Zebras — Africa's Striped Wonder



Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

A zebra is a wild **animal** that lives in Africa. It looks a little like a horse, but a zebra has **black** and **white** stripes all over its body. No two zebras have exactly the same stripes — every zebra has its own special pattern, like a fingerprint.

Zebras live on the open plains of Africa, where there is plenty of **grass** to eat. A zebra spends many hours every day eating grass with its flat teeth. Zebras need to eat a lot of food because they are big, heavy animals.

Zebras do not live alone. They live together in a big **group** called a herd. A herd can have many zebras, and sometimes other animals join them too. Living in a herd helps every zebra stay **safe** from danger.

A zebra has long, **strong** legs that help it run very **fast**. When a lion or another hungry animal comes close, a zebra can run away quickly to escape. Fast legs are one of the best ways a zebra can protect itself.

A **young** zebra is called a foal. A foal can stand up and walk soon after it is born. It stays very close to its mother and learns to know her stripes and her voice among all the other zebras in the herd.

A. Vocabulary

1. animal ____	a. moving very quickly
2. wild ____	b. free from danger; protected
3. black ____	c. having a lot of power or energy
4. white ____	d. a very dark color, like the night sky
5. grass ____	e. a green plant with thin leaves that covers fields
6. group ____	f. not old; in an early part of life
7. safe ____	g. a living thing that can move and breathe, but is not a person
8. strong ____	h. living and growing in nature, not kept by people
9. fast ____	i. a very light color, like snow
10. young ____	j. a number of people or animals together



B. True or False

1. A zebra is a wild animal that lives in Africa. ____
2. A zebra has only black stripes and no white stripes. ____
3. Every zebra has the exact same stripe pattern. ____
4. Zebras eat grass on the open plains. ____
5. Zebras always live completely alone. ____
6. A group of zebras living together is called a herd. ____
7. Zebras have short, weak legs. ____
8. Zebras can run fast to escape from danger. ____
9. A baby zebra is called a foal. ____



C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: grass, group, safe, strong, young

1. A zebra eats _____ on the open plains of Africa.
2. Zebras live together in a _____ called a herd.

3. Living in a herd helps zebras stay _____ from danger.

4. A zebra has long, _____ legs that help it run.

5. A _____ zebra is called a foal.

D. Comprehension Questions

1. Where do zebras live, and what do they look like?
2. What do zebras eat, and where do they find their food?
3. Why do zebras live together in a herd?
4. How do zebras protect themselves from danger, like hungry lions?
5. What is a baby zebra called, and how does it behave after it is born?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever seen a zebra at a zoo or in a picture? What did you notice about its stripes?
2. Why do you think no two zebras have the exact same stripe pattern?
3. What other animals do you know that live together in a group? Why might that help them?





Answer Key

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

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

C. Fill Blanks: 1-grass, 2-group, 3-safe, 4-strong, 5-young

D. Comprehension:

1. Zebras live in Africa on open, grassy plains, and they look like horses with black and white stripes covering their whole body.
2. Zebras eat grass, and they find it on the open plains of Africa where they spend many hours grazing.
3. Zebras live together in a herd because being in a group helps keep every zebra safer from danger.
4. Zebras have long, strong legs that let them run fast to escape from lions and other predators.
5. A baby zebra is called a foal. A foal can stand up and walk soon after birth and stays close to its mother.

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