

Two fascinating mammals



This mammal has got black and white stripes on its legs, but it isn't a zebra. It has got long legs like a giraffe. Its face is like a giraffe's face and it has got a very long tongue like a giraffe. However, its neck is shorter than a giraffe's neck. What is it? It's an okapi.

Okapis live in African rainforests. They are herbivores. They use their long tongues to pull leaves from the trees. They don't need long necks because they don't eat leaves from tall trees.

This animal lays eggs, but it isn't a reptile. It has a beak like a duck, but it isn't a bird. It is a very strange animal. Its feet are like a duck's feet and it has got a big, wide tail. It can sting you with its feet! What is it? It's a platypus.

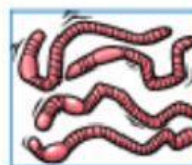
Platypuses are mammals and they live in Australia. They live on land and in water. They use their tails to swim and they find their food in the water. They are carnivores. They eat insects, fish and worms.



Do you know...?

Only two types of mammals lay eggs.
The other one is the echidna. The echidna lives in Australia, too.

Glossary



herbivore = an animal that only eats plants

carnivore = an animal that only eats meat

2 Answer the questions. Write 1, 2, 3 or 4.

- 1 Which paragraph tells us where an okapi lives? paragraph 2
- 2 Which paragraph tells us about a platypus's body? paragraph _____
- 3 Which paragraph tells us about an okapi's body? paragraph _____
- 4 Which paragraph tells us what a platypus eats? paragraph _____



3 Answer the questions.

- 1 Do giraffes have longer necks than okapis? Yes, they do.
- 2 Where do okapis live? _____
- 3 Do okapis eat meat? _____
- 4 Can platypuses swim? _____
- 5 Where do platypuses find their food? _____
- 6 How many types of mammals lay eggs? _____

4 Choose the correct words from the text on page 108. Write.

- 1 This part of your body is in your mouth. You use it to eat and talk. tongue
- 2 This part of your body is between your head and your shoulders. _____
- 3 Birds lay these, and people sometimes eat them for breakfast. _____
- 4 This is part of an animal's body. A panther has got a very long one. _____
- 5 All of these small animals have six legs. _____
- 6 These long, thin animals live in our gardens. _____



5 Find out about an interesting mammal. Write.

The _____ has got _____

It uses its _____ to _____
It lives _____
It eats _____