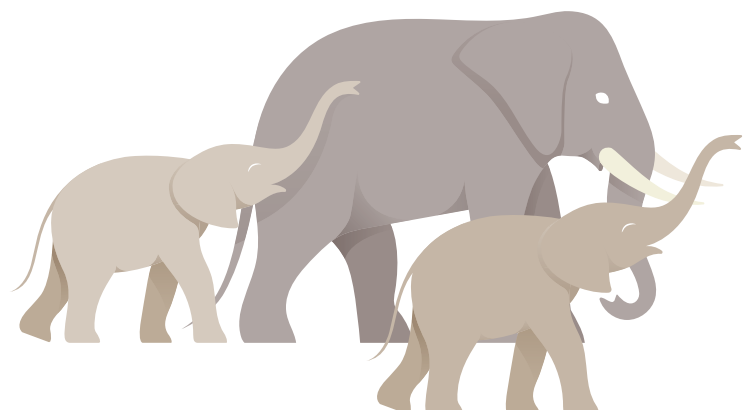


# Collective Nouns for Animals

Collective nouns are words that we use to describe **a group of people, animals or things**, when referring to them as **one singular thing**. For example, a football team is made up of many players, but we would say that the team **'is** moving up in the league' (referring to the team as third person singular, 'it', rather than plural 'they are...'.)

Collective Noun	Animals
<i>A pack of...</i>	wolves, dogs
<i>A herd of...</i>	cows, bison, goats, elephants
<i>A flock of...</i>	sheep, birds, geese (flying)
<i>A swarm of...</i>	bees, flying insects
<i>A pride of...</i>	lions
<i>A gaggle of...</i>	geese (walking)
<i>A school of...</i>	fish
<i>A murder of...</i>	crows
<i>A pod of...</i>	dolphins, whales
<i>A colony/An army of...</i>	frogs, ants
<i>A streak of...</i>	tigers
<i>A parliament of...</i>	owls



# Verbs to describe animal noises



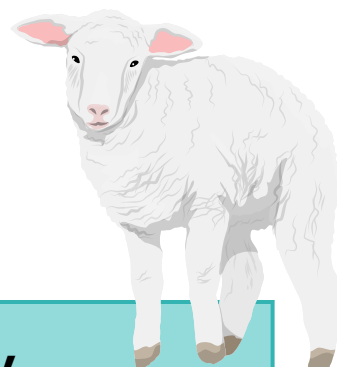
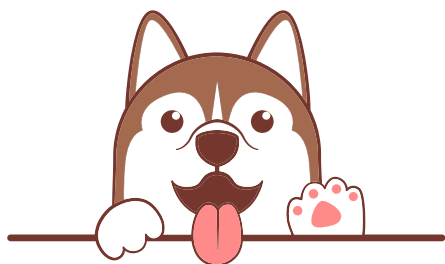
Some of the first verbs we learn to talk about animal noises are '**meow**' for cats, or '**bark**' for dog. Read the following paragraph and note all of the verbs describing animal noises.

When a cat is very happy, they may **purr**. However, if they feel threatened or angry, for example when protecting their territory, they may show their teeth and **hiss**. Dogs often **bark**, or '**woof**' when someone rings the doorbell in your house. If a dog is being aggressive they may **growl**, **snarl** or even **snap**. When an animal is in pain, they may let out a soft cry known as a **whimper**. In gothic or horror stories, wolves or werewolves famously **howl** at the moon. In the countryside, you can hear cows **mooring**, horses **neighing**, or perhaps **whinnying** if they feel happy. The sheep **baa** or **bleat**, and the pigs **oink** or **grunt**. Chickens **cluck** and ducks **quack**. At night, you may hear a barn owl **cooing** or **hooting**. In the jungle, lions and tigers **roar**, parrots and other birds **squawk**, and frogs **croak** or **ribbit**. **Trumpeting** is the verb for the sound elephants make and bees, flies and other flying insects make a **buzzing** sound.

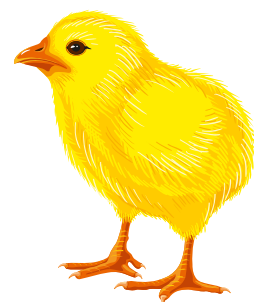


**Top Tip:** We recommend noting down these verbs and their animals on flashcards and reviewing them regularly. You can also add pictures of the animals.

# Baby Animals



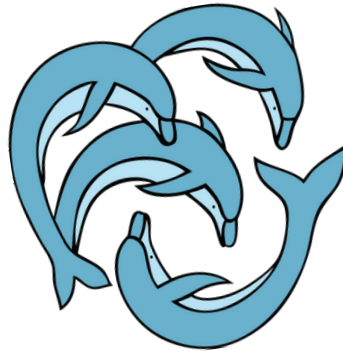
Animal	Baby
Dog	Puppy
Cat	Kitten
Horse, Zebra	Foal
Cow, Elephant, Dolphin	Calf
Pig	Piglet
Chicken	Chick
Goat	Kid
Duck	Duckling
Sheep	Lamb
Goose	Gosling
Tiger, Lion, Bear	Cub
Owl	Owlet
Swan	Cygnet
Eagle	Eaglet
Kangaroo	Joey
Shark, Seal	Pup
Deer	Fawn



**Practice  
activity  
one**

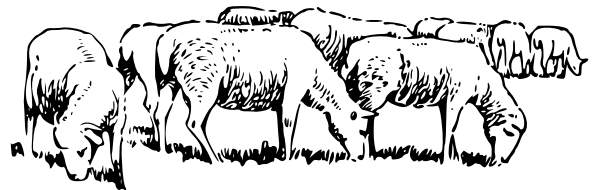
Match the collective noun to the correct picture.

A pack of...



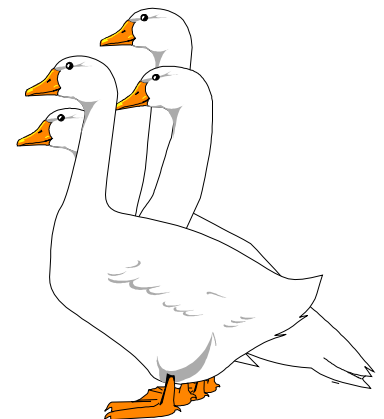
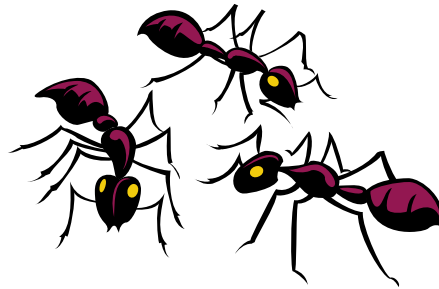
A herd of...

A pod of...



A gaggle of...

A pride of...



An army of...



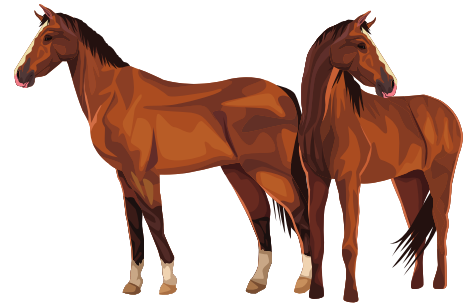
**Answers**

A pack of wolves, a herd of sheep, a pod of dolphins, a gaggle of geese, a pride of lions, an army of ants.

**Practice  
activity  
two**

Fill in the sentences below with an appropriate verb from page 2. Follow the example.

Example: The dog **barked** at the door when the postman arrived.



1. When we threw the bird seed into the lake, the ducks started .....
2. Out camping in the woods, we heard a barn owl .....
3. The horses were ..... in the sunshine.
4. As we walked through the field of sheep, they ..... at us.
5. The two lions ..... at each other.
6. A man tried to rob my phone when I was out running yesterday by my dog defended me by ..... and ..... at him.
7. The cat ..... happily as he sat on his owner's lap in the sunshine.
8. The little elephant ..... loudly as he played in the mud.



**Answers**

1. Quacking, 2. Cooing/Hooting, 3. Whinnying/Neighing, 4. Baaed/Bleated, 5. Roared, 6. Growling/Snapping/Snapping/Barking, 7. Purred, 8. Trumpeted.

**Practice  
activity  
three**

**Match the baby animal with the correct vocabulary word.**

cub

kitten

duckling

calf

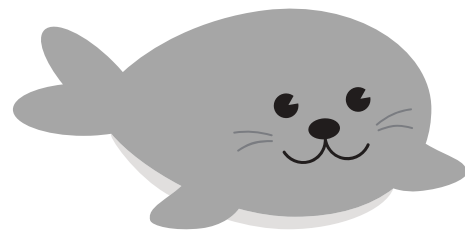
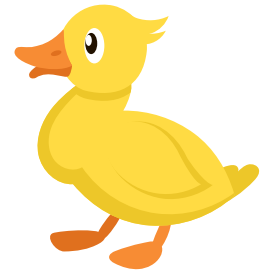
foal

pup

lamb

piglet

chick



**Answers**

cub - baby bear, kitten - baby cat, duckling - baby duck, calf - baby cow, foal - baby zebra, pup - seal, lamb - baby sheep, piglet - baby pig, chick - baby chicken.