

Activity 1.

You will practice your reading skills in order to get the most important information from the texts to answer some statements for each one.

Butterflies take flight in Mexico



I am visiting Michoacán's forests on a sunny February morning and I am witnessing an astonishing spectacle: hundreds of millions of orange-black wings flexing then fluttering as vast clouds of monarch butterflies take to the air.

Each winter up to a billion of these incredible insects migrate thousands of miles from northeastern North America to the warmer climes of Mexico, specifically, Michoacán Province's Oyamel fir forests, some of which are now protected as the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve. Here the monarchs breed before returning to their summer grounds far, far to the north.

I'm researching and the butterfly reserves can be visited on a day trip from Mexico City or Morelia, but better to stay nearby, perhaps in Angangueo or Zitácuaro.

Other months you can see the butterflies are September, October, April and May. But in April and May is the most humid and hot season.

Taken and adapted from: Lonely Planet. (n.d.). Where to go in February for wildlife and nature. Watch millions of monarch butterflies take flight in Mexico. Retrieved on 2017, June 23 from <http://bit.ly/2sZzLzW>

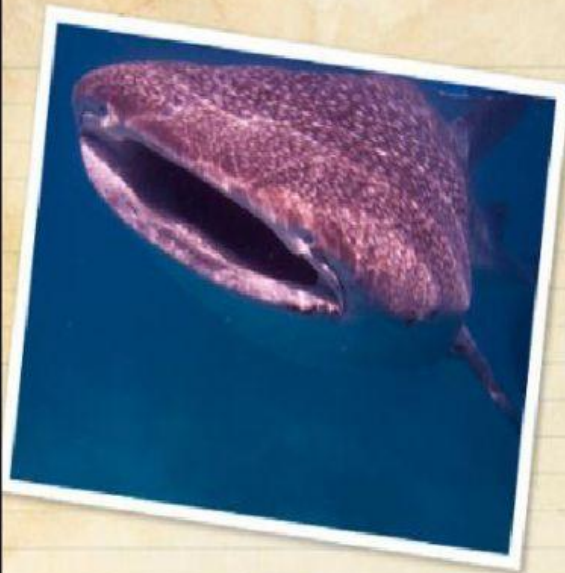
Pendens proditor. (2009). Monarchs resting on rocks (photo). Retrieved on 2017, June 23 from <http://bit.ly/2t3jA5m>

After reading the text, complete the sentences with one word over each line.
You can know your score at the end of the exercise.

1. The best month to go to the forests to see butterflies is _____.
2. Butterflies have _____ wings.
3. The _____ are protected as the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve.
4. You can visit the reserve on a _____ from Mexico City.

Activity 2

A big fish in the Philippines



Summer is around the corner. I have plenty of plans to do. I am flying to Philippines next Monday. I am planning to see whale sharks. Did you know that whale sharks are the world's biggest fish? Growing up to 13m long. Once I arrive there, here are my plans. First, I am renting a car and going to Donsol. Donsol, a coastal village at the bottom of Luzon island, is one of the world's best places to do it. Then, I'm taking an eco-operator run boat trip, and looking for this amazing creature. I heard that snorkeling alongside one is more like finning with a slow-moving train than a living creature. During whale shark season, which runs November to June (peaking February to May), there might be more than 10 whale sharks in the water at a time, so taking advantage of it, we are taking thousands of pictures. Plenty of eco-operators run boat trips that allow you to snorkel with the fish in a sensitive fashion. Something you need to know: Before embarking on a whale-shark trip, you must attend a briefing on how to behave around them.

Taken and adapted from: Lonely Planet. (n.d.). Where to go in February for wildlife and nature. Swim with big fish in beautiful weather in the Philippines. Retrieved on 2017, June 23 from <http://bit.ly/2sZaLzW>

Levy, E. (2012). Snorkling with Whale Sharks [photol. Retrieved on 2017, June 23 from <http://bit.ly/2t3IGST>

According to the text decide if the following statements are true or false by choosing the appropriate option. You will see your score at the end of the exercise.

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| 1. Whale sharks are mammals. | T | F |
| 2. Whale sharks are fast swimmers. | T | F |
| 3. February is the best date to see whale sharks. | T | F |
| 4. There are a few boat operators that allow you to snorkel with these animals. | T | F |
| 5. Snorkeling is a very safe activity so you don't need to know anything about these animals | T | F |