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## DATA COLLECTION

### Lead-in activity

Ask a handful of children to choose one of the principal keystone species as their own most important animal of all. Explain that often opinions differ and the best way to find out is to conduct a questionnaire and collect data to find out.



### Main activity Part A

Photocopy the blank *Keystone Species Tally Chart*. Look at the tally chart together and model how to add a tally mark each time a child chooses a particular animal as their most important animal of all. Allow time for children to personally ask every classmate, "What do you think is the most important animal of all?" and record their findings. Provide each child with a class list to allow them to check off the names of the children as they are asked. Look at the final column of the tally chart and work together to calculate the totals.

### Part B

Photocopy the blank *Keystone Species Block Diagram*. Focusing on one animal, work together to transfer the total from the tally chart onto the block diagram. Use a colour pencil to fill in one block for one tally. Children should use a different colour for each animal and may wish to choose a colour to represent that animal. Ask the children to identify the most important animal of all within the class and use their categorical data to support their conclusions.



### Extension activity Part A

Provide a copy of the blank *Animal Tally Chart* for the children to choose their own animals for a second questionnaire. These could be pets, farm animals or animals linked to a specific country or habitat being studied. Conduct the data collection process as above.

### Part B

Provide a copy of the blank *Animal Block Diagram* for the children to independently record their questionnaire results.



### English National Curriculum links:

- gather and record data to help in answering questions
- use results to draw simple conclusions and raise further questions
- interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and simple tables
- ask and answer simple questions by counting the number of objects in each category
- ask and answer questions about totalling and comparing categorical data

# Keystone Species Tally Chart

Name .....

Keystone Species	Tally	Total
bee		
elephant		
tiger		
beaver		
bat		
shark		
krill		

# Keystone Species Block Diagram

15							
14							
13							
12							
11							
10							
9							
8							
7							
6							
5							
4							
3							
2							
1							
	<b>bee</b>	<b>elephant</b>	<b>tiger</b>	<b>beaver</b>	<b>bat</b>	<b>shark</b>	<b>krill</b>

# Animal Tally Chart

Name .....

Animal	Tally	Total

# Animal Block Diagram

15						
14						
13						
12						
11						
10						
9						
8						
7						
6						
5						
4						
3						
2						
1						