

- B** Read the story again. Remember: When you read, look at visual clues. What does the picture tell you about the meaning of *lapping up* in the story?

Ely and the Tiger

Ely was at the zoo with his mother. They went over to see Honey, the tiger. When they got there, a zookeeper was talking to him.

"Try to eat something, Honey."

Ely looked inside the cage. One tiger was **lapping up** water, but Honey was not eating or drinking. He kept walking back and forth, opening his jaw and rubbing his face on the bars.

"Why is he doing that?" asked Ely.

"He has a problem with his teeth and gums," said the zookeeper.

When the tiger opened its mouth, Ely looked at the big **fangs**. They were yellow and the gums looked red and puffy.

"That must be painful," said Ely. "I didn't know that tigers could have tooth problems."

"Yes, they can. This one needs a visit from a dentist! There is an animal agency that does dental work. But we have a problem. They need volunteers to help them. It takes them a long time to help all the animals. Our tiger has to wait."

Ely couldn't stop watching the tiger. He felt so bad for him. Before he left the zoo, he asked for the name of the organization.

When Ely went home, he looked at their website. He learned that many animals can have terrible dental problems. Wild animals that have bad teeth can't **fend off**



Think What does the picture tell you about the meaning of *lapping up*?

enemies or catch and kill their prey. Tigers in captivity can also wear down their teeth by gnawing

on bars. The organization went to different countries to do dental work for animals in the wild, and in zoos and circuses. The website also asked for volunteers. Ely told all his friends about Honey the tiger and the organization. They all volunteered to help.

The next day, Ely and the zookeeper arranged a dental visit at the zoo. When the animal dentists came to the zoo, Ely and his friends carried supplies back and forth so that the dentists had more time to work with the animals. Honey got his teeth fixed! That day, Ely decided that he was going to spend his life helping tigers.

Comprehension

A Circle the correct answers.

1 Why wasn't the tiger eating or drinking?

- a He was waiting for the other tiger to finish drinking.
- b The zookeeper was talking to him.
- c He wanted to walk back and forth.
- d His teeth and gums were hurting.

2 What did Ely learn about tigers?

- a Tigers can wear down their teeth gnawing on bars.
- b Wild animals never have bad teeth.
- c There are no dentists for large animals.
- d Wild animals and animals in captivity can have dental problems.

3 How did Ely help the tiger?

- a He wrote to the dental organization.
- b He watched the tiger and felt bad for it.
- c He carried supplies to help the animal dentist.
- d He posted a message on Facebook.

B Words in Context Write the missing word.

supply powerful intruders sealing toppling lodge

1



This beaver is _____ a tree.
It is going to build a _____ for
its family.

2



The crocodile has a _____ jaw
with a continuous _____ of
sharp teeth.

3



This man is _____ his
cabin to keep out animal
_____.