

Carnivores vs herbivores

Some animals feed on plants, while others are meat-eaters; which means they hunt and eat other animals. You're going to watch a video and find out how some animals escape being eaten. But first...

Task 1: Before you watch

Can you put the animals below into the correct category in the table?

Lion *Gazelle* *Antelope* *Zebra* *Buffalo* *Wolf* *Cheetah*
Koala *North-American Pronghorn* *Baboon*

<i>Carnivores</i>	<i>Herbivores</i>



By Gary (A lot of them) [\[CC-BY-2.0\]](#), via Wikimedia Commons

Task 2: Useful terms

A. Match the terms in A to the definitions in B

A	B
carnivore	An animal that kills and eats other animals
herbivore	a large group of animals that live and eat together
herd	an animal that eats meat
predator	two hard pointed growths on the heads of some animals, for example cows or goats
prey	an animal that eat only plants
hoof (plural hooves)	an animal that is killed for food by another animal
horns	the hard part on the bottom of some animals' feet, for example, horses.

A. Now complete the gaps with the above terms:

A _____(1) is any animal that hunts and eats other animals, which are called the _____(2). Generally, _____(3) are predators and _____(4) are prey. To be successful hunters, predators need to be able to see, smell or hear their prey. To avoid being eaten, the prey have to run fast or defend themselves by using their _____(5) or kicking with their _____(6). Predators are very important in the balance of nature, usually hunting only the sick or weak members of a _____(7). This leaves the strong and healthy animals to reproduce.

Adapted from *Discover Africa* <http://www.calacademy.org/exhibits/africa/discover/nathistory/predator.htm>

Task 3: Never-ending battle on the plains

Read the facts below and decide whether they are true or false.

- a) Animals gathering in herds have a lower chance of escaping predators
- b) The cheetah is the fastest running animal in the world
- c) Zebras can put their heads down to feed and adjust their eyes to watch for carnivores at the same time
- d) Carnivores run on tiptoes (=with just their toes touching the ground and the rest of the foot in the air)
- e) Gazelles have eyes on the sides of their heads and cannot see forward
- f) Antelopes' ears can turn in different directions to watch out for predators while they are feeding
- g) Many herbivores use hooves and horns to defend against predators
- h) Koalas sometimes sleep for up to 18 hours a day

Now watch the video. Which of the above facts are mentioned? Correct the ones that are false. Watch again to check your answers.

Task 4: Discussion

- Which fact mentioned in the video surprised you most?
- In the pre-task you had to classify animals into two groups: carnivores and herbivores. Can you think of other ways of classifying animals?
- Do you think humans are carnivores or herbivores by nature?

Task 5

Verbs starting with **out-**

In the video you heard “Herbivores manage to **out-manoeuvre** their enemies more often than you can suppose” meaning they were more skilful than their enemies.

Complete the sentences below with other verbs with the prefix **out** paying attention to the tense.

outweigh

outsmart

outnumber

outperform

1. In the story, the wolf is stronger, but the fox manages to _____ him.
2. All things considered, the advantages clearly _____ the possible disadvantages.
3. In our class, the girls _____ the boys.
4. Last year Toyota _____ other Japanese cars.

What do the meanings of all the above verbs have in common?



By Paul Brink (Hunting scene with gazelle and cheetah) [\[CC-BY-2.0\]](#) via Wikimedia Commons