



Name _____ Date _____

THE SEA ANEMONE

The sea anemone is closely related to the coral and the jellyfish. It looks a lot like a flower called the anemone, which is how it got its name. The animal's body has a plant-like appearance. It comes in a variety of colors, including red, blue, pink, and green. The sea anemone is an invertebrate, which means it has no skeleton. This sea animal attaches itself to rocks, the sea floor, coral, or other firm objects.

The sea anemone is a predatory animal that stings its prey with its tentacles. This paralyzes the victim, and the sea anemone then pushes the animal into the mouth. The sea anemone eats small fish, worms, mussels, and zooplankton. Very few animals eat the sea anemone. The great sea slug is one of its predators.

The sea anemone can grow up to 10 inches wide. It has a long, hollow tube. It likes to live in dark places and in warm waters. The sea anemone has an interesting relationship with other sea animals. The hermit crab places the sea anemone on top of its shell to use it as camouflage. The clown fish lives amongst the sea anemone for protection. The clown fish is not affected by the sea anemone's stinging tentacles. For most fish, though, avoiding the sea anemone is the best option.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What would be a good title for this reading passage?
 - a. "The Sea Anemone's Diet"
 - b. "The Anemone's Habitat"
 - c. "Interesting Facts and Details about the Sea Anemone"
 - d. "Indigenous Animals of the Sea"
2. Which paragraph explains the eating habits of the sea anemone?
 - a. first
 - b. second
 - c. third
 - d. not mentioned in passage
3. Locate the statement below that is a fact.
 - a. The sea anemone is a colorful ocean plant.
 - b. The sea anemone is a nocturnal animal.
 - c. The sea anemone has short legs.
 - d. The sea anemone attaches itself to rocks and other firm surfaces.
4. In this passage, the word *predatory* means . . .
 - a. prays often.
 - b. using one's nose to locate things.
 - c. digging in the ocean floor.
 - d. killing for food.



Name _____

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ANNE SULLIVAN

Anne Sullivan was born on April 14, 1866, in Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. She was born to Irish immigrant farmers. She had one brother, Jimmie, who was crippled from tuberculosis. Anne's family was extremely poor, and her father was an alcoholic and abusive. When she was five years old, Anne got a serious eye infection that left her almost completely blind. Her mother died two years later, and her father put both of the children in an orphanage. Her brother died shortly after being placed in the orphanage.

When the head of the orphanage came to visit, Anne pleaded and begged him to let her go to school. She was allowed to go to school, and after a few operations, she regained some of her vision and managed to graduate at the top of her class from the Perkins Institute for the Blind.

Anne began some of her most important work when she was called on to tutor a young blind and deaf girl named Helen Keller. Helen was seven years old and very undisciplined. Anne had to teach her obedience before anything else. A breakthrough finally happened, and Anne was able to teach Helen to read words using Braille and the manual alphabet. Anne helped Helen go on to accomplish great things. Both Anne and Helen were invited to make speeches all over the world. Anne's work had a lasting impact on Helen and others, including both blind and sighted people. She continues to be an inspiration.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What are the author's feelings about Anne Sullivan?
 - a. indifferent
 - b. disapproves
 - c. unsure
 - d. approves
2. Which sentence shows how the author feels about Anne Sullivan?
 - a. She managed to graduate at the top of her class from the Perkins Institute.
 - b. She continues to be an inspiration.
 - c. Despite all of her struggles, Anne worked hard to succeed.
 - d. Anne's family was extremely poor and her father was an alcoholic and abusive.
3. Which sentence is not an example of the Anne's accomplishments?
 - a. Anne began some of her most important work when she was called on to tutor a young blind and deaf girl named Helen Keller.
 - b. Anne had to teach her obedience before anything else.
 - c. Anne helped Helen go on to accomplish great things.
 - d. Her mother died two years later, and her father put both of the children in an orphanage.



Name _____ Date _____

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Albert Einstein was born in Ulm, Germany, in 1879. As a young boy, Einstein lived in Munich and Milan. At the age of five, his father showed him a compass and explained how it worked. Albert was intrigued with the idea that something in "space" made the needle work. At this time, Albert's mother also insisted that he learn to play the violin.

Albert was not considered very bright in school, and some even thought he had dyslexia and other learning problems. Many thought he was very slow. Nonetheless, school would go on to be very important to Albert, and he would go on to become a professor.

He eventually went to school in Switzerland, where he graduated from the Federal Institute of Technology. He then worked in a patent office and on his doctorate degree. He later became a professor of physics. Einstein developed the theory of relativity and received a Nobel Prize in physics in 1921. He became famous throughout the world, which is very unusual for a scientist.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Why was Albert Einstein so successful in his life?
 - a. People felt sorry for him and took pity on him.
 - b. He did not let what other people thought of him get him down.
 - c. He learned to say no when it was most important.
 - d. He was able to become famous worldwide.
2. What can you learn about Albert Einstein from reading this passage?
 - a. He was curious.
 - b. He was very learning disabled.
 - c. He was denied U.S. citizenship.
 - d. He was placed in an orphanage.
3. Which of the following statements is true, based on information in the passage?
 - a. Albert Einstein flunked out of his school.
 - b. Albert Einstein refused to play the violin.
 - c. Albert Einstein was given the Nobel Prize.
 - d. Young scientists began writing letters to Albert Einstein.
4. Which of the following would make a great title for this passage?
 - a. "The Theory of Relativity"
 - b. "Albert Einstein vs. The Scientific World"
 - c. "Einstein's Education"
 - d. "A Brief Story of Albert Einstein"



Name _____

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FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

On January 30, 1882, Franklin D. Roosevelt (F.D.R.) was born. He would go on to become the 32nd president of the United States. At an early age, he was taught by his parents and private tutors. In 1896, he attended a prep school. He went to college to study history and the law.

F.D.R. married his cousin, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt. Together they had six children. Five of them lived. By this time, Franklin was very involved in politics and was reelected to the state senate of New York. He became more and more involved in politics. He was nominated as vice president, but he did not win the election and went back to private life.

While vacationing on Campobello Island, Franklin became sick with polio. This disease took away the use of his legs, and he would never walk after that. Eleanor encouraged him and supported him in his efforts to enter politics again. This time he became governor of New York. After being reelected, Franklin ran for president.

F.D.R. was sworn in as president in January 1933. While president, he worked hard to help overcome the Great Depression. He also led the U.S. into the Second World War. Eleanor was a great support to Franklin. She also played a great role as first lady of the United States.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What does the word *nominated* mean in this passage?
 - a. requested
 - b. selected
 - c. ordered
 - d. pushed
2. After reading the passage, what is a word that could be used to describe F.D.R.?
 - a. studious
 - b. talented
 - c. rugged
 - d. determined
3. F.D.R.'s time as president could be described as ...
 - a. successful and accomplished.
 - b. supportive yet unsuccessful.
 - c. typical and normal.
 - d. unhappy and unsettled.



Name _____ Date _____

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

Born in 1832 the second of four daughters to Amos and Abigail Alcott, Louisa was known to have a very bad temper. Her family struggled financially. Her mother had to work hard because her father had a hard time maintaining a job. As a child, Louisa and her sisters had grand imaginations. They would make up stories and plays. They pretended to be fairies in the woods.

Louisa began writing to try to bring in money for the family. Her first poem was published in *Peterson's Magazine*. It didn't bring in a lot of money, but it gave Louisa a lot of confidence. She served as a nurse to wounded soldiers in World War I until she became ill. She almost died before she miraculously recovered. Louisa struggled with illness the rest of her life.

Louisa is best known for *Little Women*, a book that received immediate success. The book was based on Louisa's life with her family. This book helped Louisa become an established author. She would go on to write other books, such as *Good Wives*, *Little Men*, and many more. The books *Little Women* and *Little Men* have been made into plays, as well as movies.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What type of book was *Little Women*?
 - a. poetry
 - b. novel
 - c. set of short stories
 - d. mystery
2. Louisa began writing as a means to . . .
 - a. be trained as an author.
 - b. teach others how to write.
 - c. earn money for the family.
 - d. learn about the publishing world.
3. What is the meaning of the word *established* as used in the last paragraph?
 - a. enforced
 - b. recognized
 - c. instructed
 - d. enjoyed
4. What is the main idea of paragraph three?
 - a. to introduce Louisa's background
 - b. to mention some of the books Louisa wrote
 - c. to learn about Louisa's sisters
 - d. to compare the real life family with the account in *Little Women*