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Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

Level 1
Scientists unlock secrets to seahorses

17th December, 2016

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-1.html

Contents

Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

Scientists now know the secrets to one of the world's least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers worked out the genetic map of the tiger tail seahorse. Scientists can now find out why seahorses are so different to other fish. They have no teeth. Male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them instead of females. Also, seahorses do not swim forwards and sideways like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down).

Seahorses started to get their unusual shape about 100 million years ago. They began to look like the neck and head of a horse. There are 54 different seahorses. The scientific name for a seahorse is Hippocampus. This word comes from the Ancient Greek words hippos ('horse') and kampos ('sea monster'). The word 'seahorse' can be written as two separate words (sea horse), or with a dash (sea-horse).

PHRASE MATCHING

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1.	one of the world's least	a.	map
2.	Researchers worked out the genetic	b.	babies
3.	find out why seahorses are	c.	(up and down)
4.	They have no	d.	teeth
5.	Male seahorses carry	e.	understood fish
6.	give	f.	sideways
7.	swim forwards and	g.	so different
8.	they swim vertically	h.	birth

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1.	Seahorses started to get their	a.	is Hippocampus
2.	about 100	b.	head of a horse
3.	the neck and	c.	(sea-horse)
4.	There are 54 different	d.	million years ago
5.	The scientific name for a seahorse	e.	two separate words
6.	This word comes from the Ancient	f.	seahorses
7.	The word 'seahorse' can be written as	g.	unusual shape
8.	or with a dash	h.	Greek

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

Scientists now (1) _____ to one of the world's (2) _____ fish – the seahorse. Researchers worked out the (3) _____ the tiger tail seahorse. Scientists can now (4) _____ seahorses are so different to other fish. They have no teeth. Male seahorses carry babies and (5) _____ them instead of females. Also, seahorses do not swim forwards and sideways like other fish; they (6) _____ (up and down).

Seahorses started to (7) _____ shape about 100 million years ago. They began (8) _____ the neck and (9) _____. There are 54 different seahorses. The (10) _____ for a seahorse is Hippocampus. This word (11) _____ Ancient Greek words hippos ('horse') and kampos ('sea monster'). The word 'seahorse' can (12) _____ two separate words (sea horse), or with a dash (sea-horse).

PUT A SLASH (/)WHERE THE SPACES ARE

Scientistsnowknowthesecretstooneoftheworld'sleastunderstoodfish–theseahorse.Researchersworkedoutthegeneticmapofthetigertailseahorse.Scientistscannowfindoutwhyseahorsesaresodifferenttootherfish.Theyhavenoteeth.Maleseahorsescarrybabiesandgivebirthtotheminsteadoffemales.Also,seahorsesdonotswimforwardsandsidewayslikeotherfish;theyswimvertically(upanddown).Seahorsesstartedtogettheirunusualshapeabout100millionyearsago.Theybegantolookliketheneckandheadofahorse.Thereare54differentseahorses.ThescientificnameforaseahorseisHippocampus.ThiswordcomesfromtheAncientGreekwordshippos('horse')andkampos('seamonster').Theword'seahorse'canbewrittenastwoseparatewords(seahorse),orwithadash(sea-horse).

SEAHORSES SURVEY

Write five GOOD questions about seahorses in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

Write about **seahorses** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____