

Baby flying squirrel takes flight

Have you ever seen how a flying squirrel moves through the trees? Watch the video to find out about this amazing little animal!

Before watching

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a mammal
2. to glide
3. furry
4. a membrane
5. a nest
6. to sustain something or someone
7. daunting
8. pre-flight nerves

Definition

- a. covered with soft hair or fur
- b. making you feel slightly frightened or worried about your ability to achieve something
- c. a place made by birds or animals to lay eggs or take care of their babies
- d. to move smoothly and quietly through the air or over a surface
- e. feelings of anxiety or worry before flying
- f. an animal that gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds its young on milk
- g. a thin piece of skin that covers or connects parts of a person's or animal's body
- h. to provide enough of what something or someone needs in order to live

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. The Siberian squirrel can move through the forest without putting its feet on the ground.	True	False
2. This squirrel has wings, like a bird or a bat.	True	False
3. The squirrel needs a lot of energy to move in this way.	True	False
4. The baby squirrels only have their mother's milk to feed them during winter.	True	False
5. The baby squirrels leave the nest a month after they are born.	True	False
6. One of the squirrels seems too frightened to glide from the tree.	True	False

Task 2

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. stretches ankles. to its from its wrists membrane A furry
2. of travelling. hardly be efficient way There a more could
3. protects from the temperature. the young squirrels The nest sub-zero
4. the shelter of It's time the nest. to leave the young squirrels for
5. climbs up The the tree while the first other watches.
6. they they will glide. the The higher up further go,

Discussion

What do you think of the Siberian squirrel? Do you know any other animals that have unusual ways of moving around?

Answers

Preparation task

1. f
2. d
3. a
4. g
5. c
6. h
7. b
8. e

Task 1

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. True
5. False
6. True

Task 2

1. A furry membrane stretches from its wrists to its ankles.
2. There could hardly be a more efficient way of travelling.
3. The nest protects the young squirrels from the sub-zero temperature.
4. It's time for the young squirrels to leave the shelter of the nest.
5. The first climbs up the tree while the other watches.
6. The higher up they go, the further they will glide.