶ ▼ (b) goat
(iii) cub ▶ ▼ (c) duck
(iv) kitten ▶ ▼ (d) cow
(v) puppy ▶ ▼ (e) tiger
(vi) duckling ▶ ▼ (f) kangaroo
(vii) kid ▶ ▼ (g) cat
(viii) foal ▶ ▼ (h) horse
A.1. Let us do some word-search. In the grid below, there are hidden names of thirteen animals and birds. First work individually and circle seven names. Now form pairs of two and compare your list with your partner’s to find names which you have missed.

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A.2. There are many animals which are docile, peaceful and friendly. But we usually do not keep them as pets. Name a few such animals. Discuss with your partner how we can be good friends with such animals.

A.3. We generally confuse a dolphin with a fish. But dolphin is not a fish. Let us read the passage to find out more about this friendly creature.

**DOLPHINS**

People have liked dolphins for thousands of years. Dolphins seem to like us too. What does a dolphin feel like? A wet rubber.

Dolphins spend their whole life in water. But they are not fish. Fish can breathe in water but dolphins breathe through a hole on top of their head.

What do dolphins eat? Fish! And they are good at catching them.

Dolphins live in groups so that they can help each other. If a killer shark comes by, the dolphins circle around it and scare it away.
Dolphins are usually gentle but sometimes they get angry. When they are angry, they make a loud, clapping noise with their jaws or slap the water hard with their tails.

Dolphins are often very helpful. One night a woman fell from a boat into the ocean. No one saw her fall. She tried to swim but soon grew tired. After a while, a dolphin came near her and gently pushed her towards shallow water. The woman was saved.

The dolphin had saved her.
If an animal drinks its mother’s milk when it is young, has hair or fur and is warm blooded, it is a **mammal**. Whales, dolphins, even human beings are mammals.

**A.4.** Match the facts given below in Column A with evidence from the passage in Column B.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Dolphins are not fish.</td>
<td>(a) Dolphins scare away a killer whale.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(ii) Dolphins can protect themselves.</td>
<td>(b) Dolphins are friendly, gentle and helpful.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(iii) Dolphins cannot speak but they can express themselves.</td>
<td>(c) Dolphins cannot breathe in water.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(iv) People have always liked dolphins.</td>
<td>(d) When angry, dolphins make loud noises with their tails or jaws.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A.5.** Say whether the following statements are ‘true’ or ‘false’. Write ‘T’ for true and ‘F’ for false statements.

(i) Dolphins do not like human beings.  
(ii) They are water animals.  
(iii) Dolphins catch fish with great difficulty.  
(iv) Dolphins like to live all alone.  
(v) Dolphins are not always gentle.  
(vi) Dolphins can express their anger.

**A.6.** Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) How do dolphins breathe?
(ii) What do dolphins eat?
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

(iii) Why do dolphins live in groups?
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

(iv) What do dolphins do when they are angry?
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

A.7. Find words from the passage which are the opposites of the words given below.

(i) dry ___________________
(ii) bottom ___________________
(iii) soft ___________________
(iv) sometimes ___________________
(v) rise ___________________
(vi) deep ___________________

A.8. Look at the words given in the brackets in front of each statement. They have the same pronunciation but different meanings. Fill in the blanks with the words.

(i) As you ____________, ____________ shall you reap. (so, sow)
(ii) Children get marks for the ____________ answers they _____________.
(right, write)
(iii) Madhur ____________ the names of all the ____________ boys in the class. (knew, new)
(iv) It is not certain ____________ the ____________ will be pleasant.
(whether, weather)
(v) ____________ roads go ____________ the market. (to, two)
A.9. **Value Based Question**

Some children had gone for a picnic on a beach. After eating their food, they threw the wrappers on the beach and in the sea. Were they right in doing so? Why? What would you do to restore the natural beauty and cleanliness of the beach?

A.10. Imagine yourself to be the woman who was saved by the dolphin. Describe in a few sentences what happened to you.

Begin like this:

*One day, I was on a boat on the sea. A wave pushed the boat and I fell into the water.*

A.11. Like the dolphins, dogs too, are very useful animals. They help us in many ways. Read this short passage on dogs.

**Dogs**

Dogs are our great friends. They are intelligent and faithful and they have a strong smelling power. So they have been doing various kinds of useful work for us. Dogs take care of the animals when they go for grazing. They help the police to catch thieves. They guide the people who cannot see clearly. They save people caught in mountain storms. Small dogs like poodles are very cute. They perform in circus shows and entertain people. They also give company to those who are lonely. No wonder a dog is our most favourite pet.
There are about 150 kinds of dogs.
Look at the illustrations of some different breeds of dogs and how they serve us.

**Shepherd**
Takes care of grazing animals.

**Doberman**
Helps police to catch thieves.

**Alsatian**
Guides those who cannot see.

**St. Bernard**
Saves people caught in storms.

**Poodle**
Performs in circus shows.

**Pomeranian**
Gives good company.

Add information of at least two more breeds of dogs with their pictures.
B.1. Have you ever visited a zoo? What makes the visit to the zoo enjoyable? Discuss with your classmates.

B.2. Read this poem.

At The Zoo

Be careful what You say or do When you visit the animals At the zoo.

Don’t make fun Of the camel’s hump He’s very proud Of his noble bump.

Don’t laugh too much At the chimpanzee— He thinks he’s as wise As you or me.

And the penguins Strutting round the lake Can understand Remarks you make.

Treat them as well As they do you And you’ll always be welcome At the zoo.

—Eileen Mathias

hump: rounded projecting part
noble: that deserve praise
strutting: moving about proudly
B.3. Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) What does the poet want us to be careful about?

(ii) Why shouldn’t we make fun of the camel’s hump?

(iii) What does the chimpanzee think of himself?

(iv) What special quality, according to the poem, do penguins have?

(v) What will happen if we treat the animals well?
B.4. The animals in the zoo prepare a poster to be put on the gate outside the zoo. But they have left some blanks in it. Write DO or DON’T in the blanks to give the correct message. Add two instructions of your own to the list.

A HEARTY WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF ANIMALS

Please observe the following rules.

(i) _______________ take care what you say or do to us.
(ii) _______________ make fun of us.
(iii) _______________ laugh at us.
(iv) _______________ pass bad remarks.
(v) _______________ treat us well.
(vi) ____________________
(vii) ____________________

B.5. Notice the rhyming words in each stanza. Fill in the blanks with appropriate rhyming words.

(i) do ________________
(ii) hump ________________
(iii) chimpanzee ________________
(iv) lake ________________
(v) ________________ zoo
B.6. Suppose we add a new stanza to the poem. Read the lines and fill in the blanks with rhyming words from the box below. You have to select only two words.

| lion | noise | tiger | talk | tortoise | speech | elephant | voices |

Do not trouble
The relaxing ______________
For he’s a peaceful animal
And hates a loud ______________.

It’s fun to enjoy nature, but you don’t want your fun to spoil an animal’s habitat. Follow these simple rules.

(i) Leave plants where you find them. Do not pick wild flowers.
(ii) Do not harm the eggs/young ones of animals.
(iii) Keep to the path meant for walking.
(iv) Never start a fire.
(v) Always take litter home.

B.7. Life Skills

(i) What would you do if you see some children teasing animals in the zoo?
(ii) What precautions should the visitors take while moving around the zoo?

B.8. Value Based Question

Discuss why we should be kind to all the birds and animals.

C.1. Are you planning to keep a pet bird or animal? Work in pairs and discuss the following points.

(i) What kind of home do I prepare for the pet?
(ii) Who will look after my pet when I go to school?
(iii) What kind of food will my pet need?
(iv) How much exercise will my pet need?
(v) Who will train my pet?

Now tell the class which pet you have decided to keep and why.

C.2. Read the story ‘The Canary’.

THE CANARY

Somu’s father had given him a wonderful gift on his birthday, a little yellow canary. Somu named her Molly. Molly sang softly and sweetly. At first Somu looked after the bird. Each day he cleaned her cage, gave her seeds and fresh water. At tea-time he gave her a lump of sugar.

Molly was very happy in her cage. Molly’s friends were very jealous of her. Somu’s friends would come to see Molly everyday. She would sing sweet songs for them. After some weeks Somu lost interest in Molly. Now, it was no longer fun to look after her. One day he did not clean the cage. Another day, he did not feed her and then, worst of all, he forgot to give her water.

Molly was very unhappy. Somu loved her no longer and she could not sing because she was so thirsty. She went to her water dish, hoping there might be just a drop of water but there wasn’t any.
‘Tweet-Tweet,’ called Molly loudly, but Somu was busy playing with his new toy gun and took no notice of the little bird. She cried and her friends felt very sorry for her. Tears ran down her face. ‘Oh, I am in this cage and I can’t get out to find food and water for myself,’ she said.

Chirpy, the sparrow was sad too and said, ‘We wish we could help you.’ The little canary drooped her little yellow head and prayed to God.

Early next morning, Somu’s mother came to wake him. She was surprised when she did not hear the sweet voice of the canary.

She peered into the cage. Molly was lying there half dead. Somu’s mother took her out of the cage carefully and stroked her yellow feathers. She fed the little bird with fresh seeds and water. She was very angry with her son. ‘Somu, what a dreadful thing! If you can’t look after this poor creature, you have no right to keep it. I’m so ashamed of you,’ said the mother. Somu burst into tears and felt sorry. Thereafter, he looked after Molly, the little canary, very well.
C.3. **Tick (√) the correct option to complete the following sentences.**

(i) A canary is—
- a water bird.
- a small yellow bird.
- a bird of prey.

(ii) Molly was very happy with Somu because he—
- took good care of her.
- had many friends.
- liked to hear her songs.

(iii) Somu lost interest in Molly because he—
- had got a new toy gun.
- found looking after her boring.
- had become careless.

(iv) Molly was lying half dead because—
- she was sick and sleepy.
- she was sad and unhappy.
- she had not been fed with food and water.

(v) ‘What a dreadful thing!’ said Somu’s mother.
The dreadful thing was that—
- Somu was ignoring Molly.
- Somu kept sleeping till late in the morning.
- Somu often left his room untidy.
C.4. Work in groups of four. The sentences below tell you the sequence of events in the story. However, they are in jumbled order. Number them correctly. One is done for you.

- In the beginning, Somu regularly gave seeds and fresh water to Molly.
- Molly’s friends were jealous of her.
- Somu’s mother fed the little bird.
- After some time, Somu lost interest in Molly.
- Somu felt sorry and thereafter started taking good care of Molly.
- Somu’s mother saw that Molly was lying half dead in the cage.
- Molly could not sing because she was thirsty.
- Somu’s mother scolded her son.
- Somu’s father gave him a canary on his birthday.
- The little bird cried and her friends felt sorry for her.

C.5. Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) How did Somu look after the canary initially?

(ii) How do we know that Somu lost interest in Molly? Write three things.
C.6. Find words from the story which are opposite in meaning to the following:

(i) found  ____________________
(ii) remembered  ________________
(iii) sad  ____________________
(iv) stale  ____________________

C.7. You are going on a long holiday. You decide to leave your pet dog with your friend. Tell your friend four things that he needs to do to take care of your dog.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

C.8. Value Based Question

Why do you think Somu started ignoring Molly? Was he right in behaving so? Explain with reasons.
D.1. Animals and birds have occupied a central place in many of our fairy tales, folk tales and fables. Work with your partner and crack the following general knowledge quiz involving birds and animals. You may use the Help Box if needed.

(i) The thirsty bird that put pebbles in a pot to drink water.
   __ R __ __

(ii) A very small animal that shares its name with a computer part.
   __ __ U __ __

(iii) A popular animal found in New Zealand that is also the name of a fruit.
   __ __ __ I

(iv) A collection of Indian animal stories written by Pandit Vishnu Sharma.
   P __ __ __ __ T __ __ __ __

(v) The mythological bird that fought with Ravana to rescue Sita.
   J __ __ __ __

(vi) The popular character in films and children’s books who has the characteristics of a small insect.
   S __ __ __ __ M __ __

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D.2. You must have read the story ‘The Hare and the Tortoise’. Narrate it to the class. Tell the class the moral of the story.
Now read this story.

THE OSTRICH AND THE HEDGEHOG

One beautiful morning in summer, a hedgehog went for a walk across a barley field. There were rows of tall barley plants in the field. At the edge of the field, he met an ostrich.

‘Good morning!’ he said to the ostrich in a cheerful voice. But the ostrich looked down at him and said, ‘I don’t talk to stumpy-legged creatures like you.’

‘My legs may be stumpy, but I can run faster than any other animal,’ said the hedgehog.

‘No one can run faster than I can. Don’t you see how long my legs are?’ said the ostrich.

‘Why don’t we have a race?’ said the hedgehog. ‘Then we’ll see who is the faster runner—you or I.’

‘Agreed,’ said the ostrich. ‘Shall we start?’

But the hedgehog said, ‘Let me go home and take my breakfast. I can’t run on an empty stomach. Shall we have the race at mid-day?’

‘Sure,’ said the ostrich.

The ostrich went home and went to sleep.

The hedgehog went home and brought his mother and father, brothers, sisters, cousins, even aunts and uncles to the barley
He made them take their position in such a way that there was a hedgehog at both the ends of each row of barley plants.

At mid-day, the hedgehog and the ostrich met at the barley field and the race started. The ostrich began at the first row. He took long strides and soon reached the end of the row. He was surprised to see a hedgehog already there, waiting for him.

‘So you have reached,’ said the hedgehog to the ostrich.

The ostrich was so surprised that he did not reply. He ran back along the next row.

Again when he reached the end, he found a hedgehog waiting for him.

The ostrich could not tell the difference between one hedgehog and another and believed that he had been beaten. This happened several times.

When he reached the end of the last row, he found a hedgehog sitting there also.

The hedgehog was fresh and smiling.

The ostrich could not understand how he had been beaten by a stumpy little hedgehog. He went away on his tired, sore feet and buried his head deep in the sand.

—Adapted
D.3. On the basis of your reading the story, complete the following statements.

(i) One beautiful morning, a hedgehog met an ________________________

(ii) The ostrich did not greet the hedgehog because he ________________________

(iii) It was decided to run the race at mid-day because ________________________

(iv) Every time the ostrich reached the end of the barley row, he found ________________________

(v) The hedgehogs at the end of barley rows were actually the original hedgehog’s ________________________

(vi) The last hedgehog was fresh and smiling because ________________________

(vii) On the other hand, the ostrich was tired and had sore feet because ________________________

D.4. The story brings out different characteristics of the ostrich and the hedgehog. Draw lines to match their qualities.

- proud
- fast
- foolish
- cheerful
- clever
- sulky
Write below the qualities along with sentences from the text that prove that the hedgehog and the ostrich possess these qualities.

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<th>Ostrich</th>
<th>Hedgehog</th>
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D.5. Find words from the story which mean the same as the following:

(i) a cereal plant  __________________
(ii) border  __________________
(iii) short and thick  __________________
(iv) noon  __________________
(v) long steps  __________________
(vi) pain from injury  __________________

D.6. Use the above words to fill in the blanks.

(i) The baby sleeps from __________ to evening.
(ii) The boy was standing at the __________ of the mountain.
(iii) Ravi saw a __________ field in the village.
(iv) After the fight, the boxer had __________ muscles.
(v) The giant took long __________ to catch the naughty dwarf.
D.7. Imagine that you are the hedgehog. In a short paragraph describe how you fooled the ostrich.

D.8. **Value Based Question**

What lesson do you learn from the story? Choose from the following:

- We should not look down upon others.
- We should make fool of others.
- It is important to be clever.
- We should love our family.

Give reasons for your choice.

D.9. Find pictures of your favourite animals. Look in books, magazines and encyclopedias. Prepare the mask of an animal you like with the help of these pictures. You may use buttons, stiff card, yarn or other materials to make it.

D.10. Prepare a small speech to be given in the school assembly on WILDLIFE DAY on ‘Live and Let Live’. You can consider the given points.
• We share the same planet.
• We have no right to harm them.

Dear Friends

Listen to the audio CD, titled *Listen & Comprehend* (Class-III). After listening, answer the questions verbally. Thereafter, complete the given questions. The tape script is also given on page no. 30.

**E.1.** Write ‘T’ for true and ‘F’ for false statements.
(i) Bats are mammals that can fly. 
(ii) Bats eat food during the day.
(iii) Owls cannot see clearly at night.
(iv) The mother kangaroo feeds its babies with fish.
(v) Crocodiles eat birds called water dikkops.

**E.2.** Tick (√) the correct option.
(i) The baby of a kangaroo is called—
   - calf
   - joey
   - cub

(ii) Dwarf goby is about _______ centimetre long.
   - one
   - three
   - two

(iii) The whale shark is the _______ fish.
   - smallest
   - biggest
   - longest

(iv) _______ eats insects that disturbs crocodiles.
   - dwarf goby
   - whale shark
   - water dikkop
Read it Yourself

ARJUNA’S FRIENDS OF THE FOREST

Arjuna, the best warrior among the Pandavas was looking for some peace and quiet.

In addition to his 100 Kaurava cousins, he had four brothers who were rough and tough.

But

Don’t break this branch, brother! It supports my nest.

Nest? where?

Oh, there it is! I can see now!

It shelters my three little ones!

Don’t worry! You and your little ones are safe! I wouldn’t dream of hurting you!

Thank you! Someday I will return the favour!

Arjuna reached for a branch on another tree....
...But hesitated when he saw a ball of leaves there.

I wonder what that is?

Don’t break the branch, we beg you; it supports our home!

We’ll never forget the kindness you’ve shown us!

Arjuna soothed the mosquito bites with cold water from a stream, and then went further into the forest to find solitude.

All right! I’ll leave you in peace!

Ants! Big red ants... Hundreds of them!
Many years passed. Kauravas came in power. They sent Arjuna and his brothers to live in exile.

If we are recognised, our period of exile will increase. So take care, brothers!

One day, Arjuna found himself alone in a dense part of the forest. Hungry, he was looking for fruits...

He looked around for a hiding place but couldn’t find any. Just then—

It was the bird whose nest he had spared.

Voices! I must hide!

Huh? I think it wants me to follow.
The bird led Arjuna to the hollow of a tree, and he quickly get into it.

No sooner had he done so, a multitude of red ants appeared. They spread themselves over the mouth of the hollow.

The voices Arjuna had heard were those of soldiers. They were looking for him.

I thought I saw somebody here. Are you sure? He couldn’t have disappeared into thin air! Are you crazy? Look at the ants swarming over it!

Ouch! They are biting me! Let’s get out of here!!

As if that was not enough, three birds attacked the soldiers. They were the three nestlings whose nest Arjuna had spared.
The soldiers fled in panic.

And then—

It was the all clear signal. The soldiers had gone.

Now the ants moved away from the opening of the hollow allowing the great warrior to come out.

He thanked the bird and the ants.

You are small but you are no less than the greatest of my friends. I am entirely in your debt.

And grateful Arjuna continued on his way.
Tape Script

AMAZING ANIMALS AND BIRDS

There are several amazing animals and birds around us. Let us have a look at some of them.

Bats are flying mammals. They sleep during the day but at night they feed. What is more, they sleep hanging upside down.

Owls like bats, sleep during the day and hunt for food at night. With their large eyes they can see extremely well at night.

The mother kangaroo carries its baby, called joey, in a pouch and feeds it with milk.

The dwarf goby is the smallest fish. It is no longer than your fingernail, about one centimetre long.

The whale shark, on the other hand, is the biggest fish. It is a little longer than a railway goods carriage.

A bird, called the water dikkop, eats insects that disturb crocodiles. The bird gets an easy meal and the crocodile becomes more comfortable. Maybe that is why crocodiles don’t harm them.