

Nonfiction

Meerkat Family

by Donna Loughran



Mc
Graw
Hill

PAIRED
READ

Poetry

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Reread

Skill: Main Topic and Key
Details

High-Frequency Words

eat, no, of, under, who

Phonics

Ending consonant blends:
nd, nk, nt, st, sk, mp

Content Standards

Science

Life Science

Word count: 182**

Photography Credit: Cover; Ed Reschke/Peter Arnold/Getty Images.

**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.

CCSS

Genre Nonfiction



Essential Question

Where do animals live together?



Meerkat Family

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**PAIRED
READ**

Poetry: I Live in a House! . . . 13

Meet the meerkat
family!
Meerkats live in Africa.





Meerkats have spots.
Their noses are black
like ink.
Is that a mask? No!



See the meerkats
stand up!
What do they see?
It may be a bird.



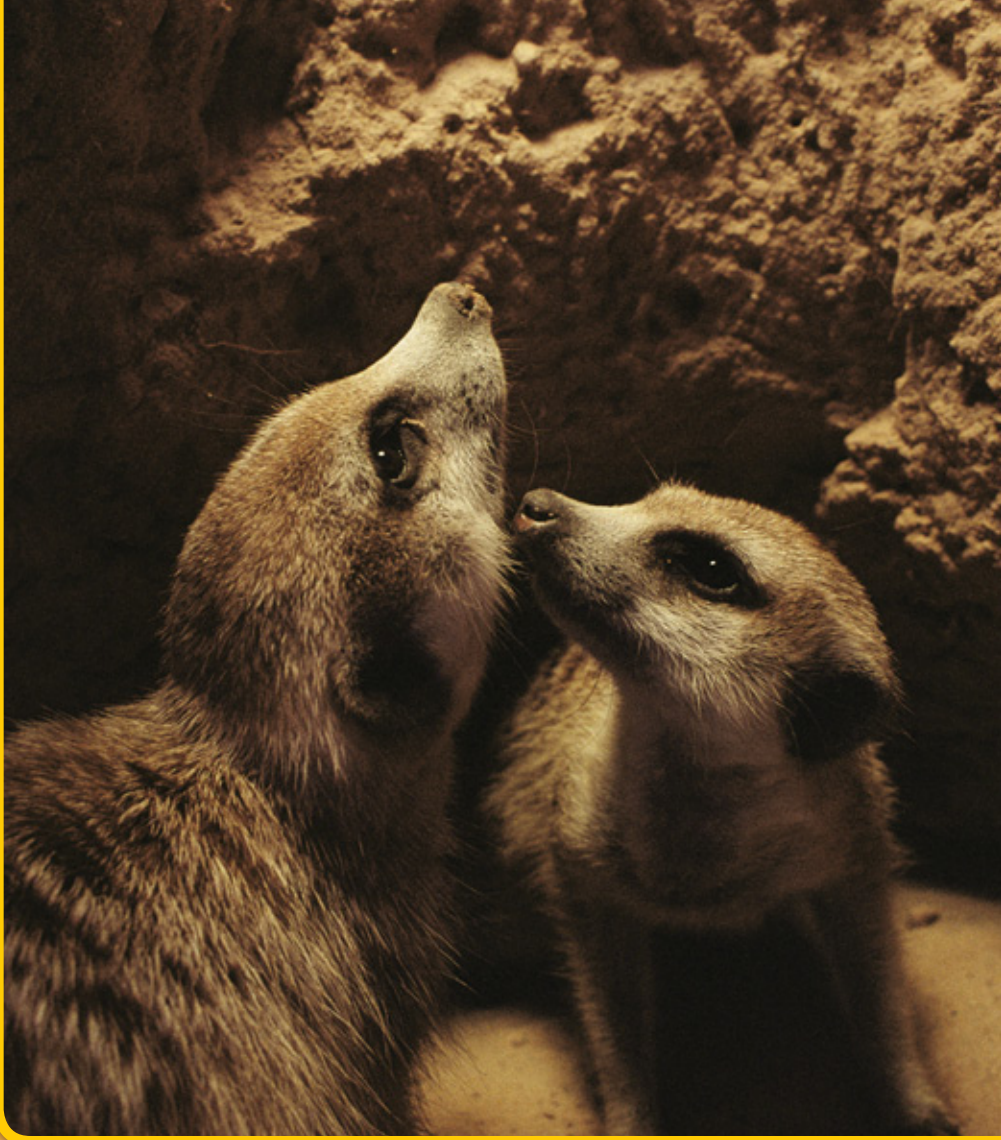


The meerkats look out for birds.

Meerkats eat bugs and plants.

Can you close your ears like meerkats?
This keeps out the desert sand.





Meerkats live in burrows.
They dig burrows under
the ground.

A burrow has many
rooms.
The rooms stay cool!



Meerkats rest in burrows.

They have their babies there too.



Nigel Dennis/Getty Images, Martin Harvey/Peter Arnold/Getty Images

Who takes care of
the babies?
The adults do!



The babies learn to hide.
They learn to jump.
They are safe with
their family!

Bobby-Jo Clow/Flickr/Getty Images



Respond to Reading

Retell

Use the chart
to retell
Meerkat Family.

Main Topic		
Detail	Detail	Detail

Text Evidence

1. Look at page 5. What do meerkats eat? **Main Topic and Key Details**
2. Look at page 6. Why do meerkats close their ears? **Main Topic and Key Details**
3. Is *Meerkat Family* a pretend story or is it real? Why? **Genre**



Compare Texts

Read about kinds of homes.

I Live in a House!



Who is that
under the house?
Look! I see a little
mouse!
See *my* house by
the tree.
I live there with my
family!



People live in many
places.

Animals live in wild
spaces.

Fish swim and live
at sea.

But I live with my
family!

I wish I could sail
away,
To see all the whales
at play!
Then I'd sail home
to see
My happy little family!

Marilyn Janovitz



Make Connections

Where do animals and people live?

Text to Text

Focus on Science

Purpose To find out how and where animals live

What to Do

Step 1 Think about a favorite animal that lives near you.

.....

Step 2 Draw a poster to show where your animal lives.

.....

Step 3 Write a label for your animal.

Conclusion Talk about your poster. Tell what it shows.

Thinkmark

The Topic

What is *Meerkat Family* mostly about?

Conclusions

What did you learn about meerkats?

Make Connections

You read about where animals live. Where do you live?