Favorite Reptile

Grade 3

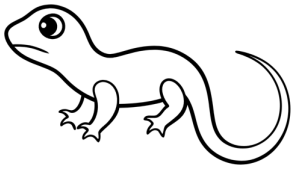
Name _____ Date _____

Remember: Opinion writing tells what **you think** and **why**. Use **OREO**: state your **O**pinion, give **R**easons, add **E**xamples, then say your **O**pinion again.

Opinion words: *I think ... I believe ... In my opinion ... because ... For example ... That is why ...*

1. Fact or opinion?

Strong opinion writing uses facts as evidence. Circle **fact** or **opinion**.



1	Turtles carry a hard shell on their backs.	fact	opinion
2	Lizards are the coolest animals on Earth.	fact	opinion
3	Snakes are reptiles with no legs.	fact	opinion
4	Crocodiles are scarier than sharks.	fact	opinion
5	Many reptiles lie in the sun to warm their bodies.	fact	opinion
6	Turtles make the best pets.	fact	opinion

2. Opinion and reason

Circle the best answer.

1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?

- (a) Crocodiles are reptiles.
- (b) I think the turtle is the most amazing reptile.
- (c) Lizards have tails.

2. Which reason uses a fact as evidence?

- (a) A turtle's shell protects it from predators.
- (b) I like green.
- (c) Turtles are awesome.

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3. Plan with OREO

Prompt: Which reptile is the most amazing, and why? Plan your answer.

O – Opinion: what do you think?

R – Reason 1

E – Example for reason 1

R – Reason 2

E – Example for reason 2

O – Opinion again

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4. Write your opinion paragraph

Use your OREO plan.

Prompt: Which reptile is the most amazing, and why?

Check: ☐ Clear opinion ☐ Two reasons ☐ An example for each ☐ Linking words ☐ Opinion restated at the end

Answer Key

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1. Fact or opinion?

1	Turtles carry a hard shell on their backs.	**fact**	opinion
2	Lizards are the coolest animals on Earth.	fact	**opinion**
3	Snakes are reptiles with no legs.	**fact**	opinion
4	Crocodiles are scarier than sharks.	fact	**opinion**
5	Many reptiles lie in the sun to warm their bodies.	**fact**	opinion
6	Turtles make the best pets.	fact	**opinion**

2. Opinion and reason

1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?

- a. Crocodiles are reptiles.
- **b. I think the turtle is the most amazing reptile.**
- c. Lizards have tails.

2. Which reason uses a fact as evidence?

- **a. A turtle's shell protects it from predators.**
- b. I like green.
- c. Turtles are awesome.

3. Plan with OREO

Sample notes. Answers will vary.

O – Opinion: what do you think?
The turtle is the most amazing reptile.

R – Reason 1
Turtles carry their own protection.

E – Example for reason 1
When danger is near, a box turtle can pull its head and legs inside its shell.

R – Reason 2
Some turtles live a very long time.

E – Example for reason 2
Some tortoises have lived for more than 100 years.

O – Opinion again
That is why turtles are the most amazing reptiles.

Model Answer

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4. Write your opinion paragraph

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

I think the turtle is the most amazing reptile. First, turtles carry their own protection everywhere they go. For example, when a box turtle senses danger, it can pull its head and legs inside its hard shell. Another reason is that some turtles live a very long time. Some giant tortoises have lived for more than 100 years. That is why turtles are the most amazing reptiles.