Year 4 reading comprehension: Joeys

English · Reading comprehension
Level: Medium

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- Read the text first. There are 3 questions. Read each one carefully.
- Circle the best answer. Look back at the text to find the words that tell you.
- A grown-up can read the text aloud — that's fine.
- The answers are at the end. Check them together when you have finished.

Questions

Read these texts, then answer questions 1–3.

Joeys

Read the three texts on the theme of kangaroos.

TEXT A

A newborn kangaroo is about the size of a jellybean. Blind and hairless, it crawls up through its mother's fur and into her pouch, where it drinks milk and keeps growing. After about six months it starts to poke its head out, and soon it hops out to explore.

TEXT B

Something wriggled in the pouch. Then a pair of huge ears popped out, followed by two shiny black eyes and a twitching nose. The joey stared at the world for a long moment, blinked, and dived back down head first, leaving only its long feet sticking out.

TEXT C

Many kangaroos are hit by cars at dawn and dusk. Please slow down when you drive through the bush at these times. If you find an injured kangaroo, call a wildlife rescue group, because there could be a joey in the pouch that needs help.

1. Which text gives facts about how a joey grows?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Text A ○ **B** Text B ○ **C** Text C

○ **D** Texts A and B

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2. Which text asks readers to do something?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Text A ○ **B** Text B ○ **C** Text C

○ **D** Texts A and C

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3. Which text is mainly written to make readers smile?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Text A ○ **B** Text B ○ **C** Text C

○ **D** Texts B and C

Answer key

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1. A — Text A

Text A gives facts in order: a newborn is 'about the size of a jellybean', it drinks milk in the pouch, and 'After about six months' it pokes its head out. Text C says 'joey' too, but it is asking drivers for help.

2. C — Text C

Text C says, 'Please slow down' and 'call a wildlife rescue group'. It asks readers to act.

3. B — Text B

Text B is funny: the joey 'dived back down head first, leaving only its long feet sticking out'. Text C is serious; it is about injured kangaroos.