

Lifetime

THE AMAZING NUMBERS IN ANIMAL LIVES

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Animals, Lifespans, Numbers, Nature

Book Brief: From 1 spider to 1,000 seahorses, the author uses clues from animals' lives to come up with amazing facts and figures you wouldn't normally find in a book or on the internet.

Author:

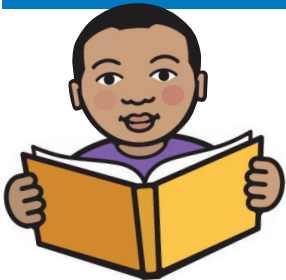
Lola M. Schaefer

Illustrator:

Christopher Silas Neal



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, make predictions: What does the word “lifetime” mean? Which animals do you think the author will write about? Does the cover illustration give you any clues?

While reading, make inferences: Without looking in the back of the book, can you guess how long

each animal’s lifetime might be based on the numbers given?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Which animal number surprised you the most? Explain.
- ◆ Which animal is most familiar to you?
- ◆ Where have you seen this animal?
- ◆ What other animal would you like to have seen included in the book? Why?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

SPIDER SNACKS

Ingredients: round crackers, peanut butter, pretzel sticks, raisins

Spread peanut butter on one cracker. Break 4 pretzel sticks in half and place on top of peanut butter for the spider’s legs. Spread a little more peanut butter on a second cracker and place on top of first. Use peanut butter as “glue” to attach raisins on top for the spider’s eyes. What will be the average lifetime of your spider? (Cream cheese can be substituted for peanut butter in case of allergy.)

ANIMAL ACTIONS

Choose an animal in your home or one that you can observe regularly in your yard. What are some of the activities you notice? Which activities do you think

you could find an average for? Observe your animal around the same time every day for a week. Make a chart to show the number of times the animal performed the specific activity. At the end of the week, find the average number of times the activity took place by adding up the total number of times and dividing by 7.

AN AVERAGE PICTURE

Materials: paper; crayons, markers, or paint

Research your favorite animal and come up with an “average” number for something the animal does. Like the illustrator does in the book, draw a picture that represents the animal and shows how many times the animal performs the action.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT NUMBERS

Dog Loves Counting, Louise Yates (2013)

Just a Second, Steve Jenkins (2011)

Math-terpieces, Greg Tang (2003)



Reading Is
Fundamental