Author's Purpose

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the best answer.

READ THIS FIRST

A Soft Rumble

Why do cats purr? Many people think a purring cat is always a happy cat. That is often true, but cats purr for more than one reason.

First, here is how a cat makes the sound. A cat has a voice box in its throat. Tiny muscles there tighten and relax very fast, many times each second. As the cat breathes in and out, air moves past these muscles. This makes the steady rumble we hear.

Kittens begin to purr when they are only a few days old. At first, they cannot see or hear well. Purring lets the mother cat know her kittens are close and doing fine. The mother often purrs back, and the kittens can feel her rumble.

Grown cats purr when they feel calm, such as while being petted. But cats also purr when they are scared, sick, or hurt. Scientists think purring may help a cat calm itself down. Some even think the soft shaking might help sore bones and muscles heal.

So a purr does not always mean a cat is happy. A purr can be a sign of comfort, or a way to find comfort. To learn how a cat feels, watch its ears, eyes, and tail too.

1. Why did the author write this text?
   - to teach readers how to care for a new kitten
   - to teach readers that cats purr for many reasons
   - to tell a funny made-up story about a purring cat

2. Why did the author include paragraph 3?
   - to explain how purring helps kittens and their mother
   - to tell how fast kittens grow in the first month
   - to show that cats purr when they are hurt or scared

3. Why does the author say that many people think a purring cat is always happy?
   - to prove that purring always means a cat is happy and calm
   - to set up the idea that purring has other reasons too
   - to show that people know everything about cats already

4. Why does the author end with the tip about a cat's ears, eyes, and tail?
   - because kittens cannot see or hear well at first
   - because cats purr with their ears and tail together
   - because a purr alone may not show how a cat feels

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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