

Strange Animal Behaviours

A speaking-focused critical thinking module

Level: B1 (CEFR) **Age range:** 9–13

Theme: Animals & Conservation

Language: speculation: might, could, must; because so (that)

Time: 25–30 minutes

What students will do

Students work together to speculate about animal behaviour, give reasons for their ideas, and practise clear spoken English in a supportive group setting.

Module Overview (for planning & alignment)

- Module ID: PERS-B1-M01
- Theme: Animals and conservation
- Primary language focus: Speculating & hypothesising
- Secondary focus: Giving reasons
- Grammar: *might / could / must; because / so*
- Vocabulary: *animals, behaviour, danger, protect*
- Primary skill: Speaking
- Thinking skill: Hypothesis building

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Teacher Notes

Level: B1 **Theme:** Animals & Conservation

Module: M01 Strange Animal Behaviours

Time: 25–30 minutes

Learning Objectives

- practice the use of modal verbs to speculate
 - give logical reasons using *because* / *so*
 - explain ideas clearly in spoken English
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Materials

- 3-slide mini deck
 - Student handout (1 per group)
 - Images (rights-free)
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Procedure

1. **Hook/intro (5 min)**
Show Slide 1. Pair discussion/TPS: *What do you see? Why might the animal do this?*
2. **Language Setup (5 min)**
Slide 2. Elicit or repeat model phrases chorally.
3. **Model (3–4 min)**
Slide 3. Teacher demonstrates one full speculative explanation.
4. **Group Task (10–12 min)**
Students work in pairs or groups with the handout.
They write **one or two sentences per animal** using target language.
5. **Sharing (5 min)**
Each group shares one explanation.
Teacher reinforces language, not correctness.

Differentiation

Support: sentence starters on board

Challenge: require two different explanations for one animal

Assessment (light-touch)

- Is the student using speculation language?
- Is there a reason given?
- Is the explanation logical, even if imaginative?

Outro/segue as appropriate

Where else might we use this language/what other language do we use for speculation?

Student Handout







Why Do These Animals Behave This Way?

Instructions:

Work in your group. Look at each animal.

Write **one sentence** using **a modal verb + a reason** (*because / so / in order to*).

Share one of your sentences with the class.

	
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