



Fish with Evolved Legs: Seeking and Savoring Buried Food

Description

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The northern sea robin uses its legs to find food in the seabed

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A fish in the ocean called the northern sea robin has legs that help it find food in the sand. These legs are like tongues and are used to locate prey hidden in the seabed.

The sea robins have three legs on each side of their body that come out from their fins. These legs used to be part of their fins and have evolved into useful sensory organs.

Scientists from Harvard University studied these fish in the lab. They found that some sea robins were good at finding buried food, while others were better at walking. The different types of sea robins had distinct legs for these purposes.

These legs have special bumps with taste receptors and touch-sensitive neurons. The development of these unique legs is controlled by an ancient gene called *tbx3a*.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Evolved** /ɪˈvəʊlvd/ (verb): Developed gradually over time especially from a simple to a more complex form.
2. **Robins** /ˈrɒb.ɪnz/ (noun): A type of fish known for unique adaptations.
3. **Sensory** /ˈsɛn.sɔːr.i/ (adjective): Relating to sensation or to the physical senses; transmitted or perceived by the senses.
4. **Receptors** /rɪˈsɛptərz/ (noun): Specialized cells or proteins that receive and respond to sensory stimuli.
5. **Neurons** /ˈnjʊərəʊnz/ (noun): Nerve cells that transmit impulses and process information in the nervous system.
6. **Prey** /preɪ/ (noun): An animal that is hunted and eaten by another.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What is the function of the legs of the northern sea robin?

Option: To help it swim faster

Option: To find food in the sand

Option: To communicate with other fish

Option: To protect itself from predators



2. How many legs does the northern sea robin have on each side of its body?

- Option: One
- Option: Two
- Option: Three
- Option: Four

3. What have the evolved legs of the sea robins turned into?

- Option: Eyes
- Option: Wings
- Option: Sensory organs
- Option: Teeth

4. What did scientists from Harvard University study in the lab?

- Option: Birds
- Option: Insects
- Option: Fish
- Option: Mammals

5. What do the special bumps on the legs of sea robins have?

- Option: Ears
- Option: Taste receptors and touch-sensitive neurons
- Option: Gills
- Option: Teeth

6. Which gene controls the development of the unique legs of the northern sea robin?

- Option: tbx3a
- Option: DNA
- Option: RNA
- Option: ATP

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. To find food in the sand 2. Three 3. Sensory organs 4. Fish 5. Taste receptors and touch-sensitive neurons 6. tbx3a

Vocabulary quizzes



Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which medication is commonly used to treat epilepsy?
Option: Sodium valproate
Option: Ibuprofen
Option: Amoxicillin
Option: Aspirin

2. What prefix is commonly used to refer to things related to the internet or technology?
Option: Cyber
Option: Geo
Option: Bio
Option: Aero

3. Which term refers to measures taken to ensure safety and protection?
Option: Security
Option: Hospitality
Option: Flexibility
Option: Transparency

4. What are preserved remains or traces of ancient organisms called?
Option: Fossils
Option: Crystals
Option: Artifacts
Option: Inventions

5. What are the cells that transmit information in the nervous system?
Option: Neurons
Option: Platelets
Option: Fibroblasts
Option: Tendons

6. What term is used to describe an animal that is hunted and eaten by another?
Option: Prey
Option: Predator
Option: Herbivore
Option: Omnivore

7. What process converts information into a code to prevent unauthorized access?
Option: Encryption
Option: Decryption
Option: Transcription



Option: Translation

8. Which branch of science studies the structure of organisms and their parts?

Option: Anatomy

Option: Ecology

Option: Botany

Option: Astronomy

9. Which birds are known for their red breasts?

Option: Robins

Option: Crows

Option: Eagles

Option: Sparrows

10. What characteristic refers to the ability to walk on two legs?

Option: Bipedality

Option: Quadrupedality

Option: Flight

Option: Swimming

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company issued a product _____ due to safety concerns.

12. She was _____ to succeed in her career despite facing challenges.

13. The documentary _____ the harsh realities of the industry.

14. The new system proved to be more _____ than the old one.

15. The decision to close the factory was highly _____ among the employees.

16. The student was _____ for cheating on the exam.

17. She was deeply _____ in the local community activities.

18. The trade embargo was officially _____ by the government.

19. Smoking has been proven to have _____ effects on health.

20. The painting was a beautiful landscape _____ a scene from the countryside.



Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The of a new species in the rainforest excited the scientific community.
22. The system allows us to experience the world through touch taste and smell.
23. Despite his success he remained humble and in his values.
24. The new manufacturing process was more and cost-effective.
25. Over time humans into the dominant species on the planet.
26. The product was recalled due to manufacturing that could pose a safety risk.
27. Customer is important for improving products and services.
28. Individuals have the right to protect their and personal information.
29. is a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent seizures.
30. Scientific is essential for advancing medical knowledge and treatments.

Answer

- Multiple Choice:** 1. Sodium valproate 2. Cyber 3. Security 4. Fossils 5. Neurons 6. Prey 7. Encryption 8. Anatomy 9. Robins 10. Bipedality
- Gap-Fill:** 11. recall 12. determined 13. exposed 14. efficient 15. controversial 16. punished 17. involved 18. sanctioned 19. harmful 20. resembling
- Matching sentence:** 1. discovery 2. sensory 3. grounded 4. efficient 5. evolved 6. defects 7. feedback 8. privacy 9. Epilepsy 10. research

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

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