Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.

What Is It?

Zhou likes to be near the ocean. He likes to hear the waves. He likes to put his feet in the sand. He likes to see the birds in the sky.

One day, Zhou saw a little face in the water. The face was dark gray. The face had black eyes and a long nose like a dog. Zhou saw the face going up and down in the waves.

“Look! Look!” Zhou said to Mom.

Mom stopped reading her book.

“What is it?” Zhou asked.

“It is a seal,” Mom said. “Seals like to swim in the ocean. They look for fish to eat in the water.”

“I like to swim in the ocean too!” Zhou said.
Answer the questions below.

1. Which words tell you that this story takes place at the beach?
   - gray, nose, dog, black
   - ocean, waves, sand, water
   - feet, sky, Mom, book

2. Which sentence does not tell about Zhou?
   - He likes to see birds.
   - He likes to read.
   - He likes to hear the waves.

3. How does Zhou feel when he first sees the face in the water?
   - mad
   - sick
   - excited

4. Which sentence tells about Mom?
   - She wants Zhou to know about ocean animals.
   - She wishes Zhou would learn to swim.
   - She hopes the seal would go away.

5. What is this story mostly about?

Common Core State Standards

Questions 1–4: Literature 1. Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. Question 5: Literature 2. Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.