

**3RD GRADE
SUMMER
LANGUAGE
PACKET**

Dear New Third Grade Parents,

Have a wonderful summer with your children. It has been a pleasure to have your child be a part of the speech and language program here at Daniel Warren. I am sure that you are all excited and a little nervous about moving on to F.E. Bellows next school year.

The activities that have been provided incorporate the 3rd grade curriculum. Areas that your child will be learning about are Mexico, Japan, desert, and the rainforest. If at all possible, please try to read books on these topics; watch videos and take trips. The Bronx Zoo has information on the rainforest and desert, Botanical Gardens has a Tropical Rainforest and Desert Gallery. Another fun activity might be to visit a Mexican or Japanese restaurant. Your child will be introduced to new vocabulary as well as a new culture.

The enclosed packet has some fun activities, reading comprehension, crosswords, word searches, and vocabulary related to the new topics your child will learn all about next year in 3rd grade. It is very important to continue strengthening and building language skills throughout the summer. Have a wonderful summer and I am sure that you and your child will have a wonderful 3rd grade year.

All the Best,

Mrs. Grunes

MORE SPEECH/LANGUAGE SUMMER ACTIVITIES

1) Make a scrap book

If you happen to go away or take day trips bring a camera along.
Take pictures and then place them into a scrapbook.

- You can sequence the pictures
- Talk about the event using (who, what, when, where, why)
- Look at the pictures another day and recall events (memory)

2) Cook

Follow the directions for a simple recipe.

- You can sequence the directions
- Talk about what would happen if you substituted ingredients (salt for sugar)
- Tell another person how you made the recipe (memory)

3) Play car games

a) Identify an object while driving and describe it to each other, try to guess what it is.

- It is a type of transportation (category)
- It has four wheels, a steering wheel, pedals, and a brake (attributes)
- You can use it to get places (function)

b) Count how many trees, specific color cars, etc... you see on your way to a specific location.

- remember how many you saw on the way there and compare it to how many you saw on your way home (memory)

c) Look at bumper stickers on cars, street signs, license plates etc. try to use the letters to make new words. Learn new vocabulary words.

d) Play the alphabet game.

- Look out the window and find something that starts with each letter of the alphabet. For instance (a)-sign for Albany, (b) broken car (c) car etc...

- 4) Keep a “best part of the day” journal. Write down the best part of your day and compare days at the end of the week.
 - compare/ contrast information
 - recalling information (memory)

- 5) Read a good book
 - Summarize the book.
 - Change the ending (be creative)
 - Act out the story

- 6) Write down any new vocabulary words you learn. Act them out. The more you use a word the more you remember it.

- 7) Read the comics together.
 - Talk about why they are or are not funny.
 - What would you do if you wrote a comic?
 - Look for multiple meaning words (words that have two definitions).

- 8) Make the grocery list together. Look in the refrigerator and decide what you need.
 - Remember what items are missing. (memory)
 - When did you finish the items? (memory)
 - Sort the items into categories (auditory processing)
 - Figure out the most efficient way to shop (walking down every aisle, beginning at aisle number one, etc...)

- 9) Be a TV / movie critic
 - Summarize the show
 - Talk about what you liked the best/ what you didn't like
 - Compare different people's responses
 - Talk about what you would change in the show and why

Name _____ Date _____

THE WORLD'S LONGEST BRIDGE

The Akashi Kaiyko Bridge in southern Japan is the world's longest bridge. The Akashi Kaiyko Bridge spans the Akashi Strait, connecting Awaji Island to Kobe, an important industrial center. The bridge has a span of 5973 feet (1991 meters), making it over 25% longer than its nearest competition: the Humber Bridge in England. Strangely, there may be longer bridges in the world, but the Guinness Book of World Records measures the longest bridges according to their record-breaking spans.

The Akashi Kaiyko Bridge is a suspension bridge. This means that the roadway is *suspended* from pillars by cables.

The concrete pillars have to be tall enough to support the whole weight of the bridge. The pillars on the Akashi Kaiyko Bridge are 900 feet tall. These pillars had to be built to withstand not only huge waves but also high-speed winds, and possibly even violent earthquakes, which are not uncommon in the area. The bridge has survived one earthquake already: its span was extended by more than 3 feet by the Kobe earthquake of 1995.

The cables weigh 50,000 tons and have a diameter of almost four feet each. Each cable contains 290 hexagonal strands; each strand is composed of 127 steel wires. The total length of the wire used is more than 200,000 miles, enough to circle the Earth 7.5 times!

The first plans to connect Kobe to Naruto via Awaji Island were voiced in 1955, but it took the government thirty years to decide to really build the bridge. The next three years were spent surveying the site and construction commenced in 1988. In designing the bridge, special consideration was given to its effect on the surroundings, great emphasis was placed on a "pleasing balance between light and shade" and also on the choice of the perfect color.

The construction of the bridge was a very complicated and technologically draining process, which took ten years to complete. Casting concrete in 300 feet of water, installing special pilot ropes over the strait by helicopter, and finally stretching the gigantic steel cables surely wasn't an easy job. Ten years after construction commenced in 1988, the bridge was finished and the six-lane highway finally opened to traffic.

The bridge has made the transportation from island to island much easier, so in addition to breaking a record, the Akashi Kaiyko Bridge achieves the main goal of a bridge: to connect two places.

Name _____ Date _____

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS
ABOUT THE WORLD'S LONGEST BRIDGE

1. The longest bridge in the world
 - a. is located in England
 - b. has a span of 1991 feet
 - c. lies in southern Japan
 - d. is not listed in the Guinness Book of World Records

2. The pillars
 - a. are built of steel
 - b. have already withstood two earthquakes
 - c. are supported by steel cables
 - d. are built to survive high-velocity winds

3. The article states that
 - a. each cable is composed of 127 steel wires
 - b. cables are made of steel
 - c. the Earth is round
 - d. the strands are round

4. During construction
 - a. the Earth was circled 7.5 times with 200,000 miles of wire.
 - b. the steel cables were installed by helicopter.
 - c. an earthquake took place.
 - d. concrete was usually cast in 30 feet of water.

5. Which of the following sentences is false?
 - a. The government decided to build the bridge in 1985.
 - b. Surveying the construction site took three years.
 - c. The bridge was opened to traffic in 1988.
 - d. The highway has six lanes.

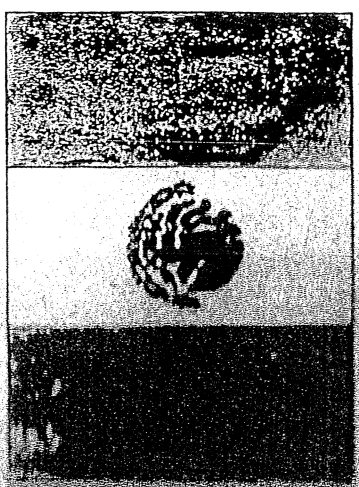
6. Which possible dangers to the bridge were mentioned in the article?
 - a. waves
 - b. typhoons
 - c. traffic jams
 - d. terrorist attacks

Name _____ Date _____

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
ABOUT THE WORLD'S LONGEST BRIDGE**

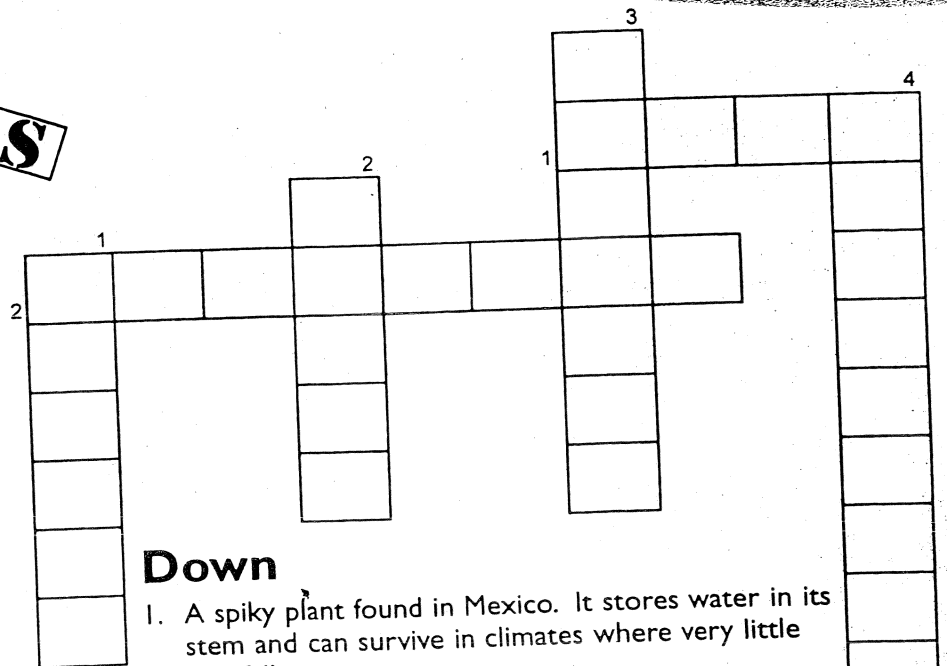
1. c
2. d
3. b
4. c
5. c
6. a

MEXICO



Mexico is located in the southern portion of North America. The Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico border it. The ancient Mayan civilization of Mexico developed a very accurate calendar. Some of the plants and animals native to Mexico include cactus, iguanas and flamingos. Beans are a staple part of the Mexican diet.

C **R** **O** **S** **S**
W
R
D



Across

1. Mexico is bordered by the Pacific Ocean and the _____ of Mexico.
2. The ancient Mayan civilization of Mexico devised a very accurate _____ to measure the passage of days and years.

Down

1. A spiky plant found in Mexico. It stores water in its stem and can survive in climates where very little rain falls.
2. A staple of the Mexican diet, these are eaten boiled, in soups, on tortillas, fried or refried.
3. These large green lizards have a row of scales running down their backs. They can be found in the Mexican tropics and are sometimes kept as pets.
4. These long-legged pink birds feed in the swamps of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.

civilization

a culture that has systems of government, education, and beliefs

compass rose

a tool that shows north, south, east, and west on a map

Cinco de Mayo

a holiday when people celebrate the day soldiers protected a fort in Puebla, Mexico

Día de los Muertos

a holiday when people honor the dead

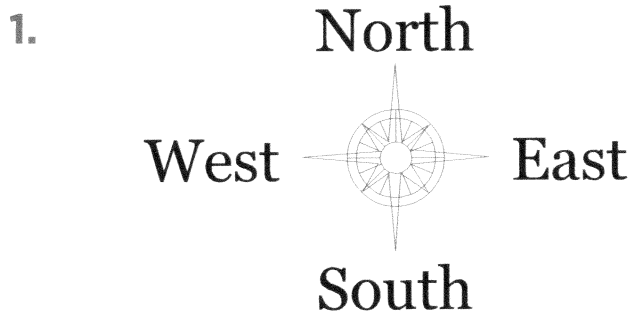
observatory

a building where people can view the sky or see great distances

Mexico Easy Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Circle the best answer.

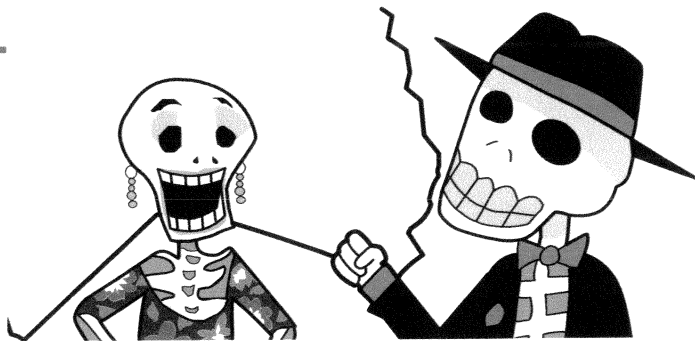
Name _____



What is this tool?

- A. a compass rose
- B. a map key
- C. a ruler
- D. a scale

2.



Which holiday honors the dead?

- A. Mexican Independence Day
- B. Cinco de Mayo
- C. Día de los Muertos
- D. Año Nuevo

3. The Aztecs built an EMPIRE by taking over many communities. What is an EMPIRE?

- A. fruits and vegetables from another country
- B. groups of different people ruled by one government
- C. a building where people practice religion
- D. a holiday where people honor the dead

4. Many English words come from Spanish words. What do you think the Spanish word canoa means?

- A. cloud
- B. cat
- C. camp
- D. canoe

5. Who was Miguel Hidalgo?

- A. an Aztec who built palaces and temples
- B. a Mexican leader who demanded freedom from Spain
- C. a Mayan who made art and jewelry out of turquoise
- D. a Spanish explorer who arrived in Mexico

Mexico Hard Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Circle the best answer.

Name _____

1.



In Spanish, *gatita* means “little cat” and *casita* mean “little house.” What is the Spanish word for “little rose”?

- A. rosita
- B. rosara
- C. roso
- D. ropa

2.



What is the capital of Mexico?

- A. Oaxaca
- B. Mexico City
- C. Puebla
- D. Juarez

3. Which country is north of Mexico?

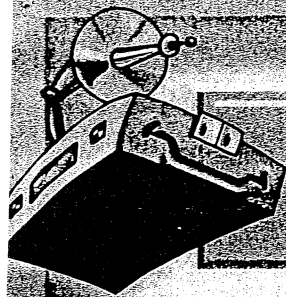
- A. Belize
- B. Guatemala
- C. United States of America
- D. Panama

4. What did the Aztecs use to buy goods?

- A. pennies and quarters
- B. bread and corn
- C. avocados and guavas
- D. beans and pieces of cloth

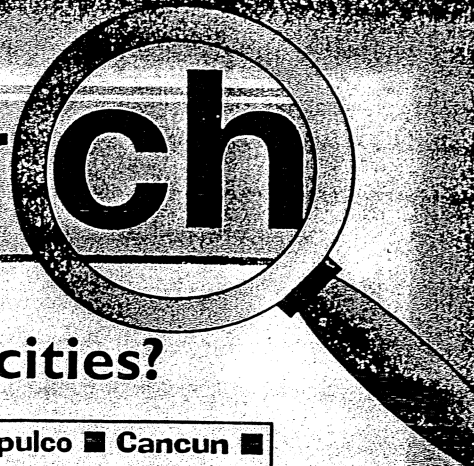
5. Who is one of Mexico’s most famous artists?

- A. Henri Matisse
- B. Diego Rivera
- C. Pablo Picasso
- D. Mary Cassatt



Hint!

word search

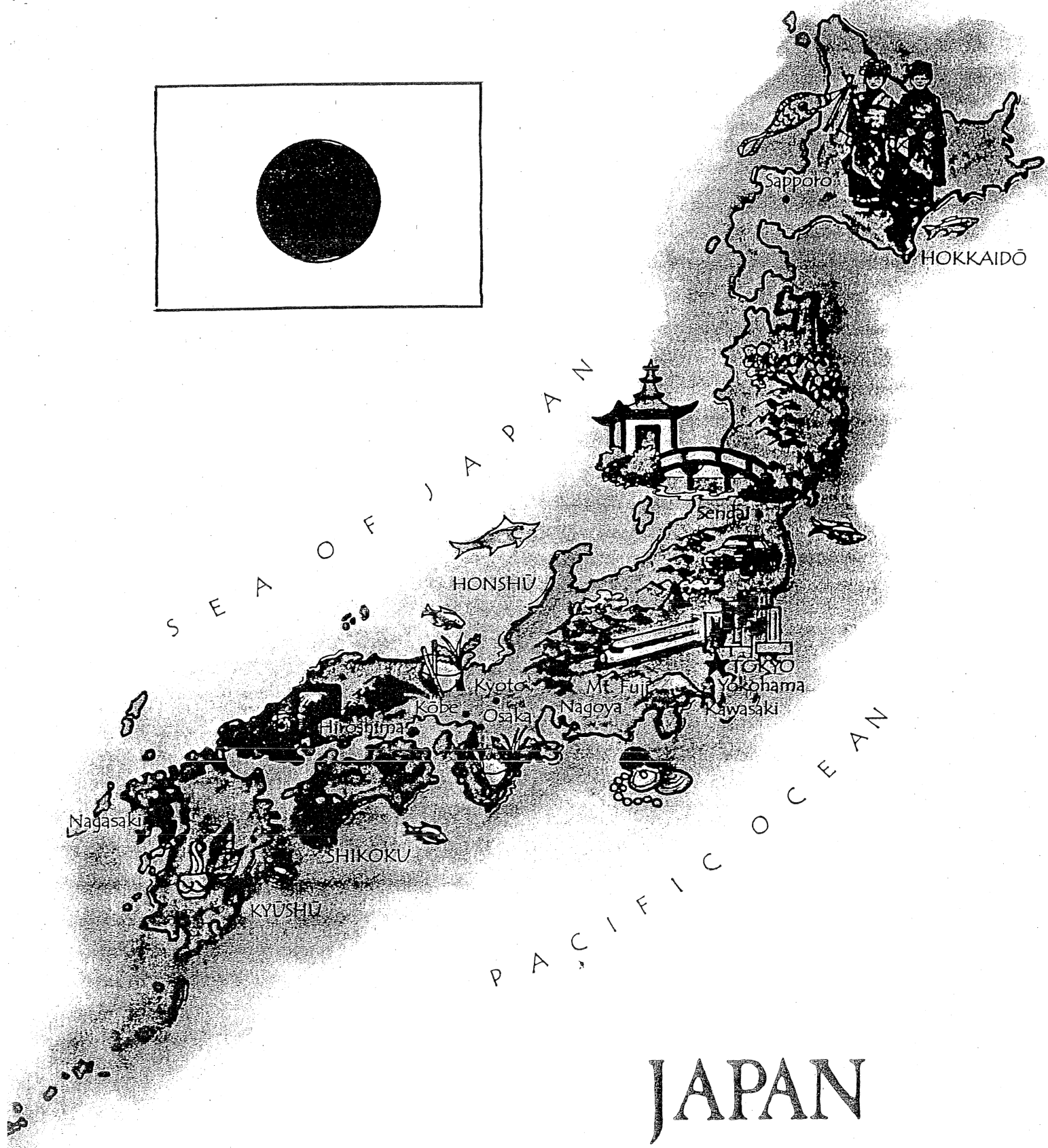
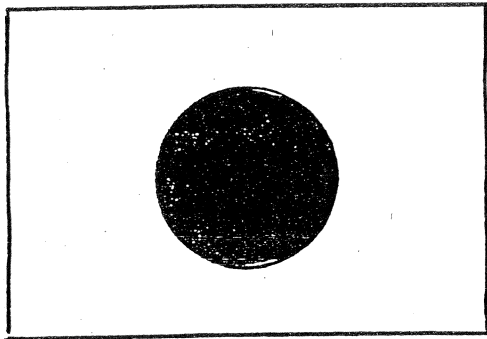


Hidden words can be up, down, across, backwards or diagonal!

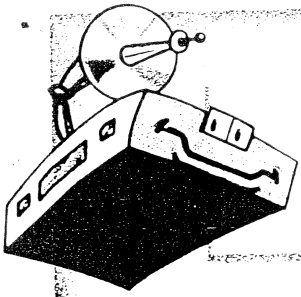
Can you find these Mexican cities?

- Mexico City ■ Guadalajara ■ Monterrey ■ Puebla ■ Acapulco ■ Cancun ■
- Tijuana ■ Chihuahua ■ Veracruz ■ Manzanillo ■

A	U	H	A	U	H	I	H	C	C	X	A	F	R	S
M	E	R	Y	E	R	R	E	T	N	O	M	I	O	P
A	S	F	R	T	G	B	E	I	T	D	T	L	A	O
N	Q	B	N	S	I	H	D	H	U	G	Z	D	C	I
Z	N	U	C	N	A	C	R	N	G	U	F	G	A	P
A	T	P	O	W	H	M	O	V	R	O	M	Y	P	L
N	I	H	L	U	S	P	B	C	L	L	E	J	U	D
I	J	E	M	I	U	E	A	Z	I	Q	X	L	L	L
L	U	G	H	E	G	R	J	P	M	X	C	P	C	D
L	A	E	B	C	E	X	L	Y	E	H	E	O	O	O
O	N	L	T	V	W	E	T	D	T	K	H	M	E	G
L	A	R	A	J	A	L	A	D	A	U	G	A	D	V

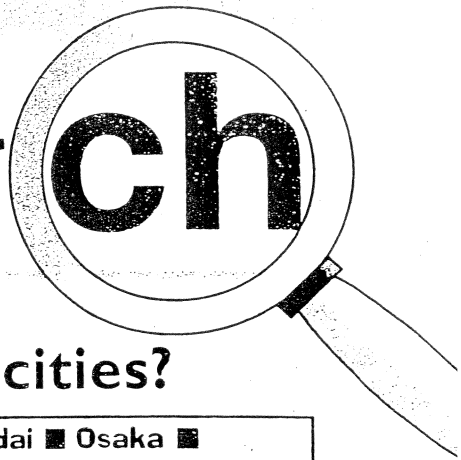


JAPAN



Hint!

word search



Hidden words can be up, down, across, backwards or diagonal!

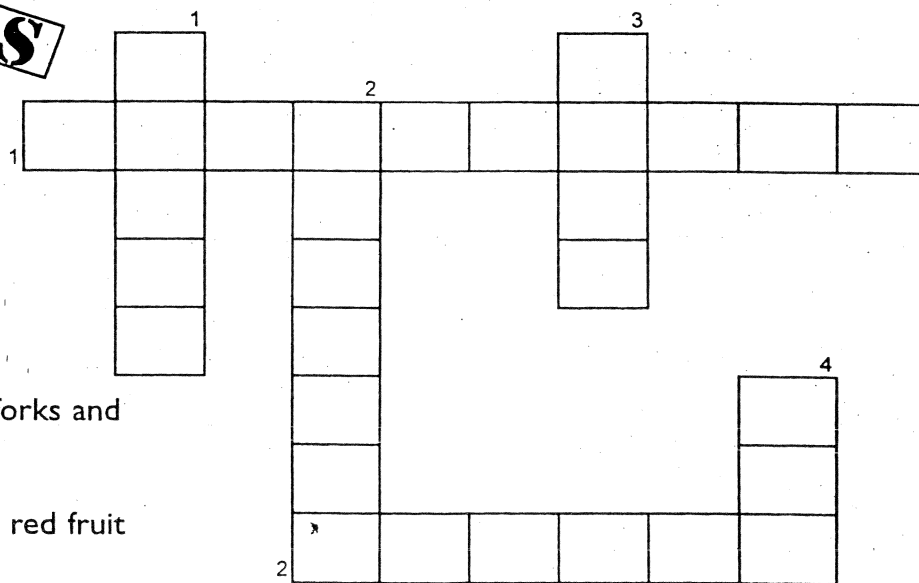
Can you find these Japanese cities?

- Nagasaki ■ Nagoya ■ Sapporo ■ Hiroshima ■ Sendai ■ Osaka ■
- Kawasaki ■ Yokohama ■ Kyoto ■ Kobe ■ Tokyo

A	R	I	H	I	R	O	S	H	I	M	A	O	W	O
M	W	O	T	D	Y	K	J	D	E	J	R	L	Y	R
A	A	L	R	G	K	L	H	S	I	B	S	K	E	O
H	D	G	G	K	J	M	I	A	P	S	O	P	S	P
O	S	S	V	J	Y	N	G	A	O	T	I	K	D	P
K	L	N	A	G	O	Y	A	Q	D	A	P	A	T	A
O	L	Z	B	L	L	B	F	E	T	N	H	W	I	S
Y	U	C	J	I	S	V	A	W	R	Z	E	A	O	V
F	I	V	O	T	O	Y	K	R	E	X	G	S	J	G
D	Y	N	A	G	A	S	A	K	I	C	E	A	K	D
O	H	R	J	S	Q	Z	S	Y	O	V	D	K	O	F
N	S	G	N	A	M	C	O	U	I	B	L	I	Y	I

Japan consists of a string of 4,000 islands located off the east coast of Asia in the Pacific Ocean. In Japan, people eat with chopsticks and rice is an important part of their diet. It is a custom to remove your shoes and put on slippers when you enter a house in Japan. May 5th is Children's Day in Japan. The Cherry Blossom is Japan's national flower.

C **R** **O** **S** **S**
W
R
D



Across

- In Japan, instead of using forks and knives, people eat with _____.
- The blossom of this small red fruit is Japan's national flower.

Down

- In Japan, when people enter a house, they remove their _____ and put on slippers.
- Japan is made up of about 4,000 islands in the _____ Ocean.
- This small white grain is an important part of the Japanese diet.
- Children's Day is a holiday celebrated in Japan on the fifth day of the fifth month of the year, so it is celebrated in this month.

desert

an area of land that gets very little rain

habitat

a place where a plant or animal lives, its environment

reserve

special areas of land where people cannot build

climate

the kind of weather a place gets

nocturnal

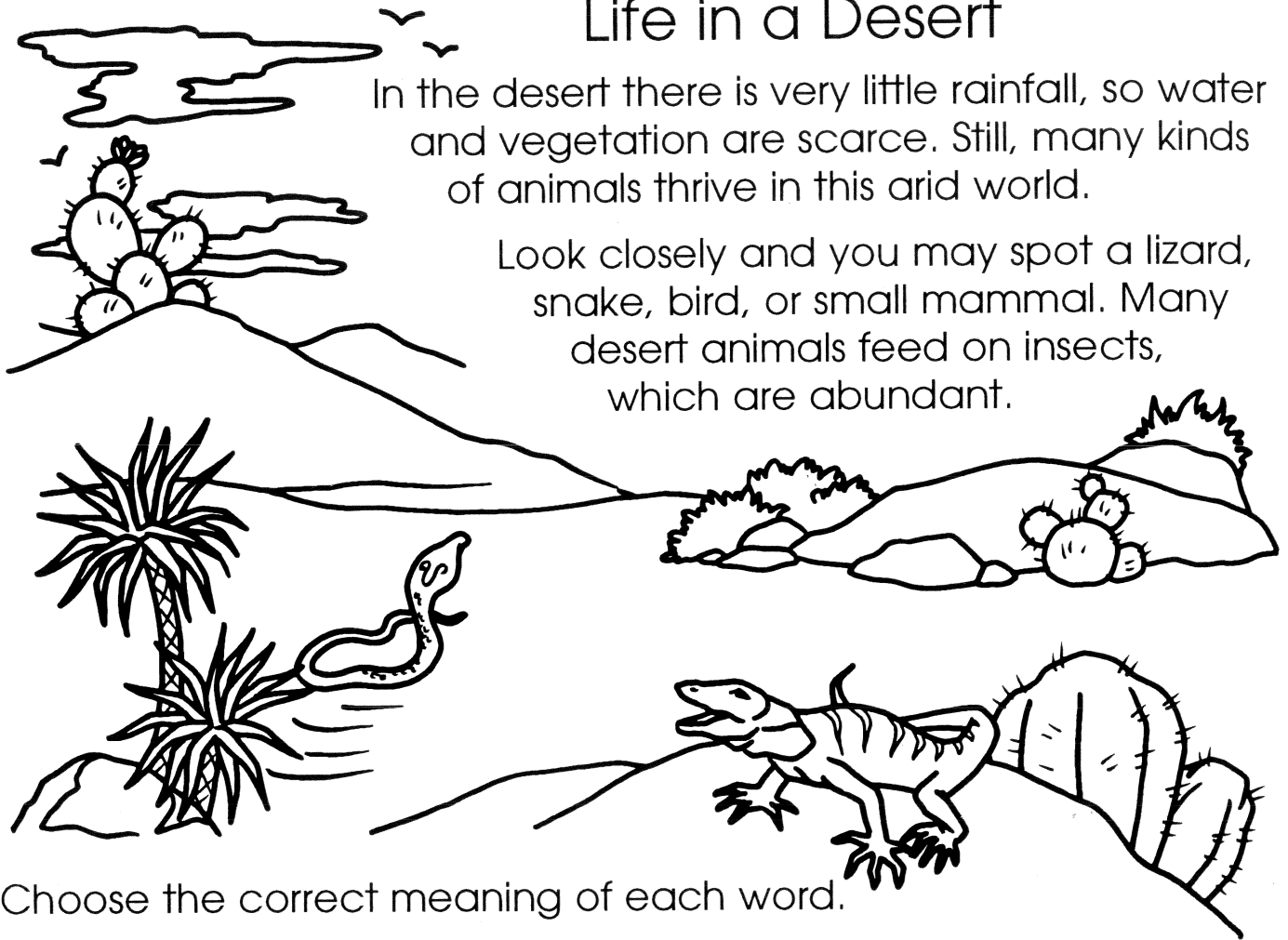
being active at night

Name _____

Life in a Desert

In the desert there is very little rainfall, so water and vegetation are scarce. Still, many kinds of animals thrive in this arid world.

Look closely and you may spot a lizard, snake, bird, or small mammal. Many desert animals feed on insects, which are abundant.



Choose the correct meaning of each word.

1. **scarce** hard to find frightening hot
2. **vegetation** vegetables fruits plant life
3. **arid** dry wet cactus
4. **thrive** hide live successfully keep cool
5. **abundant** missing delicious plentiful

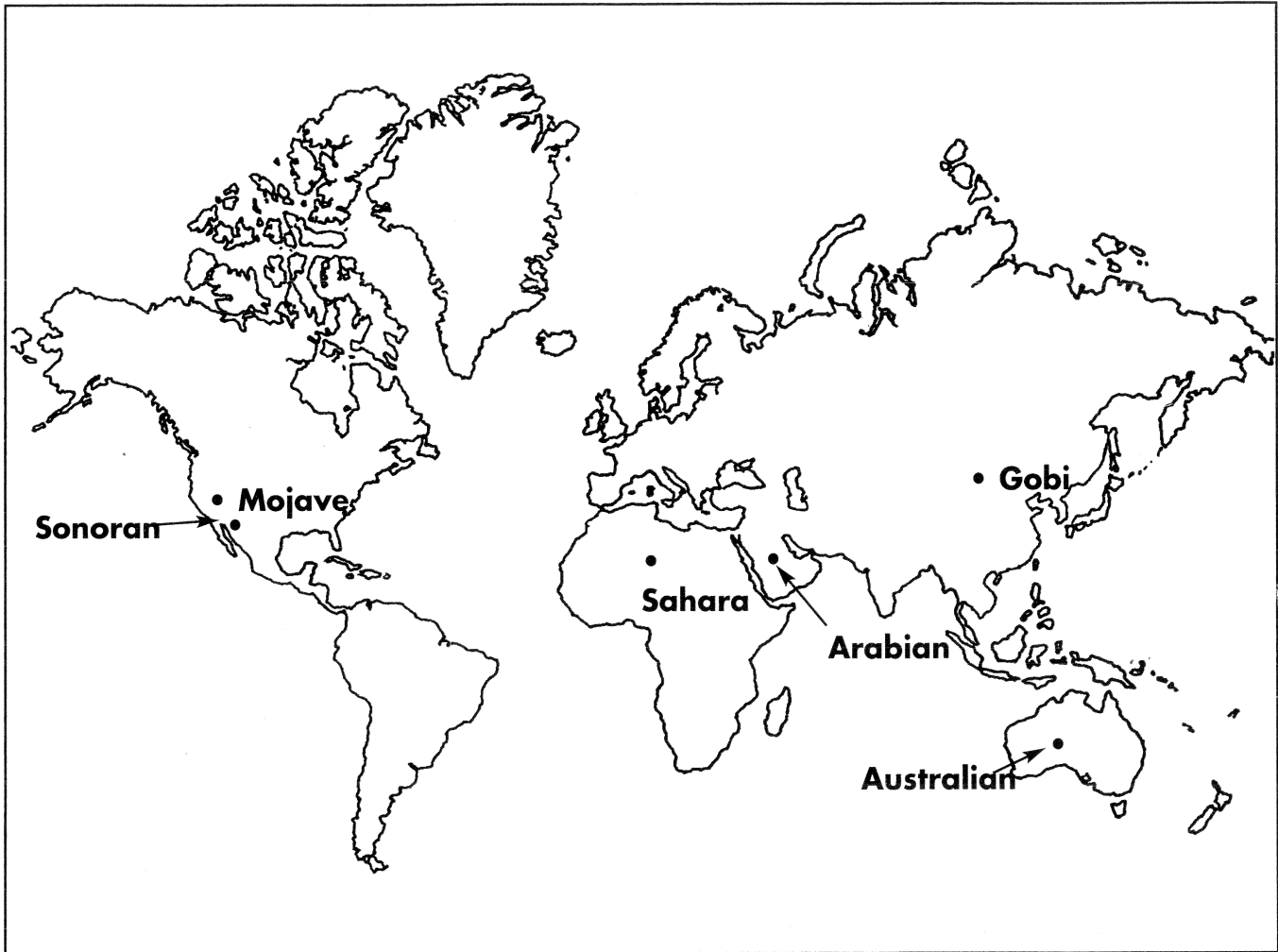
Use one of the words in a sentence of your own.



Name _____

Deserts on the Map

Look at the map. Read the article.
Then answer the questions on page 43.



Deserts are dry places that get less than 10 inches (25 cm) of rain every year. The Mojave and Sonoran Deserts are found in a rain shadow. This means that most rain falls on the side of the mountains away from the desert.

The largest deserts in the world are the Sahara, the Australian, and the Arabian deserts. They are near the equator where it is very hot and dry. The Gobi Desert in China is dry because little moisture from the ocean reaches the air there. Not all deserts are hot. Some deserts are places where it is too cold for plants to grow.



Name _____

Deserts on the Map (cont.)

Answer the questions below.

1. When a place gets less than 10 inches (25 cm) of rainfall, it is called a...

- a. desert.
- b. hot, dry spot.
- c. rain shadow.



2. Write the names of three deserts that exist because they are close to the equator.

3. Write the names of two deserts caused by mountain rain shadows.

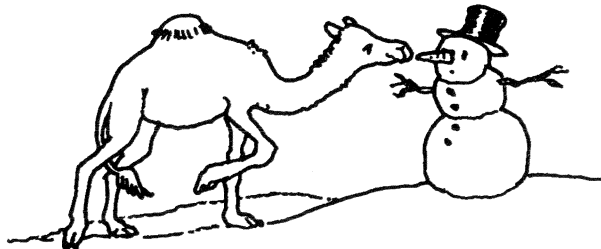
4. Why is the Gobi a desert?

- a. The desert has mountains all around it.
- b. It is near the equator.
- c. It does not get much moisture from the ocean.



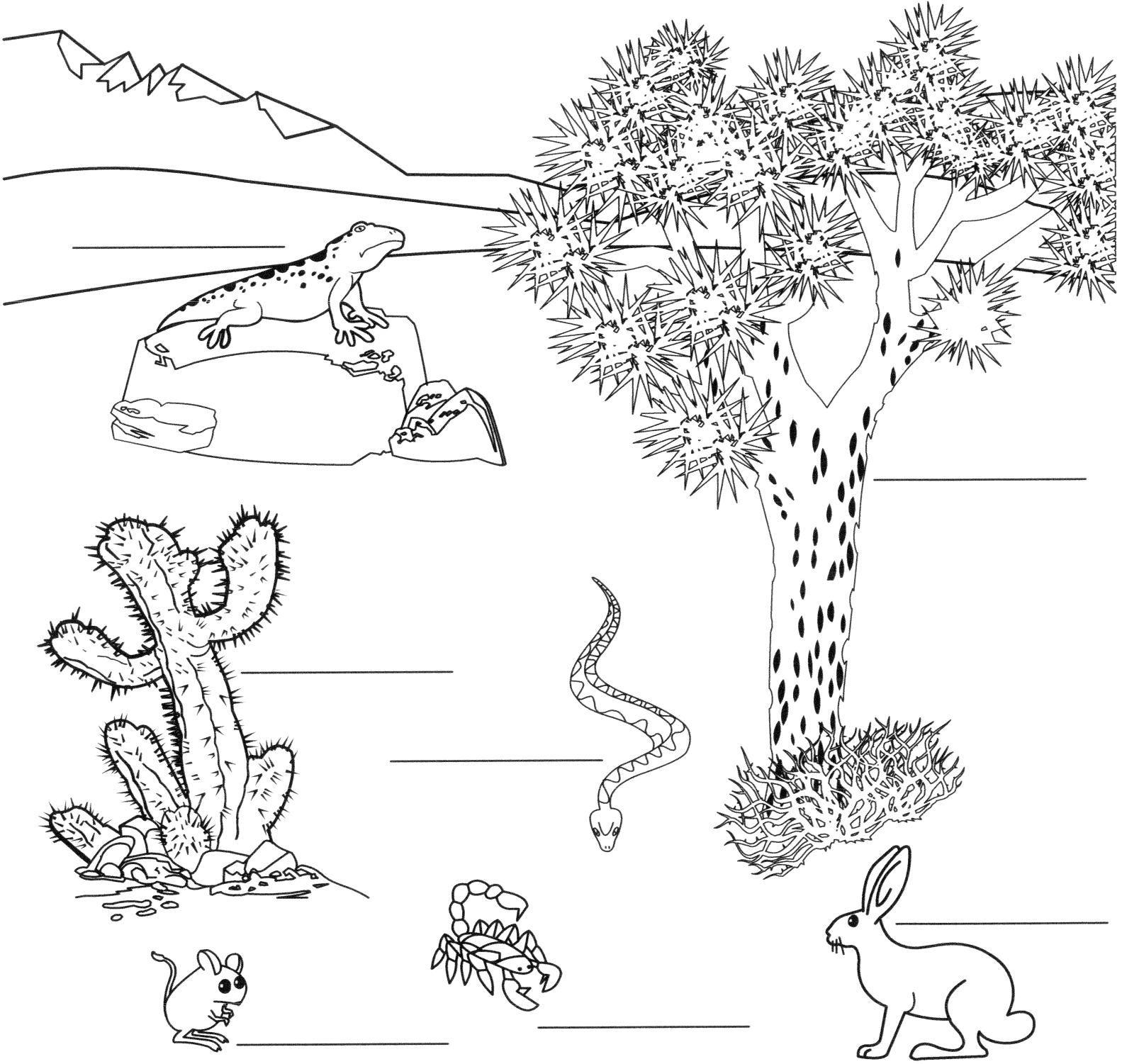
5. Look at a globe. Circle the names of two places where you would probably find frozen deserts.

- a. Antarctica
- b. Hawaii
- c. Greenland



Color and label each animal and plant.

Name: _____







joshua tree rabbit cactus scorpion snake mouse lizard

Desert Easy Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Circle the best answer.

Name _____

1. What kind of plant is best for the desert?

- A. 
- B. 
- C. 
- D. 

2. What can happen when there is a lot of construction in the desert?

- A. Plants and animals can lose their habitats.
- B. Plants and animals are happy to move.
- C. Animals have more space.
- D. Plants have more room to grow.

3. Coyotes hunt at night. What might they do in the day?

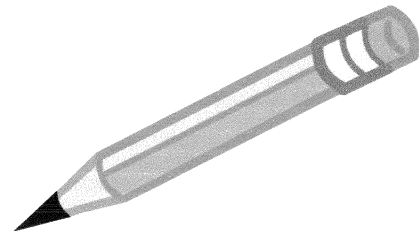
- A. They sleep to save energy.
- B. They only eat vegetables.
- C. They watch TV.
- D. They make nests.

4. What do animals need in a desert habitat?

- A. food, water, and people
- B. water, people, and shelter
- C. shelter, water, and food
- D. food, shelter, and people

5. A camel is called "the ship of the desert." Why?

- A. because camels can float in the desert
- B. because camels can turn into boats in the desert
- C. because sailors ride camels in the desert
- D. because camels can be used as transportation in the desert



Desert Hard Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Circle the best answer.

Name _____

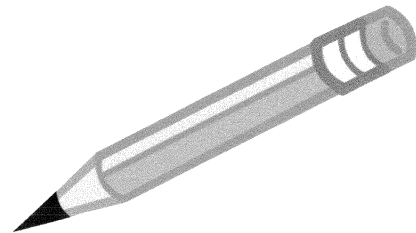
1. Desert plants have many adaptations to help them survive. Which plant is NOT adapted to living in the desert?
 - A. a cactus that can store water
 - B. a cattail that prefers marshes and swamps
 - C. an aloe plant with waxy leaves to trap in moisture
 - D. a prickly pear that protects its fruit with spines

2. How could a snake get water in the desert?
 - A. by eating a juicy mouse
 - B. by carrying a canteen
 - C. by storing water in it's hump
 - D. by doing a rain dance

3. A desert tortoise spends most of its life underground. Why?
 - A. It's trying to stay warm.
 - B. It's trying to keep cool.
 - C. It gets lost in underground tunnels.
 - D. It is hiding from other tortoises.

4. Camels are a good match for their desert habitat. Which sentence does NOT support that idea?
 - A. Camels can go a week without water.
 - B. Camels can spit when they get mad.
 - C. Camels are tan to help blend into their environment.
 - D. Camels feet are wide so they can walk on the sand.

5. Many desert animals are nocturnal because it's too hot during the daytime. What does nocturnal mean?
 - A. afraid of noise
 - B. finding shelter
 - C. active at night
 - D. having no fur





WORD WALL

Rainforests

rainforest

a thick forest that gets at least seventy inches of rain a year

canopy

the sunny, top part of a forest where there are thick, leafy treetops

understory

the layer between the canopy and the forest floor

forest floor

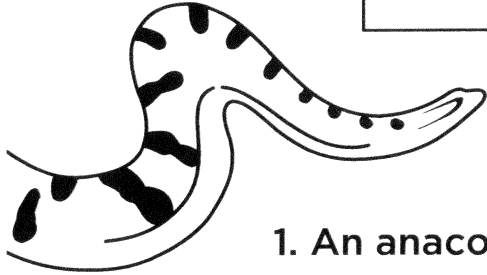
the shady bottom part of a forest

extinct

no longer living and none of its kind is alive today

Name: _____

green toes bird prey slow

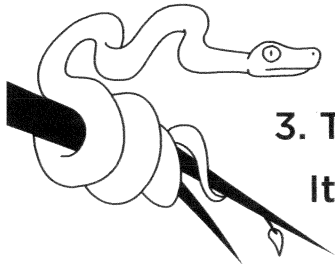


1. An anaconda climbs trees and swims all day,
When it's ready for dinner, it squeezes its _____ .

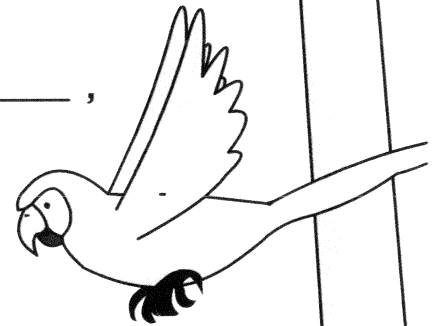
2. Sloths eat leaves and move very _____ ,
Tree tops are the only places they go.



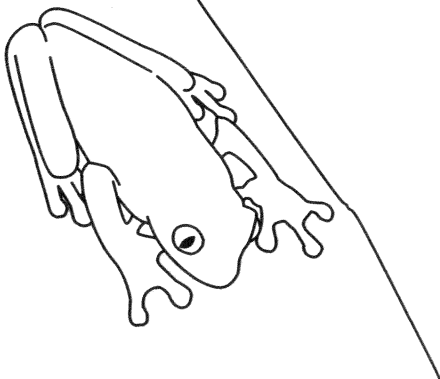
3. The emerald tree boa is bright _____ ,
Its camouflage makes it rarely seen.



4. A macaw is a tropical, bright colored _____ ,
Throughout the rainforest its call is heard.



5. A red-eyed tree frog has sticky _____ ,
It can hang upside down wherever it goes!



Endangered

Some kinds of animals are in trouble. There are not many left and they may become extinct. These animals are endangered, or in danger of becoming extinct. The bald eagles are endangered. They were hunted for many years. The panda is another endangered animal. It lives in the forests of China. Many of the forests have been cleared, or cut for the wood and land. Now the pandas have less space and less food. Some people are trying to help endangered animals. There are laws to keep endangered animals safe.

1. **What is the main idea of this story?**
 - a. Pandas live in China.
 - b. Some animals are close to being extinct.
 - c. Laws help endangered animals.
2. **A word that means "in danger of becoming extinct" is:**
 - a. extinct
 - b. endangered
 - c. panda
3. **Why are bald eagles endangered?**



-
4. **Another word for cleared is:**
 - a. cut down
 - b. space
 - c. land
 5. **Why is the panda endangered?**

6. **What are people doing to help endangered animals?**

Think about it: How can we help endangered animals?

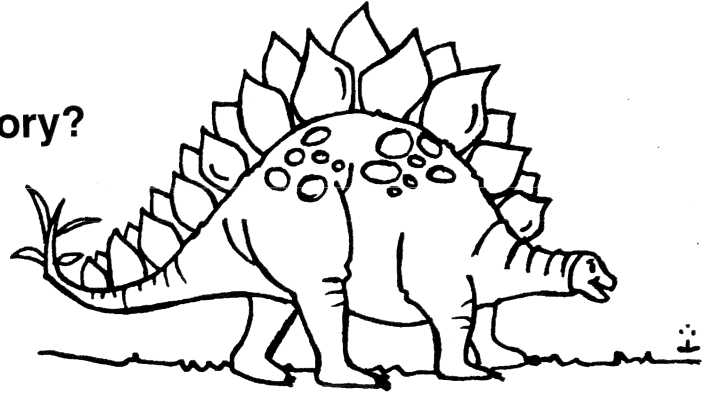
Extinct

Many kinds of animals are extinct, all of their kind have died. Dinosaurs are extinct. There are no more dinosaurs alive on the earth. Scientists, people who study nature, are not sure what killed them. Some animals are extinct because the land where they lived changed. Others are extinct because hunters killed too many of them. When an animal becomes extinct it is gone forever.

1. What is the main idea of this story?

- a. Some animals are extinct.
- b. Dinosaurs are extinct.
- c. Hunters kill animals.

2. Why are dinosaurs extinct?



3. The word "extinct" means:

- a. all of those animals are dead
- b. not sure
- c. almost all of those animals are dead

4. A word that means "people who study the earth" is:

- a. extinct
- b. nature
- c. scientist

5. What two things can make an animal extinct?

6. How can we get extinct animals to come back?

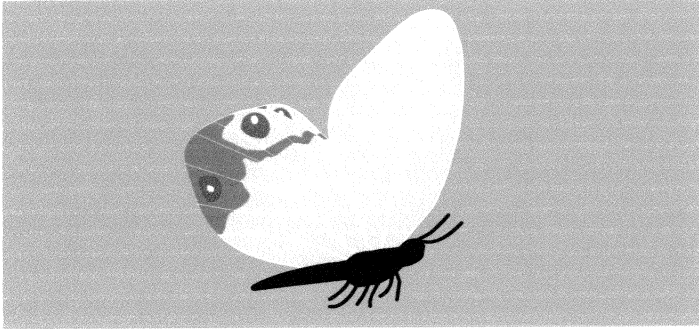
Think about it: What can we do to make sure no more animals become extinct?

Rainforests Easy Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Circle the best answer.

Name _____

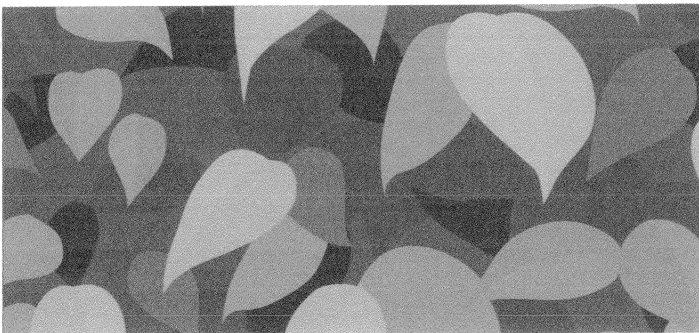
1.



How do you think this butterfly stays safe?

- A. It has sharp claws to fight.
- B. It can run away quickly.
- C. It uses camouflage to hide.
- D. It digs to go underground.

2.



How do the leaves help this plant survive in the rainforest?

- A. The bright color helps the plant stand out.
- B. The leaves bring in nutrients from the soil.
- C. The tips help the plant get rid of extra water.
- D. The leaves eat other animals for nutrients.

3. What happens when a plant or animal is endangered?

- A. only a few of its kind are left on Earth
- B. none of its kind are left on Earth
- C. many of its kind are left on Earth
- D. the species is bad for Earth

4. How can people help save endangered animals?

- A. Send them to school.
- B. Protect their habitats.
- C. Cut down forests.
- D. Build more houses.

5. Which layer of the rainforest gets the LEAST sunlight?

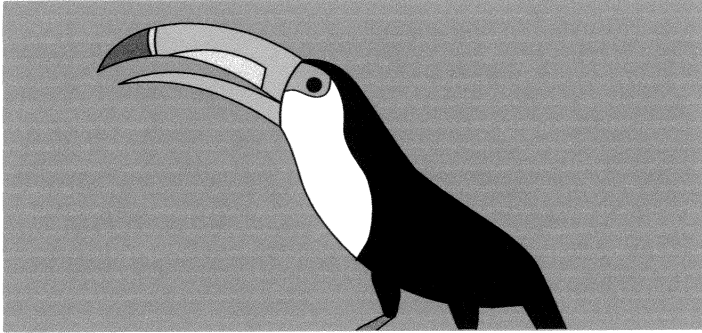
- A. the understory
- B. the canopy
- C. the air plants
- D. the forest floor

Rainforests Hard Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Circle the best answer.

Name _____

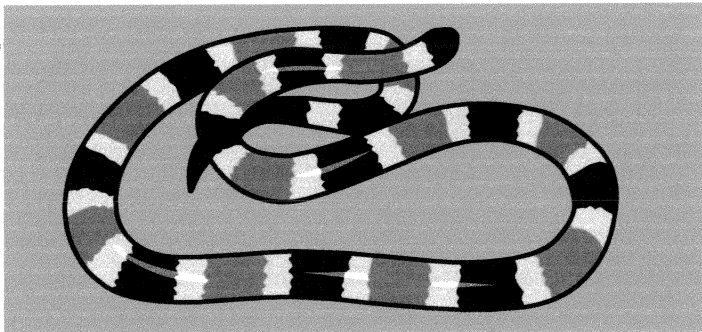
1.



Which layer of the rainforest does a toucan mostly live in?

- A. the understory
- B. the canopy
- C. the underground
- D. the forest floor

2.



Why might this poisonous coral snake have bright colors?

- A. to help other animals find it
- B. to hide on the rainforest floor
- C. to make hunting for food easier
- D. to warn animals against eating it

3. Why do many plants in the shady understory have large leaves?

- A. to store water and nutrients
- B. to get as much sun as they can
- C. to stay safe from animals
- D. to attract different animals

4. Why do people call rainforests the “lungs” of the Earth?

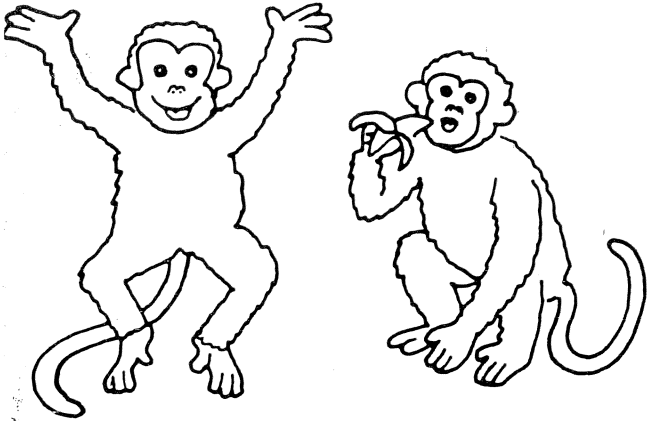
- A. Rainforests give off oxygen and take in carbon dioxide.
- B. Different cough medicines are made from rainforest plants.
- C. Many plants and animals in the rainforests are endangered.
- D. Most animals that live in the rainforest use lungs to breathe.

5. Clearing the rainforest can DISPLACE native people. What does DISPLACE mean?

- A. to stay safe
- B. to discover
- C. to come together
- D. to force to move

Rain Forest Layers

- Draw what
each description makes you
think of



The emergent layer is formed from the tops of the highest trees. It is home to the great birds of prey, perching in the treetops to spot their quarry.

The canopy is made up of the crowns of closely spaced trees. It offers the most food and shelter and contains most of the rain forest animal life.

The understory is the layer just beneath the canopy. The crowns of the shorter trees and the trunks of the canopy trees make up the living space for monkeys, ocelots, and more.

The shrub layer is made up of scattered, widely-spaced plants. It provides food for the large ground-dwelling animals like the tapir.

The ground layer is made up of low-growing plants. It receives almost no light, and has the most constant temperature and humidity of all the rain forest layers. It is home to ants, termites, and other rain forest insects.



BOOK BREAKS

FOR STUDENTS

- At Home in the Rain Forest* by Diane Willow (Charlesbridge, 1991)
Enora and the Black Crane by Arone Raymond Meeks (Scholastic, 1993)
Extremely Weird Frogs by Sarah Lovett (John Muir, 1991)
Fernando's Gift by Douglas Keister (Sierra Club, 1995)
The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry (Gulliver, 1990)
Inside the Amazing Amazon by Don Lessem (Crown, 1995)
Life in the Rain Forests by Lucy Baker (Scholastic, 1990)
Nature's Green Umbrella: Tropical Rain Forests by Gail Gibbons (Morrow, 1994)
Poisoned Paradise (Hardy Boys mystery) by Franklin W. Dixon (Pocket Books, 1993)
Rain Forest by Barbara Taylor (Dorling Kindersley, 1992)
Rain Forest Amerindians by Anna Lewington (Steck-Vaughn, 1993)
Rain Forest Animals by Michael Chinery (Random House, 1992)
Rain Forest Homes by Aklthea Pittaway (Oxford, 1980)
Rain Forest Nature Search (Joshua Morris, 1992)
Tropical Rain Forests by Emilie U. Lepthien (Children's Press, 1993)
Welcome to the Green House by Jane Yolen (Putnam, 1993)
Where the Forest Meets the Sea by Jeannie Baker (Greenwillow Books, 1987)

FOR TEACHERS

- The Rain Forests: A Celebration* edited by Lisa Silcock (Chronicle Books, 1995)
The Rain Forest by Billy Goodman (Little, Brown, 1991)
Rainforests edited by Norman Myers (Rodale Press, 1993)