Materials:
• Scissors
• Brass paper fastener
• Cipher wheel (pages 2 and 3 of this worksheet)
• Mammal Characteristics Cipher Code Fact Cards (pages 4 through 7 of this file)

Assembling the Cipher Wheel
Step 1: Print the cipher wheels on thick card stock.
Step 2: Carefully cut out the inner and outer wheel.
Step 3: Attach the inner wheel to the outer wheel, using a brass paper fastener.

Cracking the Code
Spin the wheel to match the letters and numbers at the top of the fact card. (example: 3 = F)
Keep the wheel in this position as you search for the correct letter match to each number on the fact card.
Write the correct letters in the blank spaces on the fact card.
When the fact is done, read the fact about Mammal Characteristics.

Suggestions for Teachers
In order for the wheel to work correctly, the brass paper fastener must be pushed through the exact center of the wheel. Your students may need help with this step.
Have students save their cipher wheel for future activities. We have cipher code fact cards covering many topics on SuperTeacherWorksheets.com.
The entire activity does not need to be completed in one day. You may want to have students work on this activity for a short period of time each day until they've completed all of the fact cards.
Mammal Characteristics Fact #1

Use your Cipher Wheel to decode a fact about Mammal Characteristics. Use 2 = X as the reference point on your wheel.

Mammal Characteristics Fact #2

Use your Cipher Wheel to decode a fact about Mammal Characteristics. Use 30 = H as the reference point on your wheel.
Mammal Characteristics Fact #3
Use your Cipher Wheel to decode a fact about Mammal Characteristics. Use 26 = C as the reference point on your wheel.

Mammal Characteristics Fact #4
Use your Cipher Wheel to decode a fact about Mammal Characteristics. Use 18 = Z as the reference point on your wheel.
Mammal Characteristics Fact #5

Use your Cipher Wheel to decode a fact about Mammal Characteristics. Use 13=S as the reference point on your wheel.

27 8 31 19 16 20 27 13

17 26 19 31 19 19 31 20 13

23 18 29 20 11 28 27 28 17 25 13 ‘

24 17 14 13 27 13 ‘ 30 31 12 13 ‘

28 17 20 16 24 23 18 13 ‘ 31 18 28 24 11 19 31 18 13 ‘
Mammal Characteristics Fact #1
Most mammals do not hatch from eggs. They have babies that are born alive.

Mammal Characteristics Fact #2
All mammals have some hair or fur.

Mammal Characteristics Fact #3
Mammals are warm-blooded. This means their body has a constant body temperature.

Mammal Characteristics Fact #4
All mammals have lungs to breathe air.

Mammal Characteristics Fact #5
Examples of mammals include dogs, horses, bats, dolphins, and humans.