

Name _____

adult

alive

covered

fur

giant

groom

mammal

offspring

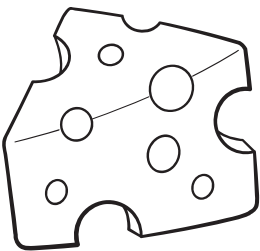
Choose the word that makes sense in each blank. Then write the word on the line.

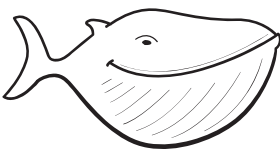
1. A baby chick is covered with soft feathers.
2. Some offspring look a lot like their parents.
3. Whales are giant sea animals.
4. A cat will groom itself to stay clean.
5. A horse is a mammal because it feeds its babies milk.
6. A fox's fur coat helps to keep it warm.
7. Some baby animals need to be cared for by an adult.
8. Animals need food and water to stay alive.

Name _____

A **consonant digraph** is two consonants together that stand for only one sound.

A. Say each picture name. Read the words and circle the word with the same beginning sound. Write the word.

1.  chop sting chop

2.  pitch while while

A **suffix** is a word part added to the end of a word to make a new word.

- The suffix **-ful** means “full of.”
- The suffix **-less** means “without.”

B. Read each word. Write its meaning.

3. helpless without help 4. careful full of care
 5. thankful full of thanks 6. useless without use

Name _____

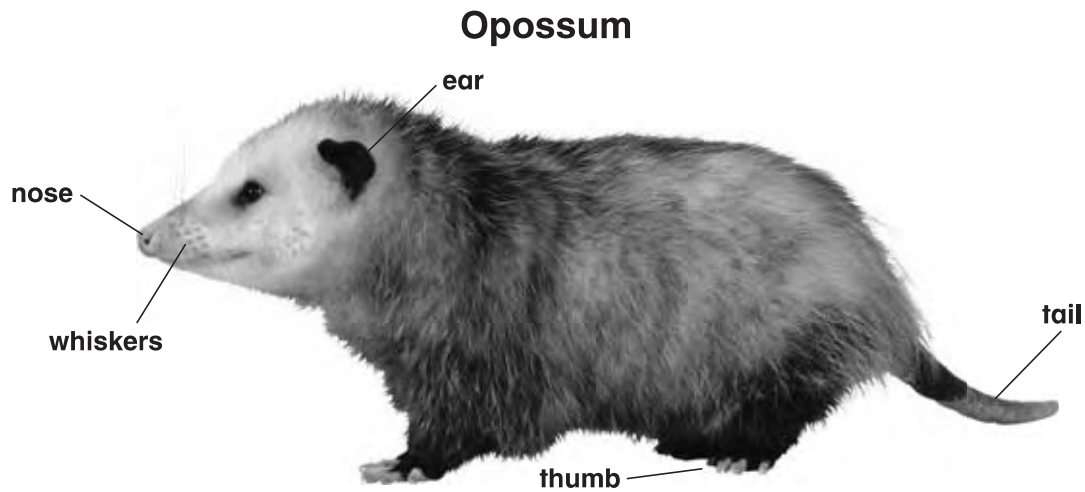
Read the passage. Use the reread strategy to make sure you understand the information.

Opossums

12 An adult opossum is about the size of a big cat. When
22 the mother gives birth, she may have seven or more
babies. She has a pouch like a kangaroo.

30 Each baby opossum is the size of a honeybee. At
40 first, they stay inside the mother's pouch. After about
49 two months, the babies leave the mother's pouch. They
58 are still small. The mother can carry the babies on her
69 back. The baby opossums grow quickly. Soon the young
78 animals are on their own.

Name _____



83 An adult opossum has long gray fur on its body.
 93 Its face is white. It has black ears. The opossum has
 104 a pointed snout with a pink nose. Its tail and feet are
 116 pink, too. It has a mouth full of fifty sharp teeth.

127 An opossum has a very useful tail. This tail is almost
 138 a foot long with very little hair. An opossum can use
 149 this tail to grab onto things. Its tail helps it hold onto
 161 tree branches. On each hind foot, an opossum has a
 171 thumb. These thumbs help it grab onto things, too.

180 These animals are known for “playing possum.”
 187 When rattled by a predator, they lie still and don’t move
 198 at all until the threat goes away.

Name _____

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.

1. What is the main topic of the passage?

The main topic is about opossums and their babies.

2. What is a key detail about an adult opossum?

Possible response: An adult opossum is about the size of a big cat.

3. What is a key detail about a baby opossum?

Possible response: A baby opossum is the size of a honeybee.

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to pronunciation. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

	Words Read	–	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		–		=	
Second Read		–		=	

Name _____

Read the selection. Complete the Main Topic and Key Details chart.

Main Topic		
Detail	Detail	Detail

Name _____

A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you add linking words.

Draft Model

A puppy is the name for a baby dog. A puppy is much smaller than its parent. It is the same shape as its parent. It has fur like its parent. It cannot do many things for itself.

1. What are some ways you can connect the ideas in the draft?
2. How is a puppy different from its parent?
3. How is a puppy the same as its parent?

B. Now revise the draft by adding and replacing words to connect ideas with linking words, such as *and*, *so*, *also*, *but*, or *however*.

Answers will vary but should demonstrate the use of linking words to

connect ideas.

Name _____

Leopards and Their Cubs

Leopard cubs are born with their eyes closed. Their fur is longer and thicker than their parents' fur. It is grayer, too. The cubs' spots are not easy to see.

Leopard



Answer the questions about the text.

1. How do you know this is an expository text?

It gives facts about leopards and their cubs. It has a diagram

with labels.

2. What information can you learn from looking at the diagram?

You can learn what the leopard cub looks like.

3. What information can you learn by reading the labels?

You can learn the names of parts of the leopard.

Name _____

Multiple-meaning words have more than one meaning. Use other words in the sentence to figure out which meaning is being used.

Read each sentence. Figure out the meaning of the word in bold print. Put a checkmark in the box before the meaning that matches its use in the sentence.

1. The mother can carry the babies on her **back**.

- the part of the body opposite the front
 to move away from something

2. The opossum has a **pointed** snout with a pink nose.

- having a sharp end
 showed where something is

3. Soon the young animals are on their **own**.

- to have or hold as property
 for or by oneself

4. When **rattled** by a predator, they lie still and don't move at all until the threat goes away.

- made upset or disturbed
 made noise

Name _____

Reread “Opossums.” Write your opinion about how the author used details to support the main topic of the text. Use the words and picture to help you complete the sentences below.

Possible responses provided.

1. The author wrote this text to tell about opossums and their babies

2. I think the most important details are a mother opossum can have

seven or more babies and

an opossum can use its long tail to grab onto things

3. The text feature is important because it shows the parts of an

opossum’s body
