DISTANCE LEARNING PACKET

5TH GRADE
READING
Hyenas and Lions

When most people look at hyenas, they think they are closely related to dogs, but hyenas actually are more similar to big cats, like lions. Hyenas and lions have powerful jaws and strong, sharp teeth. While lions live in groups called prides which are led by a dominant male, hyenas also live in groups as large as 80, called clans, which are led by females. Both hyenas and lions hunt in smaller groups. Lions are known to hunt antelopes, zebras, wildebeest, and other large mammals, but they sometimes eat smaller prey like mice, birds, hares, lizards, and tortoises. Hyenas catch antelopes, zebras, wildebeest, fish, birds, and even bugs in lakes. After catching their prey, hyenas celebrate by making a laughing sound which signals to other hyenas that there is food to share.

The Life Cycle of the Hyena

There is no specific breeding season for hyenas. Baby hyenas, called cubs, are born after four months. There are usually 2 – 4 cubs in a litter at a time. When cubs are born, their eyes are open but they are blind at first and their ear canals are closed. In about 7 – 8 days, they are able to see. Only hours after birth, cubs fight each other for dominance. The stronger cubs nurse but the weaker cubs are unable to and then weaken and die. Cubs usually drink their mother’s milk until they are 12 months old. At this time, they learn to forage and hunt. Females stay with their family clan, while males leave when they are about two years old. A hyena may live 25-35 years in captivity.

1. Compare and contrast the text structure in the two passages.
Andros Barrier Reef

Coral reefs, sometimes called barrier reefs, have been around for millions of years, although the ones we see today have only been growing for about 5,000 to 10,000 years. Coral reefs are made of the skeletons of coral, which are not plants as some believe, but are actually invertebrate animals. Coral reefs are unique ocean homes that comprise less than one percent of the world’s ocean floor but have about 25% of all marine life. Coral reefs are teeming with fish, sea slugs, clams, starfish, sea urchins, and turtles, plus many more varieties of underwater life. In fact, some people call them the “Rainforests of the Sea.”

The third largest coral reef in the world is located off of the coast of Andros Island in the Bahamas. This ocean biome is home to over 164 species of fish and coral that are a vital part of the Andros reef community. Different types of sea creatures may be found in the different levels of the reef habitat. Some of those in the Andros Barrier Reef include the Sharp Nose Puffer, the Rock Lobster, the Queen Trigger, the Flying Gurnard, the Green Turtle, the Blue Tang, the Reef Shark, the Black Hamlet, the Black Jack, and the Spanish Hog Fish. There are also a wide variety of coral such as the Giant Tube Sponge, Sea Rod, Smooth Brain Coral, Deep Water Gorgonia, and the Staghorn Coral.

1. Cite text evidence to show how coral reefs are made.

2. Cite text evidence to show how many species of fish live in the Andros Barrier Reef.

3. What is the main idea of this text?
Alexander Graham Bell

On March 3, 1847, Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and was the son of deaf parents. He started inventing things at an early age and when he was only eleven, he invented a machine that could clean wheat. In 1870, Bell moved with his family to Quebec, Canada. Shortly after, Bell moved again to Boston, Massachusetts where he began working with deaf people. He published a system called Visible Hearing for deaf people (developed by his father) which showed how vocal sounds are made using the tongue, lips, and throat. In 1872, he established a school for the deaf which later became part of Boston University.

Bell was interested in the science of sound and did experiments with a telegraph wire that eventually helped him create his most famous invention, which was the telephone. On March 10, 1876, Bell spoke the first words ever spoken through the telephone, when he said to his assistant who was in San Francisco at the time, "Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you." Other scientists had similar ideas for telephone inventions around the same time but Bell raced to the patent office and got his patent in first. Consequently, he and his investors formed the Bell Telephone Company in 1877, which is now known as AT&T. He died August 2, 1922, and on the day of his funeral, all telephone service in the United States was stopped for one minute to honor him.

1. Why do you think Bell was interested in doing science experiments with sound?

2. Besides inventing the telephone, what was one of Bell's accomplishments?

3. What is the name of the document that protects a person's idea or invention from being copied?

4. Have you ever thought of inventing something? If so, what? How would you feel if someone copied your idea?
Reading:

Oobleck

In Bartholomew and the Oobleck, a gooey green substance fell from the sky, causing trouble for the people of the kingdom. You can make your own version of oobleck by following the steps here. Oobleck is a non-Newtonian fluid which means it has properties of both liquids and solids. You can squeeze it together in a small ball and it will act like a solid, or you can let it run through your fingers like a liquid.

Materials:
- 1 cup water
- 2 cups cornstarch
- Optional: A few drops of food coloring
- Plastic Container with a lid to store
- Bowl and spoon
- Newspaper to cover the work area (it can be messy)

Directions:
Put the water in a bowl and then slowly add the cornstarch, a bit at a time. Stir until it is well mixed and has a gooey consistency. You may want to use your hands. Add food coloring, and continue to mix. Store in an air-tight container.

1. What does non-Newtonian fluid mean?

2. Make an inference. What would happen if you left the oobleck out too long?

Language:

Spell Grade Level Words Correctly

Circle the word that is spelled correctly in each box.

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The Story of the Sirens

Long ago, Odysseus, the legendary Greek King of Ithaca and his sailors were on a ship in the middle of the ocean. As the ship was gently sailing with the wind, the men were alarmed to hear the most unusual sound. They stopped to listen to singing that was so beautiful, it was hypnotic. The men stood straining to hear as if they were in a trance. No work was done on the ship for several minutes and no one even steered the ship as they listened.

What the men didn’t know was that the singing was coming from the Sirens. These magical creatures looked like mermaids but were very evil. Their goal was to find unsuspecting ships and make them crash into the rocks, resulting in many deaths.

Fortunately, Odysseus was not fooled, because he had heard the legend of the Sirens and knew of their mysterious but evil powers. Immediately, Odysseus stuffed his ears with fabric and ordered all of his men to do the same. The men went back to work, the boat steered away from the rocks, and they sailed safely away.

1. What did the Sirens sound like? Cite text evidence to support your answer.

2. How were the men saved? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Language:
Correlative Conjunction Review

Correlative conjunctions are conjunctions that are used in pairs. For example, if you use “neither,” then you would also use “nor.” Use one of the pairs of correlative conjunctions to complete the sentences. A set may be used more than once.

- neither/nor
- either/or
- not only/but also
- both/and
- not/but

1. I forgot to _____________ clean my room ______________ sweep the porch too!

2. I would love to _____________ go bowling _____________ go miniature golfing for my birthday.

3. It’s weird but my sister likes ________________ pink ______________ purple.

4. I think we will _____________ go to the early movie _____________ we may go to the later showing.

5. She said to _____________ set the table now _____________ help clean up after dinner

6. She ________________ loves to play checkers, ________________ chess.
Reading: The Paper Route

Characters: Dad, Anthony
(Anthony has been delivering newspapers to save money to buy a snowboard)

Dad: (speaking quietly in the morning) It’s time to get those papers delivered. Are you ready to go?
Anthony: Almost, let me grab my shoes. (puts shoes on and they both head to the car)
Dad: (starting the car) You know Son, every morning you get up when it’s dark to get these newspapers ready and to deliver them. I know how tired you must be doing this day after day, but I’m really proud of you for taking the initiative.
Anthony: It’s hard, but that’s okay. I’ve been really trying to get to bed a little earlier, so I won’t be so tired for school.
Dad: Glad to hear that. Your mom and I don’t want to see your grades fall. You’ve done so well this year.
Anthony: (throws a paper out the window) They won’t. Don’t worry.
Dad: How much money do you have saved now? I heard there’s a big sale next weekend at the sporting goods store. Maybe they’d have some snowboards at a good price.
Anthony: I’m getting pretty close I think. Could you take me there on Saturday? (throwing another paper out the window) If it’s a really good sale, I just might have enough!

1. What is the theme of this drama? ____________________________________________

2. Summarize this drama in two or three sentences. ____________________________________________

Language: Combine Sentences

When writers revise and edit their work, they sometimes need to combine their sentences for meaning, for reader/listener interest, and for style. Change the sentences below by combining them. You may add or remove a few words, and change the words around, as long as the original thought is still included.

1. I like pizza. It is delicious. I plan to have pizza at my birthday party. ____________________________

2. Basketball is fun. It is a great sport. I enjoy playing on my basketball team. ____________________________

3. Her cat is frisky. It plays with string. It likes to play with feathers. ____________________________
ALL THINGS NEW
BY MISS LARSON

THE SNOW IS GONE AND THE SUN IS SO BRIGHT.
THE DAFFODILS BLOSSOM AND LEAN TOWARDS THE LIGHT.
THE BIRDS ON THE BRANCHES ARE SINGING TO ME.
WITH ALL THEIR EGGS HATCHED, IN THEIR NEST IN THE TREES.

THE FLOWERS AWAKEN FROM THEIR LONG WINTER NAP.
THE SPIDERS ARE WORKING AND BUILDING THEIR TRAPS.
THERE'S CHICKS AND THERE'S BUNNIES. THERE'S PIGLETS TOO.
THERE'S PUPPIES AND KITTENS AND ALL THINGS NEW.

1. What is the theme of this poem?

2. Summarize this poem.

Language:

Conjunctions connect words and phrases. Most conjunctions can be remembered using the acronym FANBOYS (For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So).

Complete each sentence by adding a conjunction that fits.

1. We wanted to go to the picnic, ________________________ it started to rain.
2. We didn’t have a raincoat __________________________ an umbrella with us.
3. Our lunch was already packed, _________ we decided to make a picnic indoors.
4. My mom set out the food _______________________ a blanket on our family room floor.
5. Luckily, there were neither flies _____________ ants to bother us.
6. It was a fun picnic, _________________ maybe not as fun as it would be outside.

Use yellow to highlight all of the conjunctions below:

7. It was a beautiful day, so we took a picnic basket and our soccer ball to the park.
8. Neither my brother nor my sister like to dance, but it is one of my favorite things to do.
9. My friend and I played in the sprinkler, yet we still felt hot as soon as we dried off.
10. Mom was tired and grumpy, so we tried to play quietly.
11. He doesn’t practice the piano much, yet he still plays it very well.
READING DAY 18

NAME_____________________________DATE__________________

Reading: A Trip to the Zoo

When my aunt told me that she was taking us to the zoo, my smile was a sunbeam. The zoo is one of my favorite places because one day I want to actually work there, as a zookeeper. When my aunt picked me up, I sat in the front and turned back to say hi to my two little cousins in the backseat. She has a four year old, Dion, who is an angel, and a three year old, Marcus, who is a little tornado.

Once we got to the zoo, my aunt put the boys in a stroller, and we started walking to the animal exhibits. One of my favorite ones was the gorilla exhibit. The gorilla sat right next to the window, looking at all of the visitors, and his eyes were ice. I wondered what he was thinking. Another part of the zoo that I loved was the aviary. You opened a door and went into a small caged-in area and then opened another door and could walk right into a huge cage where the birds were kept. I love their colorful feathers and their songs were music to my ears. I think I could have stayed in there for an hour. Once we looked at all of the animals, my cousins were sleepy and needed to go home for a nap. My aunt drove me home and as I left, I thanked her for such a memorable day!

What is the actual meaning of the underlined metaphors from the story above? Circle the correct answer.

1. My smile was a sunbeam
   A. It was shiny
   B. It was a big smile
   C. My teeth are white

2. Marcus is a little tornado
   A. He is messy
   B. He is dangerous
   C. He is energetic

3. His eyes were ice
   A. He was staring
   B. He looked cold
   C. His eyes were blue

4. Music to my ears
   A. It was pretty
   B. You could sing to it
   C. It was loud

Language: Context Clues Review

Use context clues (the words around the unknown word) to figure out the meaning of the word in italics. Circle the letter next to the correct meaning.

1. When we were exploring the cave, we used a flashlight to illuminate the area.
   A. make it light
   B. set it on fire
   C. darken it

2. After we saw the dark clouds in the sky, it became apparent that it was going to rain.
   A. confusing
   B. obvious
   C. surprising

3. Our teacher told us to study a little each night so we could retain information for the test.
   A. talk about
   B. remember
   C. forget

4. The pilot had trained with the instructor for so long, that now she was able to fly solo.
   A. while singing
   B. with a partner
   C. alone

5. The explorer had no maps, so he used the stars to help him navigate.
   A. see clearly
   B. get lost
   C. find his way
The Basketball Game

Coach Jackson:
I've been coaching basketball every year for the fourteen years I've taught fifth grade at Franklin Elementary School. Each year we have try outs because we usually have too many boys who want to join the team. I try to choose the most skilled twelve kids, so we let lots of kids play, and we have plenty of extra kids in case someone is sick or injured. Our first game of the year was today and I was pleased at how it went overall. I have a few top players who want to play the whole game but at this age, I really think everyone on the team should get to play at least some of the time. Of course we want to win the game, but winning isn't everything at this point.

Mr. Williams:
My son Michael is playing on Franklin's basketball team this year. He's been playing basketball since he was little and has older brothers that like to play basketball too. I went to his game today and I'm a little concerned. I thought since Michael is such a good player that he would play pretty much the entire game. I understand that the coach thinks that since this is elementary school everyone should get a chance to play but I think he should get the kids ready for middle school and high school now. That's not the way it will be then. Only the best kids should play.

1. What was Coach Jackson's point of view? How did he feel about the game?

2. What was Mr. Williams' point of view? How did he feel about the game?

3. Why do you think they saw the same event so differently?

Latin/Greek Roots Review

Much of our language comes from the Latin/Greek language. Look at the meaning of the roots below and find the word in the word bank that would best complete each sentence.

- equi = same/fair
- aqua = water
- inter = between

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<th>equal</th>
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1. An octopus, a sea horse, and a whale are __________________________ animals.

2. All of the countries met for the ______________________ sports event.

3. The school was ___________________________ to work and school.

4. The teacher made sure to give everyone an ___________________________ amount of snacks.

5. The crossing guard helped the kids cross at the ___________________________.
READING DAY 20

NAME_________________________DATE________________

Reading: Make a Tornado in a Bottle

Tornadoes are also known as twisters or cyclones. In real life, these storms can cause devastating damage. This tornado in a bottle however, is scientifically fun!

Materials:
Water
A clear glass bottle (straight with no curves) with a lid (Make sure it is completely cleaned with the labels off)
Dish washing liquid (Dawn works the best)
Glitter (optional)

Instructions:
Fill a glass bottle, (the size of a jelly jar to a spaghetti sauce jar) with water until it is about 3/4 full.
Add a few teaspoons of dish washing liquid.
Add a few sprinkles of glitter if desired.
Put on the lid and make sure it is tightened securely, so it won’t leak.
Hold the bottle upright and quickly spin it in a circular motion for a few seconds to create a water vortex. Hold the bottle still and see if a funnel cloud (tornado) is forming in the water. It might take a few tries to figure out how to spin it properly.

1. Make an inference. Why do you think it is important to have a bottle without curves?

________________________________________________________________________

2. What is a water vortex?

________________________________________________________________________

Language: General Academic Words

Circle the word that best completes each sentence.

1. We wanted to enter the spelling bee, _______________ we missed the deadline and will have to wait until next year.
   A. however          B. although          C. nevertheless

2. _______________ to playing football and soccer, my brother was a skilled baseball player.
   A. nevertheless        B. in addition        C. similarly

3. _______________ my mom is fairly short, she can still beat me in a basketball game.
   A. however              B. although          C. nevertheless

4. My neighbors don’t have children at home but they support our school _______________.
   A. nevertheless        B. in addition to        C. however