

What Lives in a Pond?

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A pond is a body of freshwater. It is usually smaller than a lake. Ponds are not as deep as lakes are. Water in a river or a stream moves, but pond water stays still.

A pond is a habitat. A habitat is a place in nature where animals and plants live. Ponds are home to lots of living things.

Many animals live in, above, or near ponds. Fish, turtles, and snails live *in* the water. Ducks and other birds live *above* the water. Other animals live near ponds. Those animals include frogs, beavers, and muskrats.

Plants live in ponds, too. Cattails and algae are two kinds of plants often found in ponds. Another plant that lives in ponds is the water lily. Its roots go to the bottom of the pond. Its wide leaves float on top of the water.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is a body of fresh water?

- A. an ocean
- B. a water lily
- C. a pond

2. What does the author contrast a pond to?

- A. a lake
- B. a swimming pool
- C. an ocean

3. Read these sentences from the text.

"A pond is a habitat. A habitat is a place in nature where animals and plants live."

What evidence from the article supports the idea that a pond is a habitat?

- A. "Cattails and algae are two kinds of plants often found in ponds."
- B. "Water in a river or a stream moves, but pond water stays still."
- C. "A pond is a body of fresh water. It is usually smaller than a lake."

4. What might be a reason that lots of plants and animals live in and around ponds?

- A. Ponds are not as deep as lakes.
- B. A habitat is a place where plants and animals live.
- C. Plants and animals need water.

5. What is the main idea of this article?

- A. Ponds are bodies of freshwater where many plants and animals live.
- B. Fish, turtles, snails, cattails, and algae all live in the water of ponds.
- C. The water lily is a plant whose roots go to the bottom of a pond and whose leaves float on the top.

6. Read this paragraph from the article.

"A pond is a habitat. A habitat is a place in nature where animals and plants live. Ponds are home to lots of living things."

What does it mean that ponds "are home to lots of living things"?

- A. Lots of living things live in ponds.
- B. Lots of living things move from one place to another.
- C. Lots of houses are built by ponds.

7. Choose the answer that best completes this sentence.

The roots of a water lily go to the bottom of a pond, _____ the leaves of a water lily float on top of the pond.

- A. so
- B. because
- C. but

8. Name some animals that live in the water of ponds.

9. According to the text, how is a pond different from a river?

10. Could a river be a habitat? Support your answer with evidence from the article.