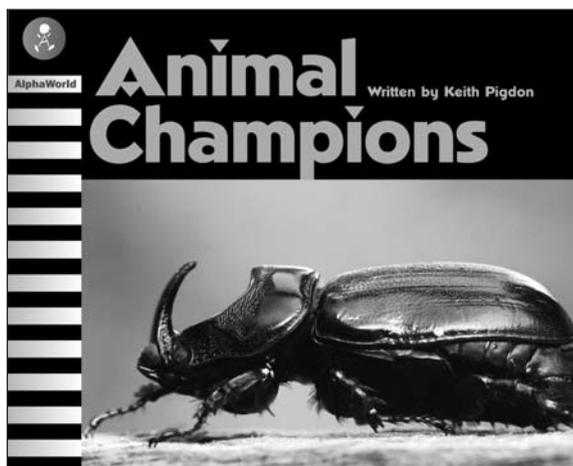


Animal Champions



Topic: Animal Kingdom/Sport

Curriculum link: Natural Science

Text type: Report – compare/contrast

Reading level: 22

Word count: 504

Vocabulary: cat flea, champions, cheetah, hurdler, impala, kilometres, metres, mountain lion, Olympic, pronghorn antelope, rhinoceros beetle, rocket frog, sailfish, sperm whale, spine

Possible literacy focus:

- Making comparisons between animal and human champions.
- Using descriptive language.
- Using a glossary.

Follow-up activities

Summary chart

Ask the children to look at the summary chart on pages 22–23.

What does this summary chart tell us?

Why do you think the author included it?

Provide time for the children to work with a partner to discuss the facts in the summary chart.

Allow time for the children to discuss these questions:

Do you think the summary chart is helpful? Why or why not?

What other information could have been presented like this?

Class championships

Brainstorm with the children a list of events that they could hold for a class championship. These events could include sport, board games, quiz shows or music.

Plan the programme of events and invite parents and friends to attend the championships. Ask the children to plan how each event should be judged as the outcome of some events, such as art, will be quite subjective. A guest judge could be the answer!

Discuss and reflect

After reading the book, ask the children:

What is a champion?

Who do you think are the real champions? Is it the animals or the humans? Why?

Why didn't the author choose to use pictures of the humans?

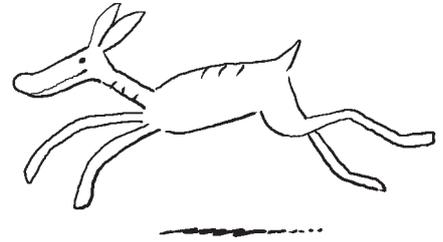
Who is the book really about?

Champions poster

You will need:

paper or cardboard, felt pens, crayons, coloured pencils

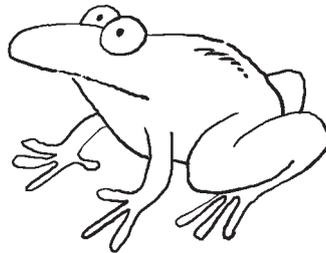
1. Make a poster of an animal champion.
2. Choose an animal and draw a picture of it on a large piece of paper or cardboard.
3. Colour in your animal.
4. Add labels to explain the features that make your animal a champion.
5. Display your poster in the classroom.



Survey

You will need:

paper, pencils



1. Who do you think is the champion of champions in *Animal Champions*? Why?
2. Ask the other children in your class who they think is the champion and why.
3. Count how many people in the class vote for each animal.
4. Tally the votes.
5. Present your findings to the class.

Animal descriptions

Write about these pictures. You could describe some of these features:

- skin texture
- colouring
- size
- special features



Comparisons

Write about each champion, animal and human. Include details about the event.

Who do you think is the real champion?

Event	Animal	Human
Sprinting		
Running		
Long jump		
High jump		
Hurdles		
Weightlifting		
Diving		
Swimming		

Instructions Brainstorm with the children the responses to the first example. Suggest that they list the features of each event.