	Animal Fact File
Name:	
	Picture
Description:	Habitat:
Description:	Habitat:
Description:	Habitat: Diet:
Description:	

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Meerkat

Quick facts

Diet: Omnivore Life span in the wild: 12 – 14 years Size: 25 – 30 cm Weight: Less than 1 kg Group name: Mob or gang Status: Least concern



Meerkats (Suricata suricatta) are very social animals and live in groups called mobs or gangs. They live in underground burrows in the Kalahari Desert and parts of South Africa. Their curved claws are used for digging and foraging for insects. They can close their ears to keep out the dust when they are burrowing.

Meerkats eat insects such as scorpions, beetles, centipedes, spiders, and worms. They also eat birds, lizards and fruit.

Meerkats search for food in groups. Some members will guard the entrance of the burrow, keeping a look out for predators such as eagles and falcons. If a meerkat spots trouble, they will bark and whistle loudly to alert the other members of the group. Female meerkats give birth to a litter of one to five pups. They are born hairless and cannot see or hear for at least 15 days. Other members of the group will take turns baby-sitting the pups so the mother can forage for insects. When the pups are 3 weeks old they can leave the underground burrow.

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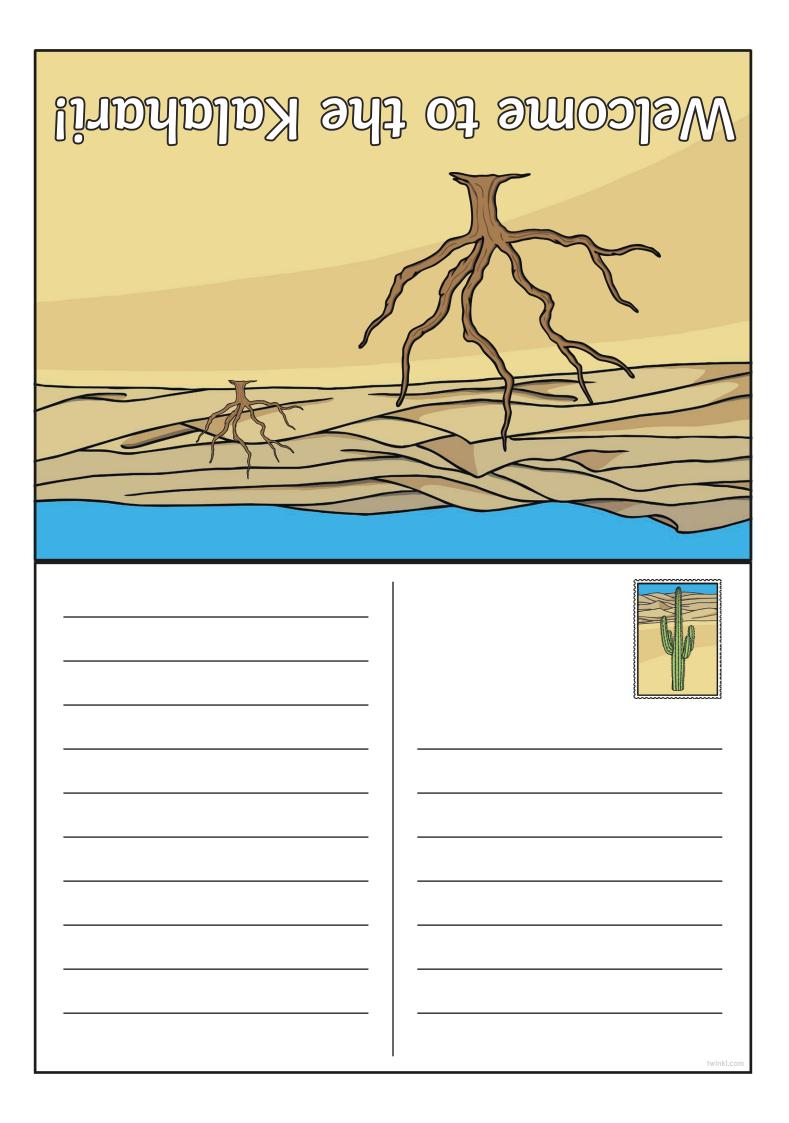
Name:	
Date:	

Subject: <u>Themes - KS 2</u> Sheet: <u>Animals</u>

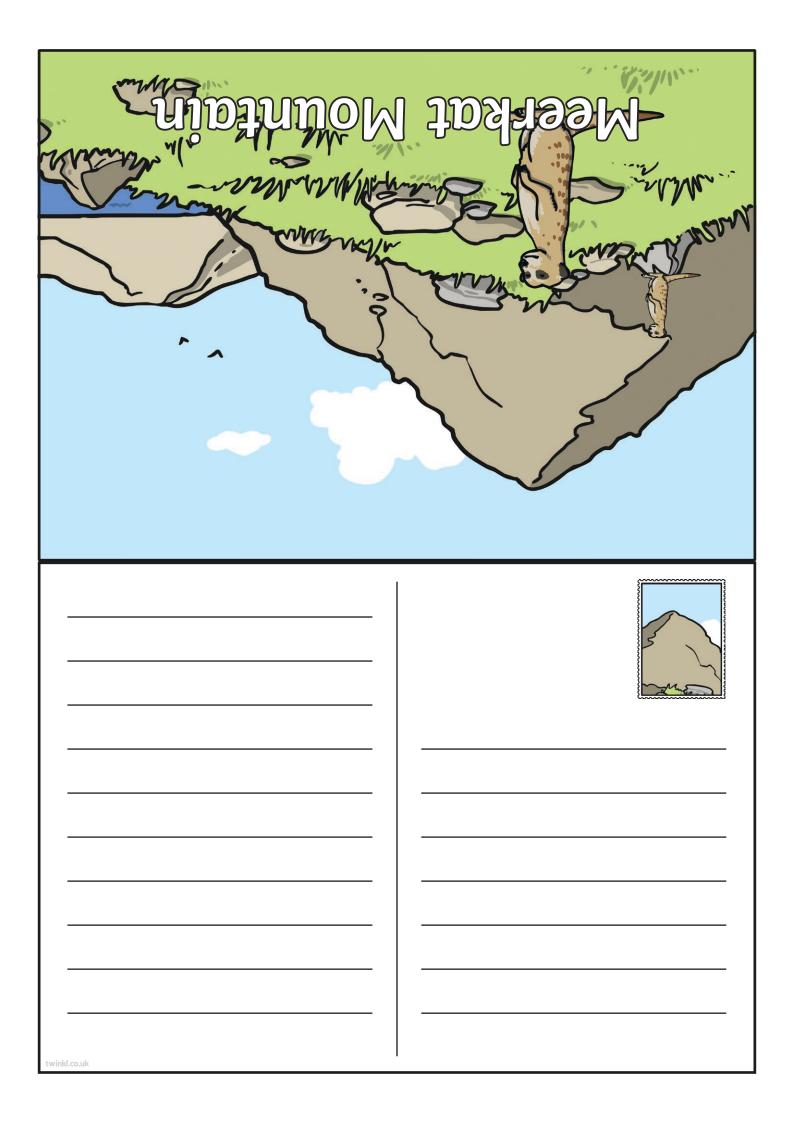
<u>Meerkat</u>

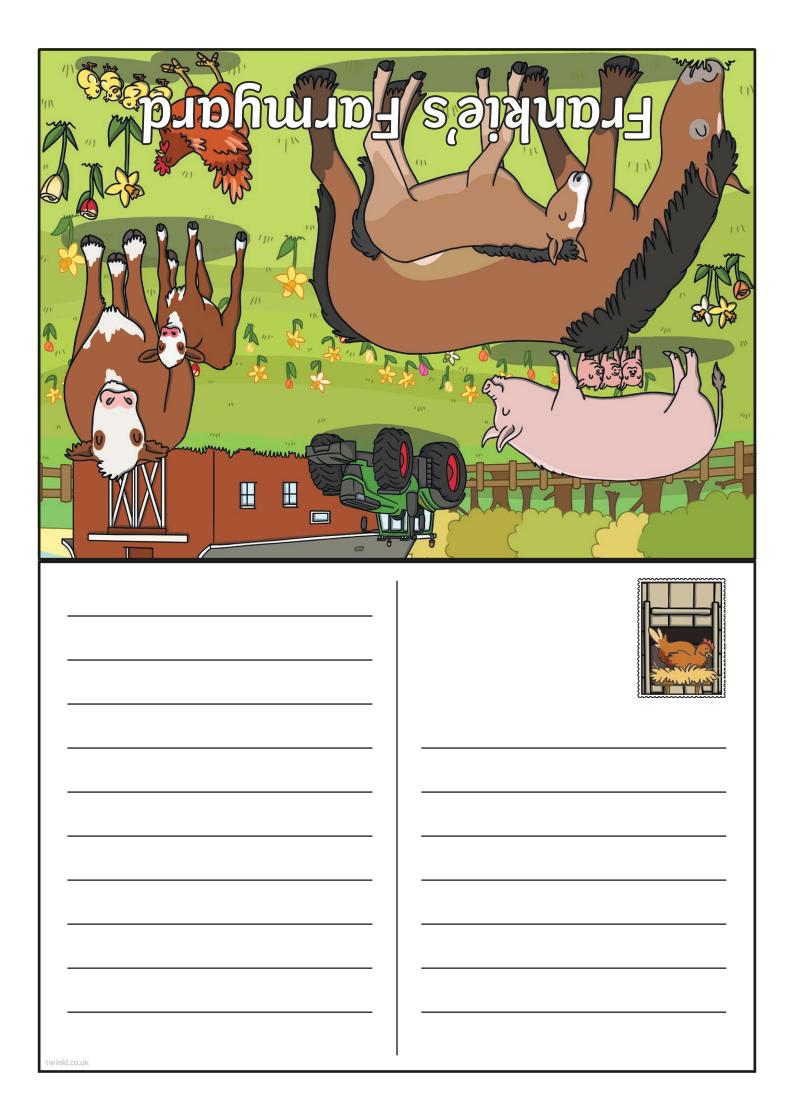
Answer the following questions.

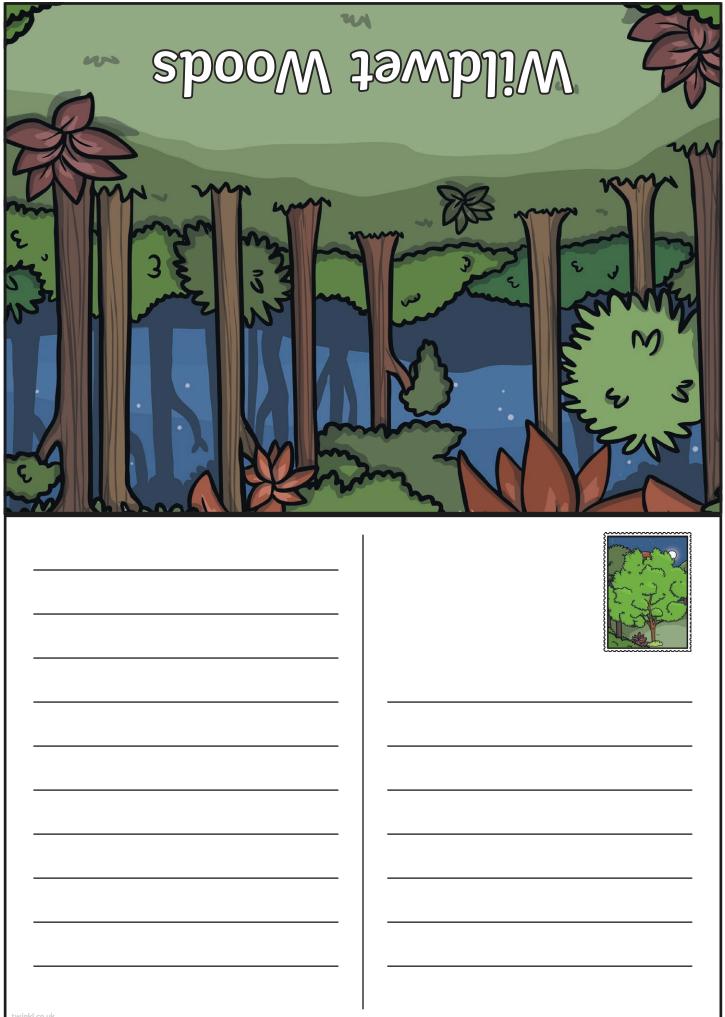
- 1. How much does a meerkat weigh?
- 2. What is a group of meerkats called?
- 3. Do meerkats live in deserts or rainforests?
- 4. What is the average size of a meerkat?
 - a 10 12 cm
 b 25 30 cm
 c 40 50 cm
 d 45 55 cm
- 5. How does a meerkat alert the other members of the group if it spots danger?
- 6. Meerkats are omnivores. Can you think of another animal that eats both meat and plants?
- 7. Name two characteristics of a mammal.
- 8. How old are meerkat pups when they leave the underground burrow?

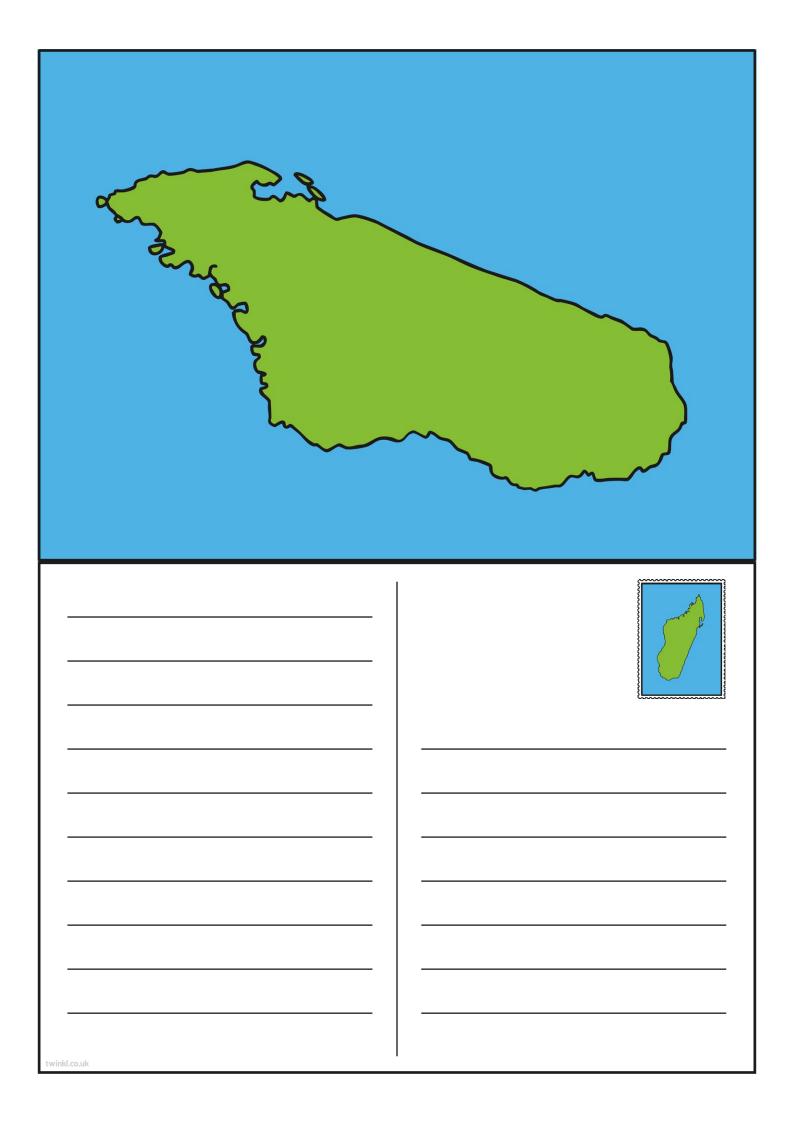


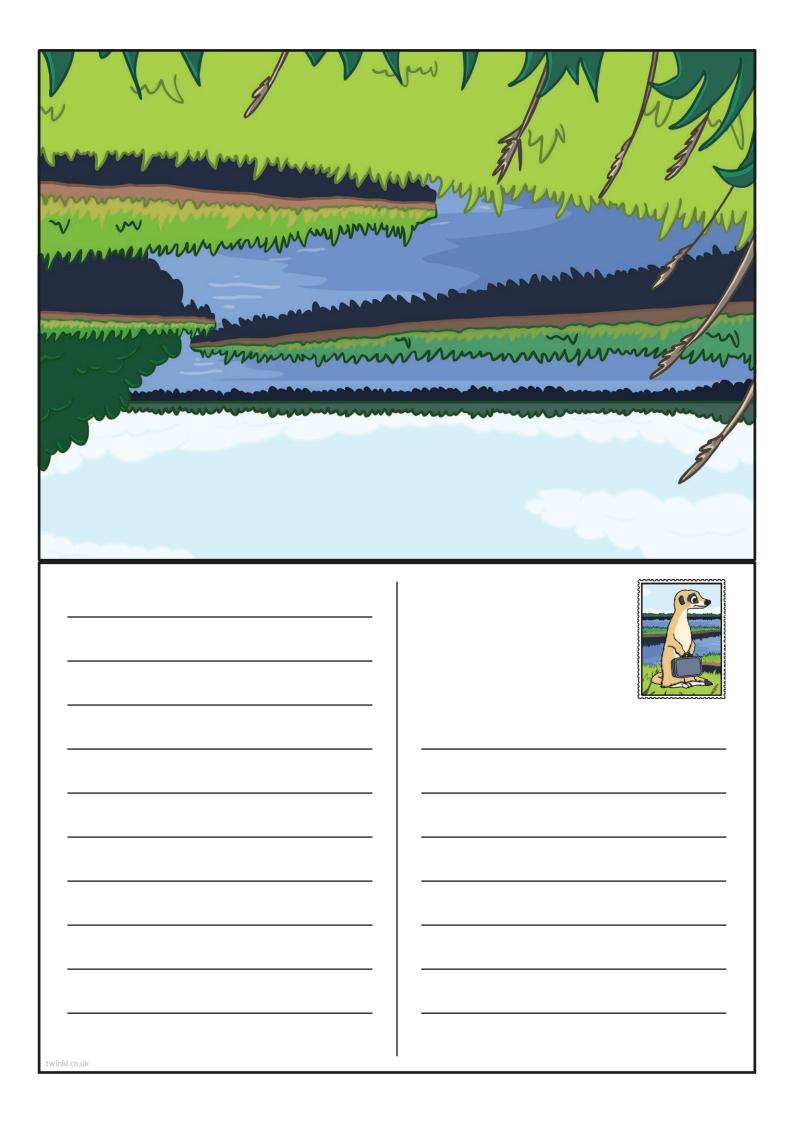












Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words

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	Year 1	
the	they	one
a	be	once
do	he	ask
to	me	friend
today	she	school
of	we	put
said	no	push
says	go	pull
are	SO	full
were	by	house
was	my	our
is	here	
his	there	
has	where	
I	love	
you	come	
your	some	

Year 2 gold door floor hold told poor because every find great kind break mind steak behind pretty beautiful child children after wild fast climb last most past father only both class old grass cold pass

plant path bath hour move prove improve sure sugar eye could should would who whole any many

clothes busy people water again half money Mr Mrs parents Christmas everybody even

Phase 2 Tricky Words	Phase 3 Tricky Words	Phase 4 Tricky Words	Phase 5 Tricky Words
the	you they	said like do	oh
to	all are	come there	could their
I	my her	little out	people
no	he she	have so	Mr Mrs
go	we me	some were	looked
into	be was	one when what	called
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