

SPRING AT THE POND



Jamie opened the bedroom window and looked outside. The air smelled fresh and warm. Spring was here! Jamie had waited all winter for this moment.

Jamie went downstairs. Jamie's father was eating breakfast in the kitchen. Someday Jamie wanted to become a scientist just like him.

"Can I have a jar?" Jamie asked. "I want to collect water at the pond. I want to look at it under the microscope."

"I'll go with you if that's okay," Jamie's father said.

At the pond, the first flowers were blooming. A doe nibbled some fresh leaves. She watched them but did not run away. "She hasn't had a fawn yet, but she will soon," Jamie's father said.

They put water in the jar. They looked at it under their microscope. They saw snails and salamander larva. They saw water fleas and a whirligig beetle. Jamie made a list of the animals they found. Jamie loved springtime at the pond.

Name _____ Date _____

Choose the best answer to the questions below.

1. Jamie found babies of what animal at the pond?
 - a. deer
 - b. beetle
 - c. salamander
 - d. frog

2. What is Jamie's goal for the future?
 - a. visit the pond
 - b. become a scientist
 - c. eat breakfast
 - d. watch a deer

3. What does Jamie's father say about the doe?
 - a. She is hungry.
 - b. She is afraid.
 - c. She is big.
 - d. She will give birth soon.

4. What time of day is it in the story?
 - a. morning
 - b. noon
 - c. afternoon
 - d. evening

5. What can you tell about Jamie from the story?
 - a. Jamie is a boy.
 - b. Jamie is a girl.
 - c. Jamie is an adult.
 - d. None of this is clear from the story.

Name _____ Date _____

Use complete sentences to answer the questions below.

1. Are the salamanders they see under the microscope young or old? How do you know?

2. Does Jamie look up to father? How do you know?

3. What sentence in the text best shows how Jamie feels about springtime?

Answers to *SPRING AT THE POND*

Multiple-choice:

1. c
2. b
3. d
4. a
5. d

Short-answer:

1. They are young, because they are salamander larva.
2. Jamie looks up to him. The story says "Jamie wanted to be a scientist just like him someday."
3. "Jamie loved springtime at the pond."