

READ THE PASSAGE Think about how the author organized the information.

Rainforest Gliders

Some rainforest animals spend their lives in the treetops. All their food is right there. They never need to go to the ground. The tops of the trees in a rainforest form a kind of roof called a canopy. The fastest way to travel in the canopy is from tall tree to tall tree.

Some rainforest animals glide through the treetops in a special way. They use their skin! A flying squirrel has flaps of loose skin between its front and back legs. The squirrel jumps from a tree and spreads its legs. The skin stretches, and the squirrel flies like a kite. The flying gecko has flaps of skin along its body and tail. It jumps and then spreads the skin like wings. The gecko soars through the air. The flying frog has webbed feet that spread open like four umbrellas. They carry the frog through the air.

SKILL PRACTICE Read the question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. Because the tops of rainforest trees are close together, _____.
Ⓐ animals cannot climb them
Ⓑ animals can walk across them
Ⓒ animals can glide from tree to tree
Ⓓ most animals have to find food on the ground
2. A flying squirrel is able to glide because it _____.
Ⓐ spreads its wings
Ⓑ spreads open its webbed feet
Ⓒ spreads the skin on its tail
Ⓓ spreads the skin between its legs
3. A flying gecko can glide because _____.
Ⓐ its extra skin spreads like wings
Ⓑ it needs to get to another tree
Ⓒ its feet open like umbrellas
Ⓓ the skin between its toes spreads open
4. Some rainforest animals never leave the trees because _____.
Ⓐ it is too far down to the ground
Ⓑ they find all the food they need there
Ⓒ it is too wet on the ground
Ⓓ they cannot walk on the ground

STRATEGY PRACTICE Look back at the passage. Underline a sentence or phrase that tells a cause for something, and draw a box around the sentence or phrase that tells the effect.