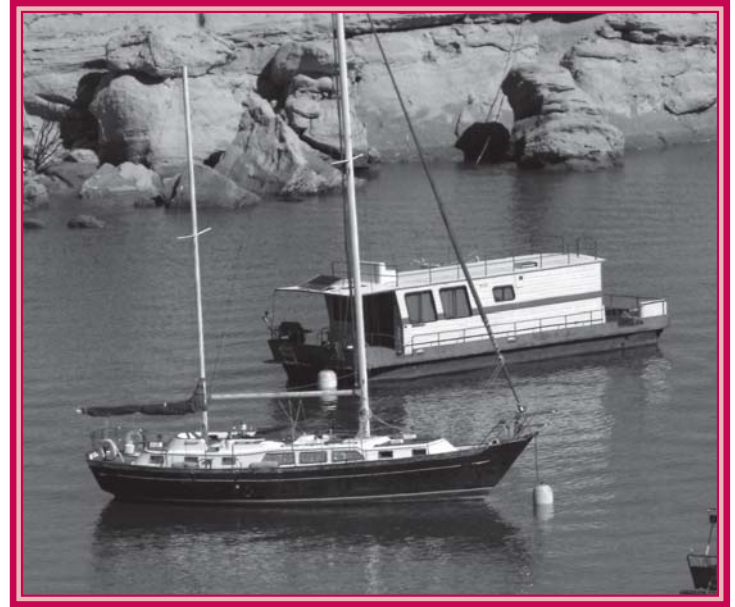


What is it like to live on a houseboat?

1 Can you imagine living in a house that bobs up and down all the time? A place where you fall asleep each night to the sound of water lapping against the side? A house where you live and keep everything you own in just one small room? Well, that's what living on a houseboat is like.



2 Houseboats are real boats. People just choose to live on them. These people call themselves “liveaboards.” Most houseboats are about 35 to 40 feet long and 12 feet wide. But inside are beds, closets, and a tiny kitchen and bathroom. Space can be very tight.

3 So why would anyone want to live on a boat? For one thing, it can be a lot of fun. Liveaboards can sail to different places whenever they want. They can stop to explore or decide to keep going. They can meet other liveaboards and share their adventures. They can also fish for dinner right off the side of their homes!

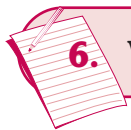
4 But living on a houseboat can be hard, too. During a storm, it can be very wobbly. And liveaboards have to be able to get along with each other. There's not much room to be alone on a houseboat.



Circle the right answer for questions 1–5. Write your answer to question 6 on a blank piece of paper.



1. The article does not tell _____.
A what a storm would feel like on a houseboat
B what it's like to sleep on a houseboat
C how fast a houseboat can go
D how big houseboats are
2. Which word in paragraph 3 means “exciting experiences”?
A places
B explore
C adventures
D liveaboards
3. Which paragraph tells about the size of most houseboats?
A 1
B 2
C 3
D 4
4. It is important for liveaboards to get along with each other because _____.
A space can be very tight
B they need to share a couch
C storms make the boat wobbly
D they need to help each other fish
5. The article does not say, but you can decide that houseboats are not for people who _____.
A like to fish
B look for adventure
C need a lot of space
D enjoy seeing new places



6. Would you like to live on a houseboat? Tell why or why not.