



Bioluminescence in Nature

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

Some living things can make their own light. This light is called bioluminescence. It is not hot like fire. It is a soft, cool **glow**. We can see this light at night. Bioluminescence happens in the sea and on land. Many animals use it to live and stay safe.

The deep **ocean** is very dark. The sun cannot reach the bottom. But the water is not empty. Many **creatures** there make their own light. Some fish have lights on their heads. They glow blue or green in the dark water.

On land, the **firefly** is famous for its light. On warm summer nights, fireflies fly in the air. Their small lights blink on and off. They use the light to find a friend. Many people love to watch them.

Why do animals make light? Some use light to find food. The light can **attract** small fish or bugs. When the food comes close, the animal can eat it. Other animals use light to scare away enemies. This keeps the animal safe. Light is a useful tool for many animals.

Animals make light with a chemical inside their bodies. The chemical mixes with air and makes a glow. This is a clever trick from nature. Scientists study these animals to learn more. Their natural light is truly amazing.

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. glow ____ | a. far down from the top |
| 2. ocean ____ | b. substance that can mix and react to make something new |
| 3. dark ____ | c. small flying insect that makes light at night |
| 4. firefly ____ | d. world of plants, animals, and land around us |
| 5. creature ____ | e. very large body of salt water |
| 6. attract ____ | f. having little or no light |
| 7. chemical ____ | g. living animal |
| 8. signal ____ | h. make something come closer |
| 9. deep ____ | i. sign or action that sends a message |
| 10. nature ____ | j. soft, steady light that is not hot |

B. True or False

- | | |
|---|---|
| ____ 1. Bioluminescence is a kind of light. | ____ 2. The light from bioluminescence is very hot. |
| ____ 3. The deep ocean is very dark. | ____ 4. The sun reaches the bottom of the deep ocean. |

___ 5. Fireflies make light at night.

___ 6. Fireflies live deep in the ocean.

___ 7. Some animals use light to find food.

___ 8. Animals make light with a chemical inside their bodies.

___ 9. No animals use light to scare away enemies.

___ 10. Bioluminescence happens only on land.

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: ocean, firefly, attract, glow, dark, chemical, signal, creature

1. The deep _____ is full of animals that make light.
2. A _____ blinks its small light on summer nights.
3. Some animals use light to _____ small fish or bugs.
4. The soft, cool light that animals make is called a _____.
5. The bottom of the deep sea is very _____.



D. Comprehension Questions

1. Why is the deep ocean dark?
2. How do fireflies use their light?
3. How do animals make their own light?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Would you rather see fireflies on land or glowing animals in the ocean? Why?
2. If you could glow in the dark, when would you use your light?



Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-j, 2-e, 3-f, 4-c, 5-g, 6-h, 7-b, 8-i, 9-a, 10-d

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-F, 5-T, 6-F, 7-T, 8-T, 9-F, 10-F

C. Fill Blanks: 1-ocean, 2-firefly, 3-attract, 4-glow, 5-dark

D. Comprehension:

1. The deep ocean is dark because the sun cannot reach the bottom.
2. Fireflies use their light to find a friend.
3. They make light with a chemical inside their bodies that mixes with air.

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