

# PAIRED TEXTS

## KITTI'S HOG-NOSED BAT

Imagine exploring a limestone cave in the middle of a forest in Thailand as zoologist Kittl Thonglongya did in 1973, and coming across the world's smallest mammal. Tucked high into the cave, far from the entrance, weighing less than a dime, and measuring about an inch long, it's a wonder how the bat was discovered at all! Its size also earned the bat the nickname, Bumblebee Bat.

The bat's swollen, turned-up pig-like snout, along with the name of the man who found the bat, helped determine its name. It has large ears in comparison to its body. On the other hand, the bat's eyes are so small, they are usually unseen under its reddish-brown fur. The Bumblebee Bat has wide wings with long tips, which help it to hover in the air while hunting for insects.

Just as most bats are, Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat is **nocturnal**<sup>1</sup>. It roosts at the back of its cave in the daytime until dusk, when it sets off for only half an hour to hunt for insects and spiders. The bat hunts one more time at dawn, too. These bats use **echolocation**<sup>2</sup> to find food. It is also how they navigate. To use echolocation, bats make a sound

<sup>1</sup>nocturnal: active at night  
<sup>2</sup>echolocation: detection of objects by reflected sound



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(sometimes so high-pitched, humans can't hear it). This sound bounces off of any object in its path and returns to their ears, which act almost like satellite dishes. A bat's brain can then calculate how far away an object is, the direction of the object, and even the object's size! All of this happens unconsciously, just as our brain puts together information that we see and hear.

Sadly, the Bumblebee Bat is one of our planet's endangered species. Since it was discovered in the 1970s, its population has been declining as tourists have disturbed their habitats hoping to see the tiny creatures. Another major threat to Kittl's Hog-Nosed is the annual forest burning around the caves where it lives.

## SPECTACLED FLYING FOX

The Spectacled Flying Fox, also known as the Spectacled Fruit Bat, is a megabat. Although the flying fox is not as small as some other bats, it isn't classified as a megabat because of its size. Megabats are bats that

The Spectacled Flying Fox has a few predators. When the bat is thirsty, it flies low over water and skims the surface to drink. Crickets

don't use echolocation and aren't always on the other side of the forest that use echolocation and small eyes.

This Australian bat, except for on its head, resembles a dog around its large ears. They seem like it is wearing spectacles. These bats weigh about two pounds and are 10 centimeters long.

At dusk, the flying fox is found in the **camp**<sup>1</sup>, found in the canopy. It uses its powerful mouth and its night vision to find mangoes, as well as nectar and pollen from blossoms. The Spectacled Fruit Bat is important to the rainforest ecosystem because it is a seed **disperser**<sup>2</sup> and pollinator.

<sup>1</sup>camp: group, or family, of bats that live together  
<sup>2</sup>disperser: an animal that spreads seeds



We have been working through these paired texts and the kids love reading and learning about things they weren't aware of. The questions bring up great discussions and sometimes even research opportunities too! Great resource!







# FOR EVERY PAIR:

two levels of each passage for differentiation

digital (self-grading) and printable formats

seven multiple choice questions (each question assessing a different standard)

one constructed response essay prompt

two styles of articles:  
2-column and full page

## KITTI'S HOG-NOSED BAT

Imagine exploring a limestone cave in the middle of a forest in Thailand as zoologist Kittl Thonglongya did in 1973, and coming across the world's smallest mammal tucked high into the cave, far from the entrance, weighing less than a dime, and measuring about an inch long. It's a wonder how the bat was discovered at all! Its size also earned the bat the nickname, Bumblebee Bat.

The bat's swollen, turned-up pig-like snout, along with the name of the man who found the bat, helped determine its name. It has large ears in comparison to its body. On the other hand, the bat's eyes are so small, they are usually unseen under its reddish-brown fur. The Bumblebee Bat has wide wings with long tips, which help it to hover in the air while hunting for insects.

Just as most bats are, Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat is **nocturnal**<sup>1</sup>. It roosts at the back of its cave in the daytime until dusk, when it sets off for only half an hour to hunt for insects and spiders. The bat hunts one more time at dawn, too. These bats use **echolocation**<sup>2</sup> to find food. It is also how they navigate. To use echolocation, bats make a sound

<sup>1</sup>nocturnal: active at night  
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(sometimes so high-pitched, humans can't hear it). This sound bounces off of any object in its path and returns to their ears, which act almost like satellite dishes. A bat's brain can then calculate how far away an object is, the direction of the object, and even the object's size! All of this happens unconsciously, just as our brain puts together information that we see and hear.

Sadly, the Bumblebee Bat is one of our planet's endangered species. Since it was discovered in the 1970s, its population has been declining as tourists have disturbed their habitats hoping to see the tiny creatures. Another major threat to Kittl's Hog-Nosed is the annual forest burning around the caves where it lives.



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

Use both texts to answer the following questions.

- How are the ideas in both passages **mostly** organized?
  - in chronological order to tell how the bats grow
  - through compare and contrast to show the differences between bats and birds
  - with descriptions that give the reader a mental image of the bats and their homes
  - as a problem/solution to show how bats are being saved
- Which phrase best describes the facial features of **Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat**?
  - long nose, large eyes, and large ears
  - pig-like nose, small eyes, and large ears
  - dog-like face, small eyes, and large ears
  - pig-like nose, large eyes, and small ears
- In paragraph 2 of **Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat**, what does the word **hover** mean?
  - to float while fluttering
  - to land
  - to eat
  - to dive to the ground
- What can the reader conclude about Bumblebee Bats after reading **both** texts?
  - They are related to bees.
  - They are not good hunters.
  - They live in trees.
  - They are microbats.
- Which of the following statements is true?
  - Microbats eat fruit, while megabats do not.
  - Megabats use echolocation to navigate and find food.
  - Microbats have very small eyes and use echolocation.
  - Megabats are the smallest animals on the planet.
- How are the bats in both texts alike?
  - They are the same size.
  - They both leave their roost to hunt at dusk.
  - They both use echolocation.
  - They both live in caves.



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## SPECTACLED FLYING FOX

The Spectacled Flying Fox, also known as the Spectacled Fruit Bat, is a megabat. Although the flying fox is not as small as some other bats, it isn't classified as a megabat because of its size. Megabats are bats that eat fruit, and don't always nocturnal. Microbats, on the other hand, are insect-eating bats that use echolocation and have very small eyes.

This Australian bat has black fur, except for on its face. Its face, which resembles a dog or a fox, has yellow fur around its large eyes that make the bat seem like it is wearing glasses, or spectacles. These bats usually weigh about two pounds and measure 22-24 centimeters.

At dusk, the flying fox leaves its roost in the **camp**<sup>1</sup>, found in the rainforest canopy. It uses its powerful sense of smell and its night vision to find fruit, like mangoes, as well as nectar and pollen from blossoms. The Spectacled Fruit Bat is important to the rainforest ecosystem because it is a seed **dispenser**<sup>2</sup> and pollinator.

<sup>1</sup>camp: group, or family, of bats that roost together  
<sup>2</sup>dispenser: an animal that spreads or scatters seeds, usually by its droppings



The Spectacled Flying Fox has a few predators. When the bat is thirsty, it flies low over water and skims the surface to drink. Crocodiles can snap them up when they get so close to the water. Another predator that has been affecting the species of bat in large numbers is the Australian Paralysis Tick. The tick injects a toxin which causes the fruit bat to be paralyzed, or not able to move. Then it can be eaten by the Carpet Python or dingoes (Australian dogs) because it can't fly away. Lastly, humans have caused deaths of these bats with habitat destruction, as well as nets and wires. People aren't intentionally trying to hurt them, but the bats get tangled in the nets or can be harmed when they land on power lines.

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<sup>1</sup>camp: group, or family, of bats that spend their time together  
<sup>2</sup>dispenser: an animal that spreads or scatters seeds, usually by its droppings

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

Support your answer to the question with evidence from both texts.

**Describe the differences between Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bats and Spectacled Flying Foxes.**

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1. How are the ideas in both passages mostly organized? <sup>1 point</sup>

- ☐ in chronological order to tell how the bats grow
- ☐ with descriptions that give the reader a mental image of the bats and their homes
- ☐ through compare and contrast to show the differences between bats and birds
- ☐ as a problem/solution to show how bats are being saved

2. Which phrase best describes the facial features of Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat? <sup>1 point</sup>

- ☐ pig-like nose, large eyes, and small ears
- ☐ long nose, large eyes, and large ears
- ☐ pig-like nose, small eyes, and large ears
- ☐ dog-like face, small eyes, and large ears

3. In paragraph 2 of Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat, what does the word **hover** mean? <sup>1 point</sup>

# TWO LEVELS PROVIDED OF EVERY PASSAGE

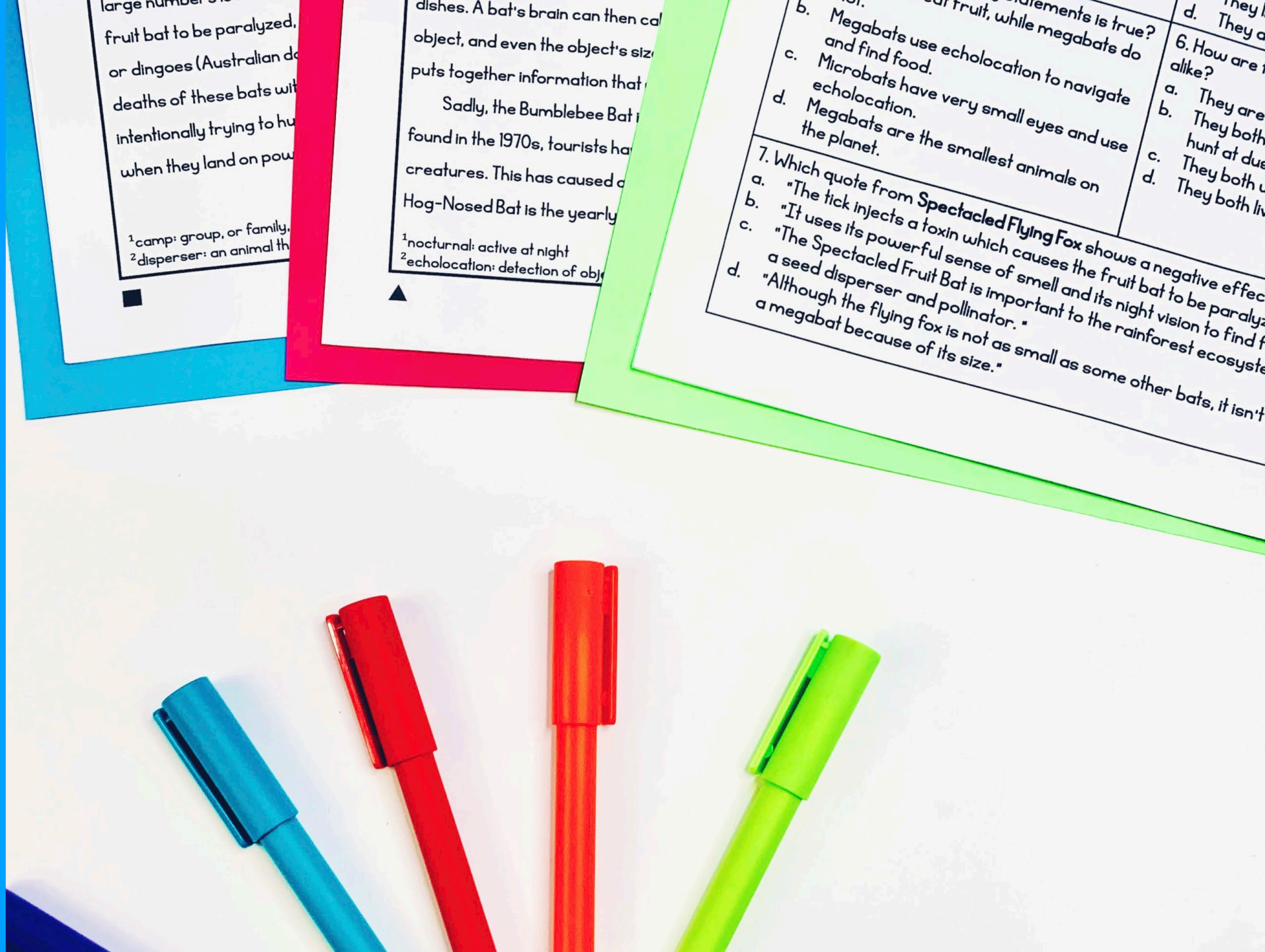
on grade level for 4-5

AND

on grade level for 6-7

discreet symbols on the  
passages to denote the  
level of passage

the same questions can  
be answered no matter  
the level given





# PASSAGES INCLUDED:

★ bats: megabats and microbats

★ owls: hunting and eating, and life cycle

★ spiders: informational passage about the good and bad, and the poem, "The Spider and The Fly"

## ANSWER KEYS NOTE CORE STANDARDS

### KITTI'S HOG-NOSED BAT

Imagine exploring a limestone cave in the middle of a forest in Thailand. That's what zoologist Kittl Thonglongya did in 1973. In that cave, he found the smallest mammal! It's surprising that he discovered the bat! It was tucked high into the cave, far from the entrance. The bat weighs less than a dime and is only about an inch long. Because of its size, it also goes by the nickname, Bumblebee Bat.

The bat has a fat pig-like nose. Its nose and the name of the man who found the bat gave the bat its official name. Its ears seem too big for its body. On the other hand, the bat's eyes are so small, they are hidden under its reddish-brown fur. The Bumblebee Bat has wide wings with long tips. They help it to hover in the air while hunting for insects.

Just as most bats are, Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat is **nocturnal**. It rests, or roosts, at the back of its cave in the daytime until dusk. Then it hunts for insects and spiders for only half an hour. The bat hunts one more time at dawn, too.

These bats use **echolocation** to find food. It is also how they find their way. To use echolocation, bats make a sound

**nocturnal**: active at night  
**echolocation**: detection of objects by reflected sound

(sometimes so high-pitched, humans can't hear it!). This sound bounces off of any object in its path. Its ears collect the sounds like satellite dishes. A bat's brain can then calculate how far away an object is, the direction of the object, and even the object's size! All of this happens automatically, just as our brain puts together information that we see and hear.

Sadly, the Bumblebee Bat is one of our planet's endangered species. Since it was found in 1973, tourists have disturbed the tiny creature. Its population is still very low. Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat is



### Spectacled Flying Fox

The Spectacled Flying Fox, also known as the Spectacled Fruit Bat, is a megabat. Although the flying fox is not as small as some other bats, it isn't classified as a megabat because of its size. Megabats are bats that eat fruit. They don't use echolocation because they have large eyes. Megabats aren't always nocturnal like other bats either. Microbats, on the other hand, are insect-eating bats that use echolocation and have very small eyes.

This Australian bat has black fur, except for on its face. Its face looks like the face of a dog or a fox. It has yellow fur around its large eyes. That fur makes the bat look like it is wearing glasses, or spectacles, which helped give the bat its name. These bats usually weigh about two pounds and measure 22-24 centimeters.

At dusk, the flying fox leaves its roost in the **canopy**, found in the rainforest canopy. It uses its powerful sense of smell and its night vision to find fruit, like mangoes. It also eats pollen from blossoms. The Spectacled Fruit Bat is important to the ecosystem as a **pollinator**.

When the bat is thirsty, it flies low and can snap them up when they get near. It is also important to the ecosystem as a **pollinator**. It can be eaten by the Carpet Python. Lastly, humans have destroyed and wires. People aren't intentionally harming them, but they can be harmed when they

are together, usually by its droppings.

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

Support your answer to the question with evidence from both texts.

**Describe the differences between Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat and Spectacled Flying Foxes.**

The response may include, but is not limited to:

Kittl's Hog-Nosed Bat lives in Thailand, while Spectacled Flying Fox lives in Australia. KHNB is the smallest mammal in the world measuring only one inch, while the SFF is 24 cm long. SFF is a megabat. KHNB is a microbat, which means: KHNB uses echolocation and SFF does not. KHNB has small eyes. SFF has large eyes. KHNB eats insects and SFF eats fruit.

R9

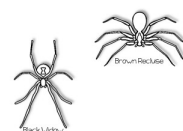
### DO YOU HAVE ARACHNOPHOBIA?

Do you scream when you see a tiny eight-legged creature run across the floor? Does your skin crawl when you brush past a spider web? Does the thought of a spider touching you make your heart pound in your chest? It sounds like you might have arachnophobia (uh-rak-nuh-pho-bee-uh). Arachnophobia is a fear of spiders.

Most people fear spiders because they only know about the harmful ones. However, in North America, there are only two spiders that are dangerous. They are the Brown Recluse and the Black Widow. These two spiders are **venomous**, so we definitely don't want to come across one of these around our home. You will know if you see a Brown Recluse by the black line that runs down its brown body. This marking makes it look like it has a violin on its back. This is why it can also be called a Violin Spider. As for the Black Widow, you will know this spider by the red hourglass-shaped design on its shiny black abdomen. If you are bitten by either of these spiders, it's important to get to a doctor right away. These poisonous spiders can cause serious

illness, infection, and even death. It is important to know, though, that spiders will only bite humans when they feel attacked or that they are in danger. They don't want to eat humans—only insects!

Besides these two dangerous spiders, there are 4,000 other species of spiders in North America that are not dangerous to humans. In fact, they are quite helpful. Spiders eat more insects than bats and birds combined! Without spiders, the Earth would be overrun with pesky, disease-carrying insects like mosquitoes and flies. A spider web in your garden is a good thing because many insects can damage plants. So, next time you raise your foot to stomp on a spider you find indoors, consider shooting it to the outdoors instead.



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▲ **venomous**: able to put poison into a living thing with a bite or a sting

### THE LIFE OF BARN OWLS

If you've ever seen an owl, most likely it was a barn owl. Barn owls are the most common species of owl in the world. The only continent where they can't be found is Antarctica.

Barn owls are sometimes called screech owls because of the high-pitched sounds the females make when answering a male owl's mating call. Once the pair has mated, the female lays eggs. The couple doesn't make a nest like other birds do. She finds a flat surface where she can lay her eggs. Then she stuffs items under the eggs to keep them from breaking. She will lay only one egg every couple of days. She could lay up to ten eggs! The eggs must be incubated for thirty-two days. The female sits on the eggs to keep them warm. Because the eggs were not laid at the same time, the baby owls, called owlets, do not all hatch at the same time either. By the time the last egg hatches, the mother has been sitting for almost nine weeks straight. Once the owlets hatch, the father hunts and brings food for the mother and the babies. The owlets are hungry all the time, so the father stays very busy.

▲ **down**: very soft fuzzy feathers

The owlets are covered in **down** when they are born. Once the babies are ten weeks old, they begin to get feathers. At this time, the owlets' parents teach them to fly by pushing them out of the nest. They also teach the baby owls how to find food on their own. The owlets learn to hunt very quickly. By seven months old, the owl babies are no longer considered babies. They have long gray legs, large round heads, and rounded wings. The owls' white or light brown feathers cover their body all the way to their tail. At a year old, they will be mature. They will find their own mate and raise their own young.

Use both texts to answer the following questions.

1. How are the ideas in *The Life of Barn Owls* mostly organized?

a. in chronological order to tell how the owls grow

b. through compare and contrast to show the similarities of owls

c. as a problem/solution to show how owls are being saved

d. by cause and effect to show how owlets need food from their father

R5

3. In paragraph 3 of *Nocturnal Hunter*, what does the word **carnivore** mean?

a. vegetable-eater

b. mouse-eater

c. reptile-eater

d. meat-eater

R4

5. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

a. Barn owls do not build nests before laying their eggs.

b. A barn owl mother does not lay all of her eggs at once.

c. **Owlets are considered adults at ten weeks old.**

d. Barn owls live for only two years.

R1

7. How does the author of *Nocturnal Hunter* support the point that owls are helpful to farmers?

a. by telling the reader how to build a nesting box

b. **by describing rodents as pests**

c. by giving details about the crops they grow

d. by describing the life cycle of an owl

R8

8. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

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6. In *Nocturnal Hunter*, how are owls' wings different from other birds' wings?

a. They don't have feathers.

b. They have large pupils.

c. They have less feathers.

d. **They don't make a flapping sound.**

R7

2. Which sentence best states the main idea of *Nocturnal Hunter*?

a. Owls have feathers that help to muffle the sound of their wings.

b. **Owls have special adaptations that make them expert night hunters.**

c. Birds of prey are carnivores.

d. Owls spit up owl pellets and scientists study them.

R2

4. What can the reader conclude about barn owls after reading both texts?

a. Barn owls don't spit up pellets.

b. **Barn owls only use eyesight to hunt for prey.**

c. Farmers do not want barn owls to live in their fields.

d. Owlets are considered adults at ten weeks old.

R3

1. How are the ideas in *The Life of Barn Owls* mostly organized?

a. in chronological order to tell how the owls grow

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a. Barn owls don't spit up pellets.

b. **Barn owls only use eyesight to hunt for prey.**

c. Farmers do not want barn owls to live in their fields.

d. Owlets are considered adults at ten weeks old.

R3

1. How are the ideas in *The Life of Barn Owls* mostly organized?

a. in chronological order to tell how the owls grow

b. through compare and contrast to show the similarities of owls

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d. by cause and effect to show how owlets need food from their father

R5

3. In paragraph 3 of *Nocturnal Hunter*, what does the word **carnivore** mean?

a. vegetable-eater

b. mouse-eater

c. reptile-eater

d. meat-eater

R4

5. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

a. Barn owls do not build nests before laying their eggs.

b. A barn owl mother does not lay all of her eggs at once.

c. **Owlets are considered adults at ten weeks old.**

d. Barn owls live for only two years.

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7. How does the author of *Nocturnal Hunter* support the point that owls are helpful to farmers?

a. by telling the reader how to build a nesting box

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6. In *Nocturnal Hunter*, how are owls' wings different from other birds' wings?

a. They don't have feathers.

b. They have large pupils.

c. They have less feathers.

d. **They don't make a flapping sound.**

R7

2. Which sentence best states the main idea of *Nocturnal Hunter*?

a. Owls have feathers that help to muffle the sound of their wings.

b. **Owls have special adaptations that make them expert night hunters.**

c. Birds of prey are carnivores.

d. Owls spit up owl pellets and scientists study them.

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