

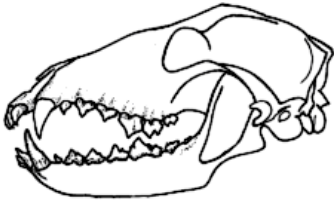
Skulls on the farm

When visiting his cousin's farm, William found two skulls in one of the paddocks. He thought one might be a cow or sheep, and the other a dog or cat.



- . Look carefully at each skull to decide which animal it belonged to.
- . Compare the skulls with the pictures of the animals, and also think about other features you can observe on the skulls.
- . List as many reasons as you can for your choice.
- . Mark your work using the self-assessment sheet.

a)



b)



(The skulls are not to scale.)

- i) This is the skull of a ... herbivore / carnivore (circle one)
- ii) Identify 3 observable features of the skull and say how they support your statement above.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- iii) This is the skull of a cow / sheep / dog / cat (circle one)

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- ii) Identify 3 observable features of the skull and say how they support your statement above.
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- _____
- _____
- iii) This is the skull of a cow / sheep / dog / cat (circle one)

iv) Give one piece of evidence to support this:

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Skulls on the Farm - Self-assessment sheet

Tick in the boxes below all the pieces of evidence you used.

a) i) This is the skull of a **carnivore**.

ii) **Observations**

sharp, pointy teeth

long, pointy, canine teeth

teeth right along jaw bones

overlapping teeth

eye socket facing front

iii) This is the skull of a dog.

iv) longish upper jaw

Knowledge

... for biting off bits of meat - indicates a carnivore/meat eater

... for piercing/ holding prey - indicates a carnivore/meat eater

... for chewing meat - indicates a carnivore/meat eater

... act like scissors to chop meat - indicates a carnivore/meat eater

... to look for prey - indicates a hunter/ predator

... longer than a cat's

b) i) This is the skull of a **herbivore**.

ii) **Observations**

chisel shaped sharp teeth in bottom front jaw

- no teeth in top front jaw
- bony pad top front jaw

grinding teeth at back

gap between front and back teeth

eye socket at side

iii) This is the skull of a sheep.

iv) shortish upper jaw

Knowledge

... for cutting off grass - indicates a plant eater/ herbivore

... for the incisor teeth to cut against - indicates a plant eater/herbivore

... for grinding up plant material - indicates a plant eater/ herbivore

... allows animal to protrude tongue through gap, wrap around grass and pull into the mouth

... for watching out for enemies - indicates a grazing animal

... shorter than a cattle beast's

What evidence did you use from your previous experience or knowledge?

You can use your self-assessment sheet to decide where your next learning goals should be.

Analyse the results in your self-assessment sheet to decide if:

you need to observe more carefully.

you need to learn more about animals' skulls and teeth to be able to identify them.

you need to use what you already know to explain what you can see.