Groundhog Day

Will it be an early spring or six more weeks of winter?



Groundhog Day is a holiday celebrated on 2nd February in the United States and Canada.

A groundhog is a small brown animal that digs and lives under the ground. It is also called the woodchuck. Groundhogs live in many parts of America. In the winter they 1 like bears and some other animals. It means that they sleep for winter from October to February. They dig holes in the ground to live and sleep in. Some people believe groundhogs can 2 the weather.

Legend has it that a few hundred years ago Europeans 3 Groundhog Day to America. They said that the groundhog 4 from his hibernation on February 2. (February 2 is half way between winter and spring.) If he comes up from his hole and it is sunny, he will see his shadow and be frightened. If he sees his shadow, there will be 6 more weeks of winter weather. But if he 5 and the sky is cloudy, he will not see his shadow and will not be frightened. Then spring weather will come very soon.

The largest Groundhog Day celebration is held in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Groundhog Day 6 worldwide attention as a result of the 1993 film of the same name, Groundhog Day, which was set in Punxsutawney. The name of the Punxsutawney groundhog is Phil. There are more than 40 000 people there who 7 Phil on 2nd February.

Write the verbs in the text.

watch
wakes up
predict
brought
received
comes up
hibernate

INTERESTING!!!

Groundhogs communicate danger by making a loud whistling sound.

Groundhogs have excellent hearing and eyesight.

Groundhogs are also known as "Whistle Pigs" or "Marmots.""

It's time to check yourself ! Circle the correct answers.

1The groundhog pops up out of its_____.

a. hole

b. nest

c. lair



2The groundhog lives in_____.

a. the ground

b. a tree

c. a river

3The groundhog is looking for its_____.

a. mother

b. friend

c. shadow

4If the sun is shining, it will_____ its hole.

a. go back into

b. stay out of

c. run around

5If it doesn't see its shadow, _____.

a. there will be six more weeks of cold weather

b. spring will come early this year

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