Collective nouns

Read the following passage. Write the missing collective nouns in the blank spaces. Remember that sometimes there are two words you can use.

Mom took Kate, Rudy and Derrick to the zoo. The zoo was very busy. A _____ of people had gathered round the monkeys. One of the monkeys had a _____ of bananas. Watching the monkey eat made the children feel hungry. Mom took a _____ of bread and some _____ of cheese out of the picnic hamper and everyone made sandwiches. After eating the sandwiches, the children had two _____ of chocolate each. Rudy wanted to give one piece to a monkey, but the zookeeper gave Rudy a very useful _____ of advice. "Monkeys may look friendly, but sometimes they are very fierce," he said.

Read the sentences. Does the collective noun indicate a group acting together as a single unit? If so, circle the singular verb. Does the collective noun indicate a group in which each member acts individually? Circle the plural noun.

1. The jury (were/was) arguing about the importance of evidence.
2. A whole company of soldiers (is/are) marching in the parade.
3. A gaggle of geese (is/are) running every which way in the barnyard.
4. Those people (live/lives) in North America.
5. The police (has/have) arrested the suspect.
6. That troupe of actors always (stay/stays) at the Grand Hotel.
7. The committee (is/are) handing in their ballots.
8. Our school band (play/plays) many lively marches.
9. A big colony of ants (lives/live) under the front porch.
10. The government (are/is) entitled to collect taxes.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Complete each phrase with a noun from the box that names a part or an amount of something.

bushel	scoop	ream	pair
drop	grain	pinch	galaxy

1. a _____ of stars
2. a _____ of sand
3. a _____ of paper
4. a _____ of salt
5. a _____ of potatoes
6. a _____ of bookends
7. a _____ of ice cream
8. a _____ of rain

LIVEWORKSHEETS