



Student/Classroom: _____ Examiner: _____ Assessment Date: _____

The Giraffe: World's Tallest Animal

Sopris West Six Minute Solutions #319

The tallest animal in the world is the giraffe. A baby giraffe is almost six **(feet)** tall when it is born. It **(can)** then grow to be almost eighteen **(feet)** tall! Because it is so tall, **(it)** takes a giraffe a long time **(to)** stand up. So, to be safe, **(giraffes)** sleep standing up. Then, if predators **(come)** after them, they are ready to **(run)**. Lions, hyenas, and wild dogs prey **(on)** giraffes. Giraffes have to be careful **(when)** they rest or bend down to **(drink)**. Sometimes, giraffes in a herd take **(turns)** resting or drinking. They way, one **(giraffe)** is always on the lookout for **(danger)**. Giraffes have very good eyesight. They **(can)** spot danger a long way away. **(Giraffes)** can run from danger. In fact, **(they)** are fast runners. They can run **(up)** to thirty-five miles an hour! Giraffes **(can)** even outrun most horses. Their speed **(helps)** them to outrun their enemies. They **(also)** have strong hooves that they can **(use)** to kick out an enemy.

Giraffes **(have)** long necks but make very little **(noise)**. Scientists used to think that giraffes **(were)** mute. They now know that giraffes **(do)** make noises. These noises are called **(infrasounds)**. These sounds cannot be heard by **(humans)**. Giraffes also have long tongues. Their **(tongues)** are between eighteen and twenty-one inches **(long)**. Giraffe tongues are prehensile. That means **(that)** the tongue is able to grab **(and)** hold on to objects. Giraffes need **(a)** long neck and a special tongue **(in)** order to eat. The giraffe's favorite **(food)** is the thorny leaf that grows **(on)** the acacia tree. Without a long **(neck)**, the giraffe could not reach the **(tops)** of tall trees to eat their **(tender)** leaves. Without the tongue and long **(lower)** lip, those same leaves would be **(hard)** to pick off the tree tops.

(The) giraffe's coat is covered with yellow **(and)** brown spots. Its coat helps the **(giraffe)** to blend in with trees and **(tall)** grasses in the wild. No two **(giraffes)** have exactly the same pattern of **(spots)** on their coats. In the wild, **(giraffes)** live together in herds of five **(to)** forty-five animals. Giraffes are quiet, peaceful **(animals)** that are favorites of children all **(over)** the world.



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The tallest animal in the world is the giraffe. A baby giraffe is almost six **(almost, feet, for)** tall when it is born. It **(with, can, most)** then grow to be almost eighteen **(little, feet, together)** tall! Because it is so tall, **(it, giraffe, without)** takes a giraffe a long time **(then, to, strong)** stand up. So, to be safe, **(speed, eyesight, giraffes)** sleep standing up. Then, if predators **(come, feet, lip)** after them, they are ready to **(order, outrun, run)**. Lions, hyenas, and wild dogs prey **(on, their, tender)** giraffes. Giraffes have to be careful **(hold, be, when)** they rest or bend down to **(dogs, drink, spot)**. Sometimes, giraffes in a herd take **(turns, lookout, sounds)** resting or drinking. They way, one **(ready, know, giraffe)** is always on the lookout for **(not, heard, danger)**. Giraffes have very good eyesight. They **(can, hard, those)** spot danger a long way away. **(Spots, Giraffes, If)** can run from danger. In fact, **(infrasounds, live, they)** are fast runners. They can run **(up, to, need)** to thirty-five miles an hour! Giraffes **(make, can, hooves)** even outrun most horses. Their speed **(they, helps, prey)** them to outrun their enemies. They **(also, one, giraffe)** have strong hooves that they can **(stand, always, use)** to kick out an enemy.

Giraffes **(takes, have, safe)** long necks but make very little **(grab, noise, herd)**. Scientists used to think that giraffes **(now, were, these)** mute. They now know that giraffes **(do, tallest, bend)** make noises. These noises are called **(cannot, that, infrasounds)**. These sounds cannot be heard by **(reach, humans, tall)**. Giraffes also have long tongues. Their **(hour, tongues, noises)** are between eighteen and twenty-one inches **(the, then, long)**. Giraffe tongues are prehensile. That means **(its, that, is)** the tongue is able to grab **(grows, and, could)** hold on to objects. Giraffes need **(a, means, were)** long neck and a special tongue **(hyenas, in, because)** order to eat. The giraffe's favorite **(that, food, giraffe)** is the thorny leaf that grows **(long, on, giraffes)** the acacia tree. Without a long **(neck, out, grasses)**, the giraffe could not reach the **(come, tops, on)** of tall trees to eat their **(of, trees, tender)** leaves. Without the tongue and long **(be, lower, or)** lip, those same leaves would be **(hard, tongues, after)** to pick off the tree tops.



(Called, Food, The) giraffe's coat is covered with yellow **(and, neck, noise)** brown spots. Its coat helps the **(world, are, giraffe)** to blend in with trees and **(quiet, tall, blend)** grasses in the wild. No two **(giraffes, pattern, use)** have exactly the same pattern of **(spots, tree, giraffes)** on their coats. In the wild, **(time, giraffes, it)** live together in herds of five **(to, sometimes, peaceful)** forty-five animals. Giraffes are quiet, peaceful **(objects, animals, wild)** that are favorites of children all **(when, animals, over)** the world.