

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Unusual Animals: The Babirusa



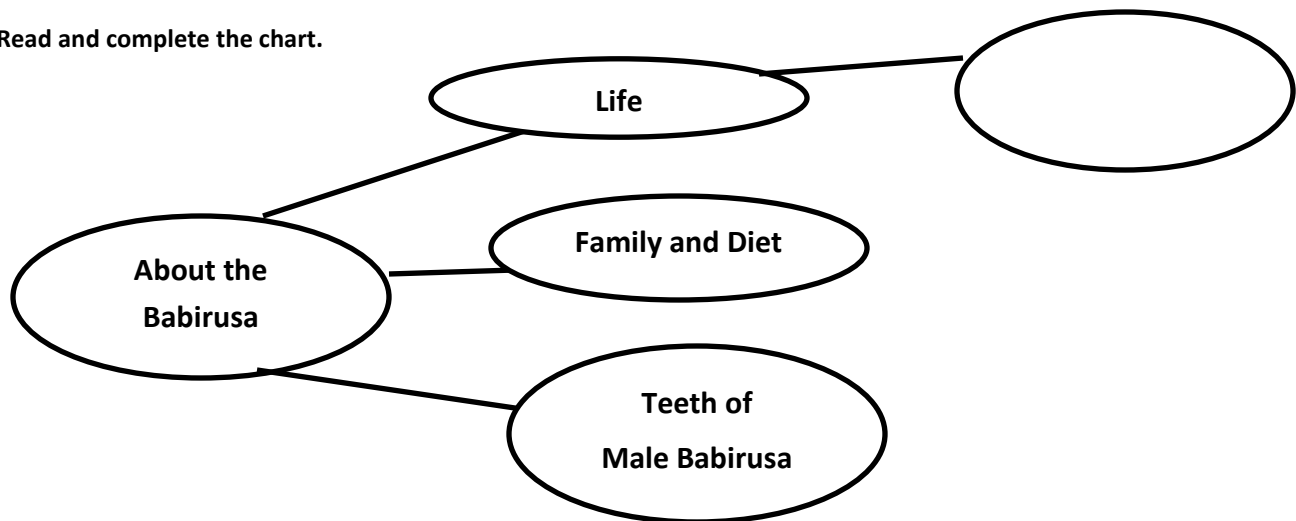
Think about your teeth. Imagine your teeth did not stop growing? The Babirusa is a kind of pig. It's teeth never stop growing! If the babirusa does not **grind** it's teeth the teeth will keep growing. The babirusa is a kind of pig. They live in only one place. They are from Indonesia. They live in the rainforests. The babirusa is an endangered species.

A babirusa family is not like yours. Male babirusa live alone. Female babirusa live in groups with baby babirusa, called piglets. Babirusa eats food during the day. Like pigs, the babirusa is an omnivore, that means they eat plants and animals. They usually eat fruits, roots, and leaves.

Everyday you brush your teeth. The babirusa don't brush their teeth. Babirusa's grind their teeth. The male babirusa's teeth grow and grow. The teeth never stop growing. Everyday the babirusa must grind it's teeth. The grind the teeth against rocks. Grinding can help keep the teeth short. Without grinding the teeth can grow dangerously long. The teeth can grow into the eyes of the babirusa. They teeth can grow into the babirusa's skull. How would you feel if your teeth never stopped growing? It's not an easy life to be a babirusa.

A. What is a babirusa? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Read and complete the chart.



C. What would it be like if your teeth never stopped growing? Tell your partner what you think.