

READING—SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Directions

Read the Sample Passage and Sample Questions A and B. For Sample A, fill in the circle that goes with the answer you choose. Be sure to fill in the circle completely and make your mark heavy and dark. If you want to change your answer, completely erase the mark you made before making a new mark. For Sample B, write your answer on the lines provided.

SAMPLE PASSAGE

The sun was shining brightly during recess. Anne, Dustin, Ivan, and Katia were playing soccer. Suddenly the school bell began to ring. They looked at each other in surprise. Recess couldn't be over already! The first kickoff had just taken place.

Ivan said, "There must be something wrong with the school bell. Why is it ringing now?"

"Let's go find out," said Anne.

So they all jogged toward the school doors leading to the office. The doors flew open just before they arrived. The custodian came running out holding something at arm's length in a net. It was wiggling and twisting this way and that. It was trying to escape. All that the students could see was a small ball of fur in the net.

Sample A

Why were the students first surprised?

- Ⓐ The soccer game was canceled.
- Ⓑ The school bell rang too early.
- Ⓒ The custodian had something in a net.
- Ⓓ The teacher gave them an extra recess.



Sample B

Tell what the custodian might have in the net. Use an example from the passage to support your response.



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Read the passage about animals that must avoid a flood. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Mole-Rat Keeps His Feet Dry

a Kenyan Folktale
retold by Gail Jarrow and Paul Sherman

On the vast plains near Mount Kenya, it rained day after day for so many days that the animals became worried.

“My fur will never dry out,” said Lion, shaking his soggy mane.

“I don’t like waterfalls dripping down my neck,” said Giraffe. “It’s most uncomfortable.”

The ground trembled as Elephant approached. “A little water is fine with me,” he remarked, flapping his large ears. “But I can hear the river roaring. I fear that the floods will come, and we’ll all drown.”

“We must go to the High Place, where our feet will be dry,” said Lion.

They headed west to find dry ground high on Mount Kenya. They hadn’t gone far when they came upon a tiny mound of dirt. In the center, a pair of pink, hairless legs steadily kicked a fine spray of soil from a hole.

“Oh, Mole-Rat,” called Lion. “Come with us to the High Place, where it’s dry.”

Mole-Rat clicked his four buckteeth together. “Can’t stop to talk,” he replied. “My family and I are working on our tunnels.”

“This is no time for housekeeping,” said Giraffe. “The water’s rising.”

“I’ll let you and your family ride on my back to the High Place,” offered Elephant, lifting his trunk so that

Mole-Rat’s spray of soil would not make him sneeze.

“We’re safe and dry down in our burrow,” said Mole-Rat. “We won’t be needing your services, thank you.”

“But the floods are coming,” pleaded Lion. “Water will gush into your tunnels.”

Mole-Rat stopped kicking the soil. He called into the burrow, “Water in the tunnels!”

“Water in the tunnels!” shouted the next mole-rat in line.

“Water in the tunnels! Water in the tunnels!” The message passed through the burrow until it reached Queen Mole-Rat deep underground.

Soon Mole-Rat poked his head out again. “Queen says it’s time to close up.” And with that, he disappeared down the hole. In seconds, he’d sealed the burrow shut with a plug of dirt.

Giraffe bowed her head sadly. “Poor little Mole-Rat. I do wish he and his family would come to the High Place with us.”

“We must keep moving,” said Elephant. “I hear the river’s roar getting closer.”

For three days and three nights Lion, Giraffe, and Elephant traveled west to the High Place. It was a long and difficult journey. The rain soaked Lion’s mane until it was matted. The winds blew



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against Giraffe’s long neck until it was sore. Even mighty Elephant grew tired of walking.

Finally, the three friends reached the High Place. Lion licked his wet paws. Giraffe tipped her neck so that the last drops trickled off. Elephant flapped his ears and said, “I no longer hear the roaring river. We’re safe at last.”

“But what is this?” said Lion, sniffing at a mound of fresh soil.

A pink head popped up from the center of the dirt pile.

“Mole-Rat!” said Lion. “We thought you’d been washed away.”

Mole-Rat’s whiskers twitched. “All dry and cozy down here.”

“How did you arrive before we did?” asked Elephant.

“A shortcut,” replied Mole-Rat.

“You mean you dug your way to the High Place?” asked Giraffe, blinking her long eyelashes in disbelief.

“I told you that the rains would cause us no problems,” said Mole-Rat.

“Though you and your family are small creatures, your strength is great,” said Elephant.

“Is there room for us in your tunnels?” asked Lion. “It sounds as if it would be a more pleasant route home than the one we took here.”

“Sorry. Got to go,” replied Mole-Rat. Kicking a spray of dirt into Lion’s face, he disappeared back into his tunnel.

Never again did the other animals worry about Mole-Rat getting his feet wet.





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1. Which sentence states a character's opinion?
 - (A) "Mole-Rat's whiskers twitched."
 - (B) "This is no time for housekeeping."
 - (C) "The ground trembled as Elephant approached."
 - (D) "They headed west to find dry ground high on Mount Kenya."

2. Which animal offers to carry Mole-Rat to the High Place?
 - (A) Lion
 - (B) Giraffe
 - (C) Elephant
 - (D) Queen Mole-Rat





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3. What does the suffix “-less” mean in the phrase “hairless legs”?
- (A) full
 - (B) before
 - (C) within
 - (D) without
4. In the passage, why do the animals believe that the plains will flood?
- (A) Lion sees storm clouds coming.
 - (B) Elephant hears the river roaring.
 - (C) Mole-Rat warns about heavy rain.
 - (D) Giraffe sees Mole-Rat digging tunnels.



Read the activity. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Pinch-Bug Magnets

by Margaret King and Page Carr

For Each Bug You'll Need:

- a pinchy clothespin
- pipe cleaners
- construction paper
- 1-inch round magnet
- black marker
- craft glue

Here's How to Make One:

1. Glue the magnet to the middle of one side of the clothespin.
2. Use the marker to color the bug's "head"—the part of the clothespin that pinches (it's opposite the part that you squeeze).
3. Cut the pipe cleaners into three 6-inch pieces. Glue the middle of the pipe cleaners onto the center of the clothespin below the "head." Let the glue dry, then bend the pipe cleaners to look like six legs.
4. Fold a 3- to 4-inch-square piece of construction paper in half. Draw half of a bug's body on the fold so that, when you cut on the line, you will have a shape with two matching sides. Draw spots or other bug markings on the paper. Look at insect pictures for ideas.
5. Glue the bug's body to the pipe cleaners. When the glue has dried, your pinch-bug can get right to work on your refrigerator.





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6. What is the purpose of the numbered section of the activity?
- (A) It tells how to put the magnet together.
 - (B) It lists the materials needed.
 - (C) It lists three uses for the magnet.
 - (D) It tells who could make the magnet.
7. Why is the activity most likely named “Pinch-Bug Magnets”?
- (A) It uses bent pipe cleaners.
 - (B) Glue is used to hold the parts together.
 - (C) It is made from a clothespin.
 - (D) A magnet is used to stick to the refrigerator.





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8. Which step comes immediately after folding a square of construction paper in half?
- (A) coloring the bug's head
 - (B) drawing half a bug's body on the fold
 - (C) bending the pipe cleaners to look like legs
 - (D) gluing the bug's body to the pipe cleaners
9. According to the activity, one reason to look at insect pictures is to know
- (A) how to shape the bug's legs.
 - (B) where to place the bug magnet.
 - (C) what bug markings look like.
 - (D) how the bug's head should look.





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10. What is one step that allows the reader to make a bug that is different from other bugs made? Use one example from the activity to support your response.

END SESSION



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Grade 4
Reading Practice Test Book
Form 4P01R

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