

# Lifetime

## THE AMAZING NUMBERS IN ANIMAL LIVES

### A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS



**Themes:** Animals, Lifespans, Numbers, Nature

**Book Brief:** From 1 spider to 1,000 seahorses, the author uses clues from animals' lives to come up with amazing facts and figures you wouldn't normally find in a book or on the internet.

**Author:**

Lola M. Schaefer

**Illustrator:** Christopher Silas Neal

**Content Connections:** Science, Math

### TIME TO READ!



#### BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

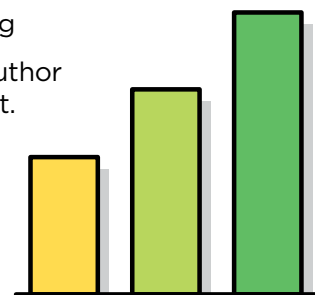
**The Cover:** Why do you think the illustrator has numbered the large holes on the cover? What kind of animal appears on the cover? What do you think the title means?

**The Pictures:** What do you notice about the patterns of the numbers the author has chosen? Which animals are you familiar with?

**Prior Knowledge:** The author wrote this book to introduce us to *averages*. What does the term average mean? How would you go about finding an average value of something? Do a quick example with the class.

**Vocabulary:** lifetime, roosting

**Purpose for Reading:** The author uses a limited amount of text. As we read, think about how strong word choices help focus the author's message.



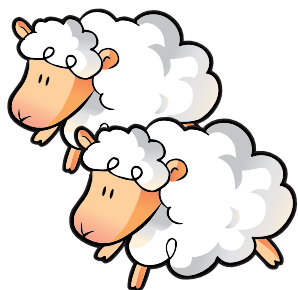
### WHILE WE READ

#### MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ What inferences can you make about each animal?
- ◆ Why do you think the author uses numerals instead of spelling the numbers out?

- ◆ Why does the author use the same introduction for each page?
- ◆ Other than 1, what do you notice about the rest of the numbers the author uses?
- ◆ What fact is most surprising to you?

### LET'S THINK ABOUT



**Our Purpose:** What types of words did the author choose to get her message across on each page? Create a chart that lists the nouns, verbs, and adjectives from each page.

**Extending Our Thinking:** Discuss with a partner the importance of being able to determine an average. Brainstorm some examples of when knowing the average of something is necessary. Share your ideas with the class. How could determining an average help you make guesses or estimations about specific information you don't know?

#### NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is  
Fundamental