# Informational Vocabulary

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

## The Life Cycle of a Bean

Every living thing has a life cycle. A life cycle is the set of changes a living thing goes through as it grows. A bean plant has a life cycle too.

It starts as a seed. The seed has a hard outside layer called a seed coat. The seed coat keeps the tiny plant inside safe.

When a seed gets water and warmth, it begins to germinate. To germinate means to start to grow. First, the seed coat splits open. A small root pokes out and grows down into the soil. The root takes in water for the plant.

Next, a green shoot pushes up toward the light. Soon the young plant is a seedling. A seedling is a very young plant with just a few leaves.

The seedling grows taller and makes more leaves. Then it grows flowers. Inside each flower is a yellow powder called pollen. Bees carry pollen from flower to flower. This helps the flowers make new seeds inside bean pods.

When the pods dry, the seeds fall to the ground. Then the life cycle starts all over again.

1. In paragraph 1, what does 'life cycle' mean?

   the changes a living thing goes through

   the path bees fly between flowers

   the food a plant makes in its leaves

2. In paragraph 2, what is a 'seed coat'?

   the hard outside layer of a seed

   the soft food stored inside a seed

   the thin green skin of a bean pod

3. In paragraph 3, what does 'germinate' mean?

   to dry up and fall  to start to grow  to take in sunlight

4. Which phrase from the text tells what a 'seedling' is?

a green shoot pushes up toward the light

grows taller and makes more leaves

a very young plant with just a few leaves

5. In paragraph 4, a green 'shoot' pushes up. What does 'shoot' mean here?

a root growing down into the soil

to throw a ball toward a hoop

a new stem growing up from a seed

6. In paragraph 3, the seed coat 'splits open.' What does that mean?

closes up tight  breaks apart  turns bright green

7. What is 'pollen'?

a small green seed inside a pod

a sweet juice inside a flower

a yellow powder inside a flower

8. Which word from the text means 'a very young plant'?

seedling  seed coat  pollen

9. In paragraph 2, the seed coat keeps the plant 'safe.' What does safe mean?

wet and warm  protected from harm  tall and green

10. The life cycle 'starts all over again.' What does that mean?

it begins one more time  it moves to a new garden  it stops for good

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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