

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Giraffe

The Giraffe is an African mammal and the tallest living animal. It is known for its extremely long neck and legs. A giraffe features include a camel like face and patches of colour on its fur similar to a leopards spots. Giraffes are scattered throughout Africa and usually inhabit, savannas, grasslands and open woodlands.

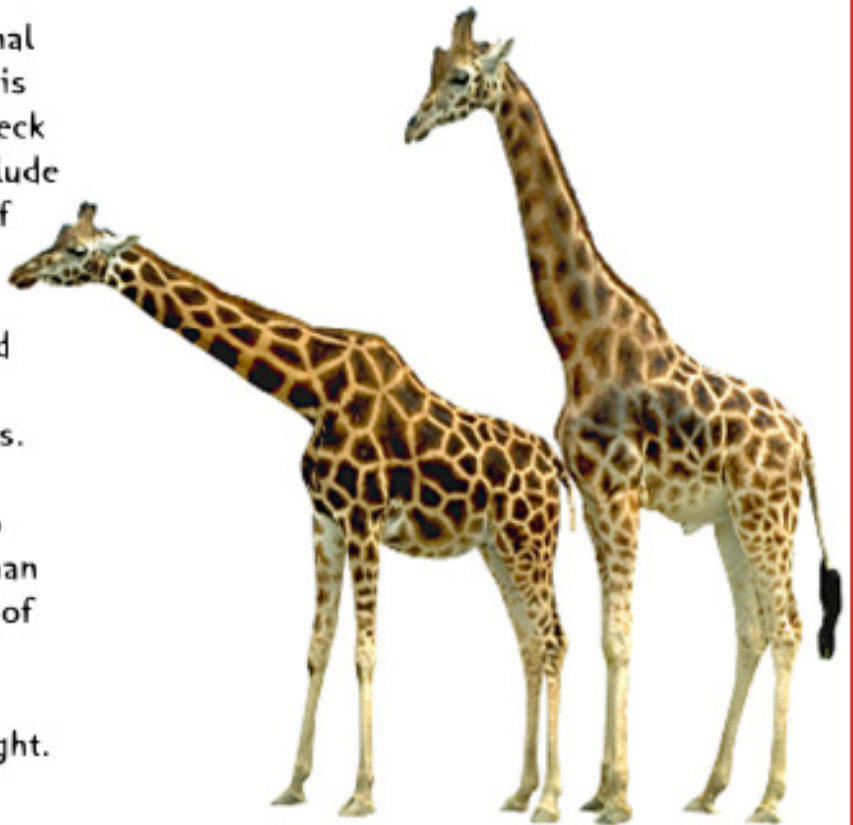
Fully grown giraffes stand 5 -6 meters tall, with males taller than females. Located at both sides of the head, the giraffe's large, bulging eyes give it good all round vision from its great height.

Giraffes see in colour and their senses of hearing and smell are also sharp. Giraffes also have the ability to close its nostrils to protect against sandstorms and ants.

A giraffes coat has dark blotches or patches. These usually can be orange, chestnut, brown or black in colour, separated by light hair. Each individual giraffe has a unique coat pattern. The pattern serves as a camouflage allowing it to blend in the light and shade patterns of savanna woodlands.

Giraffes feed on leaves, twigs, shrubs, grass and fruit and eat around 34 kilos per day. Feeding is at its highest during the first and last hours of daytime. When stressed, giraffes may chew the bark of branches. Although herbivores, giraffes have been known to visit carcasses and lick dried meat off bones.

Giraffes typically live up to 25 years in the wild. Because of their size, eyesight and powerful kicks, adult giraffes are not a targeted prey. However predators include lions, leopards, spotted hyenas and wild dogs. Nile crocodiles can also be a threat to giraffes when they bend down to drink.



Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____

Use the reading sheet to answer the following questions.

Answer the following:

1) What is a giraffe?

2) Name giraffe's features.

3) Where do giraffes inhabit?

4) How tall is a giraffe?

5) What can a giraffe do with their nostrils?

6) What colour are the patches on a giraffes coat?

7) What does the pattern do?

8) How much and what does a giraffe eat during the day?

9) At what age do giraffes live up to? Why?

10) Name 5 predators of the giraffe.
