

Meet a Baby Panda

By ReadWorks



In the United States, pandas live in zoos. Some baby pandas are born in the zoo.

At first, a baby panda does not look like its mother. It does not have much hair at all. Its eyes are closed. The baby drinks its mother's milk. The mother holds the baby in her paws.

The baby grows quickly. Now it looks like its mother. Soon the little panda starts to eat bamboo. Bamboo is a kind of plant.

Then the panda spends less time with its mother. It likes to be on its own. It will climb trees. It will sit on their branches.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

For questions 1–4, please circle the correct answer.

1. What does a baby panda look like when it is first born?

- A) It is big and has black and white fur.
- B) It does not have much hair and its eyes are closed.
- C) It has blue eyes and a tiny pink nose.

2. The passage describes how a baby panda grows. Who does the baby panda look like when it grows?

- A) its mother
- B) a lion cub
- C) a panda that is just born

3. The passage says that the panda likes to be on its own when it grows up. Which information shows this is true?

- A) The baby panda drinks its mother's milk.
- B) The panda spends less time with its mother.
- C) The panda eats a plant called bamboo.

4. What is "Meet a Baby Panda" mostly about?

- A) what pandas eat
- B) how pandas change as they grow
- C) what newborn pandas are like

5. What do older panda bears eat?

6. Draw a picture of an older panda.



7. What did you learn from “Meet a Baby Panda”?

8. Class Discussion Question: Explain why a baby panda does not look exactly like its mother.

Teacher Guide & Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 360

Note To Teacher: Read each question out loud to your students and have each student complete the worksheet independently. For questions 5 and 7, you can have students draw their answers, answer orally, or write their answers depending on your students' progress. If you have them write their answers, you may want to write the word(s) on the board for them to copy. Question 8 is a class discussion question.

1. **B** *It does not have much hair and its eyes are closed.*
2. **A** *its mother*
3. **B** *The panda spends less time with its mother.*
4. **B** *how pandas change as they grow*
5. **Suggested answer:** *bamboo*
6. **Suggested answer:** *Students' pictures may vary but should include a panda that looks like the mother panda (hairy, open eyes) that is either eating bamboo leaves or climbing trees.*
7. **Suggested answer:** *Answers may vary and should be supported by the passage.*
8. **Suggested answer:** *Answers may vary but students should explain that the baby panda still needs to grow to look like its mother. Baby pandas need to grow hair and learn to open their eyes. More advanced answers will recognize that as the panda grows and learns, it looks more and more like its mother.*