

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

### Unusual Animals: Yeti Crab



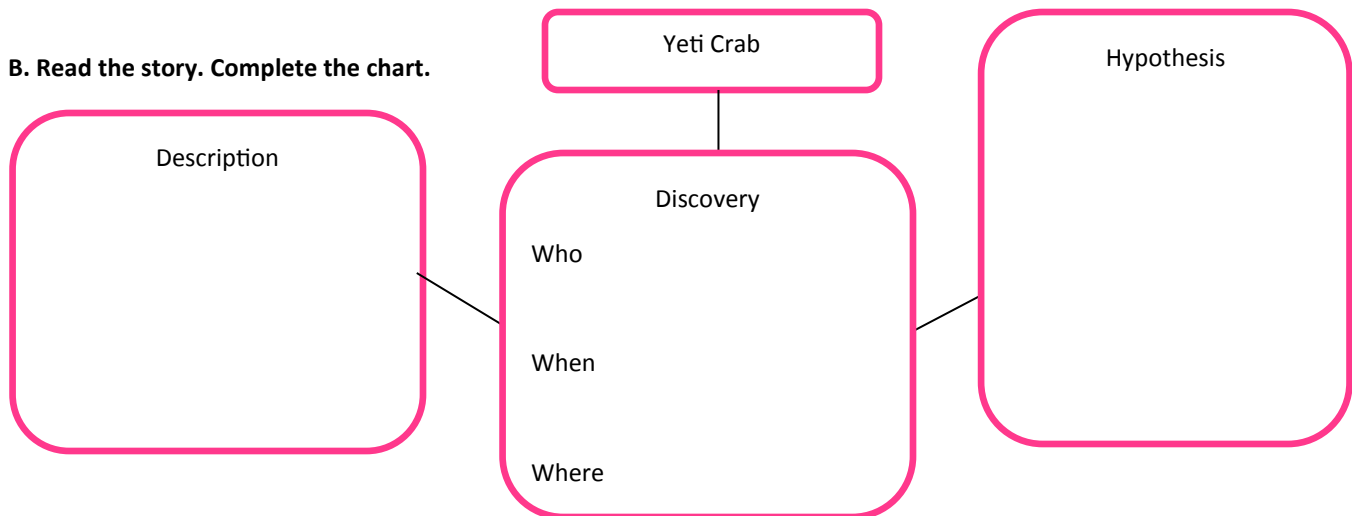
The Yeti is a mythical monster. According to the legend, a Yeti lives in the old forests of Siberia. It is taller than a man and covered in white shaggy fur. The yeti crab, on the other hand, is real. It is a crustacean, a kind of shellfish, that lives in the cold waters near the Pacific-Antarctic Ridge.

Nobody knew about the yeti crab before 2005. Scientist from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute were using a submarine to explore aquatic life. They were looking at animals that lived in waters in the Pacific ocean. The submarine was very far underwater, over 7,000 ft (2,000m) deep. That is where the yeti crab made its appearance. Unlike the mythical yeti, scientist were quickly able to prove the crab was real.

The yeti crab is recognized by it's long hairy pincers. The "hair" contains a kind of bacteria. Scientists hypothesize, or think, that this bacteria helps the yeti crab. The bacteria could remove poisons from the water the crabs live in. Not all scientists agree, though. Some scientists hypothesize that the yeti crab uses the bacteria for food. It will take more time and study to determine the real use of the yeti crabs unusual fur.

A. What does hypothesize mean? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Read the story. Complete the chart.



C. To study a hypothesis scientists will conduct an experiment. What kind of experiment could help scientists understand how the yeti crab uses the "hair" on its pincers. Write your idea for an experiment. Then describe your idea to a partner.