

3. Answers will vary. Students might answer that the broad range of reproductive methods used by mammals indicates the wide diversity of species within the animal classes.

1. Answers will vary. Students should understand that egg-laying mammals are rare; therefore, the eggs are probably not mammalian.

2. Classifying mammals based on how they reproduce is one of the major methods of forming animal subclasses.

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1. If you found eggs of an unknown species, would you think it likely or unlikely that the eggs are from mammals?
Explain your answer.
2. Why might it be reasonable to determine an animal's group based on how it reproduces?
3. What conclusions can you draw about the diversity of mammals based on the fact that some mammals produce eggs?