

3rd Grade

OPTIONAL Holiday Work Packets To Maintain Skills over Winter Break

Research shows that parents who work on learning skills with their children at home improve their children's academics and test scores. Maintaining skills during time off from school is important and helps all students retain information learned. **We have posted "Holiday Work Packets To Maintain Skills over Winter Break" on our website for those parents who WANT to do these with their child. These Packets are OPTIONAL.**

The purpose of these packets is to help students maintain skills learned so far this year and to continue to build and maintain skills and strategies. If you would like to, please have your child work on these packets no more than 5 to 30 minutes per day over vacation depending on their grade level. Some skills may be above your child's level. That's ok. Just try them, but do not frustrate yourself or your child. Students who turn in completed packets after winter break will get a "HOMEWORK PASS". Scanned copies of the packets are available on our website in the "Newsletter" section at www.pantherrun.com/newsletter.html.

When we return from Winter Vacation it will be time for us to focus intensely on reading, mathematics, and writing skills, in order to help us prepare students for upcoming standardized testing and build core skills for the grade level. Children depend on the adults around them to guide and support them as they explore and learn about the world in which they live. There are a number of things you, as a significant adult in a child's life, can do to help that child succeed. Adults play a vital role in children's lives and can make a great difference in their academic achievement.

Active participation in your child's education is the best way to help your child prepare for the school. Meeting with teachers, monitoring in class and homework assignments, and reading with your child are all excellent ways to get involved. Please work with your children at home as well. Spend time each day working on a subject. Review homework and papers brought home with your child. Practice writing and work on basic math skills. Read with your children and ask them questions about the story to increase reading comprehension skills. For a list of ideas for activities you can do with your child at home to help them with academic subjects, go to www.fcatexplorer.com on the Internet and click on the link for "Parent & Family Guide. This web site is loaded with **supplemental reading and math activities parents can do with their children. Don't forget to visit the "Kids Zone" of pantherrun.com for on-line educational activities.** By working together as a team, home & school, we can ensure your child's academic success!

Passage 7 Main Idea and Details

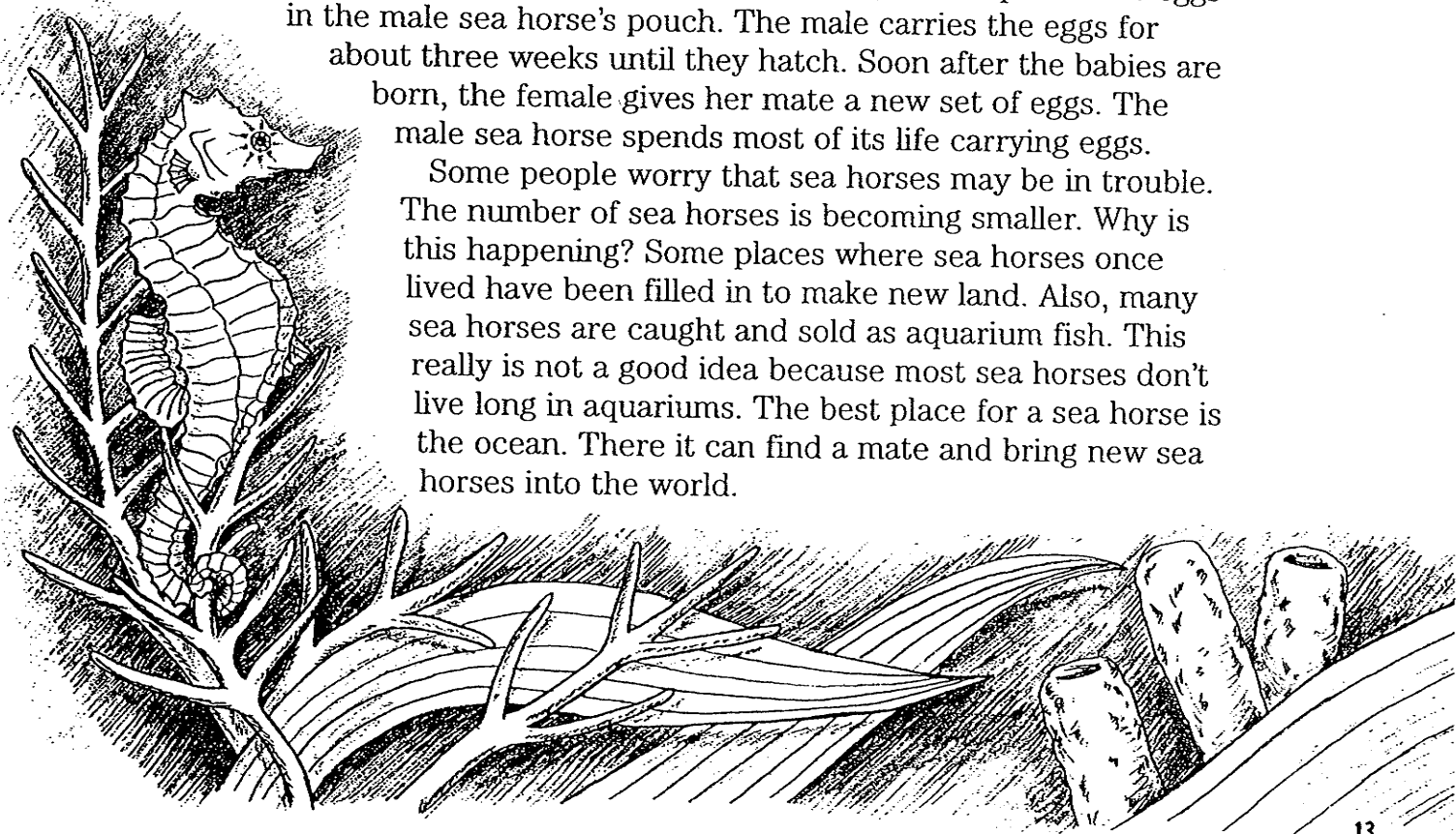
A Fascinating Fish

How did the sea horse get its name? It's not hard to guess. The top half of this fish looks like a small horse. But looking at the sea horse's long, curled tail, you might think "sea monkey" is a more accurate name. Then there's the sea horse's pouch, which is used for carrying eggs until they hatch. "Sea kangaroo" might also be an appropriate name for this fish.

Sea horses live in warm ocean waters all over the world. There are 32 different kinds of sea horses. They range in size from one inch long to about one foot long. Because their fins are small, sea horses swim extremely slowly. They keep safe from other fish by hiding in plants and grasses that grow beneath the sea. They can also change colors to blend in with their surroundings. A sea horse remains in one place for hours at a time by winding its tail around a plant. It feeds on live food, such as tiny shrimp, that happen to swim by. A sea horse has no teeth, so it swallows the shrimp whole. For a fish that doesn't move around much, the sea horse eats a lot. In just one day, a sea horse can eat 3,000 shrimp!

A sea horse keeps the same mate for its whole life, unlike most kinds of fish. And it's the male sea horse, not the female, which gives birth to baby sea horses. How does this happen? Baby sea horses start out as eggs, which come from the female's body. But the female places the eggs in the male sea horse's pouch. The male carries the eggs for about three weeks until they hatch. Soon after the babies are born, the female gives her mate a new set of eggs. The male sea horse spends most of its life carrying eggs.

Some people worry that sea horses may be in trouble. The number of sea horses is becoming smaller. Why is this happening? Some places where sea horses once lived have been filled in to make new land. Also, many sea horses are caught and sold as aquarium fish. This really is not a good idea because most sea horses don't live long in aquariums. The best place for a sea horse is the ocean. There it can find a mate and bring new sea horses into the world.



1. What is this article mostly about?

- Ⓐ animal names
- Ⓑ sea horses
- Ⓒ aquariums
- Ⓓ oceans

2. How does a sea horse keep safe from other fish?

3. What does a female sea horse do with her eggs?

4. Why is the number of sea horses becoming smaller?

5. Which is another good title for this article?

- Ⓐ "Animal Fathers"
- Ⓑ "Kinds of Horses"
- Ⓒ "How Fish Grow"
- Ⓓ "All About Sea Horses"



Squirrel in a Life Jacket

People of all ages enjoy the sport of water-skiing. So does a squirrel named Twiggy! Twiggy and her owner, Lou Ann Best, go to boat shows in the United States and Europe. At these shows, Twiggy water-skis around a tiny swimming pool. She's pulled by a small toy boat. She wears a tiny red life jacket.

The crowds at the boat shows always laugh and cheer for Twiggy. Lou Ann also wants everyone to learn an important water safety lesson. As Twiggy circles the pool, Lou Ann points out the squirrel's red life jacket. When you go boating or water-skiing, she tells the crowd, always remember to wear a life jacket.

Lou Ann Best has been in the boat show business since 1978. That's when a friend gave a baby squirrel to Lou Ann and her husband, Chuck. The squirrel had been hurt during a storm. Lou Ann and Chuck fed and cared for the squirrel. They named it Twiggy. Once Twiggy was healthy, Chuck decided to teach her to water-ski. How did he get such an idea? Chuck had already trained other animals—ponies, dogs, and a toad—to do the same thing. Before long, the Bests were showing off their squirrel on water skis at boat shows.

After a few years, the Bests decided to let Twiggy stop working. They fixed up a special room in their house for her. They covered the floor with plant material. Then they added lots of tree branches. But Chuck and Lou Ann were having too much fun to retire. They trained another squirrel to water-ski. Then another, and another. In all, there have been five squirrels on water skis. Like the first, each one was a baby that needed a home. And each has been named Twiggy.

Sadly, Chuck Best died in 1997. For a while, Lou Ann could not bring herself to do the boat shows without him. But Twiggy was greatly missed. The people who ran the shows kept phoning Lou Ann. They begged her to change her mind.

Finally, Lou Ann gave in. She and the newest Twiggy packed up and headed for the next boat show. Now Lou Ann is glad she's back in show business. When she hears the crowds cheer for Twiggy, she feels happy and proud.



1. Why do crowds laugh and cheer when they see Twiggy?

2. What water safety lesson does the crowd learn as a result of Twiggy's show?

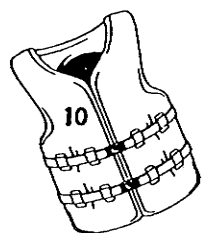
3. Chuck Best believed he could teach Twiggy to water-ski because _____.

- Ⓐ he had already taught other animals to water-ski
- Ⓑ a friend told him it was easy to do
- Ⓒ he had seen squirrels water-ski at boat shows before
- Ⓓ squirrels are good swimmers

4. Why did Lou Ann stop going to the boat shows for a while?

- Ⓐ Twiggy was too old to water-ski.
- Ⓑ People weren't interested in seeing Twiggy anymore.
- Ⓒ She didn't want to go after her husband died.
- Ⓓ The crowds at the boat shows frightened Twiggy.

5. What makes Lou Ann Best feel happy and proud?



Passage 2 Comparing and Contrasting

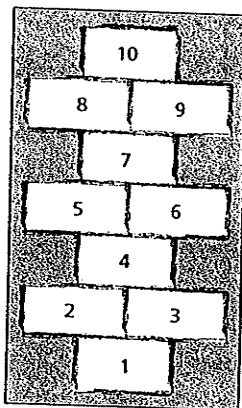
Hopping Around the World

Hopscotch is a very old game. It usually uses a puck, such as a stone, and a pattern that players hop through. Here are different versions to play.

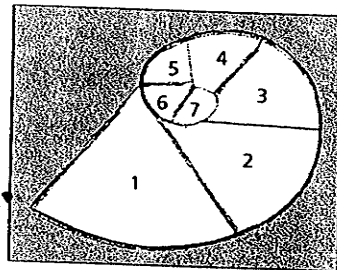
Scotch-Hoppers

Children in England and Scotland play this game with a stone. Throw the stone into Box 1. Hop over Box 1 and through the pattern. On the way back, hop into Box 1, pick up the stone, and hop out. Then, toss the

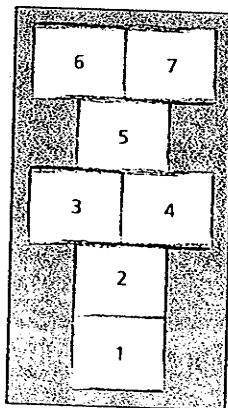
puck into Box 2, and so on. If your stone enters the wrong box, start over! The first player to throw the stone into each box and hop through the whole pattern wins.



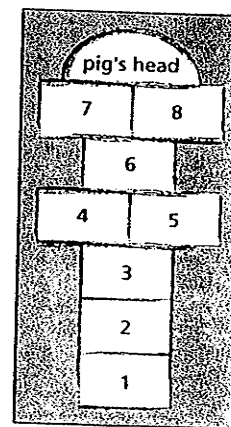
Escargot *Escargot* is the French word for "snail." For this game, the pattern looks like a snail. No puck is used. Players hop through the pattern on one foot. You may rest in the center on both feet. After resting, hop back through the pattern and out. If you finish the pattern without stepping on a line, write your name in a space. No other player may land in that space. At the end, the player who owns the most spaces wins.



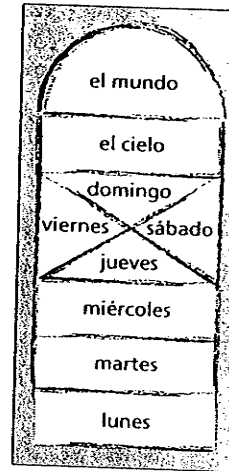
Pele Children play Pele on the island of Aruba with a stone or coin. Throw the puck into the first box and hop into Box 2. Next, hop up to the top of the pattern and turn around. Then, come back to Box 2, and pick up the puck in Box 1. Hop over Box 1 and out of the pattern. Next, throw the puck into Box 2 and start again. If you make a mistake, you lose your turn. The first player to hop through the pattern wins.



Gat Fei Gei In this Chinese version of hopscotch, the puck is a piece of roof tile. At the top is the pig's head. Toss the puck into the pig's head and hop through the pattern. When you reach boxes 7 and 8, spin around and pick up the puck from behind. If you hop through the pattern without making a mistake, pick a box and write your name in it. No one else can land in that box! The player who owns the most boxes wins.



La Thunkuña Children play this game in Bolivia, a country in South America. The puck is a stone or the peel from an orange. Instead of writing a number in each square, players write each day of the week. Throw the puck into the first box. Hop over it into the second box. Next, kick the puck backwards and out of the pattern. Then, hop out. On your next turn, throw the puck into the next space, and so on. The first player to hop all the way through wins.



1. Name two ways in which Escargot is different from all the other games.

2. How are the board squares for La Thunkuña different from the board squares in the other games?

3. In which two games do winners get to "own" spaces?

- (A) La Thunkuña and Scotch-Hoppers
 (B) Pele and Escargot
 (C) Scotch-Hoppers and Gat Fei Gei
 (D) Gat Fei Gei and Escargot

4. Which is the only game that uses an orange peel for a puck?

- (A) Scotch-Hoppers
 (B) La Thunkuña
 (C) Pele
 (D) Gat Fei Gei

5. Which two games show animals in the gameboard?

- (A) Gat Fei Gei and Escargot
 (B) Pele and La Thunkuña
 (C) Scotch-Hoppers and Escargot
 (D) La Thunkuña and Scotch-Hoppers

Passage 8 Author's Purpose and Point of View

A Delicious Mistake

Every day, people invent new things. Some inventors work hard for years to create something new. But some of the best inventions happen by accident.

Can you imagine a world without chocolate chip cookies? Back in 1930, Ruth Wakefield and her husband opened a restaurant in Massachusetts. It was called the Toll House Inn. Ruth greeted the guests when they arrived. She also worked as the cook. The restaurant held 30 guests. Ruth often had to rush to feed them all on time.

One day, Ruth was mixing up some chocolate cookies in the kitchen. The recipe said to melt squares of baking chocolate. The next step was to pour the melted chocolate into the pale cookie batter and stir.

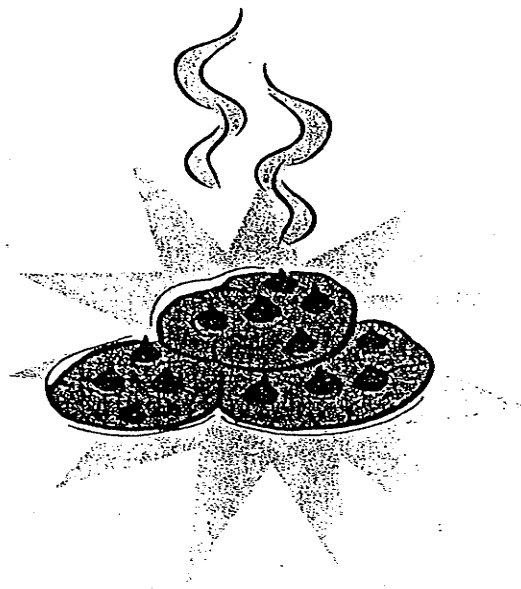
You have to melt chocolate slowly or it will burn. Ruth was in a hurry. She decided to break the chocolate squares into little chunks. Then she threw the chunks into the batter. After all, the cookies had to bake in a hot oven. She figured that the chocolate would just melt into the rest of the batter.

When she took the cookies out of the oven, Ruth groaned. She could still see big chunks of chocolate. She could never serve these to her guests!

Then, Ruth tasted the cookies. They were delicious! Her guests agreed.

Ruth began buying lots of chocolate and cutting it up. Then she asked the candy makers if they could make the chocolate easier to break into small pieces. That's when they came up with chocolate chips. If it were really easy to make these delicious cookies, maybe people would start baking them at home.

Thanks to Ruth Wakefield, today you can find "Toll House" cookies in every grocery store. But none of them tastes as good as a homemade chocolate chip cookie, hot from the oven.



1. The author's main purpose in writing this article was to _____.
 - Ⓐ teach how to make chocolate chip cookies
 - Ⓑ explain how to become an inventor
 - Ⓒ describe how chocolate chip cookies were first made
 - Ⓓ tell about the life of Ruth Wakefield

2. What does the author think about chocolate chip cookies?
 - Ⓐ They are good.
 - Ⓑ Most kinds are boring.
 - Ⓒ They taste bad.
 - Ⓓ They are neither good or bad.

3. What does the author most likely think about Ruth Wakefield and her invention?
 - Ⓐ She was lucky.
 - Ⓑ She was very smart.
 - Ⓒ She was silly.
 - Ⓓ She was a bad cook.

4. How do you think the author feels about the candy makers who decided to make chocolate chips?

5. Which kind of chocolate chip cookie does the author think tastes the best?

Writing Prompt: Write a speech for your class. Tell how you feel about chocolate chip cookies.

Passage 1 Making Inferences and Predictions

Snow Day

Tom could hardly wait for morning. Snow was falling swiftly. By morning he anticipated that there would be enough snow to make a great snowman.

Tom had never made a snowman before. He had just moved to Indiana from Alabama, where it hardly ever snowed.

The next morning, Tom's mother shook him gently. "No school today," she said. "There's too much snow for the school bus to get through."

Tom let out a whoop. He jumped out of bed and pulled on his snow clothes. His snow pants swished and his boots clomped as he walked toward the door.

Tom's friends, Herb and Addie, were already outside.

"Hey, Tom!" called Addie. "We're going to Warwick Hill in a little while. Do you want to come?"

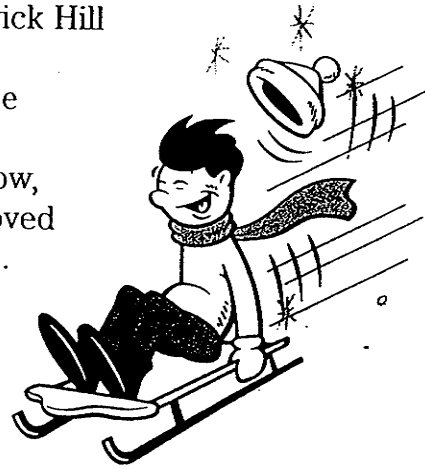
"Not now," Tom answered. "I'm going to make a snowman."

Herb shook his head. "This isn't snowman snow, Tom," he said. "It's too dry and fluffy." Herb shoved his mittens into the snow and scooped some up. Then he puffed up his cheeks and exhaled. The snow scattered like dust.

Tom looked down at the ground. Snow was snow, he'd always thought. How was he supposed to know there were different kinds? "What kind of snow is this?" he asked.

"It's sledding snow!" chuckled Addie. "That's why we're going to Warwick Hill. All the kids will be there, and you should come, too." Addie held a sled out to Tom and said, "You can use this. We've got two more."

Tom took the sled and grinned. After all, he'd never been sledding before.



1. When Tom lets out a whoop, how do you think he feels?

(A) hurt	(C) mad
(B) happy	(D) cold

2. How do you think Tom feels when he looks down at the ground?

(A) foolish	(C) bored
(B) glad	(D) proud

3. What will Tom probably do next?

Passage 10 Story Elements

The Show Must Go On!

The doctor examined Nuala's leg. Nuala tried not to cry, but it was a challenge. Her leg really ached.

"How did you hurt yourself?" asked the doctor.

"I jumped off a swing," said Nuala. "Is it broken?"

"It sure is," said the doctor, holding out the X ray. "See right here?"

Two hours later, Nuala left the hospital on crutches. Her leg was in a cast.

"What will I tell Ms. Chang?" she asked her mother in the car.

Ms. Chang was Nuala's dance teacher.

The spring dance performance was only two weeks away. Nuala's cast would be on for at least six weeks!

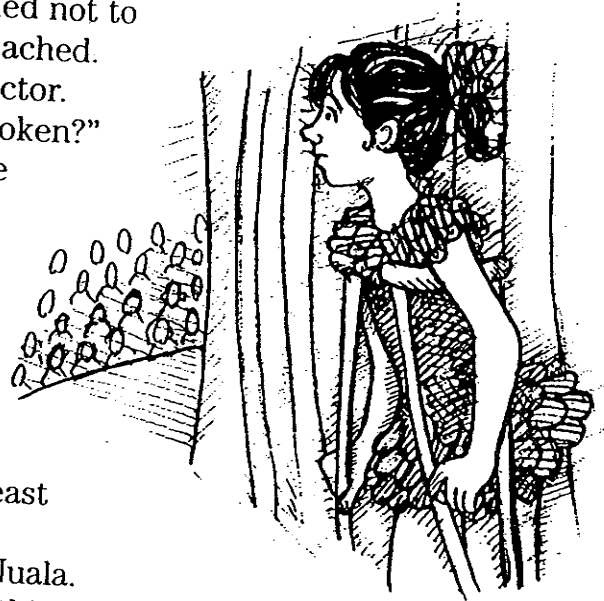
"She's going to be so mad at me!" groaned Nuala.

But Ms. Chang wasn't mad. She said, "We'll think of something."

Nuala felt ridiculous going on stage with her crutches. "I look stupid," she complained. "I can't dance with these."

"Have you ever heard the expression, 'The show must go on'?" said Ms. Chang. Together, they went through the show. They thought of how Nuala could move to the music. They brainstormed ways for her to dance on crutches.

The night of the performance, Ms. Chang almost had to push Nuala on the stage. Nuala's cast looked big and clumsy, but she went out and danced. At the end, the audience went wild clapping. Someone tossed a bouquet of roses at Nuala's feet! The show did go on!

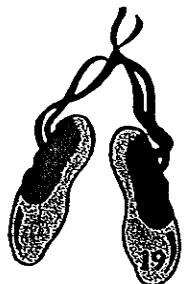


1. Where does the first part of the story take place?

2. What is Nuala's problem?

3. What lesson can be learned from this story?

- (A) Never ride on a swing.
- (B) Don't try to do two things at once.
- (C) The only things worth doing are those that take hard work.
- (D) If you work together, you can overcome problems.



Passage 15 Drawing Conclusions

Piggy Heaven

If you're an English pig, this is your lucky day! A new law says that the farmer who owns you has to keep you healthy and happy.

Now you probably live in an empty pen. It's easy for the farmer to clean, but you have always hated it. It's so dull. Pigs like to sniff around with their noses.

The new law says that you must have something to smell. Maybe it will be some sweet-smelling hay or bits of wood.

And the new law says you need toys, too!

Footballs and other kinds of balls are just the right toys. With many toys, the pigs will not get tired of the same one.

You know what happens when you have nothing to do. You get very mean. You start biting each other. You start chewing each other's ears and tails. Having a nice new football to push around will help you stay happy.

Some farmers say that the new

laws are not really needed. They say that their pigs are fine. Others say they are not. They say that too many pigs live in small, crowded spaces.

One farmer said that in the good old days, pigs lived outside. These smart animals had lots to do. They ran around in the forest and looked for food. Now many of them stay inside and get bored.

Soon, you pigs may get more than just footballs to play with. You may get homes that feel more like forests!

Still, you will never have as nice a home as Maggie Park's pets in Australia. Her three pigs live inside her house. At first the neighbors were mad. They said pigs were dirty. They said that Maggie should keep them outside. But government workers said no. They said pigs have the same rights as house pets.

Her pigs do not play with footballs. They like to watch TV all day! At night, they sleep in their own bedroom. Now that's a pig's life!



1. What is one reason farmers might not like the new law that says pigs need things to sniff?

2. How do you think toys will help pigs?

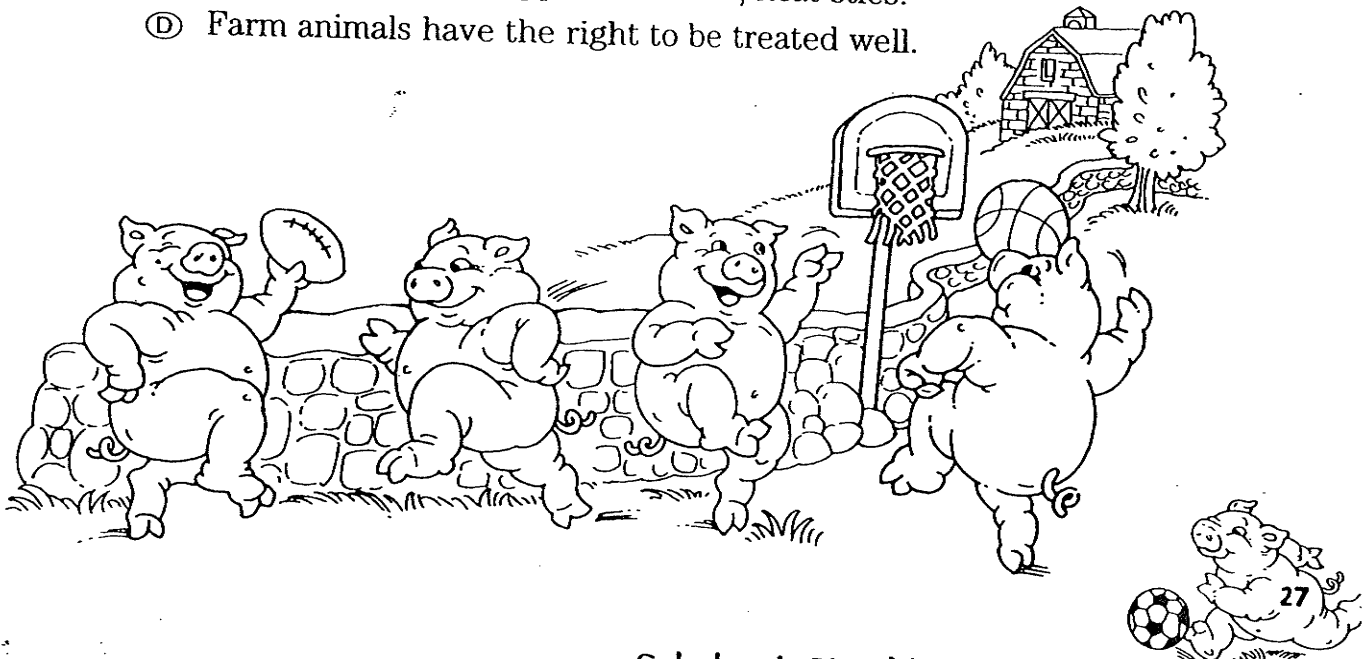
3. List one detail to support the conclusion that pigs become mean when kept in small, crowded places.

4. The author concludes that farm pigs may never have as nice a home as Maggie Park's pigs. Which statement does NOT support this conclusion.

- (A) The Park pigs live in the house.
- (B) Neighbors think pigs are dirty.
- (C) The Park pigs watch TV.
- (D) The Park pigs sleep in their own bedroom.

5. What can you conclude about farm animals from this passage?

- (A) Soon all farm animals will be set free.
- (B) All farm animals should be treated like pets.
- (C) Farm animals are happiest in small, neat sties.
- (D) Farm animals have the right to be treated well.



Name: _____ Date: _____

FCAT Practice: Data Analysis

1. Juan has a bag with 5 red marbles, 2 blue marbles, 4 green marbles, and 1 white marble. He takes one out of the bag without looking. Which one is he **LEAST LIKELY** to pick? (MA.E.2.2.2)

- A. red
 B. white
 C. red
 D. green

2. Jasmine's spelling scores were 95, 90, 90, 95, 85, 100, and 95. What was the **mode** of her scores? (MA.E.1.2.2)

- A. 100 B. 90 C. 470 D. 95




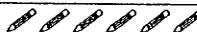
3. Panther Run is having a bake sale. Below are the items and prices for the goodies. (MA.E.1.2.2)


ITEM	COST
Chocolate Chip Cookie	\$0.35
Brownie	\$0.75
Oatmeal Raisin Cookie	\$0.25
Sugar Cookie	\$0.15
Cookie Sandwich	\$0.50

What is the **median** price for the bake sale goodies?

- A. \$0.15 B. \$0.25 C. \$0.35 D. \$0.50

4. Tanika surveyed the 3rd grade to find out the favorite pet and created a graph.

Animal	Number of Votes
Dog	
Cat	
Bird	
Turtle	

 = 2 votes

How many more students voted for cat than for turtle? (MA.E.1.2.1)

- A. 6 B. 18 C. 14 D. 8

5. Anthony can wear a blue shirt or a red shirt. He can wear white pants or jeans. How many different combinations does he have to choose from? (MA.E.2.2.1)

- A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4

6. About what would be the mass of the real object? (MA.B.2.2.2)

- A. 1 gram
- B. 10 grams
- C. 1 kilogram
- D. 10 kilograms



7. About how long is a pencil? (MA.B.2.2.2)

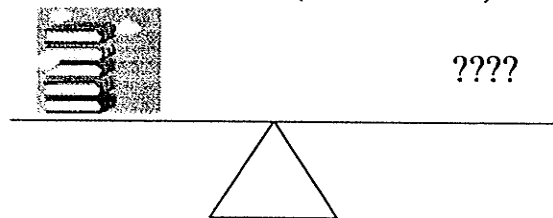
- A. 1 centimeter
- B. 1 decimeter
- C. 1 meter
- D. 1 kilometer

8. The chart below shows the measurements of different parts of a palm tree. Which would be the easiest to measure with a ruler? (MA.B.3.2.1)

Palm Tree Measurement	
Trunk	10 meters
Branch	1 meter, 13 centimeters
Leaf	12 centimeters

- A. Trunk
- B. Branch
- C. Leaf
- D. It doesn't matter. You can measure all of them with a ruler.

9. Marty has 5 books which all weigh 2 kilograms each. What weight would he have to put on the scale to balance it out? (MA.B.2.2.1)



- A. 10 kilogram weight
- B. 15 kilogram weight
- C. 20 kilogram weight
- D. 25 kilogram weight

Name: _____

Date: _____

FCAT Practice: Algebraic Thinking

1. Martin has 24 pictures. He can arrange them in several ways. Complete this chart to help him decide how to arrange the pictures. (MA.D.1.2.2)

Rows	Columns	Total
1	24	24
2	12	24
3	8	24
4	6	24
6	4	24
8		24
12	2	24
24	1	24

- A. 3 B. 5 C. 12 D. 24

2. The table below shows a relationship between A and B. Fill in the missing number. (MA.D.1.2.1)

A	0	1	2	3	4	5
B	0	4	8		16	20

- A. 10 B. 11 C. 12 D. 13

3. The table below shows a relationship between A and B. Fill in the missing number. (MA.D.1.2.1)

A	0	1	2	4	5	6
B	0	3	6	12		18

- A. 9 B. 11 C. 14 D. 15

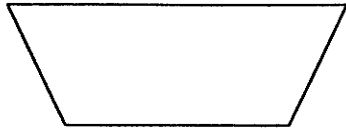
4. Study the pattern. Which shape comes next? (MA.D.1.2.1)



- A.  B. 

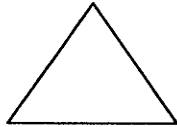
FCAT Practice: Geometry

1. What is the name of the figure shown below? (MA.C.1.2.1)

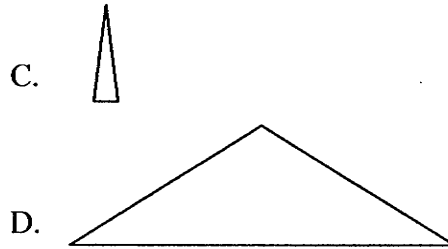
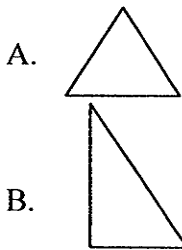


- A. hexagon
- B. triangle
- C. trapezoid
- D. octagon

2. Maria drew this figure.



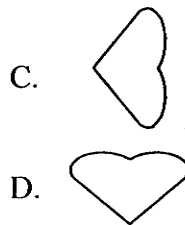
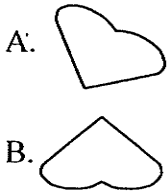
Which figure is similar to the one Maria drew? (MA.C.2.2.1)



3. Cameron drew this figure.

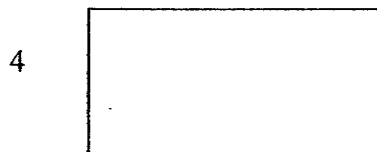


Which figure shows a slide? (MA.C.2.2.2)



4. What is the perimeter of the figure shown below? (MA.C.3.2.1)

9



- A. 13
- B. 26
- C. 36
- D. 81

Name: _____ Date: _____

FCAT Practice: Number Sense

1. The distance between Sam's house and his grandmother's house is two thousand, five hundred thirteen miles. What is that number written in standard form? (MA.A.1.2.4)

- A. 2,530
B. 2,513
C. 2,350
D. 2,413

2. Pamela rounded 367 to the nearest ten and the nearest hundred. Which numbers did she round the number to? (MA.A.4.2.1)

- A. 360 and 400 B. 370 and 300 C. 360 and 300 D. 370 and 400

3. Mrs. Suarez has 432 cups and 499 plates. About how many more plates than cups does she have? (MA.A.4.2.1)

- A. 900 B. 800 C. 100 D. 200

4. Lisa rolls a 4, 7, 1, and 3. What is the greatest number she can make using those digits? (MA.A.2.2.1)

- A. 4,713 B. 1,347 C. 7,341 D. 7,431

5. There were 5,789 people that went to the Panther Run Fair. What is the value of the 7? (MA.A.2.2.1)

- A. 7 B. 70 C. 700 D. 7,000

6. Sharon rode her bike for 23 miles on Saturday and 76 miles on Sunday. Which expression can be used to find out how many miles Sharon rode altogether? (MA.A.3.2.2)

- A. $76 + 23$
B. 76×23
C. $76 - 23$
D. $76 / 23$

7. Maya has 3 baskets and 6 apples in each basket. Which number sentence can be used to find the correct answer?

- A. $6 + 3 = 9$
B. $6 \times 3 = 18$
C. $6 - 3 = 3$
D. $6 / 3 = 2$

8. Samantha had \$15.00. She bought a notepad for \$5.99. How much money does she have left? (MA.A.3.2.3)

- A. \$9.01 B. \$20.99 C. \$10.01 D. \$10.99