

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Reptile of Many Talents

by Kelly Hashway

What animal has feet like a parrot, can see in more than one direction at a time, and has a tongue that can move with incredible speed? It's not a bird. It's not a frog. It's a chameleon.

If you've ever looked closely at a chameleon's toes, you'll see they have parrot-like feet. Each foot has five toes grouped as two together on the outside and three together on the inside. The toes are fused



this way to h  
chameleons

Their fe  
bottom eyeli  
through. Unli



**~ PREVIEW ~**

Please log in or register to download  
the printable version of this worksheet.

naking

top and  
il to see  
ime by

moving their eyes in different directions. This allows them to see in a full 360-degree circle around their bodies. They have very good eyesight, especially when they focus both eyes on the same target. They are able to see tiny insects from long distances, which is very helpful when hunting for food.

They have extremely long tongues, sometimes even longer than their body length. These tongues can extend so quickly the human eye can't follow it. The chameleon's tongue can snatch up its prey in about thirty thousandths of a second. How does the tongue move so quickly? Well, the tongue operates a lot like a bow and arrow. The tongue catapults out of the mouth, giving it the speed it needs to reach the prey before it gets away.

One of the chameleon's most interesting talents is the ability to change the color of its skin. Between the different species of chameleons, they can turn all the colors of the rainbow,



plus purple, pink, black, brown, and even turquoise. Chameleons can use this color change as camouflage to blend into their surroundings, but the most common reason to change colors is to regulate their body temperature and even show their emotions. They use color changes to show dominance and defend their territory. They even use their colors to attract mates.

Most chameleons are found in Africa, but a few species have been found other places around the world, including Asia, India, and the United States. They inhabit tropical rain forests and even deserts. Since chameleons do not have ears, they sense vibrations through solid surfaces in th

All of th  
family.

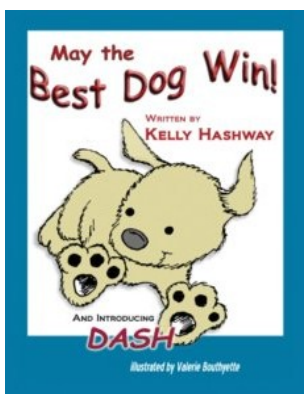


**~ PREVIEW ~**

Please log in or register to download  
the printable version of this worksheet.

the reptile

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Kelly Hashway's latest book, *May the Best Dog Win*, is now available!

Dash has the perfect life until the Super Sweeper 5000 shows up. Sweeper runs all over the house sucking up the leftover food scraps, and he even gets his own room! But Dash won't give up his place as the favorite dog without a fight.

Hashway, Kelly. *May the Best Dog Win*. ISBN: 9780984589081

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Reptile of Many Talents

by Kelly Hashway

1. Which continent does not have wild chameleons?
  - a. North America
  - b. South America
  - c. Asia
  - d. Africa
2. How quickly does a chameleon's tongue snatch prey?
  - a. 0.3 seconds
  - b. 0.03 seconds
  - c. 0.003 seconds
  - d. 0.0003 seconds
3. Complete the graphic organizer.



 **~ PREVIEW ~**  
Please log in or register to download the printable version of this worksheet.



4. Tell whether each sentence from the article is a fact or opinion. Write **F** or **O** on each line.  
\_\_\_\_ One of the chameleon's most interesting talents is the ability to change the color of its skin.  
\_\_\_\_ The toes are fused this way to help the chameleon grip branches.  
\_\_\_\_ They inhabit tropical rain forests and even deserts.  
\_\_\_\_ All of these special features make the chameleon an interesting member of the reptile family.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Reptile of Many Talents

## Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



1. \_\_\_ u s \_\_\_ d

hint: connected

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_ u \_\_\_ i \_\_\_

hint: tiny opening in the eye

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_ a

hint: h



**~ PREVIEW ~**

Please log in or register to download the printable version of this worksheet.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_ a r \_\_\_ \_ o \_\_\_

hint: arch of colors formed in the sky

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_ \_ o \_\_\_ \_ o \_\_\_ s

hint: feelings; moods

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_ u \_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ i s \_\_\_

hint: greenish-blue color

\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_ \_ \_ e r \_\_\_

hint: land area that does not receive much rain

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Reptile of Many Talents

by Kelly Hashway

In the article, "A Reptile of Many Talents", you learned many facts about chameleons.



Write a two paragraphs. In the first paragraph, explain how chameleons are like other reptiles. In the second paragraph, tell how they are unique from other reptiles.

---

---



**~ PREVIEW ~**

Please log in or register to download the printable version of this worksheet.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# ANSWER KEY

## A Reptile of Many Talents

by Kelly Hashway

1. Which continent does not have wild chameleons? **b**
  - a. North America
  - b. **South America**
  - c. Asia
  - d. Africa
2. How quickly does a chameleon's tongue snatch prey? **c**
  - a. 0.3 seconds
  - b. 0.03 seconds
  - c. **0.003 seconds**
  - d. 0.0003 seconds
3. Complete the graphic organizer.



attract mates

show dominance

**Also accept: protect territory (related to dominance) and show emotion.**

4. Tell whether each sentence from the article is a fact or opinion. Write **F** or **O** on each line.
  - O** One of the chameleon's most interesting talents is the ability to change the color of its skin.
  - F** The toes are fused this way to help the chameleon grip branches.
  - F** They inhabit tropical rain forests and even deserts.
  - O** All of these special features make the chameleon an interesting member of the reptile family.

# ANSWER KEY

## A Reptile of Many Talents

### Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



1. f u s e d fused  
hint: connected

2. p u p i l pupil  
hint: ti

3. c a t  
hint: h



4. r a i n b o w rainbow  
hint: arch of colors formed in the sky

5. e m o t i o n s emotions  
hint: feelings; moods

6. t u r q u o i s e turquoise  
hint: greenish-blue color

7. d e s e r t desert  
hint: land area that does not receive much rain