

## Cocktail Party – Would You Rather Be A Bee Than A Chicken?

These are designed for use with children who are non-readers.

These sorts of questions may be familiar to you from books such as John Burningham's "Would You Rather". Sara Stanley has also produced a resource with some delightful examples which is available on [p4c.com](http://p4c.com).

Intended to create lots of dialogue in pairs and build confidence in shyer children.

Each child has a card. They then pair up, and decide which creature they would prefer to be, and why. Then they swap cards and swap partners, so that they end up making a series of different judgements.

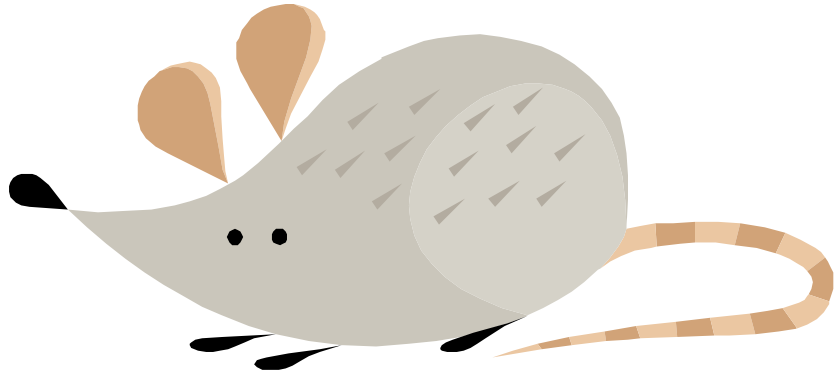
Although the initial questions are on the surface "matter of taste" questions rather than philosophical ones, they have "questions in waiting" to use Steve Williams's useful phrase, which are philosophically rich.

When you ask the children for examples of what they preferred to be and why, it may be to do with freedom or safety – you could ask follow up questions about which is more important. Or it could be about power, and you could ask whether being powerful is always good.

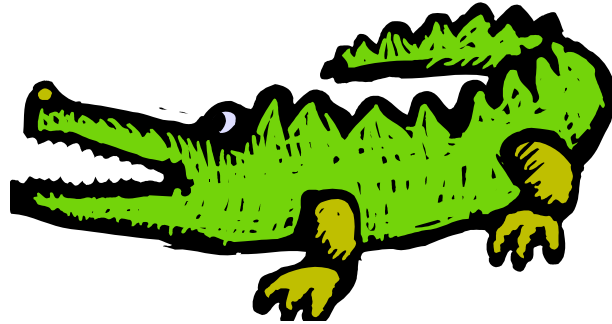
You can use the same set of cards in other ways to begin to explore concepts that are important in thinking, such as similarity, difference, relationship.

Categories – sort the cards into groups of things that are similar to each other – and then into a completely different set of categories

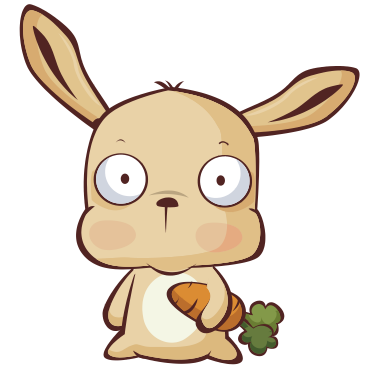
Connections – using thin wooden dowels, perhaps, to show connections and relationships between them (things that eat other things, for example!)



mouse



crocodile



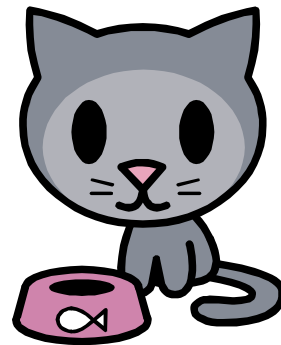
rabbit



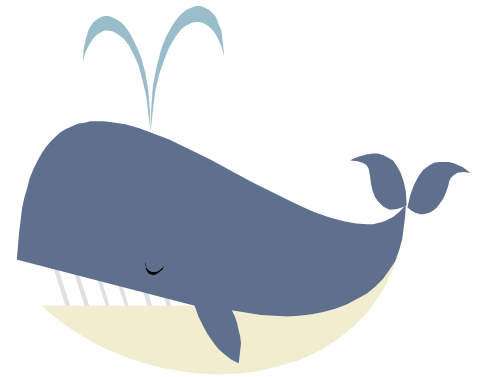
old man



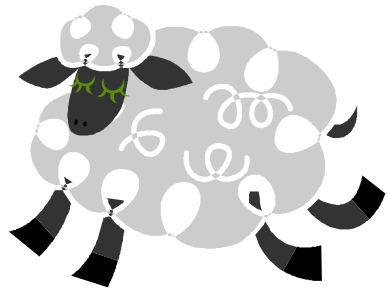
lion



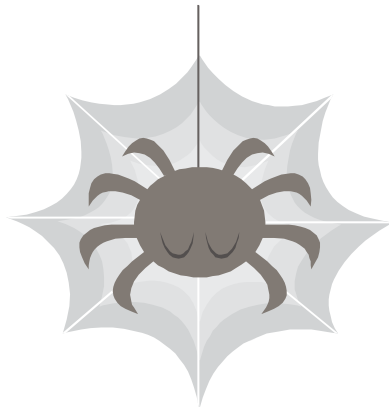
cat



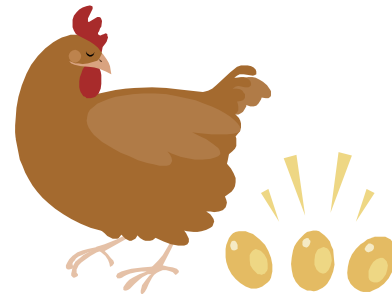
whale



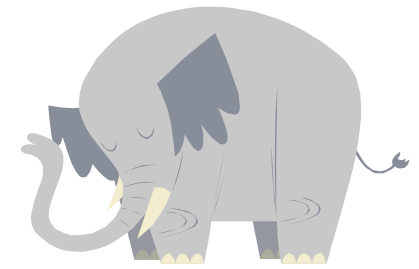
sheep



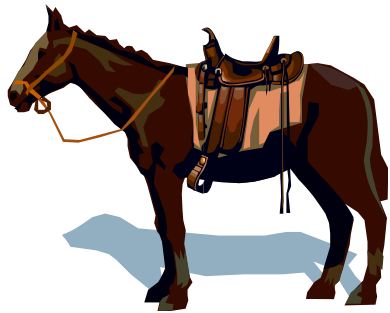
spider



chicken



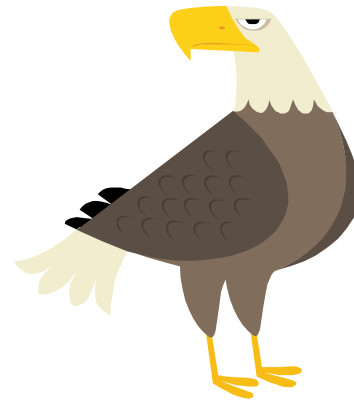
elephant



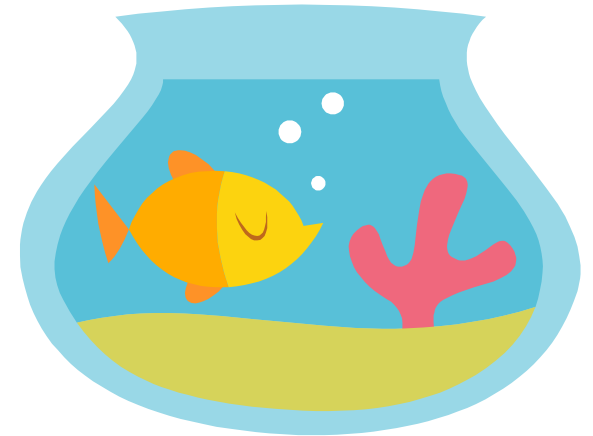
horse



bee



eagle



goldfish



reindeer



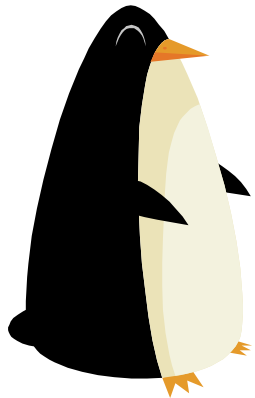
boy



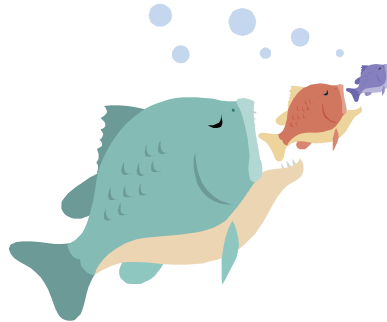
girl



dog



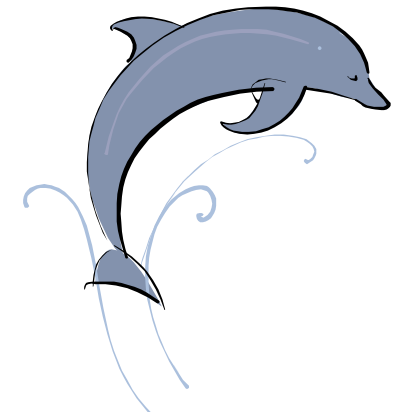
penguin



fish



monkey



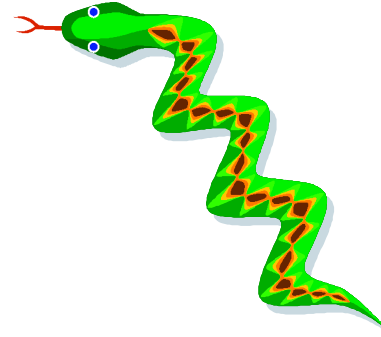
dolphin



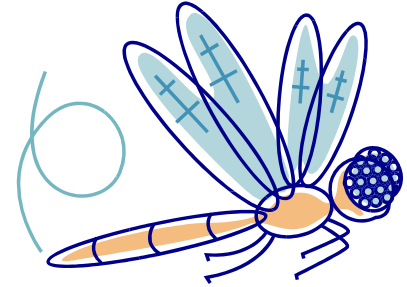
songbird



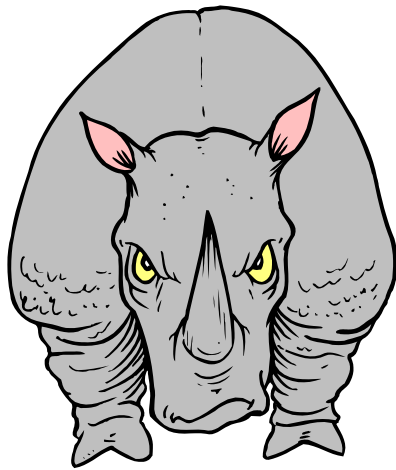
bat



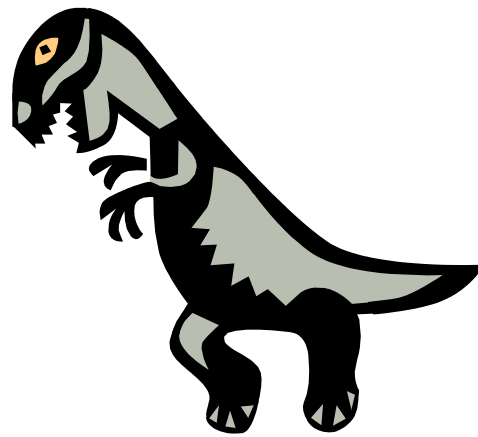
snake



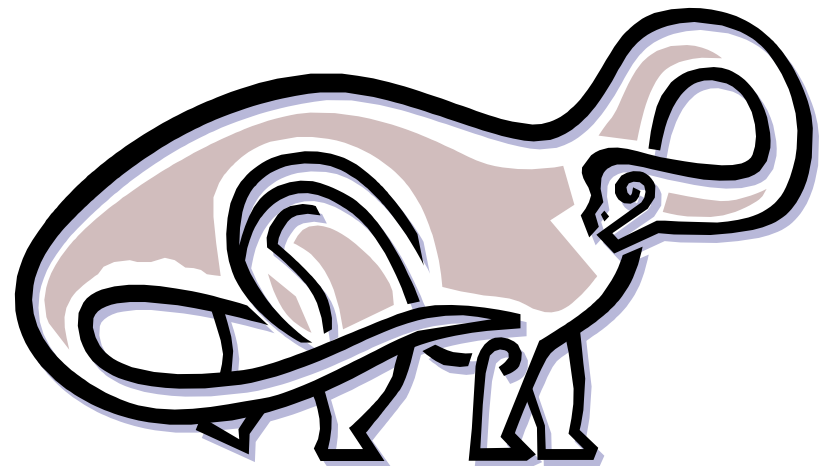
dragonfly



rhinoceros



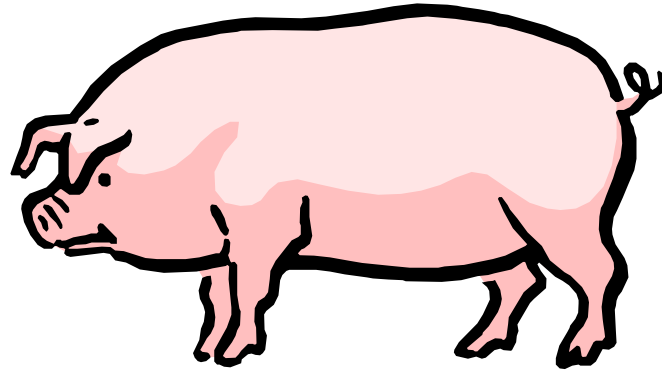
tyrannosaur



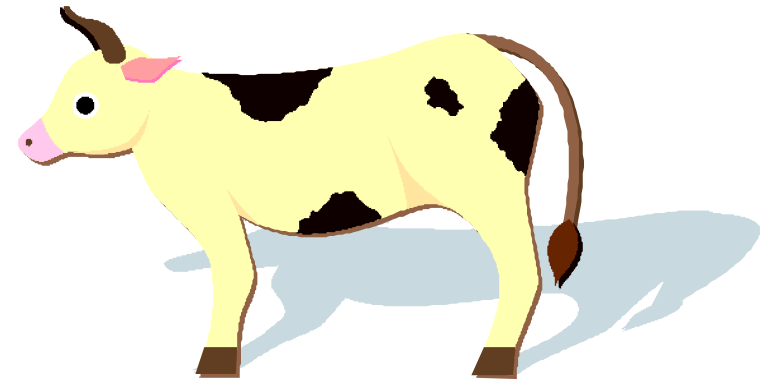
brontosaurus



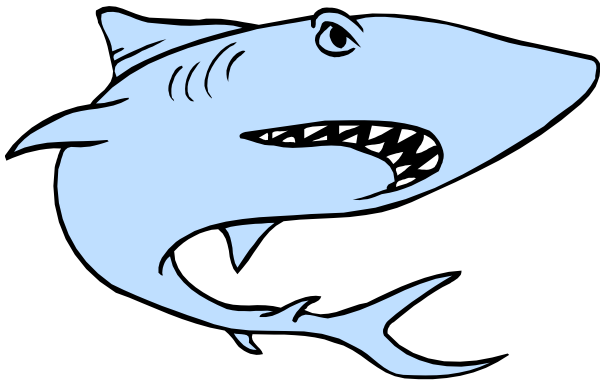
owl



pig



cow



shark



parrot



tiger