

Answer Key

Reading Comprehension

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. Zoo veterinarians often use anesthesia to induce a temporary state of sleep, enabling them to carry out necessary procedures safely.
7. The speed and precision of a zoo vet's work are paramount to ensure that the animal wakes up promptly after the procedure, minimizing potential risks.
8. The scope of a zoo vet's work includes treating injuries, overseeing reproductive aspects such as births, and addressing various health-related concerns in a diverse range of animal species.
9. Zoo vets follow strict quarantine procedures, initially isolating new animals to monitor and ensure they are free from any contagious illnesses.
10. Advancements in veterinary medicine and technology could provide zoo veterinarians with improved diagnostic tools, treatment methods, and monitoring systems, enhancing their ability to provide comprehensive care and address the diverse challenges associated with the well-being of animals in captivity.

Reading Comprehension

11. D
12. B
13. C
14. B
15. D
16. The rough texture of the Arctic ice prevents slips for polar bears as they navigate, providing stability in their icy environment.

17. The hairy soles of their feet provide traction on wet ice, preventing slips and allowing polar bears to move swiftly across challenging terrain.
18. The white fur serves as natural camouflage, allowing polar bears to blend seamlessly with the snow-covered surroundings, enhancing their hunting and stealth capabilities.
19. Polar bears remain active all year round to navigate and adapt to the unique challenges of the Arctic environment. This behavior underscores the remarkable resilience of these iconic creatures.
20. The adaptations of polar bears, including hairy soles for traction on wet ice, white fur for camouflage, and the ability to remain active year-round, collectively contribute to their success as skilled hunters in the Arctic. These adaptations enhance their agility, stealth, and survivability in the challenging icy landscape, making them well-equipped for a dynamic lifestyle.

Reading Comprehension

21. C
22. B
23. B
24. A
25. D
26. The tiny hairs on the pitcher plant's leaf bend when touched by insects, guiding them deeper into the leaf.
27. The colors, including purple, green, yellow, or white, make pitcher plants visually striking and attractive to insects.
28. The pitcher plant captures and consumes insects, showcasing a unique adaptation to thrive in environments with limited nutrient availability.

29. The sweet smell attracts insects, particularly flies, encouraging them to land on the leaf.
30. The carnivorous strategy of the pitcher plant provides an additional nutrient source, compensating for the limited nutrients in the soil. This adaptation enhances the plant's chances of survival and growth in challenging environments.

Emily's Career Path

31. C
32. C
33. D
34. C
35. B
36. Emily felt envious because she longed to be up there with them, soaring high above the trees.
37. Emily didn't give up because she knew that sometimes, the things that seem impossible at first are actually within our reach.
38. Emily felt a sudden spike of excitement and wanted to do more things that scared her.
39. Emily learned that sometimes, the things that seem impossible at first are actually within our reach, and that she is capable of anything if she just takes a chance and tries.
40. Emily's newfound confidence might make her more willing to take risks and try new things in the future, such as making her own pies or joining a sports league.

Answer Key

How Ben Franklin Stone the Lightning

1. smart
2. door
3. stormy
4. ward
5. worn
6. core
7. cord
8. warp
9. barnyard
10. fort

The Night of San Juan

11. counter
12. dawdle
13. joint
14. foundation
15. turquoise
16. sprouts
17. fountain
18. clause
19. sprawl
20. brawl

Zathura

21. python
22. phony
23. active
24. govern
25. coastal
26. expert
27. copper
28. reserve

Reading Comprehension

29. B
30. C
31. C
32. D
33. C
34. Origami is a meticulous craft where practitioners skillfully transform a plain sheet of paper into intricate and aesthetically pleasing shapes through folding and creasing.

35. Origami has a rich history in Japan, spanning over three centuries, evolving into a revered cultural practice.
36. The challenge lies in the manipulation of the paper, and practitioners overcome it by employing precise folding techniques to fashion extraordinary shapes.
37. Interestingly, the allure of origami has traversed geographical boundaries, captivating the interest of individuals worldwide.
38. The tradition of origami in Japan reflects a broader cultural emphasis on precision, patience, and finding beauty in simplicity. It may symbolize the importance of mindfulness and creativity in routine activities, contributing to a holistic approach to daily life.

Reading Comprehension

39. C
40. C
41. A
42. C
43. C
44. Louisa Swain became the first woman to cast her vote in Wyoming.
45. They saw it as an opportunity to attract more women to settle in Wyoming.
46. Wyoming's decision set a precedent that other states eventually followed, contributing to the broader suffrage movement.
47. Prevailing societal norms and opinions denied women the right to vote despite their growing desire to participate in the democratic process.
48. Wyoming's pragmatic approach, aimed at attracting more women to the territory, set a precedent that influenced other states to follow suit. This collective momentum eventually contributed to the broader suffrage movement, leading to the

ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920.

Reading Comprehension

- 49. C
- 50. C
- 51. B
- 52. C
- 53. C
- 54. The term “hamacas” evolved into the English word “hammocks” to describe suspended beds.
- 55. Taino villages were located near rivers for a fresh water supply and as a means of travel.
- 56. The Tainos contributed words through cultural exchange, influencing both English and Spanish vocabularies.
- 57. The encounter led to the adoption of Native American names for new discoveries, influencing the linguistic landscape of both cultures.
- 58. Cultural exchanges and linguistic borrowings facilitate a sharing of knowledge and perspectives, fostering mutual understanding and appreciation among diverse cultures. Language becomes a bridge for connecting and preserving the richness of cultural heritage.

Answer Key

Dear Mr. Winston

1. dart
2. charge
3. ford
4. guard
5. bore
6. award
7. argue
8. morning
9. spark
10. carpet

The Night of San Juan

11. coil
12. cautious
13. mouthful
14. stout
15. turmoil
16. scrawny
17. bawl
18. hoist
19. foul
20. douse

Zathura

21. equator
22. professor
23. vapor
24. governor
25. labor
26. director
27. scholar
28. peddler
29. founder
30. splendor

Reading Comprehension

31. C
32. C
33. B
34. B
35. C
36. Satchel Paige contributed to his family's income by carrying people's bags, commonly referred to as satchels.

37. Satchel Paige faced racial segregation, preventing him from playing for white teams.
38. Satchel Paige joined the Cleveland Indians in 1948, following Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in 1947.
39. The pinnacle of Satchel Paige's career came in 1971 when he was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.
40. Satchel Paige's unconventional introduction to baseball, including learning the game in jail, suggests a resilience and determination that likely played a role in overcoming racial barriers and sustaining a remarkable and enduring career in baseball.

Reading Comprehension

41. C
42. C
43. B
44. C
45. C
46. Crows engage with scarecrows and may fly around them or perch on their outstretched arms.
47. Crows also enjoy feasting on grasshoppers and mice.
48. Lookout crows serve as watchful observers, perching on fences to detect potential threats and emitting loud cries to signal others.
49. The strategic approach helps crows avoid potential threats, especially the ever-watchful farmer.
50. Farmers could potentially leverage the cleverness of crows in controlling pests by implementing measures that encourage crows to stay in the area, contributing to natural pest control.

Reading Comprehension

51. C
52. B

- 53. C
- 54. B
- 55. D
- 56. Vulcanization is the process of heating rubber, discovered by Charles Goodyear in 1839. This process transformed rubber into a resilient material, maintaining strength and flexibility across temperatures.
- 57. Rubber bands are commonly used for binding objects. They are manufactured by heating rubber blocks, transforming them into flat sheets, and then shaping them into circular bands through a series of machine processes.
- 58. The milky sap is collected from the bark of rubber trees and transported to factories, where it undergoes processing to create raw rubber.
- 59. Rubber faced issues such as becoming sticky in hot weather and brittle in cold conditions before the vulcanization process was discovered.
- 60. Charles Goodyear's discovery of the vulcanization process has made rubber a durable and flexible material, enhancing the utility of rubber bands for binding objects of various sizes. This innovation has contributed to everyday convenience and efficiency by providing a reliable and adaptable tool for numerous applications.

Answer Key

Dear Mr. Winston

1. career
2. Cheer
3. yearly
4. stair
5. area
6. spare
7. hear
8. fear
9. compare
10. tear

Black Cowboy, Wild Horses

11. fragments
12. kennel
13. goggles
14. absent
15. empire
16. mutter
17. culture
18. jogger
19. summon
20. fifteen

Zathura

21. scissors
22. sugar
23. crater
24. error
25. shatter
26. commander
27. gentler
28. saucer
29. soldier
30. pillar

Reading Comprehension

31. C
32. C
33. C
34. Deaf individuals, along with their families, friends, and educators, often embrace and employ sign language.
35. C

36. Hand signals and gestures were crucial for communication among early humans before the advent of spoken language.
37. Sign language emerged as a universal means of communication among Native American tribes, transcending linguistic barriers.
38. Sign language facilitates communication, enabling deaf individuals to actively participate in education, social interactions, and recreational activities, contributing significantly to their overall happiness and well-being.
39. Deaf individuals, along with their families, friends, and educators, often embrace and employ sign language.
40. The development of non-verbal communication methods, from ancient hand signals to the universal accessibility of sign language, has contributed to inclusivity by providing alternative means of communication, breaking down language barriers, and fostering understanding among diverse individuals and communities.

Reading Comprehension

41. B
42. B
43. A
44. C
45. B
46. Alex Haley chronicled his family saga in the book “Roots.”
47. It brought the story to a broader audience and sparked curiosity about ancestral origins.
48. It prompted individuals to delve into their own family histories, seek answers, and explore their cultural identities.
49. It became a catalyst for individuals to connect with their ancestral pasts and

appreciate the diverse American cultural landscape.

50. It could foster a sense of connection, appreciation for diversity, and a deeper understanding of how individual family stories contribute to the rich tapestry of cultural identity in society.

Reading Comprehension

51. C
52. C
53. C
54. C
55. C
56. Cantinflas initially pursued dancing in a music show, where he discovered his talent for humor. He began engaging in comedic dialogue during performances, eventually embracing the title “Cantinflas” and shifting his focus to comedy.
57. Cantinflas’ comedic persona was characterized by wearing an old hat, oversized coat, and pants held up with a piece of rope. His comical walk added to his unique charm.
58. Cantinflas found joy in making people laugh through humor, embracing the title “Cantinflas,” which translates to “a foolish person who talks too much,” and decided to keep the name.
59. Cantinflas became a star through his distinctive comedic flair and ability to bring joy to audiences, leaving an indelible mark on the entertainment industry, especially in the world of movies.
60. Cantinflas’ transition from dancing to comedy, coupled with his distinctive comedic persona, resonated with audiences, making him a beloved entertainer. His ability to bring joy through humor in both Spanish and English films contributed to his enduring popularity and left a lasting impact on the entertainment industry.

Answer Key

Roadrunner's Dance

1. worse
2. curl
3. swirl
4. curb
5. turnip
6. blurred
7. person
8. turkey
9. birth
10. pearl
11. twirling
12. curves
13. hurled
14. hurtful
15. perks

Sleds on Boston Common

16. tyrant
17. vacant
18. cavern
19. loser
20. linen
21. closet
22. student
23. equal
24. minus
25. shiver

Review

26. quell
27. observe
28. shiver
29. genuine
30. humor
31. scissors
32. casual
33. improve
34. fuel
35. damp
36. parching
37. ruin

Reading Comprehension

38. B

39. C

40. C

41. They refrain from eating as there is no available food in the harsh Antarctic environment.

42. C

43. The father emperor penguin places the egg on top of his broad, warm feet, enveloping it with his protective feathers.

44. The fathers gather closely together for mutual warmth to endure the harsh winter winds.

45. The mother penguin returns, places the newly hatched chick on top of her feet, and provides nourishment.

46. The incubation period lasts two months.

47. The cooperative parenting of both the mother and father emperor penguins, with the mother laying the egg and the father incubating it, ensures the survival of the species by adapting to the extreme conditions of the South Pole. This cooperative effort maximizes the chances of successfully hatching and nurturing offspring in such a challenging environment.

Reading Comprehension

48. A

49. D

50. C

51. B

52. B

53. The original design featured a blue field adorned with 13 white stars, representing the original colonies, and 13 alternating red and white stripes.

54. In 1818, a rule was established limiting the stripes to 13, while a new star was added for each new state admitted into the Union.

55. The U.S. flag has undergone 26 modifications since its inception in 1777.

- 56. The enduring colors—red, white, and blue—have remained constant.
- 57. The addition of stars for new states and the limitation of stripes to 13 in 1818 reflects the nation’s geographical expansion, and the 26 modifications mirror the evolving composition of the United States over time.

Reading Comprehension

- 58. D
- 59. B
- 60. C
- 61. C
- 62. C
- 63. The challenge faced by the people of Yap was the lack of portability due to the large size of the stones, some reaching 12 feet in height.
- 64. Different cultures explored alternatives such as minting small coins, using shells, beads, and feathers, providing more practical means of carrying and exchanging value.
- 65. Shells, beads, and feathers served as forms of currency, symbolically representing wealth in various cultures.
- 66. Unlike conventional currencies, the Yapese people kept their money outdoors, providing a contrast to modern practices of indoor storage.
- 67. Cultural needs and preferences shape the concept of money, as seen in the diverse forms used across different cultures. This diversity reveals the adaptability of human societies, showcasing how they creatively design and adopt monetary systems based on their unique circumstances and preferences.

Answer Key

My Brother Martin

1. serpent
2. sternly
3. dirty
4. herbs
5. sherbet

Esther Morris

6. punish
7. panic
8. humor
9. profile
10. recent
11. legal
12. smoky
13. comet
14. local
15. decent

Goin' Someplace Special

16. restore
17. error
18. meander
19. partner
20. reckless
21. splendor
22. motion
23. scholar
24. address
25. rapidly
26. shatter
27. active

Reading Comprehension

28. C
29. B
30. B
31. The mole compensates for its limited vision with a keen sense of smell facilitated by its pointed, pink nose.
32. D
33. The mole's soft and silky dark fur is resistant to trapping dirt, facilitating its underground activities.

34. The mole primarily preys on insects and worms residing beneath the ground.
35. The mole uses its powerful back feet to push the excavated dirt behind it while digging.
36. The mole's exceptional hearing capabilities are maintained despite lacking external ears, emphasizing its adaptation to prevent soil entry into its auditory organs.
37. Changes in the mole's underground environment, such as alterations in soil composition or the availability of prey, could significantly impact its survival and behavior. The mole's adaptations are finely tuned to its specific ecological niche, and any shifts in its environment may require adjustments in its digging behavior, hunting strategies, or overall lifestyle to ensure continued survival.

Reading Comprehension

38. B
39. C
40. C
41. B
42. B
43. The jellyfish uses its stingers on the tentacles to capture prey, and water carries the immobilized animals into the jellyfish's mouth.
44. When stranded on land, a jellyfish faces the risk of drying up and succumbing to its demise.
45. Jellyfish come in various sizes, ranging from those as small as an egg to others as wide as a car.
46. A jellyfish moves through the water by rhythmically opening and closing its body. This movement is both graceful and efficient for swimming.
47. The jellyfish's gelatinous structure, stinging tentacles, and rhythmic swimming

contribute to its success in capturing prey and navigating through water. Its diverse sizes and colors, along with bioluminescence, demonstrate its adaptability to various underwater conditions.

Reading Comprehension

- 48. B
- 49. B
- 50. C
- 51. A
- 52. D
- 53. Orchids mimic the appearance of enemy insects, tricking bees into attacking them. During the attack, pollen from the orchid adheres to the bee's head, and when the bee visits another orchid, it leaves behind fresh pollen, aiding in reproduction.
- 54. Flies, expecting a meal from orchids that mimic the scent and appearance of dead animals, contribute to the orchid's reproductive cycle by both depositing and collecting pollen.
- 55. Mimicry in orchids serves to attract and deceive pollinators, ensuring the transfer of pollen and aiding in the orchids' reproduction.
- 56. Orchids are characterized as master tacticians, employing clever and sometimes unconventional methods to ensure their successful reproduction.
- 57. Orchids' ability to mimic other organisms contributes to their evolutionary success by ensuring effective pollination. This reveals the complexity of plant-pollinator relationships, where plants evolve intricate strategies to engage with and deceive pollinators for their reproductive benefit.

Answer Key

My Brother Martin

1. wrench
2. lambs
3. combs
4. answer
5. hour
6. kneel
7. honor
8. wriggle
9. wrapper
10. heir

Esther Morris

11. radio
12. genuine
13. diameter
14. meander
15. patriot
16. meteor
17. fuel
18. ruin
19. trial
20. fluid

Goin' Someplace Special

21. global
22. slogan
23. fable
24. chuckle
25. practical
26. listen
27. frighten
28. barrel
29. marvel
30. mountain

Reading Comprehension

31. C
32. B
33. Swamp lights are sometimes referred to as jack-o'-lanterns in earlier times due to their historical association with eerie tales and mysterious illuminations.

34. The relatively low temperature of the small fires prevents swamp lights from igniting the swamp and causing harm.
35. C
36. Ghost lights in swamps typically display hues of yellow, blue, or red, with intermittent flashing.
37. Scientists have explained that the decomposition of many plants in swamps produces a specific gas. When this gas is exposed to lightning, it can ignite, creating the ghostly lights.
38. Ghost lights continue to evoke a sense of awe and trepidation due to their ethereal nature and historical associations with eerie tales.
39. The relatively low temperature of swamp lights is significant because it prevents them from igniting the swamp and causing harm.
40. The cultural and historical associations of ghost lights, particularly the historical term jack-o'-lanterns and the eerie tales surrounding them, may influence people's perceptions and reactions. These associations could contribute to a sense of fear or awe when encountering ghost lights, even with the scientific understanding of their origin. Cultural narratives and historical beliefs often shape the way individuals interpret and respond to natural phenomena, adding layers of meaning beyond the scientific explanation.

Reading Comprehension

41. C
42. C
43. C
44. B
45. B
46. Grace Bedell's letter suggested that Lincoln would look better with a beard,

- and despite his initial reservations, he eventually grew one, acknowledging the impact of her suggestion.
47. Abraham Lincoln acknowledged Grace Bedell during a train stop in her hometown of Westfield, New York.
 48. Lincoln mentioned in his reply that growing a beard at that point might make people think he was being whimsical.
 49. Abraham Lincoln responded to Grace's letter, acknowledging her suggestion and sharing his thoughts about growing a beard.
 50. The public's perception of Abraham Lincoln likely shifted as the beard gave him a more distinguished and authoritative appearance. This event highlights how individual opinions, even from a young girl, can influence public figures and shape their public image.
 60. Sustainable practices could involve implementing fishing methods that minimize damage to fishing nets, promoting responsible harvesting, and exploring ways to utilize dogfish sharks without depleting their populations, ensuring a balance between conservation and resource utilization.

Reading Comprehension

51. C
52. B
53. C
54. B
55. C
56. The continuous rows of teeth in dogfish sharks ensure that they always have an effective set of teeth. As the outer row wears out, the next row is ready for action, contributing to their hunting efficiency.
57. Dogfish sharks can damage fishing nets and consume desired fish, posing challenges to the fishing industry. Their predatory nature is the cause of these challenges.
58. Dogfish sharks, despite being predators that pose challenges to fishermen, have their uses. The meat of these sharks is consumed by many people, and dried dogfish meat is utilized as a fertilizer for fields.
59. Dogfish sharks operate in a pack-like fashion, similar to wild dogs. This pack behavior is a distinctive feature of their hunting strategy.

Answer Key

Kid Reporters at Work

1. wrinkle
2. knives
3. honest
4. doubt
5. knew
6. thumbs
7. plumber
8. knead
9. honesty
10. known

Beyond the Horizon

11. diary
12. video
13. piano
14. riot
15. ideas
16. poet
17. rodeo
18. diet
19. cruel
20. casual

Carlos and the Skunk

21. pretzel
22. captain
23. sandal
24. signal
25. bushel
26. heron
27. angle
28. lengthen
29. nozzle
30. woolen

Reading Comprehension

31. B
32. B
33. C
34. D
35. C
36. Levi Strauss adapted his plans by shifting from manufacturing tents to crafting durable pants for the gold miners.

37. The miners colloquially referred to the fabric as “jean” because they found the original name, Genoa, difficult to pronounce.
38. Levi Strauss’s durable pants became popular among gold miners because they addressed the problem of miners’ pants wearing out due to the rigors of gold hunting, providing a sturdy and long-lasting alternative.
39. While the majority of gold miners did not strike it rich, Levi Strauss achieved significant success by capitalizing on the demand for durable pants.
40. Levi Strauss’s adaptation to the needs of gold miners, shifting from tents to crafting durable pants (jeans), played a crucial role in the enduring success of the product. By recognizing and addressing a specific demand among the miners, Levi Strauss not only met their practical needs but also contributed to the creation of an enduring and iconic element of contemporary fashion. The adaptability and responsiveness to the customers’ needs were key factors that set Levi Strauss apart and contributed to the lasting popularity of jeans.

Reading Comprehension

41. B
42. A
43. C
44. C
45. B
46. Annie Oakley learned to shoot at the age of 8 and was recognized for her talent when a local hotel paid her to shoot game birds.
47. Annie Oakley became known for trick shooting performances, such as shooting a coin out of someone’s hand and hitting a card tossed into the air.

48. Despite her public image as a sharpshooter, Annie Oakley's favorite pastime was sewing, showcasing a more domestic aspect of her personality.
49. Sitting Bull gave Annie Oakley the nickname "Little Sure Shot," acknowledging her exceptional skill with a firearm.
50. Annie Oakley's domestic interests, such as sewing, may have provided a sense of balance and joy in her life, offering a contrast to her high-profile career as a sharpshooter. This reveals the multifaceted nature of her character, showing that individuals can have diverse interests beyond their public personas.

Smart Word Choices

51. D
52. A
53. A
54. D
55. B
56. C
57. B

Over the years, the tar slowly hardened. This turned the animal bones into fossils.

Thousands of years later, scientists dug up the fossils. There were bones of elephants, wolves, giant birds, and tigers with huge teeth. None were exactly like the animals of today. So scientists could see how animals changed as _____ passed.

54. (A) cars
(B) children
(C) people
(D) time

Animals still tumble into the wet tar today. They are the fossils of _____.

55. (A) yesterday
(B) today
(C) tomorrow
(D) plants

People will be able to visit Rancho La Brea in the future and see them.

Smart Word Choices

Choose the appropriate words to complete the passage. To make the right choice, sometimes you have to read the text that follows.

In Papua, New Guinea, you can see a strange dance. The dancers look like huge red and yellow birds. They jump around and bob their heads. Some sing and chant. _____ beat drums.

56. (A) We
(B) None
(C) Others
(D) I

These are not really birds, though. They are the Huli Indians doing a Mali dance.

The men in the Huli tribe want to look as _____ as birds.

57. (A) small
(B) tiny
(C) cheerful
(D) pretty

Some of the world's most beautiful birds live in New Guinea. So the Hulis hunt them for their bright _____.

58. (A) teeth
(B) skins
(C) feathers
(D) fur

Under the feathers, the Hulis wear _____.

59. (A) shoes
(B) wigs
(C) pants
(D) shirts

A Huli man might have several of these coverings for his head. Each one has many colorful feathers attached to it.

For a Huli, his wig is the most important thing he owns. Long ago, men carried leaves over their heads in rainstorms. This kept their wigs _____.

60. (A) warm
(B) Hat
(C) wet
(D) dry

Today, the Hulis use umbrellas.

Except for using umbrellas, the Hulis haven't changed much. In the village, boys go to live with the men when they are eight years old. First, they grow their hair very long. _____ they cut it.

61. (A) Then
(B) First
(C) Third
(D) Finally

The hair will be used to make a boy's first wig.
Finally, he will join the Mali dance.

The Huli men wear feathers to look beautiful.
But there is another _____ as well.

62. (A) question
(B) problem
(C) dance
(D) reason

Birds and animals are special to the Indians.
Dressing up helps the Hulis feel that they are
a part of the animal world.

Answer Key

Kid Reporters at Work

1. strange
2. slides
3. badge
4. circus
5. village
6. dance
7. spice
8. certain
9. glance
10. ounce

Beyond the Horizon

11. instant
12. handsome
13. reckless
14. district
15. improve
16. fiddler
17. grassland
18. concrete

Carlos and the Skunk

19. grownup
20. rowdy
21. doubting
22. shower
23. lawyer
24. power
25. August
26. bestow
27. arousing
28. encounter

Reading Comprehension

29. B
30. C
31. C
32. D
33. C
34. Harbor seals distinguish themselves by gathering on land, particularly on sandy beaches, for communal resting.
35. Due to their exceptional swimming abilities, fur seals predominantly sleep in

the water, periodically surfacing for essential breaths before submerging once again.

36. Seals in the South Pole take advantage of air pockets trapped in the ice for breathing, highlighting their ability to utilize diverse environments for rest and survival.
37. The primary habitat for seals is the aquatic environment. They need to periodically surface to breathe air, despite their adaptation to aquatic life.
38. The varied sleeping habits of seals reflect their adaptability to different environments. By choosing specific resting strategies, such as gathering on sandy beaches, sleeping in the water, or resting beneath ice shelves, seals optimize their survival by leveraging the advantages offered by each environment. This adaptability enhances their ability to replenish energy, avoid predators, and utilize diverse habitats for rest, ultimately contributing to their overall survival in dynamic aquatic ecosystems.

Reading Comprehension

39. B
40. C
41. B
42. C
43. C
44. Vaccinations trick the immune system into thinking it has encountered a particular sickness, prompting the body to build defenses against it.
45. Babies receive some essential vaccinations at just a few months old, with additional shots administered around the ages of 4 to 6.
46. The passage emphasizes these points to encourage people to take advantage of the

accessibility of vaccinations for personal health and community well-being.

47. Vaccinations create immunity by preparing the immune system to fight off specific illnesses, contributing to a shield against diseases.
48. Accessible and affordable vaccinations make it easier for individuals to protect themselves and others from preventable illnesses, contributing to overall community health. Individual responsibility involves getting vaccinated to enhance personal health and actively participating in preventing the spread of contagious diseases in the community.

Smart Word Choices

49. A
50. A
51. D
52. C
53. B
54. D
55. C

Smart Word Choices

56. C
57. D
58. C
59. B
60. D
61. A
62. D

Answer Key

Kid Reporters at Work

1. germs
2. police
3. arrange
4. center
5. sponge
6. Cement
7. once
8. orange
9. wedge
10. ginger

Great-Grandmother's Gourd

11. orphan
12. pilgrim
13. dolphin
14. although
15. complain
16. landlord
17. footprint
18. fairground
19. address
20. partner
21. hilltop
22. pilot

Carlos and the Skunk

23. flawless
24. applause
25. grouchy
26. allow
27. faucet
28. boundary
29. laundry
30. caution
31. trousers
32. coward

Reading Comprehension

33. B
34. A
35. C
36. C
37. C

38. Sea horses use their tails to grasp onto sea plants, providing stability against currents, similar to how some monkeys employ their tails for hanging from trees, leaving their hands free for other tasks.
39. When threatened, a lizard can willingly shed its tail as a means of escape. The detached tail serves as a decoy, diverting the attention of potential predators, while the lizard makes its getaway. The lizard is capable of regenerating a new tail later.
40. The fox strategically employs its tail for protection during confrontations. The tail, covered in thick fur, acts as a shield, minimizing the impact of potential bites and providing an extra layer of defense in territorial disputes.
41. Tails contribute significantly to an animal's survival and adaptation, whether used for balance, communication, or specialized functions.
42. The sea horse and monkey examples showcase the adaptability of tails for stability and versatile functions. The lizard's defense mechanism, shedding its tail as a decoy, illustrates a unique survival strategy. The fox's strategic use of its tail in confrontations demonstrates how tails can serve as shields and contribute to an animal's defense. Together, these examples highlight the intricate and often surprising strategies employed by different species in utilizing their tails for survival and adaptation in diverse environments.

Reading Comprehension

43. B
44. B
45. C
46. C
47. B

48. The first Smokey bear was found clinging to a burned tree trunk during a massive forest fire in New Mexico.
49. To carry on his legacy, a new bear was named Smokey.
50. Smokey the Bear serves as a symbol to educate people about responsible behavior to prevent forest fires.
51. Millions of people visited the zoo to see Smokey, contributing to the widespread dissemination of the message of fire prevention.
52. The real bear, having survived a forest fire, provides a tangible and emotional connection to the consequences of wildfires. The symbolic representation of Smokey serves as a recognizable figure to reinforce the educational message, making it more relatable and memorable for a broad audience.

Smart Word Choices

53. A
54. C
55. B
56. A
57. D
58. A
59. D