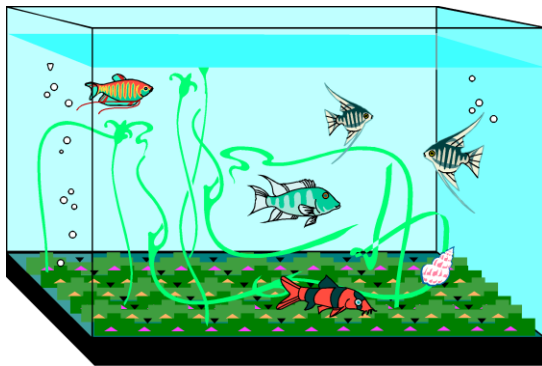


Read the passage. Then answer each question.

HOW TO CARE FOR A PET FISH

Taking care of a pet is a big responsibility, so you want to make sure you learn all about your pet before bringing it home! Many kids have fish as their first pet, and fish can give you a good idea of whether or not you'll be able to take care of a more complicated pet later on.



First, choose what types of fish and how many fish you will be getting. Freshwater fish are the best fish to start with, until you get really good at taking care of fish and their tanks. Some types of fish do not get along with other types, so you'll need to research types of fish before you choose what types and how many to buy.

Next, you need to make sure you have all of the necessary supplies that your fish will need. They need a place to live, such as a fish tank with a lid on it. Make sure it is big enough for how many fish you are planning to get! You can put the fish tank on a dresser or other piece of furniture, or you might need to get a fish tank stand. Fish tanks also need a light, so that they can tell the difference between night and day, and an air pump and filter, to keep the water from getting dirty too quickly. The water needs to be kept at a comfortable temperature for your type of fish, so you'll need a heater and a thermometer, as well. A water testing kit for aquariums is needed, too, to make sure the water quality is good for your fish. Be sure to also get food for your fish! The last thing you need is a fish net and cleaning products for your fish tank. Many people like to get decorations for their fish tank, so save up your money if you'd like decorations!

Now that you have your supplies, you'll need to set up your aquarium. Put the tank on the stand, close enough to an outlet so that you can plug in the equipment. Wash any gravel and decorations you're planning to put in the tank. Fill the bottom of the tank with the clean gravel and your decorations,

3. What does “release” mean in the last paragraph? How do you know?

4. What is the topic of the second paragraph?

5. Would a pet fish be a good fit for you? Why or why not?