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 food a plant makes in its leaves

   the changes a living thing goes through

   the path bees fly between flowers

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

   the thin green skin of a bean pod

   the hard outside layer of a seed

   the soft food stored inside a seed

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

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

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 new stem growing up from a seed

a root growing down into the soil

to throw a ball toward a hoop

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

turns bright green closes up tight breaks apart

7. What is 'pollen'?

a yellow powder inside a flower

a sweet juice inside a flower

a small green seed inside a pod

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

seedling pollen seed coat

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

protected from harm wet and warm tall and green

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

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

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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