



Lesson 7 – Why ‘River Horse’?



Today's Word:

HIPPOPOTAMUS

Tool Carried Forward:

HABITAT



New Handle:

ROOT WORDS



1. See It • Say It • Clap It

HIPPOPOTAMUS

HIP

PO

POT

A

MUS

How many syllables?

Say the word. Clap the beats.
Read it again.

3 Use HABITAT as a Tool

What does a hippopotamus's habitat look like?

What does a horse's habitat look like?

2. Root Words

HIPPOS



means HORSE

POTAMOS



means RIVER

These are older Greek root words that help explain where HIPPOPOTAMUS came from.

What might "river horse" make you think of?

4 Compare the Evidence

What is different? What is shared?

HORSE	SAME	HIPPO

5 What makes the name 'river horse' make sense?



Today's Big Idea:

Root words can help us investigate meaning and history.





Lesson 7 – Detective Game



Circle = SAME



X = DIFFERENT

1. Remember the Roots

HIPPOS = HORSE



POTAMOS = RIVER



We are looking for clues that help the name **river horse** make sense.

2. Same or Different Detective Game

Look at each picture clue. If BOTH animals share it, circle the clue.

If it is mostly true for just one animal, put an X on it.

1.



eats grass

2.



needs water

3.



four legs

4.



pasture or stable

5.



river or lake

6.



can swim

7.



head above water

8.



can stay underwater

9.



pushes off the bottom

3. Sort the Clues

Write or draw some of your clues in the right place.

HORSE

SAME

HIPPO

4. What helps the name 'river horse' make sense?



Today's Big Idea: Words can be broken in different ways for different reasons.

Syllables help us hear a word. Root words help us investigate meaning and history.

