TARDIGRADES

Tiny, Tough and Amazing!

Tardigrades are tiny animals. You can't see them with your eyes. They are smaller than 1 millimeter! They live in moss, soil and even in water. Tardigrades have eight legs and a round body. They eat plants and small things.

They are very strong! They can live in hot places, cold places, and even in space! When it is too dry or too hot, they go into a "sleepy" state. We call it cryptobiosis. When the water comes back, they wake up and live again!

Tardigrades are small, but they are one of the toughest animals in the world!



DID YOU KNOW?
Tardigrades can survive without water for years!

1 CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD.

Read the text and circle the correct option.

1. Tardigrades are (big / tiny) animals.
2. You can see them with your (eyes / camera).
3. They live in (moss / the sea) and soil.
4. Tardigrades have (six / eight) legs.
5. They eat (meat / plants) and small things.
6. They can live in (only hot places / hot and cold places).
7. When it is too dry, they go into a (sleepy / noisy) state.
8. When water comes back, they (wake up / fall asleep).



2 FILL IN THE GAPS.

Complete the sentences with ONE word from the text.

1. Tardigrades are smaller than _____ millimeter.
2. They live in _____, soil and even in water.
3. They have eight _____.
4. They eat plants and small _____.
5. They can live in hot places and cold _____.
6. When it is too dry, they go into a _____ state.
7. This state is called _____.
8. Tardigrades are one of the toughest animals in the _____!



3 YES OR NO?

Answer the questions. Write Yes, it is. or No, it isn't.

1. Are tardigrades big animals? _____
2. Can you see them with your eyes? _____
3. Do tardigrades live in moss? _____
4. Do they have six legs? _____
5. Can tardigrades live only in hot places? _____
6. Do they go into a sleepy state when it is too dry? _____
7. Do they wake up when the water comes back? _____
8. Are tardigrades weak animals? _____



4 PUT THE SENTENCES IN ORDER.

Number the sentences (1–6) to show the correct order.

- [ ] The water comes back.
- [ ] It is too dry or too hot.
- [ ] Tardigrades wake up.
- [ ] They go into a sleepy state called cryptobiosis.
- [ ] They eat plants and small things.
- [ ] Tardigrades live in moss, soil and water.

Amazing fact: Tardigrades have survived in space!



LIVEWORKSHEETS