Which of these things is not like the other?

A Note for Teachers:
You can do these problems as a whole group, or you can have the kids complete them individually for their problem-solving notebooks. Whichever way you choose, discussion is a VITAL component of this activity! This activity will get kids thinking about attributes and how things are the same and how they are different. There are no wrong answers to these problems, as long as the students can explain their answers! You can see below just some of the answers students may give you. Encourage creativity and divergent thinking!

Problem #1
The popsicle doesn’t belong, because you don’t eat it with a spoon.
The soup doesn’t belong, because it is not cold.
The soup doesn’t belong, because it is not sweet.
The cereal doesn’t belong, because it has a napkin and the others don’t.

Problem #2
The soccer ball doesn’t belong, because it doesn’t have eyes.
The football doesn’t belong, because it isn’t round.
The soccer ball doesn’t belong, because you can’t touch it with your hands.

Problem #3:
The milk doesn’t belong, because it is not an art supply.
The scissors don’t belong, because they are not liquid.
The scissors don’t belong, because they are sharp.

Problem #4
The kitten doesn’t belong because it doesn’t live in the jungle.
The elephant doesn’t belong because it is not a cat.
The tiger doesn’t belong, because it has stripes.
The kitten doesn’t belong because it is little.
The kitten doesn’t belong, because it is a pet.

Problem #5
The airplane doesn’t belong because it is not an animal.
The fish doesn’t belong because it cannot fly.

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Explain your answer: ____________________________
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Explain your answer:________________________

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