

Name _____

They call me a three-toed **sloth**, but everyone definitely knows
When you count them all up, I have 12 gorgeous toes.

1. Is **sloth** pronounced more like **both** or **broth**? _____
2. What word could you use instead of **count**: **add** or **multiply**? _____
3. From whose point of view is this piece written? _____
4. What genre of writing is this? _____

Day 1

I require splendid, tropical rain forests in order to **survive**,
For if it weren't for them, I most certainly wouldn't be alive.

1. What does **survive** mean? _____
2. What fact do you learn about a three-toed sloth in this stanza? _____
3. Who does the pronoun **I** refer to? _____ What about the pronoun **them**?

4. Would a three-toed sloth be found in the deserts of the United States? Explain.

Day 2

I'm a downright lazy mammal who's never in a hurry.
My natural coat is brownish green and really very furry.

1. Write the compound word in this stanza. _____
2. What two facts do you learn about a three-toed sloth in this stanza? _____

3. If you were to see a sloth in its natural environment, what would you expect to see?

4. Write a simile describing the speed of a sloth. _____

Day 3

I am a lazy animal who sleeps all through the day.
I **feast** only on green plants, and I like it just that way.

1. Is the sloth a carnivore or an herbivore? _____
2. What two facts do you learn about a three-toed sloth in this stanza? _____

3. What is a synonym for **feast** as it is used in this poem? _____
4. What is the rhyme scheme of this poem?
A. aa bb cc dd B. ab ab cd cd C. Free verse

Day 4

Love Unreturned

You are my love, my love you are.
I worship you from afar;
I, through the branches, spy you.

I love your ears, so soft and tall.
I love your nose, so pink and small.
I must make you my own bride!

Oh grant me peace, my love.
Climb to my home so far above
the place you call your warren.

Alas, I hide up in my bower,
Lonesome still, I shake and cower.
Sadness overtakes me.

You are a climbing ace.
But, I do not like your fuzzy face.
Away from me, please take you!

I will not climb, I cannot eat
the acorns that you call a treat.
Now, shimmy up that tree and hide!

I like my home in the tree's hollow
where fox and weasel may not follow—
a place below your tree house so barren.

I must stay on the lovely ground
with carrots and cabbages all around.
I long for a garden, not a tree.

1. Who is the speaker in love? _____
2. Who is the speaker who does not return the love? _____
3. What is the rhyme scheme in this poem?
A. aba / cbc
B. abb / cbb
C. aab / ccb
4. If you wrote a report about these two animals, what factual information could you get from this poem? _____

