

LEARN AT CHESTER ZOO

THE MAMMAL INSECT LIFE CYCLE

EXAMPLES

Humans, dogs, cats, elephants, gorillas, kangaroos, whales and dolphins.



EMBRYO/ FOETUS

This is the early stage of development of a multicellular organism. It begins just after fertilization.

The embryo or foetus grows inside the mother. Most get their food and oxygen from their mother's blood. Marsupial babies (e.g. kangaroo) are under-developed when they are born and are usually carried by their mother in a pouch. Other mammals (i.e. platypus and echidna) lay eggs, not live young.

The adult who is independent may seek the company of someone from the opposite sex and may mate with them. Adult females nurse their young.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Have hair or fur, although for certain mammals e.g. whales, it is present before birth.

Warm-blooded – body temperature remains about the same all the time, despite the external temperature changing.

Have a backbone.

Have a larger, more developed brain than other animals.

Nearly all move around using limbs (known as tetrapods).

Eat a wide variety of food (carnivores, omnivores or herbivores).

YOUNG/ OFFSPRING

This is the animal born from living organisms. Most young are born alive. More than one offspring may be known as a brood or progeny.



This is the main period of growth and development. Young babies drink their mothers' milk for nourishment, to grow and develop (using mammary glands). Young mammals learn behaviours from their parents, how to live and survive.

ADULT

This is the animal when it is fully grown and developed.

