DAILY Warm-Up 1

Name _____ Date _____

JUNE BUGS

Have you ever seen a metallic green bug buzzing around in the summertime? You were probably looking at a June bug. June bugs get their name because they emerge as adults at the beginning of summer. It takes a year for a June bug to complete its full life cycle.

A June bug is an insect with six legs and is usually about 15 to 22 cm long. It has a dull, metallic-green body with wings. Its underside is light brown or black. The June bug is part of the beetle (coleopteran) family. This beetle can be found all over the United States, but it is prominent in the northeastern states. The beetle loves to feed on ripening fruit. They will gather in clusters and eat ripened apples, peaches, pears, or any other fruit. When the beetle is still a grub, it will feed on decaying matter, grass, and other plants. These grubs will also go underground to eat plants such as sweet potatoes and carrots.

In the past, a fun summer activity for many children was to catch June bugs. Children would tie a string to one of the legs and then let the June bug fly around while holding the string. This provided hours of entertainment for children. Some children still participate in this activity today.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. According to this reading passage, why would someone want to catch a June bug?
   a. They are trying to keep the June bug from eating their plants.
   b. The June bug can bring good luck.
   c. The June bug can provide entertainment.
   d. The June bug likes to live in captivity.
2. This passage is mostly about . . .
   a. protecting your lawn and fruit trees from June bugs.
   b. good extermination practices.
   c. the anatomy of a June bug.
   d. general information about June bugs.
3. According to the passage, what do adult June bugs eat?
   a. They eat seeds and seedlings.
   b. They eat ripening fruit.
   c. They feed on the grass.
   d. They dig underground to eat sweet potatoes and carrots.
4. How did the June bug get its name?
   a. It is named after the famous first lady June Cleveland.
   b. It is a cousin to the ladybug.
   c. It lays its eggs in June.
   d. It is an adult beetle in the summer months.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 2

Name _____ Date _____

THE ARMADILLO

The armadillo is probably one of the most unusual-looking animals. It looks a lot like the dinosaurs that used to walk the Earth. Armadillos can live in many places throughout the United States and other parts of the world, but they are most prominent in the state of Texas.

The armadillo has a very tough shell with bands of very strong tissue. These bands are able to slide over each other, which allows the armadillo to roll up like a ball. This is how the armadillo is able to protect itself. It is like the armadillo is protected by a shield of armor. Most animals are unable to break through this tough skin. An armadillo lives in a burrow that it digs itself. The armadillo has to live in places where the dirt is easy to dig; otherwise, it cannot dig itself a home. They have very strong claws that help them dig.

The armadillo's main diet is insects. They eat ants, termites, beetles, grubs, worms, and other small insects. These animals are also known for their strange behavior. If an armadillo is startled, it will jump into the air. Sometimes it will even jump three feet high! It also makes a squealing sound. Armadillos are interesting animals!

STORY QUESTIONS

1. A good title for this reading passage would be . . .
   a. "The Armadillo State."
   b. "Locating an Armadillo."
   c. "The Basics of the Armadillo."
   d. "The Squeal of an Armadillo."

2. After reading the passage, what can you guess is one similarity between an armadillo and an anteater?
   a. They both live in Texas.
   b. They both eat ants.
   c. They both squeal.
   d. They both jump in the air when startled.

3. The author wrote this passage to . . .
   a. justify keeping armadillos in captivity.
   b. inform the reader of how armadillos are mistreated.
   c. share general information about armadillos.
   d. raise awareness of the shrinking armadillo population.

4. If you wanted to find out more about armadillos, you could . . .
   a. read a book about how armadillos dig their burrows.
   b. watch a television program about insects.
   c. meet somebody who lives in Texas.
   d. watch a television program about the different types of armadillo.

 ©Teacher Created Resources, Inc.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 3

Name _____ Date _____

LLAMAS

Do you know what a llama is? Do you know how to say that word? A llama is an interesting animal. In English, the word is pronounced with the 'l' sound at the beginning (*lama*). In Spanish, the word is pronounced with a 'y' sound at the beginning (*yama*). The llama comes from South America. Llamas have been used as pack animals for thousands of years. They are strong and smart animals. They can hike on the toughest trails. The llama is able to carry over 200 pounds and can hike about 12 hours in a day. They are similar to camels and cows, in that they chew their own cud.

A llama can grow to be as big as 400 pounds. The life span of a llama is 15 to 29 years. Llamas come in a variety of colors. They can be brown, gray, black, or white, as well as a combination of colors. Llamas are herd animals and prefer to be with other llamas. Llamas are also known for spitting. They typically spit to show dominance to other llamas. They can see very well, and sometimes they are used to protect baby cows, sheep, or goats.

Llamas do make some noises. They can be heard humming, which sounds a lot like how you sound humming. They may also cluck or make an alarm sound. They use the alarm sound when they feel threatened or afraid. Llamas are also known to roll on the ground to fluff their wool. They prefer to roll in the dirt.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is this passage mainly about?
   a. how the llama eats
   b. predators of the llama
   c. the different types of llama
   d. general facts about the llama
2. In the second paragraph, what does the word *dominance* mean?
   a. supremacy
   b. broken
   c. structured
   d. overcome
3. Llamas are social animals and prefer to . . .
   a. hunt other animals.
   b. protect other animals.
   c. live in groups.
   d. roll on their backs.
4. Based on information in the passage, why are llamas good pack animals?
   a. They stay in groups.
   b. They are black and white.
   c. They are smaller than camels.
   d. They can carry a lot of weight.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 4

Name _____ Date _____

SHARKS

Mention the word *shark* to someone on the beach and you are bound to get a reaction. Sharks have been the most feared predator of the ocean. Sharks are fish. They have been around since the time of dinosaurs. They can be found in oceans all over the world, and they have also been found in some rivers and lakes.

One difference between most other fish and a shark is that most fish have bones and a shark has cartilage. Cartilage is tough, but it is not as strong as bone. Another difference is that the shark is only able to swim forward, while most fish can swim forwards and backwards. Fish also generally have slippery scales, while a shark has rough scales that feel like sandpaper.

There are many different types of shark. In fact, there are about 368 different types. The differences include color, habitat, behavior, and size. Sharks are also known for their very sharp teeth. They do not use their teeth to chew their food. Instead they swallow large chunks of food. They have five rows of teeth. If a tooth is broken, it is replaced by another tooth.

Sharks are carnivores, meaning that they eat meat. Sharks do not normally attack people. It seems like sharks attack people a lot, but the chances of getting stung by a bee or getting hit by lightning are greater. Even so, experts say it is important to keep an eye out for sharks when swimming in the ocean.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Sharks are greatly feared by humans because they . . .
   a. are good swimmers.
   b. are the right size.
   c. are carnivores.
   d. eat only plants.

2. According to the passage, how are sharks different from most other fish?
   a. They do not have scales.
   b. They are camouflaged
   c. They are slow moving.
   d. They are not able to swim backwards.

3. Why did the author include the first paragraph?
   a. to generally introduce sharks
   b. to clear up misconceptions about sharks
   c. to generate questions about sharks
   d. to identify the food eaten by sharks

4. The best way to find the answer to the previous question is to . . .
   a. reread the entire passage.
   b. reread the first paragraph and determine the main idea.
   c. look for the words *shark* and *habitat*.
   d. reread the fourth paragraph and determine the main idea.

©Teacher Created Resources, Inc.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 5

Name _____ Date _____

THE ELEPHANT

Did you know that there are two different types of elephants? There is the African elephant and the Asian elephant. African elephants are the biggest land animals, and Asian elephants are the next biggest. Elephants are very social animals and live in groups. Female elephants head the groups. Only occasionally will a male elephant take charge of a group.

It's hard to imagine, but elephants are very good swimmers. This seems unusual because elephants are such big animals. Elephants can get as big as 10 feet tall and weigh about 6 tons! Male elephants are usually bigger than females. They have gray or brownish wrinkled skin that has almost no hair. Elephants are also known for their big ears. They can hear very well with these ears. These ears also help the elephant cool off.

The elephant breathes through the nostrils at the end of its very long trunk. The trunk is also used to get water and food. The elephant uses its trunk to suck up the water that is then shot into its mouth. The trunk also gathers food and brings it to the mouth. Elephants use their trunks similarly to the way that we use our hands. Elephants are herbivores, eating mostly roots, grasses, leaves, fruit, and tree bark. They use their tusks along with their trunks to get their food.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How does the author feel about elephants?
   a. The author is in favor of elephant control.
   b. The author feels that elephants are interesting animals.
   c. The author is afraid of elephants.
   d. The author sees the need and purpose for more laws on elephant poaching.
2. The second paragraph informs the reader about . . .
   a. the anatomy of the elephant.
   b. the diet of an elephant.
   c. the history of the elephant.
   d. the predator of the elephant.
3. What is the meaning of the word *herbivore*?
   a. meat eater
   b. meat or plant eater
   c. plant eater
   d. none of the above
4. Where might this information about the elephant most likely be found?
   a. in a pamphlet on elephants
   b. in a newspaper article
   c. in a book about carnivores
   d. in a book about animals in Asia

LIVEWORKSHEETS