

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Family Times

## Summary

### **Encantado: Pink Dolphin of the Amazon**

One of the most mysterious animals on the planet is the amazing pink dolphin of the Amazon. Meet this unique and fascinating creature as you explore the rain forest with your South American guide.

### **Activity**

**Oddball Animals** With your family, look at lots of pictures of animals and describe the most unusual ones you find. Look at the largest of birds, the ostrich, or the big-footed snowshoe hare, for example. Make a list of your top candidates for “oddest animal.”



Long-Beaked Echidna

## Comprehension Skill

### **Compare and Contrast**

To **compare and contrast** means to tell how two or more things are alike and different. Clue words such as *like* and *as* can show similarities. Clue words such as *however* and *instead* can show differences.

### **Activity**

**Birds of a Feather** With your family, look through a magazine and cut out pictures of groups of objects, people, or animals. Paste these on a sheet of paper. Note their similarities and differences. If, for example, you cut out several pictures of birds, divide them up according to size, shape, color, and so on. Then make a note of how they are alike and different. You can add to your collection of pictures anytime you see a kind you don't already have.

## Lesson Vocabulary

### Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *Encantado: Pink Dolphin of the Amazon*. Practice using these words.

### Vocabulary Words

**aquarium** a building used for showing large collections of live fish, water animals, and water plants

**dolphins** sea mammals related to the whale, but smaller

**enchanted** delighted greatly; charmed

**flexible** easily bent; not stiff; bending without breaking

**glimpses** short, quick views or looks

**pulses** regular, measured beats

**surface** the top of the ground or soil, or of a body of water or liquid

## Conventions

### Pronouns

Pronouns used as the subject of a sentence are **subject pronouns**. *I, you, he, she, it, we, you, and they* are subject pronouns. *For example: He went to Brazil.* Pronouns that follow action verbs are **object pronouns**. *Me, you, him, her, it, us, you, and them* are object pronouns. *For example: Ted called me.* Be careful not to confuse the two kinds of pronouns in your writing. **Reflexive pronouns** reflect the action of the verb. *Myself, himself, herself, and themselves* are reflexive pronouns. *For example: I had to figure this out myself.* **Demonstrative pronouns** point out specific persons, places, or things. *This, that, these, and those* are demonstrative pronouns. *For example: That is Dad's car.*

### Activity

Make index cards of pronouns. Write a sentence using each. On the back of the card, write the type of pronoun.

## Practice Tested Spelling Words

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