DAILY Warm-Up 4

Name _____ Date _____

COSMIC DNA SURPRISE

In the world around us we hear the letters DNA discussed. We hear them on TV. We hear them in the news. What do they mean? How do they work?

DNA is what we call the cells in our bodies that help us to grow. They are the cells that help us to have children that look like us. The shape of DNA looks a little like a braid.

Scientists thought DNA was only found in living things on the earth. They never thought they would find it in the universe outside the earth.

Not long ago, scientists were using a telescope. It was called the Spitzer Space Telescope. They saw a double helix shape. That is a shape that is usually found inside living things. They had never seen it in the sky.

They found out that this DNA shape in space is about 80 light years long. It is about 300 light years away from the black hole in the Milky Way. They think that it is moving at 620 miles every second. That is very fast!

Scientists think that the black hole is making the DNA turn very fast. The telescope showed them that there is DNA in other parts of the universe.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Another way to describe DNA would be . . .
a. donuts need ants.
b. don't need air.
c. cells that are square and long.
d. cells that make us grow and help us have children that look like us.

2. Which word is a **synonym** for the word *usually?*
a. never
b. always
c. mostly
d. fast

3. This passage is mostly about . . .
a. braiding DNA.
b. a discovery of DNA in the universe.
c. the shape of DNA.
d. using DNA on the earth.

4. Which one of these is **NOT** true about DNA?
a. It is found in humans.
b. It helps us reproduce or make children that look like us.
c. It is not found in humans.
d. It has a shape like a braid.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 5

Name _____ Date _____

COMMANDING OFFICER

Have you ever wondered why some people are so strong? Have you thought about how they do so much with their lives? When things are hard, they keep going.

Captain Chris Nunn is one of these people. When he was little, he was put up for adoption. A family in Texas adopted him. They taught him to work hard and never give up.

When he grew up, he wanted to be in the Army's Ranger School. This is a very challenging school. He had to do a lot of physical exercise, including hiking for long periods of time in the mountains. One day when he was in the mountains, a rattlesnake bit him. He was in a lot of pain, but he would not quit. Two days later he came limping out of the mountains. He passed the Ranger class.

Chris will tell you he always wants to do his best. He works as hard as he can. Sometimes people call him "Hurricane" because he gets angry if he thinks other people are not doing their best.

He became a commanding officer at age 29. Chris was working in Afghanistan in charge of many men and many thousands of dollars in army equipment. Captain Chris Nunn will keep doing his best. He hopes to make a difference in the world.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What word or words best describe Chris Nunn?

a. old and tired
b. quitter
c. never gives up
d. young and mean

2. If Chris gave you advice, he would probably say . . .

a. "It's not the end of the world."
b. "Today is just another day."
c. "Don't worry. Be happy!"
d. "Never stop trying!"

3. How old was Chris when he became a commanding officer?

a. 30
b. 38
c. 54
d. 29

4. Another title for the passage could be . . .

a. "Riding in the Rain"
b. "Never Give Up!"
c. "How to Heal a Snake Bite"
d. "I Am the Captain"

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 6

Name _____ Date _____

TURNOFF WEEKS

For two different weeks each year, millions of TV and computer screens around the world are blank. They are off during Turnoff Week. More people participate every year since it began in 1994. Millions of people all over the world participate in Turnoff Week. The first Turnoff week of the year is in April and the second is in September.

Each year, U.S. kids spend less time in school than they do having "screen time," that is, watching TV and/or using the computer. In fact, the only thing they spend more time doing than viewing TV is sleeping! Studies show that kids who watch too much TV are more likely to have reading problems. The creators of Turnoff Week want us to reduce our screen time, giving us more time to "think, read, create, and do the things we never have time for."

Many kids are surprised at how much there is to do besides watch TV or play on the computer. They do puzzles, read books, and play games. They skate and ride bikes with friends. They play outdoors. Can you live without your favorite TV shows? Find out by joining this year's Turnoff Week.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. The word *participate* means . . .
a. get out of.
b. learn about.
c. dislike.
d. join in.

2. How many Turnoff Weeks are there every year?
a. five
b. three
c. two
d. four

3. According to the passage, American kids spend the most hours each week . . .
a. playing on the computer.
b. watching TV.
c. sleeping.
d. eating.

4. Which of the following is something that the creators of Turnoff Week would **NOT** want you to do during Turnoff Week?
a. read a book
b. play video games
c. spend time with friends and family
d. turn the lights on in the house

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LIVEWORKSHEETS