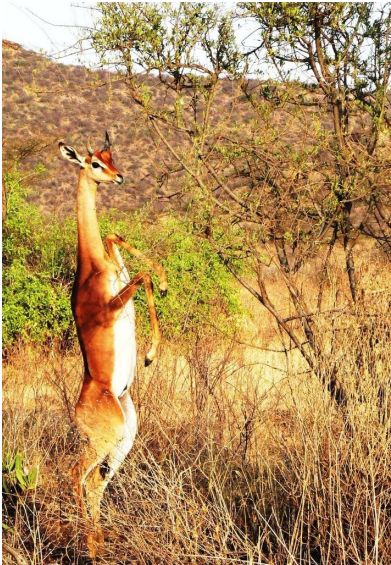


Name: _____ Date: _____

Unusual Animals: The Gerenuk



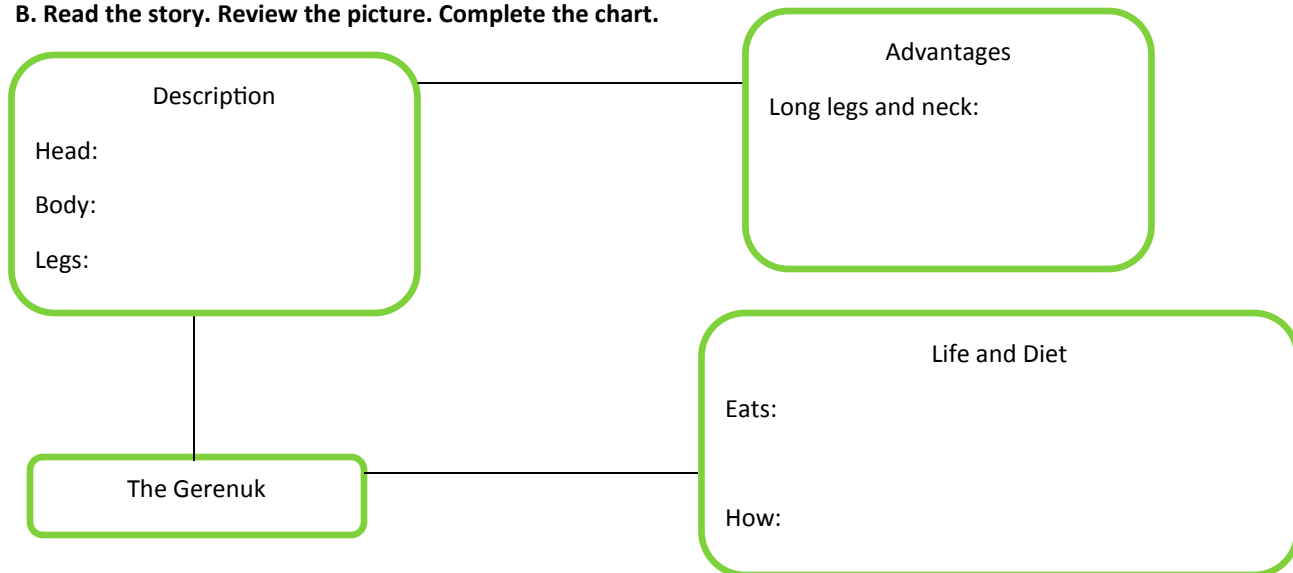
Sometimes parents will put cookies and snacks on high shelves. This can make it difficult for you to reach. That would not be a problem for the Gerenuk. The Gerenuk can get food that is too high for other animals to reach.

The gerenuk is a kind of gazelle, an animal like a deer. It lives in the very dry land of East Africa. The gerenuk is easy to recognize. You can see gerenuk has a very small head, with very long ears. The gerenuk's legs are also very long, and help the gerenuk to run very quickly. The long legs help the gerenuk run away from lions and cheetahs. The gerenuk also has a very long neck, like a giraffe. The long legs and neck are very useful. They help the gerenuk eat food that other animals can't reach.

The gerenuk eats leaves and shoots from bushes. Many animals that live in the dry African desert eat from the same bushes. The long legs and long neck help the gerenuk reach food that is high up in the bushes. It can reach leaves and shoots that other animals can't reach. To get to the highest food, the gerenuk can stand on its hind legs. It can even stretch its neck and make it longer to get hard to reach food!

A. Where does the gerenuk live? _____

B. Read the story. Review the picture. Complete the chart.



C. Think of another animal with a long body part. How does it help the animal? Share your ideas with a partner.
