



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: BISON

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Which fact about bison do you think is most interesting, and why?
3. How much food can a bison eat in one day?
 - A. less than 18 pounds (8 kg)
 - B. more than 20 pounds (9 kg)
 - C. more than 2,000 pounds (900 kg)
4. Which food do bison calves eat first?
 - A. milk
 - B. grass
 - C. leaves



5. What does **grazes** mean in the *Bison* book?

*A huge bison **grazes** in a field. It chews on grass and weeds as it walks.*

- A. runs fast
- B. eats plants
- C. takes a rest

6. What does **shaggy** mean in the *Bison* book?

*Bison have huge heads and long, **shaggy** coats. Their fur is very thick around their heads and front legs.*

- A. short and thin
- B. thick and messy
- C. soft and white



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: BISON

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. A
5. B
6. B



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: CONDORS

1. Write a few sentences that describe how condors find food.
2. Are you more interested in California condors or Andean condors? Why?
3. How many eggs do condors lay at a time?
 - A. one
 - B. two
 - C. six
4. What would happen if a condor's head was covered in lots of feathers?
 - A. The bird would be too heavy to fly.
 - B. Bits of food would get stuck in the feathers.
 - C. The bird's head would stay cleaner while eating.



5. What does **glide** mean in the *Condors* book?

*So, they use currents of warm air to help them fly. They can **glide** for 100 miles (160 km) without flapping their wings.*

- A. watch from far away
- B. move smoothly and easily
- C. fall to the ground

6. What does **keen** mean in the *Condors* book?

*Condors have **keen** eyesight. They can spot dead animals from high in the air.*

- A. loud
- B. weak
- C. strong



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: CONDORS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. B
5. B
6. C



5. What does **flexible** mean in the *Elephants* book?

*As a result, it is strong and **flexible**. It can bend and grip things.*

- A. needing to hold very still
- B. able to make lots of noise
- C. able to move, twist, or bend

6. What does **includes** mean in the *Elephants* book?

*Elephants live in groups called herds. Each herd **includes** many females and their babies.*

- A. is made up of
- B. keeps separate
- C. looks for



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: ELEPHANTS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. A



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: GIANT PANDAS

1. Write a few sentences that describe a panda's life cycle.
2. Pandas mainly eat bamboo. If you could only eat one type of food, what would you choose? Why?
3. How many hours a day do giant pandas spend eating?
 - A. less than 5 hours
 - B. up to 16 hours
 - C. more than 20 hours
4. What might happen if giant pandas' habitats became even smaller?
 - A. The pandas might run out of food and die out.
 - B. The pandas might start eating more food.
 - C. The pandas might have more babies.



5. What does **relaxes** mean in the *Giant Pandas* book?

*Soon the cub climbs a nearby tree. He **relaxes** on a high branch to take a nap.*

- A. falls
- B. rests
- C. eats

6. What does **crush** mean in the *Giant Pandas* book?

*Pandas have strong teeth and jaws. That helps pandas bite and **crush** thick bamboo stalks.*

- A. find
- B. throw
- C. smash



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: GIANT PANDAS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. A
5. B
6. C



5. What does **alerts** mean in the *Giraffes* book?

*If a giraffe spots danger, it snorts. This sound **alerts** the others.*

- A. calms
- B. hurts
- C. warns

6. What does **unique** mean in the *Giraffes* book?

*Every giraffe has a **unique** pattern of spots. No two are the same.*

- A. not real
- B. totally different
- C. exactly alike



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: GIRAFFES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. A
5. C
6. B



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: GORILLAS

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you rather live in a rainforest or in cooler mountain forests? Why?
3. How much food can male gorillas eat each day?
 - A. less than 4 pounds (1.8 kg)
 - B. up to 40 pounds (18 kg)
 - C. more than 500 pounds (227 kg)
4. How many subspecies of gorillas are there?
 - A. one
 - B. two
 - C. four



5. What does **protects** mean in the *Gorillas* book?

*The strongest silverback leads each gorilla family. He **protects** the others. He fights or scares off threats.*

- A. yells at
- B. keeps safe
- C. leaves

6. What does **dwell** mean in the *Gorillas* book?

*Some types live in rainforests. Others **dwell** in cooler forests in the mountains.*

- A. swim and dive
- B. get too hot
- C. make their homes



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: GORILLAS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. C



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: HUMPBACK WHALES

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 2.
2. Would you like to migrate twice a year like a humpback whale? Why or why not?
3. When do humpbacks swim to warmer water?
 - A. in spring
 - B. in summer
 - C. in winter
4. How would having calves in winter be helpful for humpbacks?
 - A. The whales can have more babies at a time.
 - B. The whales can have babies in deeper water.
 - C. The whales can have babies in warmer water.



5. What does **surrounds** mean in the *Humpback Whales* book?

*The net of bubbles **surrounds** the fish. The fish are trapped.*

- A. sends away
- B. wraps around
- C. lets go

6. What does **threats** mean in the *Humpback Whales* book?

*Humpbacks face many **threats**. Orcas and sharks hunt them. People hunt them, too.*

- A. dangers
- B. friends
- C. pods



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: HUMPBACK WHALES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. C
4. C
5. B
6. A



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: KODIAK BEARS

1. Write a few sentences describing a Kodiak bear's life cycle.
2. Would you want to hibernate like a Kodiak bear? Why or why not?
3. How long have Kodiak bears lived on the Kodiak Archipelago?
 - A. less than 630 years
 - B. about 1,500 years
 - C. about 12,000 years
4. Why would food be harder to find in the winter?
 - A. More animals move to cold areas during winter.
 - B. More plants and animals can live in cold weather.
 - C. Fewer plants and animals can live in cold weather.



5. What does **ranges** mean in the *Kodiak Bears* book?

*These bears have wider **ranges**. Their habitats stretch throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.*

- A. foods that animals eat
- B. areas where animals live
- C. words that people say

6. What does **stored** mean in the *Kodiak Bears* book?

*They do not eat or drink. The bears live off fat **stored** in their bodies.*

- A. saved to use later
- B. taken out and lost
- C. sleeping quietly



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: KODIAK BEARS

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. C
4. C
5. B
6. A



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NATURE'S GIANTS: OSTRICHES

1. Write a few sentences describing what ostriches eat.
2. Which fact about ostriches did you find most interesting? Why?
3. How fast can ostriches run?
 - A. less than 16 miles per hour (26 km/h)
 - B. up to 43 miles per hour (69 km/h)
 - C. more than 50 miles per hour (80 km/h)
4. Why would getting water from food help ostriches survive in the desert?
 - A. Deserts don't have any food.
 - B. Deserts are dry and have little water.
 - C. Water in deserts is frozen.



5. What does **sprint** mean in the *Ostriches* book?

*The lion runs toward the ostriches. The birds **sprint** away quickly.*

- A. walk very slowly
- B. hold very still
- C. run very fast

6. What does **consume** mean in the *Ostriches* book?

*Ostriches mostly eat plants. They also **consume** insects, snakes, and lizards.*

- A. feed on
- B. run from
- C. roar at



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: OSTRICHES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. A



5. What does **massive** mean in the *Walruses* book?

*Walruses are **massive** mammals. They can weigh up to 3,750 pounds (1,700 kg).*

- A. very large
- B. small and weak
- C. not heavy

6. What does **include** mean in the *Walruses* book?

*Some herds have just a few walruses. Other groups **include** more than 1,000.*

- A. scare away
- B. swim under
- C. are made up of



ANSWER KEY FOR NATURE'S GIANTS: WALRUSES

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. C