

Fun Facts for Kids about Hippos

Read the text about hippos. Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for questions 1-5. Put a cross (✗) in the correct box. Only one answer is correct.

The first one (0) is an example.

Where are hippos born? A hippo baby (called a "calf") is born on land or in water. It is protected by the mother, not only from crocodiles and lions but from hippo bulls that may try to attack them in the water.

What do hippos love? Hippos love water and they spend most of the day in it to stay cool. The hippo can even breathe, see, and hear while its body is under water because its nose, ears, and eyes are on the top of its head.

Do hippos swim better than people? Yes, they are excellent swimmers and can hold their breath for five minutes. Hippos can walk under water along the bottoms of rivers and lakes.

Hungry hippos

Hippos are vegetarians. At night, they come out of the water and feed off the grass.

Are hippos dangerous?

Although hippos are vegetarians, they are still one of the most dangerous animals in the world. Once on land, hippos can run very fast, much faster than people normally can. When a hippo yawns it is not tired but shows its teeth to frighten other animals.



hippo yawning

0. A calf is

- A. ☐ always born on land.
- B. ☐ always born in water.
- C. ☒ born on land or in water.
- D. ☐ never born on land.

1. The mother protects the calf...

- A. ☐ from hippo bulls.
 - B. ☐ only from crocodiles.
 - C. ☐ from other hippo mothers.
 - D. ☐ only from lions.
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2. Hippos stay in the water...

- A. ☐ when they are tired.
 - B. ☐ to keep themselves warm.
 - C. ☐ to keep themselves cool.
 - D. ☐ when they are hungry.
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3. A hippo can see and hear when its body is under water because its...

- A. ☐ eyes and ears are under water.
 - B. ☐ nose is on the top of its head.
 - C. ☐ nose and ears are under water.
 - D. ☐ eyes and ears are on the top of its head.
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4. Under water a hippo can...

- A. ☐ hold its breath for 10 minutes.
 - B. ☐ move along the bottom.
 - C. ☐ run very fast.
 - D. ☐ hear better than on land.
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5. When a hippo opens its mouth it...

- A. ☐ is tired of swimming.
- B. ☐ wants to be really friendly.
- C. ☐ is bored of eating grass.
- D. ☐ wants to scare other animals.