

## Comprehension and Analysis of Grade-Level Appropriate Text

- 2.2 *State the purpose in reading (i.e., tell what information is sought)*
- 2.3 *Use knowledge of the author's purpose(s) to comprehend informational text.*
- 2.4 *Ask clarifying questions about essential textual elements of exposition (e.g., why, what if, how)*
- 2.5 *Restate facts and details in the text to clarify and organize ideas.*
- 2.6 *Recognize cause-and-effect relationships in a text.*

**Read the following passage about raccoons. Use the information to answer questions 4-12.**

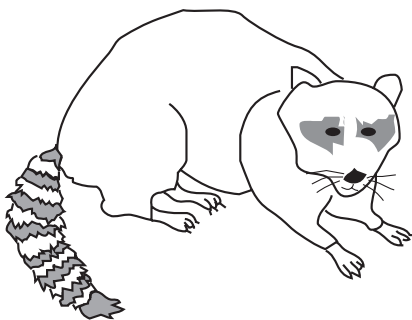
### Raccoons

Raccoons are furry animals. They have round heads, short noses, and small pointed ears. Their grayish-brown fur covers most of their bodies. Down the length of their bushy tails is a black and off-white ring pattern. Across each gray furry face is a black marking. This marking looks like a mask. The raccoons' mask-like face and nighttime eating habits make them look like bandits or thieves.

Raccoons like living near ponds and streams in wooded areas. They are meat-eating animals. In the woodlands they find plenty to eat. Their favorite foods are insects, nuts, frogs, fish, birds, snakes, and eggs.

These masked creatures don't just live in the wild. They are also found living in cities and towns. There are plenty of places for them to live in these urban areas. They can be found living in attics and basements. They live under houses, porches, and in trees. Towns have plenty of food for the taking.

Some people think of raccoons as pests. Their nighttime eating habits are noisy and messy. They easily pull off garbage-can lids. They raid cat and dog bowls that are left outside at night. They climb trees and use their front paws to grab



handfuls of nuts and fruit. They drink from hot tubs and swimming pools. It is when they prowl at night looking for food in backyards that the name "bandit" fits.

