

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. What are **trilobites**?
  - Ⓐ places where a plant or animal lives in nature
  - Ⓑ animals that hunt and eat other animals
  - Ⓒ common prehistoric sea animals
  - Ⓓ periods in Earth's history when ice sheets covered areas of land
2. What is the main idea of the section titled "Giant Reptiles"?
  - Ⓐ Dinosaurs are not the only giant reptiles that once lived on Earth.
  - Ⓑ *Liopleurodon* can smell in stereo.
  - Ⓒ *Elasmosaurus* sneaks up on its prey with its long neck.
  - Ⓓ Flying reptiles live in colonies and build nests on rooftops.
3. In which section would you expect to find information about the woolly mammoth?
  - Ⓐ "Giant Mammals"
  - Ⓑ "Giant Fish and Amphibians"
  - Ⓒ "Giant Invertebrates"
  - Ⓓ "Giant Birds"
4. Why did animals that lived millions of years ago grow so much larger than the animals of today?
  - Ⓐ There was more water.
  - Ⓑ The atmosphere was hotter.
  - Ⓒ The air contained more oxygen.
  - Ⓓ The plants grew larger and provided more food.

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5. Why did the author write this book as if the reader had traveled back in time?
  - Ⓐ to persuade the reader to compare animals
  - Ⓑ to entertain the reader by making the information come to life
  - Ⓒ to persuade the reader to further study these animals
  - Ⓓ to inform the reader about modern-day animals
6. Which of the following statements is a fact?
  - Ⓐ The scariest giant bug is *Meganeura*.
  - Ⓑ Giant reptiles are the smartest prehistoric giants.
  - Ⓒ *Ornithocheirus* build nests on cliff tops.
  - Ⓓ Terror birds are more interesting than giant fish.
7. Which of the following animals dominated the Earth following the extinction of giant reptiles?
  - Ⓐ giant bugs
  - Ⓑ giant mammals
  - Ⓒ terror birds
  - Ⓓ giant fish
8. How are *Leedsichthys*, the largest fish that ever lived, like whales today?
  - Ⓐ They both breathe under water.
  - Ⓑ They both have many thin teeth that help to strain their food.
  - Ⓒ They both live in small, shallow seas.
  - Ⓓ They both eat large animals.
9. Which of the following is a detail about *Megatherium*, the giant ground sloth?
  - Ⓐ It is almost seven feet long.
  - Ⓑ It is not related to sloths that live in South America today.
  - Ⓒ It is from the last ice age.
  - Ⓓ It can bury itself in muddy water.

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10. What effect did shallower waters have on *Leedsichthys*?

- Ⓐ it had more room in the ocean
- Ⓑ it had less available air
- Ⓒ it found more shellfish in the ocean
- Ⓓ the amount of available food decreased

11. **Extended Response:** How are animals today similar to at least three of the prehistoric giants you learned about in the book? Cite specific examples from the text.

12. **Extended Response:** Which of the prehistoric giants in this book do you find most interesting? Write at least three details from the text to support your answer. Then, write about how those details support the broader main idea of this book.

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## Prehistoric Giants (Other Than Dinosaurs)

*Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details*

1. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
2. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
3. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
5. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
6. Ⓒ *Fact or Opinion*
7. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
8. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
9. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
11. Answers will vary somewhat but should include three specific prehistoric giants from the book compared to present-day animals using physical characteristics and adaptations. For example, answers can compare terror birds to raptors, pointing out their similarities as predators and dangerous birds, but contrasting their difference in size and speed.
12. Answers will vary but should include a prehistoric giant from the book and three supporting reasons from the text. Answers should also include an explanation for how the prehistoric giant they chose relates to the main idea of the book.