

3.10 Differences between plants and animals

Topic: Plants
Subtopic: Growth
Activity type/skill: Text prediction
Literacy focus: Reading
Genre: Information reports

Objective

- Recall vocabulary relating to plants.
- Predict what might be in a text about plants and animals.
- Make links with prior knowledge.
- Categorise information.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

What to do

1. Look at the pictures on the student worksheet and ask students how they can tell something is a living thing and not a machine.
2. Discuss the difference between plants and animals. Help students define a plant and an animal. If necessary, lead the students' discussion to the basic differences such as the amount of movement and degree of sensitivity, the ability of plants to make their own food. Accept their word choices but offer them the technical words (for example, respiration) after they have produced the idea.
3. Talk again about the characteristics of and differences between plants and animals and fill in the chart. Check that most of the characteristics are covered.

Answers:

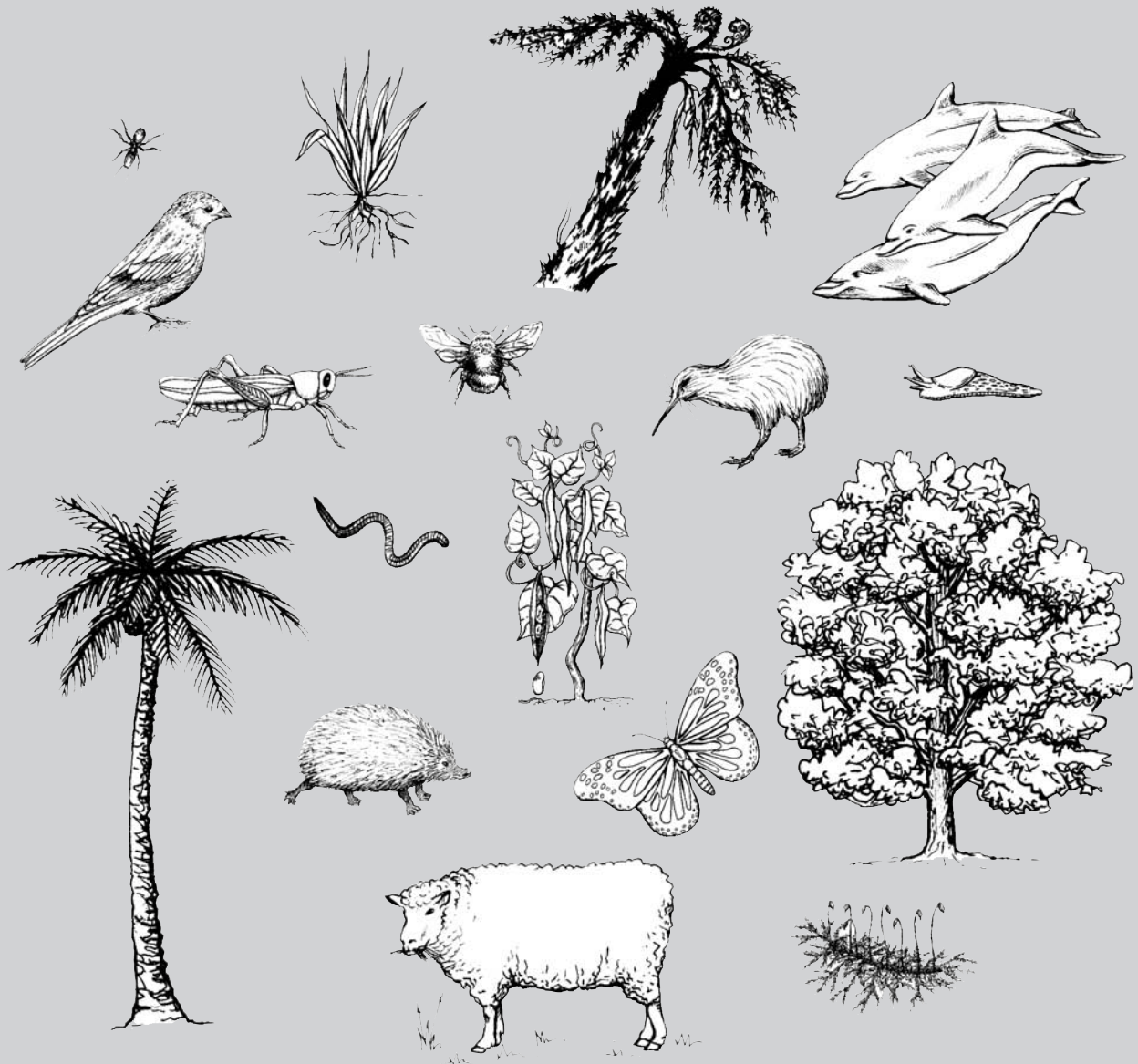
Animals	Animals and plants	Plants
can move about freely cannot make their own food	breathe/respire move need food excrete waste grow sensitive to their environment reproduce	move very slowly in one place make their own food

Extending the activity

- Play '20 Questions' in which one student must think of an animal or plant and the others must guess what they are thinking of by asking up to 20 questions that only have the answer 'yes' or 'no'.
- Find books about plants in the library and science department.

Activity ten

focus on reading



Animals	Animals and Plants	Plants