



Quick Check

Goliath Bird-Eating Spiders

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the main idea of the section "Big, Hairy, and Heavy"?
 - (A) A giant of the spider world, the Goliath bird-eater is the heaviest spider in the world.
 - (B) After mating, a female Goliath lays about fifty eggs in a silk egg sac.
 - (C) Like many other spiders, Goliaths have eight legs and eight eyes.
 - (D) Tarantulas are nocturnal, which means they normally stay hidden during the day.
2. How does the map help readers better understand the Goliath spider's habitat?
 - (A) It shows the specific part of Australia where the spiders live.
 - (B) It illustrates other plants and animals that also live in that habitat.
 - (C) It shows the specific part of South America where the spiders live.
 - (D) It illustrates the layers of the rainforest that house the spiders.
3. Which of the following details supports the main idea of the section "What Eats a Giant Spider"?
 - (A) A Goliath spider can only suck up its food after it liquefies it.
 - (B) Hawks, owls, skunks, and snakes sometimes eat these spiders.
 - (C) Little spiderlings stay with their mother until after their first molt.
 - (D) They help keep rodents, insects, and other prey under control.
4. Why do Goliath spiders need to rely on the special hairs that cover their bodies to sense prey?
 - (A) They are slow.
 - (B) They have poor eyesight.
 - (C) They hunt very small animals.
 - (D) They are blind.

Quick Check continued on following page



Quick Check *(continued)*

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5. What feature do Goliath spiders have in common with all other spiders?
 - Ⓐ The Goliath spiders live in the South American rainforest.
 - Ⓑ The Goliath spiders are covered in dark brown hairs.
 - Ⓒ The Goliath spiders have a tough, protective outer skeleton.
 - Ⓓ The Goliath spiders are slightly bigger than a human hand.

6. **Extended Response:** Why does the author think it's important to study the Goliath spider? Use specific details from the book to support your answer. Do you agree with the author? Why or why not?



1. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
2. Ⓒ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
3. Ⓑ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
5. Ⓒ *Compare and Contrast*
6. Answers will explain the author thinks it's important to study the spider because they play an important role in their habitat and because there is still much to learn about them, or thoughts along those lines. Answers will cite specific details from the book, such as the following:
their size has always fascinated people, they play an important role in their habitat, they keep certain prey populations under control, the world wouldn't be as interesting without them,
 and so on. Answers will then end with the student's opinion on whether it is important to study Goliath spiders, and a justification of that opinion.