

A Dog Is a Mammal

by Rachelle Kreisman



Every dog is a mammal. All mammals have hair on their bodies. People, horses, and elephants are also mammals.

Hair protects a mammal's skin. The hair keeps skin from getting scraped. Hair also protects mammals from cold and heat.

What else makes an animal a mammal? Here are some examples.

Every mammal has a backbone. That bone is also called the spine.

Mammals are warm-blooded. That means the temperature in their bodies is warm and usually stays the same.

Female mammals make milk in their bodies. They feed the milk to their babies.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What does every mammal have?

- A. hair and a backbone
- B. scales
- C. a tail

2. This text describes the characteristics of mammals.

Which of the following animals are mammals?

- A. birds, eagles, and penguins
- B. people, horses, and elephants
- C. snakes, lizards, and crocodiles

3. Mammals have hair and backbones. Dogs are mammals. Based on this information, what is true about dogs?

- A. Dogs have hair. Dogs do not have backbones.
- B. Dogs have both hair and backbones.
- C. Dogs have backbones. Dogs do not have hair.

4. What is "A Dog Is a Mammal" mostly about?

- A. how hair protects mammals
- B. dogs and other pets
- C. the characteristics of mammals

5. Name something that dogs and people have in common.

One thing that dogs and people have in common is

6. What did you learn from "A Dog Is a Mammal"?

7. Class Discussion Question: Explain whether a mammal's backbone or a mammal's hair would help it stay warm in cold weather. Use information from the text to support your answer.

8. Draw a picture of a mammal. Try to label something that makes it a mammal.