

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. What is the most likely reason the author wrote *Plant Defenses*?
 - Ⓐ to warn the reader about the dangers of touching plants
 - Ⓑ to explain to the reader the steps to identifying different plants
 - Ⓒ to convince the reader that plant defenses are better than animal defenses
 - Ⓓ to inform the reader about different defenses used by plants
2. The author believes that _____.
 - Ⓐ plants have defenses and can protect themselves
 - Ⓑ plants have defenses, but they are still helpless
 - Ⓒ animal defenses are better than plant defenses
 - Ⓓ plants that sting are better protected than plants with thorns
3. Stinging plants _____.
 - Ⓐ shoot out poison as an animal or person passes by
 - Ⓑ will only sting humans, not animals
 - Ⓒ only live in jungles
 - Ⓓ have hairs that can poke animals that are trying to eat them
4. The author includes photographs to show _____.
 - Ⓐ how beautiful plants can be
 - Ⓑ how dangerous and scary plants can be
 - Ⓒ examples of different types of plant defenses
 - Ⓓ how plants grow and change

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5. What is the effect of a pest eating a tobacco plant?
 - Ⓐ The plant is killed by the pest.
 - Ⓑ The plant stings the pest, and it falls off the plant.
 - Ⓒ The plant moves and scares the pest.
 - Ⓓ The plant sends out a smell that invites enemies to come eat the pest.
6. The needle-shaped parts of some plants that are actually leaves are called _____.
 - Ⓐ thorns
 - Ⓑ prickles
 - Ⓒ spines
 - Ⓓ branches
7. The living stone plant protects itself by _____.
 - Ⓐ blending into the ground
 - Ⓑ moving
 - Ⓒ stinging
 - Ⓓ running away
8. Why do cacti not have leaves?
 - Ⓐ The leaves would give too much shade.
 - Ⓑ The leaves would dry up in the desert sun.
 - Ⓒ The leaves could not protect the cacti.
 - Ⓓ The cacti do not like how leaves look.
9. If an animal eats a plant that makes **poison**, the animal _____.
 - Ⓐ will no longer be thirsty
 - Ⓑ will be full of energy
 - Ⓒ will not be affected
 - Ⓓ will get sick or even die
10. What causes a touch-me-not plant to fold up its leaves?
 - Ⓐ a rain storm
 - Ⓑ an animal bumps into it
 - Ⓒ cold weather
 - Ⓓ nighttime
11. **Extended Response:** What does the author mean when she says *Plants might look helpless at first, but they have powerful defenses*?

Quick Check Answer Sheet**Plant Defenses**

Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details

1. Ⓓ *Author's Purpose*
2. Ⓐ *Author's Point of View*
3. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓒ *Elements of Nonfiction*
5. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
6. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
7. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
8. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
9. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
10. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
11. Students should comment that many plant defenses are not immediately visible such as stinging and poison. Even though some plants do not have visible defenses, like cacti, their defenses are strong enough to harm or possibly even kill an animal.