

SUMMARIZE NONFICTION

task cards

Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Card #

Answer

16

Sun

Scientists think they can bring the woolly mammoth back from extinction. Woolly mammoths have been gone for more than 10,000 years. George Church, a geneticist at Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, says he wants to rewrite the DNA of Asian elephants to make a woolly mammoth-like animal. Asian elephants share a common ancestor with woolly mammoths. Church claims he is using a technology called CRISPR.

Summarizing Challenge

Underline the central idea in **red**.
Underline the relevant details in **blue**.

29

Summarizing Nonfiction

BMX Racing is a sport many people enjoy. Races are organized according to age groups that range from 5 to 65 years old. This makes the competitions fair. Races are sprint races on off-road, single-lap dirt tracks. These tracks have a gate, a winding course with jumps, rollers, and obstacles, and a finish line. The bikes are smaller than regular bikes. They are built for speed and made of lightweight aluminum to achieve this goal. The tires of these bikes are narrow for better acceleration. They have small, knobby tread designs to grip the dirt track. BMX bike riders wear full face helmets, goggles, and gloves when racing. They also wear padded pants designed to protect the rider in the event of a crash. These racers need a lot of power to be successful at BMX Racing. Their legs and arms in order to pedal and keep control of the bike. People involved in BMX Racing love it for the challenge, but also for the community. BMX Racing has its own culture, drawing people who love pushing the limits and testing the limits of their bikes and their bodies. The sport keeps people coming back for more.

Summarizing Nonfiction



1

Summarizing Nonfiction

Every single thing you do is a result of your nervous system in action. Your brain, spinal cord, and all the nerves in your body make up the nervous system. Messages are sent between these three parts. This allows you to breathe, walk, ride your bike, watch TV, and many other activities you do every day.

The nervous system also has tiny cells called neurons. These work together to communicate with every part of your body and perform different jobs. Sensory neurons, for example, take in information from your five senses and send it to your brain so you can see, hear, taste, touch, and feel.

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4th & 5th Grade



1 Summarizing Nonfiction

Every single thing you do is a result of your nervous system in action. Your brain, spinal cord, and all the nerves in your body make up the nervous system. Messages are sent between these three parts. This allows you to breathe, walk, ride your bike, watch TV, and many other activities you do every day.

The nervous system also has tiny cells called neurons. These work together to communicate with every part of your body and perform different jobs. Sensory neurons, for example, take in information from your five senses and send it to your brain so you can see, hear, taste, touch, and smell things around you. Muscles move due to motor neurons carrying their messages to and from the brain. Without a nervous system, these important messages wouldn't be able to travel around the body. Your other body systems wouldn't be able to carry out their functions either.

Summarize this passage. Be sure to include the central idea and relevant details.

2 Summarizing Nonfiction

Living things depend on each other for food in any ecosystem. A food chain shows the order of how organisms feed. For example, grass is eaten by a grasshopper. The grasshopper is then eaten by a frog. The frog is eaten by a snake, and finally, a hawk eats the snake.

Food chains can have producers, which are organisms that make their own food. Plants are producers, taking the sun's energy and turning it into food for themselves. Consumers can be a part of food chains as well, and they eat other living things. Many food chains end with a decomposer, or bacteria and other organisms that cause decay. Decomposers break down dead plants and animals and return nutrients to the soil so food chains can continue.

Energy travels through food chains as different things get eaten along the way. Changes in the environment can impact a food chain as the availability of organisms increases or decreases in an area.

Summarize this passage. Be sure to include the central idea and relevant details.

3 Summarizing Nonfiction

Ehirc Weiss was born in Budapest, Hungary on March 24, 1874. He moved to the United States with his family when he was just four years old. He often worked odd jobs to help support his family. One of those jobs was a locksmith. He became an expert at picking locks. Ehirc also had an interest in magic, and at the age of 17, he and his brother began their own magic show. He created the stage name Harry Houdini and spent much of his time perfecting his tricks.

As Harry Houdini, he focused his efforts on doing escapes in his acts. This was where his experience working with locks came in handy. He managed to free himself from handcuffs, straitjackets, and locked cells and boxes. His shows were wildly popular as he amazed and confused his audiences with his escapes and illusions.

Later in life, Houdini made movies, piloted airplanes, and developed an interest in proving science wrong. He died of a ruptured appendix on Halloween in 1926 after getting punched in the stomach by someone wishing to test a rumor that Houdini was invincible to hits to the body. Many magicians have been inspired by Houdini's work.

Summarize this passage. Be sure to include the central idea and relevant details.

4 Summarizing Nonfiction

Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun in our solar system. It is named after the Roman god of agriculture and is the second-largest planet after Jupiter. Saturn has a thick atmosphere with a strong pressure that squeezes gas into a liquid. Powerful winds on the planet reach incredible speeds. It has the most visible rings with more than 30 ring systems circling it. While Saturn doesn't have a solid surface and is instead a ball of hydrogen and helium, its rings are made of chunks of ice and rock. Along with its rings, the planet has 82 moons. Saturn can't support life, but some of its moons have potential.

Saturn's surface area is 83 times bigger than Earth's. Seven hundred sixty-four Earths could fit inside Saturn, and about 1.5 Saturns could fill the Sun. A day on Saturn is about 11 hours long. This makes it only about half as long as an Earth day at 24 hours long. While the planet orbits quickly to have such a short day, Saturn takes about 29 Earth years to circle the Sun once. It takes 365 days for Earth to make the same trip.

Summarize this passage. Be sure to include the central idea and relevant details.

Answer Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

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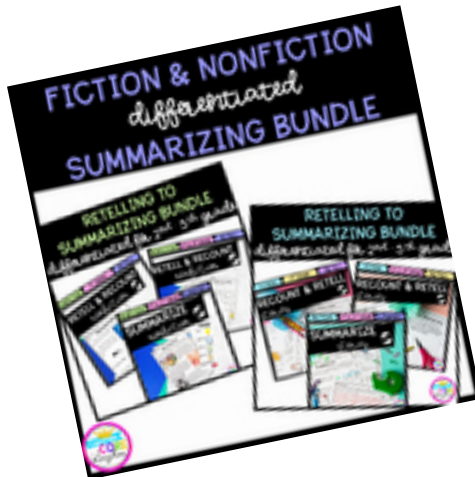


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