

Name _____

Word Count: 160

Prairie Dog Town

Prairie dogs are not what their name might suggest. 9

While it's true that prairie dogs live on the prairie, they are 21

not dogs at all. Prairie dogs are really ground squirrels, 31

members of the rodent family. Prairie dogs are commonly 40

found in the western parts of the United States and Mexico. 51

They got the name "dogs" because they make small barking 61

sounds to warn each other of danger. 68

Prairie dogs are social animals that prefer to live in large 79

groups or *towns*. They are good at digging holes and live in 91

burrows. Prairie dogs search for food in the day and return 102

to their burrows to sleep at night. They mostly eat grass, 113

seeds, leaves, flowers, and fruit. Sometimes prairie dogs 121

eat insects as well. 125

Many prairie animals like to hunt prairie dogs. What 134

does a prairie dog do when a wolf, fox, or bobcat sneaks 146

up on it, ready to pounce? *Zip!* The prairie dog scrambles 157

into its burrow. 160

Number of Errors

1	2	3	4	5	6

Accuracy (%):

Reading Rate (Words Per Minute):

