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An animal class is a group of animals that are similar to each other.

Classes of animals

Mammals

A person, a bat and a monkey are examples of mammals.

Mammals have warm blood and drink milk when they are babies. They also have hair or fur on their bodies. Mammals live everywhere in the world. There are about 4,000 kinds of mammals.



Birds

A flamingo and a parrot are examples of birds. They are born out of eggs with a hard shell. All birds have feathers on their bodies and wings. But not all birds can fly. There are about 10,000 kinds of birds.



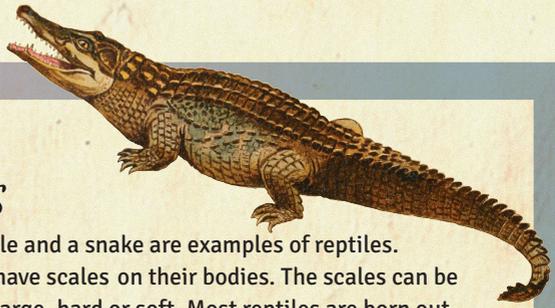
Fish

A shark and a salmon are examples of fish. Fish live in water. They take in air (breathe) through gills behind their heads. Most of them have scales on their bodies. Scientists think that there are more than 20,000 different kinds of fish in the world.



Reptiles

A crocodile and a snake are examples of reptiles. Reptiles have scales on their bodies. The scales can be small or large, hard or soft. Most reptiles are born out of eggs with a hard shell. When reptiles are too cold they sit in the sun to get warm. There are more than 10,000 different kinds of reptiles. There are no reptiles in Antarctica.



Amphibians

A frog and a newt are examples of amphibians. Amphibians live in the water and on land. There are about 7,000 different kinds of amphibians.



Insects

A butterfly and a ladybird are examples of insects. The bodies of insects are made of 3 parts. Insects have 3 pairs of legs and usually 1 or 2 pairs of wings. There are millions of different kinds of insects in the world.



GLOSSARY

- **feathers:** soft light things that cover a bird's skin
- **fur:** thick hair
- **scales:** small plates that are placed one on top of the other and protect the bodies of fish and reptiles
- **shell:** hard cover of an egg
- **wings:** part of an insect or bird's body, used for flying

The Adventures of Doctor Dolittle

Meet the characters in the story! What kind of animal is Dab-Dab?
What is the owl's name?



Chee-Chee



Dab-Dab



Gub-Gub



Jip



Doctor John Dolittle



Too-Too

Polynesia

The crocodile

BEFORE READING

- 1 Look at the picture of Doctor Dolittle's garden. Tick (✓) the things you can see.



a trees

b flowers

c a fishpond

d a cat

e a table

f a monkey

-  2 Listen to an extract from the story. Answer the question. Who is Sarah Dolittle?



3 The Doctor and his pets return from their adventures on a pirate ship. Match the words 1-4 to the parts of the ship A-D.

1 anchor 2 deck 3 mast 4 sails



4 Look at the titles of the chapters on page 3. Then read the five extracts from the story. Which chapters do they come from? Write the numbers in the boxes.

- a The pirates are bad men. They catch ships and steal everything on them. Sometimes they throw the people on the ships into the sea.
- b 'If you want to give him a good present, give him an animal.'
- c When she is sitting next to the fire, the little bird repeats her message to Doctor Dolittle.
- d 'Well done, Jip,' says Dab-Dab. 'You are a very clever dog.'
- e They all listen very carefully, but only Too-Too can hear the noise in the room.

1 THE DOCTOR

 Everybody in the small town of Puddleby-on-the-Marsh knows John Dolittle. When he walks down the street in his high hat people say, ‘Look! There’s the Doctor! He’s a very clever man.’

He lives in a house on the edge• of the town. His sister lives there, too. She cleans and cooks for him. Her name is Sarah Dolittle. The house is small but it has a very big garden. There are many trees in it and there is also a fishpond•.

The Doctor loves animals. He has many pets - rabbits, white mice, a squirrel, a hedgehog, a cow and her calf, an old horse, two lambs, and many more. But his favourite pets are Dab-Dab the duck, Jip the dog, Gub-Gub the baby pig, Polynesia the parrot, and Too-Too the owl.

The house is always full of animals. They’re everywhere – on the chairs and on the sofa, in the cupboards and in the drawers•. There are even white mice inside the piano! Sarah works very hard, but the house is never tidy.

Doctor Dolittle is a very good doctor and many people from the town come to the house to see him. One day an old lady knocks• on the door. She has a bad pain in her back.

‘Please wait in the sitting room,’ says Sarah. ‘The Doctor is busy at the moment.’

The old lady sits down on the sofa.

‘Ouch!’ she cries and jumps up quickly. ‘What’s that?’

She looks down.

GLOSSARY

• **drawer:**



• **edge:** part of something that is far from its centre

• **fishpond:** small pool of water for fish

• **knocks:** hits gently to ask to enter

‘A hedgehog!’ she says. ‘On the sofa!’

She’s very angry. She leaves the house and she never comes back.

That evening Sarah tells her brother about the old lady.

‘A doctor’s house is for people, John,’ she says. ‘Not animals.’

‘But I prefer animals,’ replies the Doctor.

‘Don’t be silly!’ Sarah says and she walks out of the room.

The old lady tells all her friends about the hedgehog. They stop coming to see the Doctor, too. Weeks pass and there are always more animals in the house. They need a lot of food and food costs money. Soon Doctor Dolittle’s money-box[•] is empty.

He decides to sell the piano and his best brown suit. He buys some food with the money, but only enough for two or three weeks. Then his money-box is empty again. Now when people see him in the street they say, ‘Look at the Doctor! He hasn’t got any money and his socks are full of holes[•]!’

One day a butcher[•] comes to see Doctor Dolittle. He has a pain in his stomach. The Doctor gives him some medicine and then he invites him to have a cup of tea. While the Doctor is looking for the teapot[•] the man says, ‘Why don’t you become an animal doctor?’

Polynesia the parrot stops singing and starts listening to the conversation.

GLOSSARY

- **butcher:** man who sells meat
- **holes:** small openings
- **money-box:** box for keeping money
- **teapot:** pot for making tea

‘You know a lot about animals,’ the butcher says. ‘You know more than all the animal doctors in the town. I can help you. I have a lot of customers. I can give their pets bad meat and make them sick!’

‘Oh, no! Don’t do that!’ says the Doctor.

Later Polynesia says, ‘Doctor Dolittle! That man is right. Why don’t you become an animal doctor?’

‘There are already many animal doctors in the town,’ replies the Doctor while he is washing the teapot.

‘Yes, there are,’ says Polynesia. ‘But there aren’t GOOD animal doctors. Listen, Doctor, I want to tell you something. Do you know that animals can talk?’

‘I know that parrots can talk,’ says the Doctor.

‘We parrots have two languages, Doctor!’ says Polynesia. ‘People’s language and bird language.’

Languages

Which language do you speak in your country?

Does everyone in your school study English?

Can you speak other languages?

 Find out how to say ‘hello’ in as many languages as possible.



‘Really?’ says Doctor Dolittle. ‘Say something in bird language for me.’

‘Ka-ka oi-ee, fee-fee,’ says Polynesia.

‘What does that mean?’ asks the Doctor.

‘It means “Is the porridge• hot?”’ replies Polynesia.

‘That’s very interesting,’ the Doctor says. He opens a drawer and takes out a notebook and a pencil. ‘I want to write the words in this book. But first you must teach me the alphabet of bird language. Go slowly, please!’

At the end of the afternoon, the Doctor can understand everything Polynesia says. He can even say some long sentences. He’s very excited. He wants to learn dog language next. With Polynesia’s help he can soon speak the languages of all of his pets.

The next time he sees the butcher he tells him, ‘I’m not a people’s doctor anymore. I’m an animal doctor.’

The butcher tells everybody in the town the news. When the old ladies hear it, they start bringing their sick dogs and cats to Doctor Dolittle’s house. Then the farmers bring their sick horses and cows. The animals are happy because the Doctor speaks their languages. They can tell him how they feel and the Doctor can give them the right medicine.

‘He’s a REAL doctor,’ they tell their friends later.

Soon every living thing in the country knows about the doctor in the small house with the big garden. He becomes famous in other countries too, because the birds tell their foreign• friends about him. After a few years, all the creatures• in the world know the name of Doctor John Dolittle.

GLOSSARY

- **creatures:** living beings, but not plants
- **foreign:** from another country
- **porridge:** hot breakfast food



Ka-ka oi-ee, fee-fee

AFTER READING VOCABULARY

1  Three words are related to each other, but one is not. Which one? Circle the odd one out. Explain why to a partner.

- | | | | |
|------------|----------|---------|--------|
| a pig | cow | dog | sofa |
| b soldier | village | butcher | nurse |
| c river | mountain | prison | cliff |
| d coconuts | bananas | grass | apples |
| e drawer | mast | anchor | deck |
| f mouth | collar | nose | ear |

2 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

axe bills edge footprints holes journey
pain shade toothache tunnel

- a Doctor Dolittle lives in a house on the of the town.
- b The Doctor's socks are full of
- c The butcher has a in his stomach.
- d The crocodile has a bad
- e The Doctor has no money and he can't pay the
- f Gub-Gub sits in the because the sun is too hot.
- g The monkeys see the of the pushmi-pullyu on the ground.
- h Doctor Dolittle breaks the locked door with an
- i The lost man is at the end of a dark
- j The Doctor and his pets set off on their home.

K A2 Key English Test Reading and Writing Part 1

1 Tick (✓) the correct answer 1, 2 or 3

a



BOATS FOR HIRE.
£5 a day.
 Payment in cash at the boatshed.

c

Hi John,
 How is Africa? Is everything OK with my boat? I need to use it in the autumn, so let me know when you are coming home.
 Sam

b



HOLIDAY VACCINATIONS
 Ask your doctor for an appointment 2 months before travelling.

d



Newport Medical Centre
 Open **08.00** - **13.00**
Mon to Fri.
 For appointments please call:
01214 761357

- a 1 You can't use a credit card to pay here.
 2 You can buy a boat for £5 today.
 3 You can pay to visit the boat shed.
- b 1 You can have vaccinations if you are travelling for over 2 months.
 2 You need to book travel vaccinations 2 months in advance.
 3 The vaccination doctor is only available for the next 2 months.
- c 1 Sam is asking when John is coming back to Africa.
 2 Sam can lend his boat to John in the autumn.
 3 Sam wants to know when John is coming back from Africa.
- d 1 On weekday afternoons you can make an appointment.
 2 The centre is open from 8am on Saturdays.
 3 You can see a doctor here on Wednesday mornings.