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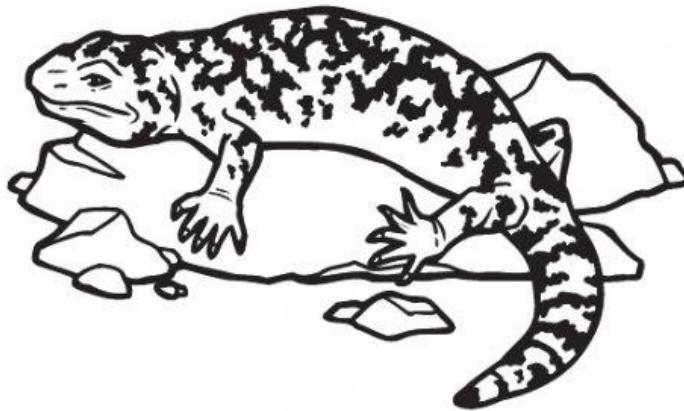
GILA MONSTER

The Gila monster is a large lizard. You can say its name like this—"Heela." It is pretty. But it is also scary.

The Gila monster lives in the desert. Its skin is black, pink, orange, and yellow.

The Gila monster is two feet long. It walks slowly. It eats rodents, small birds, and eggs.

This lizard has poison in its teeth. It won't kill you. Still, the Gila monster bites people. It can hold on tight to a leg or arm with its teeth. Be careful!



STORY QUESTIONS

1. How do you pronounce *Gila*?
 - a. Gee-la
 - b. Heela
 - c. Guy-la
 - d. Hilla

2. Why is the Gila monster scary?
 - a. because it lives in the desert
 - b. because it eats eggs
 - c. because it walks slowly
 - d. because it has a poisonous bite

3. The Gila monster holds poison in its . . .
 - a. teeth.
 - b. tail.
 - c. eyes.
 - d. claws.

4. Why should you be careful around Gila monsters?
 - a. because they move quickly
 - b. because they eat rodents
 - c. because they bite and hold on tight to people
 - d. because they are black, pink, orange, and yellow



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MILLIPEDES

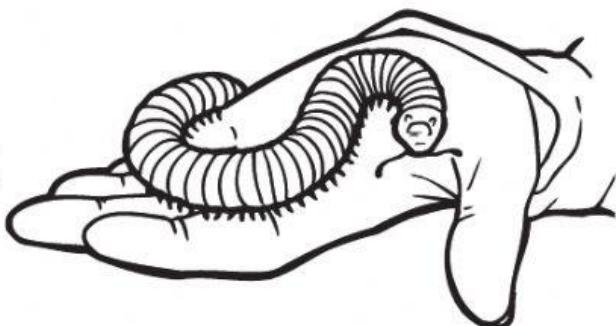
The millipede is small but strong. It can have between 80 and 400 legs!

Millipedes walk slowly. Still, they can dig long tunnels. They wave their legs and push underground head first.

These creatures eat dead leaves and plants. They wet the food and scrape at it with their jaws.

When scared, the millipede curls into a ball. Its back is hard, like armor. This protects its legs. Millipedes also have poison. It burns ants, but it doesn't hurt people.

Never step on a millipede. It has places to go and tunnels to dig!



STORY QUESTIONS

1. How many legs can a millipede have?
 - a. 40
 - b. 90
 - c. 600
 - d. 10

2. How do millipedes dig tunnels?
 - a. with a shovel
 - b. with their teeth
 - c. with their legs and heads
 - d. with a spoon

3. In this story, *scrape* means . . .
 - a. to gnaw at something.
 - b. to skin your knee.
 - c. to carve a branch.
 - d. to get into trouble.

4. Why should you never step on a millipede?
 - a. because it burns ants
 - b. because it has lots of legs
 - c. because it has tunnels to dig
 - d. because it curls into a ball