NAME: ______________________________ DATE: ____________________

ANIMALS

Question: What is the biggest animal you have ever seen?

• Complete the paragraph on the right with the words on the left.

The Amazing Komodo Dragon

Have you ever seen a small lizard in a garden? How about a (1)_____________ lizard? In the rainy, island country of Indonesia, there are between 4,000 and 5,000 giant lizards called Komodo dragons. They are called Komodo dragons because one of the five (2)_____________ they live on is called Komodo Island. They are the largest (3)_____________ of lizard in the world. (4)_____________ Komodos are usually three meters long and weigh about 70 kg. The largest Komodo ever was an (5)_____________ 166 kg! European scientists (6)_____________ them in 1910, and when Hollywood producers heard about them they made a movie about a giant (7)_____________ called ‘King Kong’. The Komodos live for about 40 to 50 years. They eat almost anything they can (8)_____________ : for example, birds, bird eggs, monkeys, deer, and horses. Sometimes they even eat other smaller Komodos, and sometimes (but not often) even people. They (9)_____________ like to eat dead and dying animals. There are only about 50 Komodo dragons in zoos around the world. Because there are so few of them living in (10)_____________, a (11)_____________ called Komodo National Park was opened in Indonesia in 1980 to (12)_____________ them.

(about 200 words)
NAME: ____________________________________ DATE: __________________

ANIMALS

The Amazing Komodo Dragon

Vocabulary Practice

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

1. adult  B  A. a kind of very large ape with black fur
2. amazing  ____  B. a fully grown animal or person
3. especially  ____  C. to keep someone or something from being hurt
4. giant  ____  D. more than usually; special; very
5. gorilla  ____  E. natural environment or place; without humans
6. protect  ____  F. surprising; wonderful; difficult to believe
7. species  ____  G. a group of animals or plants that are similar
8. the wild  ____  H. much larger or more powerful than normal

How Much Do You Understand?

- Write ‘T’ (True) or ‘F’ (False) next to each statement.

1. F The paragraph is about giant animals and where they live.
2. ____ There are between 40 and 50 thousand Komodo dragons.
3. ____ Komodo dragons are very large.
4. ____ In the wild, Komodo dragons live in Indonesia and Europe.
5. ____ Some Komodo dragons are so big that they are called ‘King Kong’.
6. ____ People have tried to protect Komodo dragons for more than 30 years.

Discuss

- Ask and answer the following questions with your classmates.

1. Very few Komodos live in the wild. How does this make you feel? Why?
2. Have you ever seen a strange animal? Where? When?
3. Do you like to visit zoos? Why? / Why not?
4. What other strange and amazing animals do you know about?
Have you ever seen a small lizard in a garden? How about a giant lizard? In the (1)_______, island country of Indonesia, there are between 4,000 and 5,000 giant lizards called Komodo dragons. They (2)_______ Komodo dragons because one of the five islands they live on is called Komodo Island. They are the largest species of lizard (3)_______ . Adult Komodos are usually three meters long (4)_______ weigh about 70 kg. The (5)_______ Komodo ever was an amazing 166 kg! European scientists discovered (6)_______ in 1910, and when Hollywood producers heard about them they (7)_______ a movie about a giant gorilla called ‘King Kong’. The Komodos live for about 40 to 50 years. They (8)_______ almost anything they can catch; for example, birds, bird eggs, monkeys, deer, and horses. Sometimes (9)_______ even eat other smaller Komodos, and sometimes (but not often) even people. They especially (10)_______ to eat dead and dying animals. There are only about 50 Komodo dragons in zoos around the world. (11)_______ there are so few of them living in the wild, a park called Komodo National Park was opened in Indonesia in 1980 to (12)_______ them.
Have you ever seen a small lizard in a garden? How about a giant lizard? In the rainy, _______ country of Indonesia, _______ _______ between 4,000 and 5,000 giant lizards _______ Komodo dragons. They _______ called Komodo dragons _______ one of the five _______ they _______ _______ is called Komodo Island. They are _______ _______ _______ of lizard _______ the _______. Adult Komodos _______ usually _______ meters _______ and weigh _______ 70 kg. The _______ Komodo ever _______ an _______ 166 kg! European _______ discovered them in 1910, _______ when Hollywood producers _______ about _______ they _______ a movie about a giant gorilla called ‘King Kong’. The Komodos _______ for about 40 _______ 50 years. They _______ _______ _______ they can catch; _______ _______ , birds, bird eggs, _______ , deer, and horses. _______ they _______ _______ other _______ Komodos, and sometimes (but not _______) even _______. They _______ _______ _______ _______ dead _______ dying animals. _______ _______ only about 50 Komodo dragons _______ zoos _______ _______ _______. Because _______ _______ so few _______ _______ living _______ _______ _______ , a park called Komodo National Park _______ _______ in Indonesia _______ _______ _______ to protect _______.

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ANIMALS

The Amazing Komodo Dragon

Writing Practice

- Don’t look at the paragraph. In your own words, write what you can remember about the Komodo dragon. Use the back of this paper if you need more space.
ANIMALS

- Distribute one picture to each student. Have them research and write a paragraph about their animal. Finally, have them present their findings to their classmates.

Galapagos Island tortoise
African elephant
North American bison
South American tree frog
Australian crocodile
Arctic polar bear
ANIMALS

**Title:** _______________________

**Writing Practice**

- Write about your animal. Remember to include information about where it lives, how big it is, what it eats, how long it lives, if it is dangerous, etc.

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## LESSON PLAN

**Komodo Dragon**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Focus</th>
<th>Present Simple Tense / Past Simple Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Intermediate to Advanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Approximately 120 – 180 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ANSWER KEY:

#### Complete the Paragraph

1. giant  
2. islands  
3. species  
4. Adult  
5. amazing  
6. discovered  
7. gorilla  
8. catch  
9. especially  
10. the wild  
11. park  
12. protect  

#### How Much Do You Understand?

1. F (The paragraph is about the Komodo dragon.)  
2. F (There are between 4 and 5 thousand.)  
3. T  
4. F (In Europe, they only live in zoos.)  
5. F (‘King Kong’ was the name of a movie.)  
6. T  

#### Grammar-in-Context

1. C  
2. A  
3. B  
4. D  
5. C  
6. A  
7. A  
8. B  
9. A  
10. B  
11. D  
12. D  

#### Vocabulary Practice

1. B  
2. F  
3. D  
4. H  
5. A  
6. C  
7. G  
8. E  

#### Homework Idea

Choose another interesting animal and write about it.

### EXPLORE on-line:

- [http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reptiles/komodo-dragon/](http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reptiles/komodo-dragon/)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLIMgXv89VU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLIMgXv89VU)
- [http://komodonationalpark.org/](http://komodonationalpark.org/)