

Day 1
Blizzard Bag
Grade 4



Name: _____

14: A Different Kind of Bird

Owls have a unique appearance. They have large, round heads. Their large eyes are set in the front of their heads. This gives owls an interesting "stare." People sometimes say an owl looks **wise**, or smart, because of its stare.



A layer of feathers covers an owl's body. The feathers are so thick that an owl seems to have no neck. Some owls have a ring of feathers around each eye. The rings look like eyeglasses and add to their wise look. Owls are usually not colorful birds. Most have gray, tan, or brown feathers. There are exceptions. The snowy owl lives in the Arctic region. Its feathers are white like the snow and ice where it lives.

The eagle owl is a large bird from Africa and Asia. It can be 30 inches from head to tail, have a wingspan of five to six feet, and weigh more than five pounds. Then there is the elf owl, a very small bird. It lives in some desert regions of North America and is only five inches long.

Owls hunt and kill other animals for food. They have special claws called **talons**. The talons are perfect for grabbing mice, frogs, and rabbits. Owls also have sharp beaks. With their sharp talons and beaks, owls are some of nature's best hunters.

Most owls are **nocturnal** animals. This means they are most active at night. Excellent eyesight lets owls see well in the dark. The pupils in their eyes open widely. This lets light enter the eyes so owls can see their prey in the dark.

Owls have good eyesight, but they cannot move their eyes very much. To see something to the side or behind, they must turn their entire head. They can do this easily because they have **flexible** necks. Some owls can turn their heads completely around and look behind them.

Owls may have great eyesight, but they also have excellent hearing. Feathers cover their "ears," which are large openings on each side of their head. Owls use the feathers to direct sounds into the openings. Owls can hear soft sounds coming from 75 feet away.

Large wings covered with soft feathers also help owls at night. The feathers make very little sound as owls fly, so they can fly almost silently. They can approach their prey and not be heard.

Most owls do not make nests. Some find or make holes in the ground. Others use holes they find in trees. Some even use old nests built by another kind of bird. Owls like to use the same nest year after year.

A female owl lays from 2 to 12

white, round eggs. She lays the eggs at different times, so they hatch at different rates. Usually, the female sits on the eggs, and the male brings food to her. Both the male and female protect their nests and young. They will attack any animal or person that comes too near.

The female owl stays with the tiny **owlets** for about one month after they hatch. Then they learn how to fly. Once an owlet knows how to fly, it leaves the nest and finds its own place to live and hunt.

Owls are beautiful and interesting, but they also help people. Insects and rodents are an important part of an owl's diet. Owls help farmers and ranchers because they eat these small creatures that can damage crops.

An owl's special characteristics and appearance set it apart from other birds. It's easy to understand why so many people like owls.

Context Clues (I.B)

1. In this passage, the word **wise** means—

- A smart
- B large
- C round
- D interesting

Context Clues (I.B)

2. What does the word **nocturnal** mean?

- A Having good eyesight
- B Excellent
- C Active at night
- D Open wide

Context Clues (I.B)

3. What does the word **talons** mean?

- A Hunters
- B Sharp claws
- C Special beaks
- D Food

Structural Cues (I.A)

4. The word **owlets** means—

- A female owls
- B baby owls
- C owl nests
- D male owls

Facts/Details (II.A)

5. About how long is the elf owl?

- A 6 feet
- B 5 feet
- C 30 inches
- D 5 inches

Sequential Order (II.B)

6. What happens after a young owl learns to fly?
- A It stays in the nest for one more month.
 - B It brings food for the female to eat.
 - C It leaves the nest and finds its own place to live.
 - D It lays 2 to 12 white eggs,

Main Idea (III.A)

7. This passage is mostly about how owls—

- A hunt for food
- B look and act
- C raise their young
- D help people

Cause/Effect (IV.A)

8. The male owls bring food to the female owls because—

- A female owls do not hunt
- B female owls attack any animal too close to the nest
- C female owls must sit on the eggs to hatch them
- D male owls have sharper talons than female owls

Generalizations (V.C)

9. You can tell from the passage that people usually find owls to be—

- A harmful
- B helpful
- C more beautiful than other birds
- D more colorful than other birds

Fact/Opinion (VI.A)

10. Which is an OPINION in this passage?

- A Most owls have gray, tan, or brown feathers.
- B Most owls are active at night.
- C Both male and female owls protect their nests and young.
- D Owls are beautiful and interesting.

Author's Purpose (VI.B)

11. The author probably wrote this passage in order to—

- A prove owls are better than any other birds
- B explain why owls are good hunters
- C describe owls' appearance and behavior
- D warn people that owls can be dangerous

Identify Genre (VII.A)

12. What kind of passage is this?

- A An adventure
- B A poem
- C An informational passage
- D A mystery

Interpretations/Conclusions (V.B)

13. The title of this passage is "A Different Kind of Bird." Explain why the owl is a different kind of bird. Use information from the passage in your answer.

A large rectangular box with a black border, containing 12 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the box.

Lesson 3.1 Synonyms

Circle the word from the pair in parentheses that correctly completes each sentence below.

1. Another word for *donate* is (take, give).
2. To trade is the same as to (win, exchange).
3. A person who is happy is a person who is (worried, glad).
4. The words *sour* and (sweet, tart) mean the same thing.
5. A synonym for *sloppy* is (messy, sleepy).
6. Another word for *wreck* is (build, destroy).

Read each set of words below. On the line, write the letter of the word that is a synonym for the word in bold.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1. _____ tasty | a. yummy | b. rotten | c. spicy |
| 2. _____ beautiful | a. ugly | b. pretty | c. strange |
| 3. _____ yank | a. move | b. slide | c. pull |
| 4. _____ thin | a. heavy | b. slender | c. strong |
| 5. _____ freedom | a. liberty | b. belief | c. taste |
| 6. _____ throw | a. catch | b. keep | c. toss |
| 7. _____ usual | a. weird | b. common | c. old |

Phonics Connection

1. Which three words in exercise 2 begin with a three-letter blend?

2. On the lines, list the two words in exercise 2 that have the hard **c** sound.



Addition within 1,000

Name: _____

Find the sum of each problem.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1) \quad 548 \\ + \quad 28 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2) \quad 513 \\ + \quad 398 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3) \quad 275 \\ + \quad 258 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4) \quad 990 \\ + \quad 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5) \quad 556 \\ + \quad 415 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6) \quad 874 \\ + \quad 118 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7) \quad 697 \\ + \quad 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8) \quad 652 \\ + \quad 113 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



3 Digit Minus 3 Digit

Name: _____

Use subtraction to solve the following problems.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1) \quad 642 \\ - \quad 391 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2) \quad 606 \\ - \quad 302 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3) \quad 617 \\ - \quad 275 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4) \quad 488 \\ - \quad 328 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5) \quad 670 \\ - \quad 146 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6) \quad 145 \\ - \quad 111 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7) \quad 736 \\ - \quad 658 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8) \quad 275 \\ - \quad 212 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Multiplication (Vertical)

Name: _____

Solve each problem.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1) \quad 20 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2) \quad 58 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3) \quad 71 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

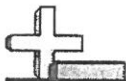
$$\begin{array}{r} 4) \quad 61 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5) \quad 76 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6) \quad 91 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7) \quad 78 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8) \quad 76 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Division with Remainders

Use division to solve each problem.

$$1) \quad 2 \overline{) 89}$$

$$2) \quad 2 \overline{) 99}$$

$$3) \quad 6 \overline{) 55}$$

$$4) \quad 9 \overline{) 88}$$

$$5) \quad 5 \overline{) 69}$$

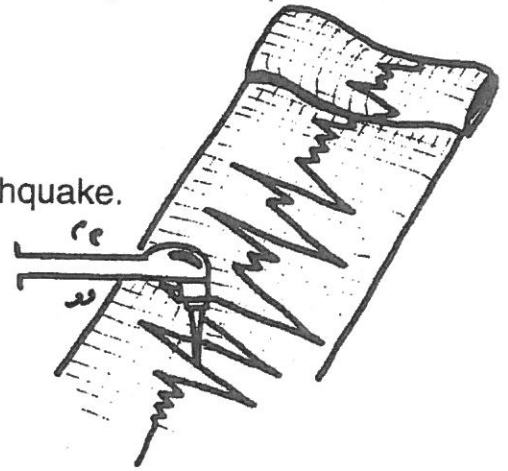
$$6) \quad 8 \overline{) 77}$$

$$7) \quad 4 \overline{) 91}$$

$$8) \quad 2 \overline{) 19}$$

Earthquakes

The inner layers of the earth are very hot. The heat causes pressure, pushing against the earth's crust. Cracks in the crust are called faults. Pressure from inside the earth can cause the crust along a fault to shift, or move. When the crust moves, it causes vibrations (a quick movement forward and backward) that shake the surface of the earth. These vibrations are called earthquakes. There are many earthquakes every day, but they are are mild and we do not feel them. Sometimes earthquakes are very strong, shaking the earth so hard they can make buildings fall apart. Scientists measure earthquakes with a special machine called a seismograph. The seismograph shows us how big the vibrations are. Scientists rate the movement on a scale from one to ten. "One" means the earthquake is mild. The stronger the earthquake, the higher the number. Keeping records of earthquakes helps scientists understand more about them.



1. **What is the main idea of this story?**
 - a. Inside the earth is very hot.
 - b. Movement of the earth's crust is called an earthquake.
 - c. A seismograph measures earthquakes.
2. **Another word for a crack in the earth's crust is:**
 - a. seismograph
 - b. pressure
 - c. fault
3. **What causes earthquakes?**

4. **What is a vibration?**

5. **How do scientists measure and learn more about earthquakes?**

6. **What do you know about an earthquake that is rated "one"?**

THINK AHEAD: What do you think would happen in your city or town if a earthquake rated nine shook the earth?

Understanding Longitude

Lines of **longitude** are imaginary lines that run north to south on maps and globes. These lines are also called **meridians**. They measure the distance east and west of the **prime** meridian, which is at 0° . Lines east of the prime meridian are labeled "E." Those west of the prime meridian are labeled "W." Look at the map to answer the questions.

1. Find the prime meridian on the map below and highlight it.
2. Shade the portion of South America that lies west of 45°W .
3. Circle the city that is located at 15°E .
4. Put a box around the city that is located on the prime meridian. What is the name of the city?

5. Draw a line of longitude at 10°W .
6. Which three continents does the prime meridian pass through? _____

7. The meridian of 45°E passes through four continents. What are they?

