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## **Level 2**

### **Scientists unlock secrets to seahorses**

**17th December, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-2.html>

For the first time, scientists know the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable but least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers worked out the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information in a living thing. Scientists can now find out a lot more about seahorses. They can find out why seahorses are so different to other fish. Seahorses have no teeth. Male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them instead of females. Also, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down).

Seahorses started to change about 100 million years ago. They began to not look like other fish and get their unusual shape. They began to look like the neck and head of a horse. There are 54 different types of seahorse. The scientific name for a seahorse is Hippocampus. This word comes from the Ancient Greek words hippos, which means 'horse' and kampos, which means 'sea monster'. Perhaps we should call them seahorse monsters. The word 'seahorse' can also be written as two separate words (sea horse), or with a dash (sea-horse).

Sources: <http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2016/1215/What-makes-the-seahorse-so-unusual>  
<http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1113416837/sequence-seahorse-genome-121516/>  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seahorse>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. the world's most recognizable but | a. out a lot more          |
| 2. A genome is a map                 | b. give birth to them      |
| 3. Scientists can now find           | c. least understood fish   |
| 4. why seahorses are so              | d. (up and down)           |
| 5. Seahorses have no                 | e. of all the genes        |
| 6. Male seahorses carry babies and   | f. horizontally            |
| 7. seahorses do not swim             | g. teeth                   |
| 8. they swim vertically              | h. different to other fish |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Seahorses started to change about  | a. is Hippocampus        |
| 2. get their unusual                  | b. separate words        |
| 3. look like the neck and             | c. seahorse monsters     |
| 4. There are 54 different             | d. Greek                 |
| 5. The scientific name for a seahorse | e. 100 million years ago |
| 6. This word comes from the Ancient   | f. shape                 |
| 7. Perhaps we should call them        | g. head of a horse       |
| 8. written as two                     | h. types of seahorse     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-2.html>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_, scientists know the secrets to one of the world's most recognizable (2) \_\_\_\_\_ fish – the seahorse. Researchers worked out the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome (3) \_\_\_\_\_ all the genes and genetic information in a living thing. Scientists can now find out a lot more about seahorses. They (4) \_\_\_\_\_ seahorses are so different to other fish. Seahorses have no teeth. Male seahorses carry babies (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to them instead of females. Also, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (up and down).

Seahorses started (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 100 million years ago. They began to not look like other fish and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ shape. They began to look like the neck and head of a horse. There are 54 (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of seahorse. The scientific name for a seahorse is Hippocampus. This word (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Ancient Greek words hippos, which means 'horse' and kampos, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 'sea monster'. Perhaps we should call them seahorse monsters. The word 'seahorse' can (12) \_\_\_\_\_ as two separate words (sea horse), or with a dash (sea-horse).

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-2.html>

For the first time, scientists know the secret to one of the world's most recognizable but least understood fish – the seahorse. Researchers worked out the genome of the tiger tail seahorse. A genome is a map of all the genes and genetic information in a living thing. Scientists can now find out a lot more about seahorses. They can find out why seahorses are so different to other fish. Seahorses have no teeth. Male seahorses carry babies and give birth to them instead of females. Also, seahorses do not swim horizontally like other fish; they swim vertically (up and down). Seahorses started to change about 100 million years ago. They began to not look like other fish and get their unusual shape. They began to look like the neck and head of a horse. There are 54 different types of seahorse. The scientific name for a seahorse is Hippocampus. This word comes from the Ancient Greek word shippos, which means 'horse' and kampos, which means 'sea monster'. Perhaps we should call them seahorse monsters. The word 'seahorse' can also be written as two separate words (seahorse), or with a dash (seahorse).

# SEAHORSES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161217-seahorses-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about seahorses in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Scientists unlock secrets to seahorses – 17th December, 2016*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

