



ANIMALS AT WORK

Animals Finding Food

Animals at Work is an informative way to look at the lives of animals, particularly at a time when the hard work of survival is becoming even harder because of habitat destruction and climate change.

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

1. The only bird of prey to hunt on the ground is the ...
 - a. Hawk
 - b. Vulture
 - c. Owl
 - d. Secretary-bird
2. The rate at which dragonflies catch their prey is about ...
 - a. 10% of the time
 - b. 95% of the time
 - c. 50% of the time
 - d. 75% of the time
3. A detritivore is ...
 - a. An animal that eats bits of discarded organic material
 - b. A meat-eating animal
 - c. A plant-eating animal
 - d. An animal that eats plants and animals
4. An invasive species is ...
 - a. A group of living things that have certain permanent traits in common and are able to reproduce with each other
 - b. An animal that hunts, kills, and eats other animals
 - c. A type of living thing that spreads rapidly in a new environment where there are few or no natural controls on its growth
 - d. One of the major invertebrate groups
5. What is a *shoal*?
6. In what continent do shoebills live?

TRUE OR FALSE?

- | | |
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| _____ 1. Piranhas can gang up and take down much larger animals. | _____ 4. Some animals use natural disasters like forest fires to their advantage to get food. |
| _____ 2. Most predators can only eat fresh meat. | _____ 5. Constricting snakes like boas, pythons, and anacondas need venom to catch their prey. |
| _____ 3. Browsers like moose and caribou can harm trees. | _____ 6. Humans play a big role in changes to the environment. |

ANSWERS

- 1. d. Secretary-bird.** According to the section "Chasing" on page 7, we know that "Secretary-birds, distant relatives of vultures and hawks, are the only birds of prey that hunt on the ground instead of from the air while flying." So, the correct answer is D.
- 2. b. 95% of the time.** According to the section "Chasing" on page 10, we know that "Dragonflies are among the most efficient of all hunters: they successfully catch prey in about 95 percent of their tries." So, the correct answer is B.
- 3. a. An animal that eats bits of discarded organic material.** According to the section "Glossary" on page 46, we know that "detritivore is an animal that eats bits of discarded organic material." So, the correct answer is A.
- 4. c. A type of living thing that spreads rapidly in a new environment where there are few or no natural controls on its growth.** According to the section "Glossary" on page 46, we know that "invasive species is a type of living thing that spreads rapidly in a new environment where there are few or no natural controls on its growth" So, the correct answer is C.
- 5.** According to page 46, a *shoal* is a group of fish.
- 6.** According to page 43, shoebills live in Africa.

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. False.** According to the section "Chasing" on page 8, we know that "But they only eat much larger animals if they are already dead or dying." So, the correct answer is False.
- 2. True.** According to the section "Scavenging" on page 16, we know that "Most predators cannot eat old, rotten remains—they will get sick. But they will eat a fresh carcass if they find one." So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. True.** According to the section "Browsing" on page 30, we know that "It is easy to see where moose or caribou have been browsing. They strip off the bark of many forest trees, leaving them vulnerable to infection." So, the correct answer is True.
- 4. True.** According to the section "Habitat Change" on page 41, we know that "Some animals make use of natural disasters to find food. Mountain lions, bears, and other predators often patrol the edge of forest fires, waiting to pounce on animals running from the flames." So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. False.** According to the section "Ambushing" on page 12, we know that "Constricting snakes, such as boas, pythons, and anacondas, do not need venom to catch their prey." So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. True.** According to the section "Habitat Change" on page 42, we know that "Today, humans are one of the most powerful forces of change on the planet. Animals that cannot adapt to these changes die, but some can even make use of the changes brought on by humans." So, the correct answer is True.