



Read and answer the questions.

Snow leopards

¹ The snow leopard is a big cat, which lives high in the mountains of central Asia. It's a mammal and it's the fifth largest cat in the world. It has thick, spotted fur, which gives it camouflage among the rocks and keeps it warm through the cold winters. It's also got long whiskers, sharp claws and rubbery paws. It is large and strong. A male snow leopard can grow up to 1.5 metres long and weigh up to 70 kilograms. It hunts for sheep and goats in its territory.

² Snow leopards are endangered because hunters kill them for their fur. Farmers also hunt them sometimes to stop them from killing the sheep and goats on their farms. It is thought that there are only about 5,000 snow leopards left in the wild and about 400 more living in zoos.

³ People are trying to help snow leopards so that they do not become extinct. It is now against the law to hunt them. Also, many of the places where they live have been turned into national parks – this protects not only the snow leopards but also their habitats.



1 Where do snow leopards live?

In the mountains of central Asia.

3 How long can a male snow leopard grow?

1.5 metres

5 How many snow leopards are left in the wild?

5,000

2 Why does a leopard have thick, spotted fur?

It gives it camouflage among the rocks and keeps it warm through the cold winters.

4 What two reasons do people have to hunt snow leopards?

1. For their fur. 2. To stop them from killing sheep and goats on farms.

6 What two things have been done to try to protect snow leopards?

1. It is now against the law to hunt them. 2. Many of the places where they live have been turned into national parks.

16 Look again at the text in Activity 14. In which paragraph of the text are the questions answered?

- 1 How big is the animal and what does it look like? Paragraph one
- 2 How many animals are left? _____
- 3 What does the animal eat? _____
- 4 What is being done to protect this animal? _____
- 5 Where does the animal live? _____
- 6 Why is the animal endangered? _____

17 You're going to write a text like the one in Activity 14 about the blue whale. Read the fact file. In which paragraph will you put the information in your text?

Blue whale fact file	Which paragraph?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ¹ lives in cold, deep oceans worldwide • ² largest animal in the world, female bigger than male, average whale 21 metres long and 90 tonnes • ³ long blue-grey body, fins and a tail • ⁴ eats krill, a type of fish – during the summer feeding months a whale eats 40 million krill a day • ⁵ endangered because they were hunted during 20th century – there are 15,000 blue whales today and there used to be 300,000 • ⁶ threats today: climate change, habitat loss, poison in the sea, also they can be hit by ships or get caught up in fishing equipment • ⁷ whale hunting is now illegal and they are protected by the International Whaling Commission – they help if a whale is washed ashore 	<p><i>Paragraph one</i></p>

18 Write a text about the blue whale using the information from the fact file in Activity 17. Use three paragraphs like in the text in Activity 14.
