Animal Voices
by Guy Belleranti

Mice squeak and pigeons coo.
Dogs bark and cattle moo.
Pigs oink and horses neigh.
Ducks quack and donkeys bray.

Crows caw and songbirds tweet.
Owls hoot and sheep bleat.
Snakes hiss and parrots squawk--
Animals sure can talk!
1. Which pair of words from the poem are rhyming words?
   - a. mice and dogs
   - b. meow and buzz
   - c. tweet and bleat
   - d. quack and donkeys

2. How many different animals are mentioned in the poem?
   - a. fourteen
   - b. twenty-one
   - c. nineteen
   - d. twenty-four

3. Alliteration is a poetry term that refers to several words in a row that start with the same letter, such as "slippery and slimy".
   - a. "pigeons coo"
   - b. "bears growl"
   - c. "parrots squawk"
   - d. "bees buzz"

4. Based on what you read in the poem, why do you think the author says, "Animals sure can talk!"?

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
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Fill in the missing letters to create words from the poem.
Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. p ___ g ___ o ___ s
   clue: gray, stout, seed-eating birds

2. c ___ t ___ ___ e

3. g ___ o  ___ w ___
   clue: make a threatening sound from the throat

4. b ___ e a ___
   clue: a type of cry made by a sheep or a goat

5. s ___ a ___ ___ s
   clue: reptiles that don't have feet
In the poem, “Animal Voices,” the author describes the different noises that animals make. At the end of the poem, the author makes a funny statement: “Animals sure can talk!”

Choose an animal that was not mentioned in the poem. On the lines below, describe the animal you chose. What does it look like? What does it sound like? Where does it live?

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_______________________________________________________________________
1. Which pair of words from the poem are rhyming words?  
   c. 
   a. mice and dogs  
   b. meow and buzz  
   c. tweet and bleat  
   d. quack and donkeys

Preview
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Fill in the missing letters to create words from the poem.
Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. p__g__n__s
   - clue: gray, stout, seed-eating birds
   - Answer: pigeons

2. c__a__t__l__e
   - clue: cows
   - Answer: cattle

3. g__r__w__l
   - clue: make a threatening sound from the throat
   - Answer: growl

4. b__l__e__t
   - clue: a type of cry made by a sheep or a goat
   - Answer: bleat

5. s__n__a__k__e__s
   - clue: reptiles that don't have feet
   - Answer: snakes