Find Text Evidence

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer, or write your answer on the lines.

READ THIS FIRST

The Penguin Huddle

Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth. In winter, the air can drop below minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Strong winds blow across the ice for days. Yet emperor penguins stay there all winter long.

Emperor penguins have a few tools for staying warm. They have thick layers of fat under their skin. Their feathers overlap tightly, like shingles on a roof. These feathers block the wind and hold in heat.

Their most famous trick, though, is the huddle. On the coldest days, hundreds or even thousands of penguins press close together. Their bodies share heat. Scientists have measured the temperature inside a huddle. It can be warmer than 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

A huddle is always moving. Penguins on the outside edge feel the icy wind. Penguins in the middle stay warm. Every so often, the penguins shuffle a few steps. Slowly, those on the edge move toward the center. Those in the center move out to the edge. In this way, every penguin gets a turn to warm up.

Male emperor penguins spend the winter caring for eggs. Each father holds one egg on top of his feet. A warm fold of skin covers the egg. For about two months, the fathers huddle and wait. They do not leave the huddle, even to find food. When the chicks hatch, the mothers return from the sea.

1. How do scientists know a huddle is warm inside?
   - They watched the penguins shuffle their feet.
   - They measured the temperature inside one.
   - They counted the penguins in a huddle.
   - They felt the icy wind at the edge.

2. Which detail tells how a father keeps the egg warm?
   - He hands the egg to the mother to hold.
   - A fold of skin covers the egg on his feet.
   - He tucks the egg under a pile of snow.
   - He keeps the egg in a nest of feathers.

3. Which sentence is the best evidence that winter in Antarctica is harsh?
   - In winter, the air can drop below minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
   - When the chicks hatch, the mothers return from the sea.
   - Penguins in the middle stay warm.
   - Their feathers overlap tightly, like shingles on a roof.

4. Which detail proves that feathers help penguins stay warm?
   - Penguins on the outside edge feel the icy wind.
   - Penguins press close together on cold days.
   - A warm fold of skin covers each father's egg.
   - The feathers block the wind and hold in heat.

5. Which claim is NOT supported by the text?
A huddle can be warmer than 70 degrees.
Fathers hold the eggs on top of their feet.
Penguins on the edge stay there all winter.
Strong winds can blow across the ice for days.

6. A reader says every penguin gets a turn in the warm center. Which sentence supports this?
Penguins on the outside edge feel the icy wind.
Their bodies share heat.
Slowly, those on the edge move toward the center.
Penguins in the middle stay warm.

7. Every so often, the penguins shuffle a few steps. What does shuffle mean?
stand still without moving
jump high up into the air
walk with small, sliding steps
swim fast through the water

8. Which sentence from the text shows that a huddle changes over time?
They have thick layers of fat under their skin.
A huddle is always moving.
Yet emperor penguins stay there all winter long.
Their bodies share heat.

9. Look back at question 1. Copy the sentence from the text that proves your answer.

_____

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10. Look back at question 2. Copy the sentence from the text that proves your answer.

_____

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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_____

_____

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