

To stay cool in the African heat, hippos spend most of their day in rivers and lakes. Their eyes, nose and ears are located on the top of their head, which means they can see and breathe while the rest of their bodies are under water.

Don't let their gentle appearance fool you. The hippopotamus is considered the world's deadliest large land mammal. These giants kill an estimated 500 people per year in Africa.

Help me find
some grass
munch!

Hippos leave the water at night to look for food. They like to eat grasses – lots of grass. They eat 80 lbs (35 kg) of vegetation each night.

Use the code to discover some facts about hippos.

 = CALF
  = BULL
  = COW
 = RIVER
 = HORSE
 = TUSK

Q: What does the word *hippopotamus* mean?

A:  

Q: What is a baby hippo called?

A: 

Q: What is a female hippo called?

A: 

Q: What is a male hippo called?

A:

**CAUTION:
SPEEDING
HIPPOS**

Are hippos slow? Quite the opposite!

Even though their legs are short, and their bodies are large and heavy, a hippo can run fast! Hippos have been clocked running at speeds of 19 to 25 mph (30-40 km/h).

Open Wide!

Hippos have a huge mouth, measuring up to 4 ft (1.2 m) when opened wide!

Hippos have a pair of huge incisors in each jaw. The large, curved lower canine teeth are like tusks as they grow throughout a hippo's life. They can reach a length of 1 foot 8 inches (50 cm)! These teeth are used for combat, not eating. When a hippo yawns, it's not tired but it is a sign of a threat.

Extra! Extra! Opposites

Look through the newspaper to find words that are opposites. For example: large and small wet and dry

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Recognize antonyms.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Sweaty, Sweaty Hippos?

Hippos have an oily red liquid that oozes out of their skin. It isn't sweat. Sweat evaporates and cools a body. This liquid looks red in sunlight and it stays on the skin and protects it from drying out – and acts as a sunblock, too!

When early European explorers first noticed this reddish liquid on the hippos they observed, they gave it a name.

Circle every other letter to see what they called it.

DBKLTWOYDJSAPDAVT

B

Double Double Word Search

DEADLIEST INCISORS

Find the words in the puzzle.
How many of them can you
find on this page?

SUNBLOCK
BREATHE
GRASSES
AFRICA
HIPPOS
RIVERS
THREAT
OOZES
TUSKS
SWEAT
COOL
SLOW
JAW

K	C	O	L	B	N	U	S	R	D
S	B	R	E	A	T	H	E	I	E
E	T	H	R	E	A	T	N	V	A
S	W	J	A	T	H	C	E	E	D
S	T	A	F	R	I	C	A	R	L
A	U	W	L	S	P	R	S	S	I
R	S	M	O	A	P	L	M	M	E
G	K	R	O	O	O	Z	E	S	S
A	S	L	C	W	S	W	E	A	T

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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Fact and Opinion

Look through the newspaper to find and circle five facts. Then look through the newspaper to find and underline five opinions.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Know the difference between fact and fiction

How does a hippopotamus get out of the water?

ANSWER: Wet and wrinkled!

Write On!

Elephant Jokes

Tell your friends your favorite elephant jokes and riddles.

