

Animal communication

Worksheet 1 - teacher's notes

1. Match the noises on the left with the animals that make them on the right¹.

NOISE	ANIMAL
1. croak	a. bee
2. squeak	b. donkey
3. howl	c. wolf
4. quack	d. snake
5. buzz	e. cat
6. grunt	f. sheep / goat
7. hiss	g. duck
8. neigh	h. lion / tiger
9. bray	i. mouse
10. bleat	j. dog
11. crow	k. pig
12. roar	l. cock(erel)
13. bark	m. horse
14. miaow / purr	n. frog

1n), 2i), 3c), 4g), 5a), 6k), 7d), 8m), 9b), 10f), 11l), 12h), 13j), 14e)

2. Animals communicate different information through acoustic or visual communication. Can you think of any examples of animal communication you have witnessed?

Go to

<http://www.ypte.org.uk/environmental/communication-in-animals/19>

<http://www.nhptv.org/natureworks/nwep3.htm> read and make note on four main types of animal communication (chart page 2).

3. One of the greatest examples of animal communication is bee dance. Go to <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/weirdest-bees-dance> and watch a short film.

students' individual work

1 taken from Check Your Vocabulary for FCE+, Rawdon Wyatt, Bloomsbury, p.19

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4. Go to <http://www.nhptv.org/natureworks/quiz3.htm> and check your knowlegde on animal communication.

students' individual work

exercise 2 chart

Type of communication	Characteristics and examples
<p>Scent</p> <p>Olfactory communication</p> <p>Chemical communication</p>	<p>Many animals use chemical communication or pheromones to communicate. They may leave their scent to mark territory or attract mates. They often use smell to find prey and identify other animals.</p> <p>Have you ever seen a house cat rubbing its head up against someone? It is marking its territory! Domestic cats have scent glands near their mouths, on their foreheads and at the base of their tails. They use these glands to mark territory. When other cats smell the scent they know that another cat has marked its territory. Male domestic cats will mark their mating territory by urinating. The next time you see a cat rubbing up against something, you'll know that it is claiming it as its property!</p> <p>Snakes use their forked tongues to "taste" or collect pheromones of prey animals that are in the air. They have receptors in the roof of their mouths that help them taste and smell the pheromones.</p>
<p>Sound</p> <p>Auditory communication</p>	<p>Animals make lots of different sounds to communicate. From the roar of a lion to the song of the whale, sound is a way for animals to "talk" to other animals.</p> <p>Male American alligators use a combination of sounds and displays to get the attention of females when they want to mate. An alligator roars, slaps his head against the water, taps the nose of the female, nudges her, and shoves up against her to get her attention.</p> <p>The bottlenose dolphin has a wide range of vocalizations. Some scientists think they have a language. Scientists are working to see if humans can communicate with dolphins. Each dolphin also has its own unique whistling sound that it uses to identify itself. Dolphins use sound or echolocation to locate food. They have sacs in their foreheads that they use to make clicking sounds. The sounds travel through the water and when they hit something, bounce back to the dolphin.</p>
<p>Sight</p> <p>Visual communication</p>	<p>There are two types of visual communication. Badges are the color and shape of the animal. They are structural adaptations. Displays are the second type of visual communication. They are the things animals do to communicate. Displays are behavioral adaptations.</p> <p>The male white-tailed deer has antlers. The size of the antlers is a badge that can tell another male deer how powerful the other deer is. The larger the antlers, the more powerful the deer!</p> <p>put their tails between their legs and lie on their backs to show submission to another wolf or dog and to let them know they are not a threat. When wolves (and dogs) want to show dominance they stare at each other, raise their fur and bare their teeth. This lets the other wolf or dog know that they want to be the top, or dominant, animal.</p>

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<p>Touch</p> <p>Tactile communication</p>	<p>Tactile communication, or touch, is an important form of communication for many animals. Mother tigers lick and nuzzle their babies, chimpanzees groom each other, and bear cubs wrestle with each other. Touch is used to comfort, to establish dominance and to establish bonds.</p> <p>Touch is very important in many primate species. Primates are social animals. They live in large groups. Touch helps the group form bonds and stay peaceful! Primates often groom each other. Female primates often hold and frequently cuddle and comfort their young.</p> <p>Apes and monkeys will also hug and 'kiss' on meeting, although in certain species of monkey the visiting or newly arrived monkey will place its hand in the mouth of the monkey it is greeting. After a few moments the hand is withdrawn and the other monkey will place its hand in the mouth of the visitor. This appears to be a sign of trust and goodwill between monkeys.</p> <p>Big cats tend to nuzzle each other, as do rhinos and many other animals. Elephants too use touch as a means of close communication - interlinking trunks.</p>
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students' answers may vary