

Name: _____ Date: _____

Unusual Animals: Armadillo Girdled Lizard



Have you ever been scared walking alone? Some people run when they are scared. Others might jump. The armadillo girdled lizard does something different. The armadillo girdled lizard is a transformer!

The armadillo girdled lizard is a native of South Africa. It lives in the desert along the western coast. It prefers life in a hot, arid climate. The armadillo girdled lizard is not very big, but it has a strong bite! In fact, the lizard's bite is so strong that it can break its own jaw! The armadillo girdled lizard has to be very careful when it eats insects, termites

and spiders. During the day the lizard will look for food. Like you and me, the armadillo girdled lizard sleeps at night.

Hunting for food is not always easy or safe. The armadillo lizard is a small desert creature. That means bigger animals can eat it for food! To protect itself, if the armadillo lizard is scared it will grab its tail. Then it transforms into a ball and rolls away! That's a clever way for this lizard to stay safe in a dangerous place like the desert.

A. Find the word **arid**. Look at the sentence. What does the word **arid** mean? _____

B. Read the story. Complete the chart.

Armadillo Girdled Lizard	Habits	Protection
Where		What
Diet		Why

C. The armadillo girdled lizard is a diurnal animal. That means it is awake in the day and sleeps at night. Use a computer. Can you find 5 more diurnal animals? Make a list. Share the list with your partner.