

MONDAY

WORD OF THE DAY: Unique.

Adjective – The only one of its kind; unlike anything else.

In the text

The Sneagleonkey is a majestic, **unique** and shy creature

Synonyms

distinctive, individual, special...

Antonyms

common, ordinary...

In another sentence

The artist's technique was **unique**.

SPELLINGS

completely

faithfully

usually

beautifully

finally

carefully

The Sneagleonkey

Introduction

The Sneagleonkey is a majestic, unique and shy creature that, due to being hunted for its luxurious fur and feathers, has become very rare. It lives in tropical rainforests (near the equator of the Earth) and recently scientists have discovered far more about this mysterious mammal.



Appearance

Sneagleonkeys are easy to identify because, as their name suggests, they have similar features to snakes, eagles and monkeys. They are the size of a small cat and covered in both slimy scales and thick feathers. Adult Sneagleonkeys are usually a dark green colour which enables them to camouflage themselves among the trees and undergrowth of the rainforest. However, their young are born with a bluish tinge to their scales and have no feathers. Whilst they do have diminutive wings, they cannot actually fly because the branches of the trees obstruct their wings. Therefore, they have evolved over time, adapting to their environment and rather than fly, they use their powerful monkey-like arms to swing gracefully from branch to branch, grasping on with razor-sharp claws.



Habitat

An investigation into their habitat has revealed that Sneagleonkeys live in trees (arboreal) and are commonly found in most tropical rainforests where the climate is warm and wet. They are most often found in the canopy - a dense, leafy layer with trees about 40 metres tall, away from predators. They usually nest high up in the boughs of trees. However, a few of these creatures have been found hiding in the undergrowth, searching for prey. Surprisingly, Sneagleonkeys are able to sleep lying on a branch without falling off, simply by wrapping their long, flexible tail around it.



Diet

Feasting on both meat and vegetation, these elusive creatures are omnivores and have a fairly limited diet consisting mainly of arachnids, small reptiles and leaves. Their snake-like tongue paralyses prey in an instant! In addition, they have been known to be tempted to eat an occasional banana and they do like nuts, which they crack open by bashing them against the tree bark. They make a peculiar, rumbling noise when they eat which is thought to be a signal to predators to keep away. Because they only hunt at night (nocturnal), Sneagleonkeys are rarely seen by human eyes. Scientists also believe that they are not dangerous to humans.



Did You Know?



Unfortunately, because of their luxurious fur and feathers, some scientists are concerned that Sneagleonkeys might become hunted and forced into extinction. Where 'nests' have been discovered, their location has been kept a secret and in order to protect these mysterious creatures, all animal lovers should try to raise awareness of these exceptional animals. It would be a total disaster if another rainforest creature became extinct. Interestingly yet shockingly, it has been reported that young Sneagleonkeys have been snatched from their mothers whilst they are away in search of prey.

Answer the following questions:

1. In the first paragraph, which word tells us that the Sneagleonkey is not seen too easily?
2. Read the paragraph about the Sneagleonkeys' habitat. Write down the word that means the same as 'living in the trees'.
3. Which of the following words is an antonym for flexible?
 - a) Bendy
 - b) Rigid
 - c) Straight
 - d) Furry
4. Read the paragraph about appearance.
Find and copy the word which is a synonym for 'small'.

WORD OF THE DAY: Camouflage.

Verb – To hide or disguise the presence of a person, animal or object.

In the text

Adult Sneagleonkeys are usually a dark green colour which enables them to **camouflage** themselves...

Antonyms

display, expose...

Synonyms

disguise, hide, conceal...

In another sentence

Some lizards can **camouflage** themselves by changing colour in order to blend into their environments.

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the first paragraph of a non-chronological report?
2. In this non-fiction text, why are subheadings used?
3. Draw lines to match the words to the explanation in this glossary:

Arboreal

Have eight legs and no antennae

Predator

Lives in trees.

Arachnids

An animal that preys on others

4. Tick whether the statements are true or false.

Non-chronological reports contain:	True	False
A bold heading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sub- headings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dialogue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An introductory paragraph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. What is the purpose of using a picture and a caption?

WORD OF THE DAY: Obstruct.

Verb – To block or get in the way.

In the text

The branches **obstruct** their wings.

Synonyms

block, impede, hinder...

Antonyms

clear...

In another sentence

The man planted his tree carefully so as not to **obstruct** his neighbour's view.

Key Features

- Specific content
- Headings & subheadings
- Address the reader (e.g. did you know...)
- Expanded noun phrases
- Pictures, images and captions
- Adverbs and adverbials of place / manner / time
- Technical vocabulary / glossary
- Key information (facts & figures)



FINDING KEY FEATURES

Habitat

An investigation into their habitat has revealed that Sneagleonkeys live in trees (arboreal) and are most commonly found in tropical rainforests where the climate is warm and wet. They are most often found in the canopy - a dense, leafy layer with trees about 40 metres tall, away from predators. They usually nest high up in the boughs of trees. However, a few of these creatures have been found hiding in the undergrowth, searching for prey. Surprisingly, Sneagleonkeys are able to sleep lying on a branch without falling off, simply by wrapping their long, flexible tail around it.

1. Find and copy two examples of expanded noun phrases in the introduction.
2. Why does a non-chronological report sometimes use 'Did you know?'
3. Identify **three** examples of technical vocabulary in the paragraph about diet.
4. Read the following sentences. Identify the adverbs.
 - a) Sneagleonkeys are rarely seen by human eyes.
 - b) You will find them using their powerful monkey-like arms to swing gracefully from branch to branch.

17

5. 'They are most often found in the canopy - a dense, leafy layer with trees about 40 metres tall, away from predators.'

Find this sentence in the text. What subheading has been used?

6. Read the sentence and state whether it is a fact or opinion.

Sentence	Fact	Opinion
Sneagleonkeys live in trees (arboreal)		
Sneagleonkeys might become hunted and forced into extinction.		

7. Draw a picture of what you imagine a Sneagleonkey to look like. Write a caption underneath.

WORD OF THE DAY: extinct.

Adjective – A species, family, (or other large group) having no living members.

Things to think about, when creating your animal...

What does it look like?



What does it eat?

How does it protect itself against predators?

What might your animal need in order to survive?

Where might it live?

Appearance

Does it have sharp talons or teeth? Does it have wings? Can you compare it to an animal we already know?

Diet

What does it eat? Is it a carnivore/herbivore/omnivore? Does it hunt in the day or night? Does it need to eat all the time?

Habitat

What might it live? Does it need to be high up in trees? Does it live in water or in sand? Does it live underground?

Survival

What might your animal need in order to survive? Does it need to fly? How does it keep warm? Can it swim? Can it run fast? How does it protect itself against predators? How does it protect its young?

Appearance - Think about the different body parts your animal might have.

- Tusks
- Scales
- Fin
- Pouch (to protect their young)
- Horn
- Tentacles
- Suckers
- Wings
- Beak
- Talons
- Feathers
- Fur
- Paws
- Legs (front and hind)
- Antennae

Diet - What does it eat?

Examples of foods it might eat:

- Leaves
- Nuts
- Bark
- Reptiles
- Spiders
- Insects
- Amphibians
- Fruit (bananas / kiwi / oranges)
- Berries
- Fish

Is it a **carnivore**? (carnivores eat mainly meat and hunt their prey)

Is it a **herbivore**? (herbivores eat mainly plants)

Is it an **Omnivore**? (omnivores eat a mixture of plants and meat)

Habitat - Where does it live?

Desert



Deserts are dry places where little plant life can grow. Hot deserts may be barren areas of rock and sand, but some support animals and plants that can cope with very little water.

Tundra

Tundras are frozen solid for most of the year, but thaw out a little during spring and summer. Animals such as reindeer and nesting birds make their homes here.



Savanna



These tropical grasslands are found in Africa. They have long dry periods followed by wet seasons with heavy rainfall. They are home to huge herds of grass-eating animals and powerful predators that feed on them.



Habitat - Where does it live?

Marine



This water habitat is the largest in the world, as it includes the five major oceans that cover 70% of the Earth. Marine water has high levels of salt, so animals and plants living here have adaptations that help them get rid of salt or take on water.

Rainforest

These green, lush forests grow near the Equator (an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth). They are the richest of all habitats, home to more kinds of animals and plants than any other habitat.



Grassland



Dry, grassy prairies have hot summers and cold winters. They support herds of grazing animals such as antelope and bison.



You could use:

herbivore	tropical	scientist
carnivore	arboreal	research
omnivore	nocturnal	location
survival	identify	awareness
extinction	environment	dangerous
unique	adapted	evolve
rare	predator	hunt
equator	prey	protect

Feature	Example
Headings & subheadings	Introduction; Diet; Habitat...
Expanded noun phrases	powerful monkey-like arms
Technical vocabulary	these elusive creatures are omnivores
Adverbials	among the trees and undergrowth of the rainforest
Key information	some scientists are concerned
Addressing the reader	Did you know...
Pictures/images/captions	(If it's relevant)