

PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT



2020/21

Sample FSA

Grade 4

Literacy

Selected-Response Questions

In this part of the assessment you will

- read
 - 2 fictional texts
 - 3 informational texts
- answer 30 questions





READ

Take a Hike

There are lots of things to think about when on a hike.

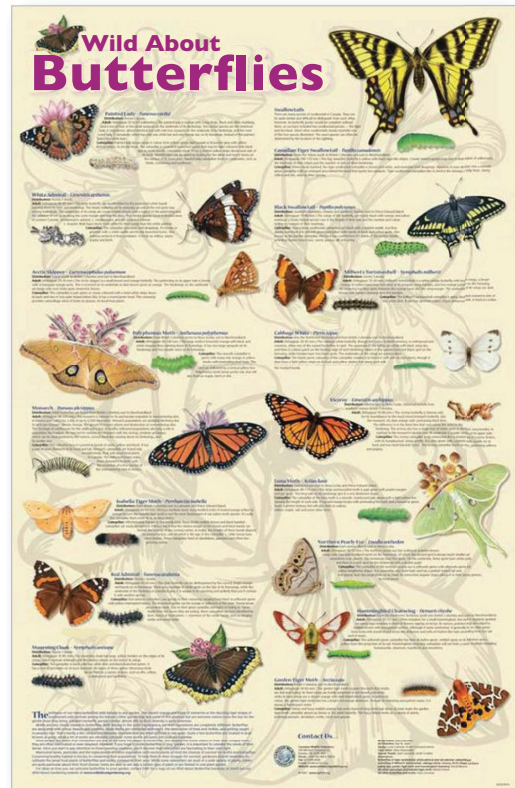


Take a Hike

THEMED HIKES

How about a dragonfly hike or a grasshopper hike? If you have favourite insects, focus an outing on them. Find out what habitat they prefer and head for it. For example, dragonflies dance along the edges of ponds and streams, but grasshoppers go for long grass and wildflower meadows. When you're concentrating on only one or two kinds of insects at a time, you will be able to spend more time learning how to identify them. You can watch for features such as colour, size, and wing shape, and begin to recognize different species.

Some provinces have checklists for certain insects, such as butterflies, that list all the species of butterflies that have been found in a particular area. When you identify a butterfly, you can check the list to make sure the butterfly is really found in the area where you saw it. A list might also help you realize you've made an unusual sighting!



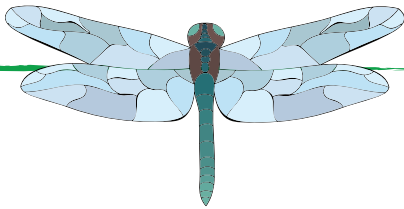
SHAKE IT!

Small shrubs are super hiding places for insects. Wherever they're clinging, you can shake them out to get a closer look. Take an old light-coloured sheet and spread it on the ground under a shrub. Give the bush a good shake. You should find that several different kinds of creatures have dropped on to your sheet. When you're through looking, leave them near the bottom of the bush and they will climb or fly back up.



MINI HIKES

Who said hikes have to be long, or even on foot? Take a mini-hike and give your feet a rest. Try crawling around on your hands and knees, taking time to really look at the ground for those well-hidden bugs. Or, let your fingers do the walking. Find a rotting log and gently probe and poke your way through it with your hands and a pair of tweezers. Take a mini-hike on a tree. Start at ground level and work your way up, checking in the grooves of bark, under loose bark, in holes, in buds, on and under leaves, and in blossoms, seeds, cones, or nuts. You can hike for hours and never get sore feet!



Take it Along

What will you need for your hike? Go over this checklist to make sure you're prepared, and make sure someone knows where you are going!

Checklist ✓

- ☐ a magnifying glass
- ☐ a notepad
- ☐ a hat to keep the sun off
- ☐ a snack if you're going to be gone awhile
- ☐ boots if you're investigating a wet area
- ☐ long sleeves and pants if you're checking out wooded areas



PEEK-A-BOO

When you're out for a walk, play a game of peek-a-boo with the wildlife. Many insects and other animals shelter under stones, rocks, and rotting logs.





Carefully lift up these hiding places to reveal the life hiding below. If you're lucky, you'll find various ants, beetles, wood lice, centipedes, millipedes, slugs, snails, earthworms, and maybe even a salamander. Don't forget to replace the stones or logs where they were so the animals will be protected.



"Take a Hike" adapted from *BUGWISE*. Text copyright © 1990 by Pamela Hickman and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists. Reprinted by permission of Kids Can Press Ltd., Toronto, ON, and Addison-Wesley Publishing Company.

Question 1

Where might you find each insect?

 dragonfly	 grasshopper
	



near bushes



under rotting logs



at the edge of ponds



in wildflower meadows

Question 2

Choose the naturalist who offers advice from the text.

Collect as many bugs as you can!



Observe the insects' colour, size and wing shape.



Count the hiding places where insects are found.



Place a dark coloured sheet under a log to help you find bugs.



Question 3

Using the [“Take it Along—Checklist”](#), take the item out of the backpack that does not belong. Put it back on the shelf.



Question 4

What does the author mean by ["You can hike for hours and never get sore feet!"](#)
Check two correct answers.

- ☐ Let your fingers do all the work.
- ☐ Crawl around instead of walking.
- ☐ Wearing great shoes is important.
- ☐ Only look at one or two insects at a time.

Question 5

Complete the checklist by adding the item you will need when going on

MINI HIKES



Checklist ✓

- ☐ a magnifying glass
- ☐ a notepad
- ☐ a hat to keep the sun off
- ☐ a snack if you're going to be gone awhile
- ☐ boots if you're investigating a wet area
- ☐ long sleeves and pants if you're checking out wooded areas
- ☐

tweezers



an insect container



a light-coloured sheet



seeds, cones and nuts



READ The Surprise Invitation

Jon received a surprising invitation in the mail.



The Surprise Invitation

Jon enjoyed watching basketball on television.

But one day, he said, “I wish I could play basketball like that instead of just watching.”

Jon’s sister Nicola wanted to help him. “Maybe there’s something we can do,” she thought. Then she had an idea, and she went to talk to Mom.

“Yes,” said Mom, “I like that idea. Let’s write a letter, but we’ll have to keep it a secret.”

- 5 Next week, something arrived in the mail. It was addressed to Jon. “It’s an invitation!” he said, “and it’s from a basketball club! They’ve invited us to a game on Saturday night! Why us?”

Mom and Nicola grinned at each other.

On Saturday, at six o’clock, a car pulled up outside the house.

“It’s time to go, Jon!” called Nicola.

When the driver of the car saw them coming, he opened the window and called, “Hi, Jon! I’m Ricky. Your mom can help you into the car, and your chair can go in the back.”

- 10 In the car, Jon saw another wheelchair, which was folded up and buckled into the front seat. “I wonder who that belongs to,” he thought.

“Is everyone ready?” said Ricky. “We can’t be late, because I’m playing tonight.”



When they arrived at the stadium, Ricky opened the driver's door. He reached for his wheelchair and lifted it out of the car.

"I'd better have my wheels!" he laughed.

Jon watched in surprise as Ricky set up the wheelchair and pushed himself into it.

- 15 "You're in a wheelchair, but you can drive, too," whispered Jon.

"Oh, yes," laughed Ricky, "this is a special car!"

Ricky took them through the crowds inside the stadium to some seats in the front.

"Now I must go and change," he said.

Jon looked around the stadium. In the crowd there were people with their faces painted red and white.

- 20 Some people were waving flags in team colours.

Suddenly Ricky's team was coming out onto the court.

"Eagles, Eagles!" the crowd shouted.

Then, from other parts of the stadium, the crowd screamed, "Sharks, Sharks!" The second team was coming out on the court.

Jon's heart beat like a drum. All the players were in wheelchairs!



- 25 The game started. The Eagles raced up and down, and they went spinning past the Sharks.

Jon yelled, "Come on! Throw the ball!"

The Eagles scored basket after basket. They were winning!

Then the Sharks took the ball. They passed and bounced and shot baskets. The score was even – 31 all!

“Come on, Ricky,” screamed Jon, “You can do it! There’s still time!”

- 30 Ricky took the ball. He sped down the court, bouncing the ball as he went. He threw the ball high into the basket just before the final whistle sounded! The Eagles had won!

Jon clapped and cheered, and Mom and Nicola hugged each other.

Suddenly a voice came over the loudspeaker. “Tonight we have a special visitor. Please welcome...Jon Williams!”

The crowd clapped as Jon wheeled himself onto the court. Ricky passed the ball to him, and Jon caught it.

“Have a go!” laughed Ricky, so Jon bounced the ball back to Ricky.

- 35 The crowd cheered again.

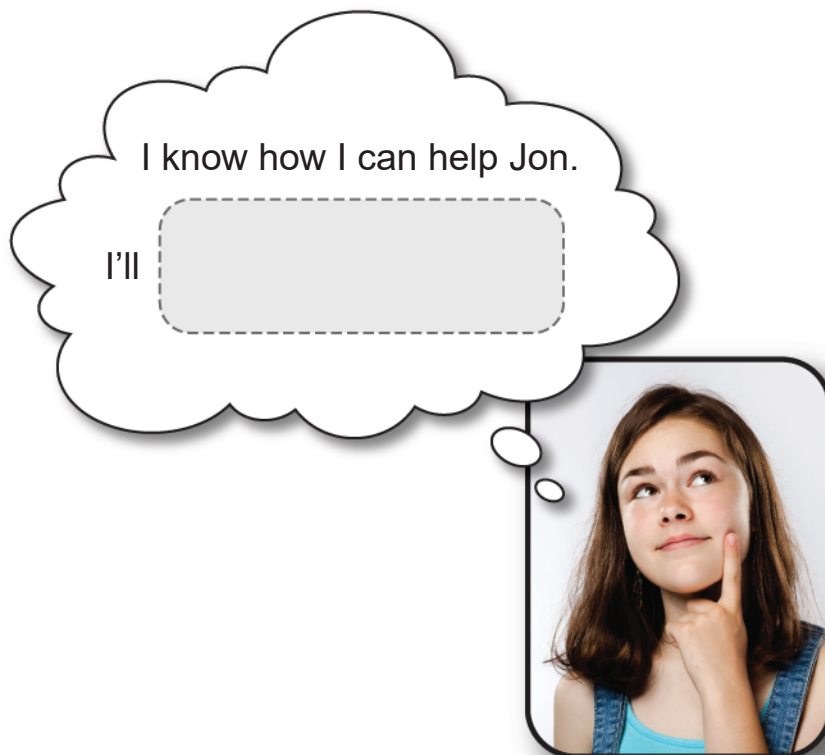
“I think the Eagles might have a new player one day,” laughed the man on the loudspeaker.

Jon was so excited! “Thanks for inviting me to the game!” he called to Ricky, and he sped back to Nicola and Mom. “Now I know that one day I will be able to play basketball and drive a car!” he told them. “I could even play for the Eagles!”

The Surprise Invitation by Dawn McMillan.
Nelson Thomson Learning 2001, Toronto, ON, Canada

Question 6

Choose the idea that best matches what Nicola is thinking.



give him a warm hug.

help with his homework.

contact a basketball club.

play basketball with him.

Question 7

When Ricky got into the wheelchair, Jon felt

▼

worried.
impressed.
responsible.
disappointed.

Question 8

Tying the score at 31



makes the
game fair.

adds amusement.

creates excitement.

shows real
sportsmanship.

Question 9

What did Mom and Nicola do when the Eagles won the game?

smiled

hugged

clapped

cheered

Question 10

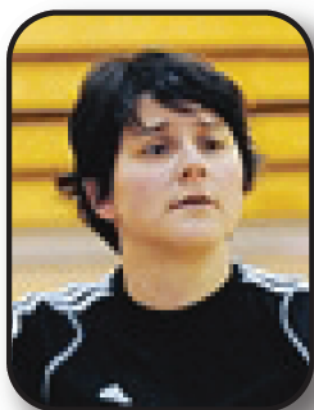
Who was the special visitor to the game?



Mom



Nicola



Ricky



Jon

Question 11

“The crowd clapped as Jon wheeled himself onto the court. Ricky passed the ball to him, and Jon caught it.”

When Ricky passes the ball to Jon, he is trying to

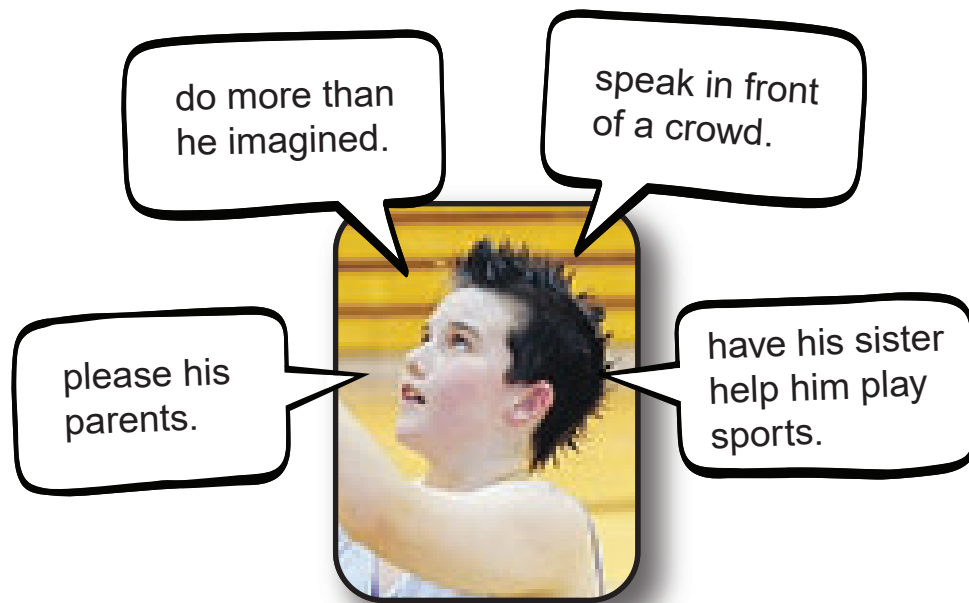
▼

teach
impress
encourage
embarrass

Jon.

Question 12

In the story, Jon learns that he can



READ

Big Bugs

David Rogers creates some really big bugs!



Imagine walking through the park on a sunny day. You look up to see a spider twice the size of your head. It looks so real that it seems to be creeping down its web toward you.

Before you scream and run away, look closer. That 23-kilogram spider is a wood [sculpture](#)¹. It was made by artist David Rogers and is one of 14 bugs he has on display in parks and gardens.

1. making art and other objects by carving, chiseling, or molding

Ants the Size of a Bus!

David's collection is called Big Bugs. It includes three monster ants. Each one stretches 8 metres long. That's almost as long as a school bus! The collection also includes a praying mantis that weighs 544 kilograms. How heavy is that? It would be like picking up six grown men at once.

Some of David's other bugs are a grasshopper and a ladybug—all big enough to sit on. Real bugs are tiny. So why did David build his so large?



Relax! This spider is made of wood.

It's hard to ignore an ant sculpture that's almost as long as a school bus.



- 5 David hopes his jumbo sculptures will help us to stop and notice bugs. We may not see them working. Sometimes we may not even want them around. But David points out that bugs are an important part of nature. They make the soil a better place for plants to grow, they pollinate flowers, they eat other insects, and they are food to many creatures.

Bugs Under Construction

Making such massive art is not easy. Some of the bugs took three months to construct.

David began by carving pieces of wood into just the right shape and size. He used a mix of black walnut, red cedar, and black locust woods to craft each bug. He also used young willow trees to show texture in his ladybug and ants.



David Roger's praying mantis weighs 544 kilograms!

He then connected the parts using metal rods. Finally, he gave them a coat of varnish for a smooth, shiny finish.

Sticks and Strings

As a child, David Rogers did not get the best grades. He was not even the best painter. But he loved to make things. Using only sticks and string, he would build tiny villages small enough for an insect.



- 10 One day when he was older, he saw a bent tree that reminded him of the backbone of an animal. He decided to form a giant beast by adding more branches. The result was a dinosaur named Goliath. Goliath was his first large sculpture.

David has also made sculptures by welding metal. By joining together old car parts, he made a housefly and a dragonfly.

Does this sound like fun to you? Good news—David believes there’s an artist in everyone. Of course, you probably won’t start out by making a 9-metre ant. It took David years to come up with his huge bugs. But as David says, “There’s no right or wrong way to express yourself with art. Let your imagination run free.”

“Big Bugs” by Jennifer Mattox.
Highlights. October 2009. Vol. 64, Issue 10.
Photos courtesy of Jennifer Mattox.

Question 13

David Roger's ant sculpture is 'hard to ignore'

because

of its size.

it looks like a bus.

it makes people
scream.

of the old car parts
it is made of.



Question 14

What does David Rogers' hope people will do after seeing his sculptures?

buy his art work

scream and run
away

learn about different
art styles

realize the
importance of bugs



Question 15

Why does David believe bugs are important?

They are huge.

They look like his work.

They are easy to study.

They help our environment.

Question 16

What is the inspiration for [Goliath](#)?



a tree



car parts



sticks and string



a sculpture

Question 17

The bugs made of car parts



shows how creative
David can be.

tells how big David's
sculptures can be.

explains that using metal
is important.

describes how tiny details
can be captured.

Question 18

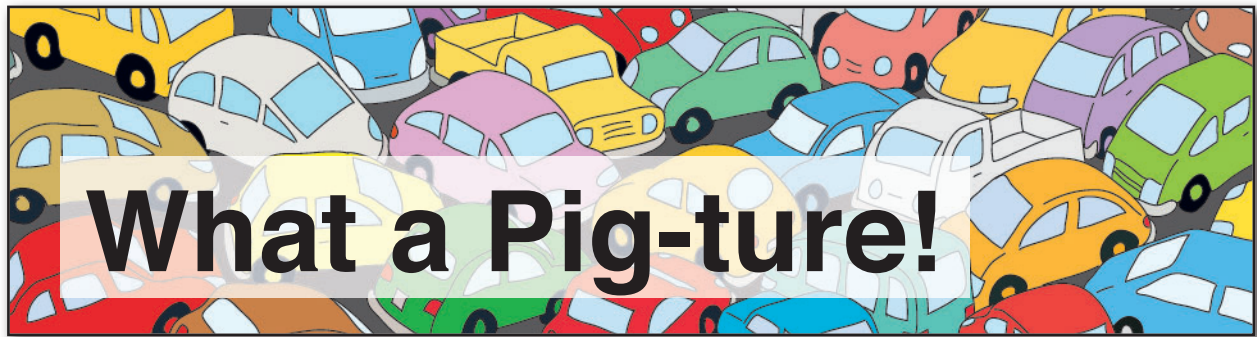
What message does David hope people will hear when he says
"There's no right or wrong way to express yourself with art"?



READ

What a Pig-ture!

Mr. Glen was surprised when he saw a pig fall out of a van when driving down the street!



Mr. Glen was driving his car down a busy city street. There was a big van in front of him. Suddenly the van began to go faster. Its back door flew open, and out fell a big pig! The poor pig landed on its back with its feet in the air. It just lay there.

“Oh, dear,” Mr. Glen said. “I hope it’s not hurt.”

He got out of his car and ran up to the pig.

“Are you all right?” he asked. The pig didn’t answer. Its eyes were closed. Mr. Glen patted the pig on its fat tummy. In a minute the pig opened its eyes.

5 “That’s better,” Mr. Glen said.

He helped the pig to roll over, and it stood up. Mr. Glen looked for the van, but it had gone.

Meanwhile, of course, a lot of other cars had stopped. There was a bad traffic jam. Some drivers were honking. Some were yelling at Mr. Glen. Some were shouting, “Get that pig out of here!” Some were calling him bad names. He began to feel quite upset.

But the pig could walk; so Mr. Glen helped it into the front seat of his car. The pig sat there, looking out of the window. The other drivers were still honking and yelling. Just as Mr. Glen was about to drive away, a police officer came up to him. The officer looked very angry.

“What do you think you’re doing, causing a mess like this?” he asked.
“Why have you got that pig in your car?”

- 10 “I’m sorry,” Mr. Glen said. “He fell out of a van and it drove off. I don’t know what to do with him.”

“Take him to the zoo,” said the officer. “NOW! Get moving!”

The officer blew his whistle. Mr. Glen and the pig drove away.

The next day, at just about the same time, Mr. Glen was driving down the same street. Once again other cars all around him were honking their horns. Some of the drivers were laughing and yelling.

Mr. Glen stopped at a traffic light, and there was the same officer. The officer looked at Mr. Glen’s car to see why all the other cars were honking. There in the front seat was the pig!

- 15 The officer came over to Mr. Glen. He was angry again.

“I thought I told you to take that pig to the zoo!” he shouted.

“Oh, yes, you did, officer,” said Mr. Glen happily. “Thank you very much. We went and we both had a wonderful time! And today we’re going to the park and the Natural History Museum!”

The pig said oink and the two of them drove away.



What a Pig-ture! by Ann B. Semple.
SRA Reading Laboratory 2b. Science Research Associates, Inc. 1989.

Question 19

Which picture shows what happens to the pig at the beginning of the story?



Question 20

When Mr. Glen first sees the pig, he feels



sad.
angry.
afraid.
worried.

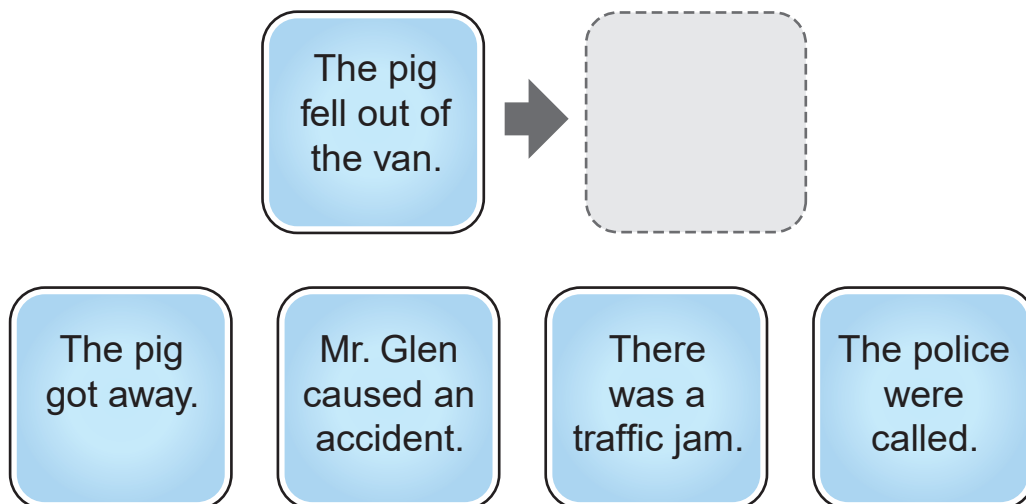
Question 21

How does Mr. Glen wake up the pig?

- ☐ He rolled the pig over.
- ☐ He opened the pig's eyes.
- ☐ He patted the pig's tummy.
- ☐ He put the pig's legs down.

Question 22

Move the word card to show what happens because the pig fell out of the van.



Question 23

Which word best describes Mr. Glen’s personality?

- ☐ angry
- ☐ helpful
- ☐ relaxed
- ☐ unfriendly

Question 24

Why is “What a Pig-ture!” a creative title?

- ☐ It is about an animal.
- ☐ It combines two words.
- ☐ It has an exclamation mark. (!)
- ☐ It rhymes with the word nature.

READ

Amazing Meerkats

Learn about how meerkats live in groups.



Amazing Meerkats

Meerkats are groupies, big time. They make getting along in a group seem easy. How do they do it? For starters, members of a group hang out together a lot. They sit back, relax, and often groom each other. Sometimes they tussle and play, too. This helps keep everyone happy and friendly! But meerkats have many more tricks for togetherness, as you'll soon find out.

What is a Meerkat?

A meerkat is a squirrel-sized mammal. They are about 30 centimetres in length and have a mass of about 900 grams, with the females being slightly larger than the males. They live and make their homes in burrows in the plains and deserts of southern Africa. A meerkat's long, thin body is great for scooting through a burrow!



Sharing Jobs

As you know, a group gets along best when everyone pitches in and shares the chores. Meerkats are pros at this. For example, they take turns standing guard: keeping an eye out for danger so the others don't have to worry about it. At the first sight of an eagle, hawk, or other predator, the guard barks or whistles loudly. That usually sends everyone racing for cover. When the guard gives an alarm call, the meerkats may dash into a wide tunnel called a "bolt hole."



From this vantage point, a guard keeps a sharp eye out for danger. Thanks to the guard, the other members of the group can safely go about their business. When looking for lunch, for instance, almost the whole gang sets off together, taking a slightly different route each day. That increases their chances of finding food. As they go, the meerkats sniff the ground for underground prey. Their favourites? Juicy, wormlike beetle grubs and scorpions.

Sharing and Caring

- 5 By far the most incredible example of meerkat teamwork is childcare! Nearly everyone in the group, both male and female, takes turns babysitting the group's young pups. And Mom? She nurses her pups, but otherwise she's not around much. She heads off with the rest of the adults to find food. She needs to keep eating so she can produce enough milk for her babies.

Training the Pups

The babysitter has to be especially cautious when the eager pups are ready to explore the world outside of the familiar burrow. After all, danger could strike at any time—and the pups would hardly notice.

They're too busy playing and wrestling with each other. Meerkat pups spend much of their day playing.



Finally, when they're about a month old, these mischievous little meerkats will be big enough to tag along with the rest of the group. But they still won't have learned all the tricks to catching their own food. So the ever-patient adults in the crowd will share their meals—and some will take time to teach the little ones how to hunt and grab prey. It won't be long before the pups catch on to this—and to all the other secrets of living in one big, happy group, too.

Meerkats really are remarkable animals.

"Amazing Meerkats" by Elizabeth Schleichert. National Wildlife Federation. USA. www.nwf.org/kids/Ranger-Rick/Animals/Mammals/Amazing-Meerkats.aspx. 2010

Question 25

Meerkats are happy because



they are protected.

they spend lots of
time together.

everyone helps raise
the children.

they have learned tricks
to help catch their food.

Question 26

What is the length and mass of an average meerkat?

Length

▼

- 20 centimetres
- 30 centimetres
- 68 centimetres
- 90 centimetres

Mass

▼

- 200 grams
- 300 grams
- 680 grams
- 900 grams

A meerkat is standing on a grey platform scale. To its left is a yellow ruler. A red arrow points from the 'Length' dropdown menu to the ruler. The meerkat's head is aligned with the 10 cm mark on the ruler. The scale has a digital display area above the platform.

Question 27

When danger is near a meerkat will...



Question 28

A '[vantage point](#)' most likely means

a place to sunbathe.

a place to find food.

a place to keep watch.

a place to dig a burrow.

Question 29

Why do meerkats take different routes each day?

to avoid running into
predators

to have a change in their
surroundings

to increase their chance
of finding food

to help young meerkats
learn about their habitat

Question 30

Why is the mother meerkat 'not around much' when the pups are young?

The males take care of
the young.

She needs to eat to feed
her pups.

She needs to keep guard
against danger.

Her pups spend much of
their time playing.