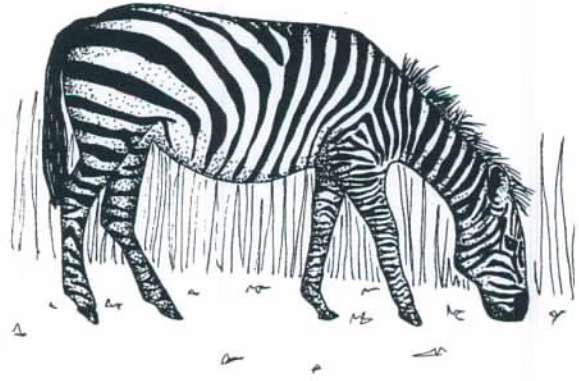


# Zebra

## Review Key Words<sup>1</sup>

- pattern** A pattern is a set of things, like colors, shapes, lines, or sounds, that is repeated.
- zoologists** Zoologists are people who study animals.
- species** Species are groups of plants or animals that are alike in certain ways.
- recognize** Recognize means to know what something is after seeing, hearing, smelling, touching, or tasting it.



## Wri. liction

## Read the Story<sup>2-4</sup>

6 Most people know that zebras are  
 13 wild horses with stripes and that they  
 22 live in Africa. But did you know that of  
 31 all the zebras in the world, no two look  
 38 **exactly** alike? Each zebra has a **unique**  
 41 **pattern** of stripes.

46 A zebra's stripes **serve** many  
 51 **purposes**. They help zebras **recognize**  
 59 each other. They also work as a **form**  
 64 of **camouflage**. The stripes may  
 71 **confuse** predators. They make it hard to  
 79 pick out one zebra from the group. The  
 85 stripes help scientists tell zebras apart  
 91 too. **Zoologists** use a zebra's stripe  
 pattern to help **determine** its **species**.

97 Some zebras have stripes that are far  
 104 apart, with a lighter stripe between two  
 111 darker ones. Other zebras have **narrow**  
 117 stripes. There are zebras with stripes all  
 124 over their bodies. Some zebras have no  
 131 stripes on their legs or bellies.

137 Many years ago, there was a kind of  
 145 zebra with beautiful brown and white  
 151 stripes. The stripes were only on the  
 158 zebras' heads and front halves. The  
 164 zebras had no stripes on their legs,  
 171 bellies, **rear halves**, or tails. Sadly,  
 177 hunters killed too many of these zebras.  
 184 They became **extinct** in 1883.  
 189

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
- number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

# Zebras

## Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
  - a. Zebras' stripes are unique and useful.
  - b. One kind of zebra is now extinct.
  - c. Stripes can be a form of camouflage.
2. Why did the zebras with beautiful brown and white stripes become extinct?
  - a. They didn't have enough stripes.
  - b. Predators could recognize them.
  - c. Hunters killed too many of them.
3. What does the word **narrow** mean in this story?
  - a. colorful
  - b. thin
  - c. large
4. How can a zebra's stripes help the zebra survive?
  - a. The stripes may help the zebra find other zebras.
  - b. The stripes may help zoologists find the zebra.
  - c. The stripes may confuse a predator.
5. What purposes do zebras' stripes serve?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Match each word with its definition.

1. extinct	a. ___ no longer living
2. unique	b. ___ be useful
3. serve	c. ___ figure out
4. determine	d. ___ different from all the rest

## Parent Tips

The number of words read correctly per minute is an important indicator of a student's progress in all aspects of reading—decoding (figuring out unknown words), fluency, and comprehension. Twenty years of research...[have] shown strong correlations between standardized achievement test scores and the number of words read correctly per minute (wcpm).

-- Wiley Blevins, *Building Fluency: Lessons for Strategies for Reading Success*, p.10

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