Lesson 8

WALT: answers questions about the text.

Answer these DIAL questions about the text. Make sure you skim and scan to help you find the answers.

Reading skill	Question	Answer
Deduction 	Why do you think jellyfish **haul** their prey?	
Inference 	What type of text is this? Explain how you know.	
Authorial 	Why do you think the author used the word *stab*?	
Literal 	What marine animal is this text about?	

Answer these questions still using skimming and scanning to help you answer them.

1. What shape body does a jellyfish have?
2. Why is the man-o'-war the most feared jellyfish in the world?
3. How much of a jellyfish is not composed of water?
4. Why does the writer describe their bodies as 'simple'?
5. What word tells you jellyfish eat other animals?
6. What is the effect of using a rhetorical question to start the first paragraph?
7. Find and copy the sentence that tells you what the content of the text will be about.
8. Why do jellyfish wrap up their prey?
9. Find and copy a word that means semi-transparent.
10. Make your own DIAL questions to send to your teacher to answer!

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How Does a Jellyfish Sting?

Have you ever looked at the long, translucent tentacles of a jellyfish and wondered how it stings? Read on to find out about the structure of a jellyfish and how they attack their prey.

Body Structure

Jellyfish are invertebrates. This means they do not have backbones. Their very simple bodies do not have a brain or heart! Moreover, most are translucent and they are composed of 98 percent water. They have circular bodies without a head and they have tentacles that hang down into water. The man-o'-war is one of the most feared jellyfish in the world as its tentacles can grow up to 30 metres in length.

The Attack

Jellyfish are carnivores. Without warning, they attack their prey with tentacles that are covered with tiny stinging threads known as nematocysts. The threads stab their victims with sharp, poison coated tips. This stuns or kills their prey so the jellyfish can then wrap it up to stop it from escaping. It is then hauled upwards to be digested.