

READING GUIDE

5TH GRADE - 2ND PERIOD

Read and choose the correct answer.

Talkative Seagulls!

Seagulls live near the coast. We can often hear seagulls even before we see them because they make such loud squawking sounds. In North America, there are over twenty species of seagull, and there are differences between the species. The herring gull makes a lot of different types of noises. The glaucous gull only makes two different types of sounds. However, they are alike in how they use their calls to communicate. All seagulls make noises, even before they hatch from their eggs. This is how the adults know their young are ready to hatch. Adult birds "talk" to their babies and make threatening sounds to any other birds that approach the nest. Female birds also make particular sounds when they are ready to mate. So, next time you hear seagulls squawk you will know that they are actually communicating with each other!



1. The reading is about... a) eagles b) seagulls c) cats
2. The glaucous gull makes _____ different types of sounds. a) 3 b) 5 c) 2
3. _____ birds "talk" to their babies. a) adult b) baby
4. In South America, there are over sixty species of seagull. a) TRUE b) FALSE
5. All seagulls make noises. a) TRUE b) FALSE

B. Read and choose the correct answer.

Animal Communication

One of the more interesting ways that animals communicate is by “talking” through smells. Animals use smells to send messages to each other. For example, some animals leave a strong smell where they sleep to stop other animals from coming into their habitat. Cats often do this. Some animals even use smells as a trap! They release smells that attract animals that they want to eat. Other animals, such as ants and bees, release special smells when they want to find a mate. Sometimes animals even use smells to locate each other. The mule deer releases smells from its back legs and young deer that get lost smell the adult deers' legs until they find their mother. Do you ever communicate by smell?



1. Animals use smells to...

- A) send messages to each other.
- B) send images to each other.

2. Cats often leave a _____ smell where they _____.

- A) weak / eat
- B) strong / sleep
- C) strong / run

3. _____ and bees release smells to find a mate.

- A) flies
- B) parrots
- C) ants

4. The mule deer releases smells from _____.

- A) its back legs
- B) its front legs

5. young deer that get lost smell the _____ until they find their mother.

- A) adult deers' legs
- B) younger deer legs
- C) babies deers' leg

C. DRAG AND DROP. Read and complete. There are 3 extra words in the box.

Ben felt excited as he waded into the shallow water and pushed his little boat out into the ocean. He was looking forward to going fishing. He had a new fishing rod and his dad said that he was sure to catch a big fish with it.

Ben rowed away from the shore until the beach was far away in the distance. Then, he pulled the paddles into the boat and let the boat drift while he put some bait on his fishing hook. But before he had a chance to throw his bait into the water, there was a loud splash just a few feet away. Ben's boat rocked from side to side and he stared with his mouth wide open as a whale burst out of the water, then dived back into the waves. The whale floated near the top of the water and sprayed water out of its blowhole. Ben chuckled as the water splashed over him, then he beamed happily as the whale lifted its huge tail out of the water and waved it at Ben. "It's playing with me," he laughed.

Ben looked down into the water and saw the whale's dark gray body glide through the ocean. The whale beat its tail to propel itself through the water, then pushed itself back up through the surface again. Ben was sure the whale was grinning at him as it splashed back into the water. Ben was grinning, too. This was much better than catching fish.

fishing character little excited gray scared whale loud happy

1. Ben is the main _____ in the story.
2. Ben feels _____ at the beginning of the story.
3. Ben goes _____ in his boat.
4. He sees a _____ in the ocean.
5. The whale has a _____ body.
6. Ben feels _____ at the end of the story.