



Alphabet Animals

The A to Z Collection of Animal Stories



SUMMARY:

There is a short story for each letter, from A to Z. Starting with Anteater, the stories work though to Zebu. Each one is stylistically similar, with some variation in difficulty to suit learners of different skill levels. There will be a couple challenging new vocabulary words, often about science, in each story.

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Arnold the Anteater

Arnold was an anteater. He had a long nose. He had an even longer tongue. He had bushy, scratchy hair. It was rough and dusty. He was not a cute animal at all.



He liked to eat ants. He *loved* to eat ants. They were his favorite food. He had tasted apples and apricots. He didn't want those. He wanted to eat bugs, and ants were his favorite. Termites were tasty, too!



He liked to walk up to ant hills. Then he'd scrape at them with his claws. He could bump them with his nose. The ants would get very angry. They would come outside their hills. They wanted to know why he was there. Why was he so mean?



Arnold would just smile and stick out his tongue. Slurp! Slurp! His sticky tongue grabbed the ants. He ate them right up. He gobbled them down. He ate them by the dozen. He ate them by the hundred! Arnold was an anteater. He ate lots and lots of ants.

Arnold the Anteater

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. bears
 - B. lions
 - C. cats
 - D. anteaters

2. What kind of bug does the anteater like to eat?
 - A. ants
 - B. bees
 - C. flies
 - D. butterflies

3. Which of these foods does the anteater also like to eat?
 - A. wasps
 - B. termites
 - C. beetles
 - D. ladybugs

4. What part of his body does the anteater use to catch the ants?
 - A. his claws
 - B. his nose
 - C. his tongue
 - D. his tail

5. How many ants does the anteater eat in all?
 - A. one
 - B. two
 - C. dozens
 - D. hundreds

Arnold the Anteater

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

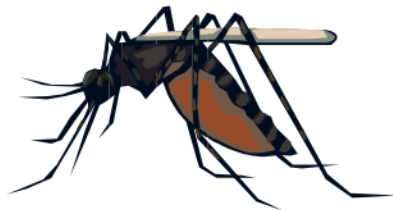
1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
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Benny the Bat

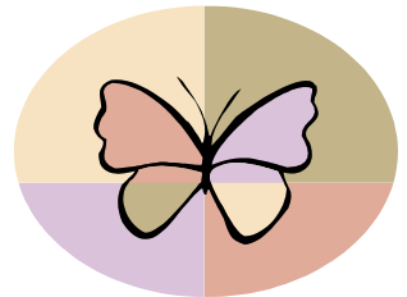
Benny was a Bat. He had wings. He had small eyes. He could not see well, but he could hear very well. This helped him catch his food at night. That was when he was awake.



He liked to eat bugs. He ate moths. He ate mosquitoes. He ate all kinds of flying bugs. He swooped in and got them at night! During the day, he was busy sleeping.



He liked dark places. He liked to sleep in big trees. He really liked to sleep in old barns. He liked places that were dark, dry, and warm. He slept hanging by his feet. He was upside down when he slept. Bats like to sleep that way. They are not like people.



Benny was a fast flier. He flew everywhere. He was not a bird. He was a mammal. He was like a mouse with wings. He didn't have feathers. He had fur. Benny was a Bat!

Benny the Bat

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. bears
 - B. lions
 - C. bats
 - D. anteaters

2. What kind of bug does the bat like to eat?
 - A. ants
 - B. bees
 - C. flies
 - D. moths

3. Which of these foods does the anteater also like to eat?
 - A. mosquitoes
 - B. termites
 - C. beetles
 - D. ladybugs

4. YES OR NO: Does Benny the Bat have feathers?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

5. Benny the Bat is *not* a bird. He is a what?
 - A. reptile
 - B. mammal
 - C. bird
 - D. amphibian

Benny the Bat

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. bears
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Carl the Crocodile

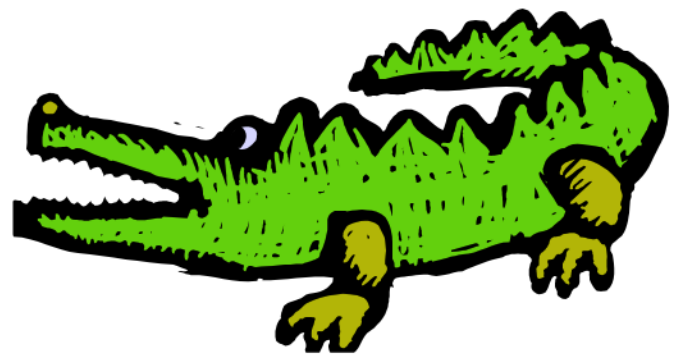
Carl was a great big old Crocodile. He was very long, longer than many cars! He had thick green skin. It was hard and bumpy, like tree bark. He had a long snout and many teeth. He was very large.



He liked to eat lots of stuff. He wasn't picky. He would eat fish or turtles. He would eat rabbits or birds. He would eat just about anything. If it came close to the water, he would eat it.



He liked wet and hot places. He was always by the water. He liked mud and dirty water. It was easy to hide. That helped him catch food. He was not the nicest animal. He was greedy about food.



Carl liked to sit around. He was actually very fast! He waited and waited. Then something came by and SNAP! He would grab it with his jaws. Carl was a great big old Crocodile!

Carl the Crocodile

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. fish
 - B. dogs
 - C. crocodiles
 - D. sheep
2. What kind of animals does the Crocodile like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. fish
 - C. mice
 - D. cookies
3. Which of these foods does the Crocodile NOT like to eat?
 - A. fish
 - B. turtles
 - C. bears
 - D. birds
4. What size is Carl the Crocodile?
 - A. Small
 - B. Tiny
 - C. Gigantic
 - D. Very Large
5. What does Carl's skin feel like?
 - A. hard and bumpy
 - B. smooth
 - C. slimy
 - D. cold

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Danny the Deer

Danny was a Deer. He had brown fur, a white tail, and antlers on his head. His antlers were big and pointy. They were strong and sharp. Sometimes, he hit his antlers on other deer's antlers. It was how he showed he was strong.



He liked to eat lots of plants. His favorite was corn. He would eat from a farmer's field. He also liked apples from the orchard. He couple eat apples all day long. He spent a lot of time looking for food each day.



He liked places with shade and places to hide. He had to watch out for wolves. He had to watch out for hunters. He had to be careful about cougars. He had to watch out for cars! There were so many dangerous things.



Danny was very fast, though. He could run through fields. He could run through forests. He could jump very far. He was hard to catch! Danny was very fast.

Danny the Deer

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. fish
 - B. deer
 - C. dogs
 - D. rabbits

2. What kind of food does Danny like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. cake
 - C. plants
 - D. meat

3. Which of these is Danny's favorite food?
 - A. corn
 - B. apples
 - C. peaches
 - D. pears

4. What does Danny have on his head?
 - A. a hat
 - B. a mane
 - C. antlers
 - D. a spot

5. FILL IN THE BLANK: Danny is very _____?
 - A. funny
 - B. fast
 - C. cute
 - D. tall

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Eric the Elephant

Eric was an Elephant. He was huge and gray. His skin was tough and thick. He had big feet with toenails. He walked slowly, but he could run quite fast. His ears were big, and his trunk was long. He had two white tusks coming out of his mouth.



He ate a LOT! He never seemed to stop eating. Like a cow, he liked leaves and grasses. He ate and ate and ate. It took him all day sometimes to fill his belly. It was hard to eat enough when he was so big. He couldn't use a fork or spoon, either!



He liked water. He could even swim. When it was hot, he would use his trunk to spray water on his back and shoulders, just like a hose. He liked to cool off at the watering hole. He liked to play.



Eric was very social, too. He liked to talk to other elephants. They walked places together. They ate together. They played in the water together. Elephants like company. Eric was an Elephant.

Eric the Elephant

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. elephants
 - B. baboons
 - C. cows
 - D. deer

2. What kind of food does Eric like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. cake
 - C. plants
 - D. meat

3. Where does Eric like to play?
 - A. by the water
 - B. in the forest
 - C. in the fields
 - D. in the grass

4. What does Danny have coming out of his mouth?
 - A. spit
 - B. food
 - C. bugs
 - D. tusks

5. FILL IN THE BLANK: Danny has a long _____?
 - A. foot
 - B. ear
 - C. trunk
 - D. tail

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Frank the Fox

Frank was a Fox. He had red fur and a bushy tail. He had pointy ears like a cat. He was mostly red, but he had some white fur, too. His nose was pointy. He was quick and sneaky.



Frank was in the same family of animals as dogs. Foxes and dogs were like cousins. Still, they didn't get along well. He often had to hide when dogs came near. He was not big like a dog. He was good at hiding!



He was not a picky eater. He would eat eggs, bugs, grass, berries, fish, or anything he could find. He liked to eat a bit of everything. He was easy to please.



Frank was a smart animal. He could survive even in the cold winter. He could always sniff out food. You could see his tiny footprints going everywhere. Frank was a Fox.

Frank the Fox

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. raccoons
 - B. rabbits
 - C. mink
 - D. foxes

2. What color is most of Frank's fur?
 - A. brown
 - B. red
 - C. yellow
 - D. white

3. Which of these does Frank NOT like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. grasses
 - C. bears
 - D. berries

4. Frank was similar to what kind of animal?
 - A. a dog
 - B. a cat
 - C. a monkey
 - D. a mouse

5. YES OR NO: Did Frank survive in the winter?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

Frank the Fox

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

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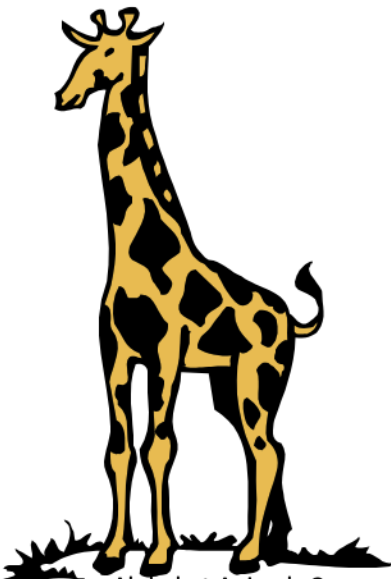
Greta the Giraffe



Greta was a Giraffe. She looked kind of like a horse. She had very long and skinny legs. Her neck was even longer. She had the longest neck of any animal!

Greta liked to eat leaves. So did elephants. So did zebras. They ate most of the leaves. Some leaves, they could not reach. Greta could get them. Her long neck helped her get the leaves. She could reach the tops of trees.

She was very fast, too. She could run fast with long legs. Lions wanted to eat her! Leopards wanted to eat her! Hyenas wanted to eat her! They could not catch her!



Greta had brown spots. She had special spots. No other giraffe looked like her. Each giraffe was different. Her spots were very pretty Greta was a Giraffe.

Greta the Giraffe

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. lions
 - B. tigers
 - C. zebras
 - D. giraffes

2. What does Greta like to eat?
 - A. leaves
 - B. grass
 - C. bugs
 - D. fruit

3. Which of these animals also eats leaves?
 - A. lions
 - B. leopards
 - C. zebras
 - D. hyenas

4. Which of these animals wants to eat Greta?
 - A. birds
 - B. lions
 - C. elephants
 - D. zebras

5. What color are Greta's spots?
 - A. brown
 - B. red
 - C. yellow
 - D. white

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- B. red
- C. yellow
- D. white

Harry the Hippo

Harry was a Hippo. He was a big animal. He was big like a rhino. He was not as big as an elephant. He was as heavy as a small car. He had big teeth. His skin was thick. He was strong. He was dangerous!



Harry liked to spend his time in the water. He spent all day in the water. He would float in the water. He would be hard to see. You could only see his head! He was a good swimmer.



He ate things in the water. He would eat weeds. He would eat grasses. He would eat a lot of things, just like a cow. He liked to eat. It took a lot of food for such a big guy!



Harry was a grumpy guy. He liked to be left alone. Do not bother him! Hippos can be mean. Harry was a big, big hippo.

Harry the Hippo

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. rhinos
 - B. hippos
 - C. elephants
 - D. alligators

2. Where does Harry spend his time?
 - A. in the forest
 - B. in fields
 - C. in the water
 - D. in the desert

3. Which of these does Harry like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. grass
 - C. fruit
 - D. cookies

4. YES OR NO: Is Harry as big as an elephant?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

5. YES OR NO: Does Harry like to swim?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

Harry the Hippo

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?

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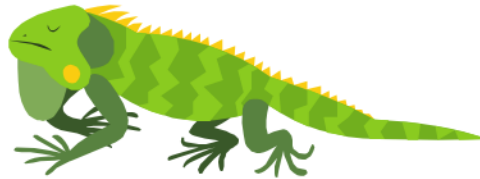
- A. YES**
- B. NO

Ida the Iguana

Ida was an Iguana. Iguanas were lizards. So, Ida had scales. She did not have fur. She did not have feathers. She did not have skin like people. She had spikes on her back. Her skin was rough. Her tail was very long. She was as long as some people are tall!



Ida lived in warm places. She did not like the cold. She fell asleep if it got too cold; then she would wake up when her body got warm. She lived near water usually. She lived on islands.



She ate lots of plants. She could eat meat, but almost always ate fruits and plants. She had to eat the right things. That was how she stayed healthy.



Ida was a good climber. She could climb rocks. She could climb trees. She ran very fast, too! She ran away from birds. Birds wanted to eat her! Ida was an Iguana.

Ida the Iguana

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. alligators
 - B. dogs
 - C. iguanas
 - D. elephants

2. What kind of weather does Ida like?
 - A. snowy
 - B. warm
 - C. cold
 - D. rainy

3. Which of these does Ida like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. cookies
 - C. fruit
 - D. hot dogs

4. YES OR NO: Can Ida climb trees?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

5. What does Ida have to cover her body?
 - A. feathers
 - B. fur
 - C. skin
 - D. scales

Ida the Iguana

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- A. YES**
- B. NO

5. What does Ida have to cover her body?

- A. feathers
- B. fur
- C. skin
- D. scales**

Jake the Jaguar

Jake was a Jaguar. He was a large cat. He was like a lion or a tiger. He was not as big as them. He was bigger than other cats, though. He was bigger than panthers, cheetahs, and leopards. He had spots like a leopard or a cheetah.



Jake lived in a jungle. He was very good at climbing trees. He hid in trees. He slept in trees. He was quiet and fast. He was a good hunter. He hunted in the jungle. He hunted by rivers.



He ate meat. He hunted wild animals. He caught pigs. He caught deer. He ate foxes. He even caught snakes! He caught many kinds of animals. He needed to eat meat.



Jake was a Jaguar. He was the biggest kind of cat in North and South America. He lived in the jungle and he ate meat. Jake was a Jaguar.

Jake the Jaguar

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. cats
 - B. dogs
 - C. jaguars
 - D. crocodiles

2. Where does Jake live?
 - A. in the jungle
 - B. in the water
 - C. in the snow
 - D. in the desert

3. Which of these does Jake like to eat?
 - A. bugs
 - B. meat
 - C. fruit
 - D. vegetables

4. YES OR NO: Can Jake climb trees?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

5. What does Jake have on his body?
 - A. feathers
 - B. scales
 - C. stripes
 - D. spots

Jake the Jaguar

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- A. feathers
- B. scales
- C. stripes
- D. spots**

Kara the Kangaroo

Kara was a Kangaroo. She was about as tall as a person. Her legs were very strong. She could jump very far! She had a long tail. Her tail helped her jump. When she jumped, her tail kept her from falling. It was for balance.



Kara lived in Australia. She was a marsupial. That is a special kind of animal with a pouch. It is a pocket for babies. A baby kangaroo is a Joey. A Joey stayed in Kara's pouch.



Kara ate only plants. She ate grass. She ate leaves. She never ate meat. She chewed her food like a cow. She had to chew a long time!



Kara was scared of dogs. She was a little scared of people, too. She had to jump away very fast. She had to keep her Joey safe. Kara was a kangaroo.

Kara the Kangaroo

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. rats
 - B. kangaroos
 - C. raccoons
 - D. dogs

2. Where does Kara live?
 - A. in America
 - B. in Asia
 - C. in Australia
 - D. in Antarctica

3. Which of these does Kara like to eat?
 - A. grass
 - B. meat
 - C. chocolate
 - D. soda

4. What does Kara keep in her pouch?
 - A. toys
 - B. a hat
 - C. a Joey
 - D. rocks

5. YES OR NO: Can Kara jump very far?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

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- C. a Joey**
- D. rocks

5. YES OR NO: Can Kara jump very far?

- A. YES**
- B. NO

Leon the Lemur

Leon was a Lemur. He looked like a monkey. He had a long tail. He had a small face. He had eyes, ears, and a mouth. His hands had thumbs. He could do many things. He was a smart animal.



He lived with other lemurs. They talked to each other. They found food together. They played together. They climbed together. They lived in Madagascar. That is part of Africa.



Leon liked to eat fruit. He ate a lot of fruit. Sometimes he ate leaves. Sometimes he ate bugs. Mostly he ate plants.



Leon was a good climber. He jumped. He climbed. He ran. He was very fast. He was hard to catch. That is how he stayed safe. Leon was a Lemur.

Leon the Lemur

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. monkeys
 - B. kangaroos
 - C. rats
 - D. lemurs

2. Where does Leon live?
 - A. in America
 - B. in Africa
 - C. in Australia
 - D. in Antarctica

3. Which of these does Leon like to eat?
 - A. rocks
 - B. meat
 - C. fruit
 - D. cake

4. FILL IN THE BLANK: Leon has a long _____?
 - A. tail
 - B. ear
 - C. tongue
 - D. nose

5. YES OR NO: Does Leon live alone?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO

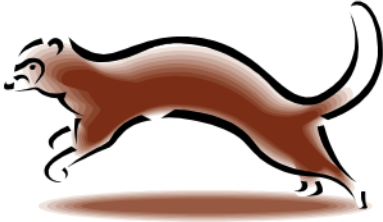
Leon the Lemur

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. monkeys
 - B. kangaroos
 - C. rats
 - D. lemurs**
2. Where does Leon live?
 - A. in America
 - B. in Africa**
 - C. in Australia
 - D. in Antarctica
3. Which of these does Leon like to eat?
 - A. rocks
 - B. meat
 - C. fruit**
 - D. cake
4. FILL IN THE BLANK: Leon has a long _____?
 - A. tail**
 - B. ear
 - C. tongue
 - D. nose
5. YES OR NO: Does Leon live alone?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO**

Mindy the Mink

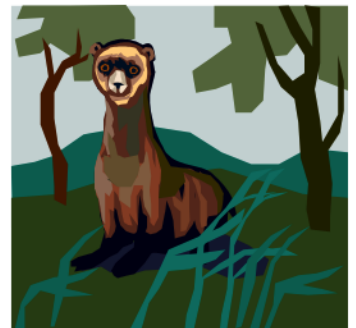
Mindy was a Mink. She was long and skinny. She had short fur. She had a long body and short legs. She was fast and sneaky. She had sharp teeth and fast paws.



Minks were like other animals. They were like ermines. They were like weasels. They were like ferrets. They were like otters. It was the same family of animals.



Mindy lived near the water. She was great at swimming. She could eat many things in and near the water. She could eat fish. She could eat frogs. She could eat crabs. She could eat mice. She always liked to eat meat.



Mindy was good at hiding. She was good at swimming. She was good at hunting, too! Mindy was a mink.

Mindy the Mink

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?

- A. rats
- B. mice
- C. minks
- D. lemurs

2. Where does Mindy like to live?

- A. near water
- B. near deserts
- C. near ice
- D. near towns

3. Which of these does Mindy like to eat?

- A. grass
- B. seeds
- C. fish
- D. cake

4. Which of these does Mindy NOT eat?

- A. fish
- B. mice
- C. frogs
- D. alligators

5. FILL IN THE BLANK: Mindy has sharp _____?

- A. eyes
- B. teeth
- C. feelings
- D. ears

Mindy the Mink

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?

- A. rats
- B. mice
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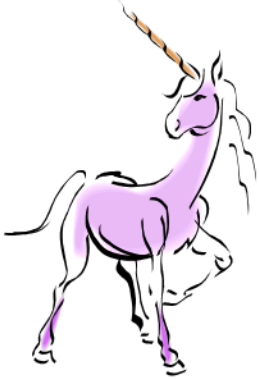
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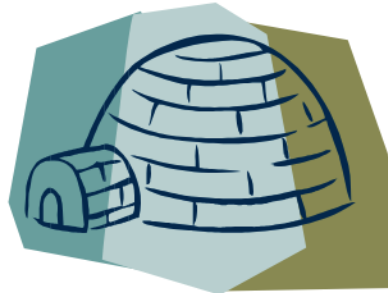
- A. eyes
- B. teeth**
- C. feelings
- D. ears

Norm the Narwhal

Norm was a Narwhal. It was a special kind of whale. He had a long tooth. It was a tusk. It looked like a unicorn's horn! It was very long. It was 8 feet long. That is longer than people are tall!



Narwhal live in the arctic. Norm did, too. He swam in the cold water. There was ice all around. There was ice floating in the water. Those were called icebergs.



Norm ate a lot of seafood. He ate cod. He ate flatfish. He ate shrimp. He ate squid. He did not have a lot of choices. He could not be picky.



Norm loved to swim in cold water. He swam with his friends. He lived in a pod. That is a group of whales. Norm was a Narwhal.

Norm the Narwhal

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. whales
 - B. fish
 - C. squid
 - D. water

2. Where does Norm like to live?
 - A. in warm water
 - B. in hot water
 - C. in soapy water
 - D. in cold water

3. Which of these does Norm like to eat?
 - A. grass
 - B. shrimp
 - C. birds
 - D. ice

4. FILL IN THE BLANK: Norm has a long _____?
 - A. fin
 - B. tail
 - C. tooth
 - D. foot

5. FILL IN THE BLANK: Norm lives in a _____?
 - A. town
 - B. pod of whales
 - C. house
 - D. iceberg

Norm the Narwhal

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?

A. whales

B. fish

C. squid

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A. town

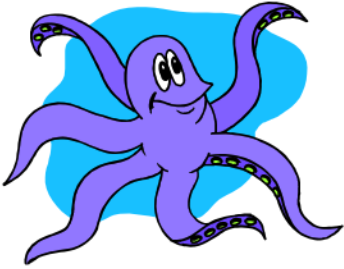
B. pod of whales

C. house

D. iceberg

Oscar the Octopus

Oscar was an Octopus. He had eight legs. His legs had little suckers on them. They were like suction cups. His skin was smooth. He had two eyes. He had a mouth.



People have two legs. Dogs have four legs. Birds have two legs. An octopus has eight legs! That is not usual. They are different. Oscar's legs helped him swim. His legs helped him eat. His legs helped him hold things.



Oscar ate fish. Oscar ate crabs. Oscar ate seafood. He ate clams. He ate shrimp. He ate all the things he grabbed. He ate many things.



Oscar loved to swim. He was very fast. He was good at hiding, too. He lived in the sea. He lived near coral. Oscar was an Octopus.

Oscar the Octopus

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. whales
 - B. fish
 - C. shrimp
 - D. an octopus

2. Which of these does Oscar NOT use his legs for?
 - A. dancing
 - B. swimming
 - C. holding
 - D. eating

3. Which of these does Oscar NOT like to eat?
 - A. fish
 - B. shrimp
 - C. birds
 - D. clams

4. FILL IN THE BLANK: Oscar has a _____ legs?
 - A. two
 - B. four
 - C. six
 - D. eight

5. FILL IN THE BLANK: Oscar lives in the _____?
 - A. trees
 - B. water
 - C. desert
 - D. house

Oscar the Octopus

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

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 - A. whales
 - B. fish
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 - D. eight**
5. FILL IN THE BLANK: Oscar lives in the _____?
 - A. trees
 - B. water**
 - C. desert
 - D. house

Peter the Penguin

Peter was a Penguin. That is a kind of bird. He was black and white. He had feathers. He had feet. He had wings, but he could not fly! His wings were good for swimming.



Peter walked slowly. He waddled. He was not fast on land. He swam very fast! He was a water bird. He swam to find food.



Peter ate fish. He ate shellfish. He ate squid. He swam very fast and caught them. He was good at catching food.



Peter lived in a cold place. He walked on ice. He walked on snow. He swam in very cold water. Peter was a Penguin.

Peter the Penguin

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. fish
 - B. penguins
 - C. dogs
 - D. crabs

2. Which of these is Peter good at?
 - A. dancing
 - B. swimming
 - C. singing
 - D. walking

3. Which of these does Peter NOT like to eat?
 - A. fish
 - B. shellfish
 - C. squid
 - D. weeds

4. What colors is Peter?
 - A. red and black
 - B. white and green
 - C. black and white
 - D. orange and purple

5. Where Peter lives, how is the weather?
 - A. cold
 - B. warm
 - C. hot
 - D. dark

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?

- A. fish
- B. penguins**
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- B. warm
- C. hot
- D. dark

Quincy the Quail

Quincy was a Quail. He was a small bird. He was not as big as a chicken. He was brown and grey. He had a crest on his head. He could run, and he could fly. He liked to live with other Quail.



Quincy liked to take baths. He did not use water. He used dust. He dug a hole. He flapped his wings. He made a dusty mess! The dust was warm and nice. He liked dust baths.



Quincy ate a lot of things. He ate bugs. He ate berries. He ate leaves. He ate seeds. He ate this and that. He good at finding food. He searched all over the ground.



Quincy helped make a nest. He had to keep eggs safe. Quail eggs were small. They were not big. He had to guard the eggs. His mate had to go eat, too! Quincy was a Quail.

Quincy the Quail

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. quail
 - B. doves
 - C. turkeys
 - D. chickens

2. What does Quincy use to take a bath?
 - A. water
 - B. soap
 - C. a towel
 - D. dust

3. Which of these does Quincy NOT like to eat?
 - A. seeds
 - B. sandwiches
 - C. berries
 - D. bugs

4. What does Quincy do with eggs?
 - A. guard them
 - B. eat them
 - C. cook them
 - D. lay them

5. What does Quincy have on his head?
 - A. a crest
 - B. a hat
 - C. a crown
 - D. sunglasses

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- D. sunglasses

Rena the Reindeer

Rena was a Reindeer. Boy deer usually have antlers. Reindeer girls have them, too! Reindeer have very big antlers. They have thick fur. They have to stay warm. They have to live in the winter snow.



Rena ate plants, like a cow. She ate moss. She ate grass. She ate sedges. She ate mushrooms. If there was lots of snow, food was hard to find. Rena ate what she found.



Rena lived in a herd. She did not live alone. It was a big group. There were many reindeer. There were dozens. There were hundreds. Maybe there were even thousands! There were so many!



Rena moved a lot. She had to find food. She walked a lot. She ran very quickly, too. A wolf may try to eat her! She ran with the herd. Rena was a Reindeer.

Rena the Reindeer

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. horses
 - B. dogs
 - C. cows
 - D. reindeer

2. YES OR NO: Does Rena have antlers?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. Which of these does Rena NOT like to eat?
 - A. birds
 - B. grass
 - C. mushrooms
 - D. moss

4. YES OR NO: Does Rena live alone?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

5. Why does Rena have thick fur?
 - A. to look pretty
 - B. to stay cold
 - C. to stay warm
 - D. for fun

Rena the Reindeer

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

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- A. horses
- B. dogs
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- B. No**

5. Why does Rena have thick fur?

- A. to look pretty
- B. to stay cold
- C. to stay warm**
- D. for fun

Sonny the Scorpion

Sonny was a Scorpion. He was not a bug. He was an arachnid. He was like a spider. He had eight legs. He also had two claws. His claws were like a crab's. They were pinchers. He had a tail, too. It had a stinger. It was like a bee's. It had a very bad sting!



Sonny did not eat much. He could wait a long time to eat. He sat and waited. He was very patient. He ate bugs. He ate small things. Sometimes he ate a lizard.



Sonny liked warm weather. He did not like the cold. He hid under rocks. He liked to dig holes in the sand. He had to stay warm. He had to hide, too. He was black and brown and grey. He could hide by rocks. He was the same colors as rocks.



Sonny had a bad sting. He could sting things. He could sting people. People do not like a scorpion's sting. It hurts! Do not play with scorpions. Sonny was a Scorpion.

Sonny the Scorpion

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. spiders
 - B. bugs
 - C. scorpions
 - D. bees

2. YES OR NO: Does Sonny have a tail?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. Which of these does Sonny like to eat?
 - A. birds
 - B. fruit
 - C. bugs
 - D. cookies

4. YES OR NO: Can Sonny sting people?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

5. How many legs does Sonny have?
 - A. two
 - B. four
 - C. six
 - D. eight

Sonny the Scorpion

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?

- A. spiders
- B. bugs
- C. scorpions**
- D. bees

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- B. fruit
- C. bugs**
- D. cookies

4. YES OR NO: Can Sonny sting people?

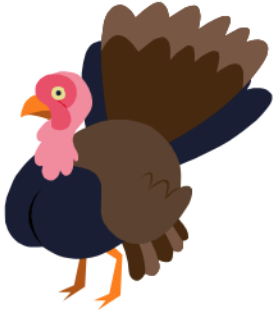
- A. Yes**
- B. No

5. How many legs does Sonny have?

- A. two
- B. four
- C. six
- D. eight**

Tom the Turkey

Tom was a Turkey. Turkeys are birds. They are bigger than chickens. Turkeys are mostly brown. They have big tail feathers. Their heads are red. They have a wattle. This is the skin on their necks and noses. It might look weird to us!



Tom ate seeds. Tom ate berries. Tom ate small nuts. Tom ate bugs. Tom ate a lot of things, didn't he? He was good at finding small food on the ground.



Tom could fly. He looked big and fat. He had a lot of feathers. He could still fly. He could fly up into trees. He had to hide from people. He had to hide from coyotes. He had to hide from wolves.



Tom was a big bird. His tail was very pretty. He ate a lot. He wanted to be big and strong. Tom was a Turkey.

Tom the Turkey

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. chickens
 - B. ducks
 - C. geese
 - D. turkeys

2. YES OR NO: Can Tom fly?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. Which of these does Tom NOT like to eat?
 - A. seeds
 - B. fruit
 - C. bugs
 - D. dirt

4. What does Tom have on his head?
 - A. a wattle
 - B. a hat
 - C. a wig
 - D. a sticker

5. Which type of animal does NOT Tom not have to hide from?
 - A. coyotes
 - B. people
 - C. mice
 - D. wolves

Tom the Turkey

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of animal is this story mostly about?
 - A. chickens
 - B. ducks
 - C. geese
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5. Which type of animal does NOT Tom not have to hide from?
 - A. coyotes
 - B. people
 - C. mice**
 - D. wolves

Uma the Umbrella Bird

Uma was an Umbrella Bird. She was a black bird. The feathers on her head were big. It was a crest. The crest made it look like she had a weird haircut! It looked like an umbrella, too. The boy umbrella birds have a red neck. It is called a wattle.



Uma lived in South America. She lived in a rain forest. That is a very wet jungle. There were many trees, and it was very wet. It rained a lot, and it was very hot. This made it very sticky weather.



Uma ate fruit, and she ate bugs. Sometimes, she ate small lizards. She mostly ate fruit. It was her favorite thing to eat.



Uma was a pretty big bird. She looked very different. She was not like the other birds. Her crest on her head made her different. Umbrella birds were special. Uma was an Umbrella Bird.

Uma the Umbrella Bird

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. weather
 - B. umbrellas
 - C. umbrella birds
 - D. chickens

2. What does Uma have on her head?
 - A. a crest
 - B. a hat
 - C. a wig
 - D. a sticker

3. Which of these does Uma NOT like to eat?
 - A. snakes
 - B. fruit
 - C. bugs
 - D. lizards

4. Where does Uma live?
 - A. in a cage
 - B. the city
 - C. the rain forest
 - D. the desert

5. What part of Uma made her different?
 - A. her wings
 - B. her tail
 - C. her eyes
 - D. her crest

Uma the Umbrella Bird

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. weather
 - B. umbrellas
 - C. umbrella birds**
 - D. chickens
2. What does Uma have on her head?
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 - A. in a cage
 - B. the city
 - C. the rain forest**
 - D. the desert
5. What part of Uma made her different?
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 - B. her tail
 - C. her eyes
 - D. her crest**

Velma the Vulture

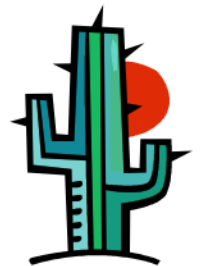
Velma was a Vulture. Vultures are big birds. They are mostly black. They have no feathers on their heads. This makes them kind of ugly. They are not pretty birds.



Velma liked to fly. From the sky, she could find food. She had good eyes. She flew and looked down. There was something to eat! It was time to land and eat!



Velma ate dead stuff. She was like the garbage collector. She helped keep things clean. She ate lots of dead stuff! That doesn't sound very nice, does it?



Velma helped keep things clean. She worked with ants. She worked with flies. She worked with worms. Together, they kept things clean. Velma was a Vulture.

Velma the Vulture

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. cats
 - B. dogs
 - C. violins
 - D. vultures

2. What does Velma NOT have on her head?
 - A. feathers
 - B. eyes
 - C. a beak
 - D. skin

3. What kind of food does Velma eat?
 - A. cookies
 - B. fruit
 - C. dead stuff
 - D. bugs

4. Which of these does NOT help Velma eat dead stuff?
 - A. flies
 - B. butterflies
 - C. ants
 - D. worms

5. Why does Velma eat dead stuff?
 - A. It tastes good.
 - B. It's gross.
 - C. It helps keep things clean.
 - D. It gives her nice breath.

Velma the Vulture

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. cats
 - B. dogs
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 - A. It tastes good.
 - B. It's gross.
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 - D. It gives her nice breath.

Wally the Walrus

Wally was a Walrus. He was like a seal. He was like a sea lion. He had whiskers and two very big teeth. These teeth were called tusks. He was like an elephant, too.



Wally lived in cold places. He lived near the sea. He was big, but he was a good swimmer. He liked to dive and look for food.



Wally ate a LOT of food. He was a very big animal. He ate to get fat. The fat kept him warm in the cold water. He ate clams. He ate crabs. He ate fish. He ate shrimp. He ate many things, but he loved clams the most!



Wally was a big animal. He only had to be careful about two animals. He had to watch for Killer Whales. He had to watch for Polar Bears, too. Wally was a great big Walrus.

Wally the Walrus

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. seals
 - B. sea lions
 - C. walruses
 - D. whales

2. What is special about Wally's head?
 - A. He has two big teeth.
 - B. He has feathers.
 - C. He has a beak.
 - D. He is purple and green.

3. What kind of food is Wally's favorite?
 - A. shrimp
 - B. fish
 - C. clams
 - D. crabs

4. Which of these animals does Wally have to be careful around?
 - A. birds
 - B. polar bears
 - C. seals
 - D. otters

5. Which of these animals is Wally NOT like?
 - A. whales
 - B. seals
 - C. sea lions
 - D. elephants

Wally the Walrus

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. seals
 - B. sea lions
 - C. walruses**
 - D. whales

2. What is special about Wally's head?
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 - B. polar bears**
 - C. seals
 - D. otters

5. Which of these animals is Wally NOT like?
 - A. whales**
 - B. seals
 - C. sea lions
 - D. elephants

Xavier the X-Ray Fish

Xavier was an X-Ray Fish. He was not a large fish. He was only about two inches long. He had black fins. Part of him looked silver. The rest of him was like glass. You could see through him. You could see his bones. You could see his organs.



Xavier could live in all sorts of water. He did not like it very salty, but a little salt was okay. He liked rivers. He liked to be with other fish like him. They swam in schools.



Xavier was not very big. He could not eat big things. He ate bugs. He ate plankton. He ate tiny things. It was all he could eat.



Xavier was a small fish. He lived in South America. He also lived in a fish tank. Maybe you can see some of his friends. They could be in the pet store. Xavier was an X-Ray Fish.

Xavier the X-Ray Fish

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. fish
 - B. water
 - C. bugs
 - D. fish tanks

2. What is special about Xavier?
 - A. He is small.
 - B. He is cute.
 - C. He is see-through.
 - D. He is pink.

3. What kind of food does Xavier eat?
 - A. shrimp
 - B. fish
 - C. cake
 - D. bugs

4. YES OR NO: Does Xavier like to be with more of his kind of fish?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

5. Where can you find more fish like Xavier?
 - A. at a party
 - B. in very salty water
 - C. in a pet store
 - D. nowhere

Xavier the X-Ray Fish

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?

- A. fish**
- B. water
- C. bugs
- D. fish tanks

2. What is special about Xavier?

- A. He is small.
- B. He is cute.
- C. He is see-through.**
- D. He is pink.

3. What kind of food does Xavier eat?

- A. shrimp
- B. fish
- C. cake
- D. bugs**

4. YES OR NO: Does Xavier like to be with more of his kind of fish?

- A. Yes**
- B. No

5. Where can you find more fish like Xavier?

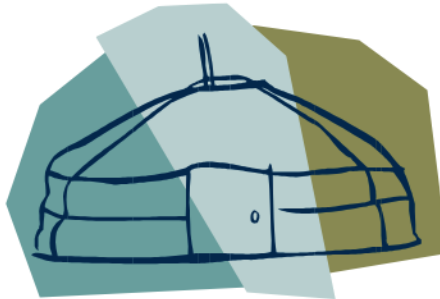
- A. at a party
- B. in very salty water
- C. in a pet store**
- D. nowhere

Yana the Yak

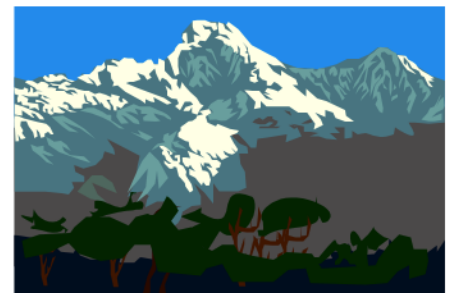
Yana was a Yak. She was a type of cattle. She was like a big cow or like a buffalo. Yaks were almost the biggest kind of cattle. The boy Yaks were even bigger than her! She had long hair to stay warm and horns on her head.



Yana lived in the mountains with people. It was cold there. The people lived in tents called yurts. She had thick fur, so she stayed warm.



She lived in a big herd. There were many other yaks. They ate grass together. They ate sedges. They ate bushes. They ate herbs. They also ate moss. She only ate plants.



Yana worked with people. She was very useful. She could carry a lot of weight. She was very strong. She carried bags. Yana was a Yak.

Yana the Yak

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. mountains
 - B. buffalo
 - C. yaks
 - D. tents

2. YES OR NO: Is Yana a tiny animal?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. What kind of food does Yana NOT eat?
 - A. sedges
 - B. grass
 - C. moss
 - D. bugs

4. YES OR NO: Does Yana live with people?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

5. Where can you find a Yak?
 - A. in the desert
 - B. in very salty water
 - C. in a pet store
 - D. in the cold mountains

Yana the Yak

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

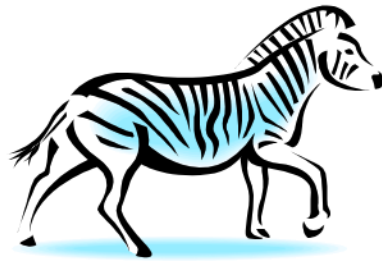
1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. mountains
 - B. buffalo
 - C. yaks**
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2. YES OR NO: Is Yana a tiny animal?
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3. What kind of food does Yana NOT eat?
 - A. sedges
 - B. grass
 - C. moss
 - D. bugs**
4. YES OR NO: Does Yana live with people?
 - A. Yes**
 - B. No
5. Where can you find a Yak?
 - A. in the desert
 - B. in very salty water
 - C. in a pet store
 - D. in the cold mountains**

Zeke the Zebra

Zeke was a Zebra. That was like a horse, but he had stripes. He was black and white. Each zebra had a special set of stripes. None were the same.



Zeke lived in grasslands. He lived in Africa. It was very hot. The grasses were tall. There were not many trees. There were not many mountains. It was a savannah.



Zeke lived in a herd of zebras. There were many zebras with him. They ate grass together. Sometimes, they ate leaves. Usually, they ate grass.



Zeke had to watch out for lions, cheetahs, and leopards. He had to watch for wild dogs. He also had to watch for hyenas, too. Zeke was a Zebra.

Zeke the Zebra

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - A. horses
 - B. zebras
 - C. grass
 - D. lions

2. YES OR NO: Is Zeke like a horse?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. What kind of food does Zeke eat?
 - A. trees
 - B. grass
 - C. moss
 - D. bugs

4. YES OR NO: Does Zeke live alone?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

5. What kind of animal does Zeke NOT have to watch out for?
 - A. lions
 - B. cheetahs
 - C. giraffes
 - D. hyenas

Zeke the Zebra

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is this story mostly about?

- A. horses
- B. zebras**
- C. grass
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- B. cheetahs
- C. giraffes**
- D. hyenas