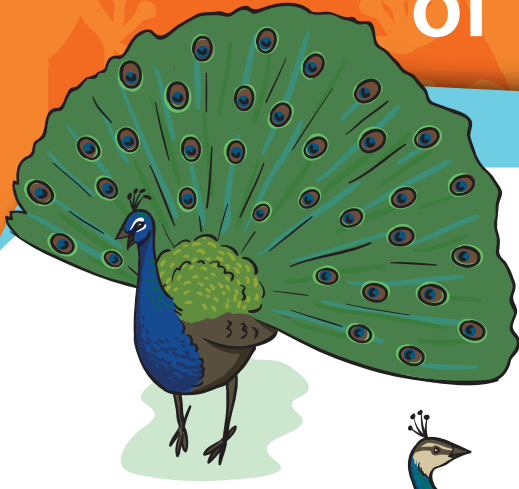
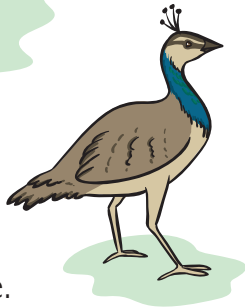


Animals of the World

2nd
GRADE



The peacock uses its feathers to attract a mate.

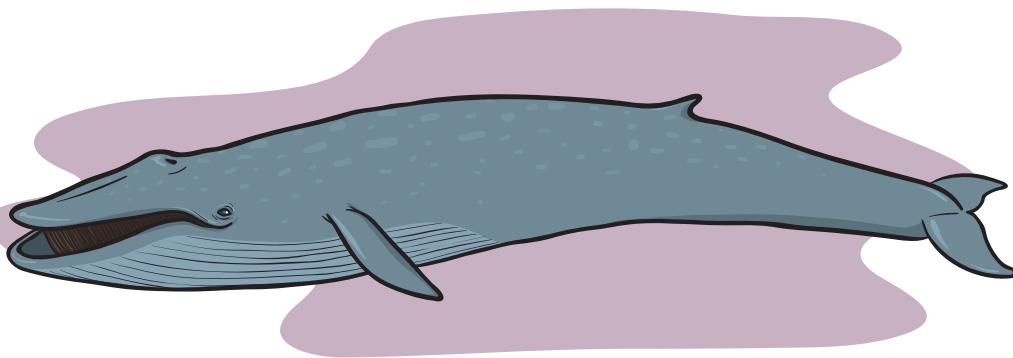


Capybara

One amazing fact about the capybara is that it can stay under water for 5 minutes without having to take a breath!



Peafowl



Blue Whale

Blue whales are the largest animals currently on Earth.



A gecko can camouflage itself in its environment.

Gecko

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Blue Whales

Blue whales are the largest animals currently on Earth. These whales can grow up to 100 feet long and weigh up to 200 tons (400,000 pounds). Just what do these large animals eat?

Their diet consists only of tiny shrimp-like animals called krill. After taking a big gulp of sea water, the blue whale's massive tongue forces the water out of its mouth through its baleen*. Only the krill is left behind and swallowed. A blue whale can eat up to four tons of krill in a single day.

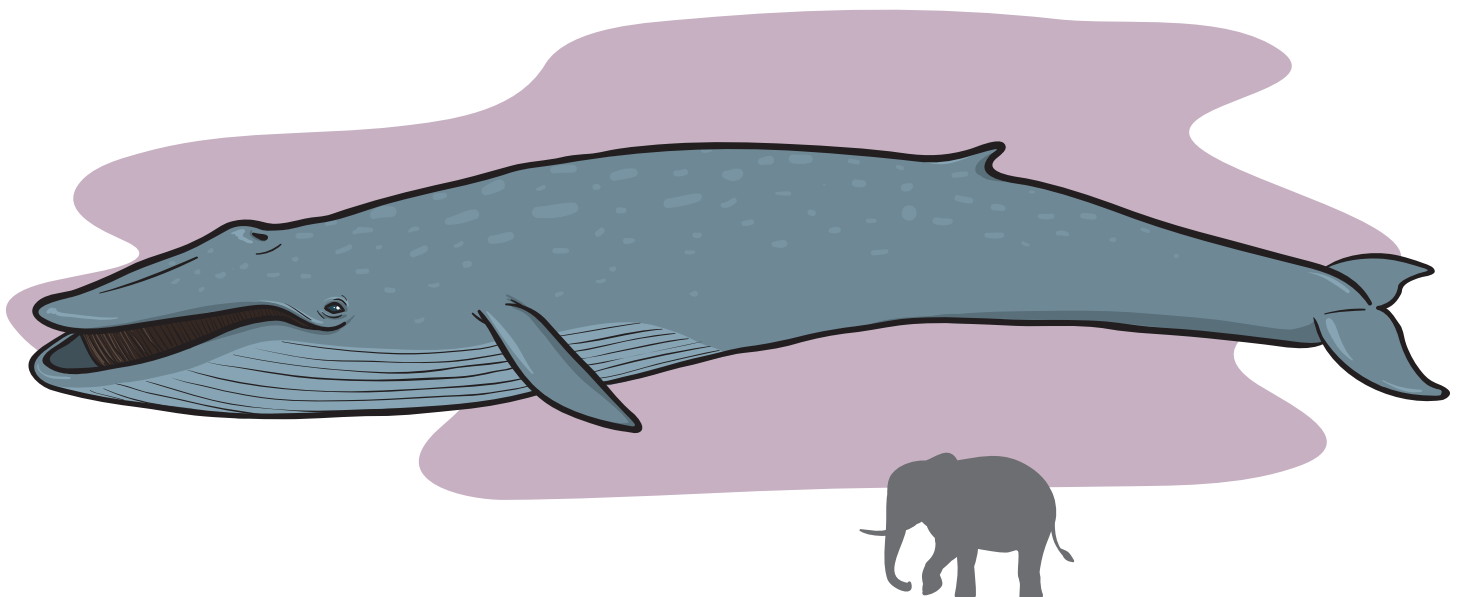
Blue whales have been found in every ocean of the world. Since whales live in the ocean they are marine animals. They swim in small groups but are usually found alone or in pairs. The blue whale will spend most of its time feeding in polar waters. During winter you will find blue whales migrating towards the equator. Animals migrate, or move to a different place, for many reasons. Blue whales migrate to eat and have their young in warmer waters.

Blue whales are endangered. This means they are threatened by extinction*. During the early 1900s people would hunt for the blue whale to use its oil for lamps and other things. The blue whale can live up to ninety years.

Interesting facts: Blue whale calves can weigh up to three tons at birth. That's the same weight as an adult blue whale's tongue!

**baleen: a hard substance in the mouths of some whales that is attached to their jaw and hangs down and "locks" together.*

**extinction: When an animal goes extinct, that means it is no longer anywhere in the world. They have all died out.*



A blue whale compared to an adult elephant.

Blue Whales

Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Krill are _____.

- A. Large fish
- B. Tiny animals
- C. A type of bird

2. Fill in the blanks to complete this sentence. Blue whales can grow up to

_____ long and weigh up to _____.

3. TRUE or FALSE: Blue whales are only found in the Pacific Ocean. Circle one.

4. Match the words with their definition.

Extinction	A hard substance in the mouths of whales that is attached to their jaw and hangs down and “locks” together.
Migrate	When an animal has all died out and can no longer be found anywhere in the world.
Baleen	Animals moving to a different place.

5. A blue whale can live to be how old? Answer this question in a complete sentence.

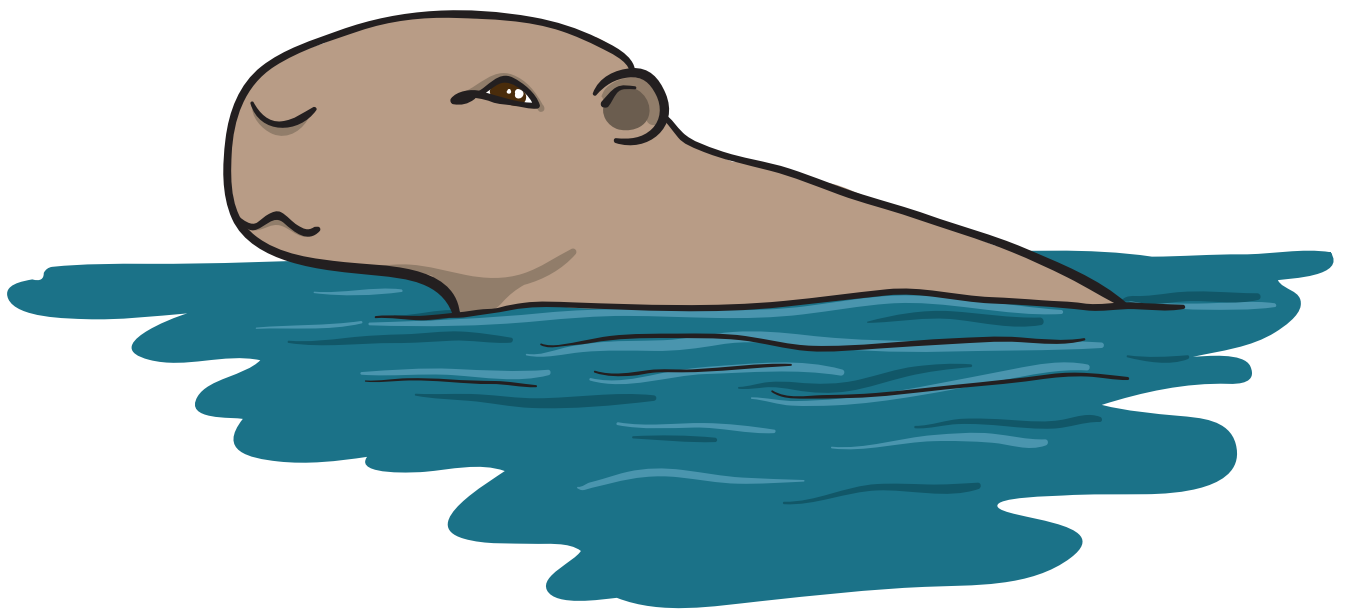
Capybara

The capybara is the largest type of rodent. It can be found in Central and South America in the grassy areas along rivers and ponds. Full-grown capybaras can reach up to four feet in length and stand two feet tall. Female capybaras are bigger than male capybaras.

The capybara's diet consists of mostly grass and water plants. They also eat fruit as well as tree bark.

Capybaras live in herds. The females take care of each other's babies. If they sense an enemy nearby, they will let out a loud warning bark.

One amazing fact about the capybara is that it can stay under water for five minutes without having to take a breath! It's no wonder that the scientific name for this animal (*Hydrochoerus*) means "water hog."



Capybara

Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Circle the sentences that are true statements.

A. The capybara is part of the rodent family.

B. Capybaras live in the grassy areas along rivers and ponds.

C. A capybara can grow up to 8 feet long.

2. The scientific name for the capybara is *Hydrochoerus*. What does this mean?

3. What do capybaras do to warn each other of an enemy? Write your answer in a complete sentence.

4. Write one interesting fact you learned about the capybara. Write your answer in a complete sentence.

Geckos

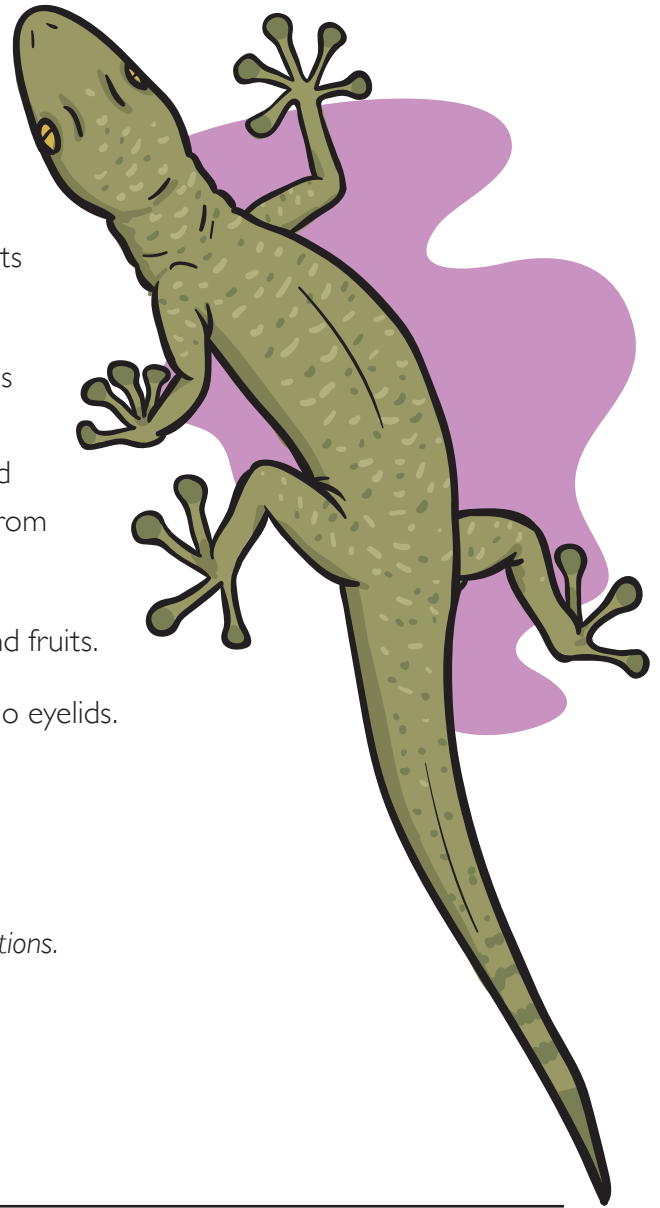
Geckos are reptiles and are part of the lizard family. They live on every continent except Antarctica. Their habitat can range from the rainforests in South America to the deserts in North America.

Geckos can be as small as $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch to as large as 14 inches long. They come in various colors such as brown, green, and yellow. It can camouflage* itself in its environment. They blend into the environment around them for two reasons: to hide from predators and to hunt for prey.

The diet of the gecko includes insects, nectar from flowers, and fruits.

One interesting fact is the gecko cannot blink because it has no eyelids.

**camouflage: blend in with the environment*



Use the information from the article to answer the following questions.

Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Write three facts about the gecko:

2. Complete this sentence by circling the correct answer. Geckos use camouflage to

- A. Eat more fruit.
- B. Blend into their environment.
- C. Run quickly.

3. Why does the gecko use camouflage?

Kangaroos

Kangaroos live primarily in Eastern Australia. They live in herds like elephants do. One herd can include more than 50 kangaroos!

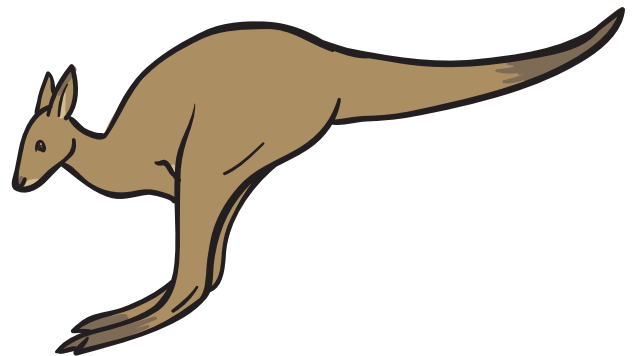
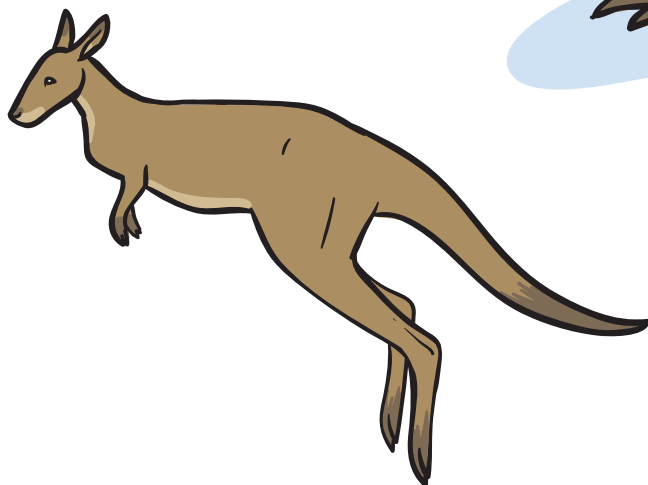
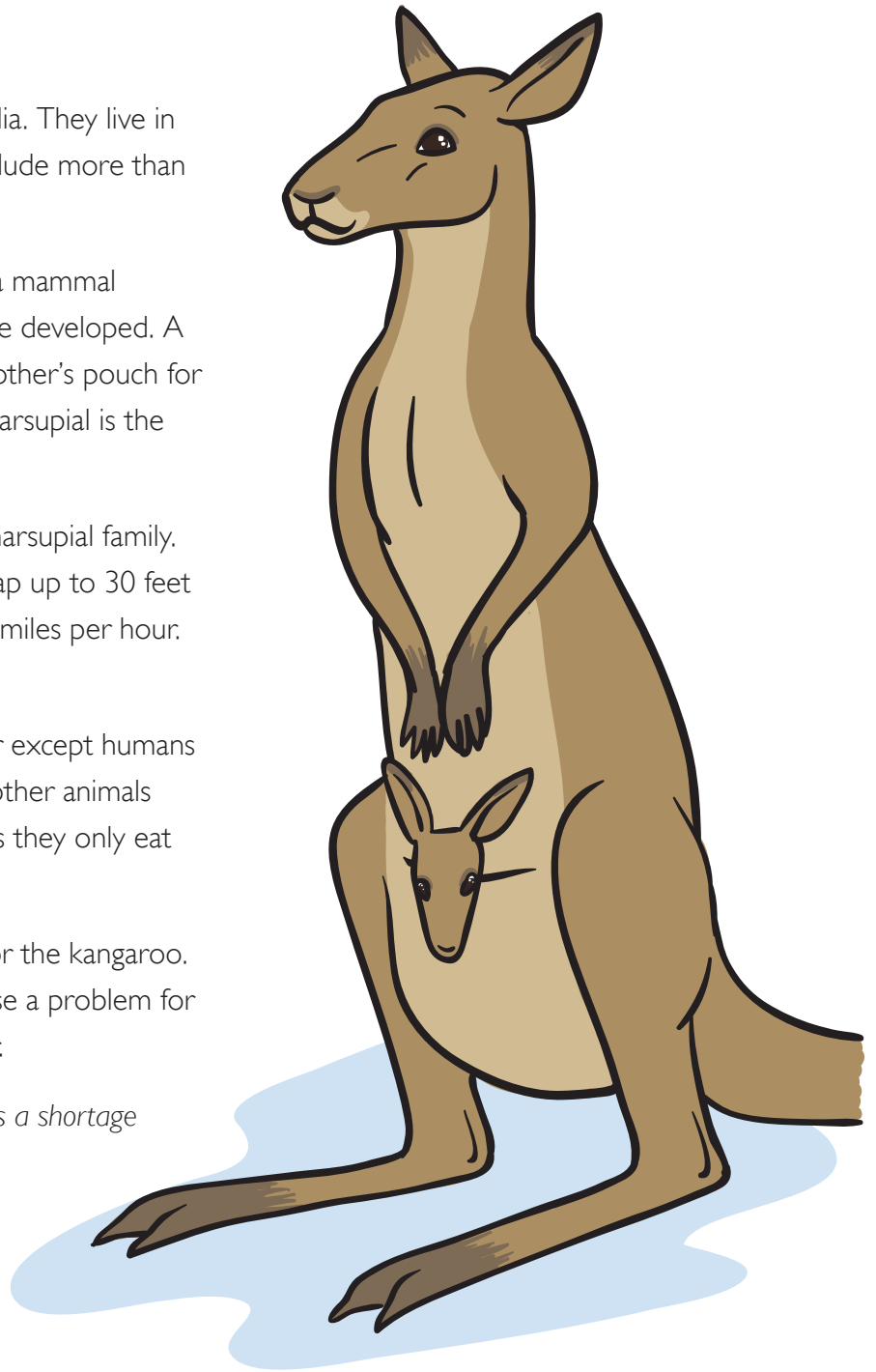
Kangaroos are marsupials. A marsupial is a mammal whose baby lives in a pouch until it is more developed. A baby kangaroo, called a joey, lives in its mother's pouch for about 8 months. Another example of a marsupial is the opossum.

The kangaroo is the tallest animal in the marsupial family. Large, powerful legs help the kangaroo leap up to 30 feet at a time. A kangaroo can travel up to 30 miles per hour. They also use their tail for balance.

The kangaroo has no real natural predator except humans and the dingo. They also do not prey on other animals because they are herbivores, which means they only eat plants.

Heat and drought* can cause problems for the kangaroo. Drought can occur at any time. It can cause a problem for the kangaroo because of the lack of water.

**drought: a period of dry weather that causes a shortage of water and plants to die over time.*



Kangaroos

Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Kangaroos live in _____ Australia.

- A. Western
- B. Northern
- C. Eastern

2. What do you call an animal that only eats plants?

- A. Herbivore
- B. Carnivore
- C. Omnivore

3. TRUE or FALSE: The kangaroo is the shortest animal in the marsupial family. Circle one.

4. What is the name for a baby kangaroo and how long does this baby stay in its mother's pouch?
Write your answer in a complete sentence.

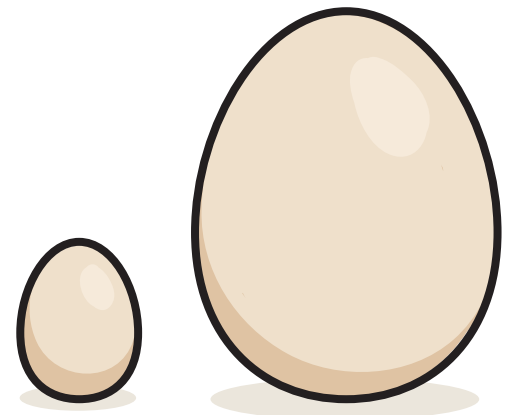
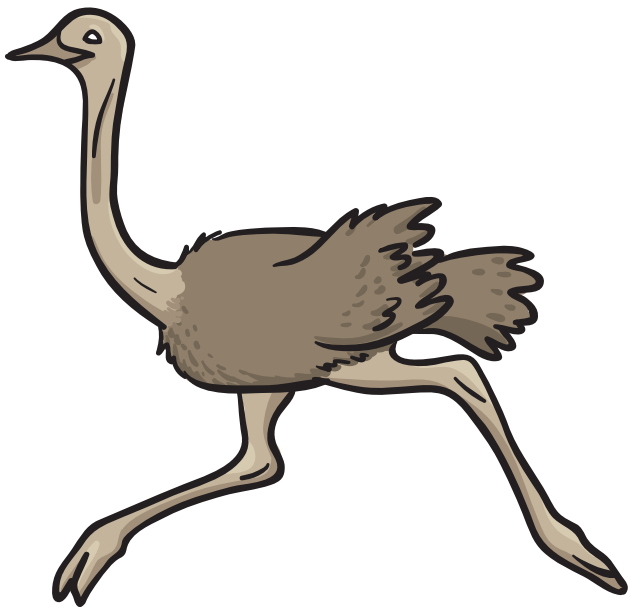
Ostriches

Birds have feathers and wings and are warm-blooded. Birds lay eggs to have their young. There are many species of birds.

The ostrich is the largest type of bird. It has long, skinny legs and a large body with small wings. The ostrich usually weighs between 200 and 300 pounds. It can grow up to 9 feet tall. The ostrich's eye is the largest of any land animal: nearly two inches in diameter. The ostrich can defend itself by using its four-inch claw and giving a swift kick to the enemy.

The ostrich lives primarily in Africa. Its habitat is the grasslands and desert. The ostrich eats insects, seeds, leaves, roots, and small reptiles. It lives in herds or flocks. Each herd has one big egg nest. The ostrich lays the largest egg of all bird species.

One interesting fact about the ostrich is that it cannot fly like other birds. Its wings are used for balance when running. It can run up to forty miles per hour.



A chicken egg compared to an ostrich egg.

Ostriches

Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. What is the main idea of the article about ostriches?

2. Name three things ostriches eat:

3. Where does the ostrich primarily live?

4. TRUE or FALSE: Of all the birds, the ostrich lays the largest egg. Circle one.

5. Write down three things you learned about ostriches:

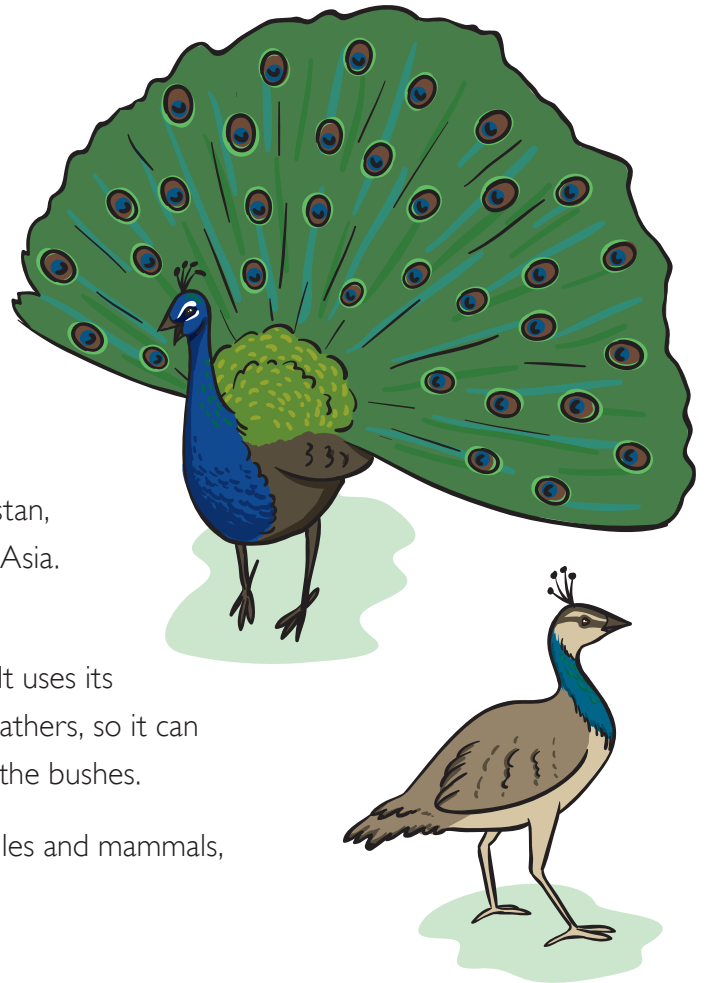
Peafowl

A pheasant is a long-tailed game bird. The peafowl is a type of pheasant. The correct name for a female is peahen, and the male is called a peacock. Peafowl is the term for a whole group. Depending on the species, peafowl can grow to anywhere between 27 and 51 inches long.

There are three different types of peafowl: Indian (Blue), Green, and Congo. The Indian peafowl live in India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, while the green peafowl live in Southeast Asia. The Congo peafowl are found in Central Africa.

The peacock from India has bright and colorful feathers. It uses its feathers to attract a mate. The female bird has brown feathers, so it can blend in with the bushes. The female will lay her eggs in the bushes.

The diet of the peafowl includes grain, insects, small reptiles and mammals, berries, leaves, seeds, parts of flowers, and figs.



Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Write down three things you learned about the peafowl:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. Circle the statement that is true.

- A. Peahen is the correct name for the female peafowl.
- B. Peafowl are found in Antarctica.
- C. Peafowl can grow to 60 inches long.

3. The diet of the peafowl includes a lot of different things. Which of the following is something the peafowl would not eat?

- A. Grain
- B. Fruit
- C. Humans

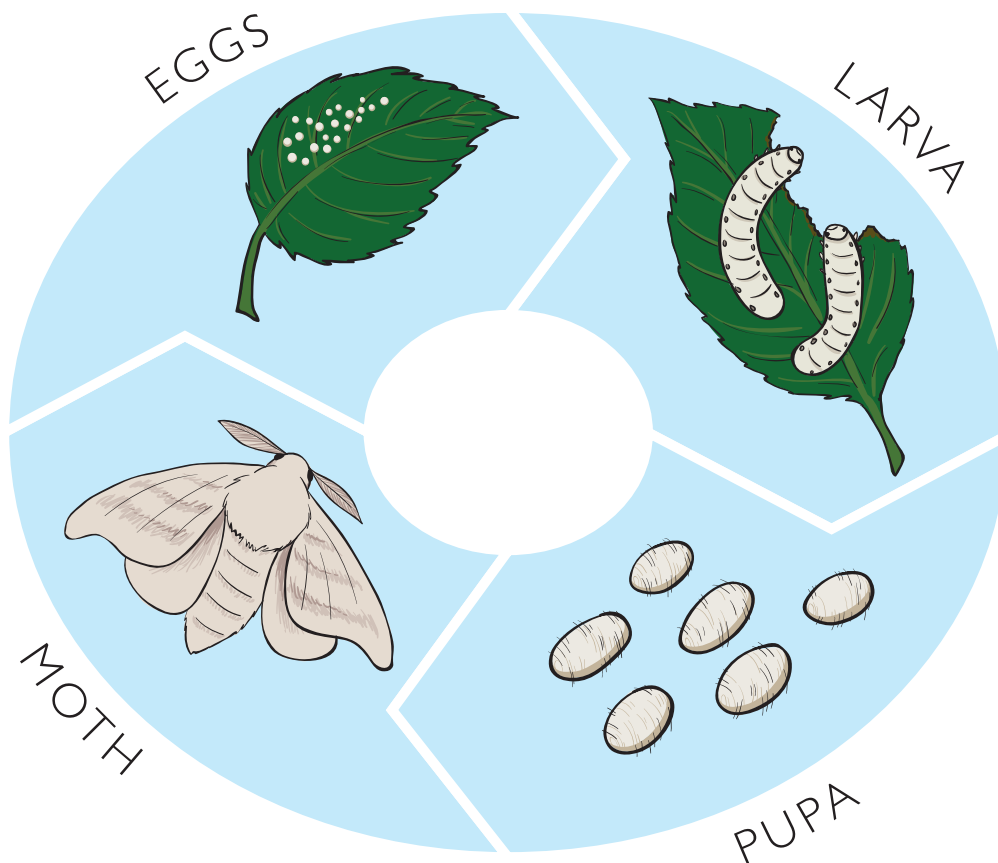
Silkworms

Silkworms are special invertebrates. Invertebrates are animals that do not have backbones.

Silkworms have four stages of development: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. A silkworm hatches from a little egg like a caterpillar does. In its larva stage, it eats only mulberry leaves. It grows to about three inches and moves into the next stage, pupa. During the pupa stage, it spins a silk cocoon. After three weeks, it will emerge as an adult moth by burrowing a hole in its cocoon. The silk moth has a short life, about five days. Before it dies, the male silk moth will mate with a female.

Silk is made from the cocoons of the silkworm. During the process, some silkworms die. Others survive in order to have new silkworms.

1. What do silkworm larvae eat?
 - A. Hay
 - B. Trees
 - C. Mulberry leaves
2. What does a silkworm become after it comes out of the cocoon?
 - A. Adult moth
 - B. Egg
 - C. Larva
3. Circle TRUE or FALSE. When it is a pupa a silkworm spins a cocoon.



Squid

The squid is a mollusk. A mollusk has a soft body and no backbone. Squid are many different sizes.

One of the biggest species of squid is the Giant Squid. It is very rarely seen. It has eight arms and two long tentacles. It uses its arms to feed itself. The giant squid's mouth is a "beak."

The giant squid has the largest eye of any animal. Each eye is close to ten inches in diameter. That's the size of a beach ball!

Giant squid are carnivores. They are known to eat fish, shrimp, and smaller squid.

1. Name three facts about squid you learned from this article.

1. _____

2. _____

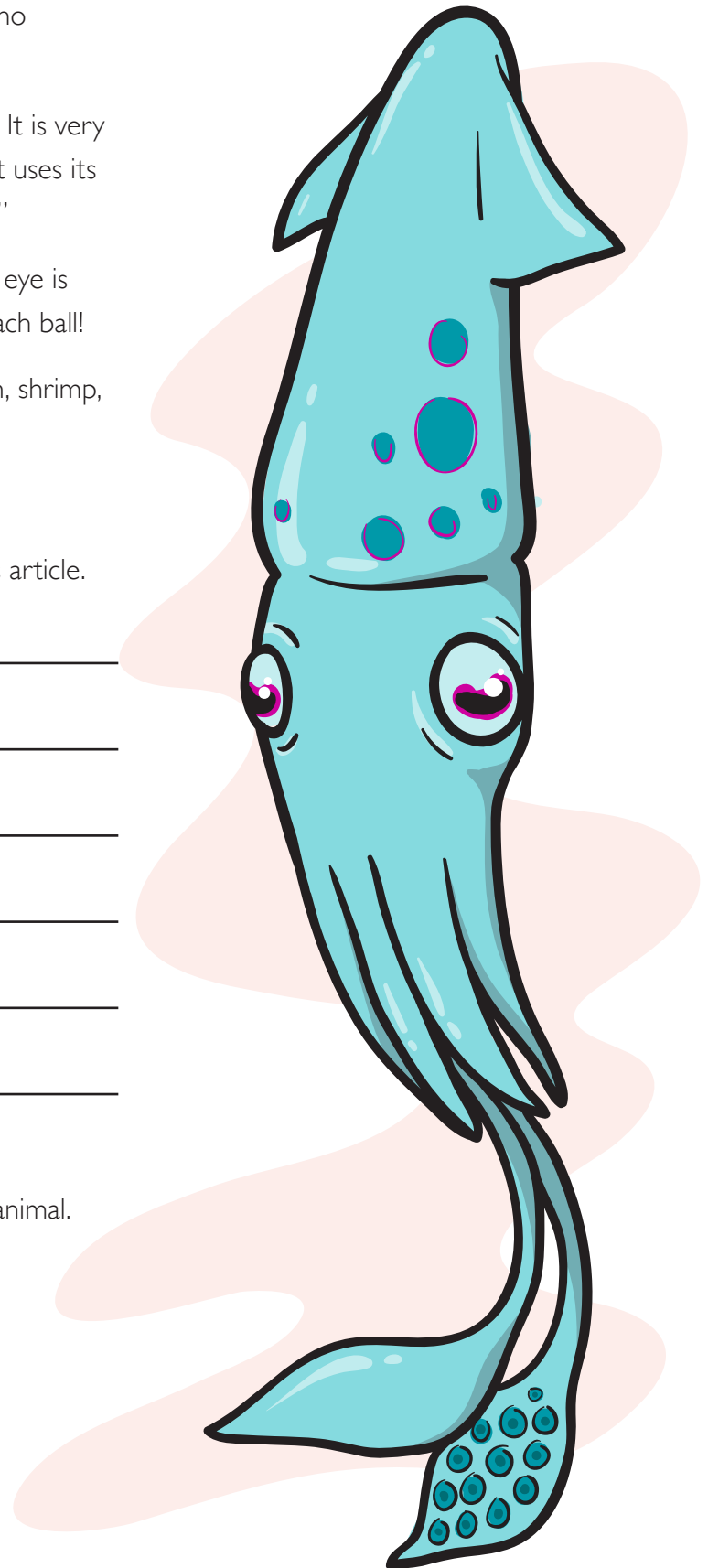
3. _____

2. The giant squid has the _____ eye of any animal.

A. Smallest

B. Tiniest

C. Largest



Tasmanian Devils

The Tasmanian devil is a mammal and lives on the island of Tasmania. This island is located near Australia. The Tasmanian devil lives in the eucalyptus forests and woodlands.

Tasmanian devils are marsupials like the kangaroo and the koala. They are the largest carnivorous marsupial. Fully grown Tasmanian devils are typically two feet long, with tail spans of 9-10 inches.

The Tasmanian devil is a carnivore. It eats meat, including small mammals, birds, and dead animals.

Tasmanian devils get their name from the noise they make when eating or when looking for food at night. They make eerie growls when looking for food and screech and scream when they feed together.



Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Write "fact" or "opinion" under each sentence.

Tasmanian devils are funny-looking animals.

The Tasmanian devil is a carnivore.

2. Circle the correct answer(s). The Tasmanian devil eats:

- A. Small mammals
- B. Leaves
- C. Dead animals
- D. Birds

3. TRUE or FALSE: The full-grown Tasmanian devil is typically about two feet long. Circle one.

4. Where does the Tasmanian devil live? Write your answer in a complete sentence.

Animal Word Search



WORD BANK

BLUE WHALE

PEAFOWL

CAPYBARA

SILK WORM

GECKO

SQUID

KANGAROO

TASMANIAN DEVIL

OSTRICH

Your Favorite Animal

Learn more about an animal of your choice! Pick an animal. Use resources like the internet, library books, or magazines to fill out this fact sheet about your animal.

Where can it be found?

Draw a Picture

Name of Animal

Height

Weight

What does it eat?

Two Interesting Facts

1:

2:

Answer Key

Squid

1. Answers will vary.
2. Largest

Ostriches

1. Answers will vary.
2. The ostrich eats insects, small reptiles, seeds, leaves, and roots. (any three will count)
3. The ostrich lives primarily in Africa, the Sahara Desert.
4. True
5. Answers will vary.

Peafowl

1. Answers will vary
2. A – Peahen is the correct name for the female peafowl.
3. C – Humans

Geckos

1. Answers will vary.
2. B – Blend into their environment
3. Geckos use camouflage to hide from predators and hunt for food.

Kangaroos

1. C – Eastern
2. A – Herbivore
3. False
4. A baby kangaroo is called a joey. It stays in its mother's pouch for 8 months.

Capybaras

1. A and B
2. It means water hog.
3. Capybaras bark to warn each other.
4. Answers will vary.

Blue Whales

1. B – Tiny animals.
2. 100 feet, 200 tons
3. False

4.

Extinction	A hard substance in the mouths of some whales that is attached to their jaw and hangs down, "locks" together.
Migrate	When an animal goes extinct that means it is no longer anywhere in the world. They have all died out.
Baleen	Animals moving to a different place.

5. Blue whales can live to be ninety years old.

Tasmanian Devil

1. Opinion, Fact
2. A, C, D
3. True
4. Tasmanian devils live on an island called Tasmania

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