

lesson  
**4**

# The Hippopotamus



## Before You Read

Look at the picture. Read the sentences.  
Check (✓) *True*, *False*, or *Don't Know*.

	True	False	Don't Know
1. The hippopotamus is big.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. It lives in the snow and ice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. It has wings and a tail.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



# 4 The Hippopotamus



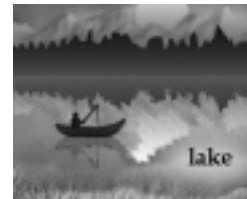
The hippopotamus, or hippo, lives in the hot part of Africa. It is a **mammal**. That is, its babies are born **alive**, and they drink milk from the mother's body.

The hippopotamus is a **large** animal. It weighs four tons. Its **stomach** is seven meters long, and it eats only **plants**. It is a mammal, but it **spends** a lot of time in the water.

During the day, it sleeps **beside** a river or a **lake**. Sometimes it wakes up. Then it goes under the water to get some plants for food. It can close its nose and **stay** under water for ten minutes. Its ears, eyes, and nose are **high up** on its head. It can stay with its body under the water and only its ears, eyes, and nose **above** the water. Then it can **breathe** the air.

At night, the hippo walks on the land and looks for food. It never goes very far from the water.

A baby hippo often stands on its mother's back. The mother looks for food underwater. The baby rides on her back above the water.



## **a** Vocabulary

Put the right word in each blank. The sentences are from the text.

stomach	stay	beside	mammal
breathe	lake	plants	spends
above	alive	large	high

1. The hippopotamus is a \_\_\_\_\_ animal.
2. During the day, it sleeps \_\_\_\_\_ a river or a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It is a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Its \_\_\_\_\_ is seven meters long, and it eats only \_\_\_\_\_.
5. It can close its nose and \_\_\_\_\_ under water for ten minutes.
6. It can stay with its body under the water and only its ears, eyes, and nose \_\_\_\_\_ the water.
7. Then it can \_\_\_\_\_ the air.
8. It is a mammal, but it \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of time in the water.
9. Its eyes, ears, and nose are \_\_\_\_\_ up on its head.

## **b** Vocabulary: New Context

Put the right word in each blank. These are new sentences for words in the text.

beside	large	stays	mammal	spend	nose
plants	lake	above	breathe	stomach	high

1. The camel is a \_\_\_\_\_, but the kiwi is a bird.
2. Food goes from your mouth into your \_\_\_\_\_.
3. How do you smell a beautiful flower? You \_\_\_\_\_ in through your nose.
4. Hippos eat \_\_\_\_\_. Polar bears eat fish and sea animals.
5. I want to talk to you. Please sit \_\_\_\_\_ me.
6. Tom likes to \_\_\_\_\_ his free time in the Student Union. He \_\_\_\_\_ there a few hours every day.
7. Birds can fly \_\_\_\_\_ the trees.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Geneva is a beautiful lake in Switzerland.
9. The polar bear is a \_\_\_\_\_ animal. It is very big.
10. New York City has a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ buildings.



## C Vocabulary Review

Put a circle around the letter of the best answer.

1. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ a polar bear? What does it look like?  
a. hurt      b. describe      c. catch      d. store
2. Many birds fly \_\_\_\_\_ in the winter to a warmer place.  
a. north      b. wing      c. south      d. wide
3. These birds fly \_\_\_\_\_ in the summer to a cooler place.  
a. north      b. wing      c. south      d. wide
4. Roses \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful.  
a. swim      b. catch      c. smell      d. hurt
5. The kiwi is a \_\_\_\_\_ bird.  
a. strange      b. warm      c. hurt      d. wide
6. My hand \_\_\_\_\_. I can't write.  
a. flies      b. catches      c. smells      d. hurts

## d Questions

The asterisk (\*) means you have to think of the answer. You cannot find it in the text.

1. Where does the hippopotamus live?
- \*2. Is a kiwi a mammal?
3. How long is a hippo's stomach?
4. Does a hippo eat meat?
5. Why does a hippo go under water?
6. How can it stay under water for ten minutes?
- \*7. Can it breathe under water? Why?
8. What does it do at night?
9. Where does a baby hippo ride?
- \*10. Is a bear a mammal?



## **e** Comprehension: True/False/No Information

*Write T if the sentence is true. Write F if it is false. Write NI if there is no information about the sentence in the text.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Hippo babies are born alive.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Hippos eat plants.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Hippos live under water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. A hippo can close its eyes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. A hippo breathes under water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. A hippo looks for food on the land during the day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. A hippo has long eyelashes to keep water out of its eyes.

## **f** Main Idea

*Circle the number of the main idea of the text.*

- 1. The hippopotamus is a large African animal that spends a lot of time in the water and eats plants.
- 2. The hippopotamus has its eyes, ears, and nose high up on its head.
- 3. The hippopotamus walks on the land at night, and it sleeps during the day.



lesson  
**5**

# The Dolphin



## Before You Read

Look at the picture. Read the sentences.  
Check (✓) *True*, *False*, or *Don't Know*.

	True	False	Don't Know
1. Dolphins are mammals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Dolphins live in water.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Dolphins can swim very well.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

