# Lesson Plan: Animal Parents and Their Babies (Grade Pre-Kindergarten)

**Overview:**

Preschoolers love animals and animal babies. This lesson teaches them animal names, sounds they make, and which is bigger and smaller. The following lesson has been adapted from, and uses portions of, Education.com lesson plan “[Animals and Offspring](https://www.education.com/lesson-plan/animals-and-offspring/)”.

**Subject Areas**: PreKindergarten

**Objectives:**

* Students will identify animals and their offspring by names and images.
* Students will draw their favorite animal mother and offspring.
* Students will count the number of animal offspring in a picture.
* Students will compare the number of animal offspring in two pictures using the words “more”, “same as”, or “fewer” (or “less”).

**Materials:**

* *Look and Learn Baby Animals* from National Geographic Kids Gale database
* Animal Babies print book by Eric Carle
* [Baby Animals Match-Up](http://galesupport.com/trial/csl2018/docs/baby-animal-match-up.pdf) Worksheet
* Magnets
* Smartboard
* Dough or clay
* Paper
* Pencils
* Crayons

**Lesson:**

Introduction (10 minutes)

* Call your students together as a group, and ask them to identify the names of a baby cow, baby cat, and baby dog.
* Inform them that cows have calves, cats have kittens, and dogs have puppies.
* Explain to your students that animals have babies that they take care of.
* Tell your students that today they are going to learn about animals and their babies.

Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling (10 minutes)

* Tell students that animals take care of their babies just like parents or guardians take care of their children.
* Read Animal Babies by Eric Carle.
* Direct the students to imitate the sounds that the animals make.
* Using Gale database National Geographic Kids, project on a SmartBoard and then read *Look & Learn: Baby Animals*
  + As you read and discuss each of the pages, have the students count the number of baby animals in different pictures.
  + Have students compare pictures and identify if one picture has more, the same, or less babies than the other picture.

Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling (10 minutes)

* + On page 22 of Look & Learn: Baby Animals, have students match the baby with its mother.
    - Print out this page out and cut out the animals
    - Attach the images of the animals to the whiteboard randomly with magnets.
    - Ask a student to come up and find a matching pair.
    - Allow each student to have a turn.

Independent Working Time (10 minutes)

* Give each student a [Baby Animals Match-Up](http://galesupport.com/trial/csl2018/docs/baby-animal-match-up.pdf) worksheet and a pencil.
* Read the instructions to the students.
* Give the students time to complete the worksheet.
* Collect the worksheets to grade.

Extend

Differentiation

Enrichment:

* + Give students a blank sheet of paper, and instruct them to draw and color as many animal baby pairs as they can remember.
  + Let students use dough or clay to build their favorite baby animal.

Support:

Have students identify baby pairs in Animal Babies and verbally describe them.