The natural world

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each word with its meaning.

1 beak	____	a one of the soft, colourful parts of a flower
2 feather	____	b the hard outer covering of a tree
3 whiskers	____	c a bird's hard, pointed mouth
4 paw	____	d the part of a plant that grows underground
5 petal	____	e a sharp point on a plant
6 thorn	____	f one of the light parts covering a bird's body
7 roots	____	g an animal's foot with claws or nails
8 bark	____	h long hairs growing near an animal's mouth

2 Complete the natural-world expressions.

blossom | claws | eggs | fruit | nest | pollen | tail | trunk

1 a bird's _____

2 a cat's sharp _____

3 lay _____

4 pick _____

5 an apple tree in _____

6 collect _____

7 a fox's _____

8 the _____ of a tree

3 Choose the correct word or phrase.

1 A horse has *hooves / paws*.

2 A bird's eggs are often in a *nest / stem*.

3 A flower opens from a *bud / bark*.

4 A tree's *roots / wings* take in water.

5 Bees collect *pollen / fur* from flowers.

6 We *picked / picked up* some strawberries from the plants.

7 The apple tree *grows / breeds* well here.

8 Many birds *breed / grow* in spring.

The natural world

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

4 Complete the nature-club report with words from the box.

bark | blossoms | branches | breed | nest | pollen | roots | twigs

In early spring, white **1** _____ appear on the old apple tree. Bees carry **2** _____ between the flowers. A pair of pigeons has built a **3** _____ among the high **4** _____. They will probably **5** _____ there. Below the tree, its **6** _____ spread through the soil. We left fallen **7** _____ for insects, but removed loose **8** _____ from the path.

5 Read the text. Write T (true) or F (false).

A small garden for wildlife

Mina changed a corner of her garden to help wildlife. She planted flowers that provide pollen from spring to autumn and put a shallow bowl of water near a hedge. She left some fallen leaves under the bushes, where insects could hide. A bird box was fixed high on a tree trunk. Mina did not use chemicals on the plants. By summer, she had seen more bees, two kinds of butterfly and a family of small birds.

1 The flowers provide pollen for only one season. T / F

2 The water is in a deep container. T / F

3 Insects can hide under fallen leaves. T / F

4 The bird box is on the ground. T / F

5 Mina avoided chemicals. T / F

6 More wildlife visited by summer. T / F

6 Rewrite using the word in capitals.

1 The bird produced three eggs. **LAID** _____

2 We took roses from the plants. **PICKED** _____

3 The tree produces flowers in April. **BLOSSOMS** _____

4 The cat used the tree to make its claws sharp. **SHARPENED** ___

OVER TO YOU

Write **70-90 words** about a garden, park or natural place you know. Describe two plants, two animals and what changes during one season.

[ ] Use at least eight target words. [ ] Use grow, breed, lay or blossom accurately. [ ] Include clear place details.

The natural world

ANSWER KEY

1 Natural-world words

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

2 Expressions

1 **nest** 2 **claws** 3 **eggs** 4 **fruit** 5 **blossom** 6 **pollen** 7 **tail** 8 **trunk**

3 Correct choices

1 **hooves** 2 **nest** 3 **bud** 4 **roots**
5 **pollen** 6 **picked** 7 **grows** 8 **breed**

4 Nature-club report

1 **blossoms** 2 **pollen** 3 **nest** 4 **branches** 5 **breed** 6 **roots** 7 **twigs** 8 **bark**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 **F** - From spring to autumn.
2 **F** - It is shallow.
3 **T**
4 **F** - It is high on a trunk.
5 **T**
6 **T**

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The bird **laid** three eggs. 2 We **picked** some roses. 3 The tree **blossoms** in April. 4 The cat **sharpened** its claws on the tree.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check natural-world vocabulary, verb choice and description.