

Passage 1: Masters of Camouflage

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Many animals survive by staying hidden from danger. One important survival skill is camouflage. Camouflage helps animals blend into their surroundings so predators cannot easily see them. Some animals also use camouflage while hunting for food.



The chameleon is famous for changing color. Its skin can match nearby leaves, branches, or rocks. This helps the chameleon stay hidden in forests and trees. Another excellent example is the leaf insect. Its body looks almost exactly like a leaf. Even its legs and colors help it disappear among plants.

Some animals change camouflage during different seasons. The snowshoe hare has brown fur during summer so it can blend into dirt and grass. In winter, its fur turns white to match the snow. This color change helps the hare avoid predators such as foxes and owls.

Camouflage is an important adaptation in nature. Without it, many animals would struggle to stay safe and survive.

Passage 1 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A. Forest animals are hard to study
 - B. Snowshoe hares live in cold places
 - C. Predators hunt many small animals
 - D. Camouflage helps animals survive
2. Why does the leaf insect blend into plants so easily?
 - A. It changes color every day
 - B. It hides underground at night
 - C. Its body looks like a leaf
 - D. Its wings are larger than leaves
3. What happens to the snowshoe hare during winter?
 - A. It grows longer ears
 - B. Its fur turns white
 - C. It sleeps underground
 - D. Its body becomes smaller
4. Why is camouflage useful for animals?
 - A. It helps them move faster
 - B. It helps them build homes
 - C. It helps them find water
 - D. It helps them stay hidden

Part 2: Short Answer

5. What is camouflage?

6. How does camouflage help the snowshoe hare survive?

Name:

Date:

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “predators” mean in the passage?

- A. animals that eat plants
- B. animals that build shelters
- C. animals that hunt other animals
- D. animals that live in groups

8. What does the word “blend” mean in the passage?

- A. to move quietly
- B. to stay hidden by matching surroundings
- C. to search for food
- D. to climb trees safely

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that explains how camouflage helps animals survive.

Part 5: Writing

10. Imagine you had camouflage like an animal. Where would you hide and why?

Answer Key - Passage 1: Masters of Camouflage

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 1 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. D
2. C
3. B
4. D

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Camouflage is a survival skill that helps animals blend into their surroundings.

6. Sample Answer:

The snowshoe hare survives by turning white in winter so it can blend into the snow and hide from predators.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. C
8. B

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage explains that camouflage helps animals stay hidden from predators.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 1: Masters of Camouflage

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Masters of Camouflage

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how camouflage helps animals survive in different environments.

Skills Covered:

- Main Idea
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading
- Cause and Effect

Teaching Tips:

- Discuss how camouflage protects animals from predators.
- Ask students to identify examples of camouflage from the passage.
- Encourage students to explain how animal adaptations support survival.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.4

W.4.2

W.4.8

L.4.4

Passage 2: Animals That Glow

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Some animals can make their own light. This special ability is called bioluminescence. Animals use bioluminescence for different survival reasons, including finding food, staying safe, and communicating with others.



Fireflies are one of the most common glowing animals. At night, they flash bright lights to attract mates. Different firefly species use different flashing patterns. These light signals help fireflies find others of the same kind in the dark.

Deep in the ocean, many animals also glow. The anglerfish lives in dark water where sunlight cannot reach. It has a glowing body part that hangs in front of its mouth like a fishing pole. Small fish swim toward the light because they think it is food. Then the anglerfish quickly catches them.

Some jellyfish glow when they feel threatened. Their glowing bodies may confuse predators or scare them away. Scientists believe bioluminescence helps many ocean animals survive in dangerous environments.

Bioluminescence is one of nature's most amazing survival adaptations. Without light, many of these animals would struggle to live in dark habitats.

Passage 2 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Jellyfish are difficult to study
- B. Some animals use light to survive
- C. The deep ocean is completely dark
- D. Fireflies only glow during summer

2. Why do fireflies flash their lights at night?

- A. To scare away birds
- B. To hide from predators
- C. To warm their bodies
- D. To attract mates

3. What happens because the anglerfish has a glowing light?

- A. Other fish avoid the area
- B. The anglerfish swims faster
- C. Small fish move toward it
- D. The ocean becomes brighter

4. Why might jellyfish glow when they are threatened?

- A. To confuse predators
- B. To build underwater shelters
- C. To help them sleep safely
- D. To make the water warmer

Part 2: Short Answer

5. What is bioluminescence?

6. How does the anglerfish use light to survive?

Name:

Date:

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “predators” mean in the passage?

- A. animals that create light
- B. animals that hunt other animals
- C. animals that live in groups
- D. animals that eat only plants

8. What does the word “adaptations” mean in the passage?

- A. sounds animals make at night
- B. places where animals sleep
- C. different kinds of ocean plants
- D. traits that help survival

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that explains how glowing helps animals survive.

Part 5: Writing

10. Imagine you could glow like a firefly. How would you use your light?

Answer Key - Passage 2: Animals That Glow

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 2 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. A

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Bioluminescence is the ability to make light.

6. Sample Answer:

The anglerfish uses a glowing light to attract small fish and catch them for food.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. B
8. D

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage explains that jellyfish may glow to confuse predators.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 2: Animals That Glow

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Animals That Glow

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how bioluminescent animals use light for survival.

Skills Covered:

- Cause & Effect
- Main Idea
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Discuss why glowing is useful in dark environments.
- Ask students to identify cause-and-effect relationships in the passage.
- Compare how different animals use bioluminescence for survival.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 3: Desert Survivors

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Deserts are some of the driest places on Earth. During the day, the air can become extremely hot. At night, temperatures may drop quickly. Animals that live in deserts must find ways to survive with little water and changing temperatures.



Camels are well known desert animals.

Their bodies store fat in their humps, which can be used for energy when food is hard to find. Camels also have wide feet that help them walk on soft sand. Their long eyelashes help keep blowing sand out of their eyes.

The fennec fox survives desert heat in a different way. Its large ears release body heat and help it stay cool. This small fox is usually active at night, when the desert is cooler. During the hot day, it rests in a burrow underground.

The kangaroo rat is another amazing desert survivor. It gets most of the water it needs from seeds. It also stays in its burrow during the day to avoid the heat. By saving energy and avoiding the hottest hours, the kangaroo rat can live in very dry places.

Desert animals survive because their bodies and behaviors help them handle heat, sand, and limited water.

Passage 3 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Desert animals have ways to survive
- B. Camels are the largest desert animals
- C. Desert nights are colder than days
- D. Kangaroo rats mostly eat seeds

2. Why are a camel's wide feet useful in the desert?

- A. They help it find food
- B. They help it stay cool
- C. They help it walk on sand
- D. They help it store water

3. What does the fennec fox usually do during the hot day?

- A. It hunts in open sand
- B. It drinks from cactus plants
- C. It rests in a burrow
- D. It runs across the desert

4. How does the kangaroo rat get most of the water it needs?

- A. It drinks from rivers
- B. It eats desert leaves
- C. It stores rainwater
- D. It gets water from seeds

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Why are deserts difficult places for animals to live?

6. Name one desert animal from the passage and explain how it survives.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word "burrow" mean in the passage?

- A. an underground animal home
- B. a dry desert plant
- C. a place with water
- D. a kind of animal food

8. What does the word "limited" mean in the passage?

- A. easy to find
- B. very colorful
- C. not much
- D. far away

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that explains how a desert animal survives heat or lack of water.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which desert animal from the passage do you think has the most interesting survival skill? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 3: Desert Survivors

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 3 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. A
2. C
3. C
4. D

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

Deserts are difficult because they are very hot during the day and have little water.

6. Sample Answer:

The fennec fox survives by resting in a burrow during the day and being active at night.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. A
8. C

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says the kangaroo rat gets most of the water it needs from seeds.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 3: Desert Survivors

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Desert Survivors

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how desert animals survive heat, sand, and limited water.

Skills Covered:

- Sequence
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Discuss why deserts are challenging habitats for animals.
- Ask students to identify each animal's survival adaptation.
- Have students compare body adaptations and behavior adaptations.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 4: Life in the Arctic

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

The Arctic is one of the coldest habitats on Earth. Snow and ice cover much of the land and water for most of the year. Animals that live there must survive freezing temperatures, strong winds, and long winters. Each Arctic animal has special adaptations that help it stay alive.



Polar bears have thick fur and a layer of fat under their skin. These features help keep their bodies warm. Their large paws help them walk on snow and swim through icy water. Polar bears also have a strong sense of smell, which helps them find food across long distances.

The Arctic fox is much smaller than a polar bear, but it also has helpful adaptations. Its thick fur covers its body, feet, and tail. In winter, its white fur helps it blend into the snow. In summer, its fur can change to brown or gray, which helps it hide among rocks and plants.

Seals survive in a different way. They spend much of their time in cold ocean water. A thick layer of fat keeps them warm, and their smooth bodies help them swim quickly. Seals can also rest on ice when they need a break from the water.

Although these animals are different, they all have adaptations that help them survive in the Arctic.

Passage 4 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Arctic animals have adaptations for survival
- B. Polar bears are the largest Arctic animals
- C. Seals spend most of their time swimming
- D. Arctic foxes change colors each season

2. How are polar bears and seals alike?

- A. Both change fur color in summer
- B. Both live only on snowy land
- C. Both use fat to stay warm
- D. Both have small paws for ice

3. How is the Arctic fox different from the polar bear?

- A. It changes fur color with seasons
- B. It swims through icy ocean water
- C. It has large paws for walking
- D. It uses smell to find food

4. Why do seals have smooth bodies?

- A. To help them hide in snow
- B. To help them dig burrows
- C. To help them swim quickly
- D. To help them climb rocks

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Why is the Arctic a difficult place for animals to live?

6. Compare two animals from the passage. How are their adaptations alike or different?

Name:

Date:

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “adaptations” mean in the passage?

- A. sounds animals make
- B. places where animals sleep
- C. foods animals eat often
- D. traits that help survival

8. What does the word “freezing” mean in the passage?

- A. very bright
- B. very cold
- C. very quiet
- D. very deep

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that explains how an Arctic animal stays warm.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which Arctic animal from the passage do you think has the best survival adaptation? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 4: Life in the Arctic

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 4 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. A
2. C
3. A
4. C

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

The Arctic is difficult because it has freezing temperatures, strong winds, snow, ice, and long winters.

6. Sample Answer:

Polar bears and seals are alike because both have a layer of fat that helps them stay warm. They are different because polar bears walk on snow, while seals spend much time in water.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. D
8. B

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says polar bears have thick fur and a layer of fat under their skin to help keep their bodies warm.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 4: Life in the Arctic

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Life in the Arctic

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how Arctic animals survive cold weather through physical and behavioral adaptations.

Skills Covered:

- Compare and Contrast
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students to compare how polar bears, Arctic foxes, and seals stay warm.
- Discuss how body features help animals survive in extreme habitats.
- Have students identify which adaptations are similar and which are different.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

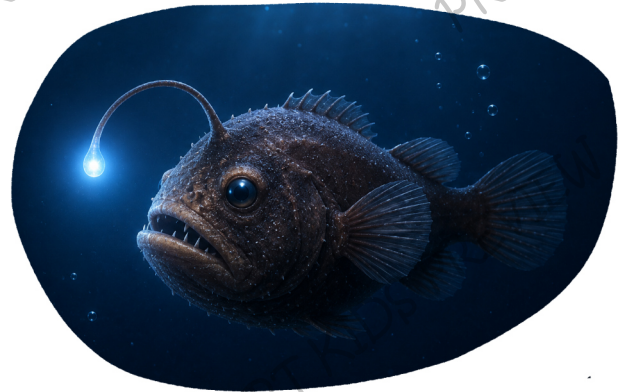
W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 5: Deep Ocean Hunters

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Far below the ocean's surface, sunlight cannot reach the water. The deep sea is dark, cold, and difficult to live in. Food can also be hard to find. Animals that live there must have special adaptations to hunt, hide, and survive.



The giant squid is one deep ocean hunter.

It has very large eyes that help it notice movement in dark water. Its long arms can grab prey from a distance. Since the deep ocean is so dark, these features help the giant squid find food before the food escapes.

The anglerfish has a different hunting method. It has a glowing lure that hangs in front of its mouth. Small fish may swim toward the light because they think it is food. When they come close enough, the anglerfish catches them quickly.

The viperfish is another hunter of the deep. It has long, sharp teeth and a large mouth. These features help it catch fish in a place where meals may not come often. The viperfish can also make light, which may help it attract prey in the darkness.

Deep ocean hunters may look unusual, but their bodies are built for survival. In a dark world with little food, every adaptation matters.

Passage 5 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A. Deep ocean animals have adaptations for survival
 - B. Giant squid are the largest animals in the ocean
 - C. The deep sea has many bright places to hide
 - D. Viperfish only hunt near the ocean surface
2. Why are large eyes useful for a giant squid?
 - A. They help it swim faster
 - B. They help it notice movement
 - C. They help it stay warmer
 - D. They help it make light

3. What can you infer about food in the deep sea?
 - A. It is easy for all animals to find
 - B. It grows near the ocean floor
 - C. It may be difficult to catch
 - D. It is always brightly colored
4. How does the anglerfish use its glowing lure?
 - A. To swim through icy water
 - B. To scare away all hunters
 - C. To hide inside ocean plants
 - D. To attract fish toward it

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Why is the deep sea a difficult place for animals to live?

6. How does one animal from the passage hunt in the deep ocean?

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “prey” mean in the passage?

- A. animals that are hunted for food
- B. animals that build ocean shelters
- C. animals that live near sunlight
- D. animals that travel in groups

8. What does the word “lure” mean in the passage?

- A. a sharp tooth
- B. a deep hole
- C. something used to attract
- D. a place to rest

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that shows how a deep ocean animal survives.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which deep ocean hunter from the passage seems most interesting to you? Explain why.

Answer Key - Passage 5: Deep Ocean Hunters

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 5 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. D

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

The deep sea is difficult because it is dark, cold, and food can be hard to find.

6. Sample Answer:

The anglerfish uses a glowing lure to attract small fish before catching them.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. A
8. C

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says the giant squid has large eyes that help it notice movement in dark water.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 5: Deep Ocean Hunters

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Deep Ocean Hunters

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how deep ocean animals use special adaptations to hunt and survive in dark, cold water.

Skills Covered:

- Inference
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students what clues show that the deep sea is difficult for animals.
- Discuss how each animal's body features help it hunt.
- Have students explain why some deep ocean animals may look unusual.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 6: Fastest Animals

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Speed is an important survival tool for many animals. Some animals use speed to catch prey. Others use speed to escape danger. In nature, moving quickly can make the difference between finding food and going hungry, or between staying safe and being caught.



The cheetah is the fastest land animal. It can run very fast for a short distance. This speed helps the cheetah chase animals such as gazelles. However, a cheetah cannot run at top speed for very long. It must get close to its prey before it begins the chase.

The peregrine falcon is one of the fastest birds in the world. When it dives through the air, it can reach incredible speeds. This fast dive helps the falcon catch other birds before they can escape. Its sharp eyesight also helps it spot prey from high above.

In the ocean, the sailfish is known for its speed. Its long body and large fin help it move quickly through the water. Sailfish often use speed to chase smaller fish. Moving fast helps them hunt in the open ocean.

Although these animals live in different habitats, they all use speed to survive. For them, speed is more than movement. It is a powerful adaptation.

Passage 6 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A. Sailfish live in the open ocean
 - B. Cheetahs only run short distances
 - C. Falcons have very sharp eyesight
 - D. Fast animals use speed to survive
2. What happens because a cheetah cannot run at top speed for long?
 - A. It must hunt only at night
 - B. It must get close before chasing
 - C. It must swim to find prey
 - D. It must hide inside tall grass
3. How does a peregrine falcon's fast dive help it survive?
 - A. It helps the falcon stay warm
 - B. It helps the falcon build nests
 - C. It helps the falcon catch birds
 - D. It helps the falcon find water
4. Why is speed useful for the sailfish?
 - A. It helps it climb onto land
 - B. It helps it hide in coral
 - C. It helps it rest underwater
 - D. It helps it chase smaller fish

Part 2: Short Answer

5. How can speed help animals survive?

6. Choose one animal from the passage. Explain how speed helps it find food or stay safe.

Name:

Date:

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “prey” mean in the passage?

- A. animals that live in cold places
- B. animals that sleep during the day
- C. animals that are hunted for food
- D. animals that move in groups

8. What does the word “adaptation” mean in the passage?

- A. a place where animals live
- B. a trait that helps survival
- C. a kind of animal sound
- D. a season with warm weather

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that shows how speed helps an animal survive.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which fast animal from the passage do you think is the most impressive? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 6: Fastest Animals

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 6 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. D
2. B
3. C
4. D

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

Speed can help animals catch prey, escape danger, and survive in their habitats.

6. Sample Answer:

The peregrine falcon uses speed when it dives through the air to catch other birds.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. C
8. B

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says sailfish use speed to chase smaller fish in the open ocean.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 6: Fastest Animals

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Fastest Animals

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how speed helps animals hunt, escape danger, and survive in different habitats.

Skills Covered:

- Cause and Effect
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students to identify the cause-and-effect relationships in the passage.
- Discuss why speed may help some animals but not others.
- Have students compare how land, air, and ocean animals use speed differently.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 7: Animals That Work Together

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Some animals survive better when they work together. Cooperation can help animals find food, stay safe, and protect their young. When animals live or hunt in groups, each animal may have a role that helps the whole group survive.



Wolves often hunt in packs. A single wolf may have trouble catching a large animal, but a pack can work together to chase and surround prey. Wolves also protect one another and help care for young pups. By staying together, the pack has a better chance of finding food and staying safe.

Dolphins also use teamwork. Some dolphins swim in groups to guide fish into a tight circle. This makes it easier for the dolphins to catch their food. Dolphins may also help injured or young members of their group by staying close to them.

Ants are tiny, but they are strong workers when they cooperate. Some ants search for food, while others protect the colony or care for young ants. When ants find food, they can work together to carry pieces much larger than one ant could move alone.

The author's purpose is to explain how cooperation helps animals survive. Wolves, dolphins, and ants are very different, but they all show that teamwork can be a powerful survival tool.

Passage 7 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the author's main purpose in this passage?

- A. To explain how animal teamwork supports survival
- B. To tell a story about wolves, dolphins, and ants
- C. To persuade readers to study animal groups
- D. To describe where different animals live

2. How does working in a pack help wolves?

- A. It helps them catch prey
- B. It helps them sleep longer
- C. It helps them change color
- D. It helps them swim faster

3. What do dolphins sometimes do when they hunt together?

- A. Dig tunnels under the sand
- B. Hide from fish in coral reefs
- C. Guide fish into a tight circle
- D. Carry food back to a colony

4. How do ants show cooperation?

- A. They hunt large ocean animals
- B. They divide different jobs
- C. They change fur by season
- D. They fly together in groups

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Why can cooperation help animals survive?

6. Choose one animal group from the passage. Explain how the animals work together.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “cooperation” mean in the passage?

- A. moving quickly to escape danger
- B. working together to reach a goal
- C. hiding carefully from predators
- D. changing color with the seasons

8. What does the word “colony” mean in the passage?

- A. a type of animal food
- B. a group of ants living together
- C. a place deep in the ocean
- D. a young animal needing care

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that shows how animals work together.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which animal group from the passage shows the best teamwork? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 7: Animals That Work Together

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 7 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. A
2. A
3. C
4. B

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

Cooperation can help animals find food, stay safe, and protect their young.

6. Sample Answer:

Wolves work together in packs to chase and surround prey. This helps them catch food more easily.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. B
8. B

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says dolphins swim in groups to guide fish into a tight circle.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 7: Animals That Work Together

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Animals That Work Together

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how cooperation helps animals hunt, protect one another, and survive in groups.

Skills Covered:

- Author's Purpose
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students why the author included wolves, dolphins, and ants as examples.
- Have students identify details that support the idea that teamwork helps survival.
- Encourage students to compare how different animal groups cooperate.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 8: Amazing Animal Builders

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Some animals survive by building. They create shelters, traps, or safe places for their young. These structures help solve problems such as danger, weather, and finding food. Animal builders may use sticks, mud, silk, or soil to make what they need.



Beavers are well-known builders. They cut down small trees with their strong teeth and use branches, mud, and rocks to build dams. A dam slows moving water and creates a pond. This pond helps protect the beaver's home from predators. Beavers also build lodges where they can rest and stay safe.

Spiders build in a different way. Many spiders spin webs from silk. A web can act like a trap for insects. When an insect flies into the sticky web, the spider can catch it for food. For spiders, building helps solve the problem of finding prey.

Termites are tiny insects, but some build large mounds from soil. These mounds help protect the colony and keep the inside temperature more stable. A termite mound can also have tunnels that allow air to move through it.

Beavers, spiders, and termites build very different structures. However, each structure helps solve a survival problem.

Passage 8 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Beavers build dams in rivers
- B. Spiders use webs to catch food
- C. Animals build structures to survive
- D. Termites live in large colonies

2. What problem does a beaver dam help solve?

- A. It helps beavers find insects
- B. It helps beavers make silk
- C. It helps beavers climb trees
- D. It helps protect their home

3. How does a spider web help a spider survive?

- A. It traps insects for food
- B. It keeps the spider warm
- C. It stores water for later
- D. It protects nearby plants

4. Why are termite mounds useful?

- A. They help termites swim
- B. They protect the colony
- C. They help termites make silk
- D. They help termites cut trees

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Why do some animals build structures?

6. Choose one animal from the passage. What does it build, and how does the structure help it survive?

Name:

Date:

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “structures” mean in the passage?

- A. things that are built
- B. animals that hunt
- C. foods animals eat
- D. places with water

8. What does the word “stable” mean in the passage?

- A. changing quickly
- B. staying steady
- C. moving faster
- D. growing larger

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that shows how an animal solves a survival problem by building.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which animal builder from the passage do you think is the most amazing? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 8: Amazing Animal Builders

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 8 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. B

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

Some animals build structures to stay safe, catch food, protect their young, or survive weather.

6. Sample Answer:

A spider builds a web. The web helps it trap insects for food.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. A
8. B

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says a beaver dam creates a pond that helps protect the beaver's home from predators.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 8: Amazing Animal Builders

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Amazing Animal Builders

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how animals build shelters, traps, and protective structures to solve survival problems.

Skills Covered:

- Problem and Solution
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students to identify the problem each animal faces and the structure that helps solve it.
- Have students compare shelters, traps, and colony structures.
- Encourage students to explain how building is a survival adaptation.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.3

RI.4.4

W.4.2

L.4.4

Passage 9: Night Hunters

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Some animals are active at night instead of during the day. These animals are called nocturnal animals. Hunting at night can help animals avoid daytime heat, stay hidden from danger, and find prey that also moves after dark. To survive in low light, night hunters need special body features and behaviors.



Owls are skilled night hunters. Their large eyes help them see in dim light. They also have excellent hearing, which helps them locate small animals moving through grass or leaves. An owl's soft feathers allow it to fly quietly, so prey may not hear it coming.

Bats survive at night in a different way. Many bats use echolocation to find food. They make high sounds that bounce off objects and return as echoes. These echoes help bats tell where insects are, even in the dark. This ability helps bats hunt while flying.

Leopards can also hunt at night. Their strong bodies, sharp claws, and quiet movements help them move close to prey. Since leopards can see well in low light, darkness gives them an advantage while hunting.

Night hunters may use different skills, but they all show how animals can survive when the sun goes down.

Passage 9 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Owls are the quietest animals at night
- B. Bats use sounds to find insects
- C. Leopards move carefully when hunting
- D. Night hunters have special survival skills

2. Why do owls have soft feathers?

- A. To help them fly quietly
- B. To help them swim quickly
- C. To help them stay underground
- D. To help them store extra food

3. What can you infer about echolocation?

- A. It helps bats sleep during the day
- B. It helps bats hide inside caves
- C. It helps bats find food in darkness
- D. It helps bats change their color

4. Why might darkness give leopards an advantage?

- A. It makes prey move more slowly
- B. It helps them hunt without being seen
- C. It keeps their bodies warmer
- D. It lets them climb higher trees

Part 2: Short Answer

5. What does nocturnal mean?

6. Choose one animal from the passage. Explain how it hunts at night.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “prey” mean in the passage?

- A. animals that hunt at night
- B. animals that are hunted for food
- C. animals that sleep in trees
- D. animals that live in caves

8. What does the word “advantage” mean in the passage?

- A. a problem that makes survival harder
- B. a sound that returns as an echo
- C. a skill that is used only in daylight
- D. something that helps in a situation

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that shows how a night hunter survives.

Part 5: Writing

10. Which night hunter from the passage would be the hardest for prey to notice? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 9: Night Hunters

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 9 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. D
2. A
3. C
4. B

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

Nocturnal means active at night instead of during the day.

6. Sample Answer:

An owl hunts at night by using large eyes, excellent hearing, and quiet flight to find prey.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. B
8. D

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says bats use echolocation to find insects in the dark.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 9: Night Hunters

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:
Night Hunters

Grade Level:
4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn how nocturnal animals use special features and behaviors to hunt and survive at night.

Skills Covered:

- Inference
- Vocabulary in Context
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students what clues help them infer why night hunting is useful.
- Discuss how each animal uses a different nighttime survival strategy.
- Have students identify vocabulary words that connect to nocturnal survival.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1
RI.4.2
RI.4.4
W.4.2
L.4.4

Animal Survival | Grade 4 Reading Comprehension Worksheets

Passage 10: Protecting Endangered Animals

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions.

Some animals are in danger of disappearing from the world. These animals are called endangered animals. An animal can become endangered when its habitat is damaged, when there is less food, or when people hunt it too much. Protecting endangered animals helps keep nature healthy and balanced.



Sea turtles are one example of endangered animals.

Many sea turtles face danger from plastic pollution in the ocean. They may mistake plastic bags for food. Sea turtles also need safe beaches where they can lay their eggs. When beaches become crowded or polluted, baby turtles may have a harder time surviving.

Tigers are endangered for different reasons. They need large forests and grasslands to hunt and raise their young. When people cut down forests, tigers lose space to live and find food. Some tigers are also hunted illegally, which makes the problem worse.

Pandas also need special habitats. They eat mostly bamboo, so they must live in places where bamboo grows. If bamboo forests are destroyed, pandas may struggle to find enough food.

Endangered animals need protection because each animal has an important role in its environment. People can help by protecting habitats, reducing pollution, and learning why these animals matter.

Passage 10 Questions

Grade 4 Reading Comprehension | Animal Survival

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Sea turtles live near beaches
- B. Endangered animals need protection
- C. Tigers hunt in forests and grasslands
- D. Pandas eat mostly bamboo

2. Why can plastic pollution be dangerous for sea turtles?

- A. It makes beaches colder
- B. It keeps turtles from swimming
- C. Turtles may mistake it for food
- D. Turtles use it to build nests

3. What happens when forests are cut down?

- A. Tigers find more places to hide
- B. Pandas stop eating bamboo
- C. Sea turtles leave the ocean
- D. Animals lose important habitats

4. Why do pandas need bamboo forests?

- A. Bamboo is their main food
- B. Bamboo helps them swim
- C. Bamboo keeps them warm
- D. Bamboo hides their eggs

Part 2: Short Answer

5. What does endangered mean?

6. Choose one animal from the passage. Explain why it may be endangered.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. What does the word “habitat” mean in the passage?

- A. an animal’s hunting skill
- B. an animal’s favorite food
- C. an animal’s body covering
- D. an animal’s natural home

8. What does the word “pollution” mean in the passage?

- A. clean water in nature
- B. harmful waste in the environment
- C. safe places for animals
- D. forests where animals live

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Write one detail from the passage that explains why an animal is endangered.

Part 5: Writing

10. In your opinion, what is one important way people can help endangered animals? Explain your answer.

Answer Key - Passage 10: Protecting Endangered Animals

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Passage 10 Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. A

Part 2: Short Answer

5. Sample Answer:

Endangered means an animal is in danger of disappearing from the world.

6. Sample Answer:

Tigers may be endangered because they lose habitat when forests are cut down, and some are hunted illegally.

Part 3: Vocabulary

7. D
8. B

Part 4: Text Evidence

9. Sample Answer:

The passage says sea turtles may mistake plastic bags for food, which can put them in danger.

Part 5: Writing

10. Answers will vary.

Teacher Notes - Passage 10: Protecting Endangered Animals

Animal Survival Reading Comprehension Worksheets | Teacher Notes

Passage Title:

Protecting Endangered Animals

Grade Level:

4th Grade

Reading Focus:

Students learn why some animals become endangered and how people can help protect them.

Skills Covered:

- Main Idea
- Opinion Writing
- Key Details
- Text Evidence
- Vocabulary in Context
- Informational Reading

Teaching Tips:

- Ask students to identify the main reasons animals become endangered.
- Have students connect each animal to a specific survival problem.
- Encourage students to support their opinions with facts from the passage.

Suggested Uses:

- Whole Group Reading
- Independent Practice
- Literacy Centers
- Homework
- Test Prep Practice

CCSS Alignment:

RI.4.1

RI.4.2

RI.4.4

W.4.1

W.4.2

L.4.4