

Name _____

Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.**Now You See Them, Now You Don't**

Did you ever wish you could disappear? Some animals can hide, change their color, or look like something else so well that it looks as if they have disappeared. How an animal “disappears” depends on what it is and where it lives. A deer can't disappear in the same way a fish can.

Most animals hide to protect themselves from other animals, and a good way for an animal to hide is to match its looks to its environment. When a deer lies on the ground, it almost disappears because the deer is brown just like the ground. A squirrel climbs a tree when it wants to disappear because its fur is brown and rough like the tree bark.

Some animals change color when the season changes. In winter, Arctic foxes are white, but in summer, their fur turns dark to match the bare ground.

Other animals use their bodies or designs on their bodies to help them blend into their natural surroundings. When some creatures are hungry, they might overlook the insect called a walking stick because it looks like a tiny branch on a tree. Some fish that live in tall grass underwater have fins that look like swaying grass. When other fish swim by, they see only tall grass.

The next time you think there are no animals around, remember to look for those that might have disappeared.

How Animals Hide from Enemies	
Color	Body Shape
Deer—brown like the ground Squirrels—brown and blotchy like tree bark Arctic Fox— white like snow in winter	Walking Stick—looks like a little tree branch

Turn the page.

Answer the questions below.

1 All the animals on the left side of the chart

- are the same color as the trees.
- have hides with the same color fur.
- are the same color as where they live.
- change colors in different seasons.

2 What is another good title for the chart?

- “Animal Environments”
- “Three Ways That Animals Can Disappear”
- “What Animals Look Like”
- “How Animals Match Their Surroundings”

3 Why did the author write this selection?

- to tell a story about animals and where they live
- to explain how animals protect themselves
- to describe how people can learn from animals
- to express feelings about the way animals live

4 What is the purpose of the chart?

5 State two facts from the selection that you could add to the chart. Tell where they belong on the chart.

Common Core State Standards

Questions 1, 2, 4, 5: Informational Text 7. Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur). **Question 3: Informational Text 2.** Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.