

Parent Signature: _____

Name: _____

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COMPREHENSION CHALLENGES



Many people find that raising tropical fish can be quite fascinating. The archer fish, or shooting fish, is a most unique showman among tropical fish. If the correct conditions and settings are present, he can be depended upon to do his act. The archer fish is about five inches long, and he comes from Asia. The archer was given this name because of his unusual eating habits. This little fish lives on insects.

When free from captivity, he secures his food by ejecting, or aiming, a stream of water from his mouth at unsuspecting bugs that perch on leaves or grass overhanging the water. The archer shoots a few drops of water at high speed, and the water can travel as far as ten feet. He tumbles his prey into the water with surprising accuracy and quickly snaps it up. If the first shot does not bring down the prey, it is followed by a rapid series of shots until the insect falls. Few escape.

Surprisingly, the archer fish is an excellent aquarium fish. He soon becomes used to living in captivity. He will also quickly learn to eat many different kinds of fish food. In no time at all, he becomes tame and will liberally sprinkle the area surrounding his tank whenever he sees you coming to feed him.

1. This story is about:
 - (a) an unusual hobby
 - (b) raising tropical fish
 - (c) a shooting fish
 - (d) tropical aquariums
2. The archer fish is called such because:
 - (a) he hunts like an archer
 - (b) his body arches
 - (c) of the way he swims
 - (d) of the silver and black markings on his body
3. The archer fish:
 - (a) will only eat insects
 - (b) seldom misses his prey
 - (c) is not a good fish to have in an aquarium
 - (d) will chase other fish
4. When in captivity, the archer fish will:
 - (a) not shoot water
 - (b) not live very long
 - (c) jump out of the aquarium
 - (d) eat food other than insects
5. Put in order:
 - (a) snaps it up
 - (b) shoots water at it
 - (c) insect falls
 - (d) fish sees a bug
6. Ejecting means:
 - (a) throwing out
 - (b) forcing in
 - (c) throwing down
 - (d) discarding
7. It seems that the water shooting action is automatic because he shoots water:
 - (a) in captivity, even though he eats fish food
 - (b) at insects even when he isn't hungry
 - (c) whenever he sees people
 - (d) after he has eaten the insect
8. The archer fish goes into his act to:
 - (a) entertain people
 - (b) kill his enemies
 - (c) help man by killing insects
 - (d) maintain his own life