LISTENING Making Dinosaurs

Vocabulary Preview

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

1. DNA  ☐ E. at the same time
2. ordinary ☐ B. not unusual or special
3. similar ☐ C. the hard mouth part of a bird
4. meanwhile ☐ D. to use hands and feet to travel up something
5. beak ☐ E. it has information about how to ‘make’ a living thing
6. evolve (v.) ☐ F. sharp nails found on the feet of birds and animals
7. claws ☐ G. to change slowly over time
8. climb (v.) ☐ H. the same as (in some ways)

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Use plural forms and past tense if necessary.

1. In some ways, Canada and the U.S. are __________ countries.
2. When I was a kid, I loved to __________ trees.
3. My sister did her homework. __________, I slept on the sofa.
4. The __________ of cats and tigers is not very different.
5. Be careful! My pet cat has sharp __________.
6. Most scientists think that some dinosaurs __________ and became birds.
7. There’s nothing special planned for today. It’s just an __________ day.
8. Some birds have very long __________ they use to catch fish.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. ______________________________________________________________________
2. ______________________________________________________________________
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Listening Comprehension: How Much Do You Understand?

1. When did some scientists start trying to make dinosaurs?
   a) millions of years ago
   b) 2015
   c) 2016

2. Where are these scientists from?
   a) many different countries
   b) the southern part of the United States
   c) the United States

3. How are scientists trying to make dinosaurs?
   a) they are changing dinosaur DNA
   b) they are using chicken DNA
   c) they are taking DNA from other scientists

4. What body parts have scientists already changed?
   a) feet
   b) feet and legs
   c) feet, legs and beaks

5. What animals did birds evolve from?
   a) dinosaurs
   b) hoatzins
   c) chickens

Discuss and Write

- Discuss the following questions with your classmates.
  1. The article doesn’t say why scientists are changing the DNA of chickens. Why do you think they are doing this?
  2. Is it a good idea to change chickens into dinosaurs? Why? / Why not?

- Choose one of the above questions. Write your answer below.
LISTENING

Title “Making Dinosaurs”

Level Pre-Intermediate to Intermediate (CEFR A2 to B1)

ANSWER KEY Page 1

Vocabulary

1. E 1. similar
2. B 2. climb
3. H 3. Meanwhile
4. A 4. DNA
5. C 5. claws
6. G 6. evolved
7. F 7. ordinary
8. D 8. beaks

ANSWER KEY Page 2

Listening

1. B 7. C
2. A 8. B
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. C

Listening Script

It’s strange, but it’s true. Scientists have started making dinosaurs. How are they doing this? The answer may surprise you. Scientists from around the world are beginning to make changes to the DNA of ordinary chickens and in the future we may see living “chicken-dinosaurs”! In Chile, in 2015, scientists changed chicken DNA to make the feet of chickens more similar to dinosaur feet, and in 2016 the same scientists made the legs of chickens more like dinosaur legs. Meanwhile, scientists in the United States have been successful in making chicken beaks more like the mouths of dinosaurs. This is possible because birds evolved from dinosaurs many millions of years ago. A good example of bird evolution is the ‘hoatzin’. It is a bird that lives in South America, and when it is a baby it has claws on its wings that it uses to climb trees. So, in the future, some chickens may also have skin, tails, and even arms like dinosaurs. I hope they will not be the same size as some dinosaurs!

News Sources:

- [http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/d-brief/2016/03/15/14188/#WBsF2i197IV](http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/d-brief/2016/03/15/14188/#WBsF2i197IV)