Main Idea and Key Details

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read each passage. Circle the sentence that tells the main idea.

READ THIS FIRST

Penguins

Penguins are birds that cannot fly. They use their wings to swim fast in the sea. Their feathers keep them warm and dry. They eat fish and krill.

1. Birds live in many places.
   Penguins use their wings to swim fast.
   Penguins are birds that swim instead of fly.
   Penguins fly south each winter.

The Changing Moon

The moon changes shape in the sky. Some nights it is a thin curve. A week later it looks like half a circle. When the whole face is lit, it is called a full moon.

2. The moon is always a full circle.
   A week later it looks like half a circle.
   Space has many things to see.
   The moon looks different on different nights.

Busy Honeybees

Honeybees live together in a hive. Each bee has a job. Some bees gather nectar from flowers. Others feed the baby bees. A few guard the door of the hive.

3. Every bee makes its own honey alone.
   Insects are interesting animals.
   Honeybees in a hive each have a job.
   A few bees guard the door of the hive.

The Rainforest

Rainforests are warm and wet all year. More than half of the world's kinds of plants and animals live there. Tall trees make a green roof high above the ground. Many animals live in the trees.

4. Rainforests are cold and dry.
   Rainforests are warm, wet places full of life.
   Rainforests are warm and wet all year.
   Forests are important.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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