

Hibernation

Hibernation is a word used to describe an animal that passes the winter months in a sleep-like state. Certain animals do this because they otherwise could not survive the severe cold and lack of food through the season. Common hibernators include woodchucks, ground squirrels, hedgehogs, hamsters, and bats. Many people think that bears hibernate. While they do slow down and rest for the winter, they do not go into a true state of hibernation. Hibernators do three things. First, they store up as much food as possible, either as body fat or actual stored food. Second, they find or make a good winter shelter. And last but not least, they fall into a deep sleep.

During hibernation, an animal's heart rate slows down, its body temperature drops, and it breathes more slowly. When spring arrives with warmer weather and sources of food, these animals will wake up and resume their normal lives. There are also animals that do the same kind of thing during the months in summer. In areas of the world that are very hot and dry, the summer months can be life threatening to some animals. Creatures, like certain frogs and fish, bury themselves in mud and stop all activity until the difficult summer months are over. This process is called estivation. Both hibernation and estivation are survival tools used to help animals survive their most difficult seasons.

Reading Test:

Fluency: ___/5 Pronunciation: ___/5 Understanding: ___/5 Meaning: ___/5

Comments: _____

Q. Write and learn the spellings of the underlined words in the text.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 12. _____ |

Q. Write the rhyming words of the following words.

- | | | | |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| a. book | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| b. fall | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| c. bowl | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| d. fold | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Q. Fill in the blanks taking help from the text.

- a. Hibernation is a word used to describe an animal that passes the _____ months in a _____-like state.
- b. During hibernation, an animal's _____ rate slows down, its body temperature _____, and it _____ more slowly.
- c. In areas of the world that are very hot and _____, the summer months can be life _____ to some animals.
- d. Both hibernation and _____ are survival tools used to help animals _____ their most difficult seasons.

Q. Answer the following questions to the text 'Hibernation' in full sentences.

a. What is hibernation?

b. Why do animals hibernate?

c. Give examples of animals which hibernate.

d. What three things do hibernators do?

e. What happens to an animal's body when hibernating?

f. When do the animals wake up?

g. Do all animals hibernate in winter? Explain why not.

h. What is estivation? How is it different to hibernation?
