


Zebras

Lance Lawrence, a world-famous animal researcher, was recently interviewed about his studies on zebras. Mr. Lawrence has been studying zebras in Africa for over fifteen years. He believes that zebras are the most fascinating animals in the world.

“There are three different species of zebra: the plains zebra, the Grevy’s zebras and the mountain zebras,” Mr. Lawrence explained.

“Plains zebras are the most common type. They live in the grasslands of eastern and southern Africa.”

Mr. Lawrence feels that the zebra is a truly beautiful animal. “Zebras are famous for their black and white stripes,” he explained during his interview. “Although the patterns can be very similar, no two zebras have exactly the same stripe. Their stripe patterns make them attractive to look at. The designs are enchanting!”

An illustration of a hand holding a microphone. The hand is brown with a blue sleeve. The microphone is silver with a black mesh top and an orange ring. The background is a light blue gradient.

“Another interesting fact about zebras is that they sleep standing up,” said Mr. Lawrence. “They only sleep when they are in large groups though, so they can be alerted of danger.”

Zebras are one of the most valued African animals. We must look after them. We should also support researchers like Mr. Lawrence, who provide a wonderful insight into the lives of these creatures.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion

A fact is what actually happened. It can be proven to be true.

An opinion is a personal attitude or judgement about something.

1. Read the text about zebras.

Using pencils and a ruler:

a) Underline the **FACTS** about zebras in green pencil.

b) Underline the **OPINIONS** about zebras in red pencil.

2. Write these facts and opinions about zebras into the correct column of the table below.

Facts about zebras	Opinions about zebras

Name: _____

Date: _____

Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion

3. Here are some more statements about zebras.

Write an (F) next to the facts.

Write an (O) next to the opinions.

- a) The male zebra is larger than the female zebra. _____
- b) Zebras love having their photo taken by tourists. _____
- c) Zebras are black and white. _____
- d) Many zebras live together in herds. _____
- e) Zebras are not very attractive animals. _____
- f) Zebras are herbivores (plant-eaters). _____
- g) Humans should never enter a zebra's habitat. _____
- h) Zebras are kind and gentle creatures. _____

4. Write three of your own facts about zebras.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

5. Write three of your own opinions about zebras.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

Answers

1. See table below.

2.

Facts about zebras	Opinions about zebras
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- three different species: the plains zebra, the Grevy's zebras and the mountain zebras- plains zebras are the most common type- they live in the grasslands of eastern and southern Africa- are famous for their black and white stripes- patterns can be very similar; but no two zebras have exactly the same stripe- they sleep standing up- they only sleep when they are in large groups, so they can be alerted of danger	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- the most fascinating animals in the world- a truly beautiful animal- their stripe patterns make them attractive to look at- the designs are enchanting- are one of the most valued African animals- we must look after them- we should support researchers

Answers

3.

- a) The male zebra is larger than the female zebra. **F**
- b) Zebras love having their photo taken by tourists. **O**
- c) Zebras are black and white. **F**
- d) Many zebras live together in herds. **F**
- e) Zebras are not very attractive animals. **O**
- f) Zebras are herbivores (plant-eaters). **F**
- g) Humans should never enter a zebra's habitat. **O**
- h) Zebras are kind and gentle creatures. **O**