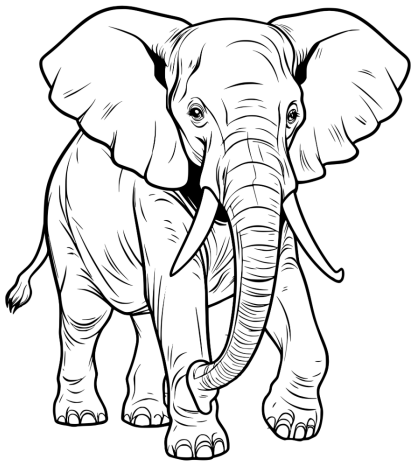


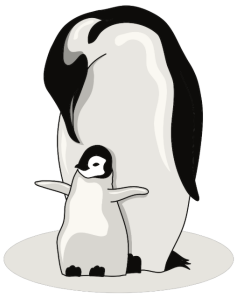
Deep sea octopus

Habitat: Deep Pacific Ocean
Offspring: 150 eggs



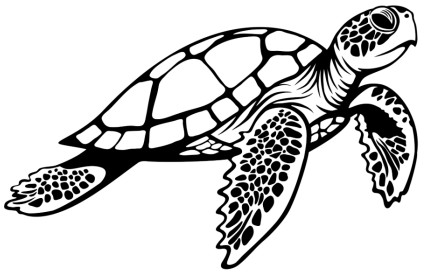
Elephant

Habitat: Savannas, grasslands, woodlands, and forests of sub-Saharan Africa
Offspring: 1 calf



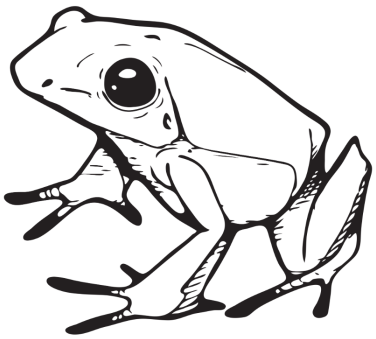
Emperor penguin

Habitat: Antarctic sea and ice
Offspring: 1 chick



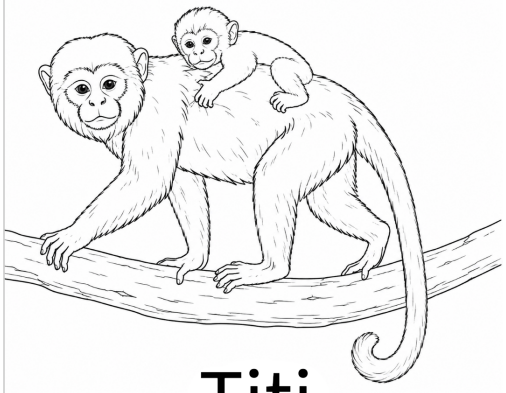
Sea turtle

Habitat: Tropical and subtropical oceans.
Offspring: 80-120 eggs



Poison dart frog

Habitat: Tropical rainforests of Central and South America
Offspring: 2-12 eggs (varies)



Titi monkey

Habitat: Tropical forests of South America.
Offspring: 1 infant

Food

The mother does not feed her young. Instead, she stops eating while guarding the eggs.



Protection

She cleans, fans, and guards her eggs continuously for more than four years until they hatch.



Transportation

The eggs remain attached to the same rocky surface until they hatch.



Social support

The mother cares for the eggs alone without help from other adults.



Food

Elephant calves nurse for 2–4 years, one of the longest nursing periods among mammals.



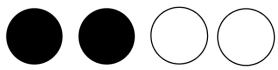
Protection

The herd will surround calves when threatened.



Transportation

Calves travel constantly with the herd and are guided and encouraged, but they aren't carried.



Social support

"Allomothers" (other females in the herd) play a major role in caring for calves, but the mother remains the primary caregiver.



Food

Parents take turns making long trips to bring food back to the chick.



Protection

Keeping the egg and chick warm in Antarctic winter is critical.



Transportation

They don't carry chicks long distances, but they carefully transfer the egg and later the chick between their feet.



Social support

Both parents cooperate, and chicks later form crèches (groups) while adults forage, though the primary cooperation is between the two parents.



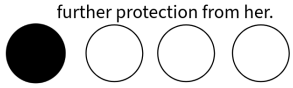
Food

The mother does not feed her hatchlings,but each egg contains nutrients that fuel the developing turtle. After hatching, young sea turtles must find food on their own.



Protection

The mother buries her eggs in sand, which helps conceal and protect them while they develop. After the hatchlings emerge, they receive no further protection from her.



Transportation

The hatchlings dig out of the nest and crawl to the ocean without help.



Social support

Each hatchling survives on its own without help from parents or other turtles.



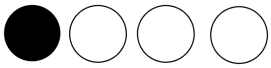
Food

The mother repeatedly returns to lay unfertilized eggs as food.



Protection

Protection is mostly indirect. Instead of guarding the tadpoles, the parents protect them by placing them in safer habitats.



Transportation

The father physically carries each tadpole, sometimes one at a time, to separate pools.



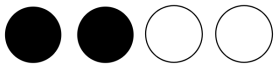
Social support

Both parents participate. The father transports and signals, while the mother provides the egg meal.



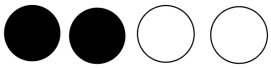
Food

The mother nurses the infant, providing all of the food it needs during its first months of life.



Protection

Both parents protect their infant by staying close and keeping watch for predators in the forest canopy.



Transportation

The father carries the infant on his back for most of the day, returning it to the mother only to nurse.

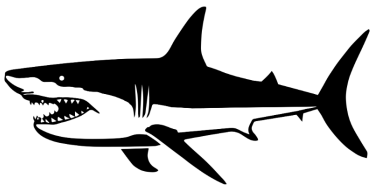


Social support

Both parents care for the infant, but the father performs most of the daily caregiving while the mother focuses on feeding.



Predator alert!



A predator has found your young.
Spend:
2 protection
or
1 social support
if your animal works in groups

Hungry offspring



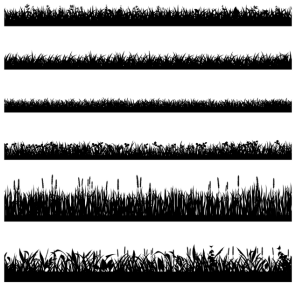
Your young need food to continue growing.
Spend:
2 food

Extreme weather



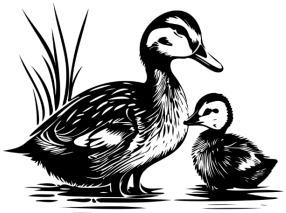
Extreme weather, heat, cold, or rough seas threaten your young.
Spend:
2 protection
or
2 social support

Habitat changes



Food becomes scarce or the habitat changes.
Spend ONE:
2 food
2 transportation
2 social support

Learning to survive



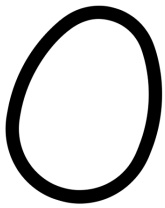
Your young must learn important survival skills before living on their own.
Spend:
2 social support

Dangerous journey



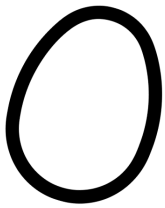
Your young must reach a safer nesting site or feeding area.
Spend:
2 transportation

THE COST OF CARE



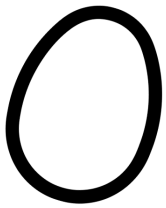
CHALLENGE CARD

THE COST OF CARE



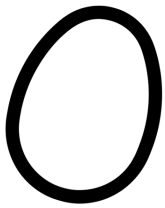
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THE COST OF CARE



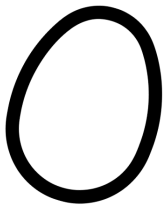
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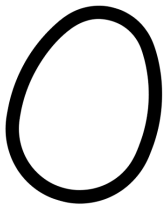
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