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## One of Earth's Smartest Animals

Crows are some of the smartest animals on Earth. They are known for their intelligence, problem-solving skills, and tool-making abilities. Crows are often seen in urban areas, scavenging for food or playing games with other crows. Crows are extremely social animals, and they can recognize individual crows and remember them for years. Crows are amazing problem solvers. They have been known to use tools to get food. For example, some crows have been seen using sticks to get grubs out of logs. They have also been seen dropping nuts on the ground and then using cars to crack them open. Crows have great memories. They can recognize individual humans and remember them for years. They can also remember where they found food and will often return to the same spot multiple times. Crows are also very smart when it comes to communication. They can recognize different calls and can even imitate other birds' calls. They also have different calls for different situations, such as warning calls, alarm calls, and even calls to attract a mate. Crows are also very clever when it comes to avoiding danger. They can recognize predators from a distance and will often give alarm calls to alert other crows. They will also use distraction techniques to draw attention away from themselves and their nest. Crows are truly remarkable birds. They demonstrate amazing problem-solving skills, use tools to get food, recognize individual humans, and have a great memory. It is no wonder why crows are often regarded as one of the smartest animals on Earth.

1. Read the poem about "One of Earth's Smartest Animals"
2. Underline any word or sentence you don't understand.

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Answer according to the reading passage:

**1. Where are crows often seen?**

- a. farms
- b. near water
- c. urban areas

**2. What are crows known for?**

- a. intelligence, problem solving skills and tool making abilities
- b. escaping predators, finding food, smart thinking
- c. becoming friends with humans, solving problems

**3. How do they sometimes get their nuts to crack open?**

- a. with their beak
- b. using cars
- c. with their feet

**4. Crows have great:**

- a. hunting ability
- b. brains
- c. memories

**5. Crows can imitate:**

- a. how other birds find food
- b. other bird calls
- c. noises humans make

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## Open Response Questions

Open response questions for thinking skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. Why do you think the author wrote about crows?
  2. How are crows and humans similar and different?
  3. In 3 sentences summarize *"One of Earth's Smartest Animals"* in your own words.
  4. What comes across your mind and what do you visualize as you are reading about the 'One of Earth's Smartest Animals'?
- What other animals do you think are very smart and why?
  - Write 3 persuasive statements encouraging somebody to read this passage about 'One of Earth's Smartest Animals'
  - What did you learn from reading this passage? What didn't you know before about crows?
  - Find out more about crows and why scientists study crows.
  - Do you think the crow is the smartest bird? Why or why not?
  - Did you like reading this passage? Why or why not.