

Name: _____



Toothless Eaters

By Guy Belleranti



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Giant anteaters open ant and termite hills with big claws. Then they catch the insects with their long, sticky tongues. Their stomachs crush the food.

Hummingbirds use their tongues to take in a sweet liquid from flowers. It's called nectar. They also catch small bugs.

Parrots have strong beaks. They use them to crack open nuts and

beak like moths. Alligator snapping turtles have a part on their tongue that looks like a worm. This draws prey right into the mouth!

Some whales have no teeth. They have plates called baleen. These look a bit like brushes. A baleen whale takes water into its mouth and lets it out through the baleen. The baleen catches tiny ocean creatures. Then the whale swallows them. Yum!

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1. Which animal is *not* discussed in this article?

- a. alligator
- b. turtle
- c. eagle
- d. parrot

2. Complete the graphic organizer.



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5. Reread the last paragraph. Do any whales have teeth? How do you know?

6. What is the author's purpose for writing this article?

- a. to teach readers why teeth are important for eating
- b. to tell an entertaining story about animals without teeth
- c. to teach readers how animals with no teeth eat
- d. to explain why lots of animals eat bugs

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Toothless Eaters



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

1. _____ w a s l l w o
clue: some animals _____ food without chewing

2. _____ r e e t m i t



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5. _____ c n e t r a
clue: sweet liquid

6. _____ a t l n o s
clue: claws

7. _____ r y e p
clue: what a predator hunts

8. _____ l a b n e e
clue: some whales have it

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Toothless Eaters



In the article, "Toothless Eaters," you learned that different body parts help animals without teeth eat.

Lots of body parts help people to eat. Think about food on a plate. How does it get into your mouth? At least one body part helped that happen. Once the food is in your mouth, several body parts may help you eat. Think about your favorite food. On the lines below, write about the body parts that help you eat that food and how they help.



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ANSWER KEY

Toothless Eaters

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ANSWER KEY

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8. baleen l a b n e e
clue: some whales have it