

Sophie's Snail by Dick King-Smith

"What animal has got only one foot?" said the children's father. "I bet you can't tell me."

"I can!" said Matthew and Mark with one voice. As well as looking exactly alike, the twins nearly always said exactly the same thing at exactly the same time. Matthew was ten minutes older than Mark, but after that there had never been the slightest difference between them.

"Go on then," said their father. "Tell me. What animal's got only one foot?"

"A chicken standing on one leg!" they said.

"That's silly," said Sophie seriously.

Sophie was four, a couple of years younger than her brothers.

"That's silly," she said. "It would still have a foot on the other leg. Anyway, Daddy, there isn't really an animal that's only got one foot, is there?"

"Yes, there is, Sophie."

"What?"

"A snail. Every snail has a big flat sticky muscle under it that it travels along on. That's called its foot. Next time you see a snail crawling along, pick it up carefully and turn it over, and you'll see. There are loads in the garden."



Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 “I can!” said Matthew and Mark with one voice” (paragraph 2).
What do you think the words “with one voice” mean? Choose **one**.

- They both thought it, but only one said it.
- Their voices sounded a bit the same.
- Matthew spoke and Mark agreed with him.
- They said the same thing at the same time.

1a

1 mark

2 Give **two** ways in which Matthew and Mark are alike.

1b

2 marks

3 “As well as looking exactly alike, the twins nearly always said exactly the same thing at exactly the same time.” (paragraph 2)
Why do you think the author uses “exactly” so much to describe the twins?

1a

1 mark

4 “That’s silly,” said Sophie seriously.” (paragraph 5)
What does this tell you about Sophie?

1d

1 mark

5 Dad asked the children to tell him which animal has only one foot.
What is the answer to his question?

1b

1 mark

6 What do you think Sophie will do next time she sees a snail?

1e

1 mark