

# READING

# EA1

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth

Date of test

Total score  (maximum 36)



National Reading Tests



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## Instructions

**In this booklet, there are different types of question for you to answer in different ways.**

**Here are some practice questions. The instructions tell you what you need to do.**

## Practice questions

Look at the sentences below. Each one has a word missing.  
Tick the box next to the word that **best** fits the gap.  
You **do not** need to write the word in the gap.

- a** The grass is \_\_\_\_\_.  
red ☐    orange ☐    purple ☐    green ☐    pink ☐
- 

- b** The \_\_\_\_\_ has a pet dog.  
mat ☐    cat ☐    man ☐    fish ☐    log ☐

**STOP**

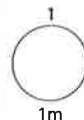
**Please wait until you are told to start work on page 4.  
You should then work through pages 4 and 5 until you  
are asked to stop.**

**You have 10 minutes to do the test.**

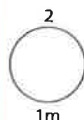
## Sentence Completion

Look at the sentences below. Each one has a word missing.  
Tick the box next to the word that **best** fits the gap.  
You **do not** need to write the word in the gap.

- 1 The colours of the crayons are red, green and \_\_\_\_\_.  
burn ☐ ball ☐ blow ☐ blue ☐ bulb ☐



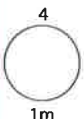
- 2 The pouring \_\_\_\_\_ made everyone wet.  
sun ☐ rain ☐ thunder ☐ wind ☐ lightning ☐



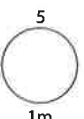
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ far is it to the shops?  
Who ☐ When ☐ How ☐ What ☐ Where ☐



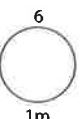
- 4 Ali kept \_\_\_\_\_ on the icy path.  
slurping ☐ slicing ☐ sleeping ☐  
slipping ☐ slamming ☐



- 5 The children \_\_\_\_\_ playing in the garden.  
was ☐ were ☐ is ☐ had ☐ have ☐



- 6 The cake was the \_\_\_\_\_ he had ever seen.  
big ☐ fastest ☐ tasty ☐ sticky ☐ largest ☐



● The choir \_\_\_\_\_ loudly in the show last week.

sing ☐ sang ☐ song ☐ singing ☐ sings ☐

7  
☐  
1m

8 Bethan had to be very \_\_\_\_\_ with her measurements.

excite ☐ exit ☐ exist ☐ exercise ☐ exact ☐

8  
☐  
1m

● Knights wore armour to \_\_\_\_\_ their bodies.

protect ☐ prevent ☐ process ☐

protest ☐ predict ☐

9  
☐  
1m

10 There are lots of different \_\_\_\_\_ in an orchestra.

intelligence ☐ instructions ☐ inventions ☐

instruments ☐ instances ☐

10  
☐  
1m

**STOP**

*Please wait until you are told to start work on page 6.*

TOTAL

☐  
10m

## Practice questions

**In this booklet, there are different types of question for you to answer in different ways.**

**Here are some practice questions which show you the types of question you will see in the test. The instructions tell you what you need to do.**

**Start by reading the text in the box below.**

Tom jumped out of bed and raced to the kitchen. Dad was making toast and fried eggs for breakfast. It was holiday time and the whole family was going camping, except Mog the cat. Mog was staying next door at Mrs Davies' house.

After breakfast, Tom went upstairs to finish packing. He dragged his heavy suitcase down the stairs and got in the car.

Mrs Davies was standing by the gate in her fluffy slippers. She waved as Mum drove them off on holiday.

**a** Where was the family going?

Tick **one**.

to the beach ☐

shopping ☐

camping ☐

to the park ☐

**b** What was for breakfast?

Tick **two**.

fruit ☐

fried eggs ☐

toast ☐

yoghurt ☐

cereal ☐

Hint: Check how many you have to tick.

- c Find and **copy the word** that tells you how Tom got out of bed.

Hint: You must look back in the text to find this.

- d Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.

|                                  | True | False |
|----------------------------------|------|-------|
| Tom's suitcase was heavy.        |      |       |
| Mrs Davies wore fluffy slippers. |      |       |
| Dad drove the car.               |      |       |

- e Put these events in order by numbering them from 1 to 5.

One has been done for you.

Mrs Davies waved them off. ☐

Tom ate breakfast. ☐

The family got in the car. ☐

Tom got out of bed.

Tom finished packing. ☐

- f Draw **three** lines to show what each person did.

Tom

looked after the cat

Mrs Davies

drove the car

Mum

packed the suitcase

**STOP**

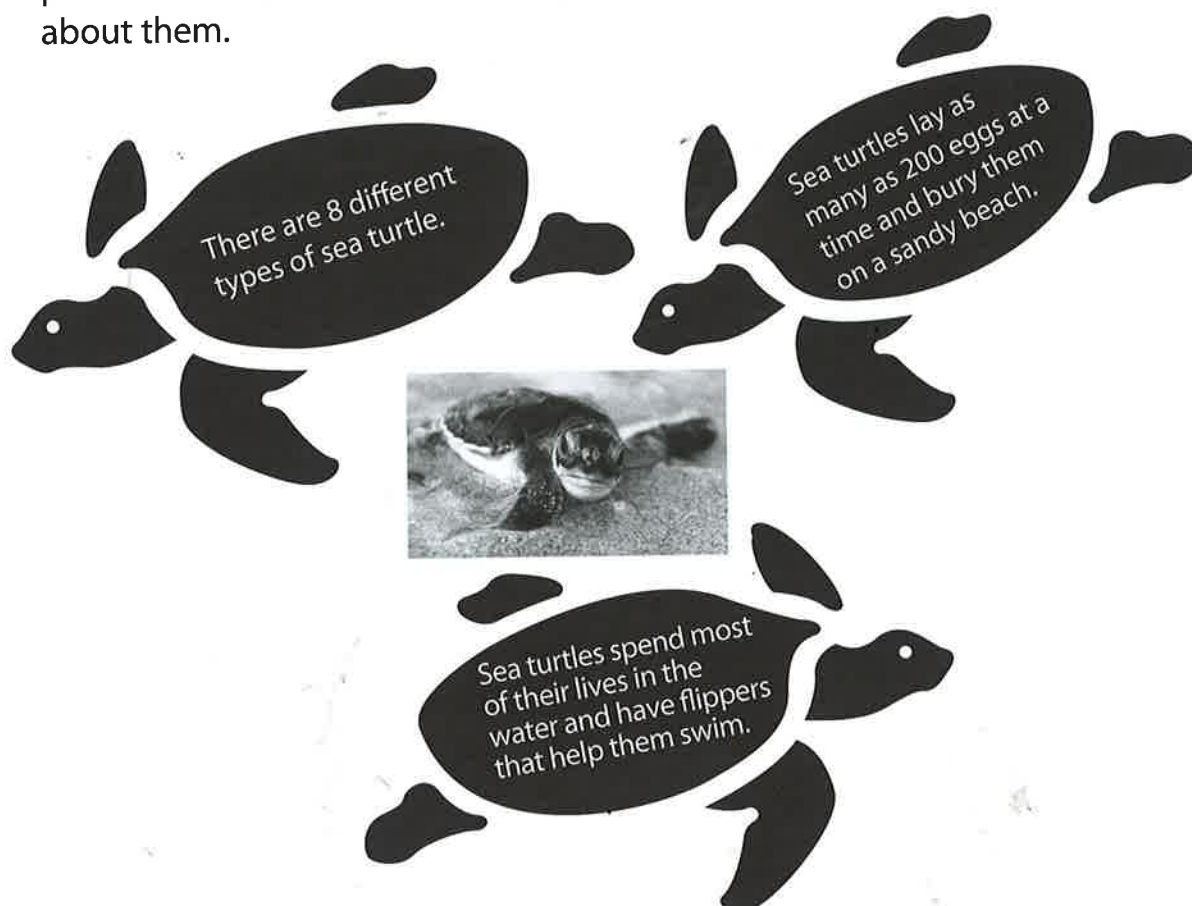
Please wait until you are told to start work on page 8.

You should then work through the booklet until you are told to stop.

Now read all of the **boxed text** on pages 8–12.  
Then turn back to this page to start answering the questions.

### Sea Turtles

Sea turtles are animals that live in the sea. They live in lots of different places around the world, including India and China. Here are some facts about them.



- 1 Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.  
One has been done for you.

|                                                     | True | False |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| There are 8 types of sea turtle.                    | ✓    |       |
| Sea turtles spend most of their lives on the beach. |      |       |
| Sea turtles use flippers to help them swim.         |      |       |
| Sea turtles lay 250 eggs or more at a time.         |      |       |
| All sea turtles live in China.                      |      |       |

### The Smallest Turtle

Deep in a safe dark hole under the sand was a nest of turtle eggs.

One day, they began to hatch. Soon there were dozens of baby turtles all wriggling together up through the sand and away.

Except the smallest turtle. He was late. All by himself he scrambled and scrabbled up, up, up ...

and out into the shimmery sun. He blinked at the brightness and inside his head he heard strange words, 'To the sea – to the sea.'

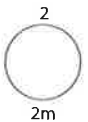


2

**Find** and **copy two** words that describe how the turtle moved.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



*please turn over*



So away he went,  
 skitterscatter,  
 over a shiny grey rock  
 and past a big black beetle,  
 down a gravelly hole  
 and up the other side,  
 where a sleepy lizard was dozing in the sun,  
 through some prickly grass  
 where a spider was weaving a web  
 and all the time, his head said,  
 'To the sea – to the sea.'

**3 Find and copy two** words that show the lizard was tired.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**4 Draw four** lines to match what is being described.

shiny grey

grass

prickly

hole

big black

rock

gravelly

beetle

3

2m

4

1m

The sun was burning down on the smallest turtle. It made him too hot and it muddled the words in his head. He began to go round and round in circles.

He crept into the shade of a big green leaf to cool down and as he cooled, the words in his head slowly came back again, 'To the sea – to the sea.'

So on and on went the smallest turtle until at last he stopped to rest. He was getting very tired.

Suddenly he heard something.

It was the sound of waves crashing and hissing on the sand.

The words in his head became stronger than ever,

'To the SEA – to the SEA.'



5 What was the sun like?

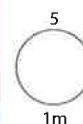
Tick **one**.

shiny ☐

dozing ☐

skittering ☐

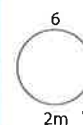
burning ☐



6 Find and **copy two** words that describe the sound of the waves.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



*please turn over*

But there was danger. Gulls were wheeling and whirling up in the sky, looking with beady greedy eyes for a baby turtle lunch.

The smallest turtle didn't wait. Down the scorching sand he scrabbled and skittered,

faster, faster,

away from the gulls,

past the crabs,

over the seaweed,

over the shells,

over the stones and ...

at last he felt cool cool water on his hot tired sandy body.

And as he swam down,

down,

down,

he knew.

'It's the SEA,' he sang,

'It's the SEA!'



- 7 Find and copy one word that shows that the sand was hot.

\_\_\_\_\_

- 8 Which of these did the turtle pass on the way to the sea?

Tick **three**.

crabs ☐

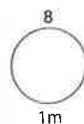
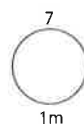
turtles ☐

stones ☐

shells ☐

people ☐

starfish ☐



9

'It's the SEA,' he sang, 'It's the SEA!'

What does the word *sang* tell us?

The turtle was ...

Tick **one**.

happy. ☐ sad. ☐

tired. ☐ small. ☐

9  
1m

10

Which of the following includes words which **sound** the same?

Tick **one**.

past the crabs ☐

beady greedy ☐

scrabbled and skittered ☐

tired sandy ☐

10  
1m

11

The turtle travelled from his nest to the sea.

Put these events in the order that they happened in the story, numbering them from 1 to 5.

One has been done for you.

He found some shade. ☐

He swam in the sea. ☐

The smallest turtle hatched. ☐ 1

He escaped the gulls. ☐

He saw a spider weaving a web. ☐

11  
1m

**STOP**

Please wait until you are told to start work on page 14.

TOTAL  
5m

Now read all of the **boxed text** on pages 14–19.  
Then turn back to this page to start answering the questions.

### Making a Wildlife Pond

A garden pond can provide a habitat for lots of animals. You could build a wildlife pond at home or at school – just follow these simple steps.

1. Dig a hole in the ground.
2. Put an old washing-up bowl in it.
3. Pack soil up to the rim, so there is no gap around the bowl.



**1** Which of these things would you need to make a pond?

Tick **two**.

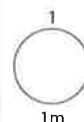
bowl ☐

washing-up water ☐

steps ☐

spade ☐

chair ☐



4. **An adult must help you with this part of making the pond.**  
Together, collect some mud and water. You will probably find some at the bottom of a pond or ditch.

5. Pour the water and mud into your pond, then lean a stick up the side. Animals that fall in can climb up the stick so they do not drown.



6. Now sit back and wait. Your pond is already full of life. The mud at the bottom holds millions of tiny plants and animals. When they have grown bigger, you will be able to see them.

2

**An adult must help you with this part of making the pond.**

Why is this written in **bold**?

Tick the **best** answer.

- because it is the title ☐
- because it is a sub-heading ☐
- because it is a question ☐
- because it is important to notice ☐

2  
1m

3

Why is the pond *already full of life*?

Tick **one**.

- Some animals have fallen in. ☐
- An adult has put some animals in. ☐
- Animals and plants live in the mud. ☐
- Some plants are too big for the pond. ☐

3  
1m

TOTAL  
3m

7. After three weeks, dip a jam jar in the water, then look closely. You might spot some amazing animals!



Here are some sentences about how to make a wildlife pond. Put them in the correct order by numbering them from 1 to 5.

One has been done for you.

Leave the pond for three weeks.

☐

Collect water from a ditch.

☐

Use a jam jar to look closely at some insects.

☐

Dig a hole.

☐ 1

Put a stick in your pond to help animals escape.

☐

Why have numbers been used in this text?

The numbers tell you ...

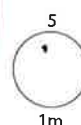
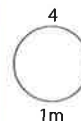
Tick **one**.

how many insects are in the ditch. ☐

how much water to collect. ☐

how to do things in order. ☐

how tall the plants will grow. ☐





One sentence has been missed out of the text.  
Tick to show which sentence would **best** fit the text.

Tick **one**.

Mud, lovely mud!

☐

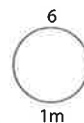
When you have finished, wash your hands.

☐

I went to get some water.

☐

How big is the pond?

☐

*please turn over*

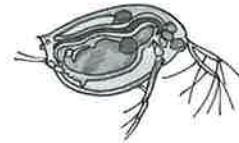
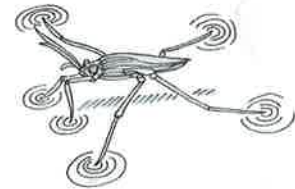


Here are just a few of the amazing animals you could find in your pond:

**Common pond skater** – an insect that skates on the surface of the water looking for food, such as flies.

**Water flea** – lives just under the surface and feeds on small insects which have fallen in. It is about one millimetre long.

**Tadpole** – any frog, newt or toad spawn in your pond will turn into tadpoles. Tadpoles turn into adult frogs, newts and toads. Take them to a larger pond when they have grown.



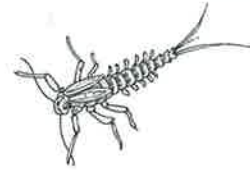
- 7** Draw **three** more lines to match each of these animals to where they can be found in the pond. One has been done for you.

|                    |   |   |                        |
|--------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| may-fly eggs       | • | • | surface of water       |
| common pond skater | • | • | under surface of water |
| water flea         | • | • | in mud                 |
| hydra              | • | • | hanging from weed      |

- 8** Put **one** tick in each row to show which animal is being described.

| This animal ...                                | Water flea | Tadpole | May-fly larva | Hydra |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------------|-------|
| ... looks like a plant.                        |            |         |               |       |
| ... is one millimetre long.                    |            |         |               |       |
| ... starts life as toad spawn.                 |            |         |               |       |
| ... grows wings and leaves the pond in summer. |            |         |               |       |

**May-fly larva** – this insect starts life as an egg laid in mud. The egg turns into an insect called a larva. In early summer, the larva leaves the water and turns into a winged adult.



**Hydra** – an animal that looks like a plant! It often hangs from pond-weed waiting for food to drift past.



Most ponds are fed by streams or rainwater. You may need to keep your smaller wildlife pond topped up with tap water, especially in summer.

9

Put ticks to show which animals are **easy to see** and which are **difficult to see**.

One has been done for you.

|                    | Easy to see | Difficult to see |
|--------------------|-------------|------------------|
| tadpole            | ✓           |                  |
| common pond skater |             |                  |
| water flea         |             |                  |
| may-fly egg        |             |                  |
| hydra              |             |                  |

**End of test. Please check your work.**

9

2m

TOTAL

5m

### **Acknowledgements**

'The Smallest Turtle' adapted from *The Smallest Turtle* by Lynley Dodd, Scholastic, 1991.

'Making a Wildlife Pond' adapted from *Worm's eye view: Make your own wildlife park* by Kipchak Johnson, Cassell Publishers Limited, 1990.

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