DAILY Warm-Up 5

Name _____ Date _____

THE FLYING SQUIRREL

Have you ever heard of the squirrel that can fly? Actually the flying squirrel can't really fly, and it doesn't have wings. It actually glides from one place to another. Between the wrists and the legs, flying squirrels have membranes of skin that stretch out giving it the ability to glide pretty far distances. Their long flat tails also help guide where they are gliding or going.

The flying squirrel also has very thick, dense, soft fur. Flying squirrels are brown and white in color. Brown is on the back and the white is underneath.

These squirrels feed on fruit, nuts, insects, as well as the buds on trees. These squirrels store nuts and foods for consumption during the winter. Flying squirrels are nocturnal animals. They have big eyes which help them see at night. They build their homes in trees, deserted buildings, and birdhouses. Flying squirrels are sometimes mistaken for bats.

Flying squirrels are typically found in the forests of Canada. This social animal has strong maternal instincts. The principal enemies of the flying squirrel are the owl, the hawk, and the domestic cat. Flying squirrels seldom go down to the ground. Being on the ground makes them vulnerable to predators. Many times, the flying squirrel has been adopted as a pet. These pets are easy to care for and have cute, intelligent-looking faces. When the squirrel is made a pet at a young age, it is easy for the squirrel to form a strong attraction with humans.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How does the author feel about the flying squirrel?
   a. The author thinks the flying squirrel has been given a bad name.
   b. The author has been bitten by a flying squirrel.
   c. The author is afraid of flying squirrels.
   d. The author shares a matter of fact passage about the flying squirrel.
2. The second paragraph will instruct the reader on what . . .
   a. to do if they see a flying squirrel.
   b. to do if bitten by a flying squirrel.
   c. a flying squirrel looks like.
   d. a flying squirrel preys on.
3. Where might this information about flying squirrels most likely be found?
   a. on a website about flying squirrels
   b. on a cereal box
   c. in a book about rodents
   d. in a book about nocturnal animals

LIVEWORKSHEETS