

NAME: _____

HOW DO ANIMALS DO THAT? WHALE SONGS AND COOL CANINES

The Hardworking Anteater

1. Why is mealtime a challenge for an anteater?

- A) It is very difficult for them to find enough ants to eat.
- B) Ants sting them, and they can only tolerate the pain for a short time.
- C) They have to travel to different countries to find the right insects.
- D) Their prey is too small for them to see clearly.

2. What physical features help an anteater catch its prey efficiently?

- A) Short, powerful legs for running fast.
- B) Large ears to hear insects moving underground.
- C) A very long, sticky tongue covered in tiny hooks.
- D) Sharp teeth for breaking through hard mud mounds.

3. Why do anteaters swallow their food without chewing it?

- A) They are always in a rush to find more food.
- B) Their saliva makes the food soft enough to swallow immediately.
- C) They do not have any teeth.
- D) Chewing would take too much energy.

4. How does an anteater's body process crunchy insects?

- A) They have extremely strong stomach acid.
- B) They swallow stones that help grind the insects inside their stomach.
- C) They only eat soft insects like crickets.
- D) Their throat muscles mash the food as it goes down.

The Singing Humpback Whale

1. How do humpback whales create their loud songs?

- A) By opening their mouths and shouting underwater.
- B) By hitting their fins against the surface of the ocean.
- C) By moving air between their lungs and airbags through their throat.
- D) By blowing bubbles through their blowholes in a specific rhythm.

2. What is unusual about the way a male humpback whale sings?

- A) He only sings while jumping out of the water.
- B) He often sings while upside down deep below the surface.
- C) He must stay near the surface to breathe while singing.
- D) He can only sing for a few minutes at a time.

3. According to scientists, what is the most likely reason whales sing?

- A) To find their way through the dark ocean.
- B) To warn other whales about nearby predators.
- C) To attract a partner during the breeding season.
- D) To tell other whales where to find food.

4. How do whale songs change over time?

- A) The songs never change and are passed down through generations.
- B) Each whale has its own unique song that it never shares.
- C) Whales listen to others and add new parts to their own songs.
- D) The songs become simpler as the whales get older.

Dogs and Wolves: Keeping Cool

1. What is the primary way dogs and wolves cool down when they are hot?

- A) They sweat through their skin like humans do.
- B) They pant to allow cool air to pass over their wet tongues.
- C) They jump into cold water to lower their temperature.
- D) They lose their thick fur coats during the summer.

2. What happens to a dog's tongue after heavy exercise?

- A) It becomes dry and changes color.
- B) It gets smaller to help the dog breathe faster.
- C) It can swell to many times its normal size to release heat.
- D) It stays hidden inside the mouth to protect it.

3. How do dogs use their blood vessels to stay cool?

- A) They move blood away from their skin to keep their internal organs cold.
- B) They expand blood vessels in areas with less fur, like their ears and face.
- C) Their blood flows faster when they are resting in the shade.
- D) They stop blood flow to their paws to save energy.

4. In what specific situation do dogs sweat from their paws?

- A) When they are running very fast for a long time.
- B) When the weather is extremely humid.
- C) When they feel stressed or are in a difficult situation.
- D) Only when they are very young puppies.

The Busy Beaver

1. What is special about a beaver's teeth that helps them cut down trees?

- A) Their teeth are made of solid iron.
- B) They have a sharp edge that stays sharp because the back wears down faster.
- C) Their teeth are very large but actually quite soft.
- D) They use their teeth to carry stones rather than wood.

2. What is the main reason a male beaver builds a dam?

- A) To create a place to store food for the winter.
- B) To catch fish as they swim down the river.
- C) To show a female beaver that he can provide a safe home.
- D) To prevent the forest from flooding.

3. Why is it important for a beaver's home to be surrounded by water?

- A) It keeps the home clean and free of dust.
- B) It provides a place for the beavers to swim for exercise.
- C) It acts like a protective barrier against predators like wolves.
- D) Beavers need to stay wet at all times to survive.

4. What happens to young beavers when they become two years old?

- A) They take over the family lodge from their parents.
- B) They are required to leave and build their own homes elsewhere.
- C) They stay with their parents to help build more dams.
- D) They move to the ocean to find a different environment.

The Determined Dung Beetle

1. Why is there so much competition for animal waste among dung beetles?

- A) It is a rare material that is hard to find.
- B) It is used as a building material for their underground tunnels.
- C) It is a nutritious food source that many beetles want at once.
- D) They use it to hide from birds and other predators.

2. What is unique about the way a dung beetle moves its food?

- A) It carries the ball on its head while walking forward.
- B) It pushes the ball backwards while standing on its front legs.
- C) It works in a team with other beetles to roll the ball.
- D) It pulls the ball using its strong back legs.

3. How does a dung beetle make sure it travels in a straight line?

- A) It follows the scent of the original waste pile.
- B) It uses landmarks like trees and rocks to find its way.
- C) It uses light from the sun or the stars to navigate.
- D) It simply rolls the ball in whatever direction is easiest.

4. What is the purpose of the "dung dance" performed by the beetle?

- A) To celebrate finding a large amount of food.
- B) To look at the sky and take a mental "snapshot" for navigation.
- C) To warn other beetles to stay away from its ball.
- D) To make the ball of waste more circular and easier to roll.