

Web Page Research Guide: Springbok Gazelle

(Answers, for Teacher Reference)

Springbok: A Close Reading for Research http://eled.org/springbok	
Focus questions: What does your expert group animal look like? What is its habitat? What are its predators? How does it use its body and behaviors to help it survive?	
1. Use the arrows to scroll through the slideshow photographs at the top of the web page. Then use details from the photographs to answer the question on the right.	What details do you see in these photographs that might provide some clues about how the springbok defends itself? <i>Responses may include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>running</i> • <i>jumping</i> • <i>horns</i>
2. Scroll down and find the section titled "Springbok description." Then use the questions to help you determine what this section is about.	What familiar word do you know that might help you figure out the meaning of the word <i>description</i> ? <i>describe</i> Quickly skim the information in this section. What do you think this section is about? <i>What my animal looks like, what colors and size it is</i>
3. Reread this section out loud. Then follow the directions on the right.	Find this sentence in the section: "Both male and female springbok have beautiful <u>heavily-ridged lyre-shaped horns</u> , although those of the female are much more slender." Use the definitions below to better understand this description. lyre: a harp-like musical instrument of ancient Greece ridge: a narrow, raised strip slender: small in width, slim Wordsmyth Free Online English Dictionary http://www.wordsmyth.net/

	<p>Draw the heads of a male and female springbok. Label the parts that are underlined in the sentence.</p> <p><i>Students should have drawn two springbok heads. One should be labeled male and the other female. Both should have horns, but the horns of the female should be narrower in width.</i></p> <p>According to the passage, when can you see the white hairs on the springbok's back? <i>Only when it is alarmed or frightened.</i></p>
4. Scroll down and read the section titled "Springbok biology." Then use a dictionary to determine what the parts of the word <i>biology</i> mean.	<p>What does the Greek root <i>ology</i> mean? <i>Life, living, living things</i></p> <p>What does the Greek root <i>bio</i> mean? <i>Study of, science of</i></p> <p>What do you think <i>biology</i> means? <i>The study or science of living things</i></p>
5. Reread only the first and last paragraph in this section out loud. Then answer the questions on the right, using details from the text.	<p>diet: the food and drink ordinarily consumed by a person, animal, or group</p> <p>Wordsmyth Free Online English Dictionary http://www.wordsmyth.net/</p> <p>Read the definition of the word <i>diet</i> above. According to the article, what is in the springbok's diet? <i>grasses, shrubs, flowers, roots; does not need much water</i></p> <p>The web page says, "Springboks are renowned for their pronking, or stotting, behaviour. This comprises several consecutive stiff-legged jumps, up to two meters high, with the back arched and the white crest of hair raised." How does pronking protect the springbok?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Predators will see that the animal is strong and pick another.</i> • <i>Springbok can spot predators from far away, over the heads of the herd.</i> • <i>Pronking produces an odor, alerting the herd that a predator may be near.</i>

6. Scroll down and read the section titled “Springbok habitat” aloud. Then use details from the text to answer the question on the right.	<p>Based on the information in the paragraph, what do you think the word <i>habitat</i> means?</p> <p><i>What the environment looks like where my animal lives</i></p> <p>What, in the text, makes you think so?</p> <p><i>This section describes the places where you might find my animal.</i></p>
7. Silently reread the section again.	<p>Why does the springbok avoid tall grass?</p> <p><i>It is hard to see and move in it.</i></p>
8. Now scroll back up to the photographs at the top of the web page. Use details from the photographs, as well as what you have read, to answer the question on the right.	<p>Describe the springbok’s habitat. Use information from both the words and pictures.</p> <p><i>Responses may include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>short grass</i> • <i>deserts</i> • <i>savannahs</i> • <i>shrublands</i>
9. Read the section titled “Springbok threats.” Then answer the question on the right.	<p>What is the main idea of this section?</p> <p><i>There are not many springbok left in the wild, but there are many on farms and game preserves.</i></p>
10. Search online to answer the question on the right.	<p>What are your animal’s predators?</p> <p><i>Humans, cheetahs, leopards, and lions</i></p> <p>From: The Animal Files (http://www.theanimalfiles.com/)</p>
11. Optional CHALLENGE question	<p>Why is the springbok not considered to be threatened or endangered?</p> <p><i>Even though springbok are disappearing from the wild, people raise them like cattle or sheep on farms and hunting preserves.</i></p>

Pulling it all together ...	
12. Using evidence from the text, sketch what the armadillo does when a predator is near. Be sure to show the animal’s habitat in the background of your picture. Add a caption under your illustration to help the reader understand what you drew.	<i>The picture should show springbok gazelle in a herd with at least one of the gazelle pronking (leaping high). The gazelle should be drawn in short grass, deserts, savannas, or shrublands.</i>