

An illustration of a mother rabbit and two baby rabbits in a field of grass. The mother rabbit is white with black spots and large black ears, lying on her side. Two smaller white baby rabbits are positioned in front of her. The background is a warm yellow-orange color with stylized grass blades. The word "Mammals" is written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font across the middle of the image. A small "twinkl" logo is visible on the back of one of the baby rabbits.

# Mammals

twinkl

# Life Cycle of a Mammal

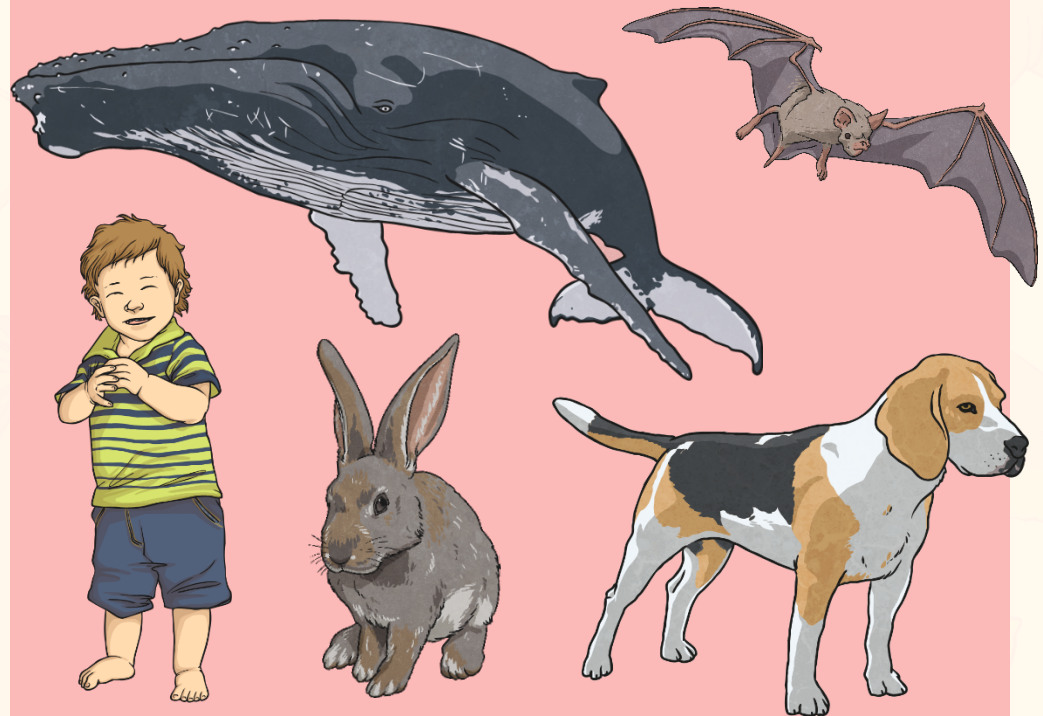


A mammal is a particular type of animal. There are two things that make mammals special:

Mammals make milk to feed their babies.

They are all warm blooded. This means they can maintain a constant body temperature, independent of the temperature of their environment.

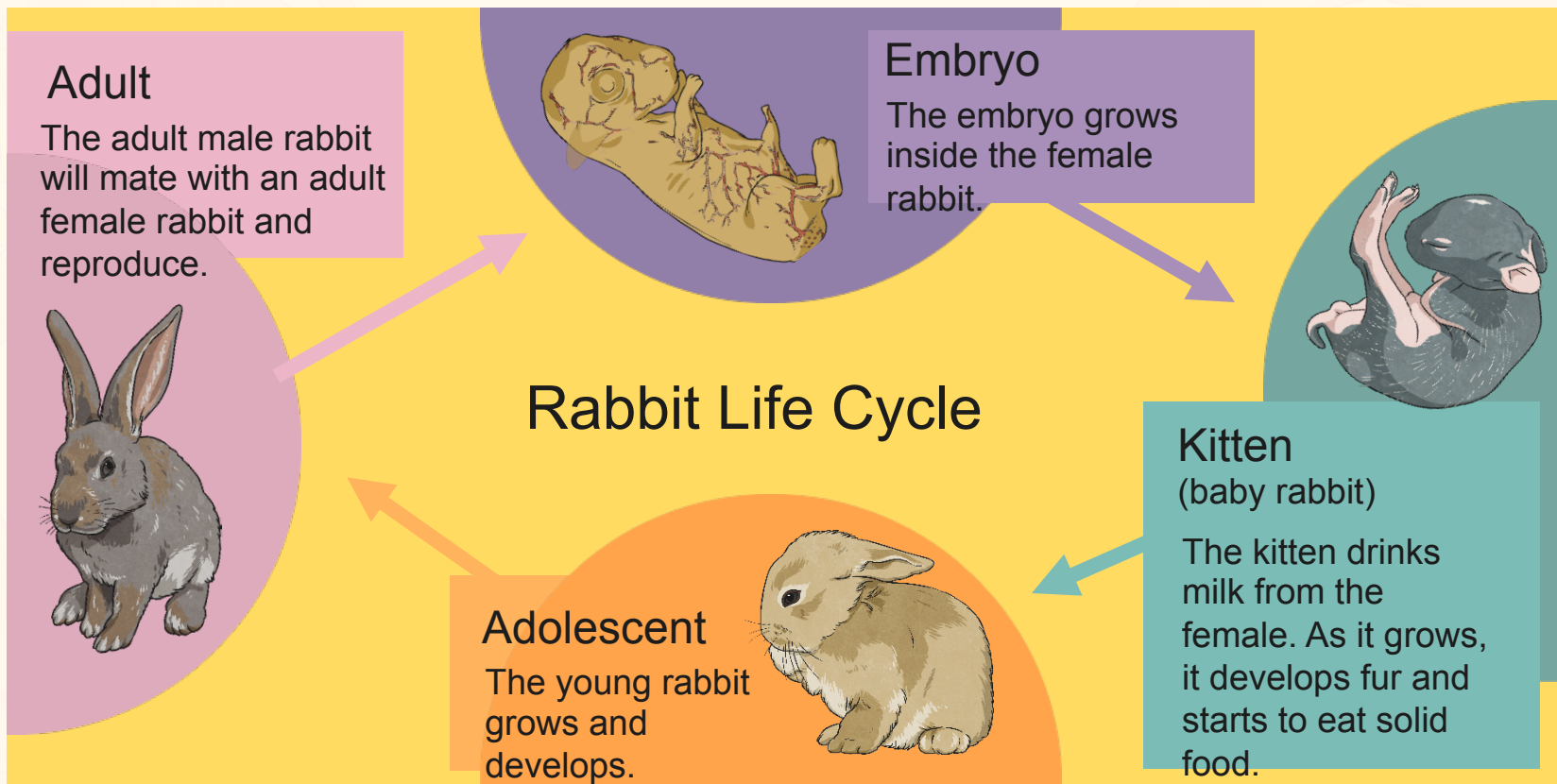
These creatures are all mammals:



# Life Cycle of a Mammal



Here are the stages of the life cycle of a rabbit, a mammal. Every mammal has the same life cycle.



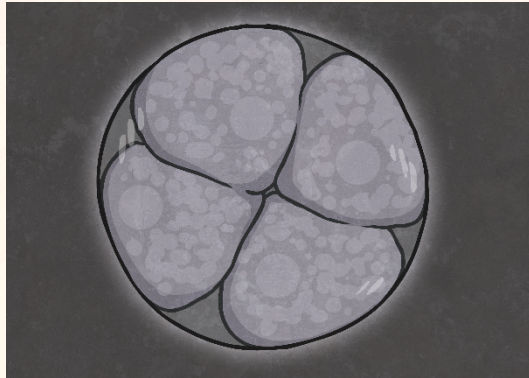


# Reproduction

Mammals use sexual reproduction to produce their offspring.

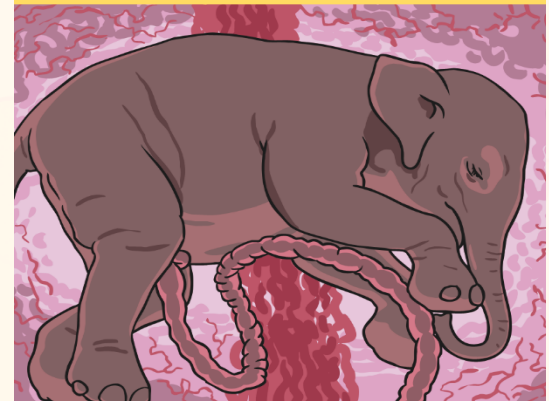
Just like plants, mammals use sexual reproduction so they need a male and female part to make the offspring.

The male and female part fuse together to make a new cell



This fertilised cell splits in half, creating two cells. These cells continue to divide, so that the number of cells doubles each time. Eventually, the cells will form a baby, and the heart starts to beat.

The baby will grow inside the female for the length of the pregnancy. This is known as the gestation period. At the end of the pregnancy, the baby is born.

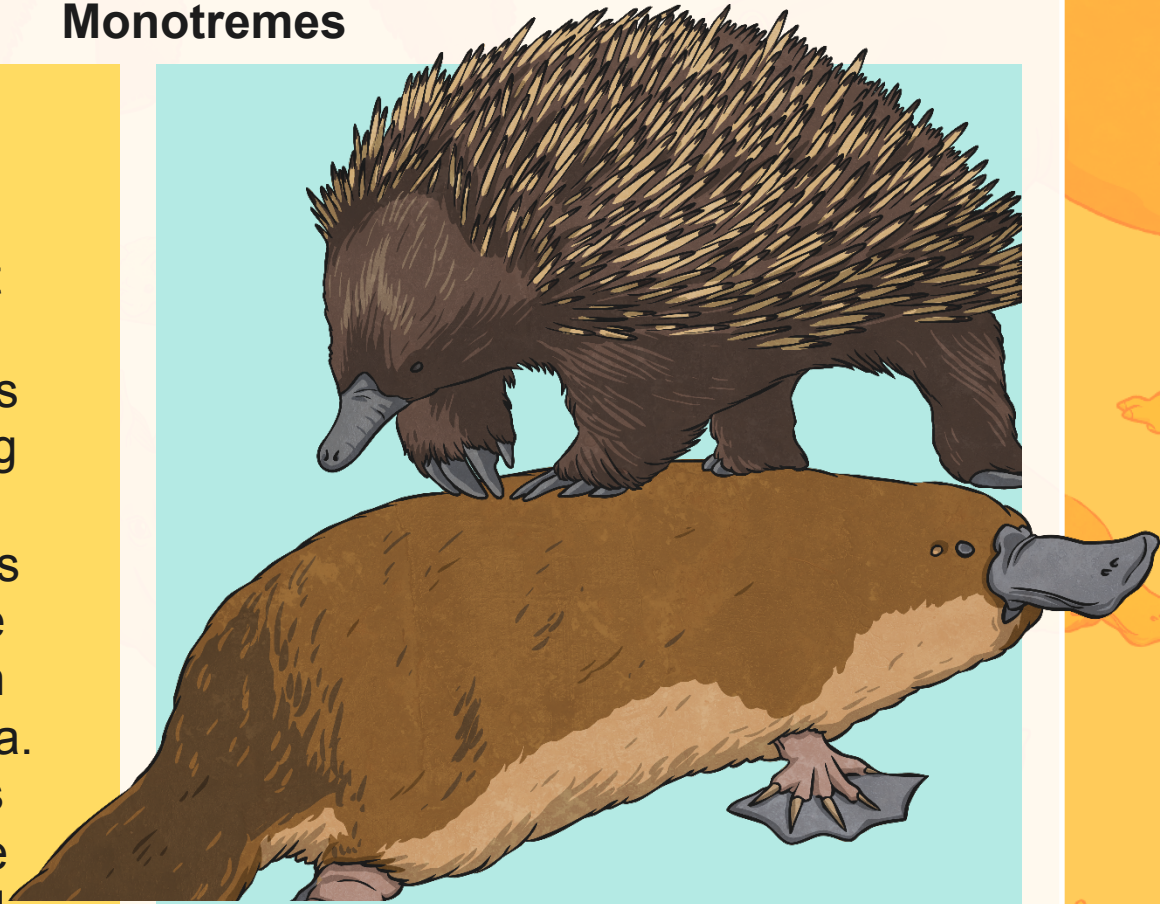




# Reproduction

## Monotremes

There is a group of mammals called monotremes that do not grow their young inside their bodies. Monotremes lay eggs instead of giving birth to live babies. The only existing monotremes are the platypus and the echidna, and they live in Australia and New Guinea. They are still classed as mammals because once their babies are hatched out they do feed them milk.



# Different Mammals

There are three different groups of mammals:

Placentals: their young grow inside the female's body and are born fully developed.



Monotremes: their young hatch from eggs.

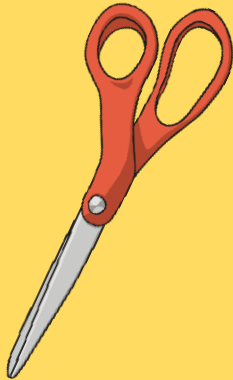
Marsupials: their young are born incompletely developed. They are then carried and fed in a pouch on the female's stomach until they are fully developed.



# Life Cycles of Mammals



Make a Life Cycle Wheel to describe the stages of a mammal's life cycle using your Life Cycle Activity Sheet.



**Rabbit Life Cycle**

Complete the description of each stage.

**Rabbit Life Cycle**

cut out

cut out

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Science | Year 5 | Living Things and Their Habitats | Mammals | Lesson 3



# Comparing Life Cycles



Think of 2 things that are the same about each life cycle, and 2 differences between the monotremes, marsupials and placental mammals

