



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds are amazing birds for many reasons. They fly like helicopters: backwards or floating in the air. They move from side to side. The hummingbirds zoom straight up into the sky or dive straight down. They spin their wings in circles. If their babies are in danger, they will even attack eagles. To build nests, they will pick fuzz off your sweater.

When they are awake, hummingbirds spend most of their day eating food. Hummingbirds are always on a quest for insects to eat. They need them for protein. Hummingbirds are always looking for objects from which to drink juice. They fly into brightly-colored objects that they think are food. Sometimes they even try to get juice from stop signs! They also drink nectar from flowers. Every day they visit up to 1,000 flowers to drink the juice!

Hummingbirds have special tongues. The fronts of their tongues are split in half. They have sharp edges. These edges help soak up juice from flowers. Their tongues lick flowers. As they hunt for insects, this tongue grabs the bugs and insects quickly.

Tongues, flying, and eating habits are just three of the things that make the hummingbird an unbelievable creature.

### STORY QUESTIONS

1. According to the passage, what is one reason why hummingbirds are amazing?
  - a. They make a great deal of noise.
  - b. They are very small and delicate.
  - c. They can fly like a helicopter.
  - d. They can drink water.
2. In the text, "a quest for insects" means . . .
  - a. questions about.
  - b. ability.
  - c. journey.
  - d. search.
3. The author's purpose for this passage is to . . .
  - a. entertain the reader with interesting hummingbird characteristics.
  - b. inform the reader about dangerous hummingbirds.
  - c. persuade the reader to purchase a hummingbird.
  - d. encourage the reader to keep insects in their garden.
4. Which group of words best describes a hummingbird?
  - a. never moves
  - b. constantly moving
  - c. extremely slow
  - d. enjoys meat and vegetables