

LESSON - 3

MONGOOSE

Session - 1

I

PRE-READING

- Socialisation :
- What do you know about mongooses? (Your teacher jots down what you say.)
- See the picture; Can you guess something more about mongooses? Can they be kept as pets?



II

WHILE-READING

- **SGP-1**
- Read paras- 1 and 2 silently and answer the questions that follow:
 1. Mongooses like to hunt together, but they always keep a look out for dangerous hunting animals nearby. While poking their noses into holes, overturning rocks with their paws and scratching the ground with their sharp claws, mongooses look very amusing. A common sight in many parts of Africa, they travel in groups of about twenty to look for beetles, millipedes and other small creatures.
 2. They like to hunt together, keeping in touch whenever they go out of sight behind rocks or bushes by twittering and calling. Always on the

look out for danger- hawks, eagles – they warn one another with a special alarm call if they spot anything suspicious.

- **Comprehension Questions:**

1. What are the paras about ?
 2. Both the paras talk about one very common nature of mongooses. What is that common nature ? (See the first lines of both the paras.)
 3. Mongooses do two kinds of things. In other words their activities or work can be divided into two kinds. What are they ?
 4. One of them is looking for food. What do mongooses normally eat ? (See the last part of para-1.)
 5. They eat beetles, millipedes etc. But the mongooses are also eaten by other creatures. Who are these big creatures?
 6. They look for food but they also look out for _____.
 7. One very common nature of mongooses is living and hunting together. Both the paras talk about this common feature. Give some examples in support of this from these two paras. (See last part of para-1.)
 8. How do they keep in touch with each other ? (para-2, first part)
 9. How do they warn each other when they see anything dangerous and suspicious ?
 10. The writer calls the mongooses very amusing animals. When do they look amusing ?
- Did you know all these facts about mongooses before you read these paras ? Do you want to know more about them ? Read the next two paras.

Session - 2

- **SGP-2**

- Read silently paragraphs 3 and 4 and answer the questions that follow:
3. Mongooses are famous for being able to kill snakes without getting hurt themselves. Their reactions are so fast that they can dodge each time the snake strikes. They continually dodge snakes attack until, after a while, the snake gets tired. Then they quickly dive in for the kill.
 4. All the female mongooses have their kitten at about the same time. They are raised by the whole group in a den made inside an old termite hill or hollow log. When most of the adults are out looking for food, one

or two males stay behind to stand guard until the others return for the night.

- **Comprehension Questions:**

1. What is the first para about?
2. What are mongooses famous for?
3. What is very special about their killing snakes?
(They kill snakes without.....)
4. What do they do when the snake strikes?
(See the meaning of the word 'dodge' in the dictionary at the end of the lesson.)
5. Who is quicker- the snake in its strikes or the mongoose in dodging the strike?
6. When do they kill the snake, immediately or making it tired?
7. Where do mongooses live?
8. You already know from para 1 and 2 that mongooses live together. What other things of this togetherness do you find in para 4 ?
9. Who looks after the kitten, the small ones, when most of them go out for food – the males or females?
10. Can you guess why do the males stay behind ?
(See the two words in the last but one line of para-4)

Session - 3

III

POST-READING

1 Visual Memory Development Technique (VMDT) :

Whole Text : Mongooses and snakes- which para?
Lookout for hawks, eagles.....
Their living place; amusing animals

Part : (paragraph-4) kitten, den, termite hill, stand guard

2 Comprehension Activities :

a. MCQ :

Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate alternatives.

1. The enemy of mongoose is _____.
 - A. beetle
 - B. hawk
 - C. millipede
 - D. small creature
2. Mongooses are famous for _____.
 - A. living together
 - B. killing snakes without getting hurt
 - C. twittering sad message
 - D. looking out for dangers
3. Before killing a snake, mongooses _____.
 - A. call each other by twittering
 - B. allow the snake to get into termite hole
 - C. play with the snake
 - D. make the snake tired
4. Mongooses look amusing when they _____.
 - A. poke their noses into holes
 - B. overturn rocks with their paws
 - C. scratch the ground with their sharp claws
 - D. all the above

b. Stated below are some words and phrases. Place them under 4 paras in which these are found.

termite hills, snakes, twittering, amusing animals, travelling in groups, dodging attacks, den, kitten, stand guard, poking noses into holes, scratching ground, special alarm call.

Para-1	Para-2	Para-3	Para-4
amusing animals	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Session - 4

3 Listening :

- Listen to your teacher and fill in the gaps. (Teacher reads the para aloud.)
All the female mongooses have their _____ at about the same _____. They are raised by the _____ group in a _____ made inside an _____ termite hill or hollow _____. When most of the _____ are out looking for _____, one or two _____ stay behind to stand guard until the _____ return for the _____.

4 Speaking :

- Chain-drill “Mongooses are amusing animals.”
- Your teacher reads aloud one sentence, you repeat after him/her in chorus all the lines.
“Mongooses are amusing animals. They live in termite hills. They eat beetles, millipedes and other small creatures. They love to live and travel together. They are famous for killing snakes.”

Session - 5

5 Vocabulary :

Some words are used both as verbs and nouns in your lesson. Given below a list of the words from the text which can be used both as verbs and nouns. First see the text and tell which of them are used as verbs and which, nouns. Next read the sentences in pairs to see how the same word can be used as verb and noun.

dive, kill, stay, guard, scratch, travel, touch

dive

- The coast guard dived into the sea to save a drowning man.
- He takes two to three dives every day to save life of tourists on the sea beach.

kill

- The tiger killed the deer.
- But it had to wait long for the kill.

stay

(V) Sidharth stayed long at home.

(N) His employer did not like sidharth's long stay at home.

guard

(V) He guards at the gate of the office.

(N) But the new guard is irregular in his duties.

scratch

(V) Smita scratched all our books.

(N) Her mother did not like the scratches.

travel

(V) Dibya travels a lot.

(N) Her frequent travels spoil her health.

touch

(V) Rashmi touched the touch-me-not plant.

(N) Even her soft touch made the plant close all her leaves.

6 Usage :

a. Mark the use of 'look' in the following sentences.

1. A common sight in many parts of Africa, mongooses travel in groups of twenty looking for food.
2. While overturning rocks, they look amusing.
3. Always on look out for danger, they warn one another by twittering.

b. Read the following sentence.

While overturning rocks, mongooses look amusing. Now use the following words with 'look' and make similar sentences of your own.

beautiful, tired, happy, unhappy, serious

Session - 6

7 Writing :

Answer the following questions in the space provided.

(i) What are mongooses famous for ?

(ii) What is special about their killing snakes ?

(iii) Where do mongooses live?

8 Mental Talk :

- Mongooses have unity. They hunt together.

9 Let's Think :

- What other activities do the mongooses do?
- Take up a project on 'Desert Animals'. Collect information with pictures about them from different sources.

MONGOOSE



Summary of the Text :

Mongoose like to hunt together. They always pay close attention to harmful hunting animals nearby. They travel in groups of about twenty to search for beetles, millipedes and other small creatures.

Whenever they go out of sight, behind rocks or bushes, they try to keep in touch with each other by twittering and calling. If they spot anything suspicious, they warn one another about the danger with a special alarm call.

Mongoose are famous for their abilities to kill snakes without getting hurt themselves. They are very quick at dodging the attacks of the snakes. The snakes get tired when their attacks are continuously evaded by the mongooses. Then the mongooses quickly take this opportunity to hunt the snakes down.

All the female mongooses have their kittens at about the same time. They are brought up by the whole group in a den made inside an old termite hill or hollow log. When most of the adults go out for food, one or two males stay behind to keep guard until others return for the night.

ସାରାଂଶ :

ନେଉଳମାନେ ଏକତ୍ର ଶିକାର କରିବାକୁ ପସନ୍ଦ କରନ୍ତି । ସେମାନେ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ନିକଟବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ଶିକାର ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ଛପି ରହିଥିବା କ୍ଷତିକାରକ ପଶୁମାନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତି ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସତର୍କ ରହିଥାନ୍ତି । ସେମାନେ କୋଡ଼ିଏ ଜଣିଆ ଦଳରେ ବିଭକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ଶିକାର କରିବା ପାଇଁ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସ୍ଥାନକୁ ଯାଇଥାନ୍ତି । ସେମାନେ ସାଧାରଣତଃ ଗୋବରପୋକ ପରି ପୋକମାନଙ୍କୁ, ଛାତିରେ ଭରାଦେଇ ଚାଲୁଥିବା କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ପଶୁ ବା କୀଟମାନଙ୍କୁ ତଥା ଅନ୍ୟ ଛୋଟ ଛୋଟ ଜୀବମାନଙ୍କୁ ଶିକାର କରିଥାନ୍ତି ।

ସେମାନେ ଯେତେବେଳେ କୌଣସି ଶିଳା କିମ୍ବା ବୁଦ୍ଧାମାନଙ୍କ ଭିତରେ ଲୁଚି ଅଦୃଶ୍ୟ ହୋଇଯାନ୍ତି, ସେତେବେଳେ ସେମାନେ ପରସ୍ପରଙ୍କ ସହିତ ସଂପର୍କ ମଧ୍ୟ ରଖିବାକୁ ଚେଷ୍ଟା କରିଥାନ୍ତି । ଯଦି କୌଣସି ବିପଦର ସମ୍ଭାବନା ହେବାକୁ ଯାଉଥିବାର ସୂଚନା ପାଆନ୍ତି ବା କୌଣସି ସନ୍ଦେହଜନକ ଜୀବଙ୍କୁ ଦେଖନ୍ତି, ସେମାନେ ତାଙ୍କର ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ଆବାଜ ଦ୍ୱାରା ପରସ୍ପରକୁ ସାବଧାନ କରିଦିଅନ୍ତି ।

ନେଉଳମାନେ କୌଣସି ଆଘାତ ନପାଇ ବିଷଧର ସାପମାନଙ୍କୁ ଶିକାର କରିବାରେ ଖୁବ୍ ଧୂରନ୍ଧର । ସାପମାନେ ଯଦି ଆଘାତ କରିବାକୁ ଚେଷ୍ଟା କରନ୍ତି, ସେମାନେ ଖୁବ୍ କ୍ଷିପ୍ରତାର ସହିତ ଘୁଞ୍ଚିଯାଇ ସେହି ଆଘାତକୁ ଏଡ଼ାଇ ଦିଅନ୍ତି । ଯେତେବେଳେ ନେଉଳମାନେ ସାପମାନଙ୍କର ଆଘାତ କରିବା ଚେଷ୍ଟାକୁ ବାରମ୍ବାର ଏଡ଼ାଇ ଦିଅନ୍ତି, ସେତେବେଳେ ସାପମାନେ କ୍ଲାନ୍ତ ଅନୁଭବ କରନ୍ତି । ସେମାନେ କ୍ଲାନ୍ତ ଓ ଦୁର୍ବଳ ହେବା ସମୟରେ ନେଉଳମାନେ ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆକ୍ରମଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଶିକାର କରନ୍ତି ।

ଏକତ୍ର ରହୁଥିବା ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ ନେଉଳମାନେ ପ୍ରାୟ ଏକାଧରକେ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ଛୁଆମାନଙ୍କୁ ଜନ୍ମ ଦିଅନ୍ତି । ଗୋଟିଏ ଦଳ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସେହି ଛୁଆମାନଙ୍କୁ ରଖାଯାଏ ଏବଂ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ଯଥା ଯତ୍ନ ନିଆଯାଏ । ସେମାନେ ପ୍ରାୟ ପୁରୁଣା ଉଇହୁଙ୍କା କିମ୍ବା ଫମ୍ପା କାଠ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଗୁହା ତିଆରି କରି ସେହି ଛୁଆମାନଙ୍କୁ ରଖିଥାନ୍ତି । ଯେତେବେଳେ ବୟସ୍କ ନେଉଳମାନେ ଶିକାର ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ବାହାରକୁ ଯାଆନ୍ତି, ସେତେବେଳେ ଜଣେ କିମ୍ବା ଦୁଇଜଣ ପୁରୁଷ ନେଉଳ ସେଠାରେ ରହି ଛୁଆମାନଙ୍କୁ ଜଗି ରହିଥାନ୍ତି । ଅନ୍ୟସବୁ ବୟସ୍କ ନେଉଳମାନେ ନ ଫେରିବା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସେମାନେ ସେଠାରେ ଜାଗ୍ରତ ଅବସ୍ଥାରେ ରହିଥାନ୍ତି ।

Comprehension Questions & Answers :

1. What are the paras about ?

Ans. The paras are about how the mongooses live together, hunt animals together and how they try to escape danger which they face during hunting.

2. Both the paras talk about one very common nature of mongooses. What is that common nature ? (See the first lines of both the paras.)

Ans. The common nature of the mongooses is that they hunt together.

3. Mongooses do two kinds of things. In other words their activities or work can be divided into two kinds. What are they ?

Ans. The two kinds of things they do are looking for food and being on the look out for danger.

4. One of them is looking for food. What do mongooses normally eat ? (See the last part of para-1.)

Ans. Mongooses normally eat beetles, millipedes and other small creatures.

5. They eat beetles, millipedes etc. But the mongooses are also eaten by other creatures. Who are these big creatures ?

Ans. The big creatures by which the mongooses are eaten are hawks and eagles.

6. They look for food but they also look out for _____.

Ans. They look for food but they also look out for danger—hawks and eagles.

7. One very common nature of mongooses is living and hunting together. Both the paras talk about this common feature. Give some examples in support of this from these two paras. (See last part of para-1.)

Ans. A common sight in many parts of Africa, they travel in groups of about twenty to look for beetles, millipedes and other small creatures.

8. How do they keep in touch with each other ? (para-2, first part)

Ans. All the female mongooses have their kittens at about the same time. These kittens are raised by the whole group in a den. This tells about the togetherness of the mongooses.

9. How do they warn each other when they see anything dangerous and suspicious ?

Ans. When they see anything dangerous and suspicious they warn each other with a special alarm call.

10. The writer calls the mongooses very amusing animals. When do they look amusing ?

Ans. Mongooses look very amusing when they poke their noses into holes, overturn rocks with their paws and scratch the ground with their sharp claws. [2017-18 (Sansthan)]

Sense Group Paragraphs (SGP-2)

• Read silently paragraphs 3 and 4 and answer the questions that follow :

3. Mongooses are famous for being able to kill snakes without getting hurt themselves. Their reactions are so fast that they can dodge each time the snake strikes. They

1. What is the first para about ?

Ans. The first para (actually the third paragraph in the text) is about the skill that mongooses show in killing the snakes.

2. What are mongooses famous for ?

Ans. Mongooses are famous for being able to kill snakes without getting hurt themselves.

3. What is very special about their killing snakes ?

Ans. They kill snakes without getting hurt themselves.

4. What do they do when the snake strikes ?

(See the meaning of the word 'dodge' in the dictionary at the end of the lesson.)

Ans. When the snake strikes, mongooses usually evade the strike very quickly.

5. Who is quicker— the snake in its strikes or the mongoose in dodging the strike ?

Ans. The mongooses in dodging the strikes are quicker than the snake in its strikes.

6. When do they kill the snake, immediately or making it tired ?

Ans. They kill the snake by making it tired.

7. Where do mongooses live ?

Ans. Mongooses live in a den made inside an old termite hill or hollow log.

8. You already know from para 1 and 2 that mongooses live together. What other things of this togetherness do you find in para 4 ?

Ans. When most of the adults are out looking for food, one or two males stay behind to stand guard until the other mongooses return for the night.

9. Who looks after the kitten, the small ones when most of them go out for food— the males or females ?

Ans. The females look after the kittens, the small ones. When most of them go out for food.

10. Can you guess why do the males stay behind ?

(See the two words in the last but one line of para-4)

Ans. The males stay behind to stand guard over the female mongooses and the kittens.

POST-READING

Comprehension Activities

a. Multiple Choice Questions :

Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate alternatives.

1. The enemy of mongoose is _____.

- A. beetle B. hawk
C. millipede D. small creature

2. Mongooses are famous for —.

- A. living together
B. killing snakes without getting hurt
C. twittering sad message
D. looking out for dangers

3. Before killing a snake, mongooses —.

- A. call each other by twittering
B. allow the snake to get into termite hole
C. play with the snake
D. make the snake tired

4. Mongooses look amusing when they —.

- A. poke their noses into holes
B. overturn rocks with their paws
C. scratch the ground with their sharp claws
D. all the above

Ans. 1. (B) hawk,

2. (B) killing snakes without getting hurt,

3. (D) make the snake tired,

4. (D) all the above.

b. Stated below are some words and phrases. Place them under 4 paras in which these are found.

termite hills, snakes, twittering, amusing animals, travelling in groups, dodging attacks, den, kitten, stand guard, poking noses into holes, scratching ground, special alarm call.

Para-1

Para-2

Para-3

Para-4

amusing animals

Ans.

Para-1

Para-2

Para-3

Para-4

amusing animals

poking noses

into holes

scratching ground

twittering

special alarm

call

snakes

dodging attacks

kitten

den

termite hill

stand guard

Listening

- Listen to your teacher and fill in the gaps. (Teacher reads the para aloud.)

All the female mongooses have their _____ at about the same _____.

They are raised by the _____ group in a _____ made inside an _____

termite hill or hollow _____. When most of the _____ are out looking for _____,

one or two _____ stay behind to stand guard until the _____ return for the _____.

Ans.

All the female mongooses have their **kitten** at about the same **time**. They are raised by the **whole** group in a **den** made inside an **old** termite hill or hollow **log**. When most of the **adults** are out looking for **food**, one or two **males** stay behind to stand guard until the **others** return for the **night**.

Vocabulary

Some words are used both as verbs and nouns in your lesson. Given below a list of the words from the text which can be used both as verbs and nouns. First see the text and tell which of them are used as verbs and which, nouns. Next read the sentences in pairs to see how the same word can be used as verb and noun.

dive, kill, stay, guard,

scratch, travel, touch

dive (V) : The coast guard dived into the sea to save a drowning man.

dive (N) : He takes two to three dives every day to save life of tourists on the sea beach.

kill (V) : The tiger killed the deer.

kill (N) : But it had to wait long for the kill.

stay (V) : Sidharth stayed long at home.

stay (N) : His employer did not like Sidharth's long stay at home.

guard (V) : He guards at the gate of the office

guard (N) : But the new guard is irregular in his duties.

scratch (V) : Smita scratched all our books.

scratch (N) : Her mother did not like the scratches.

travel (V) : Dibya travels a lot.

travel (N) : Her frequent travels spoil her health.

touch (V) : Rashmi touched the touch-me-not plant.

touch (N) : Even her soft touch made the plant close all her leaves.

Usage :

a. Mark the use of 'look' in the following sentences.

1. A common sight in many parts of Africa, mongooses travel in groups of twenty looking for food.

2. While overturning rocks, they look amusing.

3. Always on look out for danger, they warn one another by twittering.

b. Read the following sentence.

While overturning rocks, mongooses look amusing. Now use the following words with 'look' and make similar sentences of your own.

beautiful, tired, happy, unhappy, serious

Ans. She looked beautiful in her new dress.

She looks tired.

He looks happy because he has won the competition.

Ram looks unhappy because his father has scolded him.

He looked serious as he heard the news.

Writing :

Unseen Paragraph

Read the following paragraph and do the tasks that follow :

The Second World War broke out in 1939 when I was eight years old. Our area, being isolated, was completely unaffected by the war. But soon India was forced to join the Allied Forces and something like a state of emergency was declared. The first casualty came in the form of the suspension of the train halt at ~~Rameswaram~~ station. The newspapers now had to be bundled and thrown out from the moving train on the Rameswaram Road between Rameswaram and Dhanuskodi. That forced Samsuddin to look for a helping hand to catch the bundles and, as if naturally, I filled the slot. Samsuddin helped me earn my first wages. Half a century later, I can still feel the surge of pride in earning my own money for the first time.

Questions :

1. When did the Second World War break out ?
2. How old was the narrator then ?
3. What was India forced to join ?
4. In what form did the first casualty come ?
5. From where were the bundled newspapers thrown out ?
6. On which place were the bundled newspapers thrown out ?
7. Who helped the narrator to earn his first wages ?

Answers :

1. The Second World War broke out in 1939.
2. The narrator then was eight years old.

3. India was forced to join the Allied Forces.
4. The first casualty came in the form of the suspension of the train halt at Rameswaram station.
5. The bundled newspapers were thrown out from the moving train.
6. The bundled newspapers were thrown on the Rameswaram Road between Rameswaram and Dhenuskoti.
7. Samsuddin helped the narrator to earn his first wages.