



THE NIB FILES



NOT-CATS INVESTIGATION

⇒ Different families. Same solutions. ⇐



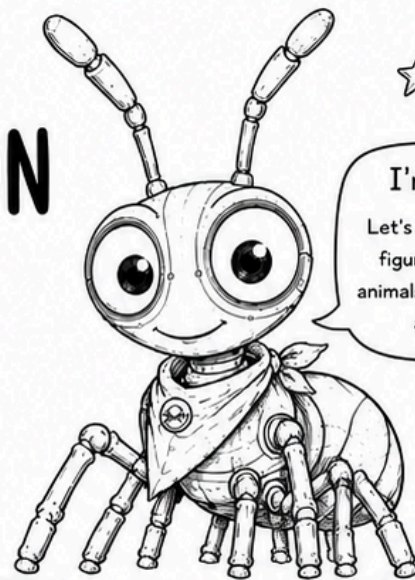
① LOOK CLOSE!

Find or draw each animal.

Circle the features that make it look cat-ish.

CAT-ISH FEATURES TO SPOT

- ☐ Pointy ears
- ☐ Forward-facing eyes
- ☐ Whiskers
- ☐ Soft paws
- ☐ Long tail
- ☐ Sneaky walk



I'm Spot!

Let's see if we can figure out which animals are Not-Cats and why!



ANIMAL 1

Cat-ish parts I found:

ANIMAL 2

Cat-ish parts I found:

ANIMAL 3

Cat-ish parts I found:

ANIMAL 4

Cat-ish parts I found:



② THINK LIKE A SCIENTIST!

Do these animals come from the cat family tree... or did nature just come up with a similar design to solve the same problem?

CAT FAMILY

They share a close ancestor with cats.



OR

CONVERGENT EVOLUTION

They evolved similar features on their own to survive!



My guess:

- ☐ Cat Family ☐ Convergent Evolution

Why do you think so?

My guess:

- ☐ Cat Family ☐ Convergent Evolution

Why do you think so?

My guess:

- ☐ Cat Family ☐ Convergent Evolution

Why do you think so?

My guess:

- ☐ Cat Family ☐ Convergent Evolution

Why do you think so?



③ MAKE THE CONNECTION!

Pick two of your animals.

How are they similar?

How are they different?

What problems might they be solving in their environments?



Different species.
Different ancestors.
Same brilliant solutions! ★

SIMILARITIES

DIFFERENCES



EXTRA CHALLENGE!

Can you think of another real-life example of convergent evolution (besides cat-like animals)? Explain your thinking.



NIB'S INVESTIGATION REMINDER

When something looks familiar, ask: "Is it family... or is it nature solving the same problem again?"

KEEP INVESTIGATING!

