

MAMMALS

There are over 5,000 species of mammals. They are the most diverse group of animals on Earth. Mammals are characterized by the presence of mammary glands, which produce milk to feed their young. They also have a neocortex in their brains, which allows them to learn from experience and solve problems. Mammals are found in every habitat on Earth, from the deepest oceans to the highest mountains.

EGG-LAYING MAMMALS

Monotremata
Order: Monotremata, 1 family, 5 species

These are the only mammals that lay eggs. They have a unique combination of reptilian and mammalian characteristics. The platypus has a bill with electroreceptors, and the echidna has a long, sharp spine. The short-tailed shearwater is the only monotreme bird.

MARSUPIALS

These are the marsupials. They are mammals that give birth to live young that are not fully developed at birth. The young develop in a pouch on the mother's belly. Marsupials are found in Australia and the Americas.

PLACENTAL MAMMALS

These are the placental mammals. They are the most diverse group of mammals. They have a placenta that provides nutrients and oxygen to the developing young. Placental mammals are found in every habitat on Earth.

Flying Squirrels

Elephant Shrews

Insectivores

Tree Shrews

Hyrax

Monkeys & Apes

Order: Primates, 1 family, 250 species

Primates are characterized by their large brains, forward-facing eyes, and opposable thumbs. They are found in tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, Asia, and South America.

Carnivores

Order: Carnivora, 1 family, 140 species

Carnivores are characterized by their sharp teeth and claws. They are found in every habitat on Earth, from the deepest oceans to the highest mountains.

Rabbits, Pika, and Squirrels

Order: Lagomorpha, 1 family, 100 species

Rabbits, pikas, and squirrels are characterized by their long ears and tails. They are found in temperate and subarctic regions of North America, Europe, and Asia.

Rodents

Order: Rodentia, 1 family, 2,000 species

Rodents are the most diverse group of mammals. They are characterized by their large incisors and are found in every habitat on Earth.

Odd-toed Ungulates

Order: Perissodactyla, 1 family, 10 species

Odd-toed ungulates are characterized by their three-toed hooves. They are found in temperate and subarctic regions of North America, Europe, and Asia.

Even-toed Ungulates

Order: Artiodactyla, 1 family, 200 species

Even-toed ungulates are characterized by their four-toed hooves. They are found in every habitat on Earth.

Ungulates

Order: Artiodactyla, 1 family, 200 species

Ungulates are characterized by their hooves. They are found in every habitat on Earth.

Aardvark

Order: Pilosa, 1 family, 1 species

The armadillo is a large, armored mammal. It is found in Central and South America.

Bats

Order: Chiroptera, 1 family, 100 species

Bats are the only mammals that can fly. They are found in every habitat on Earth.

Shrews, Armadillos & Anteaters

Order: Soricomorpha, 1 family, 200 species

Shrews, armadillos, and anteaters are characterized by their unique adaptations. They are found in every habitat on Earth.

Pangolins

Order: Pholidota, 1 family, 1 species

The pangolin is a large, armored mammal. It is found in South and Central Asia.

Seals, Sea Lions and Walrus

Order: Pinnipedia, 1 family, 10 species

Seals, sea lions, and walrus are characterized by their flippers. They are found in temperate and subarctic regions of North America, Europe, and Asia.

Whales, Dolphins and Porpoises

Order: Cetacea, 1 family, 100 species

Whales, dolphins, and porpoises are the largest group of mammals. They are found in every habitat on Earth.

Sea Cows

Order: Sirenia, 1 family, 2 species

Sea cows are large, herbivorous mammals. They are found in tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, Asia, and South America.