Name _____ Number Right _____ **12**

Directions: *You have 4¼ minutes to read the selection and answer the questions. Do not begin reading until your teacher gives the signal.*

Note these words before you begin.

foliage: leaves
eland (ē′lənd): a large African antelope
hartebeest: a large, swift African antelope

More about Giraffes

The giraffe sleeps only when he feels safe and only for short periods of time. He is very alert to unusual noises and awakens quickly. Much of the time he moves slowly about among the trees looking for food, although he can also gallop when he needs to do so. Giraffes have been known to gallop up to forty miles an hour, but usually prefer to move more slowly.

Giraffes eat plants. When foliage is scarce they eat bark. They seldom eat grass.

Giraffes do not moo like cows, neigh like horses, or roar like lions. They are silent animals.

A giraffe's tail is equipped with bunches of fur on the end. This is a handy tool for brushing away flies and other insects. He scratches his neck on tree trunks to relieve itching.

Giraffes sometimes travel in groups but often are found alone. Some have been known to "baby-sit" calves so new giraffe mothers can search for food. Giraffes also seem to enjoy keeping company with zebras, elands, hartebeests, and old elephants. Giraffes become their guards to warn of danger.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Circle the correct answer.

1. **True** or **False:** The giraffe may not sleep for long periods of time, but then they will sleep for several days to catch up.

2. Giraffes usually travel slowly, but have been known to gallop up to _?_.
   - **a.** 30 miles an hour
   - **b.** 50 miles an hour
   - **c.** 40 miles an hour
   - **d.** 20 miles an hour

3. Giraffes eat _?_.
   - **a.** mice and other small animals
   - **b.** foliage
   - **c.** snakes that they find high in trees
   - **d.** zebras

4. Giraffes _?_.
   - **a.** moo like cows
   - **b.** roar like lions
   - **c.** are silent animals
   - **d.** laugh like hyenas

5. The giraffe uses his tail _?_.
   - **a.** to brush away flies and other insects
   - **b.** as a fan to help keep him cool
   - **c.** for brushing away dried mud from his body
   - **d.** to swat at lizards or snakes that hide in the trees

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