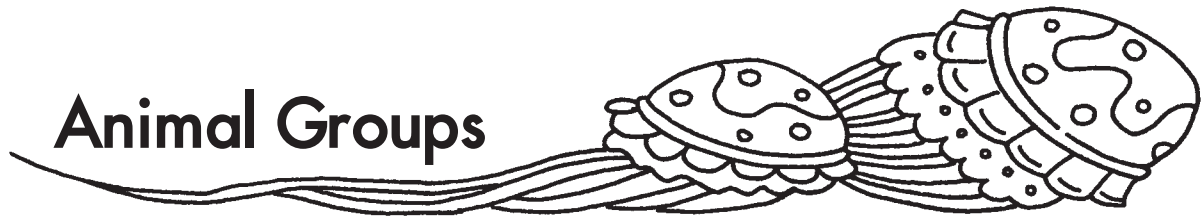


Animal Groups



You may have heard of a herd of cows. But did you know that almost every animal has a group name?

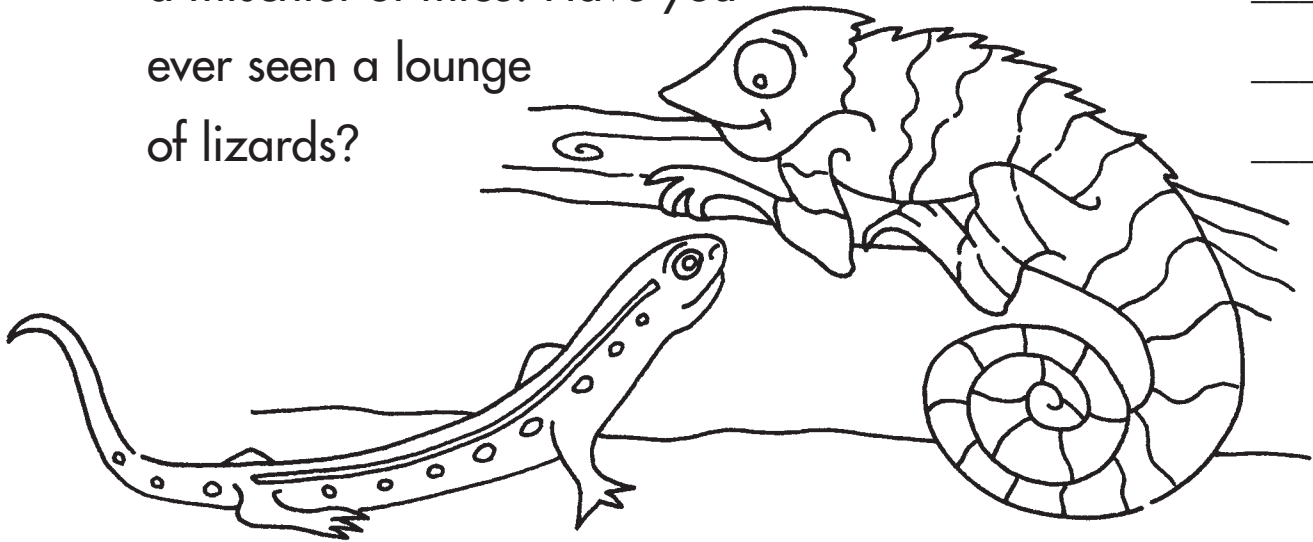
Some of the names might make you think of the animal, like a quiver of cobras. Some sound plain silly, like a smack of jellyfish.

Groups of fish are called schools. But some fish, like herring, swim in shoals. More than one ox makes a span of oxen. A group of geese is called a gaggle.

You can make many wool coats from a drove of sheep. A few deer make up a herd or a leash.

A mouse might join a horde of mice, or maybe a mischief of mice. Have you

ever seen a lounge of lizards?





Flying South



In fall, Canada geese get ready to fly south. During winter, snow hides the grass they like to eat. The geese will fly where it is warm and green.

The geese clean themselves with their bills. They get rid of any dirt and lice or other pests.

The geese take off in a group. They fly in a V-shape. This helps the group slice through the air like an ax.

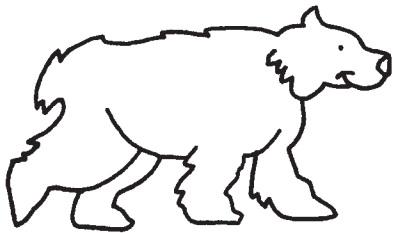
The geese fly over farms and towns. They fly over children playing and men and women working.

They fly over flocks of sheep and herds of cattle and deer. When they

find the place they will stay through the winter, they land on their black feet.

They will eat green grass all winter, until it is time to fly north.





Bears in Yellowstone

Carmen and Andrew visit Yellowstone with their dads. That week, they see deer, geese, two moose calves, and three bighorn sheep. Andrew wants to see bears, but Carmen is terrified of them and their big teeth.

The last day, they ride in a boat on a lake. The men paddle and the children sit in the middle. Carmen spots shapes in the water.

“Bears!” whispers Carmen’s dad. Carmen freezes. The shapes move near shore. A mother and two cubs climb out of the water. The mother stands on her hind feet for a moment. Then they vanish into the woods.



Carmen, Andrew, and their dads are as quiet as mice. Then Carmen realizes that she’s smiling. Seeing bears is almost like magic.

