



4TH GRADE HOMEWORK ELA PACKET

PLEASE COMPLETE FOR EXTRA CREDIT, THE CLASS THAT AS ALL STUDENTS COMPLETE WILL RECEIVE AN AWARD. ALSO PLEASE COMPLETE AT LEAST THREE LESSONS ON I READY READING.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

MRS. LEON



Name _____

Date _____

LADYBUGS

Have you ever seen a small, red beetle with black dots on its back? These little insects are called ladybugs. These little insects are harmless to humans. A ladybug does not bite or sting humans. Ladybugs are also harmless to plants, and they do not carry diseases. But how did the ladybug get its name? There are many stories. One of these stories came from the Middle Ages. The crops were being eaten, and the villagers began praying. The red beetles with black dots came and ate the harmful insects. These beetles were named "the Beetles of Our Lady." The name was shortened to lady beetles or ladybugs.

Since then, the ladybug has been known to bring good luck. There are many beliefs about ladybugs from all over the world. It has been said that if a ladybug lands on a young maiden's hand, she will marry soon. In England, it has been said that if a farmer sees a ladybug, he will have a good harvest. Some people believe that the number of spots you see on the ladybug's back will represent the number of children you will have.

Ladybugs today can still bring good fortune. If you have a ladybug in your garden, then you do not need to use insect poison to get rid of aphids. Aphids are tiny insects that are harmful to many plants. They suck the juice from the leaves of the plant. A ladybug can eat as many as 50 aphids in a day. Some people buy ladybugs to fight the aphids.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. According to this reading passage, why might someone want to buy a ladybug?
 - a. They are more expensive than insecticides.
 - b. Ladybugs kill aphids that can be harmful to plants.
 - c. Ladybugs bring good luck.
 - d. Ladybugs will reproduce.

2. This passage is mostly about . . .

a. aphids.	c. the anatomy of a ladybug.
b. good farming practices.	d. general information of ladybugs.

3. According to the passage, what do some people believe will happen when a ladybug lands on the hand of a young maiden?

4. According to the passage, what might ladybugs first have been called?

a. lady in waiting	c. the Beetles of Our Lady
b. lady bugle	d. bug of a lady



KILLER WHALES

Have you ever heard of the killer whale? Did you know that killer whales live in oceans all over the world? They are found mostly in the Arctic and Antarctic oceans, where the water is cold. Killer whales can also be spotted on both shores of the United States. Killer whales have been spotted in warmer waters such as the Bahamas and the Gulf of Mexico. This just goes to show how adaptable the killer whale can be.

How do killer whales differ from other whales? One way is in their coloring. A killer whale is striking in its coloring of black and white. This makes it easy to spot. Killer whales have a sleek body form. They are smaller when compared to most whales. Killer whales are typically 19–22 feet long and can weigh anywhere from 8,000 to 12,000 pounds.

Killer whales get their name for a reason. They are the top predators in the ocean. Killer whales will eat almost any kind of sea animal including sea lions, fish, squid, seals, walruses, birds, sea turtles, penguins, and otters. It's been recorded that even a moose has been found in the stomach of a killer whale. Killer whales are very agile and can move quickly through the water. In fact, they are the fastest swimming marine mammals. This speed and agility makes it easy for the killer whale to hunt. Often times, killer whales will hunt in groups. This improves their chances of catching prey.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is this passage mainly about?
 - a. how the killer whale eats
 - b. predators of the killer whale
 - c. the different types of whales
 - d. general facts about the killer whale
2. In the last paragraph, what does the word *recorded* mean?
 - a. tape recorded
 - b. documented
 - c. measured
 - d. opened
3. To improve their chances of catching prey, killer whales often . . .
 - a. hunt animals that can't swim.
 - b. hunt tiny animals.
 - c. hunt in groups.
 - d. attack at sunset.
4. Based on information in the passage, how did the killer whale get its name?
 - a. by hunting in groups
 - b. by being black and white
 - c. by being smaller than most whales
 - d. by being the top predator of the ocean



Name _____

Date _____

THE BISON

One of the most hunted animals of all time is the bison. The bison, also known as the buffalo, used to number between 30 and 60 million. Today there are only about 200,000 bison remaining. Only 16,000 of these are wild bison. The wild, free-roaming bison are located at Yellowstone National Park. People used to kill the bison for their thick, furry hides. Bison almost became extinct in 1890. Efforts were then made to try and save the bison.

The bison eat grasses and sedges. *Sedge* is a type of plant. Bison are known to keep moving as they graze on the grasses. This keeps any area from being overgrazed. The bison is a big animal. In fact, it is the heaviest land mammal in North America. The bison can get as big as 2,200 pounds. It stands anywhere from 5 to 6 ½ feet tall.

Bison are social animals that live in herds of about 20–50. The females lead the herd. The bulls (males) live alone or in small groups. The bison can reach speeds as fast as 35 miles per hour. Look out!

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Ranchers and farmers would probably like to have bison graze on their land because . . .
 - a. bison are shy and feisty animals.
 - b. can reach speeds up to 35 mph.
 - c. bison keep moving as they eat, which prevents overgrazing.
 - d. bison live in herds or small groups.

2. According to the passage, what efforts do you think were made to prevent the extinction of the bison?
 - a. bison were let free and allowed to roam wild
 - b. laws were passed and rules made about the killing of bison
 - c. the president made it illegal to shoot a bison
 - d. bison live in herds or small groups

3. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - a. The bison can run very quickly.
 - b. The bison is an extinct animal.
 - c. The bison engage in social activity.
 - d. The bison is an interesting animal and has an interesting history.

4. The bison is the heaviest land mammal in . . .
 - a. North America.
 - b. the Orient.
 - c. South America.
 - d. Central America.



Name _____ Date _____

ABIGAIL ADAMS

Have you ever heard of President Adams? You've probably heard of him twice. There were actually two presidents with the same last name. That's because they were father and son. The wife and mother of these two presidents was Abigail Adams. This was the first time anything like this happened. Abigail is one of the most admired first ladies.

Abigail was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts. She never went to school, but she was very smart. She raised four children. She also ran the farm, and was widely known for her fight for American independence. She was asked her opinion many times on events taking place during Colonial times.

Abigail's husband, John Adams, was elected president of the United States in 1796. He was the second president. He and his wife were the first to live in the White House. John was not reelected, and so he and his wife returned to the farm. Abigail lived a great life, but she would not live long enough to see her son, John Quincy Adams, elected the sixth president of the United States.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How does the author feel about Abigail Adams?
 - a. She was a typical first lady.
 - b. She was an intelligent and admired first lady.
 - c. She died before she saw her son become president.
 - d. She ran a farm and fought for American independence.
2. Which statement supports the author's opinion of Abigail Adams?
 - a. She was asked her opinion on events taking place during Colonial times.
 - b. Abigail Adams was the wife and mother of a president.
 - c. She never went to school, but she was very smart.
 - d. Abigail was the first wife of the president to live in the White House.
3. The third paragraph informs the reader about . . .
 - a. Abigail's life on the farm.
 - b. Abigail's life in Massachusetts.
 - c. Abigail's work for American independence.
 - d. Abigail's life as wife and later mother of the president of the United States.
4. Where might this information about Abigail most likely be found?
 - a. in a book about the Revolutionary War
 - b. in a pamphlet about the president of the United States
 - c. on a website about the presidents of the United States and their wives
 - d. on a website about bad women of the United States



Name _____

Date _____

JOHN F. KENNEDY

John F. Kennedy was the 35th president of the United States. He was a very young president. Many people liked his leadership style. John was born into a very wealthy family. He was one of nine children. He went to private schools as a child and went on to Harvard University. World War II broke out and John was enlisted in the Navy. While at war, John was a war hero. He saved the lives of many men when their ship was hit.

After the war, he ran for senator of Massachusetts. He won by a huge margin. He served two terms. In 1960, he ran for president of the country. He debated against Richard Nixon. These were the first debates on television. John was elected president by a narrow margin. He was the youngest person ever to be elected president. He and his wife, Jackie, had young children in the White House.

As president, John worked hard to solve tough problems. He created the Peace Corps, as well as other programs. But not everyone approved. Kennedy was shot and killed in Dallas, Texas in November 1963. Police arrested Lee Harvey Oswald for the assassination of President Kennedy.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the passage, what were some of John's interests?
 - a. playing polo
 - b. fighting in the military
 - c. helping and serving others
 - d. opening up talks with the Cuban leadership
2. What can you conclude about John Kennedy?
 - a. He was loved and adored by everyone.
 - b. He was able to accomplish many things in a short time period.
 - c. He was learning to speak another language.
 - d. He was the best president of the United States.
3. Which of the following items would not be on President Kennedy's resume?
 - a. fought in World War II
 - b. elected president of the United States
 - c. served as a senator for Massachusetts
 - d. arrested Lee Harvey Oswald
4. What is the main idea of the third paragraph?
 - a. Lee Harvey Oswald was not mentally stable.
 - b. President Kennedy was loved by some and despised by others.
 - c. President Kennedy was the youngest person ever to be elected president.