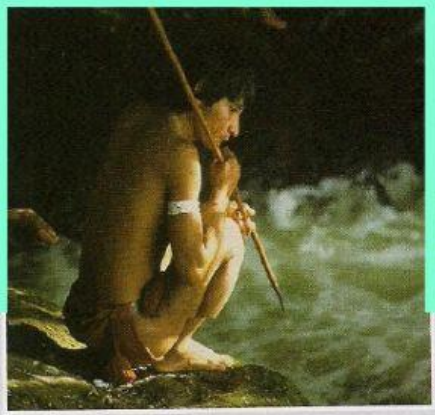
What do you know about piranhas?

1) Are they mammals?

2) Are they big or small?

3) Are they friendly or dangerous ?



Piranhas are a very special type of fish. They are usually small, about 5 to 10 centimetres long. Their natural habitat is the Amazon River. People think piranhas are always aggressive and eat everything they find, but this is not true. They can be dangerous and have lots of sharp teeth, so you mustn't put your fingers near a piranha's mouth. They can transform a chicken into a skeleton in two and a half minutes! But not all piranhas are carnivorous. Some species don't eat meat. They are herbivorous and eat aquatic plants.

The Amazon Indians hunt piranhas for food. They usually cook them with vegetables and eat them with their fingers. They also use the piranhas for other things. They use the sharp teeth to cut hair and the scales to make paint and to decorate their faces. Piranhas are useful because they clean the water of the dead animals in the rivers. Some people love piranhas and don't think they are dangerous. They go swimming with them but we don't recommend it!

a) Read the first paragraph. True or false?

1 Piranhas are not very big

2 Piranhas live in oceans and seas

3 Piranahas are always aggressive

4 Piranhas eat very quickly

5 All piranhas are carnivorous

b) Read the second paragraph and choose the correct option

1 The Amazon Indians…..
a) hunt and sell piranhas
b) buy and eat piranhas
c) hunt and eat piranhas

2 They use the teeth to …..
a) cut hair
b) brush hair
c) dry hair

3 They use the scales to…….
a) make food.
b) make paint.
c) make clothes

4 Piranhas keep the river water …..
a) warm
b) clean
c) cold.