

Habitats That Fit

Use habitat evidence to explain where organisms can live.

S3L1.c "Use evidence to construct an explanation of why some organisms can thrive in one habitat and not in another."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline facts that tell what a habitat has or what an organism needs. Circle two facts that help explain why a frog fits the pond better than the meadow.

Pond or Meadow?

- ① A pond behind the school holds water most of the year. Green frogs live near its edge. They have moist skin that takes in some oxygen from water. Their webbed feet help them swim. In spring, frogs lay soft, jelly-covered eggs in the pond water. The eggs stay close to plants, where they are less likely to wash away.
- ② Across the field, a sunny, dry meadow has little standing water. The ground is warm, and rainwater sinks into the soil quickly. A frog placed there could not keep its skin moist. It would have trouble finding a place for its eggs, because the eggs need water to develop. Its webbed feet would not help much on dry grass and soil.
- ③ Near the meadow, field mice make nests under dry grass. They have fur that keeps them warm on cool nights, and they eat seeds and insects found there. The meadow gives mice cover from some hawks. A mouse can thrive there because it has food, shelter, and body parts suited to dry land. The same meadow does not meet a frog's water needs.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What are two pieces of evidence that show why a green frog can thrive in the pond?

2 Explain why a green frog would not thrive in the dry meadow. Use evidence from the passage.

3 Why can a field mouse thrive in the meadow while a green frog cannot? Use at least two facts from the passage.

4 How do the frog's webbed feet and the mouse's fur help each organism in its habitat?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a real animal and name a habitat where it can thrive. Write two sentences that use a body part or need as evidence to explain why it would not thrive in a different habitat.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline facts that tell what a habitat has or what an organism needs. Circle two facts that help explain why a frog fits the pond better than the meadow. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two pieces of evidence that show why a green frog can thrive in the pond?	A frog has moist skin and webbed feet for swimming, and its eggs need pond water to develop. Any two of these evidence details are correct.
2	Explain why a green frog would not thrive in the dry meadow. Use evidence from the passage.	The meadow has little standing water, so the frog could not keep its skin moist or find water for its eggs to develop.
3	Why can a field mouse thrive in the meadow while a green frog cannot? Use at least two facts from the passage.	Field mice have food, shelter under dry grass, and fur for cool nights. Frogs need water for moist skin and eggs, but the meadow has little standing water.
4	How do the frog's webbed feet and the mouse's fur help each organism in its habitat?	The frog's webbed feet help it swim in the pond. The mouse's fur helps keep it warm on cool meadow nights.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A camel can thrive in a dry desert because it can go a long time without water and has wide feet for walking on sand. It would not thrive in a pond because it cannot live underwater or find enough of its usual dry-land food there.

Accept any accurate animal, habitat, and evidence-based explanation. The response should name a trait or need and connect it to why the organism can thrive in one habitat but not another.