

How Animals GROW





Talk About It

How do animals change as they get older?



Find out more about how animals grow at www.macmillanmh.com

Leo Grows Up

by Kevin Lee

Vocabulary

giggled
fluttered
peered
recognized
vanished
snuggled



Thesaurus

Synonyms are words that have almost the same meaning.

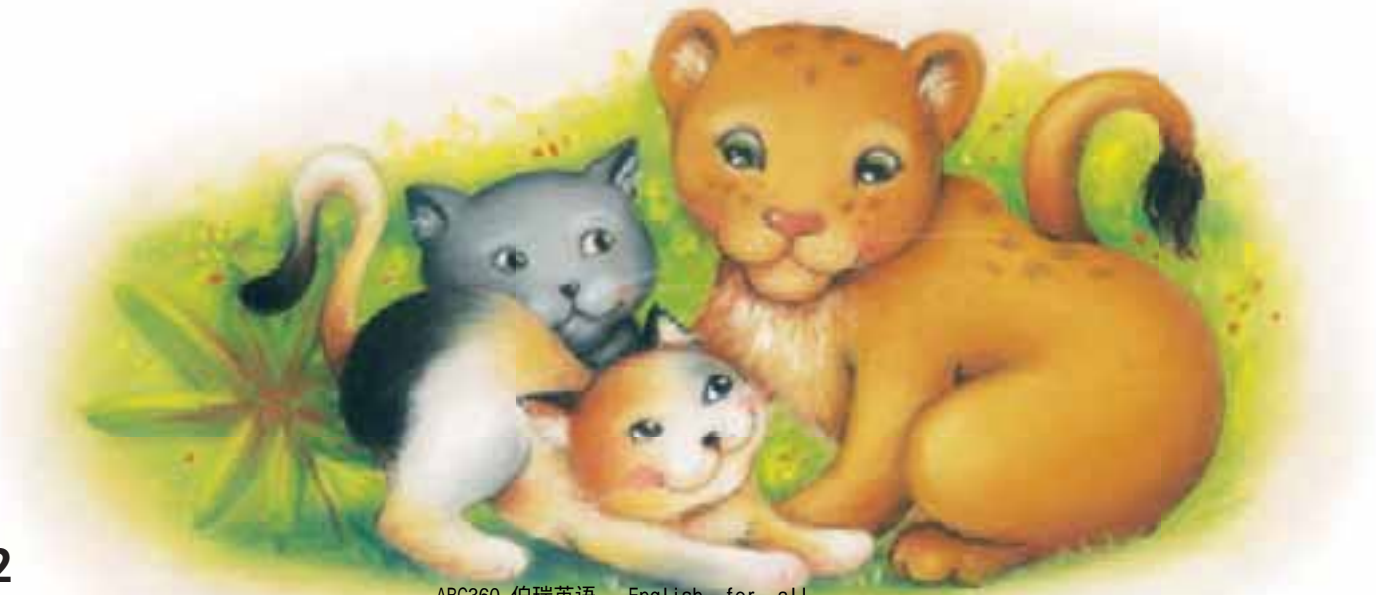
Giggled and laughed are synonyms.

Leo was a playful kitten. He loved to chase and play with his friends. But sometimes the other kittens weren't nice.

"Look at Leo," they said. "Why is he so big?" The kittens **giggled**. Leo heard their laughs, and it made him sad.

Once a bird **fluttered** by him, flapping its wings as it passed by.

"I wish I was like a bird," said Leo. "I would be light and tiny."



Leo left the kittens. He explored the jungle on his own for many months. Leo grew taller. His fur became thicker.

One day Leo heard a roar behind a bush. He stopped and **peered** over it. When he looked over the top, Leo saw animals that he **recognized**. He knew he had seen them before. They looked just like him, but bigger!

The giant cats ran away. They **vanished** into the trees so Leo couldn't see them anymore. He ran after them. "Look! Another lion," one of the big cats said.

Then Leo knew why he was bigger than the other kittens. He was a lion, not a cat! That night Leo **snuggled** with the other lions. They slept close together. Finally, Leo belonged.



Reread for Comprehension



Ask Questions

Make Inferences

Asking questions can help you understand what you are reading. You can ask yourself about what the author tells you and use what you already know to make an inference about a character. Reread the story and use the chart to make inferences about Leo.

