



Comparing Domestic and Wild Animals, Lesson Plan

A. Slides: *San Francisco Bay Area Rabbits and Hares, Comparing Domestic and Wild Animals*

- Slides 2-7– Present, point out differences between domestic and wild animals.
- Slides 9-15– Discuss species of wild rabbits and hares, watch short videos of desert cottontail rabbits.
- Slides 17-21– Interactive: identify adaptations that help wild animals survive.
- Slides 22-26– How can we help wildlife?

B. Reading: Domestication

- NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, Education, [Article Link](#), GRADES 5 - 12+

C. Worksheet: Students use reading and information from slides to review main points.

Domestication is the process of adapting wild plants and animals for human use.

- Domestic species are raised for food, work, clothing, medicine, and many other uses.
- Domesticated plants and animals must be raised and cared for by humans.
- Domesticated species are not wild.

Ox Cart in India

Oxen (*Bos taurus*), like this one, were one of the first animals to be domesticated. Oxen are very strong, healthy animals that are used for agriculture, industry, and, occasionally, transportation. Here, an ox cart pulls a man in Secunderabad, India.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PADMANABHAN RAMCHANDER, MY SHOT



Canine Carnival

A dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*) wears a costume during Carnival celebrations in Venice, Italy. Dogs were originally domesticated to assist people in hunting. There are hundreds of domestic dog species today, but most are pets.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JODI COBB

VOCABULARY, Reading: Domestication

Adapt (*Verb*) to adjust to new surroundings or a new situation.

Agriculture (*Noun*) the art and science of cultivating land for growing crops (farming) or raising livestock (ranching).

Ancestor (*Noun*) organism from whom one is descended.

Animal (*Noun*) organisms that have a well-defined shape and limited growth, can move voluntarily, acquire food and digest it internally, and can respond rapidly to stimuli.

Barley (*Noun*) grass cultivated as a grain.

Beast of burden (*Noun*) animal used for carrying or pulling heavy loads.

Break (*Verb*) to tame a horse, or make it comfortable with a saddle and rider.

Breed (*Verb*) to produce offspring.

Chicken (*Noun*) domestic bird cultivated for meat, eggs, and feathers.

Civilization (*Noun*) complex way of life that developed as humans began to develop urban settlements.

Climate (*Noun*) all weather conditions for a given location over a period of time.

Cotton (*Noun*) cloth made from fibers of the cotton plant.

Dog (*Noun*) domestic animal related to the wolf.

Domestication (*Noun*) the process of adapting wild plants or animals for human use.

Fiber (*Noun*) long, thin, threadlike material produced by plants that aids digestive motion when consumed.

Graze (*Verb*) to feed on grass, usually over a wide pasture.

Grey wolf (*Noun*) mammal related to the dog.

Harvest (*Noun*) the gathering and collection of crops, including both plants and animals.

Herbivore (*Noun*) organism that eats mainly plants and other producers.

Hide (*Noun*) leather skin of an animal.

Horse (*Noun*) type of domesticated mammal used for riding and hauling.

Lentil (*Noun*) plant with small, flat seeds, native to Asia.

Mesopotamia (*Noun*) ancient region between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, today lying mostly in Iraq.

Ornamental (*Adjective*) decorative or presented for beauty.

Pea (*Noun*) plant with a pod bearing small, round seeds.

Plow (*Noun, Verb*) tool used for cutting, lifting, and turning the soil in preparation for planting.

Population density (*Noun*) the number of people living in a set area, such as a square mile.

Process (*Noun*) natural or human actions that create and change the Earth's features.

Rice (*Noun*) grass cultivated for its seeds.

Sheep (*Noun*) type of mammal with thick, strong wool used for cloth.

Shelter (*Noun*) structure that protects people or other organisms from weather and other dangers.

Stable 1. (*Adjective*) steady and reliable. 2. (*Noun*) building where horses or other animals are kept.

Tame (*Verb*) to domesticate or make useful for humans.

Temperament (*Noun*) traits or personality of an individual.

Trait (*Noun*) characteristic or aspect.

Tulip (*Noun*) colorful, cup-shaped flower native to Asia.

Village (*Noun*) small human settlement usually found in a rural setting.

Wheat (*Noun*) most widely grown cereal in the world.

Wild (*Adjective*) living in nature, not tame.