

Is it Male or Female?

Rainbow Readers R5

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Step 1. Key Words

Read the words and write the meaning of the words in your mother tongue.

similar adj. alike, but not identical _____

grow up v. to become older _____
When he grows up, he will have long hair around his face.

bright adj. shiny, full of light _____

antler n. a bony outgrowth, which is shed every year, on the head of an animal _____

allow v. to permit; to let _____

skin n. the natural outer layer which covers a person, fruit, animal, etc. _____
All giraffes have brown spots on their skin.

simple adj. easy to understand or do _____

garden n. a small plot used for growing flowers and vegetables _____

species n. a set of animals/plants that have similar characteristics _____
Julie learned that animals can usually tell who the male or female is in their species easily.

clue n. a hint; a piece of information that suggests an answer to a question _____
Julie will look for clues to tell her if it is a male or female.

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Step 2. Comprehension Questions

Choose the best answer.

1. What confuses Julie?
 - a. The difference between male and female animals and insects
 - b. The difference between ants and spiders
 - c. Math and English lessons
 - d. How to take care of animals
2. Which is NOT true about peacocks?
 - a. Peacock chicks are brown.
 - b. Female peacocks have short tails.
 - c. Male peacocks are very colorful.
 - d. Male and female peacocks look the same.
3. What did Julie learn about deer?
 - a. Deer do not have horns.
 - b. Female deer have hair on their horns.
 - c. Female deer are smaller than male deer.
 - d. Male deer do not have horns.
4. What was surprising about spiders?
 - a. They have eight legs.
 - b. Female spiders are bigger than males.
 - c. Male spiders have horns.
 - d. Female spiders are very colorful.
5. Which is true about female dragonflies?
 - a. They have bigger wings than male dragonflies.
 - b. They have longer bodies than male dragonflies.
 - c. They cannot fly fast.
 - d. They have three pairs of wings.

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Step 3. Summary

Complete the summary of the story.

feathers

peacocks

mane

grasshoppers

cubs

male

Julie is interested in animals. She wanted to know how to tell if an animal is **(1)** _____ or female. She learned that lion **(2)** _____ look the same. When they grow up, male lions have a **(3)** _____. Female lions have no mane. There are many male and female birds that look different, like **(4)** _____ and parrots. Male peacocks have very colorful **(5)** _____. But many insects like ants and **(6)** _____ look the same. We have to look at animals very carefully to tell who is male and who is female.