Compare and Contrast

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: To **compare** is to tell how two things are the **same**. To **contrast** is to tell how they are **different**.

Signal words: same → *both, also, like* different → *but, however, unlike*

1. Frog, toad or both?

Write each fact in the right column.



dry bumpy skin | eat insects | smooth wet skin | start as tadpoles | short legs | long legs | eggs in long strings | are amphibians | eggs in clumps

Frogs only	Both	Toads only
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

2. Same or different?

Circle the signal word that fits.

1. Frogs have long legs, ___ toads have short legs.

(a) and
(b) but
(c) so

2. ___ frogs and toads eat insects.

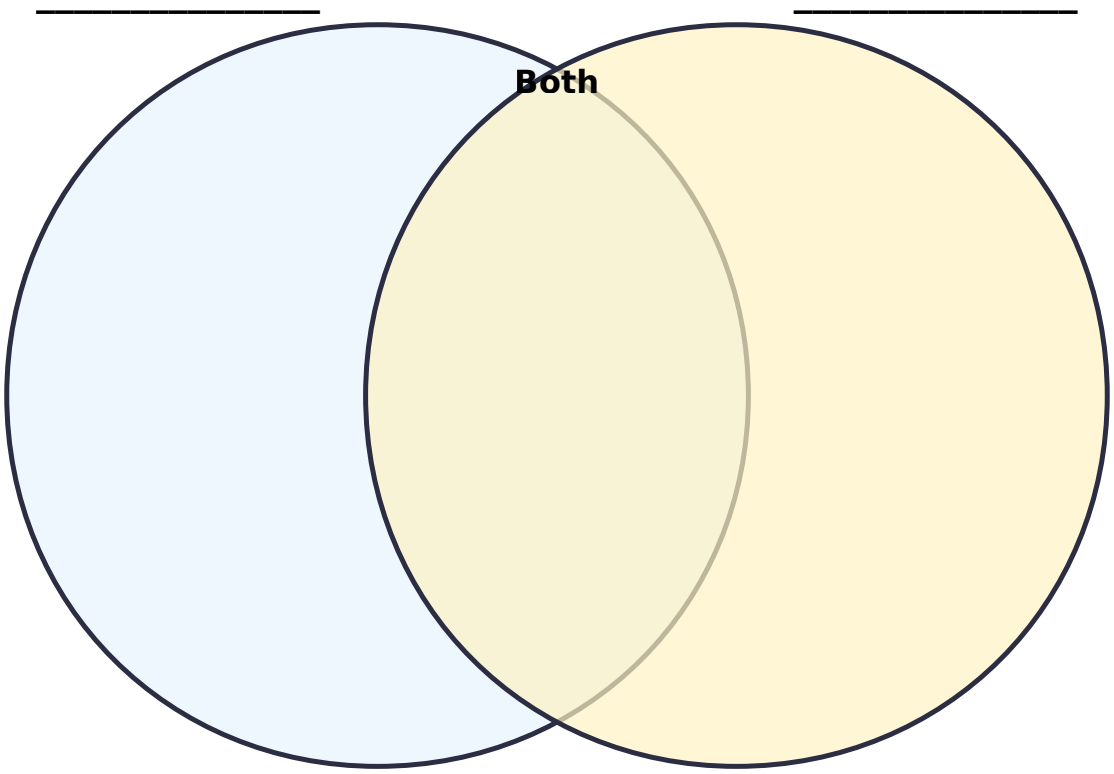
(a) Both
(b) Unlike
(c) However

Compare and Contrast

Grade 3

3. Fill in the Venn diagram

Pick two animals, foods or places you know well. Write how they are different in the outer parts and how they are the same in the middle.



Compare and Contrast

Grade 3

4. Write a compare and contrast paragraph

Use your Venn diagram.

Write a paragraph that tells how your two things are the same and how they are different. Start with a topic sentence that names both things.

Check: ☐ Names both things ☐ Two ways they are the same ☐ Two ways they are different ☐ Signal words ☐ Closing sentence

Answer Key

Compare and Contrast · Grade 3

1. Frog, toad or both?

Frogs only	Both	Toads only
smooth wet skin	eat insects	dry bumpy skin
long legs	start as tadpoles	short legs
eggs in clumps	are amphibians	eggs in long strings

2. Same or different?

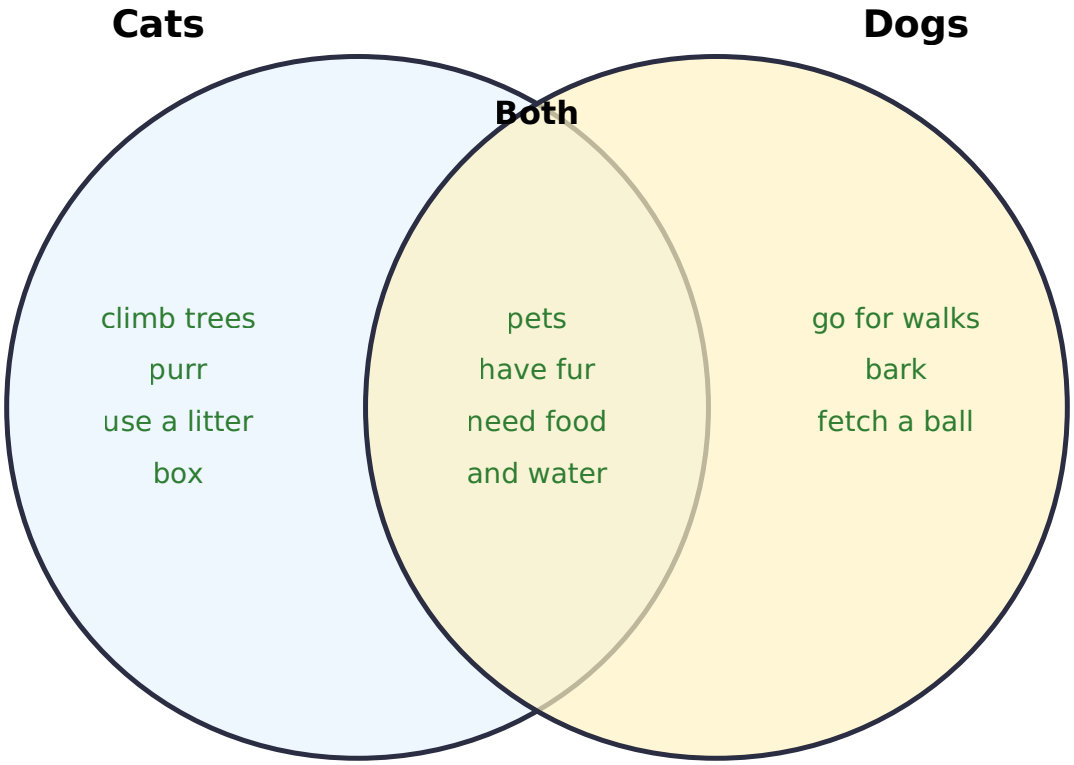
1. **Frogs have long legs, ___ toads have short legs.**
   - a. and
   - **b. but**
   - c. so

2. **___ frogs and toads eat insects.**
   - **a. Both**
   - b. Unlike
   - c. However

3. Fill in the Venn diagram

Students choose their own topics. This sample compares cats and dogs.

Sample answers. Answers will vary.



Model Answer

Compare and Contrast · Grade 3

4. Write a compare and contrast paragraph

A model answer to share with students. Their writing will be different.

Cats and dogs are both popular pets, but they are different in many ways. Both animals have fur, and both need food, water and love every day. However, cats like to climb, while dogs like to go for walks. A cat purrs when it is happy, but a dog wags its tail and barks. Cats and dogs are not the same, but both make great friends.