

Animal Talk

Complete the first two components, Pre-Reading Zone In and Pre-Reading Predicting, before reading the complete text. Then undertake the remaining components, from During Reading My Connection. Each component will open the relevant pages of text, if applicable, but you can go back to any part of the text at any time.

Tab 1 Pre-Reading Zone In

Tab 2 Pre-Reading Predicting

Tab 3 During Reading My Connection

Tab 4 Visualising

Tab 5 Questioning Screen 3

Suitable suggestions include: having an extra-keen sense of smell; being fast at flying; having a good sense of danger, such as when birds are around; being quick at collecting pollen.

Tab 6 Summarising

Tab 7 Monitoring

Tab 8 Word Works

Tab 9 Assessment

The first three questions are literal questions, so the correct statement can be found in the text. The next two are interpretative or inferential questions, meaning that students need to interpret or infer from the text to find the correct statement. The final question is an applied or evaluative question, so students need to apply or evaluate the information from the text to choose an answer, and there may be no “correct” answer.

Here are the answers for the assessment task.

Literal

1. c Dogs have an amazing sense of smell — 100 000 times better than ours.
2. b Cats are born with the instinct to chase anything that moves quickly.
3. b Animals use posture, body movement and facial expressions to get their messages across.

Interpretative or inferential

1. b Honeybees are clever enough to dance to show other bees where pollen is located.
2. d Elephants are able to transmit messages over long distances by using infrasonic sound.

Applied or evaluative

- a Some animals, like the chimpanzee, have very smart ways of communicating with one another.

As an additional assessment task, ask each student to read the following text out loud. Then mark any errors and work out the percentage of accuracy to see how well each student can read aloud.

This text is 123 words. To convert to a percentage of accuracy, divide the number of words pronounced correctly by 123 and multiply by 100.

If you want to understand animals in the wild, you'll need to watch them closely. Just as with dogs, cats and humans, body language can say a lot. Animals use posture, movement and facial expressions to get their message across.

Honeybees dance to send their messages. When a bee finds food, it flies back to the hive to dance. The type of dance tells the other bees where the food is.

If the food is far away, the bee's dance looks like the number eight. This dance is known as 'the waggle dance'. If the food is close to the hive, the bee dances in circles. And the more flowers there are with sweet liquid nectar to feast on, the faster the dance.