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TCR 5032

DAILY WARM-UPS

Nonfiction Reading

Grade 2

Includes:

**150 leveled passages with
a variety of interesting topics**

**Comprehension questions that
target reading skills & strategies**

Standards & Benchmarks

**30 passages & activities in each
of these sections:**

Interesting Places & Events
Scientifically Speaking
From the Past
Did You Know?
Fascinating People

*Ideal for
test
preparation*



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The cover features a grey and white gear design. In the top left corner is the Teacher Created Resources logo with a bear icon and the code TCR 5032. The title "DAILY WARM-UPS" is at the top in large, bold, white letters. Below it, "Nonfiction Reading" is written in large, bold, black letters. A dark grey banner across the middle contains the text "Grade 2". To the right of the title is a stack of four books with the text "Ideal for test preparation" written on the top one. On the left side, there's a vertical stack of three pencils. The central part of the cover shows an open book with the text "30 passages & activities in each of these sections:" followed by a list: Interesting Places & Events, Scientifically Speaking, From the Past, Did You Know?, and Fascinating People. At the bottom, the text "Teacher Created Resources" is printed.

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Introduction

The primary goal of any reading task is comprehension. *Daily Warm-Ups: Nonfiction Reading* uses high-interest, grade-level appropriate nonfiction passages followed by assessment practice to help develop confident readers who can demonstrate their skills on standardized tests. Each passage is a high-interest nonfiction text that fits one of the five topic areas: Interesting Places and Events, Scientifically Speaking, From the Past, Did You Know?, and Fascinating People. Each of these five topic areas has 30 passages, for a total of 150 passages. Each passage, as well as its corresponding multiple-choice assessment questions, is provided on one page.

Comprehension Questions

The questions in *Daily Warm-Ups: Nonfiction Reading* assess all levels of comprehension, from basic recall to critical thinking. The questions are based on fundamental reading skills found in scope-and-sequence charts across the nation:

- recall information
- use prior knowledge
- visualize
- recognize the main idea
- identify supporting details
- understand cause and effect
- sequence in chronological order
- identify synonyms and antonyms
- know grade-level vocabulary
- use context clues to understand new words
- make inferences
- draw conclusions

Readability

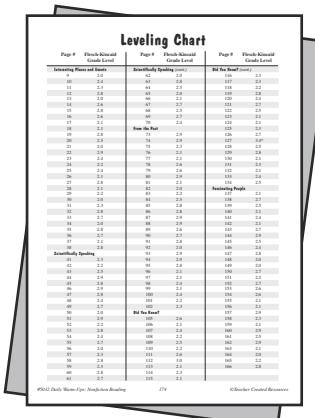
The texts have a 2.0–3.0 grade level based on the Flesch-Kincaid Readability Formula. This formula, built into Microsoft Word®, determines readability by calculating the number of words, syllables, and sentences. Multisyllabic words tend to skew the grade level, making it appear higher than it actually is. Refer to the Leveling Chart on page 174 for the approximate grade level of each passage.

In some cases, there are words necessary to a passage that increase its grade level. In those cases, the passage's grade level is followed by an asterisk in the chart. This means that in determining the grade level, the difficult words were factored in, resulting in the increased level shown before the asterisk.

Upon the removal of these words, the passage received a grade level within the appropriate range. For example, in the passage, “When Seconds Count,” the grade level is 3.4. This is because the word “firefighters” is repeated several times. Once this word is removed, the grade level is within range.

Including Standards and Benchmarks

The passages and comprehension questions throughout this book correlate with McREL (Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning) Standards. Known as a “Compendium of Standards and Benchmarks,” this resource is well researched. It includes standards and benchmarks that represent a consolidation of national and state standards in several content areas for grades K–12. (See page 6 for the specific McREL Standards and Benchmarks that correspond with this book.) These standards can be aligned to the Common Core Standards. To do so, please visit www.mcrel.org.



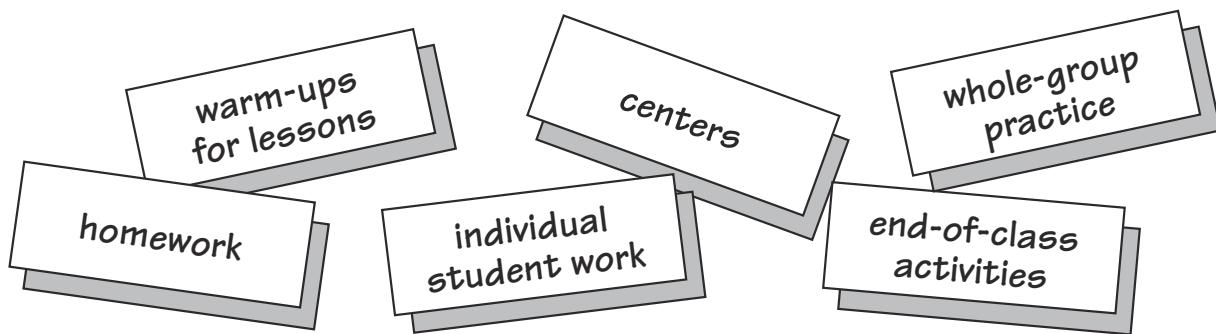
Introduction *(cont.)*

Practice First to Build Familiarity

Initial group practice is essential. Read aloud the first passage in each of the five topic areas and do its related questions with the whole class. Depending upon the needs of your class, you may choose to do the first three passages in each topic area as a whole class. Some teachers like to use five days in a row to model the reading and question-answering process at the start of the year. Model pre-reading the questions, reading the text, highlighting information that refers to the comprehension questions, and eliminating answers that are obviously incorrect. You may also want to model referring back to the text to ensure the answers selected are the best ones.

Student Practice Ideas

With *Daily Warm-Ups: Nonfiction Reading* you can choose to do whole-class or independent practice. For example, you can use the passages and questions for the following:



Whichever method you choose for using the book, it's a good idea to practice as a class how to read a passage and respond to the comprehension questions. In this way, you can demonstrate your own thought processes by "thinking aloud" to figure out an answer. Essentially, this means that you tell your students your thoughts as they come to you.

Record Keeping

In the sun image at the bottom, right-hand corner of each warm-up page, there is a place for you (or for students) to write the number of questions answered correctly. This will give consistency to scored pages. Use the Tracking Sheet on page 175 to record which warm-up exercises you have given to your students. Or distribute copies of the sheet for students to keep their own records. Use the certificate on page 176 as you see fit; for example, you can use the certificate as a reward for students who complete a certain amount of warm-up exercises.

How to Make the Most of This Book

- ⇒ Read each lesson ahead of time before you use it with the class so that you are familiar with it. This will make it easier to answer students' questions.
- ⇒ Set aside ten to twelve minutes at a specific time daily to incorporate *Daily Warm-Ups: Nonfiction Reading* into your routine.
- ⇒ Make sure the time you spend working on the materials is positive and constructive. This should be a time of practicing for success and recognizing it as it is achieved.

The passages and comprehension questions in *Daily Warm-Ups: Nonfiction Reading* are time-efficient, allowing your students to practice these skills often. The more your students practice reading and responding to content-area comprehension questions, the more confident and competent they will become.

Standards and Benchmarks

Each passage in *Daily Warm-Ups: Nonfiction Reading* meets at least one of the following standards and benchmarks, which are used with permission from McREL. Copyright 2010 McREL. Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning. 4601 DTC Boulevard, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80237. Telephone: 303-337-0990. Web site: www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks. To align McREL Standards to the Common Core Standards, go to www.mcrel.org.

Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process

- Uses mental images based on pictures and print to aid in comprehension of text
- Uses meaning clues to aid comprehension and make predictions about content
- Uses basic elements of phonetic analysis to decode unknown words
- Uses basic elements of structural analysis to decode unknown words
- Understands level-appropriate sight words and vocabulary
- Uses self-correction strategies

Uses skills and strategies to read a variety of informational texts

- Reads a variety of informational texts
- Understands the main idea and supporting details of simple expository information
- Relates new information to prior knowledge and experience

*Uses mental images
based on pictures
and print to aid in
comprehension of text*

Warm-Up 16

A Hole First

Interesting Places and Events

You want to build a house in Bermuda, but first you have to do something. What do you have to do first? You have to dig a hole. The hole is not for a basement. What is the hole for?

Bermuda is an island in the Atlantic Ocean. There are no lakes or rivers on the island. Water is stored in tanks under the ground. The holes under the house are dug for storage tanks.

Where does the water for the tanks come from? It is rainwater. Houses are built with terraced roofs. The terraces look like little steps. The water runs down the terraced steps. It flows into a pipe and down into the storage tank.

Find the Answers

1. Bermuda is an island in what ocean?
a. Indian Ocean
b. Arctic Ocean
c. Pacific Ocean
d. Atlantic Ocean
2. If a hill was terraced, it would look like.
a. a pipe.
b. it was full of holes.
c. steps were cut into it.
d. underground storage tanks.
3. When you store something, you
a. use something immediately.
b. put something away to use later.
c. want to buy something.
d. don't want to buy something.

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Warm-Up 15

White House Firsts

From the Past

Do you know your phone number? The first phone was put in the White House in 1879. Rutherford B. Hayes was president. Hayes was the nineteenth president. It was easy for Hayes to learn his phone number. Why was it so easy? The number was very short. It was the number "11."

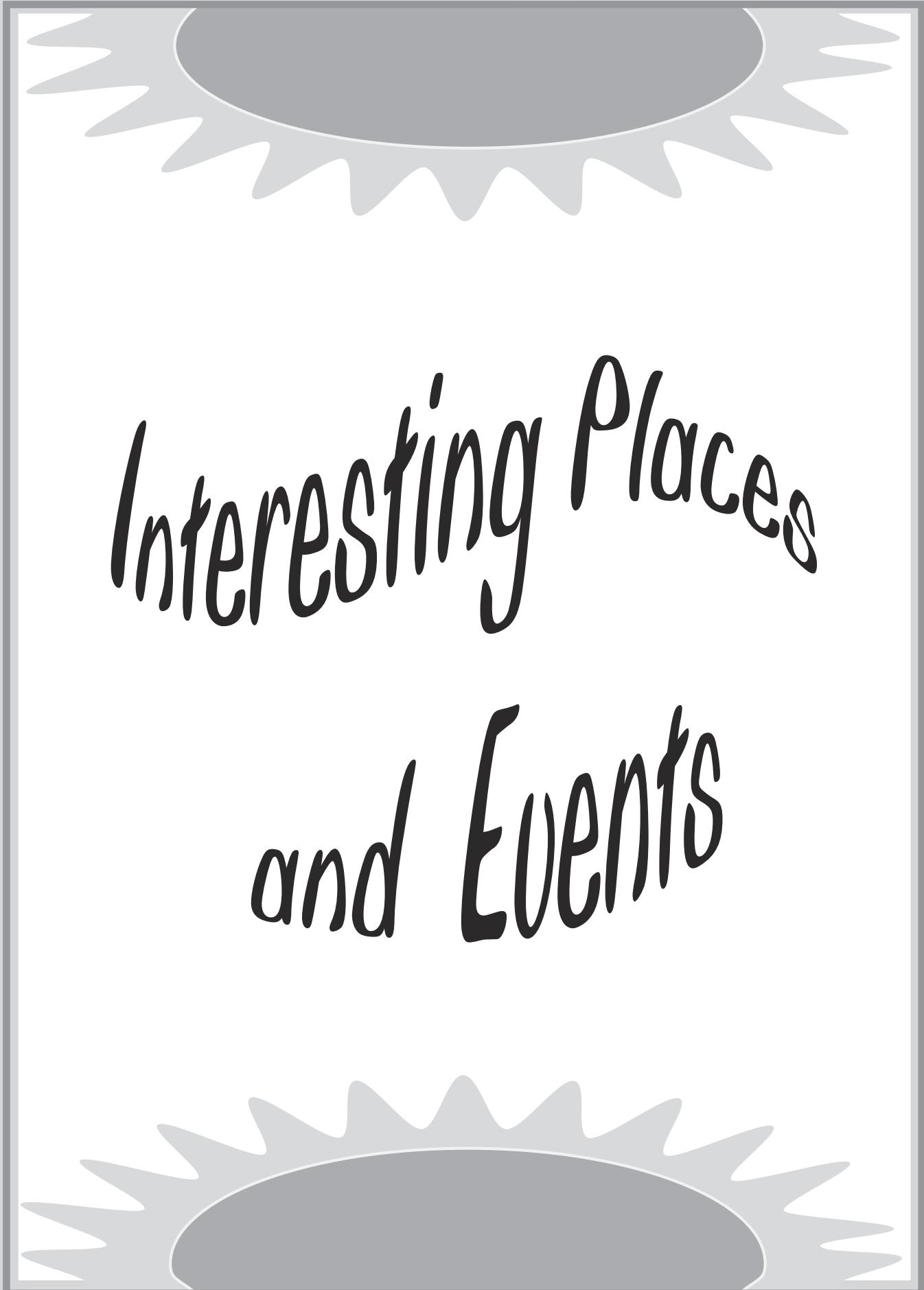
Do you know how to turn on a light? You just flip the switch from "off" to "on." The first electric lights were put in the White House in 1891. Benjamin Harrison was president. He was the twenty-third president. Harrison didn't turn on the electric lights for weeks. Why didn't he turn on the lights? He was afraid of getting shocked!

Find the Answers

1. Hayes didn't get a lot of phone calls. One reason might be that
a. people were afraid of getting shocked.
b. people did not know what switch to flip.
c. phones were so new that not many people had them.
d. the White House phone number was hard to learn.
2. From the story, you can tell that Hayes
a. was president after Harrison.
b. was president before Harrison.
c. had electric lights before Harrison.
d. called Harrison when he was president.
3. What answer is false?
a. Hayes was the nineteenth president.
b. The White House phone number was "11."
c. Harrison was president in 1891.
d. Electric lights were in the White House before a phone.

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Relates new information to prior knowledge and experience



Interesting Places and Events





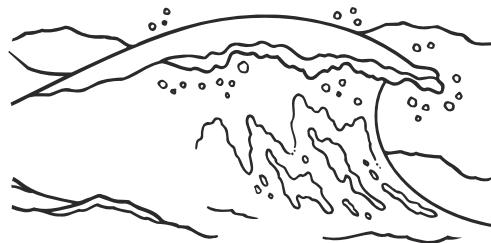
Name _____

1**The Big Wave**

The Amazon is a huge river. It is in South America. Sometimes, there are big waves in the Amazon. The tides cause the waves. The tides push ocean water into the river. The ocean water crashes into the river water. A big wave is made.

The big wave races back to the ocean. It makes a loud sound. People can hear the wave from far away. They can hear it long before they can see it.

Some people try to surf on the wave. It is very hard. The wave is big, fast, and powerful. The surfers are in danger. They have to watch for what is in the water. Big trees are in the water. Snakes are in the water.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** The big wave is made when
 - a. snakes crash into river water.
 - b. surfers crash into river water.
 - c. big trees crash into river water.
 - d. ocean water crashes into river water.

- 2.** Where is the Amazon River?
 - a. Asia
 - b. Antarctica
 - c. South America
 - d. North America

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that some surfers
 - a. think the wave is small and weak.
 - b. ride the big wave.
 - c. catch the snakes.
 - d. collect the wood.





Name _____

2**A Very Strange Meeting**

A very strange meeting took place. The meeting took place in Manchester, England. It took place in 2005. It took place in the middle of the night. A man went to his bathroom. He met something. What did he meet? He met a ten-foot snake!

There had been other snake sightings in the area. Firefighters had checked pipes. They had used hi-tech equipment. Despite the hi-tech equipment, they had not found

a thing. They did not really believe there was a snake slithering down sewage pipes.

But there was a snake! It was a boa constrictor. Boas live in South America, but this one had been a pet. It was named Keith. It had been on the loose for several months. It slithered down sewage pipes. It went from home to home. It was living on rats. Keith was finally trapped when he was coaxed into a bucket.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, you were *not* told right away who met what because the writer wanted you to be
 - a. mad.
 - b. sad.
 - c. sleepy.
 - d. surprised.

- 2.** *Snake* is to *slither* as
 - a. *cow* is to *moo*.
 - b. *bird* is to *fly*.
 - c. *dog* is to *bark*.
 - d. *cat* is to *purr*.

- 3.** What answer is true?
 - a. Boa constrictors eat rats.
 - b. Keith had been loose for several years.
 - c. Boa constrictors come from North America.
 - d. Keith was trapped using hi-tech equipment.





Name _____

3**The Biggest Country**

There are a lot of countries in the world. There are almost two hundred. Some countries are big. Others are small. Some countries have a lot of people. Others have only a few people.

What is the biggest country? The biggest country is Russia. No other country in the world is as big as Russia. What country has the most people? China has the most people.

Russia is bigger. Almost two Chinas could fit in Russia. Why don't more people live in Russia? Not all land is good to live on. Many parts of Russia are very cold. People need to live where they can get enough food. They need to find work. They need to be able to make a living.

Find the Answers

1. What answer might be the number of countries in the world?

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| a. 95 | c. 295 |
| b. 195 | d. 395 |

2. What answer is true?

- a. More people live in China than Russia.
- b. More people live in Russia than China.
- c. There is less land in Russia than China.
- d. There is more land in China than Russia.

3. From the story, you can tell that people must

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. be warm. | c. not live where it is cold. |
| b. have lots of land. | d. be able to get enough food. |

/3



Name _____

4**From Not Real to Real**

Every year, there is a contest. It is a jumping contest. It is not for people. It is for frogs! The contest is held in California. It is held in Calaveras County.

People bring frogs from all over. Bullfrogs are the frog of choice. Frogs have to jump far to win. How far do they have to jump? One frog was named Rosie. Rosie jumped over twenty-one feet!

How did people come up with such a strange contest? It came from a short story! The story was written by Mark Twain. Twain wrote the story in 1865. It is fiction. It is a **tall tale** about life in a gold rush town. He called it “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.” The story was fiction, but today the contest is real!

**Find the Answers****1.** A tall tale is

- a. real.
- b. fiction.
- c. a contest.
- d. not for people.

2. What statement is true?

- a. The story was written in 1860.
- b. The story was written about Nevada.
- c. The story was written by Rosie Twain.
- d. The story was written about a gold rush town.

3. Another title for this story might be

- a. “Jumping Contest.”
- b. “All About Frogs.”
- c. “The Farthest Jump.”
- d. “Tall Tales from the Gold Rush.”





Name _____

5**Four Corners**

Go to Hawaii. You can only stand in Hawaii. You cannot stand in another state at the same time. Go to Maine. You can stand on one or two states. You can stand on two states if you stand on Maine's border. You can stand in Maine and New Hampshire.

There are many places where you can stand in two states. There are places, too, where you can stand in three states.

There is only one place where you can stand in four states.

What four states can a person stand in at the same time? What four states have borders that touch? The states are Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. The corners of these four states all meet at one point in the Southwest.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Where is Arizona located?
 - a. the Southeast
 - b. the Northeast
 - c. the Northwest
 - d. the Southwest

- 2.** Most likely, Hawaii is bordered by
 - a. water.
 - b. Colorado.
 - c. five other states.
 - d. land.

- 3.** What answer lists four states that you can stand on at the same time?
 - a. New Mexico, Maine, Colorado, Utah
 - b. Arizona, Utah, New Jersey, Colorado
 - c. Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona
 - d. Colorado, New Mexico, Hawaii, Arizona

/3



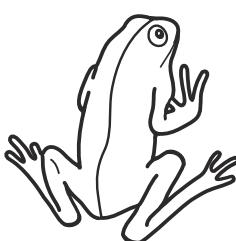
Name _____

6**Raining Frogs**

Something strange happened. It was in Odzaci. Odzaci is a small town in Serbia. The year was 2005. What happened? It rained frogs! The frogs were tiny. They were not hurt when they landed. They began to hop everywhere! The frogs were not the same kind as the ones in Odzaci. They were a different kind.

The frogs had been picked up in a waterspout. A waterspout is caused by

spinning winds. It is like a tornado over water. Entire ponds have been sucked up in waterspouts. Fish and frogs in the pond get sucked up, too.



After the frogs were picked up, they were carried in the air. They were blown over Odzaci. When the winds were not as strong, the frogs fell from the sky. They rained down and hopped away!

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, when it rained frogs, people were
 - a. sleepy.
 - b. sledding.
 - c. swimming.
 - d. surprised.

- 2.** Where and when did it rain frogs?
 - a. Odzaci, Serbia, in 2004
 - b. Odzaci, Serbia, in 2005
 - c. Odzaci, Scotland, in 2004
 - d. Odessa, Scotland, in 2005

- 3.** The frogs were
 - a. tiny.
 - b. hurt.
 - c. strong.
 - d. the same kind as the ones in Odzaci.





Name _____

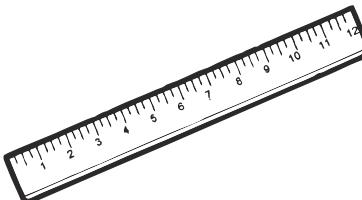
7**Wide and Narrow Streets**

Look at your street. Is it wide? Is it narrow? Read about other streets. Then see if your answer is the same.

One street is very wide. It is in Argentina. It is the main street of Buenos Aires. It is called 9 de Julio Avenue. (Argentina's birthday is on July 9, 1816.) How wide is this street? It has twelve lanes! It is over 360 feet wide!

One street is very narrow. It is in

Germany. It is in the city of Reutlingen. It is called Spreuerhof Street. It was built in 1727. A car can't go down it. A bike can't go down it. Two people can't go down it at the same time. Some people have to turn sideways. Its widest part is twenty inches. Its narrowest part is just twelve inches.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** If two people were walking toward each other on Spreuerhof Street,
 - a. one of them would have to go back.
 - b. they would have to watch out for cars.
 - c. they would be in Reutlingen, Argentina.
 - d. they could pass each other on the street.

- 2.** How many cars can be side-by-side next to each other on 9 de Julio Avenue?
 - a. zero
 - b. six
 - c. nine
 - d. twelve

- 3.** *Wide* is to *narrow* as
 - a. *look* is to *see*.
 - b. *cry* is to *weep*.
 - c. *over* is to *under*.
 - d. *street* is to *avenue*.





Name _____

8**A Foot in Each Country**

England is part of the United Kingdom, or the U.K. The United States, or the U.S., is not close to the U.K.

There is a statue. The statue is in two countries. It is on **land** that belongs to the U.K. It is also on land that belongs to the U.S. How can the same statue be on the land of two countries at the same time?

The statue is in Washington, D.C. It is in the U.S., but it is on British soil, too.

This is because it is on the grounds of the embassy for the U.K. An embassy is considered to be part of its own country.

The statue is of an Englishman. His name is Churchill. Churchill has one foot on U.K. Embassy grounds. He has the other foot in the U.S. The statue shows how Churchill helped the U.K. and the U.S. be friends.

Find the Answers

- 1.** If someone steps onto the grounds of the Mexico Embassy in Washington, D.C., one would be on
 - a. U.S. soil.
 - b. British soil.
 - c. Mexican soil.
 - d. English soil.

- 2.** If someone steps onto the grounds of the U.S. Embassy in Canada, one would be on
 - a. U.S. soil.
 - b. U.K. soil.
 - c. Canadian soil.
 - d. Australian soil.

- 3.** Another word for **land** is
 - a. foot.
 - b. soil.
 - c. statue.
 - d. friends.





Name _____

9**A Question About Roofs**

The Alps are high mountains in Europe. Many of the houses in the Alps have steep, sloping roofs. The roofs are not flat at all. Greece is a country in Europe. Houses on the Greek coast do not have roofs like the ones in the high mountains. The roofs are not as steeply sloped, and many of them are painted white.

Why do the houses in the mountains and on the coast have different roofs? Why

are some steeply sloped while others are painted white?

It snows a lot in the high mountains. Snow is very heavy. The roofs are sloped, so the snow slides off. This keeps the roofs from caving in. It is very hot in Greece along the coast. It does not snow like it does in the high mountains. The white paint reflects the sun's rays. It keeps the houses cool.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Cool is to hot as
 - a. flat is to roof.
 - b. flat is to steep.
 - c. flat is to coast.
 - d. flat is to heavy.

- 2.** A house has a flat roof. Most likely, you are *not* where it
 - a. gets hot.
 - b. gets cold.
 - c. snows a lot.
 - d. is very dry.

- 3.** Why might you be cooler if you wore light-colored clothes in the summer?
 - a. The clothes would reflect the sun's rays.
 - b. The clothes would soak up the sun's rays.
 - c. The clothes would likely turn to snow.
 - d. The clothes would be heavier than dark clothes.

/3



Name _____

10**School of the Air**

Kate and Mark get up and go to school. They listen to their teacher. They talk with their classmates. Kate and Mark are far away from their teacher. Their classmates are far away, too. How can Kate and Mark be attending school?

Kate and Mark live in Australia. They live in the outback on a **sheep station**. The sheep station is very large. The nearest town is far away. It would take hours and hours to get there. Kate and

Mark can't go there, so they attend School of the Air.

In School of the Air, students talk on the radio. The school is for students who live far away from towns. The students **attend** classes at home. They meet on the air at a certain time. They listen to their teacher on the radio. They talk to their classmates on the radio, too.

Find the Answers

- 1.** When you **attend** something, you
 - a. go to it.
 - b. are far away.
 - c. talk on the radio.
 - d. live on a sheep station.

- 2.** Most likely, students of School of the Air
 - a. do not learn to write.
 - b. go to class anytime they want.
 - c. see all of their classmates at recess.
 - d. are sent lessons and books by mail.

- 3.** A **sheep station** must be like a
 - a. sheep train.
 - b. sheep ranch.
 - c. sheep plane.
 - d. sheep school.





Name _____

11**The Smallest and the Largest**

The U.S.A. is big. It has fifty states. The smallest state is Rhode Island. Rhode Island was the thirteenth state. It became a state in 1790. It is on the East Coast. Thirty-six islands are part of the state. It is easy to get to its capital. You can drive to it. You can fly to it.

The largest state is Alaska. Alaska was the forty-ninth state. It became a state in 1959. Alaska is on the West

Coast. It is not close to the other states. It is apart. It has many islands. It is not easy to get to its capital. You cannot drive to it. You can fly to it. You can sail to it.

Alaska is very big. How many Rhode Islands can fit inside Alaska? Almost five hundred Rhode Islands can fit inside Alaska!

Find the Answers

1. What answer is true about Rhode Island?

- a. It was the forty-ninth state.
- b. It is on the West Coast.
- c. It is the largest state.
- d. It became a state in 1790.

2. From the story, you can tell that Alaska's capital

- a. is not by the water.
- b. is not on the coast.
- c. must have an airport.
- d. must be the biggest capital.

3. About how many Rhode Islands can fit inside Alaska?

- a. 50
- b. 500
- c. 550
- d. 5,000

/3



Name _____

12**The Middle**

Think about the United States. Now think about its middle. Its middle is the center. Where do you think its middle is? The middle of the United States moved. It used to be in Kansas. It was near the town of Lebanon. The center is no longer in Kansas. It is in South Dakota. How can the middle of a country change?

A country may grow. It may get bigger. Its center will **shift**. The United States

got bigger. It got bigger in 1959. It got two new states. One state was Alaska. The other state was Hawaii. The new states shifted where the center was. The new middle is now in South Dakota. It is near the town of Belle Fourche.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that if the United States gets bigger,
 - a. its center may shift.
 - b. it will no longer have a center.
 - c. its center will move back to Kansas.
 - d. its center will still be in South Dakota.

- 2.** When something **shifts**, it

a. grows.	c. is new.
b. moves.	d. gets bigger.

- 3.** What year did Alaska and Hawaii become states?

a. 1859	c. 1959
b. 1895	d. 1995

/3



Name _____

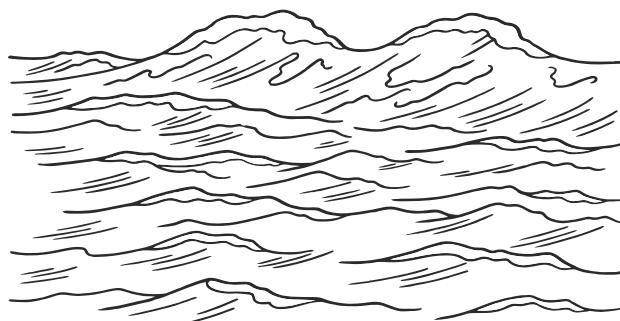
13

Can Climb, Can't Climb

You can climb to the top of a rock that is fifty feet high. You can't climb to the top of the same rock later. You can't even see the rock! It's gone! What is going on?

The rock is in the Bay of Fundy. The Bay of Fundy is in Canada. It is on the East Coast. The time between a high tide and a low tide is about six hours. During high tide, water flows in. When it is low tide, water flows out.

The tides at the Bay of Fundy are some of the highest on the planet. Think of all the freshwater rivers in the world. Every tide, more water than the combined flow of the world's freshwater rivers flows into the bay!



Find the Answers

1. The Bay of Fundy is on what part of Canada?

 - a. west
 - b. east
 - c. north
 - d. south

 2. When you can't climb the rock, it is

 - a. low tide and on dry land.
 - b. high tide and on dry land.
 - c. low tide and under the water.
 - d. high tide and under the water.

 3. From the story, you can tell that from low to high tide, the water can rise

 - a. over 50 feet.
 - b. over 100 feet.
 - c. over 150 feet.
 - d. over 200 feet.





Name _____

14**Hot-Water Monkeys**

Snow covers the ground. It is very cold, but some monkeys are bathing. They are sitting quietly in the water. Snow covers their heads. Other monkeys are walking on the bottom of the bathing pool! They are looking for food. Can this really be happening?

Yes, it is really happening! The monkeys are in Japan. The monkeys live where there are hot springs. The hot springs form pools of water. The water is

warmed by heat venting up from inside Earth.

The little monkeys began to get in the hot water first. This was about fifty years ago. Then the big monkeys got in, too. Now the monkeys are **famous**. They are famous because they love hot water.

Find the Answers

- 1.** If something is **famous**, it is
 - a. cold.
 - b. not cold.
 - c. well known.
 - d. not well known.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that someone was looking at the monkeys
 - a. 50 years ago.
 - b. 75 years ago.
 - c. 100 years ago.
 - d. 150 years ago.

- 3.** The monkeys are famous because they
 - a. sit quietly.
 - b. live in Japan.
 - c. look for food.
 - d. love hot water.





Name _____

15**Emergency Number**

You are in France. You see a car crash. A boy needs help. It is an **emergency**. You need to call for help. Do you call 911? No, you do not.

You are in New Zealand. You see a house that is on fire. A girl needs help. It is an emergency. Do you call 911? No, you do not.

You are in Australia. You see a robbery. A man needs help. It is

an emergency. Do you call 911? No, you do not.

Yes, you need to call for help, but not all countries have the same emergency number. In France, the emergency number is 112. In New Zealand, it is 111. In Australia, it is 000. What is the emergency number in your country?

Find the Answers

- 1.** From the story, what can you tell has to be true?
 - a. Not all emergency numbers are the same.
 - b. Most countries use 911 as the emergency number.
 - c. More people use 111 as an emergency number than 112.
 - d. More people use 000 as an emergency number than 911.

- 2.** An **emergency** is only when
 - a. a house is on fire.
 - b. help is needed fast.
 - c. there is a car crash.
 - d. a man is being robbed.

- 3.** If Italy and Poland have the same emergency number as France, their number must be
 - a. 000.
 - b. 111.
 - c. 112.
 - d. 911.

/3



Name _____

16**A Hole First**

You want to build a house in Bermuda, but first you have to do something. What do you have to do first? You have to dig a hole. The hole is not for a basement. What is the hole for?

Bermuda is an island in the Atlantic Ocean. There are no lakes or rivers on the island. Water is **stored** in tanks under the ground. The holes under the house are dug for storage tanks.

Where does the water for the tanks come from? It is rainwater. Houses are built with **terraced** roofs. The terraces look like little steps. The water runs down the terraced steps. It flows into a pipe and down into the storage tank.

Find the Answers

1. Bermuda is an island in what ocean?

- a. Indian Ocean
- b. Arctic Ocean
- c. Pacific Ocean
- d. Atlantic Ocean

2. If a hill was **terraced**, it would look like

- a. a pipe.
- b. it was full of holes.
- c. steps were cut into it.
- d. underground storage tanks.

3. When you **store** something, you

- a. use something immediately.
- b. put something away to use later.
- c. want to buy something.
- d. don't want to buy something.

/3



Name _____

17**Why Long and Dark?**

Syria is a country. It is in Asia. It is in the part of the world that we call the Middle East. There is a castle in Syria that is very old and famous. The castle is about 1,000 years old.

The castle is huge. It sits on a hill. It has an outer wall. It has an inner wall. It has a courtyard inside the walls. The entrance passage of the castle leads to the courtyard. The entrance passage

is long and dark. Why is the entrance passage long and dark?

It is very light in the courtyard. It is bright and sunny. Attackers would have to go through the entrance passage. Their eyes would get used to the dark. They would not be able to see well when they got to the courtyard. Their eyes would not be ready for the bright light.

Find the Answers

1. *Go in* is to *go out* as

- a. *old* is to *famous*.
- b. *famous* is to *old*.

c. *shower* is to *dry*.

d. *entrance* is to *exit*.

2. What is *not* true about the castle?

- a. It is in Syria.
- b. It has an inner wall.

c. It is in the Middle West.

d. It is about 1,000 years old.

3. From the story, you can tell that the courtyard

- a. has a roof.
- b. doesn't have a roof.

c. is bigger than Asia.

d. is bigger than Syria.





Name _____

18**The Biggest Coins**

You can carry money in your pocket because coins are small and light. There are some coins you cannot carry in your pocket. The coins are too big and heavy. They are so heavy that you cannot even lift them up! It takes more than one man to carry just one single coin! Where are these coins? Are they real money?

The coins were Yap coins. Yap is an island in the western Pacific Ocean.

The coins were real money. They were round and carved out of stone. Some of the coins were twelve feet tall. The coins had a hole carved out of the middle. The hole was so the coins could be put on a strong stick and carried by several men. The coins that were largest and most difficult to move were the most valuable.

**Find the Answers****1.** A Yap coin

- a. could not be real.
- b. could be taller than you are.
- c. had to be smaller than you are.
- d. could not be heavier than you are.

2. Where is Yap Island?

- a. the western Pacific Ocean
- b. the eastern Pacific Ocean
- c. the northern Pacific Ocean
- d. the southern Pacific Ocean

3. When something is **valuable**, it is

- a. real.
- b. round.
- c. worth a lot.
- d. carved out of stone.





Name _____

19**The World's Smallest Park**

Oregon is a state. It is in the Northwest. There are two very small parks in Oregon. One park is in Salem. Salem is the capital of Oregon. The park is called Waldo Park.

How big is Waldo Park? It is smaller than your classroom! It is only twelve by twenty feet. There is only one thing in this park. It is a redwood tree. The tree was planted in 1872. Redwood trees are the biggest trees in the world.

The world's smallest park is in Portland. Portland is Oregon's biggest city. The park is called Mill Ends Park. Mill Ends Park is a small circle in the middle of a street. The circle is only two feet wide. At one time, the park had a swimming pool for butterflies. The swimming pool even had a diving board!

Find the Answers

- 1.** What answer is *false*?
 - a. Oregon is in the Northwest.
 - b. The capital of Oregon is Salem.
 - c. The world's smallest park is in Portland.
 - d. The world's smallest park is called Waldo Park.

- 2.** When was the redwood tree planted?
 - a. 1871
 - b. 1872
 - c. 1971
 - d. 1972

- 3.** A better title for this story might be
 - a. "Two Small Parks."
 - b. "All About Oregon."
 - c. "Parks for Butterflies."
 - d. "The World's Biggest Trees."





Name _____

20**How Cattle Know Where to Go**

Sudan is a big country in east Africa. The Dinka people live in the southern part of Sudan. The Dinka raise cattle. In the dry season, the Dinka move to camps by a river.

During the day, the cows are out. At night, they are called in. Each family has a special place to keep their cattle in the camp at night. There are so many cows! They belong to so many people! How do the cows know where to go?

Children will beat a drum. Each child beats the drum a different way. Each child beats the drum with a different **rhythm**. The cows have been trained. They have learned what drumbeat they should follow. The cows only go where they hear the rhythm used by their owner.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What part of Sudan do the Dinka people live in?
 - a. eastern
 - b. western
 - c. southern
 - d. northern

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that
 - a. cattle can be trained.
 - b. Sudan is the biggest country.
 - c. there are many rivers in Africa.
 - d. the Dinka people stay in one place.

- 3.** For drumbeats to be in a **rhythm**, they must be played
 - a. loudly.
 - b. softly.
 - c. very fast.
 - d. in a pattern.





Name _____

21**Floating Islands**

There is a place where people live on islands. The ground on the islands is soft and spongy. Sometimes the people take a step. Their feet go through the island and into water! This is because the islands float! They are floating in the middle of a lake. How can this be?

The lake is in Peru. The islands are made by the Uros people. The Uros people cut reeds that grow in the lake. They tie the reeds together to make

islands. They live on the islands. They make their houses on the islands out of reeds, too. They also use the reeds to make boats.

Over time, the reeds begin to rot. A person might step in a rotten patch. What do the Uros do? They just add another layer of reeds to their island!

Find the Answers

- 1.** In the story, you are *not* told that the Uros people use reeds for
 - a. boats.
 - b. houses.
 - c. clothes.
 - d. islands.

- 2.** Most likely, what do the Uros people eat a lot of?
 - a. corn
 - b. fish
 - c. beans
 - d. apples

- 3.** *Soft* is to *hard* as
 - a. *float* is to *sink*.
 - b. *reed* is to *plant*.
 - c. *lake* is to *water*.
 - d. *rotten* is to *spongy*.





Name _____

22**A Long Walk on a Long Wall**

The Great Wall of China is wide enough to walk on. It is about twelve feet wide. As you walk, you can look down over the sides at the ground. The wall is about twenty-five feet high, so the ground is far below.

Do you think you could walk from one end of the wall to the other? You would have to walk a long time. What if you walked two and a half miles an hour? What if you walked all day and night,

never stopping? You would have to walk for more than seven weeks!

The Great Wall of China was built hundreds of years ago. Guards stood on the wall. They stood in watchtowers on the wall. The guards tried to keep China safe.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What is *not* true about the Great Wall of China?
 - a. It has watchtowers.
 - b. It was built in seven weeks.
 - c. It is wide enough to walk on.
 - d. It is about twenty-five feet high.

- 2.** Another title for this story might be
 - a. “All About China.”
 - b. “Hundreds of Guards.”
 - c. “The Great Wall of China.”
 - d. “Staying Safe in China Today.”

- 3.** Most likely, if you walked from one end of the wall to the other, it would take you
 - a. less than seven weeks because you would run.
 - b. more than seven weeks because you would run.
 - c. less than seven weeks because you would never stop.
 - d. more than seven weeks because you would need to stop.





Name _____

23**Four, Five, or Seven Seasons?**

We have four seasons. We have winter, spring, summer, and fall. The Chukchi people do not have four seasons. They have more. The Chukchi people live in Siberia. Siberia is part of Russia. The word “Chukchi” means “rich in reindeer.”

We set our four seasons by Earth’s tilt to the sun. When it is winter, Earth is tilted the most away from the sun. The days are short. When it is summer,

Earth is tilted the most toward the sun. The days are long.

The Chukchi have five seasons. How do they set their seasons? They use the rising and setting of the sun. They use the number of mosquitoes. They use the state of the snow. Some say the Chukchi have seven seasons. This is because they break down winter. Winter is broken into three seasons.

Find the Answers

1. Siberia is part of what country?

- a. Mexico
- b. Russia

- c. Brazil
- d. Tahiti

2. Most likely, in Siberia there are

- a. never any mosquitoes.
- b. always lots of mosquitoes.

- c. times when there are lots of mosquitoes.
- d. the same number of mosquitoes at all times.

3. From the story, you can tell that in Siberia

- a. it snows.
- b. there are no reindeer.

- c. the seasons never change.
- d. Earth’s tilt does not change.

/3



Name _____

24**The Falls Few People See**

Think about how long a football field is. Now put eleven football fields in a row. That's how far the water drops at Angel Falls! Angel Falls is the world's tallest waterfall. The water falls 3,212 feet down!

People go to see big lakes. They go to see big rivers. They go to see big mountains. Angel Falls is big. You would think lots of people would go to see

the falls. People may want to see the falls, but it isn't easy.

Why is it so hard to see the falls? The falls are deep in the jungle. They are in South America. They are in Venezuela. The easiest way to see the falls is from the air. Outsiders first found out about the falls in 1935. That was when a pilot flying over the jungle spotted it.

Find the Answers

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that
 - a. Angel Falls is by a big city.
 - b. there are not many roads near Angel Falls.
 - c. people play football close to Angel Falls.
 - d. the top of Angel Falls is easy to walk to.

- 2.** Venezuela is a country in

a. Asia.	c. South America.
b. Africa.	d. North America.

- 3.** The writer talked about football fields to
 - a. make you want to play football.
 - b. see if you knew how many eleven is.
 - c. get you to think about falling down.
 - d. help you picture how tall the falls is.





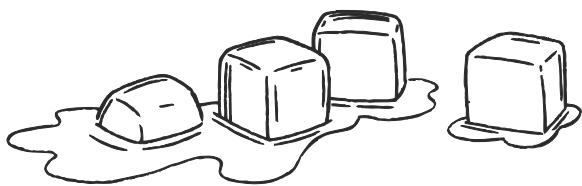
Name _____

25**A Hotel That Melts**

You can stay in a hotel above the Arctic Circle. The hotel is in Sweden. You cannot go back to the same hotel the next year. You can't because the hotel will have melted. How can this be?

A new hotel is made every year. The hotel is carved out of ice. The hotel has about sixty rooms. All the rooms and hallways are ice. Beds and chairs are carved out of ice. People are served drinks in glasses carved from ice.

How do people stay warm? Beds and chairs are covered with reindeer skin blankets. People are given jumpsuits. They are also given body bags. The body bags were developed for astronauts walking on the moon.

**Find the Answers****1.** Stay is to go as

- a. above is to below.
- b. above is to served.

- c. above is to carved.
- d. above is to developed.

2. What is *not* true about the ice hotel?

- a. It is in Sweden.
- b. It melts every year.

- c. It has about sixty rooms.
- d. It is below the Arctic Circle.

3. You can only get a room in the ice hotel in

- a. fall.
- b. summer.

- c. winter.
- d. spring.





Name _____

26**Riddles from the Philippines**

The Philippines is a country in Southeast Asia. It is made up of islands and can be found in the Pacific Ocean.

People tell riddles all over the world. Can you answer these riddles from the Philippines? Each one of these words will be an answer: *frog, candle, star*.

1. I can't see it in the light, but I can see it in the dark.

2. If you want me to last longer, I must die.
3. When it was young, it had a tail.
When it grew up, it had knees.

Now you can check if you have the right answers. The first answer is a star. The second answer is a candle. The third answer is a frog.

Find the Answers

- 1.** You can tell that, most likely, in the Philippines,

a. people like riddles.	c. there are not any frogs.
b. people don't like riddles.	d. children have tails.

- 2.** What ocean are the islands of the Philippines in?

a. Arctic	c. Pacific
b. Indian	d. Atlantic

- 3.** Read this riddle: *I ate one and threw away two.* Most likely, the answer to this riddle from the Philippines is

a. a rock.	c. a strawberry.
b. a cookie.	d. an oyster.





Name _____

27**Into the Death Zone**

Mount Everest is tall. It is the tallest mountain in the world. It is over 29,000 feet high. The top part is in the “death zone.” The death zone is a phrase. It is used by climbers. It is a zone where people cannot live. If they stay too long, they will die. The air is too thin. There is not enough oxygen.

Everest was first climbed in 1953. Two men climbed it. They wore masks. They used bottled oxygen. Other people

climbed the mountain. They all used masks, too. People thought you had to carry oxygen.

In 1978, a man named Messner climbed Everest. He made it to the top without extra oxygen. He had to be skilled and strong. He had to go fast, so he did not stay in the death zone too long.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What would have happened if Messner had stayed in the death zone too long?
 - a. He would have died.
 - b. He would have been strong.
 - c. He would have had enough oxygen.
 - d. He would have made it to the top.

- 2.** What year was Everest *first* climbed?
 - a. 1935
 - b. 1953
 - c. 1978
 - d. 1987

- 3.** What statement is true?
 - a. No climbers need extra oxygen.
 - b. All climbers need extra oxygen.
 - c. Some climbers need extra oxygen.
 - d. The fastest climbers need extra oxygen.

/3



Name _____

28**Underground Cities**

There are some old cities in Turkey. Some of the cities are over 2,000 years old. No one lives in these cities today, but people still visit them. Why do people want to see them? The cities are under the ground.

The cities had kitchens. They had meeting rooms. They had places to store cereal. They had stables. They even had air **vents** or chimneys. The air vents made it so it was safe to breathe more

than one hundred feet under the ground. They kept fresh air flowing through the rooms.

The cities had locking stones. The stones could only be opened or closed from the inside. The locking stones were used to keep the people safe inside the cities.

Find the Answers**1.** A **vent** is

- a. a chimney that is only used for smoke.
- b. a chimney that does not allow air to pass.
- c. an opening or way of letting something out.
- d. an opening or meeting room under the ground.

2. Where are the underground cities?

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| a. Turkey | c. Tanzania |
| b. Thailand | d. Turkmenistan |

3. Locking stones might have been used when people needed

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| a. air. | c. to visit. |
| b. to hide. | d. to grow cereal. |

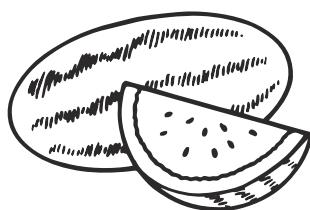




Name _____

29**Okay Spitting**

Most times spitting is not okay. It is rude. It is dirty. There is one time when spitting is okay. It is in Luling, Texas. It is at the Great Watermelon Thump. The Thump takes place once a year. People see who grew the largest watermelon. They also see who can spit the seeds the farthest.



The farthest spit is a world record. It

was set in 1989. How far was the world-record watermelon-seed spit? It was just over sixty-eight feet and nine inches!

You get to spit two times. Each time you can spit one seed. Anyone who spits at the crowd loses. One champion says, “Roll your tongue. Put the seed in the middle. Blow as hard as you can.”

Find the Answers

- 1.** This story does *not* tell you
 - a. where spitting is okay.
 - b. how many times you can spit.
 - c. how big the biggest watermelon was.
 - d. how often the Great Watermelon Thump takes place.

- 2.** What is the second thing that the champion says to do?
 - a. “Roll your tongue.”
 - b. “Blow as hard as you can.”
 - c. “Don’t spit at the crowd.”
 - d. “Put the seed in the middle.”

- 3.** In what state does the Great Watermelon Thump take place?
 - a. Texas
 - b. Louisiana
 - c. Tennessee
 - d. North Dakota





Name _____

30**Under-the-Water Mail**

A mailman puts on his suit. What kind of suit? A scuba-diving suit! Then he puts on his oxygen tank. He puts on his mask and flippers. What type of mailman is a scuba diver? One that works in a post office under the water!

Vanuatu is an island nation. It is in the South Pacific. It opened a post office in 2003. The office is under the water. It is 164 feet out from shore. It is ten feet under the water. People can

buy special postcards. The cards are waterproof. People can swim out to the post office. They can mail their cards under the water.

The mailmen like their jobs. They take care of all the cards. They use a special press to cancel the cards. They make sure the cards are **delivered**. They like helping people send cards from their island nation.

Find the Answers**1.** Where is Vanuatu?

- a. North Pacific
- b. South Pacific
- c. North Atlantic
- d. South Atlantic

2. Why might Vanuatu have built the post office under the water?

- a. It makes people want to visit.
- b. It makes it easier to send mail.
- c. It makes the mailmen wear a suit.
- d. It makes more room on the island.

3. When you **deliver** something, you

- a. open and close something.
- b. wash and fold something.
- c. buy and eat something.
- d. bring and hand over something.





Scientifically Speaking





Name _____

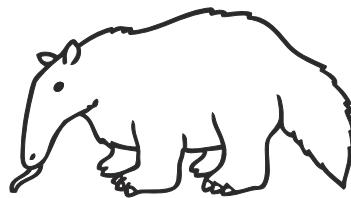
1**No Teeth**

A mammal is a kind of animal. A mammal is warm-blooded and has hair. Mammal babies drink milk. You are a mammal.

Most mammals have teeth. There is one mammal that does not have teeth. It doesn't have baby teeth. It doesn't have adult teeth. What kind of animal is it? How can the animal eat?

It is an anteater. An anteater doesn't have teeth, but it does have a long, sticky

tongue. One anteater has a tongue two feet long! When the anteater puts out its tongue, ants stick to it. The anteater puts its tongue back in its mouth. It flexes its jaw to scrape the ants off its tongue. Then it swallows the ants whole. Anteaters may eat 30,000 ants in one day!

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** What is *not* true about mammals?
 - a. All mammals have baby teeth.
 - b. All mammals are warm-blooded.
 - c. All mammal babies drink milk.
 - d. All mammals are a kind of animal.

- 2.** Most likely, anteaters swallow ants whole because they need
 - a. milk to drink.
 - b. teeth to chew.
 - c. to flex their jaws.
 - d. to scrape their tongues.

- 3.** An anteater may eat how many ants in one day?
 - a. 300
 - b. 3,000
 - c. 30,000
 - d. 300,000

/3



Name _____

2**Where a Day Is Not Twenty-Four Hours**

Go to the North Pole. A day is twenty-four hours long. Go to the South Pole. A day is twenty-four hours long. Go to the equator. A day is twenty-four hours long. Go anywhere on Earth, and the length of a day is exactly the same. It always takes twenty-four hours for Earth to **rotate** or spin completely around on its axis.

Go to the sun. Go to its poles and its equator. The day length is not the same!

The sun is not solid like Earth. The sun is made up of gases. The length of a day on the sun depends on where you are. Different parts rotate at different speeds.

The sun spins faster at the equator than at its poles. A day is about thirty-one Earth days long at its poles. A day is about twenty-seven Earth days long at its equator.

Find the Answers

1. What thing could *not* **rotate**?

- a. a wheel on a bike
- b. a wheel on a skate
- c. a wheel on a train
- d. a wheel in a picture

2. Parts of the sun rotate at different speeds because the sun

- a. is solid.
- b. is made up of gases.
- c. does not have poles.
- d. does not spin completely around.

3. You are in South America. A day is

- a. the same as a day in Asia.
- b. longer than a day in Africa.
- c. longer than a day in Europe.
- d. shorter than a day in North America.





Name _____

3**The Smaller Lung**

Everyone has two lungs. One of your lungs is smaller than the other lung. What lung is smaller? Why is one lung smaller than the other?

Your left lung is smaller than your right lung. This is so that there is room for your heart. Your heart occupies more of the left side of your body than your right side. (For a few people, the opposite is true.)

Your heart is a powerful pumping organ. It is about the size of your fist. When it beats, it pumps blood. It pumps blood around your body through blood vessels. Your heart beats around sixty to eighty times a minute. If you run fast, it may beat two hundred times a minute!

Find the Answers

- 1.** If your heart is beating sixty times a minute, most likely, you are
 - a. walking slowly.
 - b. swimming in a race.
 - c. jumping up and down.
 - d. running as fast as you can.

- 2.** A better title for this story might be
 - a. “One Lung.”
 - b. “How Many Beats?”
 - c. “Your Lungs and Heart.”
 - d. “When the Opposite Is True.”

- 3.** Your heart is about the size of your
 - a. toe.
 - b. fist.
 - c. hand.
 - d. foot.

/3



Name _____

4**All Because of Melted Chocolate**

Percy Spencer was working. He was in a lab. It was 1946. Percy had a chocolate bar. It was in his pocket. Percy stood in front of a device. The device was on. Then Percy noticed something. His chocolate bar had melted.

Percy didn't get mad. He didn't get upset. He began to think. Then he did something with the device. It was something new. He did it because his

chocolate bar had melted.

What did Percy do? He invented an oven. What kind of oven was it? It was the microwave! Percy's microwave oven was big. It was bigger than the ones we use today. It was the size of a closet. It was heavier. It was as heavy as a pile of bricks. Today, microwaves are much smaller. They are much lighter. They can still melt chocolate!

Find the Answers

- 1.** Something made or invented for a special use is a
 - a. brick.
 - b. device.
 - c. closet.
 - d. chocolate bar.

- 2.** Most likely, what did Percy think when his chocolate bar melted?
 - a. "This device makes me mad."
 - b. "This device is too big and heavy."
 - c. "This device must stay in the lab."
 - d. "This device might work for cooking."

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that, at first, Percy
 - a. was upset that his chocolate bar had melted.
 - b. knew what would happen to his chocolate bar.
 - c. did not plan on inventing the microwave oven.
 - d. knew from the start what he was going to invent.





Name _____

5**Caribou Fog**

There is a large herd of caribou. They are on the Arctic tundra. The herd is surrounded by fog. It hovers around them. Why is the herd in a blanket of fog? Why isn't the rest of the tundra covered by a blanket of fog?

It is cold in the tundra. Caribou have warm, moist breath. Usually, their breath is invisible. When it is very cold and the air is filled with water, their breath condenses. It condenses into

water droplets. The water droplets form tiny clouds.

There are a lot of caribou. They sweat. They breathe. Their sweat and breath add enough water to the air that they form their own blanket of fog!

Find the Answers

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that clouds are made up of
 - a. sweat.
 - b. caribou.
 - c. blankets.
 - d. water droplets.

- 2.** Caribou create their own blanket of fog when their breath is
 - a. invisible.
 - b. not moist.
 - c. warmer than the air.
 - d. colder than the air.

- 3.** Where do caribou live?
 - a. in the swamp
 - b. on the tundra
 - c. in the forest
 - d. on the prairie

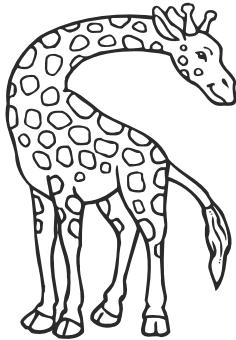
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Warm-Up

6

Name _____

All About Giraffes

A giraffe is very tall. It can easily look into a second-story window. It has a long neck. How many neck bones or vertebrae are in its neck? There is the same number as in your neck! You both have seven vertebrae. The giraffe's are just much bigger!

A giraffe's tongue is very long. It can be

twenty inches long. The end of its tongue is dark. It is blue-black. Some scientists think the color protects the giraffe. It protects it from getting sunburned!

The giraffe has a long tail. It is the longest tail of any land mammal. Its tail can be eight feet long! The tail has a tassel at the end. The hairs on the tassel are ten to twenty times thicker than your hair. Giraffes use the tassel to swish away pesky bugs.

Find the Answers

- 1.** How many vertebrae are in a giraffe's neck?
 - a. seven
 - b. eight
 - c. ten
 - d. twenty

- 2.** Most likely, a giraffe's tail is
 - a. shorter than its tongue.
 - b. longer than you are tall.
 - c. shorter than you are tall.
 - d. longer than the giraffe is tall.

- 3.** What might make you think the giraffe lives where it is hot?
 - a. its neck
 - b. its long tail
 - c. its tongue color
 - d. its thick tassel hairs





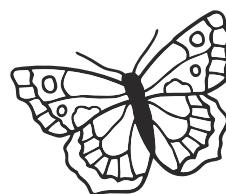
Name _____

7**Fake Eyes**

One butterfly has four eyes. Two eyes are small. They are real. Two eyes are not real. They are fake. The fake eyes are on the butterfly's wings. The eyes are big. They are brown and yellow. They mimic another animal's eyes. They look like an owl's eyes!

Why would a butterfly mimic an owl's eyes? The fake eyes are for safety. They help protect the butterfly. Small animals eat butterflies. They prey on

them. Owls eat small animals. Owls eat animals that prey on butterflies.



What if a butterfly is being hunted? It flashes its fake eyes. The animal hunting it thinks it is an owl.

The animal is afraid. It flees. It takes off fast. The animal wanted a meal. It did not want to be a meal!

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, an owl's eyes are
 - a. yellow and black.
 - b. yellow and green.
 - c. yellow and brown.
 - d. yellow and white.

- 2.** If something looks or acts like something else, it is
 - a. hunting it.
 - b. fleeing it.
 - c. flashing it.
 - d. mimicking it.

- 3.** *Real* is to *fake* as
 - a. *look* is to *see*.
 - b. *flee* is to *stay*.
 - c. *fast* is to *quick*.
 - d. *small* is to *tiny*.





Warm-Up

8

Name _____

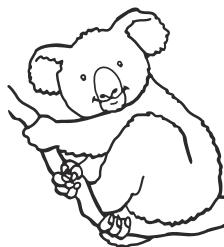
Koalas

Pick up a nickel. You are holding something that is bigger than a baby koala! Koalas are very little when they are born. They are blind. They can't hear.

The back legs of the koala are just beginning to take shape, but its front legs are stronger. This is because within five minutes of being born, the baby koala crawls into its mother's pouch. It stays in its mother's pouch for the next six

months. It drinks milk when it is in the pouch.

Koalas live in Australia. They have two thumbs on each hand. This helps them climb trees. They can grab branches and hang on tight.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** A baby koala is in its mother's pouch within how many minutes after being born?
 - a. five
 - b. ten
 - c. fifteen
 - d. twenty

- 2.** A nickel is part of this story so you
 - a. can see what a koala costs.
 - b. will think about five cents.
 - c. won't know what the story is about.
 - d. can picture how small a baby koala is.

- 3.** A strong wind comes. A koala does not fall out of the tree. One reason might be that it
 - a. drinks milk.
 - b. is born blind.
 - c. has two thumbs on each hand.
 - d. lives in Australia.





Name _____

9**Jupiter Fun Facts**

A fact is not made up. A fact is really true. There are lots of fun facts about Jupiter. One fun fact is that Jupiter is very big. It is a large planet. It is the largest planet in our solar system. Jupiter is so big that more than one Earth could fit inside it. How many Earths could fit inside? 1,300 Earths could fit inside Jupiter!

Jupiter has many moons. It has the biggest moon in our solar system. The

moon is bigger than a planet! What planet is the moon bigger than? It is bigger than Mercury.

Jupiter has a red spot. The red spot is big. The red spot is a storm. The storm has been going on for over three hundred years.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What is *not* a fact but, instead, something you might think?
 - a. A banana is yellow.
 - b. An orange is a fruit.
 - c. A banana is a fruit.
 - d. An orange is the best fruit.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that
 - a. Mercury has more moons than Earth.
 - b. Mercury is smaller than at least one moon.
 - c. Earth is smaller than Jupiter's biggest moon.
 - d. Earth has storms that last for over three hundred years.

- 3.** How many Earths could fit inside Jupiter?
 - a. 13
 - b. 130
 - c. 1,300
 - d. 13,000





Name _____

10**The Big and Small of Fox Ears**

The Arctic fox has very small ears. The fennec fox is smaller than the Arctic fox. The fennec fox is the smallest wild dog in the world. The fennec fox is small, but its ears are big! They are huge! Why are the smallest fox's ears so big?

The Arctic fox lives in the Arctic. It is very cold. The Arctic fox needs to stay warm to survive. Small ears help the Arctic fox survive. Small ears do not

expose a lot of surface to the cold air. Small ears do not lose much heat.

The fennec fox lives in the Sahara Desert. It is very hot. The fennec fox needs to stay cool to survive. Big ears help the fennec fox survive. Big ears have a large, flat surface. The fox stays cool because heat quickly escapes from the exposed surface.

Find the Answers

- 1.** When something is **exposed**, it is
 - a. eaten.
 - b. hidden.
 - c. not eaten.
 - d. not hidden.

- 2.** An elephant has huge ears. They have a large, flat surface. Most likely, elephants
 - a. do not live where it is hot.
 - b. have smaller ears than foxes.
 - c. have ears that help them stay cool.
 - d. have ears that do not help them survive.

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that all foxes
 - a. are wild dogs.
 - b. have big ears.
 - c. live in the desert.
 - d. live where it is cold.





Name _____

11**A Plant Like Flypaper**

Flypaper is sticky. It smells good to flies. Flies land on it. They stick to the paper. The sundew plant is like flypaper. It smells good to insects. Insects fly to the plant and land on it. They stick to the plant.

What happens when the insects get stuck? The plant eats them! The plant is carnivorous. When something is **carnivorous**, it eats meat.

Sundew plants live in soil that is missing important minerals. Other plants could not survive there. They cannot grow without the needed minerals. How does a sundew plant survive? How does it get the important minerals it needs? It gets its minerals from the insects it eats!

Find the Answers

1. What animal is **carnivorous**?

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| a. cow | c. deer |
| b. lion | d. horse |

2. The plant is like flypaper because they are both

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| a. traps. | c. teeth. |
| b. brown. | d. brave. |

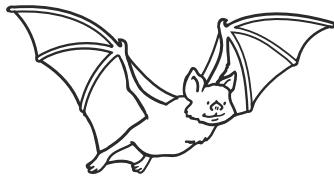
3. Where do most other plants get important minerals?

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| a. from meat | c. from insects |
| b. from flies | d. from the soil |

/3



Name _____

12**Flying with Hands**

the mammal fly? It flies with its hands! The mammal is a bat. The bones in a bat's wings are like the bones in your arm and hand. The big difference is that the finger bones of a bat are much longer.

A bat's wing is made of two layers of skin. The skin is thin, but it is very

There is only one mammal that can fly. How does

strong. The skin stretches out between the bat's long fingers.

Some bats eat fruit while other bats eat fish or insects. Some very small bats, called vampire bats, drink blood. Vampire bats land by a sleeping animal. Then they hop over to the animal. Using their sharp teeth, they make a small cut in the animal's skin. Next, they lap up some blood. Most times, the sleeping animal never wakes up!

Find the Answers

1. How many kinds of mammals can fly?

- a. one
- b. five
- c. ten
- d. fifteen

2. Another title for this story might be

- a. "How Bats Fly."
- b. "What Bats Eat."
- c. "All About Bats."
- d. "A Drink of Blood."

3. Vampire bats drink

- a. soda.
- b. blood.
- c. fruit juice.
- d. water.





Name _____

13**A Lucky Accident**

It was 1903. Edouard Benedictus had an accident. A glass was on his workbench. He knocked it over. It fell to the floor. His accident was lucky. How come?

The glass did not break. It did not break into sharp pieces. Edouard was surprised. Why didn't the glass break? Why wasn't there a mess? Why weren't there sharp pieces of glass all over the floor?

Edouard picked up the glass. He looked

at it. It was empty. Then Edouard remembered something. He had been working with some chemicals. The chemicals had left a light coating on the glass. The coating had kept the glass from breaking.

What did Edouard's lucky accident lead to? It led to safety glass! A coating is put on windows. It is put on car glass. The coating keeps the windows from breaking into sharp pieces.

Find the Answers

1. Safety glass makes it

- a. more likely someone will get cut.
- b. less likely someone will get cut.
- c. more likely someone will knock over a glass.
- d. less likely someone will knock over a glass.

2. Why was Edouard's accident lucky?

- a. It was in 1903.
- b. It coated the glass.
- c. It surprised Edouard.
- d. It led to something new.

3. Where was the glass before it got knocked over?

- a. on the floor
- b. on the chemicals
- c. on his workbench
- d. on his car window

/3



Name _____

14**All About the Growl**

You hear a growl. Where is it coming from? It is coming from your stomach! Why is your stomach growling?

Stomach growling may happen at any time. You are just more likely to hear it when two things happen. One, your stomach is empty. Two, you are hungry. If you are hungry, your brain sends a message to your stomach. The message is to begin digestion.

Your stomach does what the brain tells it to. It starts digestion. Muscles start working. They start mixing. Normally, they start mixing stomach acids with food. With an empty stomach, there is no food to mix. The muscles mix up only the acids. This makes more noise than if food was being mixed with the acids. The noise sounds like growling.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, if your stomach is growling very loudly, you
 - a. are not hungry.
 - b. have a full stomach.
 - c. just ate a lot of food.
 - d. have not eaten for a long time.

- 2.** What sends the message to begin digestion?
 - a. the brain
 - b. acids
 - c. muscles
 - d. the stomach

- 3.** What answer has to be *false*?
 - a. Stomach acids are made every day.
 - b. Stomach acids are a kind of muscle.
 - c. Stomach acids help break down food.
 - d. Stomach acids are made in the stomach.





Name _____

15**You Had to Look Up**

Scientists look for new kinds of animals. Most new animal finds are very small. They are hard to see. Scientists just found a new kind of lizard. They found it in the Philippines in 2009. Is this lizard small? No, it is **enormous**! It is longer than a tall man!

Do you know why this lizard took so long for scientists to find? You can't look down. You have to look up high. The lizard spends all its time in trees. It

creeps along branches that are more than sixty-six feet high. The lizard lives on fruit.

How did scientists know to look for this huge lizard? They saw a photograph taken in 2001. In the picture, local people were eating the lizard.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Scientists know most of the big kinds of animals because they
 - a. live up high.
 - b. live on fruit.
 - c. are hard to see.
 - d. are easy to see.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that a local person is
 - a. a scientist.
 - b. someone who visits.
 - c. someone who lives there.
 - d. a new kind of animal.

- 3.** When something is **enormous**, it is
 - a. huge.
 - b. high.
 - c. hard.
 - d. held.





Name _____

16**First in Space**

What was first in space? It was not a person. It was a fly. It was a tiny fruit fly! Fruit flies were blasted into space in July 1946. They were sent on a V2 rocket. They were sent with some corn seeds. Moss was sent next. Then monkeys were sent. The first monkey was named Albert II. Albert II went into space in 1949. All these animals went up. Then they came down.

What was first in **orbit**? What was first to circle Earth? It was not a person. It was a dog. The dog's name was Laika. Laika orbited Earth in 1957.

What was first to circle the moon? It was not a person. It was a tortoise! The tortoise circled the moon in 1968. When did a person go up in space? The first person went up in space in 1961.

Find the Answers

- 1.** The first person in space went
 - a. before the monkey.
 - b. before the tortoise.
 - c. before the corn seeds.
 - d. before the fruit flies.

- 2.** If you go into **orbit**, you
 - a. go up.
 - b. go down.
 - c. go around.
 - d. go sideways.

- 3.** Most likely, animals were sent into space first
 - a. to have fun.
 - b. to find food.
 - c. to take a walk.
 - d. to make sure it was safe.





Name _____

17**A Giant**

The blue whale is a giant. It is the biggest animal on Earth. Everything about it is big, big, big. Its heart is enormous. How big is it? It is the size of a small car!

Blood vessels are tubes that run through the body. Blood flows through the tubes. Some blood vessels of the blue whale are gigantic. How wide is the largest blood vessel? It is wide enough for a small person to crawl inside!



The blue whale has the loudest voice. It is louder than a jet engine. Its voice can carry great distances through the water. How far can it travel? Its voice can travel five hundred miles!

Find the Answers**1.** Blood vessels are

- a. the size of a small car.
- b. louder than a jet engine.
- c. tubes blood flows through.
- d. wider than five hundred miles.

2. *Big* is to *gigantic* as

- a. *voice* is to *loud*.
- b. *blood* is to *vessel*.
- c. *small* is to *person*.
- d. *large* is to *enormous*.

3. Most likely, a blue whale lives in

- a. an ocean.
- b. a puddle.
- c. a big pond.
- d. a big lake.





Name _____

18**A Message You Won't Hear**

You call a friend. He or she is not home. What do you do? You leave a message. You wait for a call back. A message was once sent. No one is sure there will be an answer. What if there is an answer? No one will hear it. Why leave a message if you won't hear the answer?

The message was sent in 1974. It was sent by a radio telescope. The radio telescope is the largest in the world. It is

in Puerto Rico. The message was sent to the M13 star cluster. When will it get there? It will take 25,000 years!

What if someone calls back? The message will take 25,000 years to get to Earth. That is why people today will not hear an answer. The answer won't come for 50,000 years!

Find the Answers

- 1.** What star cluster was the message sent to?
 - a. N13
 - b. M13
 - c. N25
 - d. M25

- 2.** The story does *not* tell you
 - a. what the message said.
 - b. how the message was sent.
 - c. when the message was sent.
 - d. where the message was sent.

- 3.** What answer is true?
 - a. There will be an answer.
 - b. You will hear an answer.
 - c. There might be an answer.
 - d. You will know if the message gets there.





Name _____

19**Squirting Blood**

How do lizards stay safe? How do they get away from predators? Some lizards use their tails. The lizard's tail is made to break off. If a predator grabs it, the tail breaks off. The lizard can get away and grow a new tail.

Some lizards squirt blood. These lizards are called horned lizards. If a predator comes close, the lizard squirts blood at it. The blood is shot from the corner of its eyes.

Some lizards make themselves look bigger than they are. These lizards have a frill of **loose** skin around their necks. If a predator comes close, the lizard puffs out its frill. This makes the lizard look much bigger than it really is.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Another title for this story might be
 - a. "Predators."
 - b. "Big Tails."
 - c. "Staying Safe."
 - d. "Puffing Blood."

- 2.** In the story, you are only told the name of the lizard that
 - a. squirts blood.
 - b. makes itself look bigger.
 - c. is grabbed by a predator.
 - d. has a tail that breaks off.

- 3.** The opposite of **loose** is
 - a. big.
 - b. hard.
 - c. close.
 - d. tight.

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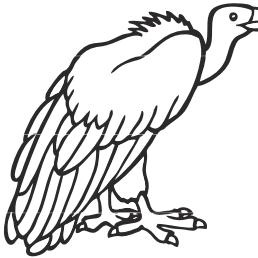
Warm-Up

20

Name _____

Vulture Fun Facts

Vultures are birds. They eat dead animals. This may sound gross, but it is very important. Vultures help keep the world clean. By eating dead animals, they stop disease from spreading.



Vultures have bare heads. Their heads do not have any feathers. This may look ugly, but it is very important. When a vulture feeds, it can

stay clean. It can tear off bites with its sharp beak. It does not have to worry about getting dirty feathers.

How do vultures **protect** themselves? They vomit! Their vomit smells terrible. Animals smell the vomit, and what do they do? They stay away! They do not want to eat anything that smells so terrible. They do not even want to be close to it!

Find the Answers

- 1.** If you **protect** something, you
 - a. tell it to stay away.
 - b. keep it safe.
 - c. give it a disease.
 - d. make it smell terrible.

- 2.** Vultures are important because they
 - a. smell terrible.
 - b. have bare heads.
 - c. vomit to protect themselves.
 - d. stop disease from spreading.

- 3.** What is true about vultures?
 - a. They eat dead animals.
 - b. They have vomit that smells nice.
 - c. They have feathers on their heads.
 - d. They protect themselves with their beaks.





Name _____

21**Drinking Boiling Water**

You are at sea level. You can't drink boiling water. It is too hot. What is the temperature at which water boils? At sea level, water boils at 212°F.

What if you went to the top of Mount Everest? You could drink boiling water! How can this be? Water boils at a lower temperature on the top of Mount Everest. It boils at 156°F.

Why isn't the boiling temperature the same? Mount Everest is very high.

There is less air. It is easier for water to boil because there is less air pressure. At sea level, there is more air. The air pressure is greater. Water has to be hotter to boil when there is more air pressure.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Where would it take a hard-boiled egg the longest to cook?
 - a. at sea level
 - b. the top of Mount Everest
 - c. the bottom of Mount Everest
 - d. the middle of Mount Everest

- 2.** The story does *not* tell you
 - a. the air temperature at sea level.
 - b. where the air pressure is greater.
 - c. the temperature water boils at sea level.
 - d. the temperature water boils at the top of Mount Everest.

- 3.** *Sea level* is to *low* as
 - a. *mountaintop* is to *hot*.
 - b. *mountaintop* is to *boil*.
 - c. *mountaintop* is to *same*.
 - d. *mountaintop* is to *high*.





Name _____

22**A Pretzel Bone Knot**

Your bones are hard. They do not bend. If you bend them, they will break. Calcium is a mineral. The calcium in your bones is what makes them strong, hard, and unbendable.

Someone says to you, “I can bend bones. I can tie a knot in a bone like a pretzel, and I won’t break it.” Can this be true?

Yes, you can tie a knot in a bone and not break it. Take an old chicken bone and cover it with vinegar. You will have

to soak the bone in the vinegar for about a week. The vinegar will dissolve the calcium. When you take the bone out, the bone will be **rubbery**. You will be able to tie a knot in it like a pretzel.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What makes your bones strong, hard, and unbendable?
 - a. rubber
 - b. vinegar
 - c. calcium
 - d. pretzel

- 2.** It might be possible to tie a knot in a bone if
 - a. the bone is cooked.
 - b. you cover the bone with pretzels.
 - c. you put a little vinegar on the bone.
 - d. the minerals in the bone are dissolved.

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that when something is **rubbery**, it is
 - a. bendable.
 - b. likeable.
 - c. breakable.
 - d. drinkable.





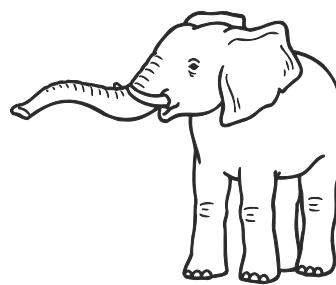
Name _____

23**The Largest Land Animal**

The largest land animal has a long nose. It has the longest nose of any living animal. What is the largest land animal? What has the longest nose of any living animal? It is the elephant.

An elephant's nose is called a trunk. An elephant can walk in deep water. It can swim, too. How does the elephant breathe? It holds up its trunk! It holds it up out of the water! It uses its trunk like a snorkel!

An elephant can pick a flower. It can pick up a large log. It can pick up small and big things with its trunk. How can it do this? Its trunk has lots of muscles and tendons. How many muscles and tendons does it have? It has over 40,000 muscles and tendons!

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** A whale might be bigger than an elephant, but a whale
 - a. does not live on land.
 - b. can swim in deep water.
 - c. has lots of muscles and tendons.
 - d. has the longest nose of any animal.

- 2.** About how many muscles and tendons does an elephant have?
 - a. 400
 - b. 4,000
 - c. 40,000
 - d. 400,000

- 3.** Trunk is to nose as
 - a. paw is to fur.
 - b. paw is to foot.
 - c. paw is to tail.
 - d. paw is to teeth.





Name _____

24**Icebergs with Stripes**

Someone says, “I saw an iceberg. It was white. It had green stripes.” Could this be true?

Icebergs are blocks of ice. They float. Most are frozen fresh water. They have broken off a glacier. They have fallen into the sea. You only see a small part of an iceberg. What if you cut an iceberg into ten parts? You would only see one of the ten parts. One part would be above water. Nine parts would be

below water. You would see one-tenth of the iceberg.

Sometimes a layer of seawater will freeze on an iceberg. What if the sea water is **rich** in algae? The algae will do something. It will make the frozen seawater look green. It will make a green stripe on the iceberg.

Find the Answers

1. What makes an iceberg green?

- a. ice
- b. algae
- c. fresh water
- d. glacier ice

2. One reason a ship might hit an iceberg is because

- a. it has green stripes.
- b. it is part of a glacier.
- c. the ship’s crew can see most of the iceberg.
- d. the ship’s crew can’t see most of the iceberg.

3. When one is **rich** in something, one has

- a. a lot of it.
- b. very little of it.
- c. a layer of seawater.
- d. a part you can’t see.





Name _____

25**Breaking the Sound Barrier**

Sound travels fast. How fast does sound travel through air? It goes about seven hundred miles per hour. What if something goes faster than sound? We say that it broke the sound barrier. When something breaks the sound barrier, we hear something. We hear a sonic boom.

What was the first man-made thing that broke the sound **barrier**? Was it a plane? Was it a rocket? Was it a

bullet? Most people think it was a plane, rocket, or bullet. They are all wrong. It was not one of those things. It was a whip!

The tip of a whip can travel faster than the speed of sound. The crack of a whip is actually the sound of a sonic boom!

Find the Answers

- 1.** A **barrier** is something that
 - a. guides you.
 - b. travels quickly.
 - c. blocks airplanes.
 - d. blocks the way.

- 2.** What part of the whip can travel faster than sound?
 - a. the tip
 - b. the middle
 - c. the handle
 - d. the whole whip

- 3.** How fast does sound travel?
 - a. seventy miles per hour
 - b. seven hundred miles per hour
 - c. nine hundred miles per hour
 - d. ninety miles per hour

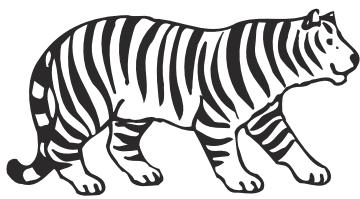




Name _____

26**Skin-Deep Stripes**

Tigers have orange, black, and white stripes. The stripes camouflage the tiger. They camouflage the tiger by breaking up its outline. This way the tiger can hide in tall grass. It can hide in the patchy shadows of the jungle. It can wait for its prey without being seen.



A tiger's stripes are like your fingerprints. Each tiger has

its own stripe pattern. No other tiger has the same pattern. You have your own set of fingerprints. No one else has the same pattern.

A tiger's stripes are on its skin. Shave off a tiger's hair, and what do you see? You see the same stripe pattern on its skin!

Find the Answers

- 1.** Why are a tiger's stripes like your fingerprints?
 - a. They both help you hide.
 - b. No one else has the same pattern.
 - c. You have the same pattern on your bones.
 - d. They make it so you can wait without being seen.

- 2.** If something is made to look like something else so it is hidden, it is
 - a. carved.
 - b. colored.
 - c. crafted.
 - d. camouflaged.

- 3.** Another title for this story might be
 - a. "All About Cats."
 - b. "All About Skin."
 - c. "All About a Tiger's Stripes."
 - d. "All About Waiting for Prey."





Name _____

27**Tricky Shampoo**

Your eyes know the makeup of your own tears. What if shampoo gets into your eyes? Your eyes sense that it is something **strange**. They know it is different from your tears.

Messages are sent. First, your eyes send a message to your brain. The message is that a strange, stinging thing is in your eyes. Your brain then sends a message to your eyes. The brain's message says,

"Make tears! Wash that strange stuff out!"

Why do some shampoos make you cry more than others? The "tearless" shampoos are made to trick your eyes. They are made to be more like the water in your tears. It is harder for your eyes to know that it is shampoo and not your natural tears.

Find the Answers

- 1.** A shampoo that makes you cry a lot is
 - a. most like your tears.
 - b. most like your brain.
 - c. least like your tears.
 - d. least like your brain.

- 2.** When something is **strange**, it is
 - a. tricky.
 - b. shampoo.
 - c. stinging.
 - d. different.

- 3.** What part of your body sends the *first* message?
 - a. your head
 - b. your eyes
 - c. your brain
 - d. your tears





Name _____

28**Walking on Eggs**

Scientists were in Argentina. They were in a remote area. It was far away from cities and towns. It was 1997. The scientists were looking for early birds. They found something else. They did not expect to find it. What did they find? They found eggs! They found thousands of dinosaur eggs!

The scientists walked out on a plain. The plain was dry and **barren**. Not much grew there. They saw lots of rocks. The

rocks were about the size of grapefruits. Then the scientists looked closer. The rocks they were walking on were not rocks. They were dinosaur eggs!

The scientists were very happy with the fossil eggs. They found fossilized baby dinosaurs in the eggs. They found fossilized skin, too.

Find the Answers

1. When were the dinosaur eggs found?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| a. 1997 | c. 2007 |
| b. 1999 | d. 2009 |

2. How do you think the scientists felt when they found the eggs?

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| a. foolish | c. surprised |
| b. unhappy | d. fossilized |

3. If something is **barren**, it

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. cannot be walked on. | c. has lots of plants growing on it. |
| b. is covered with fossils. | d. has very few plants growing on it. |





Name _____

29**The Caterpillar Has More**

You are bigger than a caterpillar. Yet there is something a caterpillar has more of than you. It has a lot more. What can it be?

Your muscles help you move. They make your heart pump blood. They push food down your body. Some of your muscles are big. Others are small. All your muscles make up about half of your body weight. How many muscles do you have? You have more than six hundred muscles.

A caterpillar is small, but it has more. It has more than 4,000 muscles!

Your smallest muscle is in your ear. Your largest muscle is in your buttocks. Take a simple step forward. How many muscles did you use? You used just over fifty muscles!

Find the Answers

- 1.** You have about
 - a. 50 muscles.
 - b. 600 muscles.
 - c. 4,000 muscles.
 - d. 6,000 muscles.

- 2.** What statement do you know has to be true about your smallest muscle?
 - a. It helps you eat.
 - b. It helps you walk.
 - c. It is in your ear.
 - d. It makes your heart pump.

- 3.** Most likely, a caterpillar has more muscles because
 - a. of its weight.
 - b. it is smaller.
 - c. it has bigger ears.
 - d. of the way it moves.

/3



Name _____

30**No Nest**

Most birds make nests for their eggs. Most birds lay on their eggs to keep them warm. Emperor penguins don't make nests. These penguins live in Antarctica. In Antarctica, the temperature often falls far below freezing. How can the penguins take care of their eggs? How can they keep them warm?

The female Emperor penguin lays one egg. She lays it in the coldest winter months. The male penguin keeps the egg

warm. He balances it on his feet. He has a flap of skin that covers the egg. He keeps the egg warm. He never stops balancing it for six long weeks.

When the egg hatches, the mother and father take turns. They take turns carrying the baby penguin on their feet. The chick stays warm under their flaps of skin.

Find the Answers**1.** *Male* is to *father* as

- a. *female* is to *egg*.
- b. *female* is to *girl*.
- c. *female* is to *nest*.
- d. *female* is to *mother*.

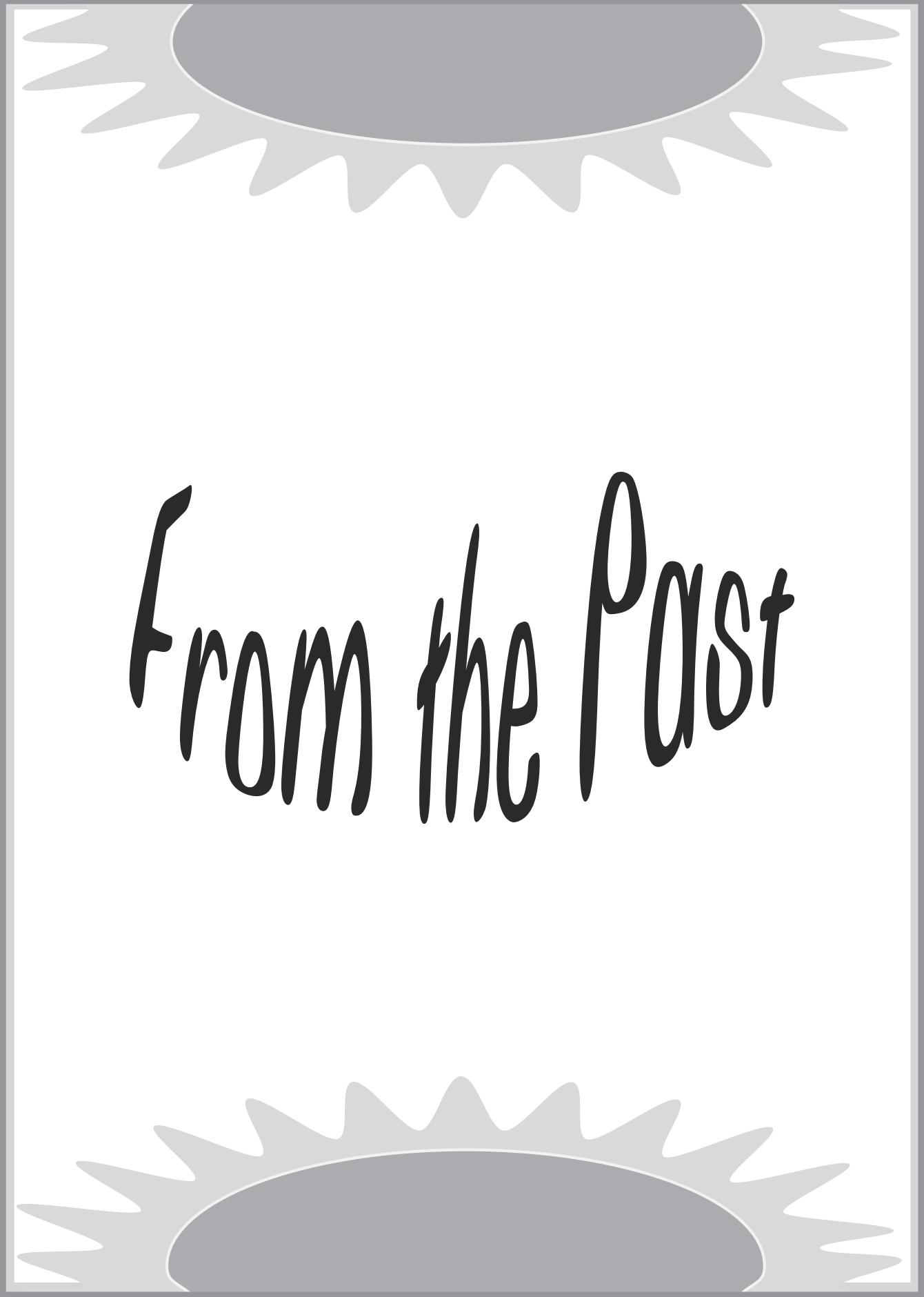
2. What statement is true?

- a. All birds lay eggs.
- b. All birds make nests.
- c. All birds balance eggs.
- d. All birds live in Antarctica.

3. How long does the male balance the egg on its feet?

- a. one week
- b. six weeks
- c. one month
- d. six months





From the Past





Name _____

1**A House Key You Couldn't Lose**

The Pilgrims sailed in 1620. They came to what is now the United States. The Pilgrims had to worry about many things. They had to worry about staying warm. They had to worry about food. They had to worry about not getting sick.

There was one thing the Pilgrims did not have to worry about. They did not have to worry about **losing** their house keys. Why didn't they have to worry? They didn't have any house keys!

How did Pilgrims open their doors? They pulled on a wooden peg. The peg was attached to a string that pulled the latch to open the door.

Find the Answers

1. The main idea of this story is

- a. where the Pilgrims went.
- b. when the Pilgrims sailed.
- c. how the Pilgrims grew their food.
- d. what the Pilgrims had to worry about.

2. What is the opposite of **losing**?

- a. finding
- b. opening
- c. pulling
- d. sailing

3. Why can people lose house keys today?

- a. House doors have latches.
- b. Houses no longer have doors.
- c. House keys are not attached to the door.
- d. Some house doors are made without locks.





Name _____

2**What Was Wanted**

“Wanted. Young, skinny, wiry fellows. Not over eighteen years old. Must be expert riders. Willing to risk death daily.”

These words were on an ad. What was the ad for? The ad was for the Pony Express. The Pony Express started on April 3, 1860. That day, a lone rider left Missouri.

The rider carried mail. He stopped at stations. He gave the mail to other riders. The riders took turns. The riders took the

mail all the way to California. The Pony Express ran until late October 1861.

Most riders were about twenty years old. The youngest rider was eleven years old. The riders rode day and night. They rode fast. They rode in the hot sun. They rode in rain and snow. They rode across wild country. They had to watch for robbers. They had to watch for wild animals. They had to keep the mail safe.

Find the Answers

1. How long did the Pony Express last?

- a. between one and two years
- b. between three and four years
- c. between five and six years
- d. between seven and eight years

2. Most likely, the riders were riding

- a. whales.
- b. skates.
- c. horses.
- d. elephants.

3. From the story, you can tell that

- a. no riders fit the ad.
- b. all the riders fit the ad.
- c. only lone riders fit the ad.
- d. not all the riders fit the ad.

/3

Warm-Up

Name _____

3**The Teddy Bear**

“You can shoot this bear.” That’s what Teddy Roosevelt was told. It was 1902. Teddy was president of the U.S.A. The bear was tied up. Teddy wouldn’t shoot the bear. He said it wasn’t being a **good sport**.

A cartoon was made about the president and the bear. Someone saw the cartoon. The cartoon made him think of a new toy. The new toy was a stuffed bear cub. The new toy inventor said the

bear was “Teddy’s bear.”



When people saw the stuffed bear cub, they all wanted one. Today, teddy bears are sold all over the world. The first teddy bears looked more like a real bear. Teddy bears today have larger eyes. They have smaller noses. Some of the bears wear clothes.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Who was president of the U.S.A. in 1902?
 - a. Barack Obama
 - b. John F. Kennedy
 - c. Teddy Roosevelt
 - d. George Washington

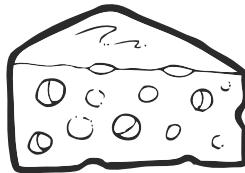
- 2.** From the story, you can tell that the *first* teddy bear
 - a. had larger eyes.
 - b. had a bigger nose.
 - c. was made from wood.
 - d. was wearing clothes.

- 3.** In this story, a **good sport** is someone
 - a. who is fair.
 - b. who plays games.
 - c. who draws a cartoon.
 - d. who invents a new toy.

/3



Name _____

4**An Old Food**

Cheese is an old food. People have been eating cheese for thousands of years. Who made the first cheese? How did it start? No one knows for sure, but many people think it started with a man and a pouch.

The man was an Arab traveler. He was traveling across the desert. He had a pouch made from a sheep's stomach.

One day, the traveler filled his pouch with milk. Then he continued across the hot desert.

Later, the man went to drink his milk. He opened his pouch to find that it was no longer filled with milk. It was filled with cheese! The sheep's stomach had digestive juices in it. There was rennet in the digestive juices. The rennet reacted with the milk in the heat and changed it to cheese.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What was needed to react with the milk to change it into cheese?
 - a. juice
 - b. rennet
 - c. a sheep
 - d. a pouch

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that cheese was invented
 - a. thousands of years ago.
 - b. one hundred years ago.
 - c. ten years ago.
 - d. one year ago.

- 3.** Most likely, the *first* time cheese was made, it was
 - a. raining.
 - b. planned.
 - c. not sunny.
 - d. not planned.





Name _____

5**How a Pot Kept Trials Short**

Today, we have courts of law. We have trials. At the trials, a jury decides if someone is wrong or right. First, the jury listens to people who talk about who might be wrong and who might be right. People can talk and talk. Sometimes, the trials can last for weeks or even months.

Thousands of years ago, the Greeks in Athens had courts. They had trials, too. Their trials did not last for weeks or

months. Most of them were over in one day. The Greeks used a pot with a hole to keep the trials short. How did a pot with a hole keep a trial short?

The pot with the hole was a water clock. People could only speak so long. The pot was filled with water. People had to stop speaking when all the water ran out of the pot.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, the hole in the pot was near the
 - a. rim.
 - b. top.
 - c. middle.
 - d. bottom.

- 2.** Most likely, if a trial went on for months,
 - a. a water clock was used.
 - b. people did not talk and talk.
 - c. it did not take place in Athens long ago.
 - d. a jury did not decide if someone is right or wrong.

- 3.** Where does a trial take place?
 - a. in a jury
 - b. in a court
 - c. in a clock
 - d. in a pot with a hole

/3



Name _____

6**Salt and Pay**

When you work, you get paid. You earn a salary. Your salary is how much you are paid. What does your salary have to do with salt? Salt is a spice. Long ago, it was very important. It made food taste good. It was also used to keep food from rotting. Long ago, it was hard to keep food from rotting. For this reason, salt was an important trade good.

The Roman word for salt was *sal*. Long

ago, Roman soldiers were sometimes paid in salt. Other times, they were given money to buy salt. When soldiers were given money to buy salt, it was called a *salarium*.

Look at the old word *sal*. Look at the old word *salarium*. Now look at the word *salary*. Do you see how alike they are?

Find the Answers

1. How many letters are the same in the words *salarium* and *salary*?

- a. three
- c. six
- b. five
- d. eight

2. Why was salt an important trade good?

- a. It is a spice.
- c. It kept food from rotting.
- b. It made food taste bad.
- d. It was given to Roman soldiers.

3. From the story, you can tell that

- a. no new words are made from old words.
- b. all new words are made from old words.
- c. ten new words are made from old words.
- d. some new words are made from old words.

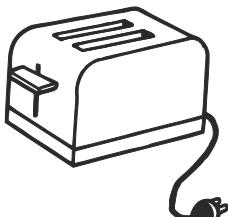




Name _____

7**Sliced Bread**

Buy a loaf of bread. It is sliced. Before, if you bought a loaf of bread, it was not sliced. When did it change?



The electric toaster was invented in 1905. This invention made it easier to toast bread, but there was a problem. Too thick or unevenly sliced bread burned. So another new invention was made.

This invention was a bread slicer. It was invented in 1928.

What did bakers think? They still did not want to sell sliced bread. Why not? The sliced bread would become stale too quickly. Yet another new invention changed this! What was it? It was a type of bag. It was made of cellophane. The thin, light cellophane kept the sliced bread from going stale.

Find the Answers

1. The electric toaster was invented

- a. in 1928.
- b. after the bread slicer.

- c. before the bread slicer.
- d. before bread became stale.

2. What is the opposite of **stale**?

- a. fresh
- b. light

- c. slice
- d. bread

3. From the story, you can tell that

- a. nothing new needs to be invented.
- b. the best inventions were before 1905.
- c. all inventions have to do with bread.
- d. one invention may lead to another invention.





Name _____

8**What the Plow Hit**

One day, a farmer was digging a ditch. The farmer was in northern Texas. The farmer's plow hit some metal. The farmer thought it was a wad of chicken wire. He tossed the chicken wire into the back of his truck.

It was only later that the farmer noticed something. The metal was hand-shaped. It had two missing fingers. It was not chicken wire. What could it be?

The farmer sent the metal to a museum. The people there studied it. They found out what it was. It was something very old. It was a chain-mail glove. It had been left by Spanish explorers over four hundred years before!

Find the Answers

- 1.** How many fingers were missing on the chain-mail glove?
 - a. two
 - b. three
 - c. four
 - d. five

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that we can learn what people did long ago by
 - a. digging ditches.
 - b. plowing up chicken wire.
 - c. throwing things in trucks.
 - d. finding things that were left behind.

- 3.** How do you think the farmer felt about what his plow hit at *first* and then *later*?
 - a. amazed and then unhappy
 - b. unhappy and then amazed
 - c. worried and then hungry
 - d. hungry and then worried





Name _____

9**The Trick Vase**

Bernardo and Justine went to a museum. They saw a vase. The vase had a picture on it. The picture was of a farmer and his wife. The farmer was planting peanuts. His wife was eating corn. The sign said the vase was old. The sign said the vase came from Spain. The sign said the vase was from the early 1100s.

Bernardo and Justine went to the guard. They said, “The vase is not real. It is a

trick. The vase is not as old, or it is not from Spain.” Why did Bernardo and Justine think the vase was a trick vase?

Peanuts and corn came from the Americas. Spain is in Europe. Peanuts and corn were not brought to Europe until the late 1400s. That was when explorers from Europe brought the new foods back with them.

Find the Answers

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that explorers from Europe *first* went to the Americas in the late
 - a. 1100s.
 - b. 1300s.
 - c. 1400s.
 - d. 1600s.

- 2.** *Early* is to *late* as
 - a. *old* is to *big*.
 - b. *old* is to *new*.
 - c. *old* is to *trick*.
 - d. *old* is to *guard*.

- 3.** What country is *not* in the Americas?
 - a. Spain
 - b. Mexico
 - c. Canada
 - d. United States

/3



Warm-Up

10

Name _____

Mice and Muscles

Muscles are tissues that move parts of the body. You have large and strong muscles in your back. Your strong back muscles help you stand.



Mice are little. They are not strong. You would think that mice have no connection

with your muscles. Yet they do! How are mice and muscles connected? They are connected by their name.

Long ago, the Romans had the word *musculus*. This word means “little mouse.” What did the Romans think your muscles looked like when they moved? They thought it looked like little mice running under the skin! Who would think that the word *muscle* came from a word that meant “little mouse”?

Find the Answers

- 1.** When *most* people think of muscles, they think of
 - a. mice.
 - b. being strong.
 - c. being little.
 - d. words from long ago.

- 2.** How many letters are the same in *muscle* and *musculus*?
 - a. one
 - b. two
 - c. five
 - d. six

- 3.** From reading the story, what do you know is true about muscles?
 - a. Your muscles are tissues.
 - b. Your smallest muscles help you stand.
 - c. Your largest muscles are in your legs.
 - d. Your strongest muscles are in your chest.





Name _____

11**The Captain Who Waited**

On May 11, 1934, a captain waited off the shore of New York. The captain waited to come in and **dock**. Why did he wait to dock? He waited because he did not know what was happening. It was dim. He could barely see the Statue of Liberty. Dust was in the air, blocking the light.

The dust had come from far away. It came from the Great Plains. Farmers had plowed up the grass. Before, the

grass had held down the topsoil. Now, there was nothing to hold down the topsoil. Great winds blew the topsoil across the land. The dust blocked out the sun, dimming its light.

Those long-ago times are known as the Dust Bowl years. Today, farmers do not farm the same way. They take care of their topsoil, so it does not blow away and block the view of faraway sea captains.

Find the Answers

1. The captain could barely see the Statue of Liberty because

- a. he was far away at sea.
- b. grass was blocking the view.
- c. farmers were taking care of their topsoil.
- d. topsoil from the Great Plains was in the air.

2. When a ship **docks**, it

- a. puts up a sail.
- b. goes out to sea.
- c. comes into shore.
- d. sails across the sea.

3. *Wait* is to go as

- a. *dim* is to *far*.
- b. *dim* is to *light*.
- c. *dim* is to *block*.
- d. *dim* is to *topsoil*.





Name _____

12**Singing Sands**

Marco Polo was an explorer. Over seven hundred years ago, he crossed the Gobi Desert. The Gobi Desert is in China. When Polo crossed the desert, he heard strange sounds. He heard low, humming sounds. The sounds could be heard from far away. It seemed as if the sands were singing.

Polo did not know what was making the sand sing. No one knew. People thought something evil was making the sounds.

Today, we know how the sounds are made. We know that nothing evil is making the sounds.

The noise is made when sand grains bump each other one after the other. The grains have a special makeup. They are a certain size. They are dry and round. They move at a certain speed.

Find the Answers

1. What has to happen for sand to make sounds?

- a. The sand grains must move.
- b. The sand grains must be wet.
- c. The sand grains must be square.
- d. both b and c

2. From the story, you can tell that sometimes if we do not know how something happens, we think it is

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| a. hot. | c. funny. |
| b. evil. | d. silly. |

3. When did Marco Polo cross the Gobi Desert?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. over three hundred years ago | c. over seven hundred years ago |
| b. over five hundred years ago | d. over nine hundred years ago |





Name _____

13**Signaling Towers**

Long ago, people built towers. The towers were in the Southwest. They were in the desert. They were built on mesa tops. A mesa has high steep sides. It has a flat top like a table. The towers were built by the Anasazi people. They were built about 1,000 years ago.

What were the towers for? People are not sure. Perhaps the towers were for signaling. This is because the towers were built with lines of sight between

them. A message could be sent from tower to tower to tower.

How could the messages be sent? People could use signal fires. They could use shiny shells. They could use shiny mica rocks. They could reflect light off the shells or rocks.

Find the Answers

- 1.** When and where were the towers built?
 - a. about 100 years ago in the Southwest
 - b. about 100 years ago in the Southeast
 - c. about 1,000 years ago in the Southwest
 - d. about 1,000 years ago in the Southeast

- 2.** Most likely, if you were at one tower, you
 - a. would not be on a mesa.
 - b. could not see any other towers.
 - c. would not be in the desert.
 - d. could see at least one more tower.

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that mica rocks are *not*
 - a. dull.
 - b. light.
 - c. shiny.
 - d. bright.

/3



Name _____

14**Water Warning**

Bowls were filled with water. They were set on the ground. People kept an eye on the water in the bowls. They made sure it didn't ripple. Why were the people watching the water? What did it mean if it started to ripple?

The bowls of water were an old warning sign. This was long ago when people lived in castles. Sometimes **enemies** would attack a castle. They would try

to dig a tunnel. The tunnel would go under the castle walls.

If digging was going on under the ground, the water in the bowls would start to move. It would ripple. The people in the castle would know that a tunnel was being dug. Sometimes they would then dig their own tunnels. They would surprise the enemy in his own tunnel!

Find the Answers

- 1.** If you throw a rock in the water, the water
 - a. ripples.
 - b. watches.
 - c. attacks.
 - d. surprises.

- 2.** People would set out bowls of water to
 - a. feed the animals.
 - b. know when a castle was being attacked.
 - c. surprise the enemy.
 - d. welcome visitors.

- 3.** The opposite of an **enemy** is a
 - a. cup.
 - b. hole.
 - c. house.
 - d. friend.





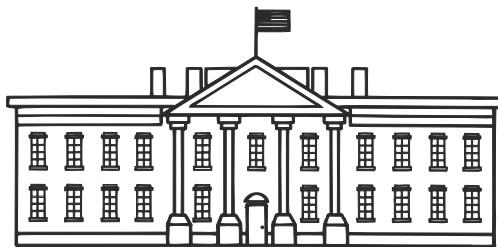
Name _____

15**White House Firsts**

Do you know your phone number? The first phone was put in the White House in 1879. Rutherford B. Hayes was president. Hayes was the nineteenth president. It was easy for Hayes to learn his phone number. Why was it so easy? The number was very short. It was the number “1”!

Do you know how to turn on a light? You just flip the switch from “off” to “on.” The first electric lights were put in

the White House in 1891. Benjamin Harrison was president. He was the twenty-third president. Harrison didn’t turn on the electric lights for weeks. Why didn’t he turn on the lights? He was afraid of getting shocked!

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** Hayes didn’t get a lot of phone calls. One reason might be that
 - a. people were afraid of getting shocked.
 - b. people did not know what switch to flip.
 - c. phones were so new that not many people had them.
 - d. the White House phone number was hard to learn.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that Hayes
 - a. was president after Harrison.
 - b. was president before Harrison.
 - c. had electric lights before Harrison.
 - d. called Harrison when he was president.

- 3.** What answer is *false*?
 - a. Hayes was the nineteenth president.
 - b. The White House phone number was “1.”
 - c. Harrison was president in 1891.
 - d. Electric lights were in the White House before a phone.

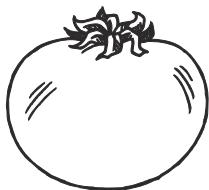




Name _____

16**Poison**

Something is on pizza. Something is in ketchup. Long ago, people thought that something was poison. They thought that if you ate it, you would get sick. You would froth at the mouth. You would feel great pain. You might even die. What was it?



It was the tomato!
 Tomatoes are good to eat.
 They have lots of vitamin C.
 They have lots of vitamin A.
 Vitamin C helps your cuts

heal. Vitamin A helps you see.

Where did tomatoes come from? They came from South America. People grew and ate them long ago. Explorers brought them back to Europe. People in Italy were growing them by the late 1500s. People in the U.S. did not eat them until much later. They thought they were poison. Thomas Jefferson grew and ate tomatoes in the late 1700s. He helped people learn that they were good to eat.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Where were tomatoes *first* grown and eaten?
 - a. Italy
 - b. Europe
 - c. North America
 - d. South America

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that people have
 - a. always eaten the same foods.
 - b. eaten new foods as they learn more.
 - c. never eaten foods from other places.
 - d. only eaten foods brought back by explorers.

- 3.** Vitamin A
 - a. helps you see.
 - b. makes you get sick.
 - c. helps you heal your cuts.
 - d. makes you froth at the mouth.





Name _____

17**Why the Player Climbed a Ladder**

Two teams are playing basketball. A basket is made. The game stops. A player climbs a ladder. Why is a player climbing a ladder?

The game of basketball was invented in 1891. James Naismith invented it. James wanted a game that could be played indoors. He wanted a game that could be played in a small space. He wanted a game where more than just

strength was needed. He wanted a game of skill.

The first ball was a soccer ball. What were the first baskets? They were peach baskets! If a player made a basket, someone had to climb a ladder. He had to climb a ladder to get the ball out of the basket. Then James said, “Let’s cut the bottoms out of the baskets!”

Find the Answers

- 1.** Another title for this story might be
 - a. “Picking Peaches.”
 - b. “All About Inventions.”
 - c. “Kicking a Soccer Ball.”
 - d. “The Start of Basketball.”

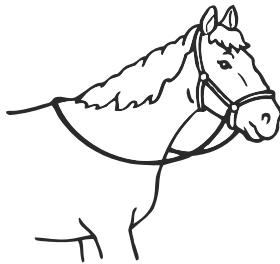
- 2.** When was the game of basketball invented?
 - a. 1819
 - b. 1891
 - c. 1918
 - d. 1981

- 3.** James may have wanted a game that could be played indoors because he was working where
 - a. it was warm all year-round.
 - b. he had lots of soccer balls.
 - c. winters were cold and snowy.
 - d. there was lots of space outside.

/3



Name _____

18**Why the Horse Couldn't Graze**

Zachary Taylor was president from 1849 to 1850. He was the twelfth president of the U.S. Taylor had a horse. The horse's name was Whitey. Taylor liked Whitey a lot. He took him with him to the White House. Taylor let Whitey graze on the White House lawn.

Then Whitey was put in a stable. The

horse could no longer graze on the lawn. Why did Whitey have to be put in a stable? Why couldn't the horse graze on the lawn? The horse was losing his tail!

People were going up to Whitey. They were pulling all the hairs out of his tail! The people did not want to hurt Whitey. They just wanted a souvenir. They thought, "It is just one hair." Too many people were taking souvenirs of "just one hair"!

Find the Answers

- 1.** When Whitey was grazing, he was
 - a. safe.
 - b. eating grass.
 - c. in the stable.
 - d. hurting the lawn.

- 2.** An object you keep to remind you of something is a
 - a. lawn.
 - b. tail.
 - c. stable.
 - d. souvenir.

- 3.** This story is mainly about
 - a. horses.
 - b. the U.S. presidents.
 - c. a horse losing its tail.
 - d. living at the White House.



Warm-Up

Name _____

19**Cobwebs and Soldiers**

The Roman Empire was long ago. It was over 2,000 years ago. Roman soldiers had a hard life then. Most soldiers had to stay in the army for twenty-five years. They had to train hard. They had to go far away from their homes.

The soldiers did something with cobwebs. What did they do with the cobwebs?

The soldiers did not use them to fight. They used them when they got hurt! They used them when they got a wound.

A soldier would take cobwebs. He would soak them in vinegar. Then he would bandage his wound. The vinegar helped the wounds from getting infected.

Find the Answers

1. What is *not* true about the soldiers of the Roman Empire?

- a. They had to train hard.
- b. They lived over 2,000 years ago.
- c. Most had to stay in the army for 250 years.
- d. They had to go far away from their homes.

2. Most likely, the vinegar

- a. helped germs grow.
- b. helped kill germs.
- c. smelled good to spiders.
- d. smelled good to soldiers.

3. Hard is to easy as

- a. *hurt* is to *help*.
- b. *take* is to *soak*.
- c. *infect* is to *wound*.
- d. *bandage* is to *cobweb*.

/3



Name _____

20**One-Room Schools**

Long ago, many schools in the United States had only one room. All the grades were together. Boys sat on one side, and girls sat on the other side. The smaller children sat in front, and the older children sat in back.

Some schools were made out of logs. Other schools on the prairies were made out of dirt. They were made out of blocks of sod or dug out of hillsides. There was a water jug with a tin cup.

All the children shared the water and drank from the same cup.

There was a stove in the classroom. The stove was fed with coal, wood, or corncobs. One child called the stove “the black monster.” This was because children close to the stove roasted. Children far away from the stove froze.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, schools on the prairies were made out of dirt because there
 - a. were few trees on the prairies.
 - b. was lots of grass on the prairies.
 - c. were lots of trees on the prairies.
 - d. was not a lot of grass on the prairies.

- 2.** If you were a little girl, you would sit
 - a. close to the stove.
 - b. far away from the stove.
 - c. on one side and in the front.
 - d. in the back.

- 3.** All but what might be burned in the stove?
 - a. wood
 - b. coal
 - c. corncobs
 - d. sod blocks





Name _____

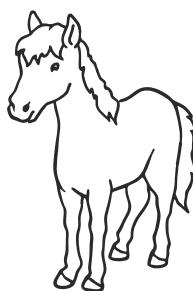
21**Cheering Up Archie**

Teddy Roosevelt was president of the U.S. He was in office from 1901 to 1909. He was the twenty-sixth president. His six children lived in the White House with him. One of his sons was named Archie. One time, Archie got sick. He had to stay in bed.

Archie's brothers wanted to cheer Archie up. What did they do? They got Archie's pony. They led it up to the White House. Then they snuck it in!

They took it into the White House! They led it down the halls.

Archie was on the second floor. How could the pony get up to Archie? The boys led the pony to the elevator. They coaxed it in! The pony rode the elevator up to Archie. After surprising Archie, the pony rode the elevator back down.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** Why didn't the boys ask if they could take the pony to Archie?
 - a. They knew it was okay.
 - b. They wanted to ride the elevator.
 - c. They wanted to surprise the pony.
 - d. They knew they would be told, "No."

- 2.** In which of these years was Teddy Roosevelt president?
 - a. 1900
 - b. 1905
 - c. 1910
 - d. 1915

- 3.** What happened *first*?
 - a. Archie got sick.
 - b. Archie was surprised.
 - c. Archie's brothers coaxed the pony into the elevator.
 - d. Archie's brothers took the pony into the White House.

/3



Name _____

22**Did Hancock Invent a Pickle?**

Long ago, Thomas Hancock invented elastic. The year was 1820. Today, we use elastic to hold up our socks.

Hancock invented it for something else. What was it for? It was for the tops of pockets. Why was it for pocket tops? Some people think it was to stop robbers! It made it harder to get a hand inside.

Hancock had a lot of leftover rubber. He wanted to use the scraps. He made a machine. He called it a “pickle.”

Why did he call his invention a pickle? He did not want anyone to know what it was for. He didn’t want anyone to steal it. Later, Hancock got a **patent**. He got the patent in 1837. Now, no one could rob him. No one could copy his machine.

Find the Answers

1. From the story, you can tell that

- a. elastic is made out of rubber.
- b. robbers want to steal pickles.
- c. pickles are made out of elastic.
- d. Hancock’s machine was inside his pocket.

2. If an invention is still under a **patent**, it most likely means that, by law, you

- a. can copy it.
- b. can’t copy it.
- c. can make pockets.
- d. can’t make pockets.

3. What year did Hancock get his patent for his “pickle”?

- a. 1802
- b. 1820
- c. 1837
- d. 1873



Name _____

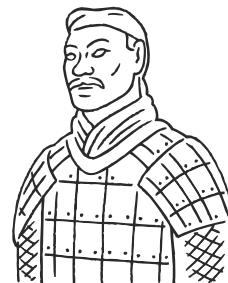
23**The Army Under the Ground**

Two farmers were digging. They were in China. It was 1974. The farmers were digging a well. They did not find water. They found an army! The army was big. It took up the space of a small city. It had over 7,500 soldiers. All the men stood in rows.

There was a general. There were horsemen. Some men had spears. Some had bows and arrows. All the weapons were real. They were made of

bronze. The men were made of terra cotta.

Terra cotta is a type of baked clay. Each soldier had a different face.



Why was there an army under the ground? The army was buried about 2,200 years ago. The army was guarding a tomb. The tomb was where an emperor had been buried. It was the tomb of China's first emperor.

Find the Answers

- 1.** This story is mainly about
 - a. digging a well.
 - b. the emperor of China.
 - c. a tomb and its guards.
 - d. what farmers grew in China.

- 2.** The soldiers' spears were
 - a. not real.
 - b. made of bronze.
 - c. made of baked clay.
 - d. made of terra cotta.

- 3.** Most likely, when the farmers found the first soldier, they were all but what?
 - a. mad
 - b. happy
 - c. excited
 - d. surprised





Name _____

24**The Rule About Red**

What if you were alive long ago? What if you were alive in France in the early 1700s? At that time, Louis XIV ruled France. Louis XIV was known as the Sun King. Could you have worn heeled shoes when the Sun King ruled?

The Sun King liked heeled shoes. He wore them all the time. People copied the Sun King. They wanted to be like him. Some of the Sun King's heels were over five inches high! The heels were

very fancy and colorful. Some even had pictures of battle scenes on them.

The Sun King had rules about heeled shoes. No one could wear higher heels than he could. Only the nobility could wear red heels. It was against the law for common people to wear red heels.

Find the Answers

1. Most likely, what person could wear red heels?

- a. a queen
- b. a baker
- c. a farmer
- d. a weaver

2. This story is mainly about

- a. wearing heeled shoes today.
- b. the common people long ago.
- c. what type of country France was.
- d. shoes worn in France in the early 1700s.

3. What is *not* true about the Sun King's shoes?

- a. They were bright.
- b. They were very plain.
- c. Some had pictures of battle scenes.
- d. Some had heels that were more than five inches high.





Name _____

25**A Living Fossil**

People thought all the dawn redwood trees were gone. They thought they were extinct. Scientists knew about the trees. They had found fossils. They knew the trees had lived millions of years ago. They had lived during the time of the dinosaurs.

No one thought they would see a living dawn redwood. Then in the 1940s, a man in China found a tree. It was big. He did not know what it was. People

thought it was a new kind of tree. Then they found more of the trees. They found a whole grove. The grove had over 1,000 trees.

Scientists studied the tree. They said, “The dawn redwood is not extinct! This tree is a living fossil!” Today, people are trying to plant more dawn redwoods. They are using seeds from the living fossils.

Find the Answers

- 1.** The trees were called living fossils because
 - a. people are planting more.
 - b. it is a new kind of tree.
 - c. scientists studied the trees.
 - d. scientists thought they were extinct.

- 2.** *Cow* is to *herd* as
 - a. *tree* is to *grove*.
 - b. *tree* is to *China*.
 - c. *tree* is to *fossil*.
 - d. *tree* is to *dinosaur*.

- 3.** Most likely, the dawn redwoods found in China were
 - a. close to a big city.
 - b. planted by dinosaurs.
 - c. not close to a big city.
 - d. planted by the scientists.





Name _____

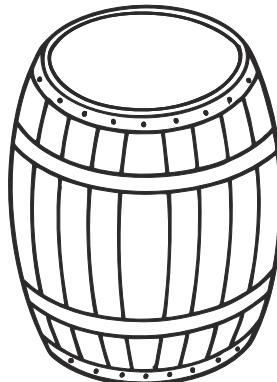
26**Rich on Water**

In 1848, gold was found. The Gold Rush was on! People rushed west to California. They all wanted to strike it rich. Many miners did not plan well. They only thought about gold at the end of the trail. They did not think about what they needed on the trail.

The miners had to cross deserts. Many did not bring enough water. Some men in California got barrels of water. They went east. They went to the desert.

They sold water to the thirsty miners.

The water had a high price. The miners had no choice. They had to pay. Some paid over five dollars for a single glass of water! Gold did not make some people rich during the Gold Rush. Water did!

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that there are deserts
 - a. east of California.
 - b. west of California.
 - c. north of California.
 - d. south of California.

- 2.** People pay more when they
 - a. need something and there is a lot of it.
 - b. need something and there is very little of it.
 - c. don't need something and there is a lot of it.
 - d. don't need something and there is very little of it.

- 3.** What can you learn from the story?
 - a. Don't cross a desert.
 - b. You should pay for water.
 - c. It is good to plan ahead.
 - d. Prices always stay the same.





Name _____

27**No Elbows!**

Do your elbows or ankles show? Long ago, it was not polite for women to have their elbows or ankles show. This was in America. This was when the first people came from Europe.

What did the early **colonists** wear? People used to think they did not wear bright colors. They thought they wore dull colors. They wore soft shades of red, blue, or green. Now people know the early colonists liked bright colors.

They wore bright red, blue, and green. They wore yellow, too.

Why did people think the colonists liked soft shades? They looked at old paint. The paint may have been on walls or paintings. They didn't think about the paint being old. They didn't think about it being dulled and faded.

Find the Answers

1. A **colonist** was someone who came from

- a. Europe to Asia.
- b. Asia to Europe.
- c. Europe to America.
- d. America to Europe.

2. You see an old colonial painting. The girl in the painting is wearing dark clothes.

Most likely, when the painting was painted, the girl was

- a. showing her elbows.
- b. showing her ankles.
- c. wearing dark clothes.
- d. wearing brighter clothes.

3. *Elbow* is to *arm* as

- a. *knee* is to *leg*.
- b. *ankle* is to *shoe*.
- c. *ankle* is to *toe*.
- d. *knee* is to *shoe*.





Name _____

28**Traveling in Colonial America**

It is long ago. You are in Colonial America. This is when people first came from Europe to America. You are traveling and need to stay at an inn. What is it like?

You would eat at the inn, sharing a table with all the other travelers. You would not have your own plate. Instead, you might share a **trencher** with another person. A trencher is a hollowed-out block of wood. Everyone would drink

from the same glass. They would pass it up and down the table.

You would share your bed. There might be five strangers in one bed! One person would sleep with his or her head at the top of the bed. The next person would sleep with his or her head at the bottom of the bed. Good thing there were no boots in bed!

Find the Answers

1. This story is mainly about

- a. staying at an inn long ago.
- b. what people ate long ago.
- c. sleeping with your boots on.
- d. people who traveled to Europe.

2. A trencher is *most* like a

- a. cup.
- b. bowl.
- c. fork.
- d. napkin.

3. If you stayed at an inn, most likely, you would *not* have your own

- a. plate or bed only.
- b. plate, bed, or table only.
- c. plate, glass, table, or bed.
- d. plate, table, or glass only.





Name _____

29**The Elephant on the Bridge**

The Brooklyn Bridge is in New York City. The bridge opened in 1883. It is made of steel wires. It is a suspension bridge. It was the largest suspension bridge in the world. People had never seen such a big bridge. Some people said the bridge would break. They said the bridge was not strong. People were afraid the bridge was not safe.

The bridge was safe. It was very strong. What could be done so people would

feel safe on the bridge? One man knew what to do. The man's name was P. T. Barnum. Barnum ran a circus. The largest elephant in the known world was in Barnum's circus. The elephant's name was Jumbo.

Barnum paraded Jumbo and the rest of his circus animals across the bridge. Everyone saw that the bridge was strong. They knew that if it could hold Jumbo, it could hold them.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What are the wires on the Brooklyn Bridge made of?
 a. rope
 b. wood
 c. brick
 d. steel

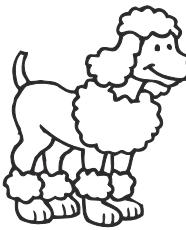
- 2.** From the story, you can tell that sometimes people are afraid of
 a. parades.
 b. elephants.
 c. new things.
 d. old bridges.

- 3.** A new word came from Jumbo's name. The word is "jumbo." What do you think "jumbo" means?
 a. very safe
 b. very large
 c. very strong
 d. very pretty





Name _____

30**Poodle Haircut**

Poodles are dogs. Poodles often have their hair clipped. Why do poodle owners give their dogs such strange haircuts?

The haircuts came from long ago.

Poodles were working dogs. They were used to getting ducks or geese from the water. Poodles have a lot of hair. If it was uncut, it would soak up a lot of

water. It would become very heavy. It would be hard for the poodle to swim.

If clipping the poodle's hair made it easier to swim, why were patches of hair left? Patches of hair were left around a poodle's organs and joints. Hearts and lungs are organs. Elbows and knees are joints. The hair helped keep important parts of the poodle warm. It protected them from the cold.

Find the Answers

- 1.** The poodle's hair around its chest does for it what wearing
 - a. a hat does for you.
 - b. a vest does for you.
 - c. mittens does for you.
 - d. a pair of pants does for you.

- 2.** What is *not* an organ?

a. lung	c. heart
b. liver	d. elbow

- 3.** Most likely, when we say a dog is a "working dog," we mean that the dog
 - a. does a job.
 - b. is not tame.
 - c. runs after balls.
 - d. lives in the house.





Did You Know?





Name _____

1**A Googol**

How do we write “ten”? We write “10.” It has one zero. How do we write “one hundred”? We write “100.” It has two zeros. How do we write “one thousand”? We write “1,000.” It has three zeros. How do we write “one million”? We write “1,000,000.” It has six zeros.

What about a googol? How do we write a googol? How many zeros does a googol have? A googol has 100 zeros!

A googol is a 1 followed by 100 zeros!

How did the name come about? It was invented by a boy. The boy had an uncle. The uncle studied math. The uncle asked the boy to think up a name. The small boy thought. He thought about a big number. He thought about a 1 followed by 100 zeros. The small boy came up with a name for the big number. He came up with “googol.”

Find the Answers

- 1.** Who asked the boy to come up with a name?
 - a. his aunt
 - b. his uncle
 - c. his mother
 - d. his father

- 2.** What number is five million?
 - a. 500
 - b. 5,000
 - c. 500,000
 - d. 5,000,000

- 3.** Most likely, you would *not* write out a googol because
 - a. it would take too long.
 - b. it is not a very big number.
 - c. there are more zeros in a million.
 - d. no one knows how many zeros a googol has.

/3



Name _____

2**Funny Laws**

Laws are passed to keep us safe. Sometimes, old laws seem very funny. They may be out of date. Some laws make you **wonder** why they were passed.

A city in California had a law. The law was about cowboy boots. What if you wanted to wear cowboy boots in public? The law said you had to have at least two cows!

West Virginia had a law. The law was about school. It was about when

you could attend. What if your breath smelled like wild onions? The law said you could not go to school!

Michigan had a law. It was about crocodiles. What if you wanted to hitch your crocodile to a fire hydrant? The law said you could not! This law is funny. Still, it is a good law for firefighters!

Find the Answers

- 1.** How many laws did you read about in this story?
 - a. two
 - b. three
 - c. four
 - d. five

- 2.** If you **wonder** about something, you
 - a. think about it.
 - b. wash it.
 - c. eat it.
 - d. miss it.

- 3.** Most likely, the law in Michigan was passed because someone once
 - a. fed wild onions to a cow.
 - b. put cowboy boots on a crocodile.
 - c. hitched a cow to a fire hydrant.
 - d. hitched a crocodile to a fire hydrant.





Name _____

3**A Boat That Is Alive**

The tropics are warm. In some places, it rains a lot. Sometimes, it rains so much that the waters rise quickly. The land becomes flooded. How do some tropical ants survive the flood? How do they keep from drowning?

The ants join together. They form a ball. They are like a boat that is alive! As the ant boat floats on the water, it rolls over and over. Sometimes the ants

are above the water. Sometimes they are below the water.

The ants are able to breathe when they are above the water. The ant boat rolls enough that the ants can survive. They get enough air to keep from drowning.

Find the Answers

1. This story is mainly about

- a. ants.
- b. boats.
- c. floods.
- d. the tropics.

2. *Above* is to *below* as

- a. *float* is to *ant*.
- b. *float* is to *warm*.
- c. *float* is to *sink*.
- d. *float* is to *breathe*.

3. What happens before the ants join together?

- a. The ant boat rolls over.
- b. The land becomes flooded.
- c. The ants survive the flood.
- d. The ants keep from drowning.





Name _____

4**Eating Skin**

A spa is a place where people go for their health. At some spas, people get back rubs. At other spas, people take mud baths. In some spas, people have their skin eaten. How can it be possible that someone has his or her skin eaten?

The people put their feet in tanks filled with warm water. The tanks are also filled with fish. The fish are small, toothless, and have a very strange diet. The fish's diet is made up of dead skin!

The fish nibble at the people's feet. They **remove** and eat all the dead skin. The fish leave healthy skin alone because without teeth, they cannot bite it off. They can nibble at dead skin because it flakes off.

Find the Answers

1. What is *not* true about the fish?

- a. They are small.
- b. They have teeth.
- c. They live in warm water.
- d. They have a strange diet.

2. *Off* is to *on* as

- a. *big* is to *large*.
- b. *small* is to *tiny*.
- c. *strange* is to *odd*.
- d. *healthy* is to *sick*.

3. When something is **removed**, it is

- a. flaked.
- b. filled.
- c. taken away.
- d. nibbled.





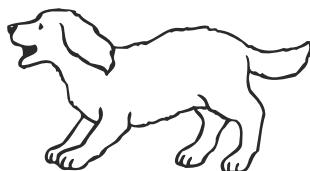
Name _____

5**Avalanche Dog**

A huge mass of snow slides down a mountain. It is an avalanche! As the snow roars down the mountain, it buries everything in its way. Sometimes people get caught. The snow moves too fast for them to get away. The people get trapped under the snow and need to be rescued.

The people must be dug out quickly. How can they be found? Some search and rescue dogs have been trained

for avalanches. The dogs have been trained to smell the human scent through ice crystals. When the dogs smell the human scent, they bark. Then they wait for the command “Search.” When they hear this command, the avalanche dogs start to dig.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** What command is given to a dog before it starts to dig?
 - a. “Find.”
 - b. “Smell.”
 - c. “Search.”
 - d. “Rescue.”

- 2.** Why might an avalanche dog be bigger than a dog that searches for food in an airport?
 - a. An avalanche dog needs to dig.
 - b. An avalanche dog needs to bark.
 - c. An avalanche dog needs to smell.
 - d. An avalanche dog needs to be trained.

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that snow is made up of
 - a. masses.
 - b. slides.
 - c. avalanches.
 - d. ice crystals.





Name _____

6**The Bone That Stands Alone**

There is a song about bones. In the song, it says the toe bone is **connected** to the foot bone. The foot bone is connected to the ankle bone. The ankle bone is connected to the leg bone. The leg bone is connected to the knee bone. The knee bone is connected to the thigh bone.

The song talks about the arm, head, and back bones all being connected. The song does not talk about one bone.

This bone cannot be a part of the song. Why not? It is the one bone that stands alone. It is not connected to any other bones.

What bone stands alone? The hyoid bone supports the weight of your tongue. It is shaped like a “u.” It is the only bone that is not connected to other bones. It is held in place by muscles and ligaments.

Find the Answers

1. What is the one bone that is *not* connected to other bones?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| a. toe bone | c. hyoid bone |
| b. thigh bone | d. ankle bone |

2. Most likely, the bone that is *not* connected to other bones is in your

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. arm. | c. knee. |
| b. nose. | d. neck. |

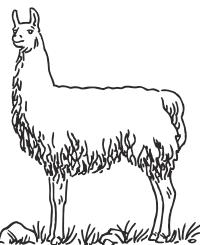
3. What word means the same as **connected**?

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| a. cut | c. chilly |
| b. joined | d. friendly |





Name _____

7**Guard Llamas**

Llamas are native to South America. People there use llamas as pack animals. Llamas are good pack animals because they are sure-footed and strong.

Today, llamas are being used in North America. They are not being used as pack animals. What are they being used for? They are being used as guards!

Sheep ranchers had a problem. Sheep herds were being attacked. Dogs were preying on the sheep. Coyotes were preying on the sheep. Ranchers had to do something. They tried traps and poison. Then they tried llamas. The llamas were good guards. They did not need training. They went right to work guarding the sheep and keeping them safe. They kept the sheep safe from dogs and coyotes.

Find the Answers

- 1.** How many uses for the llama are you told about in the story?
 a. two
 b. three
 c. four
 d. five

- 2.** If a llama is being used as a pack animal, most likely, it is in
 a. Asia.
 b. South America.
 c. North America.
 d. Central America.

- 3.** What made the llama a good guard?
 a. It preyed on sheep.
 b. It could not be poisoned.
 c. It did not need training.
 d. It could be used as a pack animal.





Name _____

8**UFO Sighting!**

What is a UFO? The U stands for *unidentified*. The F stands for *flying*. The O stands for *object*. Many people think they have seen UFOs. They think the UFOs are from outer space.

Scientists have looked into UFO sightings. Most of the time, the UFOs can be identified. Believe it or not, UFOs are a very common thing. You see them all the time. What can they be?

Many UFOs are clouds. They are a special kind of cloud. They are lenticular clouds. This kind of cloud is shaped like a lens. It is formed by waves of wind that blow around mountaintops. The blowing winds make each cloud smooth and rounded, just like a flying saucer. Sometimes UFOs look as if they are **hovering** spaceships. They look as if they are spaceships hovering because they may not move for hours.

Find the Answers

- 1.** When you **hover**, you
 - a. cannot be identified.
 - b. quickly fly into space.
 - c. blow around a mountaintop.
 - d. stay in one place in the air.

- 2.** *Identified* is to *unidentified* as
 - a. *pen* is to *pencil*.
 - b. *known* is to *unknown*.
 - c. *chill* is to *freeze*.
 - d. *wall* is to *swim*.

- 3.** If you see a UFO, it might be a
 - a. cloud.
 - b. whale.
 - c. tiger.
 - d. house.





Name _____

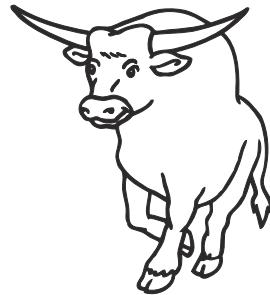
9**The Bull Sees Red**

Someone waves a red flag or cape at a bull. Watch out! The bull is charging fast!

Most people think the bull is charging because it hates the color red. They think the color red makes the bull angry. This is false. The truth is that bulls cannot see the color red. The cape could be green or blue. The cape could be black or orange. The cape could be yellow or purple. The reason that the

cape could be any color is because bulls are color-blind. Bulls only see shades of gray, white, and black.

Why does the bull charge, then? The bull charges because it is upset and angry. It sees the cape waving back and forth, and the bull goes after what is moving.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** A bull rider falls off. He needs time to get away. How does a rodeo clown get the bull to chase him instead of the rider?
 - a. by wearing red
 - b. by staying still
 - c. by jumping all around
 - d. by walking very slowly

- 2.** If you only read the title of this story, you might think that
 - a. bulls are color-blind.
 - b. bulls are not color-blind.
 - c. bulls can only see blue and green.
 - d. bulls can only see gray and black.

- 3.** What color would a bull *not* be able to see the way you do?
 - a. pink
 - b. gray
 - c. white
 - d. black

/3



Name _____

10**Submarine Sleep**

How do sailors sleep on a submarine? In older and smaller subs, sailors used to do something. It was called “hot-bunking.” “Hot-bunking” was when two sailors shared the same bed. One shift, one sailor would sleep. The other sailor would work. On the second shift, the sailors flipped. The one that was working took over the bunk. The one that had been sleeping got up to work.

Some sailors have an easier time sleeping on submarines than sailors do on ships. Why is this? Sailors on subs have less seasickness. Under the surface, the water is calm. The sub does not rock. It does not roll. People can sleep without being rocked up and down. They are not tossed out of their bunks in rough seas.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, in bigger submarines, sailors
 - a. get seasick more.
 - b. have their own bunks.
 - c. all work the same shift.
 - d. feel the rough seas more.

- 2.** *Easier* is to *harder* as
 - a. *toss* is to *bunk*.
 - b. *rock* is to *work*.
 - c. *calm* is to *rough*.
 - d. *shift* is to *sleep*.

- 3.** Why would sailors “hot-bunk”?
 - a. to stay cool
 - b. to stay calm
 - c. to save sleep
 - d. to save space





Name _____

11**Who Is Fighting?**

You go to a movie. In the movie, there might be a sword fight. Someone might be jumping out of a plane or off a cliff. Who is really doing the fighting, jumping, or diving? It looks like the movie star. Is it?

It takes a long time to teach someone to sword fight, jump out of a plane, or dive off a cliff. Moviemakers don't have the time to train their actors and actresses. They can't have their stars getting hurt.

What do they do? They hire stunt people for the dangerous action parts.

Stunt people are trained in all different things. They can sword fight. They can jump out of planes and dive off cliffs. They play the part of the actors and actresses. Then the film is cut and pasted. It is made to look like the movie stars are doing the dangerous stunts.

Find the Answers

- 1.** You see a movie. Someone jumps off a fast horse. Most likely, who are you seeing jump off the horse?
 - a. an actor
 - b. an actress
 - c. a movie star
 - d. a stunt person

- 2.** *Actor* is to *actress* as
 - a. *boy* is to *son*.
 - b. *boy* is to *girl*.
 - c. *boy* is to *father*.
 - d. *boy* is to *brother*.

- 3.** A stunt person's work is
 - a. easy.
 - b. boring.
 - c. dangerous.
 - d. always the same.





Name _____

12**The First Birthday**

Twins are born. One is a boy and one is a girl. The twins are born on the same day. They are born on May 5. They have the same birthday.

One year, the twins are in different places for their birthdays. The girl is in China, and the boy is in the United States. The girl turns ten a day before the boy does! She has her birthday first! How can this be?

The world has time zones. There are

twenty-four time zones. There is one dateline in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Places to the west of the dateline are one day ahead of places to the east. China is west of the dateline. The United States is east of the dateline. It is morning in China before it is morning in the United States. It is May 5 in China before it is May 5 in the United States.

Find the Answers

- 1.** According to the story, is it day *first* east or west of the dateline?
 - a. It is day first west of the dateline.
 - b. It is day first east of the dateline.
 - c. It is day at the same time all over the world.
 - d. It is night at the same time all over the world.

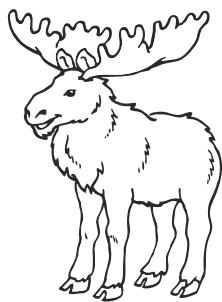
- 2.** From the story, you can tell that the new year starts
 - a. in the United States before it starts in China.
 - b. in China before it starts in the United States.
 - c. at the same time in China and the United States.
 - d. east of the dateline before west of the dateline.

- 3.** How many time zones are there?
 - a. one
 - b. seven
 - c. twelve
 - d. twenty-four





Name _____

13**How the Moose Crossed the Road**

A moose comes to a road. It wants to cross, but crossing the road is dangerous! It puts the moose in danger, and it puts drivers in danger.

A driver might not be able to stop in time. A driver might hit the moose. Both the moose and the driver could get hurt.

Today, when some moose and other animals cross the road, there is no danger. No one can get hurt. How can this be? People are making tunnels that go under the roads. Special fences are being put up. The fences keep animals off the road and lead them to the tunnels. Moose, deer, and even bears safely cross the road by going under it.

Find the Answers

- 1.** How does the moose cross the road?
 - a. by going in it
 - b. by going on it
 - c. by going over it
 - d. by going under it

- 2.** What animal is *not* named in the story?
 - a. deer
 - b. bear
 - c. wolf
 - d. moose

- 3.** One moose, two moose. What other word fits this pattern?
 - a. one foot, two feet
 - b. one deer, two deer
 - c. one mouse, two mice
 - d. one goose, two geese

/3



Name _____

14**An Apple Catch**

One time, a thief broke into a house. He stole jewelry and he stole money. How was this thief caught? He was caught because he took a bite of an apple!

During the robbery, the thief took a bite of an apple. He left the apple on the table. When the police came, they found the apple. The apple was put in

something so it would not rot.

Later, the police caught a **suspect**. The suspect said he was not the robber. The police had the suspect take a bite out of an apple. Then they looked at the two apples. The bites were the same! When the suspect was shown the apples, he knew he was caught. He admitted he was the thief.

Find the Answers

1. From the story, you can tell that

- a. the thief had big teeth.
- b. no one's teeth are the same.
- c. the thief won't eat apples again.
- d. everyone has the same kind of bite marks.

2. A **suspect** is someone

- a. whom you like a lot.
- b. you think didn't do something.
- c. who always eats apples.
- d. you think did something.

3. The story does *not* tell you

- a. what the robber took.
- b. why the apple didn't rot.
- c. what color the apple was.
- d. what the suspect admitted.

/3



Name _____

15**Solid Spit**

Desi spits. Spit is made up of saliva. Saliva is wet. It is a liquid. Desi's spit hits the ground. It is not a liquid. It is a solid. How can this be?

Desi is where it is very cold. He is in the coldest place in the world. He is in Antarctica. Antarctica is colder than the Arctic. Why is it colder? The Arctic is at sea level. It is not land. It is ice. It is frozen ocean. Antarctica is

land. It is above sea level. It is about 6,500 feet above sea level.

Desi's spit freezes in the air because it is so cold. It changes. It goes from a liquid to a solid. It freezes before it hits the ground!

Find the Answers

1. What is spit made up of?

- a. sand
- b. salt
- c. sugar
- d. saliva

2. Which of these is a liquid?

- a. milk
- b. a bike
- c. a tree
- d. a house

3. The Arctic is warmer than Antarctica because the Arctic is

- a. solid.
- b. frozen.
- c. at sea level.
- d. above sea level.

/3



Name _____

16**A Great Lakes Memory Trick**

Think of the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes are fresh water. How much water do they hold? Think of all the surface water in the world. Divide it into five equal parts. The Great Lakes hold one of those five parts. They hold one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water.

The names of the Great Lakes are Lake Huron, Lake Ontario, Lake Michigan, Lake Erie, and Lake Superior. Four of the lakes form part of the border

between the U.S. and Canada. Lake Michigan is the only lake that is completely in the U.S.

How do people remember the names of the Great Lakes? There is a trick. Think of the word **HOMES**. It is five letters. Each letter stands for one of the lakes. “H” stands for Huron. “O” stands for Ontario. “M” stands for Michigan. “E” stands for Erie. “S” stands for Superior.

Find the Answers

- 1.** The “M” in **HOMES** stands for
 - a. Lake Huron.
 - b. Lake Ontario.
 - c. the lake that forms part of a border.
 - d. The lake that is completely in the U.S.

- 2.** Lake Superior is the largest lake. What might be a trick to remember that it is the largest lake?
 - a. Lake Superior is *super* big.
 - b. Lake Superior is *super* tiny.
 - c. Lake Superior is *super* small.
 - d. Lake Superior is *super* fresh.

- 3.** How much of the world's fresh surface water do the Great Lakes hold?
 - a. one-third
 - b. one-fifth
 - c. one-tenth
 - d. one-fifteenth





Name _____

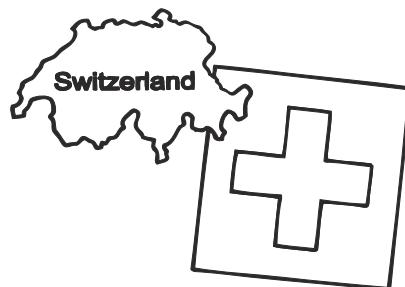
17**All About Flags**

Every country has a flag. Libya is a country. It is in Africa. Libya's flag has only one color. It is all green. Libya is the only country in the world that has a flag with a uniform color. How many colors are on your country's flag?

Most flags are the same on the front and the back. Paraguay is a country. It is in South America. The front and the back of Paraguay's flag are not the same. Are the front and the back of

your country's flag the same?

Most flags are not perfect squares. Switzerland is a country. It is in Europe. Switzerland's flag is a perfect square. Is your country's shape a perfect square?

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** What country has a flag with a front and a back that are *not* the same?
 - a. Libya
 - b. Europe
 - c. Paraguay
 - d. Switzerland

- 2.** *Uni* means one. That is why a flag with a uniform color has
 - a. only one color.
 - b. more than one color.
 - c. a shape like a square.
 - d. a front and back that are not the same.

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that the flag of India must
 - a. be a perfect square.
 - b. have more than one color.
 - c. be the biggest flag in the world.
 - d. have a front and back that are not the same.

/3



Name _____

18**Forwards and Backwards**

Read the word “racecar.” Now read the letters backwards. Backwards, the letters go like this: r a c e c a r.

Most words do not make sense if you read the letters backwards. A palindrome is a special word or phrase. Palindromes are words or sentences that read the same backwards or forwards.

The words “Mom” and “Dad” are palindromes. You can read the letters forwards or backwards. “Now I won!”

is a palindrome. You can read the letters in the sentence forwards or backwards. Look at this sentence: “Was it a car or a cat I saw?” Why is it a palindrome?

Find the Answers

1. What answer is *not* a palindrome?

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| a. eye | c. hat |
| b. wow | d. pup |

2. The word “radar” is a palindrome because you can read the letters

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| a. forwards only. | c. backwards only. |
| b. in a sentence. | d. forwards or backwards. |

3. What answer is a palindrome?

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| a. level | c. letter |
| b. loose | d. ladder |



Warm-Up

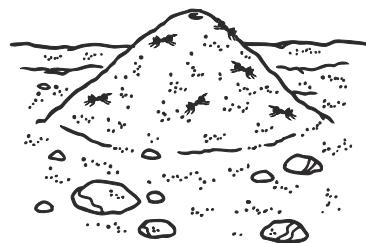
19

Name _____

A Cupboard That Is Alive

People **store** their food in cupboards. They keep it there until they need it. There are ants that store food, too. Where do the ants keep their food? They store it in a cupboard that is alive!

The ants are called honey ants. Worker honey ants bring food to storage honey ants. The worker ants stuff the storage ants full of nectar. The storage ants' bellies swell up. Their bellies get as big as grapes. They get so big that the ants can't move.



Sometimes ants from other nests will try to steal the storage ants.

They want their nectar! Sometimes other animals break open the ant nests. They want to eat the storage ants because they taste so sweet.

Find the Answers

- 1.** This story is mainly about
 - a. food.
 - b. people.
 - c. honey ants.
 - d. worker ants.

- 2.** When you **store** something, you
 - a. put it away.
 - b. try to steal it.
 - c. stuff it full of nectar.
 - d. swell up as big as a grape.

- 3.** The story does *not* tell you
 - a. what the worker ants do.
 - b. how big the storage ants get.
 - c. why the storage ants get stolen.
 - d. where the honey ants can be found.



Name _____

20**Quicksand!**

Most people are afraid of quicksand. They think they will be trapped. They think they will not stop sinking. They think they will not be able to get out.

The truth is that most quicksand is not deep. Quicksand is rarely deeper than a few feet. Quicksand is just sand with lots of water. The truth is that you can float in quicksand.

If you do step in quicksand, what should you do? You should not struggle. The

more you struggle, the faster you will sink. Relax and take deep breaths. If you are wearing a pack, slowly take it off. Then spread out your arms and legs to increase the surface area. If you do not **thrash around**, your body will stop sinking. When you stop sinking, slowly, slowly swim to safety.

Find the Answers

1. When you **thrash around**, you

- a. stop sinking.
- b. breathe slowly.
- c. increase surface area.
- d. move about in a wild way.

2. If you knew that you could float in quicksand, you would

- a. struggle more.
- b. not take off your pack.
- c. find it easier to relax.
- d. not be able to breathe deeply.

3. Most likely, if you step in quicksand,

- a. you will sink until it is over your head.
- b. you will not sink more than a few feet.
- c. you will not be able to float in it.
- d. you will not be able to stop sinking.



Warm-Up

Name _____

21**Cowboy Boots**

Why did cowboys wear cowboy boots? A cowboy's boots helped him work. The boots had pointed toes. They had heels. Why did cowboy boots have pointed toes and heels?

Cowboys spent a long time riding their horses. The pointed toes slipped easily into the stirrups on a saddle. They

also slipped out quickly. This was very important. If a cowboy fell, he did not want his boots to get stuck in the stirrups. He needed to be able to roll free of his horse so he would not get dragged.

Cowboys often had rough rides. They bounced up and down in the saddle. The boot's heels helped **anchor** the cowboy's foot in the stirrup. They kept the cowboy's feet from slipping. They helped the cowboy stay on his horse.

Find the Answers

- 1.** All cowboy boots had high sides. This might be because it
 - a. looked nice.
 - b. kept rocks out.
 - c. made the cowboy taller.
 - d. did not help the cowboy.

- 2.** *Front* is to *back* as
 - a. *toe* is to *heel*.
 - b. *toe* is to *boot*.
 - c. *toe* is to *saddle*.
 - d. *toe* is to *stirrup*.

- 3.** If something is **anchored**, it
 - a. bounces.
 - b. is important.
 - c. is held down.
 - d. slips out quickly.

/3



Name _____

22**A Pan and an Invention**

Walter Morrison would play catch on the beach. He would toss a tin cake pan to his wife. Walter wanted to invent something. He wanted a thing that would fly better than the tin cake pan. He made a plastic **disc**.

What did Walter invent? He invented the Frisbee®. How did the plastic disc get its name? Students used to toss empty pie pans to each other. The name of the pie-baking company was on

the pans they tossed. The name of the baking company was Frisbie.

The name was first put on the pie pans in the 1870s. Why was the name put on the tins? The tins could be reused. When someone started a pie, Frisbie wanted them to see his name. He wanted them to think, “It would be easier to buy one.”

Find the Answers

- 1.** A disc must be in the shape of a
 - a. square.
 - b. circle.
 - c. triangle.
 - d. rectangle.

- 2.** How is a pie plate different from what Walter invented?
 - a. A pie plate can fly better.
 - b. A pie plate can't be tossed around.
 - c. A pie plate can be used more than once.
 - d. A pie plate is not made out of plastic.

- 3.** What did Frisbie hope when he put his name on his pie tins?
 - a. that people would play catch
 - b. that people would eat more pie
 - c. that people would buy more pies
 - d. that people would invent something new





Name _____

23**When Seconds Count**

A forest is on fire. Firefighters come to battle the blaze. Suddenly, the wind shifts. The fire turns. Flames race toward the firefighters. No one can outrun them. The flames are moving too fast. Can the firefighters be saved?

Firefighters now carry shelters. The shelters are light. They are made to reflect heat. Shelters have saved over 250 people. Seconds count. A

firefighter must get the shelter out of its case fast. They must get in it quickly.

Firefighters **train**. They practice getting their shelters out while running. They practice putting them up. They practice getting in. At first, it takes a long time. The firefighters keep training. They get faster. They get so fast that it only takes twenty seconds to get in their shelters.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Which is closest to the number of people shelters have saved?
 a. 20
 b. 25
 c. 200
 d. 250

- 2.** What must a firefighter practice doing while running?
 a. putting up the shelter
 b. getting into the shelter
 c. getting the shelter out of its case
 d. counting shelters and firefighters

- 3.** When you **train**, you
 a. get ready for something.
 b. count something.
 c. battle something.
 d. shelter something.





Name _____

24**A Spider You Can Hear**

Think of a spider. You may think of them crawling. You may think of them jumping. You may think of them in a web. Most likely, you do not think of them making noise. There is one spider that makes noise. It is the *goliath* bird-eating spider.

This spider is the biggest spider in the world. It lives in South America. One of these spiders was as big as a dinner plate! It was eleven inches across! Some

people in South America eat these spiders.

How do these spiders make noise? They rub the bristles on their legs together. (Bristles are stiff hairs.) This makes a loud hissing noise. The hissing noise can be heard fifteen feet away. The spider makes this noise when it feels it is in danger.

Find the Answers

1. If something is *goliath*, it is

- a. in a web.
- b. very big.
- c. in danger.
- d. very jumpy.

2. This story is mainly about

- a. the world's biggest spider.
- b. how many people eat spiders.
- c. noisy spiders around the world.
- d. what spiders do when they are in danger.

3. What thing has bristles?

- a. a book
- b. a window
- c. a jump rope
- d. a toothbrush





Name _____

25**A Famous April Fool's Joke**

April 1 is known as April Fool's Day. It is a day when people play tricks on each other. One of the most famous April Fool's Day jokes took place in 1957. It was in Britain. It was on the television news.

What did people see on their screen? They saw people picking spaghetti! The spaghetti was hanging from trees. It looked real. Many people called the

television station. They wanted to know where they could buy spaghetti trees!

Spaghetti does not grow on trees. It is made from wheat flour and water. The news was a trick. It was an April Fool's Day joke that worked!

Find the Answers

1. What grows on trees?

- a. noodles
- b. carrots
- c. oranges
- d. ice cream

2. Where was the spaghetti tree trick played?

- a. Brazil
- b. Britain
- c. Botswana
- d. Bulgaria

3. From this story, you can tell that what you see on television

- a. must be true.
- b. is never true.
- c. is always true.
- d. might not be true.





Name _____

26**A Bank with No Money**

You hear the word “bank.” You think of a place where people keep their money.

There is a bank where people do not keep money. The bank stores something else. It is very important. The bank keeps it very safe, and it doesn’t charge money for keeping it. Where is the bank, and what does it keep safe?

The bank is dug into a mountainside in Norway. It is in a place where the

ground is always frozen and where it is dark for four months of the year.

The bank keeps seeds from all around the world. The seeds are from trees, flowers, and food crops. The bank keeps the seeds safe from floods, storms, and fires. How many seeds does the bank hold? There are over 250 million seeds in the bank!

Find the Answers

1. This story is mainly about

- a. storing seeds.
- b. how seeds grow.
- c. seeds from food crops.
- d. different kinds of seeds.

2. Most likely, the bank holds seeds from everywhere but

- a. Asia.
- b. Africa.
- c. outer space.
- d. North America.

3. Why is it good that the bank is where it is if the power went out?

- a. The seeds would burn up.
- b. The seeds would stay cool.
- c. The seeds would blow away.
- d. The seeds would start to grow.





Name _____

27**A New X-Sport**

Extreme sports are known as x-sports. There is a new x-sport. It is a sport where you can do what a hamster does. Do you know what this sport can be?

The sport is zorbing. Hamsters are put in plastic balls or globes. Once inside, the hamsters can roll all over. In zorbing, people roll down hills or across flat land while inside zorbs. Zorbs are plastic globes, or orbs.

A hamster's globe is a single ball. A zorb is a ball within a ball. The person is strapped into the inside globe. There is a layer of air between the outside and the inside globe. The layer of air cushions and protects the person who is zorbing.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What answer is *not* round?
 - a. orb
 - b. ball
 - c. globe
 - d. square

- 2.** In a zorb, a person is protected by
 - a. a cushion of air.
 - b. an extreme sport.
 - c. a layer of plastic.
 - d. a single flat strap.

- 3.** For zorbing to become a sport, people *first* had to
 - a. play ball.
 - b. find a hill.
 - c. invent a zorb.
 - d. have a hamster.

/3



Name _____

28**Wolf Facts**

Wolves run on their toes. Baby wolves, or pups, lick their parents' jaws. Do you know why wolves run on their toes and why pups lick their parents' jaws?

Wolves need to run fast. When wolves run on their toes, they are making their legs longer. It is like walking on stilts.

Walking on toes allows wolves to take bigger steps.



Wolves can run faster when they take bigger steps.

Wolf pups drink milk the first few weeks of life. Then they need meat. To get meat, they lick their parents' jaws. The licking causes the meat in the parents' stomachs to come back up. It causes the parents to regurgitate the meat. Then, when the regurgitated meat is in their mouths, the parents can give it to the pups.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Why might you be able to run faster when you are older?
 - a. You will grow stilts.
 - b. You will have bigger toes.
 - c. You will have longer legs.
 - d. You will regurgitate your food.

- 2.** A fact is the truth. It is not made up. What answer is *not* a fact?
 - a. Baby wolves are called pups.
 - b. Little wolf pups drink milk.
 - c. Parent wolves can regurgitate food.
 - d. Wolves look silly running on their toes.

- 3.** *Wolf* is to *pup* as
 - a. *dog* is to *tail*.
 - b. *cat* is to *kitten*.
 - c. *hen* is to *rooster*.
 - d. *duck* is to *quack*.





Name _____

29**A Race That Melts Shoes**

Some runners need to run on the road's white lines. Do you know why? If the runners didn't run on the white lines, their track shoes would melt.

The runners are in a race. The race is in California. It begins in Death Valley. It starts below sea level. It goes for 135 miles, crossing three mountain ranges. It ends at Mount Whitney. The race takes place in the summer. The air in Death Valley can heat up to 130°F.

The black road surface can heat up to 200°F. The white lines on the road reflect the sun's light, so they are cooler.

The fastest runner ran the race in less than a day! He did not get any money. Believe it or not, runners run this race for fun!

Find the Answers

- 1.** What answer is true about the race?
 - a. Winners get money.
 - b. It starts at sea level.
 - c. It takes place in Montana.
 - d. It takes place in the summer.

- 2.** If the sun was shining on you, you would feel
 - a. the same heat in a black or white shirt.
 - b. cooler in a black shirt than a white shirt.
 - c. warmer in a black shirt than a white shirt.
 - d. warmer in a white shirt than a black shirt.

- 3.** How many mountain ranges do the runners cross?
 - a. three
 - b. four
 - c. five
 - d. six

/3



Name _____

30**Why Water Stays Out**

Seals spend a lot of time in the water. How does a seal keep water from going up its nose? A seal's nostrils are not like yours. Your nostrils are always open. If you want to close them, you can hold them shut. Or you can wear a nose plug. A seal's nostrils are different. A seal's nostrils can open and close.

When a seal dives into the water, its nostrils are shut. It may seem odd to you, but a seal's nostrils are closed

naturally. This makes sense when you think about all the time a seal spends in the water. A seal uses special muscles to open its nostrils.



What happens when a seal relaxes these muscles? Its nostrils snap shut!

Find the Answers

1. A seal dives into the water. Its

- a. nostril muscles are relaxed.
- b. nostrils are naturally open.

- c. nostril muscles are not relaxed.
- d. nostrils are not naturally closed.

2. *Close* is to *open* as

- a. *same* is to *shut*.
- b. *same* is to *relax*.

- c. *same* is to *nostril*.
- d. *same* is to *different*.

3. A seal opens its nostrils to

- a. swim.
- b. play.

- c. get air.
- d. get water.





Fascinating People





Name _____

1**Climbing Blind**

Erik Weihenmayer could not see. He was blind. Erik said, “I want to climb the highest mountain. The tallest mountain in the world is Mount Everest. I will climb Mount Everest.”

People said, “How can you climb the highest mountain in the world? You can’t see!” People said, “It is too hard and too high. It’s not safe. You will get lost. You will fall and hurt yourself. It is impossible. It can’t be done.”

What did Erik say? Erik said, “I will climb the tallest mountain in the world.”

Erik climbed it, and he didn’t get lost. How did Erik find his way? He used his ears! Erik used his ears to listen for bells. The bells were tied to other climbers’ poles. The bells were tied to the sleeves of other climbers’ coats. The bells helped Erik reach the top of Mount Everest on May 25, 2001.

Find the Answers

- 1.** The climbers wore bells so Erik could
 - a. get lost.
 - b. see them.
 - c. hear them.
 - d. tie his sleeves.

- 2.** What day did Erik reach the top?
 - a. May 25, 2001
 - b. May 25, 2010
 - c. March 25, 2001
 - d. March 25, 2010

- 3.** Most likely, Erik would *not* have climbed Mount Everest if
 - a. it was icy.
 - b. he could see.
 - c. people said, “Yes.”
 - d. he was the only climber.

/3



Name _____

2**Trapped**

Lucy Cheesman was on an island in the South Pacific. Huge spiderwebs draped down. Lucy thought she would walk through them. Lucy was by herself collecting insects.

Lucy was wrong. She could not walk through the spiderwebs. She became trapped. One web covered her face. Lucy tried to break the threads with her fingers, but she couldn't. The strands were so strong that they cut her fingers

and made them bleed. Lucy then tried to bite the threads with her teeth, but she still couldn't free herself.

Fortunately, Lucy had a nail file in her pocket. She filed the strands one by one. It took hours. After that Lucy always carried a machete with her. A machete is a large knife. Lucy was born in 1881. She died in 1969.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Where was Lucy?
 - a. South Pacific
 - b. North Pacific
 - c. South Atlantic
 - d. North Atlantic

- 2.** What answer lists in the right order of what Lucy tried to use to free herself?
 - a. teeth, file, fingers
 - b. teeth, machete, file
 - c. fingers, teeth, file
 - d. fingers, machete, teeth

- 3.** You could find out more about Lucy in books or on the Internet because you know
 - a. that she carried a machete.
 - b. her name and when she was born.
 - c. that she went to an island with spiders.
 - d. her face was covered in spiderweb threads.



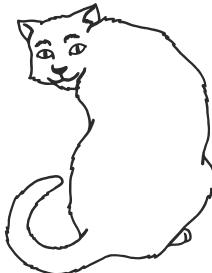


Name _____

3**What the Cat Led To**

The story goes that Percy Shaw was driving at night. It was a very foggy night in the 1930s. The road had a dangerous curve. A cat was sitting on a fence by the side of the road. At first, Shaw did not see the cat. Then it turned and looked at Shaw.

Shaw saw the cat's eyes. He saw the car's headlights **reflect** in the cat's eyes.



Shaw thought, "I can invent something! I can invent cat's eyes for roads! Road reflectors will help people see. They will help them know where they are going."

Roads today are safer because of Shaw. Small glass reflectors in the middle of the road help drivers see the road at night and in the fog.

Find the Answers**1.** What reflects?

- a. a sock
- b. a pencil
- c. a mirror
- d. a napkin

2. Most likely, the night Shaw saw the cat, he

- a. saw other animals, too.
- b. was thinking about pets.
- c. could see the road clearly.
- d. was having a hard time seeing the road.

3. What answer is *not* true about the story?

- a. It was the 1940s.
- b. It was a foggy night.
- c. The road had a dangerous curve.
- d. The cat was sitting on a fence.





Name _____

4**Ride on a Whale Shark**

Eugenie Clark was deep under the water. Clark was a scientist who studied fish. Clark was studying a whale shark. Whale sharks are not sharks, but they are the biggest fish in the world.

The whale shark Clark was looking at was over forty feet long. Clark was taking pictures. Then she did something. Clark grabbed the whale shark's fin. She went for a ride!

The whale shark took Clark farther and farther away from her boat. Still, Clark didn't want to let go. Then she thought, "Why am I still holding on to the shark, getting farther away from the boat?" Clark finally let go.

Find the Answers

- 1.** The whole time Clark was moving farther from the boat she was
 - a. taking pictures.
 - b. deep under the water.
 - c. swimming next to the whale shark.
 - d. thinking about how she would get back.

- 2.** Most likely, Clark didn't want to let go because she was
 - a. feeling sick.
 - b. afraid to let go.
 - c. having a fun time.
 - d. too tired to swim.

- 3.** What did Clark grab onto for her ride?
 - a. the whale shark's fin
 - b. the whale shark's back
 - c. the whale shark's tail
 - d. the whale shark's nose





Name _____

5**Free in Space**

On February 7, 1984, a man did something. He did something that had never been done before. Who was he? What did he do?

The man was an astronaut. His name was Bruce McCandless II. People had gone into space before. Most of them stayed inside their spaceships. They did not go outside. A few astronauts had gone outside. They had gone on spacewalks. They had been tied to the

spacecraft. They had been **tethered** to it. They did not float freely.

Bruce was the first human to float freely in outer space. He did not have a tether. He wore a special backpack. It went over his suit. The backpack had thrusters. It had long arms. The controls were on the arms. Bruce pushed the controls with his fingers.

Find the Answers

- 1.** If you are **tethered** to something, you are
 - a. free.
 - b. inside.
 - c. tied down.
 - d. floating.

- 2.** What did Bruce do that had never been done before?
 - a. go into outer space
 - b. float freely in space
 - c. float in his spaceship
 - d. go outside his spaceship

- 3.** What day was something done for the *first* time?
 - a. February 3, 1983
 - b. February 7, 1983
 - c. February 3, 1984
 - d. February 7, 1984



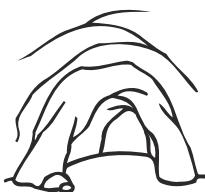


Name _____

6**Into a Cave**

Louise Hose is a geologist. Geologists study the earth. Sometimes, Hose has to wear a mask. If she didn't wear a mask, she would die. Why does Hose have to wear a mask?

Hose works in caves that go deep under the ground. In many caves, the air is safe to breathe. Hose works in a cave where the air is not safe to breathe. It is **toxic**. It



is filled with poisonous gases. If people breathe the toxic air, they will die.

Hose wears a special breathing mask while she studies the cave. She wears a light on her head while she makes maps that show its passageways and chambers. She studies how the cave was made. She studies the fish in the cave. She studies the bacteria.

Find the Answers**1.** Something **toxic** is

- a. safe.
- b. sweet.
- c. not safe.
- d. not sweet.

2. What might a geologist study?

- a. masks
- b. rocks
- c. lights
- d. stamps

3. What does Hose use to see in the cave?

- a. the sunlight
- b. a flashlight
- c. a special mask
- d. a light on her head





Name _____

7**How the Band-Aid® Came About**

In 1921, it seemed that Josephine Dickson was always having accidents. She was always getting cuts. The cuts were small, but they were a bother. Josephine would have to stop what she was doing and cut a piece of gauze. Then she would have to cut a piece of tape. She would use the tape to keep the gauze on her cut. All this took time.

Josephine's husband was named Earle. Earle thought, "I can save time." What

did Earle do to save time? He cut strips of tape and stuck pieces of gauze in the middle. He covered them with stiff fabric.

His ready-made bandages saved time. Josephine did not have to stop and cut gauze and tape. What had Earle invented with his ready-made bandages? He had invented Band-Aids®!

Find the Answers

- 1.** What invention can you tell from the story was most likely invented *before* 1921?
 - a. scissors
 - b. airplanes
 - c. cell phones
 - d. rocket ships

- 2.** If you cut yourself in 1900, you would
 - a. use a ready-made bandage.
 - b. ask Earle for a Band-Aid.
 - c. save time by using a Band-Aid.
 - d. have to make your own bandage.

- 3.** If you get cut, what part of the Band-Aid do you put on your cut?
 - a. the tape
 - b. the strip
 - c. the gauze
 - d. the fabric





Name _____

8**Favorite Field Camp**

Naomi Pierce is a biologist. A biologist studies living things. Pierce spent a lot of time outside of the lab. She spent a lot of time in the field. Pierce liked studying things where they lived. She liked camping in the field.

Pierce said she had a favorite field camp. It was in Australia. The camp was at the edge of a rainforest. Pierce stayed in an upside-down water tank.

Pierce's favorite camp might not be the favorite of anyone else's. Why not? One day Pierce woke up. She found a ten-foot carpet snake beside her! There were also a few funnel web spiders in the camp. These spiders can be dangerous. Pierce said they seemed to follow her around.

Find the Answers

- 1.** This story is mainly about a
 - a. snake.
 - b. spider.
 - c. biologist.
 - d. water tank.

- 2.** Pierce might have liked working in the lab more if she
 - a. did not like camping.
 - b. saw snakes in the field.
 - c. could not stay in a house.
 - d. was near dangerous spiders.

- 3.** A biologist would be *least* likely to study
 - a. ants.
 - b. rocks.
 - c. birds.
 - d. insects.





Name _____

9**The Dog and Shoes That Didn't Slip**

Paul Sperry was a sailor. He spent hours on the open ocean. One day in 1935, Paul took his dog, Prince, out for a walk on land. The ground was covered with snow. The snow had an icy crust. Paul noticed that his dog didn't slip, even on the snow with icy crust.

Paul picked up his dog's paws. He looked closely at its soles. He saw tiny wavelike grooves. Next, Paul went back

to his lab and began working. He used a razor blade, rubber, and a sneaker.

Paul didn't stop until he had invented a new kind of shoe. It was the world's first nonskid deck shoe! Today, sailors all around the world wear Paul's shoes. The shoes' soles all have a wavelike pattern. The soles provide sailors with traction. The soles provide gripping power on both dry and wet decks.

Find the Answers

1. What answer is true?

- a. Paul looked at his dog's legs.
- b. Paul had a dog named Princess.
- c. Paul invented his new shoe in 1934.
- d. Paul spent hours on the open ocean.

2. A *sole* is on the bottom, and a *crust* is on the

- a. top.
- b. inside.
- c. middle.
- d. bottom.

3. When you have the power to grip and not slip on something, you have

- a. soles.
- b. grooves.
- c. traction.
- d. a pattern.

/3



Name _____

10**A Horse for Legs**

When Lis Hartel was twenty-three years old, she got sick. She got polio. This disease did something to her legs. Then Lis needed crutches to walk. Lis had been an athlete. She competed in dressage.

Dressage is done on a horse. The horse and rider go through a series of events. The rider cannot talk. The rider must guide the horse by hand and leg movement. The hand and leg movement

is all but invisible to the eye. People told Lis she couldn't do dressage anymore. They said she needed her legs to guide the horse.

What did Lis say? Lis said, "Why can't my horse be my legs?" Lis would not give up. She went to the Olympic Games. She won a silver medal. Everyone cheered and cheered. No one had thought it was possible.

Find the Answers

1. Most likely, if you watched dressage, you would

- a. have to be at the Olympic Games.
- b. hear the rider talking to the horse.
- c. not see the rider's hands or legs moving.
- d. only see the horse and rider do one thing.

2. What phrase fits Lis?

- a. "Don't ever give up."
- b. "Do what others say."
- c. "Most things are not possible."
- d. "Athletes must be able to run."

3. What kind of medal did Lis win?

- a. blue
- b. gold
- c. bronze
- d. silver



Name _____

11**Forest Training**

Olympic runners train hard. They have to get ready long before the Olympic Games start. Lasse Viren was from Finland. He was a runner. He ran long distances. He won gold medals in the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games.

How did Lasse train? He ran his own way. He ran all the time, but he didn't run on tracks. Instead, he liked to run on forest trails. He felt running on the trails got his legs ready for anything. He

also felt the uneven forest trails made him mentally tough.

How did running on forest trails make Lasse mentally tough? Lasse could never relax. He had to be **alert**. This was because the ground was uneven. He had to watch for roots. He had to watch for rocks. Sometimes, he had to slow down. Other times, he could speed up. He could never stop paying attention.

Find the Answers

1. What Olympic Games did Lasse win gold medals in?

- a. 1962 and 1964
- b. 1968 and 1976
- c. 1972 and 1974
- d. 1972 and 1976

2. This story is mainly about

- a. why the Olympic Games started.
- b. how one Olympic runner trained.
- c. the even tracks at the Olympic Games.
- d. when the Olympic Games were in Finland.

3. If you are **alert**, you are

- a. paying attention.
- b. staying tough.
- c. looking uneven.
- d. acting relaxed.

/3



Name _____

12**The Crow and the Raccoon**

Jean Craighead George is a writer. She writes a lot of books about animals.



One time, she wrote a book about her pets. She wrote about her pet crow and pet raccoon. The crow was named Crowbar, and the raccoon was named Hands.

Crowbar was smart. He learned how to open the bread box all by himself. He

would hop on the counter and open the bread box. Then he would eat and eat.

Whenever Crowbar would open the bread box, Hands would come running. He would sit on the floor and wait. Why would Hands do this? Crowbar was a **messy** eater. Crowbar would drop piece after piece of bread on the floor. Hands would eat piece after piece of bread that had dropped.

**Find the Answers**

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that
 - a. Hands was a messy eater.
 - b. the bread box was on the floor.
 - c. Crowbar could shut the bread box.
 - d. Jean kept her bread box on the counter.

- 2.** This story is mainly about
 - a. food.
 - b. two animals.
 - c. a writer's life.
 - d. books people like to read.

- 3.** The opposite of **messy** is
 - a. clean.
 - b. clone.
 - c. clever.
 - d. closet.





Name _____

13**Youngest to the Pole**

Jan Mela had an accident when he was thirteen years old. He lost an arm and a leg. When he was in the hospital, an explorer came to see him. The explorer said, “Get better. Then dare to try for the North Pole.”

Jan got better. He worked out on a special bike and took long walks. Then he tried for the North Pole. He was only fifteen years old. Jan went with three explorers. One of the explorers

was the one who dared him to try for the North Pole. Jan and the other men pulled sleds. They had to pull all their food and supplies.

They had to brave a fierce storm. They walked over forty miles. It took ten days, but on April 24, 2004, they made it. Jan became the youngest person to walk to the North Pole.

Find the Answers

1. How old was Jan when he reached the North Pole?

- a. ten years old
- b. thirteen years old
- c. fifteen years old
- d. forty years old

2. How many people went to the North Pole in the story?

- a. four
- b. five
- c. six
- d. seven

3. Most likely, the dare made Jan feel

- a. as if he would never get better.
- b. like he could not be an explorer.
- c. sad that he had lost an arm and a leg.
- d. like he could still do brave things.





Name _____

14**The Night the House Burned**

It was 1814. James Madison was president. He was the fourth president. His wife was named Dolley. Dolley had gotten ready to host a dinner. Forty places had been set. The meal was cooking. Then she was told she had to **flee**. The British army was coming. They were going to burn down the White House.

Dolley was in danger. She had to get away fast. Still, Dolley would not leave until she had saved something. What did

Dolley save? She saved a painting. The painting was of George Washington. Washington was the first president. Dolley felt that saving the painting was important. She felt it was a symbol of the new country. It stood for freedom.

You can see the painting Dolley saved today. It is hanging in the White House. It was put there after the White House was rebuilt.

Find the Answers

1. How many presidents were there after Washington but before Madison?

- a. one
- b. two
- c. three
- d. four

2. Why did Dolley save the painting?

- a. She was Washington's wife.
- b. She wanted the British army to burn it.
- c. She felt it was a symbol of the new country.
- d. She wanted to show it at dinner to forty people.

3. If you **flee**, you

- a. host a dinner.
- b. save a painting.
- c. burn down something.
- d. leave quickly.

/3



Name _____

15**Kicking a Sock**

Pele took an old sock. He filled it full of old newspapers. Then he tied it shut with a string. Why did Pele fill the sock with newspapers? Pele wanted to play soccer. He was too poor to buy a ball, so he made his own.

Pele was born in Brazil on October 23, 1940. As a child, Pele earned pennies by shining people's shoes. When he wasn't working, he did what he liked best. He played soccer. In Brazil, soccer is

called football. Pele kicked whatever he could find. He kicked his sock filled with newspaper. He even kicked old grapefruits!

Pele kicked with his left leg. He kicked with his right leg. He hit the ball with his head. He became famous because he scored a lot of goals. When he scored his one thousandth goal, he said it was for the poor children of Brazil.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Pele could score goals with everything but his
 - a. hand.
 - b. head.
 - c. left leg.
 - d. right leg.

- 2.** If someone says they want to play football, they
 - a. must be from Brazil.
 - b. are, most likely, poor.
 - c. make money shining shoes.
 - d. might want to play soccer.

- 3.** When was Pele born?
 - a. October 22, 1940
 - b. October 23, 1940
 - c. November 22, 1940
 - d. November 23, 1940

/3



Name _____

16**Was She Crazy?**

Elizabeth Blackwell would walk home from school. No one would talk to her. People were rude. They stared at her. They thought she was crazy. Was she crazy?

She was not crazy. Elizabeth was born in 1821. She was studying to be a doctor. At that time, there were no female doctors in the United States. People did not think women could be

doctors. They thought a woman who wanted to be a doctor was crazy.

Elizabeth would not give up. She was polite to people who were rude. She worked hard. She studied. She took tests. At last, she became a doctor. She was the first woman to become a doctor in the United States.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What is *not* true about Elizabeth Blackwell?
 - a. She gave up.
 - b. She was polite.
 - c. She became a doctor.
 - d. She was born in 1821.

- 2.** Most likely, Elizabeth would be pleased that today
 - a. most doctors do not study.
 - b. only men can go to school.
 - c. only women can be doctors.
 - d. anyone who works hard can be a doctor.

- 3.** *Rude* is to *polite* as
 - a. *work* is to *hard*.
 - b. *first* is to *last*.
 - c. *think* is to *crazy*.
 - d. *woman* is to *doctor*.





Name _____

17**Where Did Farini Go?**

The Great Farini was on a tightrope. He was high above Niagara Falls. When he was halfway, he stopped. He tied a rope to the tightrope. Then he climbed down the rope.

Where did the Great Farini go? He went two hundred feet down. He stepped onto the deck of a ship. He had a drink. Then he climbed back up the rope. He climbed all the way back

up to his tightrope. Finally, he finished his walk over the falls.

The Great Farini's real name was William Hunt. Hunt was born in 1838. Hunt walked over Niagara Falls many times. One time, he hung from his rope with his feet. Another time, he did somersaults on the rope!

Find the Answers

1. What word does *not* fit the Great Farini?

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| a. weak | c. strong |
| b. brave | d. daring |

2. From the story, you can tell that the Great Farini

- a. was lucky he had a rope with him.
- b. didn't know if a ship would be there.
- c. didn't want to climb back up the rope.
- d. planned what he would be doing ahead of time.

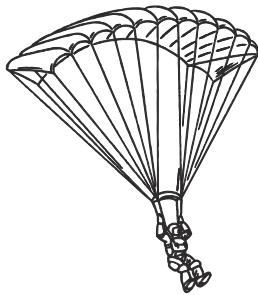
3. What did the Great Farini do on the ship?

- a. He took a nap.
- b. He had a drink.
- c. He did a somersault.
- d. He hung over the side.

/3



Name _____

18**A Tiny Jumper**

Georgia “Tiny” Broadwick went up in a hot-air balloon. Then she did something. It was a first. No woman had done it before.

She jumped out with a parachute. The year was 1908. Tiny was only fifteen years old.

Tiny went first again in 1913. She jumped out of a plane. No woman had

done that before. In 1914, she went first again. This time, she made a free-fall parachute jump. No one had ever done this before. When you free-fall jump, you have to pull a cord to open your chute. It will not open by itself.

Where did Tiny’s nickname come from? It came from her size. She was only four feet tall. What did Tiny show us? She showed us that size has nothing to do with bravery.

Find the Answers

- 1.** What year was Tiny the first woman to jump out of a plane?
 - a. 1908
 - b. 1913
 - c. 1914
 - d. 1915

- 2.** This story is mainly about
 - a. Tiny’s jumps.
 - b. how Tiny got her nickname.
 - c. when Tiny pulled her own cord.
 - d. why Tiny went up in a hot-air balloon.

- 3.** What would Tiny agree with?
 - a. Being big is better.
 - b. Big people are braver.
 - c. Bravery comes in all sizes.
 - d. You must be big to be brave.





Name _____

19**The Horse with Brushed Teeth**

George Washington was president. He was the first president of the United States. George liked his horse very much. What did George have done for his horse? George had his horse's teeth brushed! The horse's teeth were brushed daily.

Did George brush his teeth as much? George had only one tooth left when he was president. He had to wear dentures. Dentures are false teeth.

The dentures did not feel good. They hurt George's mouth. George had more than one pair of dentures. What were the dentures made of? They were not made of wood. Some had teeth carved from elephant tusks. Some had teeth carved from walrus tusks. Some had human teeth.

Find the Answers

- 1.** George's dentures were *not* made from
 - a. wood.
 - b. human teeth.
 - c. walrus tusks.
 - d. elephant tusks.

- 2.** One reason George might have had more than one pair of dentures was because he
 - a. brushed his teeth daily.
 - b. was the first president.
 - c. liked elephant and walrus tusks.
 - d. was trying to find a pair that felt good.

- 3.** When something is done **daily**, it is done
 - a. one time.
 - b. three times.
 - c. at least one time each day.
 - d. at least three times each day.

/3



Name _____

20**Shark Attack!**

“Sprint!” people in the boat yelled at Lynne. “Swim as fast as you can!” Lynne is a long-distance swimmer. She was swimming around the Cape of Good Hope. The Cape is at the tip of South Africa where the Atlantic and Indian Ocean crash together.

The water at the Cape is filled with sharks. A boat was close to Lynne. The people in the boat were looking for sharks. Lynne did not know it, but a

shark was spotted. It was twelve feet long. It had its mouth open to attack, and it was going straight for Lynne.

A man shot it in the fin with a spear gun. The shark bit the spear and pulled it out. The shark swam away, but the blood from its wound attracted more sharks. When did Lynne find this out? After she had swum around the Cape and sprinted to shore!

Find the Answers

- 1.** When you are moving very fast and at full speed, you are
 - a. jogging.
 - b. marching.
 - c. walking.
 - d. sprinting.

- 2.** What two oceans crash together at the Cape of Good Hope?
 - a. Indian and Pacific
 - b. Atlantic and Arctic
 - c. Indian and Atlantic
 - d. Atlantic and Pacific

- 3.** How do you think Lynne felt after she found out about the sharks?
 - a. lucky
 - b. angry
 - c. sleepy
 - d. unhappy





Name _____

21**A True Tall Tale**

Jim Bridger was born in 1804. He was a mountain man. He was known for how much he knew about the West. He was known for his mapmaking skills. He was also known for his telling of **tall tales**. Bridger liked to tell stories. He liked stories with endings that surprised people.

One time, Bridger told stories about a river. He said the river was hot enough to cook fish in. No one believed Bridger.

They all thought it was just another tall tale.

Was it a tall tale? Bridger had explored Yellowstone Park. He had seen hot springs. He had seen geysers. Geysers shoot boiling water into the air. Bridger had seen water that was hot enough to cook fish in. Before, no one but the American Indians had seen such things.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, more people would have believed Bridger if they, too,
 - a. had seen geysers.
 - b. had told tall tales.
 - c. had explored mountains.
 - d. had cooked fish in water.

- 2.** A **tall tale** is a story that
 - a. is very long.
 - b. has to be true.
 - c. most likely isn't all true.
 - d. must be told by Jim Bridger.

- 3.** Jim Bridger was known for what he knew about the
 - a. East.
 - b. West.
 - c. South.
 - d. North.





Name _____

22**Spelling with Fingers**

Helen Keller was born in 1880. When she was less than two years old, she got very sick. She became blind and deaf. She could not see. She could not hear. Helen did not know how to behave. She would grab food. She would hit people. She would have fits on the floor.

Annie Sullivan came to teach Helen. Annie did not allow Helen to grab food. She did not let Helen get her way by hitting or having fits. Over and over,

Annie would put her fingers in Helen's hands. What was Annie doing?

Annie was spelling out words. She was making letters with her fingers. One time, Annie spelled out w-a-t-e-r. She put Helen's hands in water at the same time. At last, Helen learned that the finger signs meant words.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Annie taught Helen how to
 - a. grab food.
 - b. spell out words.
 - c. get her way by hitting.
 - d. get her way by having fits.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that after Helen was sick, she could still
 - a. feel.
 - b. hear.
 - c. talk.
 - d. listen.

- 3.** Most likely, babies learn to talk when they
 - a. never hear a word.
 - b. learn to spell a word.
 - c. hear a word just once.
 - d. hear words over and over.





Name _____

23**Egg Danger!**

Bill Peet was an artist. He drew pictures for movies. He drew mice, elephants, and other animals. He also wrote books. He drew all the pictures in his books.

Bill was born and raised in Indiana. When he was a boy, he and his brothers went to his grandfather's farm. There was a huge, old barn. It had a hayloft. Bill and his brothers swung off of ropes, leaped off of crossbeams, and dropped

from rafters. They swung, leaped, and dropped onto a huge mountain of hay that filled the hayloft.

There was only one danger. Sometimes hens would lay eggs in the hay. Some of the eggs were very old. They had never hatched. If Bill or one of his brothers



landed on an old egg, it was a real mess! The smell was horrible!

Find the Answers

- 1.** Bill was born and raised in
 - a. Idaho.
 - b. Montana.
 - c. Indiana.
 - d. Missouri.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that Bill's grandfather had what kind of animals on the farm?
 - a. mice
 - b. chickens
 - c. elephants
 - d. hippopotamuses

- 3.** When a living thing comes out of an egg, we say it has
 - a. landed.
 - b. smelled.
 - c. dropped.
 - d. hatched.





Name _____

24**The Right Place**

Margaret Bourke-White was up high. She was perched on a building. The ground was far below. It was eight hundred feet below. What was Margaret doing? She was taking a photograph.

Margaret was born in 1904. Her pictures are famous. Someone said she was always in the right place at the right time. Being in the right place is not easy. Margaret had to try hard. She

had to climb. She had to fly. She had to put herself in danger.

One time, Margaret was on a ship. The ship was hit by a torpedo. It began to sink. Margaret had to get in a lifeboat. Some soldiers were in the lifeboat, too. The lifeboat filled with water. People had to act fast. They had to **bail** out the water. What did they use? The soldiers used their helmets.

Find the Answers

- 1.** If you **bail** water out of a boat, you
 - a. dip it out.
 - b. act fast.
 - c. climb in.
 - d. are famous.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that Margaret
 - a. wanted to be famous.
 - b. worked hard for her pictures.
 - c. did not care about the right time.
 - d. found it easy to be in the right place.

- 3.** This story is mainly about
 - a. sinking ships.
 - b. photographs of buildings.
 - c. a person who took photographs.
 - d. the people who were in famous photographs.





Name _____

25**More Than Twenty Million Steps**

Dave Kunst walked around the world. He was the first person to circle the land mass of Earth on foot. His trip took him across four continents. It took him through thirteen countries. Dave walked for four years, three months, and sixteen days. He wore out twenty-one pairs of shoes. He took more than twenty million steps.

Dave had many adventures. Some were fun. Others were filled with danger.

One time, Dave was shot at by bandits. Another time, Dave was going across a desert. Flies kept swarming over his nose, mouth, and eyes. The flies were thirsty. They were trying to get moisture.

Another time, Dave wanted to eat in a restaurant. The owner had Dave bring a mule into the restaurant! The people eating laughed and laughed. They liked being surprised by the mule.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Another title for this story might be
 - a. “Flying in the Desert.”
 - b. “Eating in Restaurants.”
 - c. “Walking Around the World.”
 - d. “All the World’s Continents.”

- 2.** In the story, the number twenty-one was for the number of
 - a. steps Dave took.
 - b. years Dave’s trip took.
 - c. countries Dave went through.
 - d. pairs of shoes Dave wore out.

- 3.** Most likely, when Dave got to a coast, he
 - a. ended his trip.
 - b. flew across an ocean.
 - c. tried to get moisture.
 - d. looked for restaurants.

/3



Name _____

26**What the Scale Said**

Mary McLeod Bethune was born in 1875. Mary's family grew cotton. Mary's father would take the cotton to the market. A buyer would weigh it. Mary's father did not know what the scale said. He did not know how to read because he had been a slave. He could not tell if he was being cheated.

Mary went to school. She had to walk every day. The school was five miles away. There weren't any pencils or

paper at the school. There were only a few desks and books. Still, Mary studied hard.

Mary went with her father the next time he sold cotton. The cotton buyer said, "You have 280 pounds." Mary looked at the scale. She said, "Isn't it 480 pounds?" Mary had read the scale correctly! She had stopped her father from being cheated.

Find the Answers

- 1.** How far did Mary walk to school and back home every day?
 - a. five miles
 - b. ten miles
 - c. fifteen miles
 - d. twenty miles

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that reading
 - a. makes you cheat.
 - b. is done only at school.
 - c. will help you pick cotton.
 - d. can help you keep what is yours.

- 3.** *Scale* is to *weight* as
 - a. *clock* is to *tick*.
 - b. *clock* is to *hand*.
 - c. *clock* is to *time*.
 - d. *clock* is to *face*.





Name _____

27**Across Antarctica**

The Guinness Book of World Records has called Ranulph Fiennes the “World’s greatest living explorer.” This is because he has led over thirty journeys. This includes trips to the North and South Poles. It also includes a famous trip to Antarctica.

Fiennes went to Antarctica with one other man. They pulled sleds by themselves. They did not use dogs.

No one had ever crossed the continent before without help.

It was very cold. At times, it was 100°F below zero! The winds were too strong. Fiennes and the other man could not finish the trip. They had to quit because they did not have enough food. They walked a total of 1,350 miles.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, Fiennes’s sled was heavier at the start because it had
 - a. food on it.
 - b. a tent on it.
 - c. a stove on it.
 - d. a sleeping bag on it.

- 2.** In the story, how many people are trying to cross Antarctica?
 - a. only Fiennes
 - b. Fiennes and one more
 - c. Fiennes and two more
 - d. Fiennes and three more

- 3.** From the story, you can tell that no one had crossed the continent before
 - a. using sleds.
 - b. with enough food.
 - c. when it was very cold.
 - d. without outside help.





Name _____

28**The Lady Who Watched**

How do hens lay eggs? Jane Goodall was a little girl, but she wanted to know. Jane went into a tiny henhouse. She waited and watched. No one knew where Jane was. Everyone was looking for her. Jane's mother even called the police.

How long did Jane watch and wait? She didn't come out of the henhouse until five hours had passed! When Jane grew up, she did a lot more waiting and

watching. This time she wasn't in a tiny henhouse. She was in Africa! She was watching chimpanzees.

Jane had to be very **patient**. At first, the chimps were afraid of her. They would run away. Jane never gave up. After a long time, the chimps stopped noticing her. Jane watched how chimp families got along. She learned how they find food, eat, and raise their babies.

Find the Answers

- 1.** From the story, you can tell that Jane
 - a. cannot sit still.
 - b. doesn't give up easily.
 - c. wants things right away.
 - d. is afraid of small spaces.

- 2.** If you are **patient**,
 - a. you can wait calmly.
 - b. you learn how to find food.
 - c. you stop noticing families.
 - d. the police will look for you.

- 3.** How long was Jane in the tiny henhouse?
 - a. five days
 - b. five years
 - c. five hours
 - d. five minutes





Name _____

29**A Sled to Laugh At**

Two brothers made a sled. Their names were Orville and Wilbur Wright. The brothers' sled didn't look like other children's sleds. It was long and narrow.

Orville and Wilbur took their sled to a sledding hill. All the children laughed at Orville and Wilbur's sled. They thought the sled wouldn't hold anyone. The children had a race. Who won? Orville and Wilbur left the others far behind them! Not only that but they went

farther down the slope on their sled than any other sled had ever gone!

The Wright brothers had thought before they built their sled. They thought about wind resistance. They built their sled so the wind didn't slow them down. The Wright brothers went on to build and fly the first plane.

Find the Answers

- 1.** Most likely, the other children's sleds were
 - a. longer and bigger.
 - b. thinner and newer.
 - c. shorter and wider.
 - d. longer and thinner.

- 2.** From the story, you can tell that the Wright brothers
 - a. planned before they built.
 - b. started building right away.
 - c. didn't want to be laughed at.
 - d. cared mostly about how things looked.

- 3.** Racecars are built low and narrow. Most likely, this is so there is
 - a. more wind resistance.
 - b. less wind resistance.
 - c. more room for the driver.
 - d. less room for the driver.

/3



Warm-Up

30

Name _____

A Clown in Danger

Most people think a clown's job is to be silly and make people laugh. Robin Sindorf was a clown. She would dress in silly clothes, but she wasn't silly. She put herself in danger. She did this to save lives.

Robin was a rodeo clown. Riding a bull is part of a rodeo. Cowboys try to stay on a bull for eight seconds. It is a



dangerous sport. The bull can trample the riders or gore them with its horns. The job of the rodeo clown is to give the rider time to get away. The rodeo clown does this by making the bull go after him or her!

After Robin would get the bull to chase her, she would jump into a barrel. She would hold onto straps. She would be tossed high into the air by angry bulls!

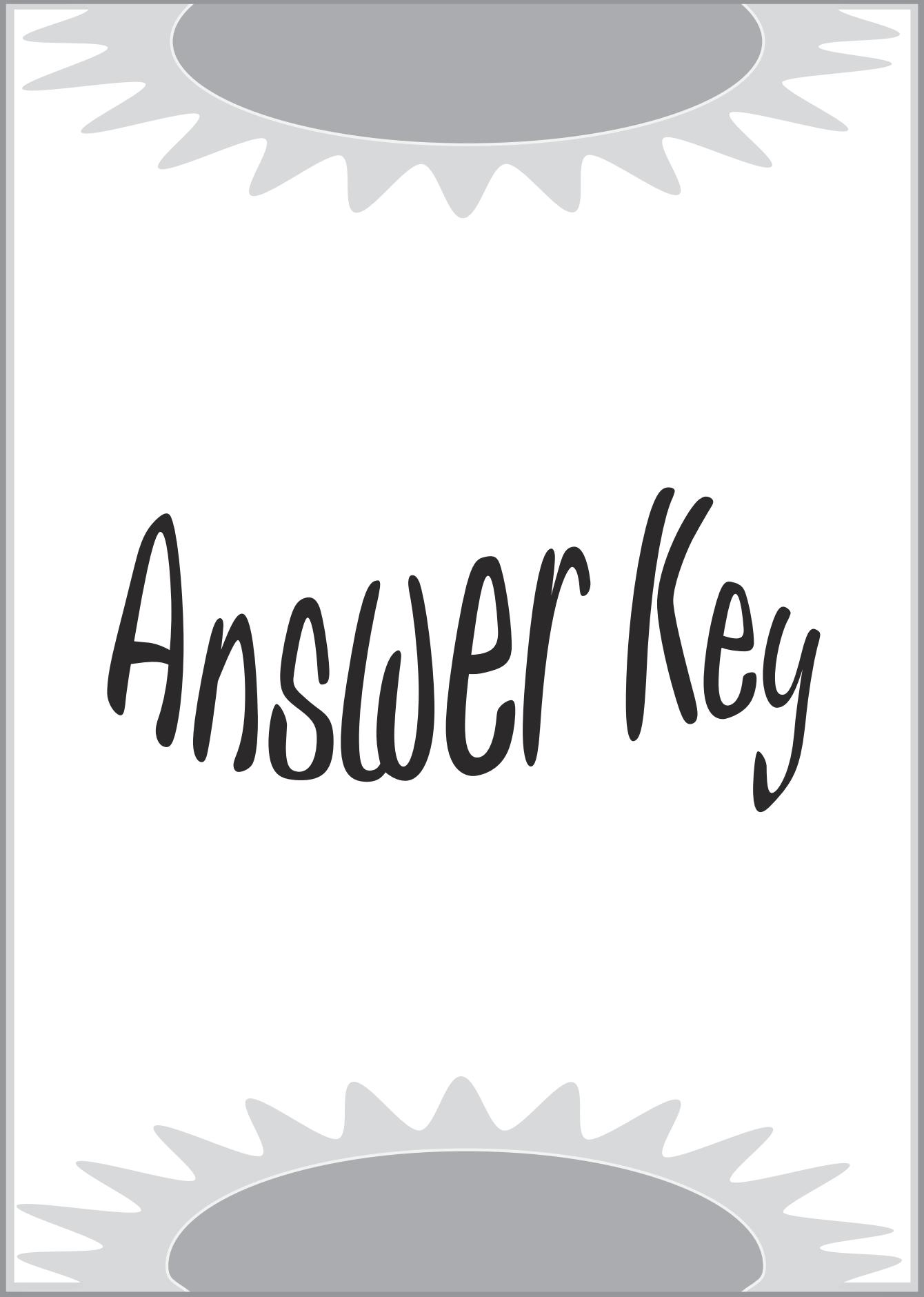
Find the Answers

- 1.** How long do cowboys try to stay on a bull?
 - a. six seconds
 - b. six minutes
 - c. eight seconds
 - d. eight minutes

- 2.** What is Robin's main job?
 - a. jump into a barrel
 - b. get trampled on by the bull
 - c. get tossed high into the air
 - d. give the rider time to get away

- 3.** Most likely, Robin holds onto the straps so she
 - a. can stay on the bull.
 - b. doesn't fall out of the barrel.
 - c. gets gored by the bull's horns.
 - d. can dress in silly clothes and laugh.





Answer Key



Answer Key

Interesting Places and Events

Page 9 The Big Wave

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 10 A Very Strange Meeting

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 11 The Biggest Country

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 12 From Not Real to Real

1. b
2. d
3. a

Page 13 Four Corners

1. d
2. a
3. c

Page 14 Raining Frogs

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 15 Wide and Narrow Streets

1. a
2. d
3. c

Page 16 A Foot in Each Country

1. c
2. a
3. b

Page 17 A Question About Roofs

1. b
2. c
3. a

Page 18 School of the Air

1. a
2. d
3. b

Page 19 The Smallest and the Largest

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 20 The Middle

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 21 Can Climb, Can't Climb

1. b
2. d
3. a

Page 22 Hot-Water Monkeys

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 23 Emergency Number

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 24 A Hole First

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 25 Why Long and Dark?

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 26 The Biggest Coins

1. b
2. a
3. c

Page 27 The World's Smallest Park

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 28 How Cattle Know Where to Go

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 29 Floating Islands

1. c
2. b
3. a

Page 30 A Long Walk on a Long Wall

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 31 Four, Five, or Seven Seasons?

1. b
2. c
3. a

Page 32 The Falls Few People See

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 33 A Hotel That Melts

1. a
2. d
3. c

Page 34 Riddles from the Philippines

1. a
2. c
3. d

Page 35 Into the Death Zone

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 36 Underground Cities

1. c
2. a
3. b

Page 37 Okay Spitting

1. c
2. d
3. a

Page 38 Under-the-Water Mail

1. b
2. a
3. d

Answer Key (cont.)

Scientifically Speaking

Page 41 No Teeth

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 42 Where a Day Is Not Twenty-Four Hours

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 43 The Smaller Lung

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 44 All Because of Melted Chocolate

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 45 Caribou Fog

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 46 All About Giraffes

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 47 Fake Eyes

1. c
2. d
3. b

Page 48 Koalas

1. a
2. d
3. c

Page 49 Jupiter Fun Facts

1. d
2. b
3. c

Page 50 The Big and Small of Fox Ears

1. d
2. c
3. a

Page 51 A Plant Like Flypaper

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 52 Flying with Hands

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 53 A Lucky Accident

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 54 All About the Growl

1. d
2. a
3. b

Page 55 You Had to Look Up

1. d
2. c
3. a

Page 56 First in Space

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 57 A Giant

1. c
2. d
3. a

Page 58 A Message You Won't Hear

1. b
2. a
3. c

Page 59 Squirting Blood

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 60 Vulture Fun Facts

1. b
2. d
3. a

Page 61 Drinking Boiling Water

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 62 A Pretzel Bone Knot

1. c
2. d
3. a

Page 63 The Largest Land Animal

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 64 Icebergs with Stripes

1. b
2. d
3. a

Page 65 Breaking the Sound Barrier

1. d
2. a
3. b

Page 66 Skin-Deep Stripes

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 67 Tricky Shampoo

1. c
2. d
3. b

Page 68 Walking on Eggs

1. a
2. c
3. d

Page 69 The Caterpillar Has More

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 70 No Nest

1. d
2. a
3. b

From the Past

Page 73 A House Key You Couldn't Lose

1. d
2. a
3. c

Answer Key (cont.)

Page 74 What Was Wanted

1. a
2. c
3. d

Page 75 The Teddy Bear

1. c
2. b
3. a

Page 76 An Old Food

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 77 How a Pot Kept Trials Short

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 78 Salt and Pay

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 79 Sliced Bread

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 80 What the Plow Hit

1. a
2. d
3. b

Page 81 The Trick Vase

1. c
2. b
3. a

Page 82 Mice and Muscles

1. b
2. c
3. a

Page 83 The Captain Who Waited

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 84 Singing Sands

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 85 Signaling Towers

1. c
2. d
3. a

Page 86 Water Warning

1. a
2. b
3. d

Page 87 White House Firsts

1. c
2. b
3. d

Page 88 Poison

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 89 Why the Player Climbed a Ladder

1. d
2. b
3. c

Page 90 Why the Horse Couldn't Graze

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 91 Cobwebs and Soldiers

1. c
2. b
3. a

Page 92 One-Room Schools

1. a
2. c
3. d

Page 93 Cheering Up Archie

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 94 Did Hancock Invent a Pickle?

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 95 The Army Under the Ground

1. c
2. b
3. a

Page 96 The Rule About Red

1. a
2. d
3. b

Page 97 A Living Fossil

1. d
2. a
3. c

Page 98 Rich on Water

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 99 No Elbows!

1. c
2. d
3. a

Page 100 Traveling in Colonial America

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 101 The Elephant on the Bridge

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 102 Poodle Haircut

1. b
2. d
3. a

Did You Know?

Page 105 A Googol

1. b
2. d
3. a

Page 106 Funny Laws

1. b
2. a
3. d

Answer Key (cont.)

Page 107 A Boat That Is Alive

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 108 Eating Skin

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 109 Avalanche Dog

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 110 The Bone That Stands Alone

1. c
2. d
3. b

Page 111 Guard Llamas

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 112 UFO Sighting!

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 113 The Bull Sees Red

1. c
2. b
3. a

Page 114 Submarine Sleep

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 115 Who Is Fighting?

1. d
2. b
3. c

Page 116 The First Birthday

1. a
2. b
3. d

Page 117 How the Moose Crossed the Road

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 118 An Apple Catch

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 119 Solid Spit

1. d
2. a
3. c

Page 120 A Great Lakes Memory Trick

1. d
2. a
3. b

Page 121 All About Flags

1. c
2. a
3. b

Page 122 Forwards and Backwards

1. c
2. d
3. a

Page 123 A Cupboard That Is Alive

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 124 Quicksand!

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 125 Cowboy Boots

1. b
2. a
3. c

Page 126 A Pan and an Invention

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 127 When Seconds Count

1. d
2. c
3. a

Page 128 A Spider You Can Hear

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 129 A Famous April Fool's Joke

1. c
2. b
3. d

Page 130 A Bank with No Money

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 131 A New X-Sport

1. d
2. a
3. c

Page 132 Wolf Facts

1. c
2. d
3. b

Page 133 A Race That Melts Shoes

1. d
2. c
3. a

Page 134 Why Water Stays Out

1. a
2. d
3. c

Fascinating People**Page 137 Climbing Blind**

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 138 Trapped

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 139 What the Cat Led To

1. c
2. d
3. a

Answer Key (cont.)

Page 140 Ride on a Whale Shark

1. b
2. c
3. a

Page 141 Free in Space

1. c
2. b
3. d

Page 142 Into a Cave

1. c
2. b
3. d

Page 143 How the Band-Aid® Came About

1. a
2. d
3. c

Page 144 Favorite Field Camp

1. c
2. a
3. b

Page 145 The Dog and Shoes That Didn't Slip

1. d
2. a
3. c

Page 146 A Horse for Legs

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 147 Forest Training

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 148 The Crow and the Raccoon

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 149 Youngest to the Pole

1. c
2. a
3. d

Page 150 The Night the House Burned

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 151 Kicking a Sock

1. a
2. d
3. b

Page 152 Was She Crazy?

1. a
2. d
3. b

Page 153 Where Did Farini Go?

1. a
2. d
3. b

Page 154 A Tiny Jumper

1. b
2. a
3. c

Page 155 The Horse with Brushed Teeth

1. a
2. d
3. c

Page 156 Shark Attack!

1. d
2. c
3. a

Page 157 A True Tall Tale

1. a
2. c
3. b

Page 158 Spelling with Fingers

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 159 Egg Danger!

1. c
2. b
3. d

Page 160 The Right Place

1. a
2. b
3. c

Page 161 More Than Twenty Million Steps

1. c
2. d
3. b

Page 162 What the Scale Said

1. b
2. d
3. c

Page 163 Across Antarctica

1. a
2. b
3. d

Page 164 The Lady Who Watched

1. b
2. a
3. c

Page 165 A Sled to Laugh At

1. c
2. a
3. b

Page 166 A Clown in Danger

1. c
2. d
3. b

Leveling Chart

Page #	Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level	Page #	Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level	Page #	Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level
Interesting Places and Events		Scientifically Speaking (cont.)		Did You Know? (cont.)	
9	2.0	62	2.0	116	2.3
10	2.4	63	2.8	117	2.3
11	2.3	64	2.5	118	2.2
12	2.8	65	2.0	119	2.8
13	2.0	66	2.1	120	2.4
14	2.6	67	2.7	121	2.7
15	2.8	68	2.5	122	2.5
16	2.6	69	2.7	123	2.1
17	2.1	70	2.4	124	2.1
18	2.1	From the Past		125	2.3
19	2.8	73	2.9	126	2.7
20	2.5	74	2.9	127	3.4*
21	2.0	75	2.3	128	2.5
22	2.9	76	2.1	129	2.8
23	2.4	77	2.1	130	2.1
24	2.2	78	2.6	131	2.3
25	2.4	79	2.6	132	2.1
26	2.1	80	2.9	133	2.4
27	2.8	81	2.1	134	2.5
28	2.1	82	2.0	Fascinating People	
29	2.2	83	2.2	137	2.1
30	2.0	84	2.5	138	2.7
31	2.3	85	2.8	139	2.5
32	2.8	86	2.8	140	2.1
33	2.7	87	2.9	141	2.4
34	2.0	88	2.9	142	2.1
35	2.8	89	2.6	143	2.7
36	2.7	90	2.7	144	2.9
37	2.1	91	2.8	145	2.5
38	2.8	92	2.0	146	2.4
Scientifically Speaking		93	2.9	147	2.8
41	2.3	94	2.9	148	2.0
42	2.2	95	2.8	149	2.0
43	2.5	96	2.1	150	2.7
44	2.9	97	2.1	151	2.2
45	2.8	98	2.4	152	2.7
46	2.9	99	2.1	153	2.6
47	2.8	100	2.4	154	2.6
48	2.4	101	2.2	155	2.1
49	2.7	102	2.3	156	2.1
50	2.0	Did You Know?		157	2.9
51	2.9	105	2.6	158	2.3
52	2.2	106	2.1	159	2.1
53	2.8	107	2.4	160	2.9
54	2.4	108	2.2	161	2.5
55	2.7	109	2.5	162	2.9
56	2.0	110	2.2	163	2.1
57	2.3	111	2.6	164	2.0
58	2.8	112	3.0	165	2.2
59	2.3	113	2.1	166	2.8
60	2.8	114	2.3		
61	2.7	115	2.1		

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Congratulations

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Date