

## For Creative Minds

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### Adaptation Matching Activity

Match the right animal to the animal's adaptation to survive its habitat.



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_

#### a. Black Bear

My long, curved claws and long tongue help me grab insects.

#### b. Snake

I have lots of bones so that I can easily bend and slither around.

#### c. Zebra

My black and white stripes help to hide me in the tall grass.

#### d. Turtle

I have a thick shell to protect me from predators.

#### e. Giraffe

I have a long neck to eat leaves high in the trees.

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**f. Monkey**

I have a tail that I use like a hang to grab and hold onto things.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6.



**g. Elephant**

I use my trunk to drink water and to feel things around me.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7.



**h. Alligator**

My eyes are high on my head so I can see when I'm in the water.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8.



**i. Gorilla**

My thumbs help me to grab food and hold onto things.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9.



**j. Toucan**

I have a strong beak to break open nuts and fruit to eat.











\_\_\_\_\_ 10.

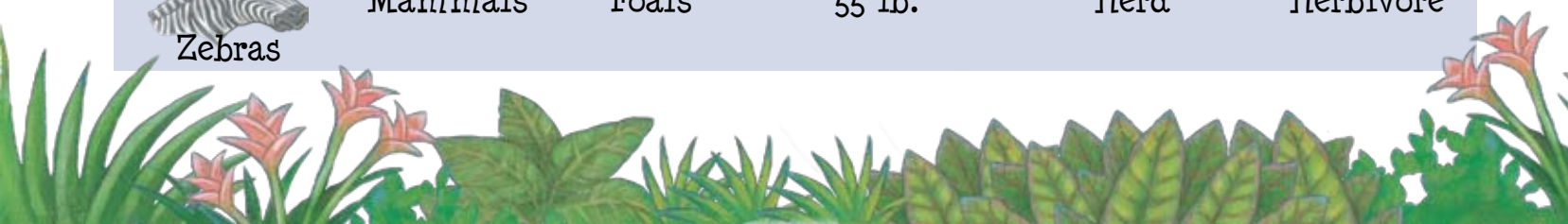


Answers: 1g; 2h; 3f; 4i; 5a; 6j; 7b; 8e; 9d; 10ic



## Animal Fun Facts

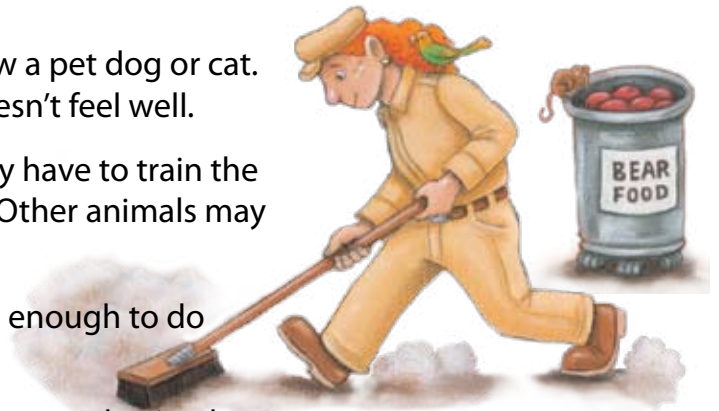
animal	class	babies called	weight at birth	family group	eat
 Black Bears	Mammals	Cubs	< 1 lb.	Solitary	Omnivore
 Elephants	Mammals	Calves	250 lb.	Herd	Herbivore
 Flamingos	Birds	Chicks	3 oz.	Colonies	Omnivore
 Giraffes	Mammals	Calves	150 lb.	Herd	Herbivore
 Gorillas	Mammals	Babies	3 - 4 lb.	Bands	Herbivore
 Lions	Mammals	Cubs	1 ½ lb.	Pride	Carnivore
 Llamas	Mammals	Crias	20 - 30 lb.	Family	Herbivore
 Meerkats	Mammals	Pups	2 oz.	Mob or Gang	Omnivore
 Rhinos	Mammals	Calves	88 - 144 lb.	Crash	Herbivore
 Zebras	Mammals	Foals	55 lb.	Herd	Herbivore



## Zoo keepers

People have all kinds of different jobs like policemen, firemen, doctors, nurses, or veterinarians. Some are teachers and some work at home caring for young children. Zoo keepers, like the man and the woman in the book, care for animals at zoos and aquariums. Unlike veterinarians who usually work with animals once or twice a year or when they are sick, zoo keepers can work with animals all the time. Zoo keepers are scientists who:

- Feed the animals and make sure they get their vitamins.
- Clean the area where the animals live.
- Know the animals very well, just like you know a pet dog or cat. They can tell if an animal is getting sick or doesn't feel well.
- Give animals basic check ups. Sometimes they have to train the animals to stand still while being examined. Other animals may have to go to sleep to be examined.
- Zoo keepers make sure that the animals have enough to do and get enough exercise.
- Help with conservation of endangered or threatened animals.



### Creative Sparks: Imagine that you are a zoo keeper!

What would be your favorite part of taking care of the animals?

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Which would be your favorite zoo animal and why?

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What do you think zoo keepers do if an animal gets sick?

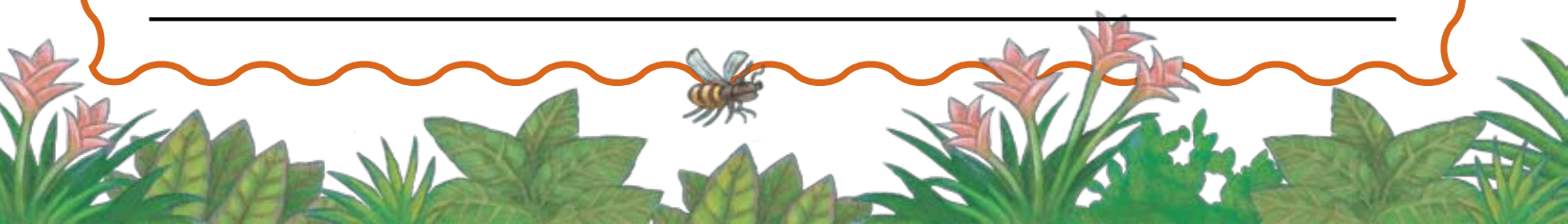
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What do you think a zoo keeper would do if a dangerous animal escaped?

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What can zoo keepers do to help the animals stay healthy and active?

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This book is dedicated first and foremost to my children, Bailey and Sophia, who inspire me to dream and to laugh every day of my life and to my husband Yekta, for his willingness to read draft after draft of my work and claim to love them all. And to Marybeth Kelsey, Kelsey Johnson Defatte, Linda Provence, and Barry Eva (Children's Storybook Tellers)—without you my work never would have seen the light of day. Thank you!—CI

To my Dad, who instilled in me a great love of nature—BH

Thanks to Norah Farnham, Zoo Keeper, of the American Association of Zoo Keepers, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

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'Twas the day before zoo day / by Catherine Ipcizade ; illustrated by Ben Hodson.

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Summary: In an adaptation of the children's classic, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, preparations are under way for Zoo Day. But things aren't going according to plan.

Does it all work out? Will the zookeepers end up spending the night at the zoo?

Will Zoo Day go off without a hitch, or will the dancing monkeys take over?

"For Creative Minds" section includes animal matching activities and riddles.

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Interest grade level: P-2.

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