

## BOOK STATS

Grade Level Equivalent: K–3

Ages: 5+

Lexile Measure®: 640L

Pages: 32

Guided Reading Level: K

Genre: Informational

Subject/Theme: Animal Growth, Life Cycles

Common Core State Standards	Reading	Writing	Listening & Speaking	Language
Grade K	RI.K.1, RI.K.3, RI.K.4	W.K.1	SL.K.1	L.K.4
Grade 1	RI.1.1, RI.1.3, RI.1.4, RI.1.7	W.1.1	SL.1.1	L.1.4
Grade 2	RI.2.1, RI.2.3, RI.2.4, RI.2.7	W.2.1	SL.2.1	L.2.4
Grade 3	RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.7	W.3.1	SL.3.1	L.3.4

## Teaching the Book

*See Me Grow* is a bright and engaging first information book about life cycles, specially designed for students learning to read. The book is packed with fascinating facts and photos that provide an opportunity to teach students how to connect the steps in a baby animal's growth. Activities engage students in graphing baby animal births, comparing a video with text, and writing about their favorite animal in the book.

**Theme Focus:** Animal Growth

**Comprehension Focus:** Connecting Information

**Language Focus:** Science Concept Words

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Penny Arlon is an author who writes children's non-fiction, taking inspiration from her own children. Her books range from pre-school to family reference, and include the Art Attack books, based on the award-winning CITV children's television program, and all 14 titles in Dorling Kindersley's Eye Know series. She has also written other books in the Scholastic Discover More series including *Bugs*, *Penguins*, *Planets*, and *Dinosaurs*.

## OVERVIEW

### Book Summary

What animal babies hatch out of eggs? What animal babies grow inside their mother's tummies? How do animals grow and change after they're born? *See Me Grow* answers these questions and many more for inquiring young readers.

The book's simple text and detailed photographs present all kinds of animals growing up from baby to adult. Every animal group is covered—both mammals and egg-layers. Readers learn about recognizable animals, such as puppies and horses, as well as more unusual animals, like baby alligators and baby bees. Unconventional life cycles such as tadpole to frog and caterpillar to butterfly are also featured.

The book's bright photographs and different levels of text make it accessible to beginning readers of different ages and skills and will prompt curious questions about the world of animal babies and life cycles.

# Get Ready to Read

## Pre-Reading Activities

**Which is Which?** Engage students' interest and build background knowledge by asking them the following quiz questions. Write each question on the whiteboard or chart paper, and include the answer choices. After discussing the answer with students, circle the correct choice.

1. Which is a bird? Which is a robin or a butterfly?
2. Which is an insect? Which is a frog or a bee?
3. Which is a fish? Which is a whale or a shark?
4. Which lays eggs? Which is a human or an alligator?
5. Which lives in its mother's pouch? Which is a kangaroo or a horse?

Ask students which of these animals hatch from eggs (*robin, butterfly, frog, bee, shark, alligator*). Ask them which animals grow inside their mother's tummies and are born live (*whale, human, kangaroo, horse*).

**Preview and Predict** Show students the cover of *See Me Grow*. Ask them to read the title and to name the animals on the cover. Then spend time with students on page 2, going over the explanation of how the book works. Point out the different types of text and photographs in the book and the kinds of information they provide.



## BIG QUESTION

**Critical Thinking** Ask students to think about this question as they read and to be ready to answer it when they have finished the book. Write the question on chart paper or have students write it in their reading journals.

**How are animal babies alike and different from one another?**

## STORIA ENRICHMENTS

To assess and enhance students' comprehension, this Storia e-book contains a Reading Challenge Quiz, as well as the following enrichments:

- Picture Starter
- Video (3)
- Sequencing
- Touch the Page
- Scratch & See
- Jigsaw Puzzle
- Memory Match
- Multiple Choice With Pictures

## Vocabulary

**Science Concept Words** Introduce students to the words below that describe important animal groups. Project pages 4–5 of *See Me Grow* for them to see examples of each kind of animal. Then project the glossary on pages 30–31 that defines the words.

Distribute copies of **Resource #1: Vocabulary Cards** on page 7 and ask students to watch for the words as they read and write down examples of each.

insects	fish
amphibians	reptiles
birds	mammals

## As You Read

### Reading the Book

**Read-Aloud** Read the book aloud with students following along with their eyes on the text. If possible, project the book onto a whiteboard or screen. Direct students' attention to the photographs or illustrations. Help them make connections between the text and the pictures that relate to it.

**Shared Reading** Reread the book, taking more time to focus on photo captions, picture sequences, and other illustrations. Ask students to read their copies of the book silently with you; or, if they are able, encourage them to read the text aloud with you.

### Comprehension Focus

**Connecting Information** Remind students that the book is organized into two-page spreads about dif-

ferent kinds of baby animals. On each spread there is a step-by-step description of how the baby animal grows. Each step is important and connected to the one before or after it. Tell students that you are going to take a closer look at the connections between this information.

Begin by projecting pages 10–11, “A Frog’s Life,” on a whiteboard or screen. Read the text on both pages aloud. Then model how to connect the key details on the pages, pointing to the steps of the frog life cycle.

**Model:** On page 11, there are arrows and circles that show how baby frogs grow up. I’ll start with the photo of the frog eggs in the water. What happens next? The eggs hatch into tadpoles in the water. I can see the tadpoles in the picture—they have little tails and look like funny fish. What happens next? The tadpoles grow legs and lose their tails. In the bottom picture, I can see that they don’t look so much like fish anymore. What’s next? The tadpoles turn into frogs that can live both on land and in water. That’s amazing!

Use **Resource #2: Connecting Information** on page 9 to help students practice connecting key details in the text. Pass out copies of the page and guide students to reread pages 18–19, “Bee grubs,” and fill in the organizer.

## After You Read

### Questions to Discuss

Lead students in a discussion of these focus story elements.

**1. Animal Growth** Compare how a baby horse, or foal, is different from a human baby. How long does it take a foal to walk? How long does it take a human baby? (*Sample answers: A foal can walk minutes after it is born; a human baby doesn’t walk for about a year.*)

**2. Connecting Information** Describe the steps that a butterfly baby goes through to become an adult. What hatches out of the egg? What does the caterpillar cover itself with? What comes out of the caterpillar’s cocoon? (*Sample answers: A caterpillar hatches*

*out of the egg. It covers itself with a cocoon. A butterfly comes out of the cocoon.*)

**3. Science Concept Words** What kind of birds do you see in your neighborhood? Where do they build their nests and raise their young? (*Answers will vary.*)

### Questions to Share

Encourage students to share their responses with a partner or small group.

**1. Text-to-Self** What is the most amazing or surprising fact that you learned about how animal babies grow and change?

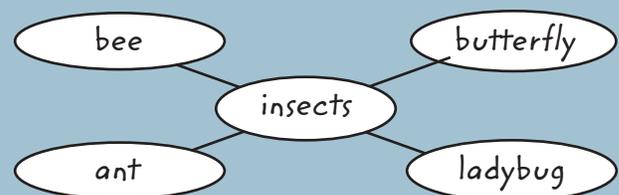
**2. Text-to-World** When have you seen an animal baby grow? Was it a human baby? Was it a pet? How did the baby change as it grew?

**3. Text-to-Text** What other books have you read about animal babies? Were they information books like this one? Or were they make-believe stories? Which kinds of books do you like best?

## WORDS TO KNOW

### Science Concept Words

Share with students the vocabulary words from Resource #2 and explain that each one is a category word to help us classify animals. Create a concept web with your students by asking a volunteer to write one of the vocabulary words on the whiteboard or chart paper and then circle it. Read aloud the definition of the word from the glossary on pages 30–31. Then ask students to name animals from the book that fit into that category. Ask students to write down correct answers around the word; for example, insects: bees, butterflies, ant, ladybug.



Continue creating concept webs for all the vocabulary words.

## Extension Activities

### Reading/Writing Connection

**My Favorite Animal Baby** Ask students to choose the baby animal in the book that they think is the cutest or most interesting. Then help them write a short opinion piece about why that animal is their favorite. Provide students with the following story frame to name their favorite animal, give reasons why it is their favorite, and write a concluding sentence.

My favorite baby animal in the book is \_\_\_\_\_.

One reason it is my favorite is \_\_\_\_\_.

Another reason is \_\_\_\_\_.

I wish I could see a real baby \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ where it lives.

Don't forget the



### BIG QUESTION

**Critical Thinking** Give each student an opportunity to answer the big question. Encourage students to support their answers with details and evidence from the text. Tell students there is more than one right answer.

**How are animal babies alike and different from one another?**

## Content Area Connections

**Math Ranking Number of Babies** Ask students to make a graph showing the number of babies that various animals have at one time. Show them how to make a graph with the animal names on the vertical axis and the number of babies on the horizontal axis. In addition to the information in the book, show students websites that list mammals by number of babies per birth, such as the Classora website at [bit.ly/XWJWQV](http://bit.ly/XWJWQV).

**Science Tadpole to Frog** Show students the short video of the life cycle of a frog from the National Geographic website at <http://bit.ly/105s4F8>. Ask students what the video shows about how an egg turns into a tadpole and then turns into a frog. How was the video different from the pictures in the book?

**Social Studies Kangaroos** On a map or on Google Earth, show students the continent of Australia. Explain that many animals live on Australia and nowhere else. The red kangaroo and koala bear are two of them. Show students

a film of kangaroos in their natural habitat such as this one from Britannica Kids on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/VtBG5F>.

**Science Puppies** The book features a bulldog and its puppies to show how baby dogs grow. On pages 30–31, the photo shows a line-up of other puppies. Challenge students to identify each kind of puppy in the row. They may recognize the dogs or they can do Internet research to find pictures and names for the puppies. Encourage students to find images of other puppies, especially for dogs that are their pets.

### BIG ACTIVITY

**See Me Grow** Make copies of the printable **Big Activity: See Me Grow** and distribute to students. Explain that the page lists growth milestones for human babies. Have them take the printable home to fill out with their parents or caregivers. Students will learn more about themselves and also about how human babies grow and change.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **BIG ACTIVITY: See Me Grow**

Ask your parents to help you fill in when you reached each growth milestone..

### **Growth Chart for \_\_\_\_\_**

<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
<b>Got first tooth</b>	
<b>Crawled</b>	
<b>Walked</b>	
<b>Talked</b>	
<b>Tied Shoes</b>	
<b>Lost First Tooth</b>	
<b>Read</b>	

# READ MORE AND LEARN MORE

Use these books and other resources to expand your students' study of the book or theme.

## Theme Connections



### Caterpillars on the Move

Abby Klein

Ages: 5–7

Lexile Measure: 300L

Guided Reading Level: L

Grades: K–2

Pages: 32

Ms. Washy's first-grade class is in for a real treat when she surprises them with a box of caterpillars. Too bad these class pets won't stay for long. Ms. Washy promises that after two weeks they will change into something else. The caterpillars get big and fat, and then they all vanish inside little green pods. What comes next will be a colorful surprise!

Available as a Storia e-book



### Amazing Animal Journeys

Laura Marsh

Ages: 5–7

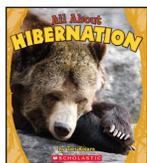
Lexile Level: 810L

Grades: K–2

Pages: 48

This National Geographic reader follows the journeys of three different animals on their amazing migrations. Each year, 30,000 zebras make a 360-mile trip across Africa. Christmas Island red crabs travel to new waters to have thousands of babies. And walrus mate under ocean ice. With stunning, colorful photos and surprising animal facts, this book is a great pick for young nature lovers.

Available as a Storia e-book



### All About Hibernation

Tori Kosara

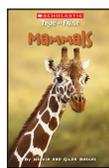
Ages: 4–7

Lexile Level: AD880L

Grades: PreK–2

Pages: 32

What kinds of animals hibernate? What do they do to prepare for hibernation? This super-smart science reader includes thought-provoking prompts and amazing close-up photos. Science facts and vocabulary give kids what they need to talk like experts about the amazing natural process of hibernation. Available as a Storia e-book



### Scholastic True or False #11: Mammals

Melvin Berger

Ages: 5–8

Lexile Level: 820L

Grades: K–2

Pages: 48

Do all mammals live on land? Do they lay eggs? Can any mammals fly? Featuring 22 true-or-false statements and a fun question-and-answer format, the text in this motivating book is complemented with dazzling full-color photographs on every page. Every answer page also includes a cool bonus fact! Available as a Storia e-book



### National Geographic Readers: Safari

Gail Tuchman

Ages: 6–8

Lexile Measure: 200L

Grades: 1–2

Pages: 24

With elephants, rhinos, giraffes, and so much more, the savanna is a wild and wonderful place—and young readers can see it all by following along on a safari! Detailed, full-page photos show animals grazing, hunting, swimming, and taking breaks to play. There is also an elephant dance for beginning readers to learn, putting them right in the center of the action as they swing their imaginary trunks. Available as a Storia e-book



### Smart Words Science Reader #22: Fish

Ages: 6–9

Grades: 1–3

Pages: 32

Fish are amazing animals, and this unique book uses simple text, cool graphics, and color photos to explain their anatomy, habitats, reproduction, and diet. The book focuses on “smart words,” highlighting challenging terms like estuary and ectoderm. It offers definitions and uses the words in context, helping to bring home their meaning and usage. Available as a Storia e-book



### Scholastic True or False #12: Amphibians

Melvin Berger

Ages: 5–7

Lexile Measure: 790L

Guided Reading Level: N

Grades: K–2

Pages: 48

Some of the most unusual animals on our planet have not one home, but two! That's the case for the amphibians in this book, from familiar ones like frogs and salamanders, to less familiar ones like mudpuppies and caecilians. Readers will learn what time of year salamanders are most likely to be seen, where most caecilians can be found, and what people can do to protect amphibians. Available as a Storia e-book

To find PDF versions of the Storia teacher guides and links to purchase the related books, visit:  
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/ereading-resources/>

**insects**

**fish**

**amphibians**

**reptiles**

**birds**

**mammals**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## RESOURCE #2: Connecting Information

Reread "Bee grubs" on pages 18–19. Then use the space provided to explain what happens in each step pictured below.

### STEP 1



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### STEP 2



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### STEP 3



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### STEP 4



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