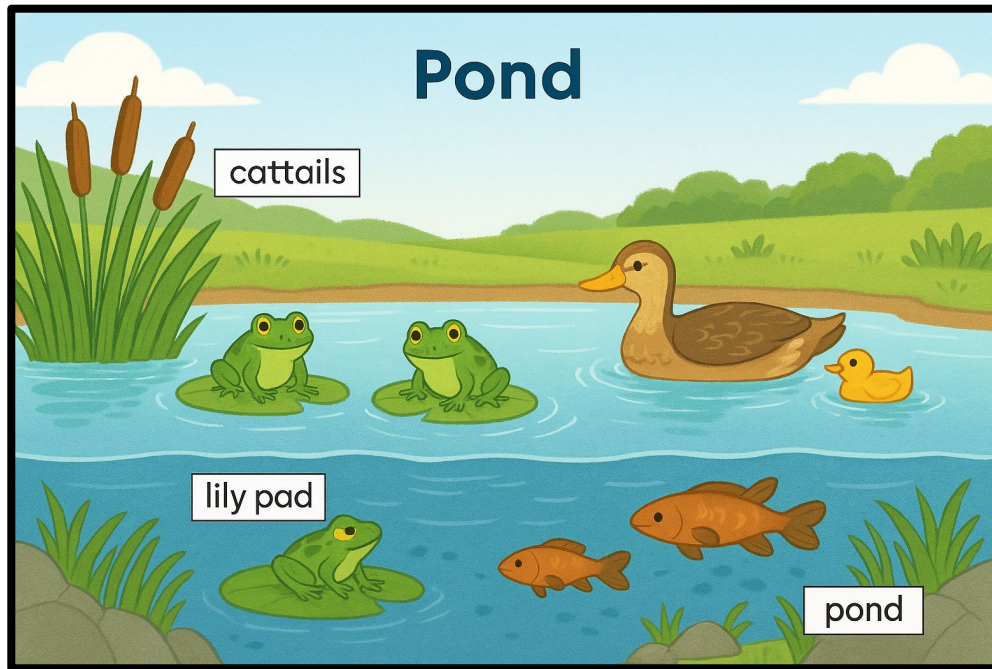


# Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Clarify Word Meanings

Read the short story and answer each question.



## What Is a Pond?

A pond is a small body of water. It is not as big as a lake.

Ponds have calm water. That means the water does not move much.

Many animals live in and around ponds. Frogs hop on lily pads. Ducks swim on top of the water. Fish swim under the water.

Some ponds have plants like cattails. Cattails grow tall near the edge of the pond.

A pond is a quiet place where animals and plants live together.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## What Is a Pond?

1. What does the word "calm" mean in the sentence: "Ponds have calm water"?

- A. Fast and noisy
- B. Hot and spicy
- C. Still and quiet
- D. Cold and frozen

2. What is the meaning of "cattails" in the passage?

- A. A type of tail
- B. A tall plant that grows by water
- C. A part of a fish
- D. A kind of bird

3. Fill in the blank:

The word "cattails" means a tall \_\_\_\_\_ that grows near a pond.

4. What clues helped you understand what a pond is?

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5. How do you know what the word calm means in the passage?

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# Parent and Teacher Guide

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**Guide Reading Level:** E

**Lexile Level:** 10L-160L

**Grade Level:** 1st Grade, Beginning of the Year

**Genre:** Informational Text (Science)

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## Introducing the Text

*"Today we're going to read a nonfiction passage about ponds. As we read, we'll practice figuring out what tricky words mean by using the other words or pictures around them. This helps us understand new vocabulary while we read."*

**Vocabulary:** pond, calm, lily pad, cattails, body of water

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## Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever seen a pond?
  2. What kinds of things do you think live there?
  3. What do you do when you don't know a word in a book?
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## During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What does the word *calm* mean?
  2. What is a *lily pad*?
  3. How does the sentence help you figure out what *cattails* are?
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## After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How can you tell what a pond is?
  2. What words helped you understand what "calm" and "cattails" mean?
  3. Why is it important to use the text to figure out new words?
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## Activity Idea

Give students three tricky words from the text: pond, calm, and cattails. Have them create a mini word poster with: 1) the word, 2) a picture, 3) a sentence from the passage, and 4) their own definition. Then let them share with a partner.

