

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Text Structure

Read the short story and answer each question.



Two Wild Worlds

Rainforests and deserts are both natural habitats, but they couldn't be more different. Each one has its own unique weather, plants, and animals. And in both places, animals have special ways to survive.

Rainforests are warm, wet places filled with tall trees and thick plants. It rains almost every day. Animals like sloths, tree frogs, and parrots live high in the trees. Many have bright colors or loud calls to find each other in the thick forest.

In contrast, **deserts** are dry and hot. They get very little rain, and there are fewer trees. Animals like camels, lizards, and owls have to deal with extreme heat. Many desert animals sleep during the day and come out at night when it's cooler.

Rainforest animals often use trees for shelter and food. For example, monkeys swing from branch to branch to find fruit. Desert animals, on the other hand, may hide under rocks or burrow underground to escape the sun.

Even though these two habitats are very different, they have something in common: the animals that live there have adapted to survive. Whether it's by climbing, digging, or hiding, each animal has found a way to call its wild world home.



Name: _____

Two Wild Worlds

1. How is the text structured?

- A. It tells a funny story about animals
- B. It describes events in the order they happened
- C. It compares and contrasts rainforests and deserts
- D. It explains how one animal builds a home

2. What is one way animals in the desert survive that is different from rainforest animals?

- A. They eat more fruit
- B. They sleep in trees
- C. They are active at night to avoid heat
- D. They use bright colors to warn predators

3. Fill in the blank:

Rainforest animals often live in _____, while desert animals hide under rocks or burrow to stay cool.

4. Explain how the author uses a compare and contrast structure to teach about these two habitats. Give examples from the text.

5. How does understanding the structure of this text help you better understand the differences between the two environments?



Instructional Guide

Guide Reading Level: P

Lexile Level: 645L-795L

Grade Level: 4th Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Informational Nonfiction – Animal Comparison

Introducing the Text

“Today we’ll read about two very different habitats—rainforests and deserts—and how animals survive in each one. We’ll focus on how the author uses a *compare and contrast* structure to help us see the differences and similarities between them.”

Vocabulary: habitat, shelter, climate, rainforest, desert

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you think makes a rainforest different from a desert?
 2. What kinds of animals might live in each?
 3. Why would a writer want to compare two places?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What kinds of weather do rainforests and deserts have?
 2. How do the animals in each habitat stay safe or cool?
 3. What clues in the text tell you the author is comparing and contrasting?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How is this text organized?
 2. How does the structure help you learn more clearly about both places?
 3. Can you think of another way the author could have explained this information?
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Activity Idea

Give students a Venn diagram and have them sort features of the rainforest and desert into each section. Then ask them to write a short paragraph using compare-and-contrast language (like *but*, *both*, *however*, *unlike*, *similarly*) to explain the differences and similarities between the two environments.

