

Name: _____



river hippos



pygmy hippos



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there is also a second kind of hippo. This hippo is much smaller. It is called the pygmy hippo.

Both hippos live in Africa. Both have very little hair. And both make a thick red substance that keeps their skin wet. The substance also acts as sunscreen!

River hippos live in herds. They spend the day in the rivers. They have huge tusks. Most predators stay away. At night these hippos

in pairs. They hide in swampy areas of the rainforest.

Like river hippos, pygmy hippos use water to escape predators. But they spend less time in the water. Their toes are not as webbed, and their legs are longer for their size. Sometimes pygmy hippos even stand on their hind legs to eat leaves off trees. They also eat roots, forest herbs, and fallen fruit.

Name: _____

Hippos Big and Small

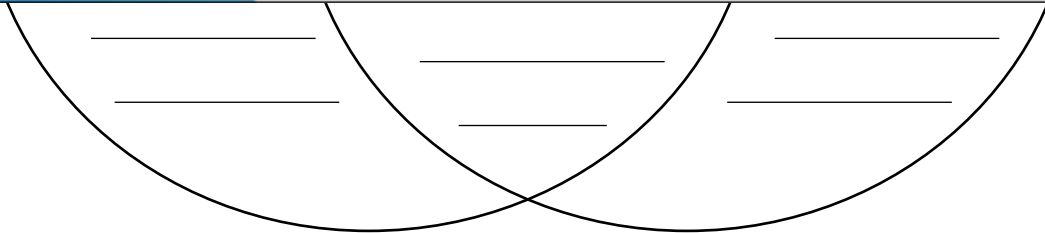
By Guy Belleranti

1. Sort the characteristics from the bank below into the correct parts of the Venn diagram.

Bank		
• live in herds	• large	• not hairy
• make a red substance that acts as sunscreen	• live alone or in pairs	• small



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2. Which continent do both hippos live on? _____

3. Reread the sentence below from the article.

Sometimes pygmy hippos even stand on their hind legs to eat leaves off trees.

What does the underlined word mean?

- a. front b. long
c. short d. back

Name: _____

Hippos Big and Small



The scrambled words below are vocabulary words from the article. Unscramble each word and write it on the line.
Be sure each word is spelled correctly.

1. _____ u b s a n t s c e
clue: a material of some kind

2. _____ e r h s b

A banner featuring a cartoon superhero character on the left, wearing a red cape and a blue suit with a shield-shaped logo on his chest containing the letters 'MJS'. To the right of the character, the word 'Preview' is written in large, bold, red letters. Below 'Preview', the text 'Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.' is written in a smaller, black font.

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5. _____ m a s w p y
clue: partly covered in water

6. _____ b e w b d e
clue: connected by skin

7. _____ e s t o r f r i a n
clue: wooded area that gets a lot of rain

8. _____ r d e p a r o t
clue: opposite of prey

Name: _____

Hippos Big and Small



The article "Hippos Big and Small" mentions that the hippos you see in zoos are usually river hippos.

But what if there were pygmy hippos at the zoo? What do you think their habitat would look like? How many of the animals would there be? What kinds of things would be inside their area? On the lines below, write your ideas for the perfect pygmy hippo habitat.



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ANSWER KEY

Hippos Big and Small

By Guy Belleranti

- Sort the characteristics from the bank below into the correct parts of the Venn diagram.

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ANSWER KEY

Hippos Big and Small



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8. predators r d e p a r o t

clue: opposite of prey