

Animal Unit Vocabulary: Third Grade

organism	A living thing.
life cycle	The stages through which a living thing passes during its life.
reproduce	To make more of one's own kind.
adaptation	A trait that helps a living thing survive in its environment.
trait	A feature passed on from a parent to its offspring.
inherited trait	A characteristic that is passed from parents to offspring.
learned behavior	New skills you are taught or you gain through experience.
acquired trait	A trait that an animal, plant, or person develops through interactions in their environment.

instinct	A behavior that an animal is born able to do.
metamorphosis	A series of changes in which an organism's body changes form.
vertebrate	An animal with a backbone.
invertebrate	An animal without a backbone.
migrate	An instinct to move when the seasons change.
hibernate	An instinct to spend the winter in a sleeplike state.