UNIT 8 – READING SECTION #2

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

1 **Listen and read.** If you see words you don't know, try to guess. **TR: 8.7**

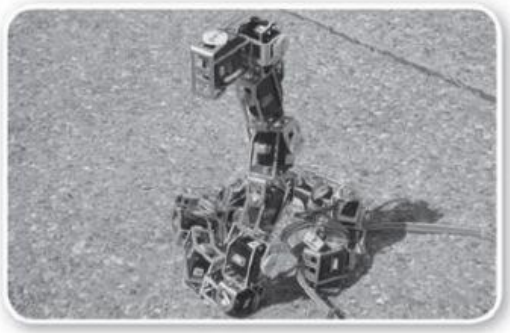
Robot Zoo

Every year, scientists develop robots that will do more and more complex tasks. They are designing robots that will be extremely mobile. They want robots that can perform tasks while they are in the air, hanging from a ceiling, or in fast-moving water. Hummingbirds, bats, lobsters, and other creatures can already do these things. To design the robots, scientists copy animals!

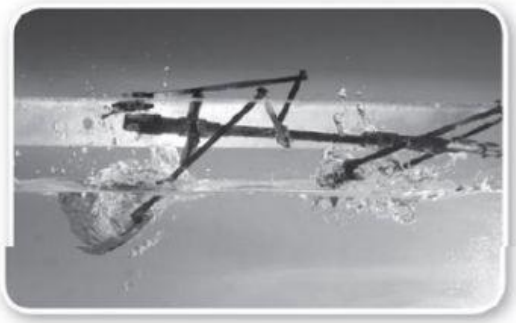
A popular design is the snake-bot, which NASA has already tested. These snake robots can crawl over rocks without tripping or enter cracks in the ground. On Earth, they could fight fires or clean drains. But one day they could explore on and below the surface of Mars. Scientists have already landed a "mole" on Mars, which is designed to dig into the planet's surface and send back information about the temperature under the ground. The snake-bot could add to this information.

The Water Runner is another interesting robot that copies animal movements. It is based on the amazing basilisk lizard, a creature that runs across water to escape predators. Perhaps one day this water robot will be programmed to bring you a drink while you float in the pool!

Scientists are also developing frog-bots that jump over huge obstacles and fly-bots that walk upside down on the ceiling. There are also spider-bots, lobster-bots, and even cockroach-bots! Last but not least, scientists are planning a nanobot (a microscopic robot) that will eat mites and germs. Imagine—these robots could stop you from getting a cold one day!

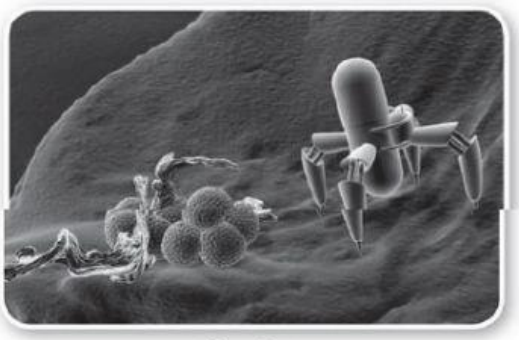


Snake-bot



Water Runner

Spider-bot



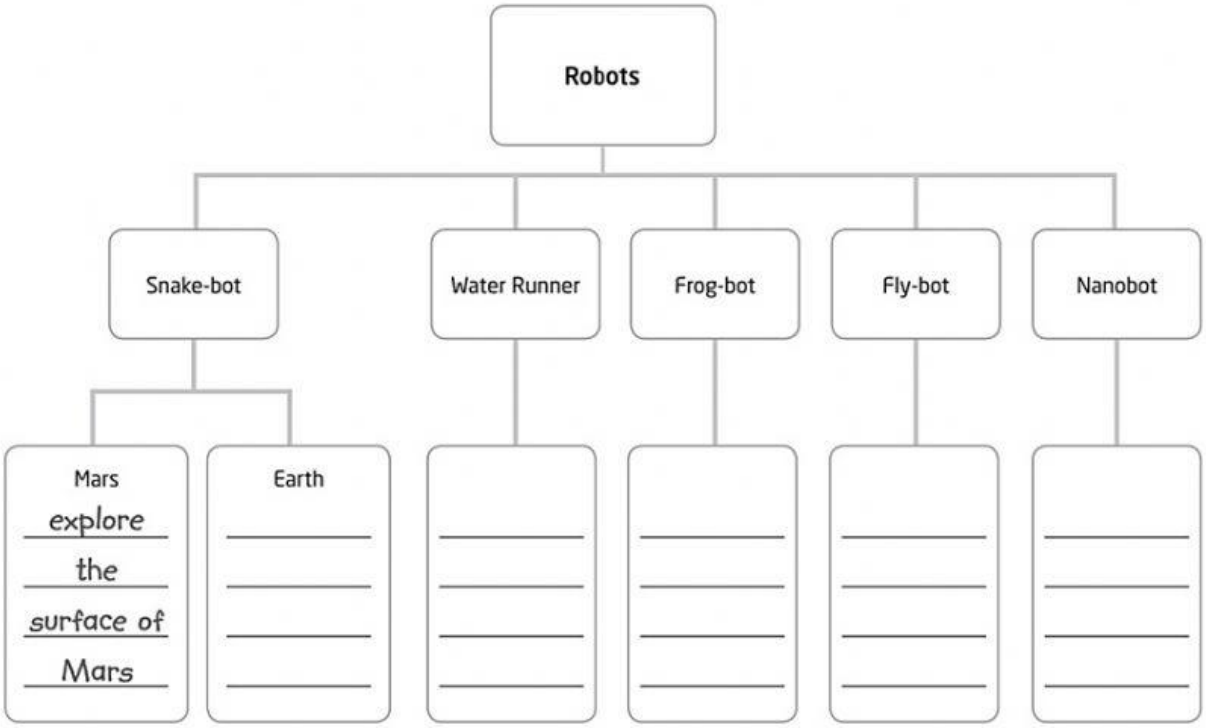
Nanobot

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 **Read and answer.** Underline the words or phrases that correctly complete each sentence.

1. Scientists are learning to make robots that *look* / *move* like animals.
2. The snake-bot *has* / *hasn't* been designed.
3. The Water Runner *travels underwater* / *crosses water* like a basilisk lizard.
4. We *can* / *can't* see a nanobot with the human eye.
5. Scientists might use nanobots to provide better *health* / *weather* for humans.

3 **Read.** Complete the chart. Write what each robot can do.



4 **Write.** Think of ways people could use the animal robots described in Activity 1. Write notes. Then discuss with a partner.

How can we use lobster-bots?

We could program lobster-bots to clean our oceans.

LIVEWORKSHEETS