

Bearded Dragons

Bearded dragons are a type of lizard. They have spiny scales on their bodies that make them look like dragons. These spiny scales will expand when the animal is threatened to scare away predators.

These lizards can grow to be between 12 and 18 inches long. Bearded dragons will grow to weigh between 10 and 20 ounces.

Bearded dragons come from the rocky, semi desert areas in the country of Australia. They are good climbers who like to spend time on tree branches and in bushes. Bearded dragons are also known for basking on rocks in the sunlight.

This reptile eats many different types of foods. They are omnivores which means they eat both animals and plants. Crickets, mealworms, superworms and wax worms are some of the insects they eat. These insects should be coated in calcium powder so that the bearded dragon gets the vitamins it needs.



Bearded dragons also eat a variety of vegetables. These include dandelion greens, kale and mustard greens. Bearded dragons make good pets. They are friendly and easy to care for.

Corn Snakes

Corn snakes, or red rat snakes, are a type of snake that can be found in the southeastern and central United States. These snakes have a red, orange and black pattern.

Corn snakes are gentle and do not often bite. Because of this, they are popular pets. When fully grown, they are between 3.9 and 6 feet long.

In the wild, they typically live between 6 and 8 years. When living in captivity, they can live to be up to 23 years old. In the wild, corn snakes live in overgrown fields, forest openings and abandoned buildings. They typically stay on the ground until they are 4 months old. At this point, they begin climbing trees and cliffs. Corn snakes living in colder parts of the United States hibernate in the winter.



Corn snakes are carnivores. In the wild they eat about every three days. The most common food they eat is the white-footed mouse. They also will eat reptiles or amphibians along with bird eggs. When they are kept as pets, they typically eat pre-killed feeder mice.

Pot-Bellied Pigs

Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs are becoming more popular as pets in the United States. They are smart animals and can even be litter trained! However, because they are smart, they can become bored and be destructive when living in a house.

Pot-bellied pigs earned their name because of their big bellies. They have a straight tail and a snout that is longer than the pigs usually found on a farm. They can have many different colorings, from a solid black to solid white or something in between. These pigs will be the size of a large dog as an adult. They grow to be between 70 and 150 pounds and are between 12 and 20 inches tall.

Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs are omnivores. This means they eat plants and animals. They like leafy greens, other vegetables, roots and grasses. They will also eat insects, small snakes and eggs. There are few foods they will not eat!

In the wild, pigs will root in the ground to find food. They stick their snouts to the ground and work to dig up worms, grubs and acorns or truffles. Because of this, if you have them for a pet, be prepared for a messy yard!



Although people usually think pigs are dirty, they are actually clean animals. They are known for rolling in the mud because they do not have sweat glands. Rolling in the mud helps them cool down when they are hot.

Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches

Madagascar hissing cockroaches are sometimes called just a hissing cockroach or hisser. They originally come from the island of Madagascar not far from the African coast.

They got their name because they make a hissing sound. Some people choose them as pets because they like the sound. They are also popular pets because they do not require much space.

These are one of the largest species of cockroaches. Some grow to be 2 to 3 inches long. They are wingless and are great climbers. They can even climb up smooth glass.



In the wild, they live in rotting logs. When not living in the wild, they can live up to 5 years. These cockroaches live well in an aquarium with a screen . They eat mostly fresh vegetables along with pellet food that has protein.

Painted Turtles

Painted turtles are the most common in North America. They live all the way from Canada to Mexico and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Fossils show that the painted turtle probably first lived 15 million years ago. The adult female can be 4 to 10 inches long, but the male is smaller. Their shells are smooth, but without a ridge on top. Their skin is olive to black in color, with red, orange or yellow stripes.

Painted turtles eat water plants, algae and small creatures in their environments, such as insects, crayfish and fish.

As eggs, or hatchlings, they sometimes get eaten by mice, dogs and snakes, but when they get older their hard shells protect them from most predators.

Painted turtles can live up to 55 years in the wild. The number of painted



turtles has gone down in recent years. Their natural habitats are in danger and increased road killings have decreased their numbers. Their ability to live in areas where there are lots of humans has helped them to stay the most common turtle in North America.

Hermit Crabs

Hermit crabs are popular pets. Many people think their lifespan is short but they can live to be 23 years old when taken care of well.

Hermit crabs have to find larger shells as they grow. When they become too big for their current shell, they abandon it and find a new one. Hermit crabs living in a shell that is too small cannot grow as fast as hermit crabs living in a just right shell.

Most hermit crabs live in saltwater and reefs close to the shore. Hermit crabs are usually nocturnal. Hermit crabs can be omnivores and herbivores. They will eat algae and other particles in an aquarium.

Even though they are called hermit crabs, these animals are social and live in groups.



Name:

Planning for a Class Pet

Focus on:

--

What would we need for this pet to live in?	
What will we need to feed this pet?	
What else is important for us to do to get ready for?	

Name: _____

Digging up the Answers

Look in the texts to find the answers.

Which animal must search for a new home as it grows bigger.	
What is the most common turtle in North America?	
Which animal is named after the sound it makes?	
Which animal can be trained to use a litter box?	
Which animal only needs to eat about every three days?	
Which animal has scales that expand when they feel threatened?	

Name:

Activating Schema

What facts do you know?

Focus on:

List places where
you might see this
animal.

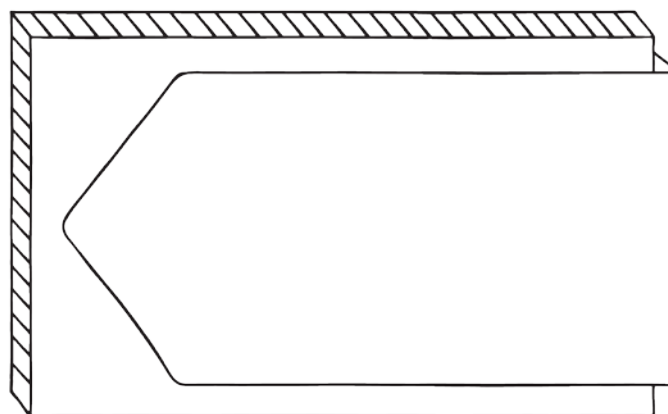
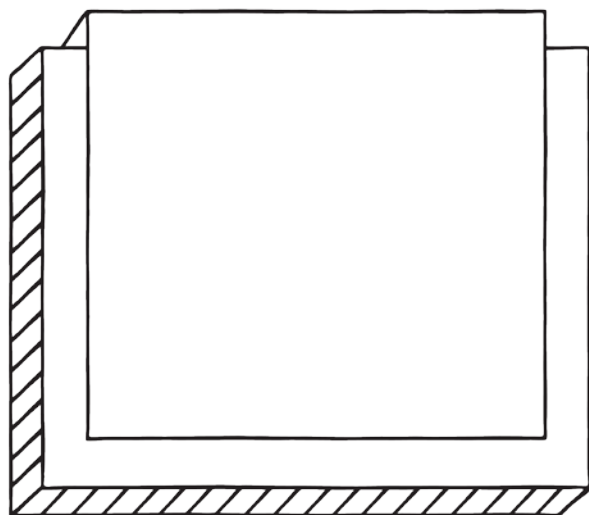
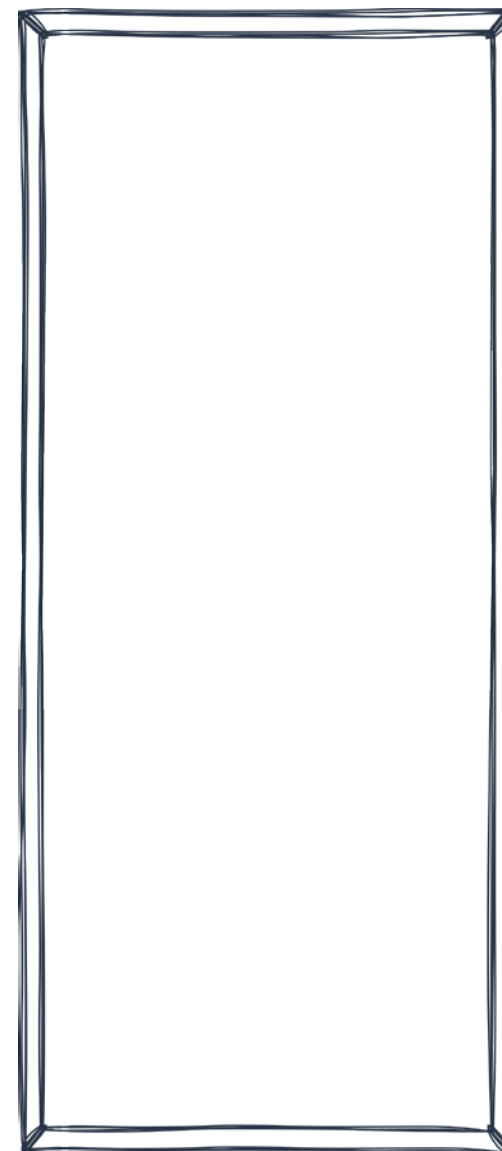
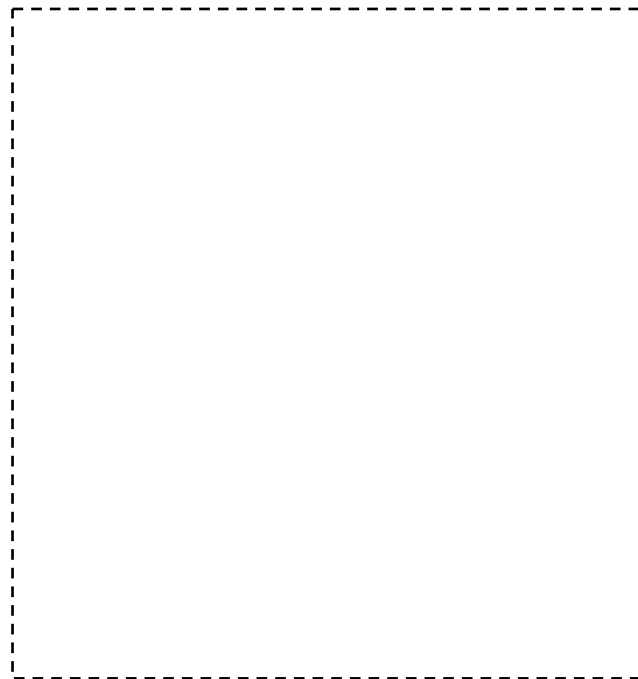
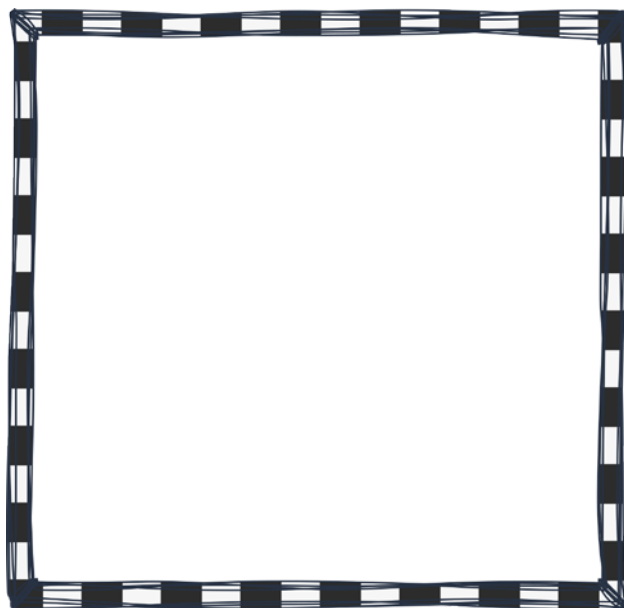
Do you know what
this animal eats?

What else can you share?

Name: _____

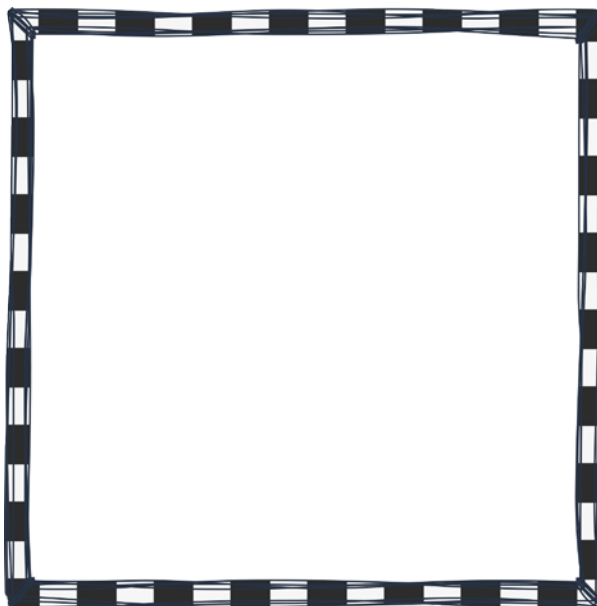
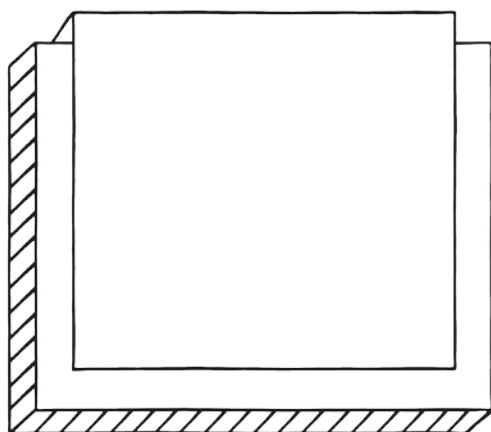
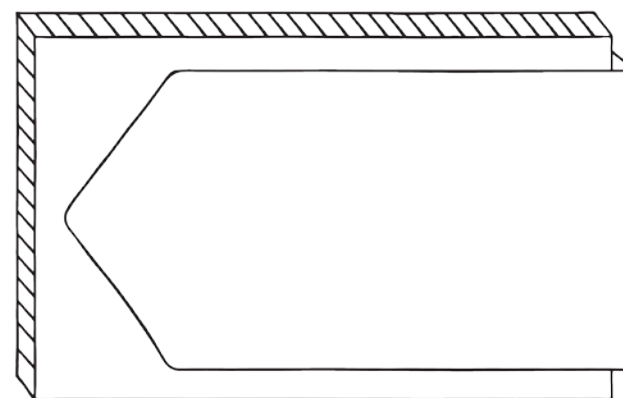

Activating Schema

Focus on:



Name:

Focus on:



Name:

Doodle Notes

As you read, record words and pictures that help you remember what you read.

Name:

Focus on:

--

What is something
you already know?

--

What is something
you are curious
about?

--

Do you know any
experts who could
help you learn?

--

Where could you
look to find out
more?

--

Name:

Focus on:

Fact & Opinion

Facts about my focus

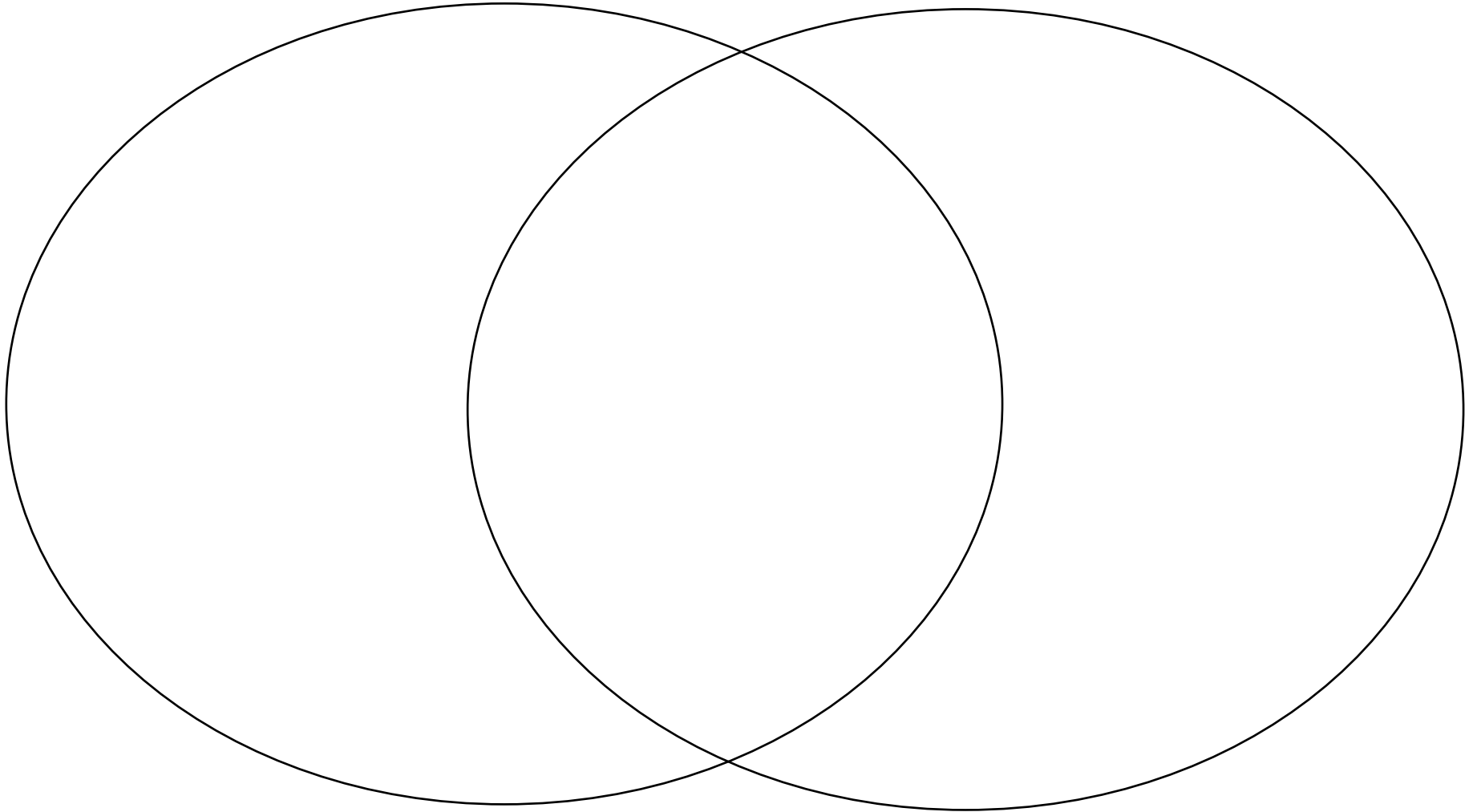
Opinions about my focus

Name: _____

Focus on:

&

Comparing & Contrasting



Name: _____

Focus on:

&

Comparing & Contrasting

What is something that makes these two animals similar?

What is a difference between these two animals?

--	--

Name:

Focus on:

are

look like

live

eat

Name: _____

Breaking Down the Topic

Focus on:

--

Nouns about the topic	Verbs about the topic	Adjectives about the topic

Name: _____

Vocabulary

Focus on:

new word	meaning	picture

Name: _____

Word Map

My word is:

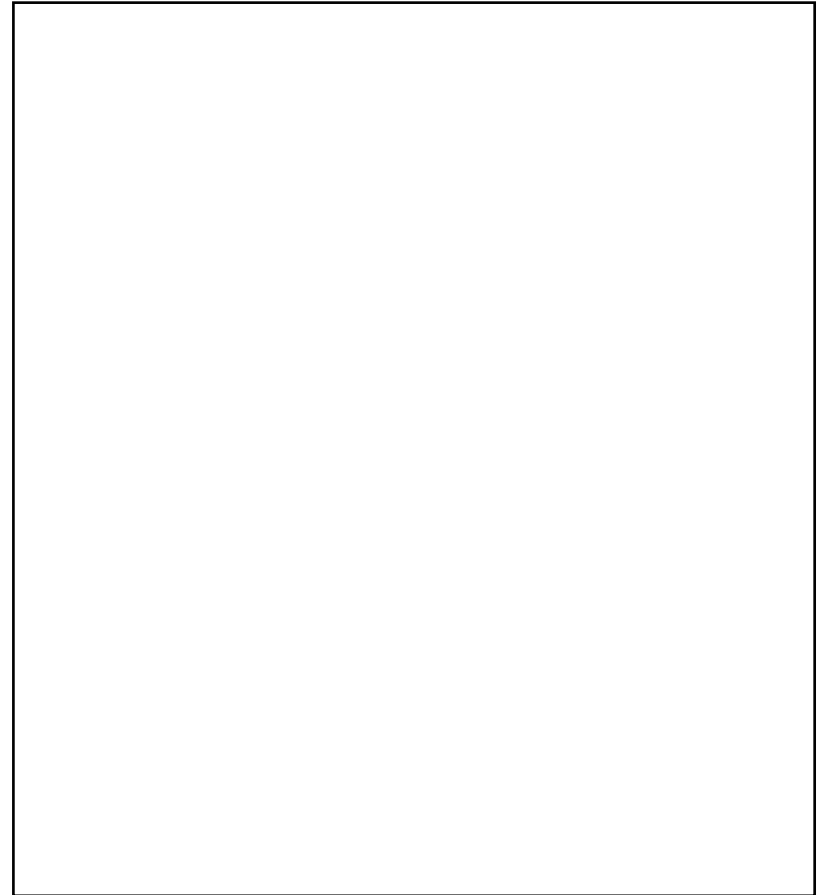
Meaning

Synonyms

Show the meaning of the word.

Use the word in a sentence.

My Animal Encyclopedia



Name: _____

Animal:

This is
what the
animal
looks
like.



3 facts I learned

Animal:

This is
what the
animal
looks
like.



3 facts I learned

Animal:

This is
what the
animal
looks
like.

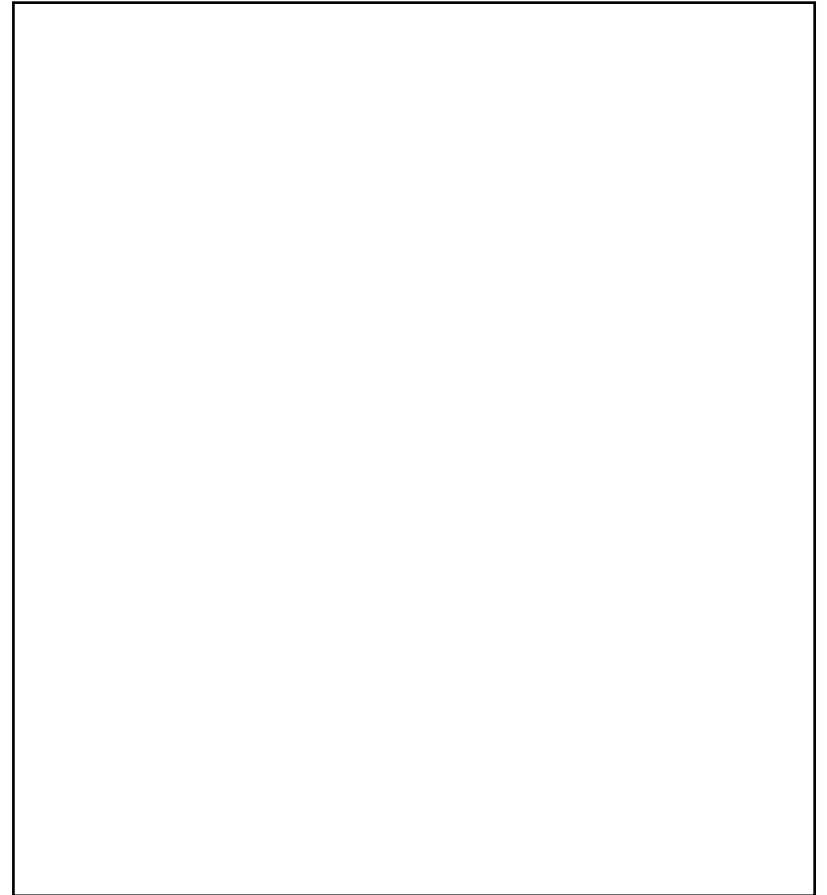
3 facts I learned

Animal:

This is
what the
animal
looks
like.

3 facts I learned

All About...



Name: _____

Diet

Show the diet.

Write about the diet.

Habitat

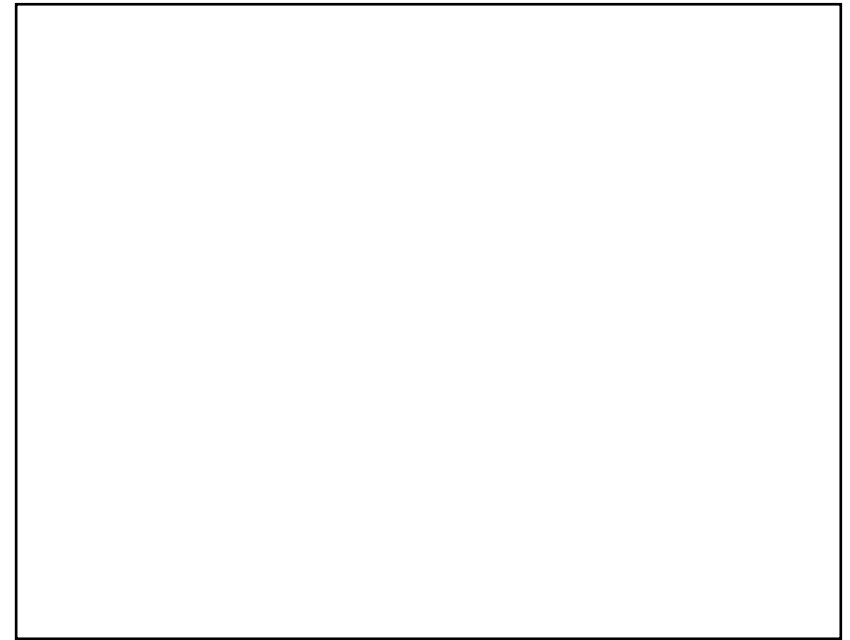
Show the habitat.

Write about the habitat.

Size

Show the size.

Write about the size.



A worksheet template featuring a decorative border with a repeating knot-like pattern. In the center is a large, empty rectangular box. Below this box are five horizontal lines for writing. At the bottom center, the copyright notice "©www.thecurriculumcorner.com" is printed.

A worksheet template featuring a decorative border with a repeating knot-like pattern. In the center is a large, empty rectangular box. Below this box are five horizontal lines for writing. At the bottom center, the copyright notice "©www.thecurriculumcorner.com" is printed.