Summarize a Text

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the sentence that best summarizes the part named.

READ THIS FIRST

Mealtime in Space

Astronauts on the International Space Station eat three meals a day, just like you. But eating in space is quite different from eating at home.

On the space station, everything floats. Crumbs could drift into the astronauts' eyes or clog the machines. That is why astronauts eat tortillas instead of sliced bread. Tortillas make far fewer crumbs. Salt and pepper also come in liquid form, because loose grains would float away.

Most space food is prepared on Earth before the trip. Some meals are dried, so the astronauts add water before eating. Others come in sealed pouches that can be warmed in a small oven. Drinks come as powder in bags. Astronauts squirt in water and sip through a straw.

Astronauts must also keep their food from floating off. Many packages have strips that stick to a tray. Sticky foods, such as peanut butter and thick sauces, cling to a spoon.

Fresh food is a special treat. When a supply ship arrives, it sometimes brings apples, oranges, or other fruit. Astronauts have also grown lettuce in a small space garden.

Taste can change in space, too. Fluids in the body shift toward the head, so astronauts often feel stuffed up, like they have a cold. Because of this, many crew members enjoy spicy foods and hot sauce.

1. Which sentence best summarizes this text?
   Astronauts eat tortillas because sliced bread makes too many crumbs.
   Astronauts grow most of their food in big space gardens.
   Space food is made so it is safe and easy to eat while floating.

2. Which sentence best summarizes the second paragraph?
   Foods are chosen so crumbs and grains won't float around.
   Astronauts eat three meals every day.
   Supply ships sometimes bring fresh fruit to the space station.

3. Which sentence best summarizes the third paragraph?
   Astronauts eat three meals every day, just like people at home.
   Fresh fruit and other treats sometimes arrive on supply ships.
   Most space meals are made on Earth, then dried or sealed.

4. Which sentence best summarizes the fourth paragraph?
   Astronauts have also grown lettuce in a small space garden.
   Tortillas make far fewer crumbs than sliced bread does.
   Strips and sticky foods keep meals from floating away.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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