



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: BIGGEST BODIES

1. Write a few sentences describing the largest animal on land.

2. Which animal's size do you think is most impressive? Why?

3. What is the largest animal that lives in the water?
 - A. whale shark
 - B. blue whale
 - C. fin whale

4. Which of the following animals has the longest body?
 - A. giant squid
 - B. whale shark
 - C. saltwater crocodile



5. What does **measured** mean in the *Biggest Bodies* book?

*Some squid are very big, too. One giant squid **measured** nearly 43 feet (13 m) long.*

- A. used a ruler
- B. took a picture
- C. was a certain size

6. What does **creature** mean in the *Biggest Bodies* book?

*The lion's mane jellyfish is the longest sea **creature**.*

- A. a monster
- B. an animal
- C. a plant



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: BIGGEST BODIES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. A
5. C
6. B



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: BIZARRE BIRDS

1. Write a few sentences describing one way male birds show off to attract mates.
2. Which bird described in the book would you most like to see in real life? Why?
3. Which type of bird mainly eats bones?
 - A. vampire finch
 - B. bearded vulture
 - C. grebe
4. Why would mallee fowl dads keep their mounds a certain temperature?
 - A. so the mounds feel nice to sit on
 - B. so the eggs can stay safe and grow
 - C. so female mallee fowl will stay away



5. What does **diets** mean in the *Bizarre Birds* book?

*Some birds have strange **diets**. Marabou storks are scavengers. They often eat trash.*

- A. the size an animal usually grows
- B. the places an animal usually lives
- C. the things an animal usually eats

6. What does **enormous** mean in the *Bizarre Birds* book?

*Sociable weavers build **enormous** nests. One nest can weigh as much as a small car.*

- A. very big
- B. very small
- C. not real



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: BIZARRE BIRDS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. A



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: COLDEST CLIMATES

1. Write a sentence that explains how land animals stay warm in cold climates.
2. Would you rather visit the North Pole or the South Pole? Why?
3. Which bird migrates between the Arctic and Antarctica?
 - A. snow petrel
 - B. emperor penguin
 - C. Arctic tern
4. How does having white fur help an animal survive in a snowy climate?
 - A. White fur helps the animal hide from predators.
 - B. White fur stays clean in the snow.
 - C. White fur soaks up heat from the sun.



5. What does **bushy** mean in the *Coldest Climates* book?

*The Arctic fox uses its **bushy** tail like a blanket.*

- A. thick and fluffy
- B. covered with small plants
- C. thin and prickly

6. What does **huddle** mean in the *Coldest Climates* book?

*They **huddle** together to keep warm. They hunt in groups, too.*

- A. make a plan
- B. jump up and down
- C. gather close together



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: COLDEST CLIMATES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. C
4. A
5. A
6. C



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: DEEPEST DIVERS

1. Write a few sentences describing some of the animals found in deep water near the seafloor.
2. Would you want to study animals that live in the deep ocean? Why or why not?
3. Which mammal can dive the deepest?
 - A. sperm whale
 - B. Cuvier's beaked whale
 - C. elephant seal
4. How would glowing in the dark help a viperfish catch prey?
 - A. The light could make the viperfish easier to see.
 - B. The light could scare away other animals.
 - C. The prey might see the light and swim closer.



5. What does **shallow** mean in the *Deepest Divers* book?

*Whale sharks often swim in **shallow** water. But they can dive up to 6,000 feet (1,800 m) deep.*

- A. not deep
- B. not far
- C. not real

6. What does **increases** mean in the *Deepest Divers* book?

*As animals go deeper into the ocean, more water is above them. So, the pressure **increases**.*

- A. gets brighter
- B. gets stronger
- C. gets less strong



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: DEEPEST DIVERS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. B



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: HOTTEST HABITATS

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you want to live in or near a desert? Why or why not?
3. Which animal grows bacteria on its arms?
 - A. desert spadefoot
 - B. vent octopus
 - C. yeti crab
4. Why would being able to go a long time without food help animals survive in the desert?
 - A. No plants or animals live in deserts.
 - B. Fewer plants and animals can live in deserts.
 - C. Most deserts have too many animals.



5. What does **nocturnal** mean in the *Hottest Habitats* book?

*Many desert animals are **nocturnal**. They come out at night when the air is cooler.*

- A. active during the day
- B. active during the night
- C. sleeping all year long

6. What does **burrows** mean in the *Hottest Habitats* book?

*They dig **burrows** to stay out of the hot sun. These holes can reach 6 feet (2 m) underground.*

- A. things that animals eat
- B. underground places where animals live
- C. times of year when animals have babies



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: HOTTEST HABITATS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. C
4. B
5. B
6. B



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: MIND-BOGGLING MAMMALS

1. Write a sentence describing what it means for a springbok to pronk.

2. Which mammal described in the book do you find most interesting? Why?

3. Which mammal lays eggs?
 - A. echidna
 - B. sifaka
 - C. tenrec

4. How could a platypus defend itself from predators?
 - A. bite them with its long fangs
 - B. poke them with its sharp spines
 - C. stab them with its venomous spur



5. What does **bounds** mean in the *Mind-Boggling Mammals* book?

*One animal takes a running hop. It **bounds** almost 7 feet (2.1 m) into the air.*

- A. jumps up high
- B. crawls down low
- C. stays very still

6. What does **defense** mean in the *Mind-Boggling Mammals* book?

*They use these spines for **defense**. They poke predators.*

- A. a way to find food
- B. a way to fight back
- C. a way to make sounds



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: MIND-BOGGLING MAMMALS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. C
5. A
6. B



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: SMALLEST SPECIES

1. Write a sentence describing the main idea of Chapter 1.
2. Would you rather study reptiles, mammals, or insects? Why?
3. What is the smallest insect in the world?
 - A. fairyfly
 - B. *Patu digua*
 - C. pygmy sorrel moth
4. Which of these vertebrates is the smallest?
 - A. bee hummingbird
 - B. bumblebee bat
 - C. Barbados threadsnake



5. What does **unique** mean in the *Smallest Species* book?

*It is home to many **unique** species. It has plants and animals that don't live anywhere else on Earth.*

- A. living in many places
- B. exactly like all others
- C. different from all others

6. What does **parasites** mean in the *Smallest Species* book?

*They are **parasites**. They live in ant nests and eat the ants.*

- A. animals that are too small to see
- B. animals that eat fruits and seeds
- C. animals that live on or in other animals



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: SMALLEST SPECIES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. C



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

ANIMAL EXTREMES: STRANGEST SENSES

1. Write a few sentences describing one thing that helps oilbirds find their way in the dark.
2. If you could have one of the senses described in this book, which one would you want? Why?
3. What do blind cavefish use to sense movement in the water?
 - A. lateral line
 - B. echolocation
 - C. antennae
4. How would sensing body heat from nearby animals help pit vipers?
 - A. It would help the vipers hide.
 - B. It would help the vipers not get lost.
 - C. It would help the vipers find prey.



5. What does **survived** mean in the *Strangest Senses* book?

*Thousands of oilbirds were killed. But the birds that lived deepest inside caves **survived**.*

- A. died out
- B. stayed living
- C. changed shape

6. What does **identifies** mean in the *Strangest Senses* book?

*The tongue touches an organ inside the snake's mouth. This organ **identifies** the different smells.*

- A. finds what something is
- B. tells what something costs
- C. sees where something goes



ANSWER KEY FOR ANIMAL EXTREMES: STRANGEST SENSES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. C
5. B
6. A