

READING & VOCABULARY

1 Look at the pictures (1-3). Match the animal with the title of the stories below (a-c).



Read the stories and check your ideas.

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Amazing Animal Stories

Read these amazing animal stories from Ricky, Samantha, and Colette.

a A Fluffy Tail

Colette, 42

We live in a wooded area. There are many animals in our backyard, like squirrels and raccoons. It was a summer's day and I was doing the laundry. It was hot, so I opened all the windows. Then my sister called. I was talking to her and putting the clothes in the dryer at the same time. Suddenly, I realized that the clothes were moving and ... out came a squirrel! The poor creature looked a little confused. But he got up and walked away – with a very fluffy tail. I check for animals in the dryer now!

b Going Bananas

Samantha, 26

A few years ago, I lived near an animal sanctuary. They looked after sick or unwanted animals. I sometimes visited, as I like animals. One summer weekend I left the kitchen window slightly open because it was very hot and at about 4 a.m. I heard a terrible noise downstairs. I thought it was a burglar! I went downstairs. What a mess! A small monkey was in our house! He was running around everywhere. He even opened the kitchen cupboards and ate the food! The monkey had followed me back home and managed to get in the house through the kitchen window. What a mess to clean!

c A Long Way Home

Ricky, 35

My brother, Tommy, lives twelve miles away. He often goes away on business and he asks me to keep an eye on his pet bird – it's a bright yellow canary called Toots. Tommy was going away on a trip, so I agreed to take Toots. On the second day, I decided to clean Toots' cage, so I let the bird out to fly around. The window was open, and Toots disappeared. For the rest of the week, I searched and searched, but Toots was gone. My brother arrived home and I had to tell him the bad news. But my brother just laughed. "She's not lost – I'm looking at her right now," he said. Yes, the bird was at Tommy's house. I was so relieved!

2 Read the stories again. Are these sentences true or false?

- a Colette lives in an area with a lot of trees.
- b The squirrel left after his experience in the dryer.
- c Samantha worked in a safe place for sick or unwanted animals.
- d She thought a thief was making a noise downstairs.
- e Ricky often travels away from home on business.
- f Tommy asked Ricky to take care of his pet monkey.

3 Replace the underlined words and expressions in Exercise 2 with words and expressions from the stories.

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

F.