





baby echidna



doormouse

A few mammals hibernate during the winter. Hibernate means to sleep during the cold months and live off the stored fat in their bodies. A few mammals that hibernate are pictured above: chipmunk, echidna, and doormouse. Most mammals do not hibernate in cold weather.







American Elk



Humpback Whale

Some mammals migrate to escape the cold winter. Migrate means to move from one place to another when the seasons change. Three animals that migrate are pictured above and include: killer whale, American Elk, and Humpback Whale.

One of the major characteristics of mammals is their hair. The soft, dense hair that God gave many mammals is fur. Wool is the very thick, curly hair found on sheep. Some mammals such as porcupines have spines or quills, which it uses for protection. Bristles are tough, short hairs found on the almost hairless domestic pig and in some areas on a whale's head. Some animals have long facial hair called whiskers. Hair keeps mammals warm by trapping air, which has been warmed by the mammal's body, and keeping the warm air close to them.

Other than looking very silly, why do you think it wouldn't work out very well for a rhinoceros to have wool like a sheep, or for a humpback whale to have quills? Instead of having hair, whales and dolphins have a layer of fat called blubber under their skin that keeps them warm and helps them float. Some animals that have blubber are pictured below and include: walrus, seal, killer whale, and hippopotamus.





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killer whale



hippopotamus