Cruise Ships

People like to travel on cruise ships because they provide a **glamorous, exciting** way of life, usually for just a few days.

A cruise ship is a **floating hotel**. It has all the attractions and facilities of a hotel resort. It is a very large passenger ship and may carry as many as 6000 passengers. The ship has several levels or decks, which are lined by stairways. There are many rooms or cabins with beds called bunks for sleeping. The more expensive cabins are on the higher decks. These are cooler, lighter, and larger than the lower cabins. On board, there may be a gym, cinema, swimming pool, casino, ballroom, bar and lounges.

The cruise industry is **vital** to the tourism industry of The Bahamas. Approximately **70 percent** of our visitors arrive by cruise ship. Many people, especially the straw vendors, depend on business from cruise passengers.

Most cruise ships come from the United States, from ports such as **Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Port Canaveral**. Some ports in The Bahamas have been improved so that more cruise ships can come here. The **Prince George Wharf** in Nassau and **Grand Bahama Harbour** in Grand Bahama are good examples. The harbours have been made wider and deeper to accommodate large cruise ships such as the **Royal Caribbean Cruise Line's Oasis of the Sea**, a 225,000-ton vessel that can carry approximately 7,000 passengers. Up to **seven** cruise ships can dock at the Prince George Wharf Cruise Terminal at the same time. Not only do cruise ships dock at major islands such New Providence and Grand Bahama, but cruise lines also dock off the coast of cays such as **Castaway Cay** (Gorda Cay), **Coco Cay**, (Little Stirrup Cay), **Half Moon Cay,** and **Bimini**.

Control towers have been constructed to help ships dock safely. Special terminal with shops and other attractions were built.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Cruise ship passengers are important to the Family Islands because they **bring tourists**. It is not necessary to build expensive hotels because they only stay for a few hours.

Cruise ship passengers come for sightseeing, gambling, and nightclub entertainment. They may buy a few souvenirs, but they do not usually spend as much money as tourists who come by air. In 2012 and 2013 cruise ships passengers visiting New Providence totals of about 3.6 million. Visiting Grand Bahama totals of about 1.3 million. Visiting Family Islands totals about half a million.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Date: _____

1. Explain what a cruise ship is. (2)

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2. Tell of **THREE** things that can be found on a cruise ship. (3)

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3. Name TWO ports cruise ships come from. (2)

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4. Name **TWO** ports in The Bahamas. (2)

_____ _____

5. Why are cruise ship passengers important to the Family Islands? (2)

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_____

6. Name TWO reasons why cruise ship passengers come. (2)

_____ _____

7. Give the difference between cruise ship and air passengers. (2)

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

8. Which group depends on cruise ship tourists? [1]

_____

9. Name TWO islands other than Grand Bahama and New Providence where cruise ships stop. [2]

_____ _____

10. Why are cruise ships important to the tourist industry in The Bahamas? [1]

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11. Which cruise ship was the harbour in New Providence was widened and dredged deeper for? [1]

_____

12. Why was a control tower constructed at the harbour? [2]

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LIVEWORKSHEETS