



STEPHEN PERSE FOUNDATION
JUNIOR SCHOOL
YEAR 3 ENGLISH ENTRANCE



Name: _____

READING COMPREHENSION

Why do some animals sleep in winter?

Some animals sleep in winter time because the weather can be very cold and it is difficult for them to find food. They can sleep for a long time (from autumn to spring). This kind of winter sleep is called 'hibernation'.

If an animal moves about a lot, it needs food. Animals that hibernate do not need to eat much because they are not moving about. Their hearts beat very slowly and they also breathe slowly. They find a place that is sheltered from bad weather and where they are out of danger. Their body fat keeps them alive and warm.

Some animals which hibernate in wintertime are dormice, hedgehogs, chipmunks, bears and frogs.

An animal, such as the hedgehog, may wake up from its hibernation and then go back to sleep again. The hedgehog may wake up every two to three days, feed on a worm and then go back to sleep.

When the weather becomes warmer in spring, the animals start to wake up and look for food.



Answer the following questions

Remember to check how many marks each answer is worth.

1. Why do some animals hibernate in winter?

(2 marks)

2. What happens to an animal's body when it hibernates?

(2 marks)

3. When animals hibernate, they need to find a place where they are **out of danger**.

Why do you think they need to do this?

(2 marks)

4. Name three animals which hibernate.

(3 marks)

5. Why might an animal wake up during hibernation?

(1 mark)

6. When do animals stop hibernating?

(1 mark)

7. Describe the sort of place where you think a hedgehog might hibernate?

(2 marks)

8. Why is it harder for animals to find food in winter?

(2 marks)

