



MACMILLAN DICTIONARY

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animal - definition ★★★



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NOUN [COUNTABLE] Pronunciation /'ænim(ə)l/

Word Forms

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Other entries for this word

Synonyms

- 1 BIOLOGY any living thing that can move independently and that has senses for recognizing and reacting to the environment around it. Animals are divided into two groups, **vertebrates** and **invertebrates**. *Amphibious animals such as frogs and toads live mainly on land, but develop into adults in water.*

Synonyms and related words

General animal types: *adult, amphibian, animal...*

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- a. any living thing that is not a human, a plant, an insect, a bird, or a fish

lions, tigers, and other wild animals
He is accused of cruelty to animals.

Synonyms and related words

General words for living things: *animal, creature, organism...*

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- b. any living creature, including humans

Man is the only animal that uses language.

Synonyms and related words

General words for living things: *animal, creature, organism...*

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- 2 INFORMAL someone who behaves in a very violent, cruel, or rude way
That man is an animal!

■ Synonyms and related words

People who are cruel and unkind: *monster, savage, beast...*

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- 3 INFORMAL used when you are talking about the particular type of person someone is, for example what they enjoy doing
I know how to deal with James, but Michael is a different animal.
a political/social animal

■ Synonyms and related words

Words for people according to what they enjoy:
aesthete, a good/bad mixer, amateur...

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See also → party animal

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STEAM

science, technology, engineering, art and maths: an educational approach that

Open Dictionary

the Hawthorne effect

an effect observed in science, where study participants alter their behaviour

integrates art and design with the sciences and technical subjects

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because they know they are being observed

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