



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## EXTREME SCIENTISTS: ANTARCTIC SCIENTISTS

1. Write a paragraph that explains the main ideas of Chapter 4.
2. If you were a scientist in Antarctica, what would you want to study? Why?
3. Which explorer was the first to reach the South Pole?
  - A. Robert Falcon Scott
  - B. Roald Amundsen
  - C. Ernest Shackleton
4. Why might having few people around be hard on scientists' mental health?
  - A. The scientists might move too much.
  - B. The scientists might need more work.
  - C. The scientists might feel lonely.



5. What does **isolated** mean in the *Antarctic Scientists* book?

*The station is cold and **isolated**. Planes and tractors bring supplies during the summer. But during the winter, no one can come or go.*

- A. easy to reach
- B. hard to get to
- C. close to many cities

6. What does **shields** mean in the *Antarctic Scientists* book?

*This material is waterproof. It **shields** them from cold water and snow.*

- A. harms
- B. protects
- C. fills up



## **ANSWER KEY FOR EXTREME SCIENTISTS: ANTARCTIC SCIENTISTS**

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



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## EXTREME SCIENTISTS: ASTRONAUTS

1. Write a paragraph that explains the main ideas of Chapter 5.
2. Would you want to become an astronaut? Why or why not?
3. Who was the first person to go to space?
  - A. Neil Armstrong
  - B. Yuri Gagarin
  - C. Alan Shepard
4. How would finding water on the moon help astronauts do longer missions there?
  - A. They wouldn't have to bring as much water from Earth.
  - B. They wouldn't have to bring any food from Earth.
  - C. They could send more water back to Earth.



5. What does **operate** mean in the *Astronauts* book?

*Astronauts inside the ISS **operate** a crane. The crane moves a robotic arm.*

- A. control
- B. close tightly
- C. hold still

6. What does **specific** mean in the *Astronauts* book?

*At this time, they get more **specific** training. They learn to use certain tools and vehicles.*

- A. made very dangerous
- B. having many different uses
- C. focused on certain skills or goals



## **ANSWER KEY FOR EXTREME SCIENTISTS: ASTRONAUTS**

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



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## EXTREME SCIENTISTS: CAVE RESEARCHERS

1. Write a few sentences about how scientists travel inside caves.
2. Would you want to travel deep inside a cave? Why or why not?
3. How many different kinds of plants and animals live in US caves?
  - A. fewer than 50
  - B. about 800
  - C. more than 1,000
4. Why would scientists want to learn how pollution spreads in and near caves?
  - A. so they can plan how to help it spread less
  - B. so they can plan how to spread it more
  - C. so they can go to new areas



5. What does **eventually** mean in the *Cave Researchers* book?

*The cracks grow over time. They **eventually** become a cave.*

- A. never
- B. at a later time
- C. right away

6. What does **fragile** mean in the *Cave Researchers* book?

*Many cave ecosystems are **fragile**. Even small changes could hurt them.*

- A. not possible to break or hurt
- B. easy to break or hurt
- C. very tiny



## **ANSWER KEY FOR EXTREME SCIENTISTS: CAVE RESEARCHERS**

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





5. What does **exclusively** mean in the *Forest Canopy Ecologists* book?

*Eighteen of those were species that lived **exclusively** in the canopy. Others lived on the ground.*

- A. only
- B. also
- C. not at all

6. What does **monitor** mean in the *Forest Canopy Ecologists* book?

*Drones can **monitor** wildlife, too. They track where and how animals move.*

- A. ignore or forget
- B. keep secret
- C. pay close attention to



## **ANSWER KEY FOR EXTREME SCIENTISTS: FOREST CANOPY ECOLOGISTS**

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



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## EXTREME SCIENTISTS: MOUNTAIN RESEARCHERS

1. Write a few sentences describing some of the ways biologists study animals.
2. Which type of science would you most like to study? Why?
3. Which mountain has the highest point on Earth?
  - A. Mount Tupungato
  - B. Mount Everest
  - C. Mount Washington
4. Why would tracking animal populations show which species are in danger?
  - A. Animals with falling numbers are more at risk.
  - B. Animals with rising numbers are more at risk.
  - C. Animals with high numbers are at risk.



5. What does **recent** mean in the *Mountain Researchers* book?

*Some layers formed very long ago. Others are more **recent**.*

- A. from very long ago
- B. not from very long ago
- C. from the future

6. What does **observatory** mean in the *Mountain Researchers* book?

*Mount Washington has an **observatory** at the top. Scientists go there to study the weather.*

- A. a place where people read books
- B. a place where people study math
- C. a place where people study nature



## **ANSWER KEY FOR EXTREME SCIENTISTS: MOUNTAIN RESEARCHERS**

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





5. What does **affects** mean in the *Volcanologists* book?

*The age of this lava **affects** how it flows. Older lava is sticky and slow. Newer lava is hotter. It flows quickly.*

- A. blocks the way
- B. makes a difference
- C. stays the same

6. What does **toxic** mean in the *Volcanologists* book?

***Toxic** gases were inside. Three of the skiers died from breathing in the gases.*

- A. nice to smell
- B. hard to see
- C. deadly



## **ANSWER KEY FOR EXTREME SCIENTISTS: VOLCANOLOGISTS**

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