The Animal of Surprises

Part 1: The Biggest Animal

It was Monday morning. Johnny Mast was walking to school with two of his friends. He was telling them about the sale he had been to on Saturday. "It was at my uncle's place," he said. "He is getting too old to run the farm, so he sold all his things. I thought it was fun, listening to the auctioneer."

"I know what an auctioneer sounds like," Wayne Troyer said. "Forty, forty, forty. Give me forty. And a half, half, half. Going, going, going — sold!"

The boys laughed. "You'll have to practice a while before you can be a real auctioneer," Johnny said. He wasn't through telling the boys about the sale.

"The part I liked best was when they sold the horses. Uncle Dan had one horse that was really big. And was he nice! His coat was black and smooth and shiny. When they brought him out to sell, the auctioneer said, "Look what we have here — an elephant!"

"Oh, the horse wasn't that big," Wayne said. "Or maybe the auctioneer didn't know how big an elephant really is. That's the biggest animal in the world, and it is much, much bigger than a horse."

The boys had reached the schoolhouse, but they kept right on talking. "The elephant isn't the biggest animal in the world. The whale is," Johnny said.
"It is not," Wayne said. "And besides, a whale isn't an animal. Not really. It's a fish. Who ever heard of a fish being bigger than an elephant?"

"A fish is an animal," Johnny said. He felt a little hurt by the way Wayne talked. "And I'm almost sure I read somewhere that a whale is bigger than any other animal."

"Good morning, boys!" Teacher Mary said cheerfully.

"Good morning, Teacher," the boys returned.

"What are you saying about whales and elephants this morning?" the teacher asked.

The boys looked at each other and grinned. Then Wayne said, "Johnny said he saw a horse on Saturday that was as big as an elephant."

"I didn't say that," Johnny said quickly. "I said the auctioneer said he was as big as an elephant."

Teacher Mary smiled. "That was his way of saying the horse is very big, which it probably was."

"Oh, he was huge," Johnny said eagerly. "His legs were this thick." He made a circle with his arms.

"An elephant's legs are much thicker than that," Wayne said. "There's a picture in the encyclopedia of a man and an elephant. The man is much smaller than the elephant's leg."
Workbook for

CLIMBING

HIGHER
WORKING WITH WORDS / The Animal of Surprises

Say the words in the word box. Then fill in the blanks.

| auctioneer | 1. two words with the "a" sound |
| whale      |                              |
| huge       | 2. three words with the "i" sound |
| encyclopedia |                           |
| ceiling    |                              |
| realized   | 3. a word with six syllables |
| giant      | 4. a word that has the "u" sound |
| amazing    | 5. a word that ends with "eer" |
| muscles    | 6. a word that rhymes with seen |
| keen       | 7. a word that has "ei" pronounced "e" |
| capture    | 8. a word whose first syllable rhymes with them |
| memory     | 9. a word that is pronounced "mus əlz" |
| polite     | 10. a word that is pronounced "kap char" |

Find words in the word box to fill in these blanks.

1. Another way of saying something has been caught is to say it has been _____________.

2. When someone has good manners, he is _________________.

3. People with a good ________________ can remember things well.

4. If we have strong ________________, we are able to work hard.

5. Things that surprise us are ________________ to us.

6. The man who sells things at a sale is called the _________________.

Write the two words that have a "g" pronounced "j".

__________________________

Write the word that starts with a "c" pronounced "s". ______________________
PLANTS AND ANIMALS

There are two kinds of living things on the earth — plants and animals. Of course, we know that dogs and cats and cows are animals, but so are worms and fish and insects and birds. One of the main differences between plants and animals is that most animals move from place to place. Plants have roots and stay in one place.

Animals come in many, many different sizes and shapes. The blue whale is the largest of all animals. The elephant is the biggest land animal, and the giraffe is the tallest animal. No one really knows what the smallest animal is. Many, many animals are so small we can not see them with our eyes. People who want to study these tiny animals use special tools called microscopes. They make the animals look much bigger than they really are.

Each animal has its own way of moving about. Some run or walk on four legs, while others crawl. Birds, butterflies, and many insects fly. Other animals merely float through the air. Fish and other water animals swim from place to place. Some animals travel many thousands of miles during their lifetime, while others stay within a few feet from where they are born.

Perhaps you wonder how many different animals there are in the world. No one knows. There are so many that man has not been able to count them all. When we think of all these different animals, and remember that each one is able to live in its very own way, we know that it was truly a great God that made them.

1. What is the biggest animal in the world?

2. What is the tallest animal in the world?

3. In what way are plants different from animals?

4. How do men study animals that are too small to be seen with the human eye?

5. Why don't we know how many animals there are in the world?

6. How does a microscope help people learn more about very small animals?
THINKING ABOUT THE STORY / The Animal of Surprises (Parts 1 and 2)

Read these sentences carefully. Then write true or false on the blanks.

1. Some horses are as big as an elephant.  
2. A full-grown elephant is about ten or twelve feet tall.  
3. When something is outside, it often looks bigger than it really is.  
4. Twenty men could lift a dead elephant.  
5. There are no bones in an elephant's trunk.  
6. When elephants drink water, they lap it up like a dog does.  
7. It is very hard to train an elephant.  
8. An elephant's trunk is really a great big tooth.  
9. Elephants can hear very well.  
10. The children learned many things about the elephant that they had not known before.

Underline the word or words that complete each of these sentences correctly.

1. If something has a keen memory, it can:
   sing well. hear well. remember well. see well.
2. When something is captured, it is:
   caught. killed. hurt. trained.
3. A roar is a:
   cry. trick. shout. fish.
4. When something is amazing, it is:
   funny. surprising. strange. huge.
5. The ceiling is always:
   beside us. under us. above us.
6. A giggle is almost the same as a:
   roar. cry. smile. laugh.
7. If something is huge, it is very:
   small. hungry. big. strong.
8. An encyclopedia is a:
   fish. plant. animal. book.
9. Someone who has good manners is:
   healthy. polite. wise. ill.
10. We would expect a giant to be:
    huge. tiny. smart. polite.
11. When something is wonderful, it is very:
    old. healthy. good. strong.
12. When something has been damaged, it has been:
    sold. killed. hurt. lost.
LEARNING THROUGH SOUNDS

1. Make each word plural.
   wish  ________________  kitten  ________________
   chick  ________________  church  ________________
   family  ________________  chimney  ________________
   cross  ________________  box  ________________
   lady  ________________  turkey  ________________

2. Add the suffix "ed" to each of these words.
   pass  ________________  wave  ________________
   beg  ________________  jump  ________________
   smile  ________________  plan  ________________
   step  ________________  seal  ________________
   nail  ________________  rub  ________________

3. Write the sound the "ed" has in each of these words. Tell how many syllables are in each word.
   needed  _____ _____  tipped  _____ _____  loaded  _____ _____
   dropped  _____ _____  waited  _____ _____  rained  _____ _____
   talked  _____ _____  sighed  _____ _____  pretended  _____ _____
   praised  _____ _____  reminded  _____ _____  wrapped  _____ _____

4. Write the vowel sound you hear in each word.
   _____ through  _____ crept  _____ frown  _____ tool
   _____ knot  _____ join  _____ stern  _____ neat
   _____ sharp  _____ fuss  _____ curl  _____ porch
   _____ push  _____ bought  _____ wood  _____ worse
Workbook for

CLIMBING HIGHER

Teacher's Edition
WORKING WITH WORDS / The Animal of Surprises

Say the words in the word box. Then fill in the blanks.

| auctioneer | whale | 1. two words with the "a" sound               | whale |
| whale      | huge  | 2. three words with the "i" sound            | amazing |
| huge       | encyclopedia | 3. a word with six syllables               | realized |
| encyclopedia | ceiling | 4. a word that has the "ii" sound        | giant |
| realized   | giant  | 5. a word that ends with "eer"              | encyclopedia |
| amazing    | muscles | 6. a word that rhymes with seen            | huge |
| muscles    | keen   | 7. a word that has "el" pronounced "e"     | keen |
| keen       | capture | 8. a word whose first syllable rhymes      | memory |
| capture    | memory | with them                                 | muscles |
| memory     | polite | 9. a word that is pronounced "mus əlz"      | capture |
| polite     |        | 10. a word that is pronounced "kap char"   |        |

Find words in the word box to fill in these blanks. Note: Although nothing is mentioned, pupils will need to add a suffix for #1. Teacher should mention this to the pupils.

1. Another way of saying something has been caught is to say it has been captured.

2. When someone has good manners, he is polite.

3. People with a good memory can remember things well.

4. If we have strong muscles, we are able to work hard.

5. Things that surprise us are amazing to us.

6. The man who sells things at a sale is called the auctioneer.

Write the two words that have a "g" pronounced "j".

huge         giant

Write the word that starts with a "c" pronounced "s". ceiling
PLANTS AND ANIMALS

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1. What is the biggest animal in the world?
   The blue whale is the biggest animal in the world.

2. What is the tallest animal in the world?
   The giraffe is the tallest animal.

3. In what way are plants different from animals?
   Plants have roots and stay in one place.

4. How do men study animals that are too small to be seen with the human eye?
   They use a microscope.

5. Why don't we know how many animals there are in the world?
   There are so many, no one can count them.

6. How does a microscope help people learn more about very small animals?
   It makes them look much bigger than they really are.
Read these sentences carefully. Then write true or false on the blanks.

false 1. Some horses are as big as an elephant.
true 2. A full-grown elephant is about ten or twelve feet tall.
false 3. When something is outside, it often looks bigger than it really is.
false 4. Twenty men could lift a dead elephant.
true 5. There are no bones in an elephant's trunk.
false 6. When elephants drink water, they lap it up like a dog does.
false 7. It is very hard to train an elephant.
false 8. An elephant's trunk is really a great big tooth.
false 9. Elephants can hear very well.
true 10. The children learned many things about the elephant that they had not known before.

Underline the word or words that complete each of these sentences correctly.

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4. When something is amazing, it is: funny. surprising. strange. huge.
5. The ceiling is always: beside us. under us. above us.
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7. If something is huge, it is very: small. hungry. big. strong.
9. Someone who has good manners is: healthy. polite. wise. ill.
10. We would expect a giant to be: huge. tiny. smart. polite.
11. When something is wonderful, it is very: old. healthy. good. strong.
12. When something has been damaged, it has been: sold. killed. hurt. lost.
LEARNING THROUGH SOUNDS

1. Make each word plural.
   - wish: wishes
   - chick: chicks
   - family: families
   - cross: crosses
   - lady: ladies
   - kitten: kittens
   - church: churches
   - chimney: chimneys
   - box: boxes
   - turkey: turkeys

2. Add the suffix "ed" to each of these words.
   - pass: passed
   - beg: begged
   - smile: smiled
   - step: stepped
   - nail: nailed
   - wave: waved
   - jump: jumped
   - plan: planned
   - seal: sealed
   - rub: rubbed

3. Write the sound the "ed" has in each of these words. Tell how many syllables are in each word.
   - needed: ed 2
   - dropped: ed 1
   - talked: ed 1
   - praised: ed 3
   - tipped: ed 1
   - waited: ed 2
   - sighed: ed 1
   - reminded: ed 3
   - loaded: ed 2
   - rained: d 1
   - pretended: ed 3
   - wrapped: d 1
   - talked: d 1

4. Write the vowel sound you hear in each word.
   - through: 
   - crept: 
   - brown: 
   - tool: 
   - knot: 
   - join: 
   - stern: 
   - neat: 
   - sharp: 
   - fuss: 
   - curl: 
   - porch: 
   - push: 
   - bought: 
   - wood: 
   - worse: 

Say the syllables:
- insect: in sec
telnet: tel net
- alligator: all i gator
- mammal: man mal
- compartment: com part men
- lungs: lung s
- gills: gill s
- temperature: tem per a ture
- blubber: blub ber