DAILY Warm-Up 1

Name _____ Date _____

SQUIRRELS

Squirrels are exciting. In the summer, they run around right after the sun comes up. In the afternoon, the squirrels go back to their nests. They take naps. Two hours before the sun goes down, they get up and run around again. When it is dark outside at night, they stay inside their nests.

Squirrels are busiest of all in the wintertime. They run fast. They make turns in the air. Squirrels jump from tree branch to tree branch. They run all morning until lunch. After lunch, they go back to their nests to rest again. When the weather is bad, they do not leave their nests. However, they do not hibernate, or sleep all winter.

Squirrels have eyes on the top of their heads. These eyes help them to see objects without having to turn their heads. These eyes are difficult, too. They make it hard for the squirrel when it is eating. The squirrel's eyes are busy watching for enemies or danger. They do not pay attention to what they are eating because they are so busy watching for danger.

Male squirrels keep themselves very clean. The male squirrel cleans himself more times than the female squirrel. He keeps cleaning himself all day long.

Be careful when you play in the park. Squirrels are beautiful to watch, but they are not safe to touch. If you try and feed one from your hand, you could get bitten. Enjoy them from a distance.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. In which season is the squirrel most active?
   a. summer
   b. winter
   c. fall
   d. spring

2. Using the context clues in the passage, the word *enemies* most likely means . . .
   a. friends.
   b. boys.
   c. threats.
   d. girls

3. The author's purpose for this passage is . . .
   a. to entertain.
   b. to inform.
   c. to tell you what a squirrel feels like.
   d. to persuade.

4. According to this passage, what would be the danger of hand feeding a squirrel?
   a. You could attract other squirrels.
   b. You could contract a disease.
   c. You will have to take him home.
   d. You might get bitten.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 2

Name _____ Date _____

SPARROWS

House sparrows are often seen in a neighborhood in the city. They like to live where there are a lot of people. They do not like to live in the country.

The female looks like she is wearing a brown cap on her head. Black streaks run down her brown back.

Male house sparrows look like they are wearing gray caps on their heads. They have a black bib under their chin, just like a baby. They have a rusty brown body. Black streaks run down the back of the male house sparrow.

Vacant lots which have dried plants or tree limbs are the perfect place for house sparrows. They love to build their nests in old trees or in empty corners. House sparrows nibble seeds that they find in the weeds or grass.

They may make nests with string or paper. These little birds pull and tear the paper. They weave it in with sticks. They love to stop and eat food out of bird feeders that hang on balconies. House sparrows will also take baths in birdbaths that people put out in front of their apartments or buildings.

Keep your eyes peeled if you live in the city. Chances are, you might see a house sparrow parading past!

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
- a. to teach you how house sparrows eat
- b. to teach you the life span of a house sparrow
- c. to teach you to identify a sparrow in the city
- d. to teach you how to keep house like a sparrow

2. Where do house sparrows **NOT** live?
- a. in vacant lots
- b. in the city
- c. in nests made in dried plants
- d. in the country

3. The author's purpose for this passage is . . .
- a. to inform.
- b. to persuade.
- c. to entertain.
- d. to make you sad.

4. In the text above, "keep your eyes peeled" means . . .
- a. watch carefully.
- b. make sure you wear make-up on your eyes.
- c. use a potato peeler.
- d. pay attention on rainy days.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS