



## Carnivores, Herbivores, and Omnivores

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Subject: Science: Animal Groups  
Time Allotment: One to two weeks (time is determined by number of computers)

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### Objectives:

The learner will research animals that eat only meat, animals that eat only plants, and animals that eat both plants and animals.

The learner will create a HyperStudio stack categorizing Carnivores (meat eaters), Herbivores (plant eaters), and Omnivores (both plant and meat eaters).

The learner will present a HyperStudio stack to the class showing categories of carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores as well as some information on each.

### Background:

Organisms have basic needs. They need air, water, and food. They can survive only in environments in which their needs can be met. All animals depend on plants. Some animals eat only plants for food. Other animals eat only animals (that eat plants). Finally some animals eat both plants and animals. The three categories of these particular animals are carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. The information below is for teacher use only. Students should find out this information during their research.

### Carnivores:

They are any animals that eat chiefly meat. Most such animals prey on herbivores-plant eaters. They have well-developed canine teeth. Most have one pair of blade-like shearing teeth on each side of the jaw. They also have a heavy skull and strong jaw muscles. Some carnivores are lions, tigers, coyotes, crocodiles, sharks, snakes, foxes, weasels, some bears, seals, dogs, cats, otters, hyenas, raccoons, mongooses, sea lions, seals, and cheetahs to name a few.

### Herbivores:

They are any animals that eat chiefly plants. Many hoofed herbivores have four chambered stomachs and well-developed incisors. Some herbivores are cattle, deer, horses, earthworms, aphids, rodents, sheep, goats, koalas, rabbits, deer, cardinals, squirrels, honeybees, mice, gophers, and zebras to name a few.

### Omnivores:

They are animals that eat both plants and animals. Some omnivores, such as bears, have the same sharp dagger like teeth as carnivores. Some omnivores are humans, most bears, pigs, many birds, deer mice, mockingbirds, red foxes, and snapping turtles to name a few.

**Materials:**

Macintosh or Windows computer(s) (time of lesson is determined by number of computers)  
Books on animals: Carnivores, Herbivores, and Omnivores  
HyperStudio Software (4.0 or later)  
Two packs of index cards (100 per pack)  
Pencils and Markers  
CDs with pictures of animals and/or animal sounds  
Rubric for scoring groups (Students should be told how the scoring will be done.)  
<ftp://www.hyperstudio.com/pub/showcase/science/AnimalsRubric.pdf> [24 KB]

**Procedures:**

**Step 1:** Go over part of the background information to introduce the learners to the content in the lesson. As an attention grabber bring in a piece of meat and vegetables or fruit. Ask students how many eat meat? Ask them how many eat vegetables or fruit. Tell them if they eat both meat and plants they are omnivores. There may be some vegetarians in the classroom. If so, tell them they are herbivores.

**Step 2:** Brainstorm with students all the animals they can think of that might fit in each category of animals-carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. List these on the board and ask students if carnivores have anything in common. Talk about the speed of the animal, the mouth, teeth, jaws, and claws. Do the same for herbivores and omnivores.

**Step 3:** Divide the class into groups of two or four. Tell each group they will be responsible for putting together a HyperStudio stack showing their knowledge of carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. Each group must choose a representative to meet with groups on graphics for their HyperStudio stack as well as text groups, sound groups, and animation groups. Each group will decide how they will choose.

**Step 4:** The student who is the representative for the graphics group will meet with all the other graphic group representatives. This graphic group will discuss and make a list of carnivores, a list of herbivores, and a list of omnivores to take back to their group for discussion. Students probably have the list from the brainstorming session, but one more discussion in small groups would be favorable.

**Step 5:** After each group decides on the animals they are going to use in their HyperStudio stack, a text representative from each group will meet with all other text group representatives to go to the school library to find information books on animals to bring back to their group.

**Step 6:** The sound representative from each group will check the HyperStudio CD and any other available CDs for sounds appropriate for their group's chosen animals.

**Step 7:** The animation representative from each group will check the HyperStudio CD and see if there are any animation that would be appropriate for their group HyperStudio stack. They can create their own animation if they know that skill.

**Step 8:** All groups will go back to their original group and using index cards will storyboard their HyperStudio stack on their knowledge of carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. Index cards must be turned into the teacher for approval before groups can begin their HyperStudio stacks on the computer(s).

**Closure:**

Each group will present their HyperStudio stack to the class as a final activity. Students will be asked to tell what they would do differently and what they enjoyed the most.

**Extended Activities:**

These activities are optional.

Using the computer coloring book pictures included with this lesson plan, have students choose an animal from the coloring book, bring it to HyperStudio, and tell if it is a carnivore, herbivore, or omnivore, and color it. Write a short report on the animal.

Download the coloring book pictures for Windows at:

<ftp://www.hyperstudio.com/pub/showcase/science/ColoringBook.zip> [41 KB]

Download the coloring book pictures for Macintosh at:

<ftp://www.hyperstudio.com/pub/showcase/science/ColoringBook.sea.hqx> [363 KB]

Use at least six of the animal pictures provided on the HyperStudio CD, have the students design a slide show showing at least two carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. There are more carnivores provided than anything else. These can be used with any version of Hyperstudio 3.0 or higher.

Download the slide show pictures for Windows at:

<ftp://www.hyperstudio.com/pub/showcase/science/AnimalsSlideShow.zip> [915 KB]

Download the slide show pictures for Macintosh at:

<ftp://www.hyperstudio.com/pub/showcase/science/AnimalsSlideShow.sea.hqx> [1726 KB]

**Assessment:**

A rubric is provided if the teacher wishes to use it. The teacher can decide how much weight her evaluation will be compared to the students. If the rubric is not used the teacher needs to tell students how they are going to be evaluated.

<ftp://www.hyperstudio.com/pub/showcase/science/AnimalsRubric.pdf> [24 KB]