

## Practice

2 Read the text about skeletons and answer questions about what you have read.

Our skeleton supports our body. It makes a strong frame inside the body. It gives our body shape and makes it firm. Our skeleton also protects organs inside the body.

We grow and get bigger because our skeleton grows.

We begin to grow at birth. Our bones get longer and thicker each year. When we are about 18 to 20 years old, our bones stop growing.

Sometimes we fall or have accidents and break our bones.

A broken bone is called a fracture. Doctors take special photos called X-rays to see if a bone is broken or not. The broken ends of the bone slowly grow back together again.

a Name three reasons why a skeleton is important.

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b Explain what would happen to a baby if its skeleton did not grow.

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c What is a fracture?

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d How can doctors find out if a bone is broken?

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e How do broken bones mend?

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f Why do you think some animals with skeletons are very big, but animals like worms are usually small?

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