

Stingray

Review Key Words⁶

- bays** Bays are areas filled with ocean or lake water that have land around all but one of their sides.
- shallow** Shallow means not deep.
- bothers** If something bothers you, it makes you feel mad or uncomfortable.
- unusual** If something is unusual, it is strange or different from what you see most of the time.



Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

A stingray is an **unusual** fish. It has a wide, flat body and a long, thin tail. Its tail can have a sharp **spine**. Some stingrays are 14 feet long. Others can be as small as your hand.

This strange-looking fish can be **dangerous**. It protects itself with its sharp spine. By moving its tail around, the stingray can sting anything that **bothers** it. The sting can be **venomous**.

A stingray cannot see its food while eating. The stingray's eyes are

on the top of its body. Its mouth is on the bottom of its body. This strange fish finds **prey** with its **sense** of smell. It also uses **sensors** around its mouth to hunt. It can find prey buried in the sand.

Most of these unusual fish live on the bottom of oceans and ocean **bays**. They like warm, **shallow** water. There are some **freshwater** stingrays that live in rivers.

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

Stingray

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Stingrays are unusual fish.
 - b. A stingray can be dangerous.
 - c. Some stingrays live in rivers.
2. How do stingrays find their food?
 - a. They smell it.
 - b. They see it.
 - c. They hear it.
3. What does the word **spine** mean in this story?
 - a. the side of a book
 - b. a sharp point of an animal
 - c. a backbone of an animal
4. Where are people most likely to be stung by stingrays?
 - a. in cold, deep water in a river
 - b. near the top of an ocean
 - c. in warm, shallow water in an ocean bay
5. How are stingrays unusual?

Parent Tips

Fluent reading is much more than just fast reading. A fluent reader reads at a good rate with proper pauses. Intonation should change if the reader is reading a question or exclamation. Notice how your student reads the questions in this article. Does her voice change to match the different sentence types?
