
Nocturnal Animals

Reading Comprehension

The Sloth

A sloth is a slow-moving animal that lives in the trees in South and Central America. The sloth is nocturnal. This means that it sleeps during the day and is active at night. Sloths usually keep to themselves, but sometimes female sloths will gather in small groups.

Sloths are four-legged animals. They spend almost all of their lives hanging upside down in trees. A sloth eats, sleeps, and even gives birth hanging upside down! They have curved claws that make it easy for them to hang onto the tree. Sloths are also known though for being good swimmers.

The sloth has a thick brown coat of fur. They are herbivores, which means that they eat plants. They enjoy eating leaves, tender shoots, and fruit. The sloth also has green algae that grows on its fur. The sloth will lick its fur to get nutrients from the algae. This algae also helps to protect the sloth from predators. Eagles, jaguars, and humans hunt the sloth, but the algae helps camouflage it in the trees.

Story Questions:

1. In order for sloths to live in trees, they need...
 - a. to be slow.
 - b. to sleep during the day.
 - c. curved claws.
 - d. to eat only plants.
2. Based on the facts from the passage, how do sloths keep from being eaten?
 - a. They move very slowly.
 - b. They are camouflaged by the green algae on their fur.
 - c. They have thick brown fur.
 - d. They have curved claws.
3. What is the purpose of the first paragraph?
 - a. to introduce some main points about the sloth.
 - b. to create questions about the sloth.
 - c. to answer odd questions about the sloth.
 - d. to inform the reader of what the sloth eats.

4. The best way to find the answer to the previous question is...
 - a. to reread the entire passage.
 - b. to reread the first paragraph and find the main idea.
 - c. to look for the words "sloth" and "habitat" in the passage.
 - d. to scan the passage and look for clues.

Story Writing

5. **Write** a 7-10 sentence story based on the story starter below.
Sammy the sloth was a very slow sloth. One day, while she was hanging from a tree, she...

Math Worksheet

6. Practise [long division with remainders](#).

Word Problems

7. **Read** the word problems below and **write** the answers.
 - ★ The fifth graders from Pinewood Elementary School are going on a field trip to see the sloths on Monday. There are 88 students altogether and each car can take four students. How many cars will be needed for the field trip?

 - ★ The kindergarten to grade six students from Oakland Elementary School are going on a field trip to see the sloths on Wednesday. There are 66 kindergarteners, 74 first-graders, 80 second-graders, 91 third-graders, 63 fourth-graders, 57 fifth-graders, and 66 sixth-graders. How many students are going on the trip altogether? If each bus can seat a maximum of 60 students, how many buses will be needed to take all of the students?

Fun Stuff!

8. **Play** "Who Am I?" using these [fact cards](#) by reading out some facts to a family member and have them guess which nocturnal animal you are.

9. Challenge: **Research** four more nocturnal animals on your own and create your own fact cards.