# LESSON - 3

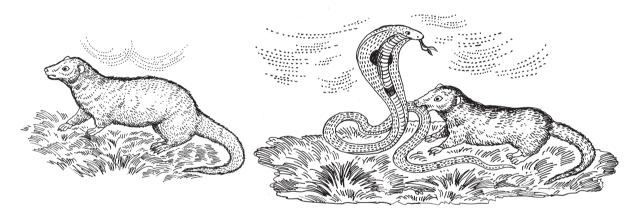
# **MONGOOSE**



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### **PRE-READING**

- Socialisation:
- What do you know about mongooses? (Your teacher jots down what you say.)
- See the picture; Can you guess something more about mongooses? Can they be kept as pets?



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## WHILE-READING

- SGP-1
- Read paras- 1 and 2 silently and answer the questions that follow:
  - 1. Mongooses like to hunt together, but they always keep a look out for dangerous hunting animals nearby. While poking their noses into holes, overturning rocks with their paws and scratching the ground with their sharp claws, mongooses look very amusing. A common sight in many parts of Africa, they travel in groups of about twenty to look for beetles, millipedes and other small creatures.
  - 2. They like to hunt together, keeping in touch whenever they go out of sight behind rocks or bushes by twittering and calling. Always on the

look out for danger- hawks, eagles — they warn one another with a special alarm call if they spot anything suspicious.

#### • Comprehension Questions:

- 1. What are the paras about?
- 2. Both the paras talk about one very common nature of mongooses. What is that common nature ? (See the first lines of both the paras.)
- 3. Mongooses do two kinds of things. In other words their activities or work can be divided into two kinds. What are they?
- 4. One of them is looking for food. What do mongooses normally eat? (See the last part of para-1.)
- 5. They eat beetles, millipedes etc. But the mongooses are also eaten by other creatures. Who are these big creatures?
- 6. They look for food but they also look out for \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 7. One very common nature of mongooses is living and hunting together. Both the paras talk about this common feature. Give some examples in support of this from these two paras. (See last part of para-1.)
- 8. How do they keep in touch with each other? (para-2, first part)
- 9. How do they warn each other when they see anything dangerous and suspicious?
- 10. The writer calls the mongooses very amusing animals. When do they look amusing?
- Did you know all these facts about mongooses before you read these paras? Do you want to know more about them? Read the next two paras.



#### SGP-2

- Read silently paragraphs 3 and 4 and answer the questions that follow:
  - 3. Mongooses are famous for being able to kill snakes without getting hurt themselves. Their reactions are so fast that they can dodge each time the snake strikes. They continually dodge snakes attack until, after a while, the snake gets tired. Then they quickly dive in for the kill.
  - 4. All the female mongooses have their kitten at about the same time. They are raised by the whole group in a den made inside an old termite hill or hollow log. When most of the adults are out looking for food, one

or two males stay behind to stand guard until the others return for the night.

### • Comprehension Questions:

- 1. What is the first para about?
- 2. What are mongooses famous for?
- 3. What is very special about their killing snakes? (They kill snakes without.....)
- 4. What do they do when the snake strikes? (See the meaning of the word 'dodge' in the dictionary at the end of the lesson.)
- 5. Who is quicker- the snake in its strikes or the mongoose in dodging the strike?
- 6. When do they kill the snake, immediately or making it tired?
- 7. Where do mongooses live?
- 8. You already know from para 1 and 2 that mongooses live together. What other things of this togetherness do you find in para 4?
- 9. Who looks after the kitten, the small ones, when most of them go out for food the males or females?
- 10. Can you guess why do the males stay behind?(See the two words in the last but one line of para-4)



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## **POST-READING**

## 1 Visual Memory Development Technique (VMDT):

Whole Text : Mongooses and snakes- which para?

Lookout for hawks, eagles.....

Their living place; amusing animals

Part : (paragraph-4) kitten, den, termite hill, stand guard

2	Comprehension Activities:							
a.	MCQ:							
	Answer the following questions choosing the most appropriate alternatives.							
	1.	The	Γhe enemy of mongoose is					
		A. B. C. D.	beetle hawk millipede small creature					
	2.	Mongooses are famous for						
	<ul><li>A. living together</li><li>B. killing snakes without getting hurt</li><li>C. twittering sad message</li><li>D. looking out for dangers</li></ul>							
	3.	Befo	re killing a s	nake, mongooses		<u>_</u> .		
	<ul> <li>A. call each other by twittering</li> <li>B. allow the snake to get into termite hole</li> <li>C. play with the snake</li> <li>D. make the snake tired</li> </ul>							
	4. Mongooses look amusing when they							
	<ul> <li>A. poke their noses into holes</li> <li>B. overturn rocks with their paws</li> <li>C. scratch the ground with their sharp claws</li> <li>D. all the above</li> </ul>							
b.	Stated below are some words and phrases. Place them under 4 paras is which these are found.							
	termite hills, snakes, twittering, amusing animals, travelling in groups dodging attacks, den, kitten, stand guard, poking noses into holes scratching ground, special alarm call.							
	Para-1			Para-2	Para-3	Para-4		
	amusing animals		animals					
				21				



### 3 Listening:

•	Listen to your teacher and fill in the gaps. (Teacher reads the para aloud.)						
	All the female mong	gooses have	their	at about the same			
	They are raised by t	he	group in a _	made	inside ar		
	termite hill or hollow out looking for, one		Whe	en most of the	are		
			rtwo	stay behind to st	ehind to stand guard		
	until the ret	urn for the	_				

## 4 Speaking:

- (a) Chain-drill "Mongooses are amusing animals."
- (b) Your teacher reads aloud one sentence, you repeat after him/her in chorus all the lines.

"Mongooses are amusing animals. They live in termite hills. They eat beetles, millipedes and other small creatures. They love to live and travel together. They are famous for killing snakes."



### 5 Vocabulary:

Some words are used both as verbs and nouns in your lesson. Given below a list of the words from the text which can be used both as verbs and nouns. First see the text and tell which of them are used as verbs and which, nouns. Next read the sentences in pairs to see how the same word can be used as verb and noun.

dive, kill, stay, guard, scratch, travel, touch

#### dive

- (V) The coast guard dived into the sea to save a drowning man.
- (N) He takes two to three dives every day to save life of tourists on the sea beach.

#### kill

- (V) The tiger killed the deer.
- (N) But it had to wait long for the kill.

#### stay

- (V) Sidharth stayed long at home.
- (N) His employer did not like sidharth's long stay at home.

#### guard

- (V) He guards at the gate of the office.
- (N) But the new guard is irregular in his duties.

#### scratch

- (V) Smita scratched all our books.
- (N) Her mother did not like the scratches.

#### travel

- (V) Dibya travels a lot.
- (N) Her frequent travels spoil her health.

#### touch

- (V) Rashmi touched the touch-me-not plant.
- (N) Even her soft touch made the plant close all her leaves.

## 6 Usage:

- a. Mark the use of 'look' in the following sentences.
  - 1. A common sight in many parts of Africa, mongooses travel in groups of twenty looking for food.
  - 2. While overturning rocks, they look amusing.
  - 3. Always on look out for danger, they warn one another by twittering.
- b. Read the following sentence.

While overturning rocks, mongooses look amusing. Now use the following words with 'look' and make similar sentences of your own.

beautiful, tired, happy, unhappy, serious							

\_\_\_\_\_\_




### 7 Writing:

Answer the following questions in the space provided.

- (i) What are mongooses famous for ?
- (ii) What is special about their killing snakes?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Where do mongooses live?

## 8 Mental Talk:

• Mongooses have unity. They hunt together.

## 9 Let's Think:

- What other activities do the mongooses do?
- Take up a project on 'Desert Animals'. Collect information with pictures about them from different sources.

LESSON - 1

### **PART - 2**

# THE RIDDLE MASTER



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### **PRE-READING**

- Socialisation:
- Your teacher introduces the lesson in the following way.

Do you know what a 'riddle' is? Here are some riddles. Try to solve them.

- i. "Who has eyes but cannot see?"
- ii. "Fire up, fire downInside sleeps a manWhose face is black and brown?"
- iii. "I'm kicked right and leftAir is my only food.Tell, who "I" am if you are good.

To know more riddles, let's read the lesson "The Riddle Master".

The Santals are very good at riddles. Some of them are very good at making riddles. Here you will read about one Santal riddle master and his riddles.

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## WHILE-READING

#### **Text**

- SGP-1
- Read paragraphs-1 and 2 silently and answer the questions that follow.
- 1. Every evening children sit round Budhu Hadam to listen to his stories. There is no one in the village who can tell stories like

