



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: APOLLO 11

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 2.
2. Would you like to travel to the moon? Why or why not?
3. Which astronaut didn't go down to the moon's surface?
 - A. Neil Armstrong
 - B. Michael Collins
 - C. Buzz Aldrin
4. How many total days did the Apollo 11 mission last?
 - A. 8
 - B. 12
 - C. 20



5. What does **inspected** mean in the *Apollo 11* book?

*On July 18, the crew **inspected** the lunar module. They checked that everything was working.*

- A. broke apart
- B. stayed away from
- C. looked at closely

6. What does **broadcast** mean in the *Apollo 11* book?

*The moon landing was **broadcast** live on TV. More than 600 million people around the world watched.*

- A. shown
- B. skipped
- C. hurt



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: APOLLO 11

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: DARWIN IN THE GALÁPAGOS

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 2.
2. Would you rather study living animals or fossils from long ago? Why?
3. In what year did the HMS *Beagle* begin its voyage?
 - A. 1831
 - B. 1835
 - C. 1836
4. In what year did Darwin experience an earthquake?
 - A. 1831
 - B. 1835
 - C. 1836



5. What does **varied** mean in the *Darwin in the Galápagos* book?

*On each island, their beaks looked a bit different. Their color **varied**, too.*

- A. was exactly alike
- B. was a bit different
- C. was all black

6. What does **ancestor** mean in the *Darwin in the Galápagos* book?

*He found many types of finches. All shared an **ancestor**. One finch species had come to the islands from South America.*

- A. an animal that other animals eat
- B. an animal that other animals mate with
- C. an animal that other animals are related to



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: DARWIN IN THE GALÁPAGOS

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: FINDING THE *TITANIC*

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 2.
2. Would you want to visit the *Titanic* wreck? Why or why not?
3. Which submersible carried people down to the *Titanic*?
 - A. ANGUS
 - B. *Argo*
 - C. *Alvin*
4. Why would water with high pressure be dangerous?
 - A. It can speed things up.
 - B. It can slow things down.
 - C. It can crush things.



5. What does **cover** mean in the *Finding the Titanic* book?

*But Navy leaders had a secret goal. They wanted to find sunken submarines. Looking for the Titanic was a **cover**.*

- A. a fake story
- B. a sunken ship
- C. a large blanket

6. What does **explore** mean in the *Finding the Titanic* book?

*Ballard wanted to **explore** the wreck more. So, he went back in July 1986.*

- A. to hide from
- B. to leave behind
- C. to look at and study



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: FINDING THE *TITANIC*

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: CLIMBING MOUNT EVEREST

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you like to try climbing Mount Everest? Why or why not?
3. On what day did Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary reach the top of Mount Everest?
 - A. May 26, 1953
 - B. May 29, 1953
 - C. June 2, 1953
4. Why did Tenzing and Hillary start climbing at dawn?
 - A. so they could have time to climb back down later
 - B. so they could reach the peak at night
 - C. so they could climb in the dark



5. What does **challenge** mean in the *Climbing Mount Everest* book?

*Their first **challenge** was the Khumbu Icefall. It was part of a glacier. Its ice could shift and crack.*

- A. somewhere that is safe
- B. something that is hard to get past
- C. something that is not real

6. What does **plunged** mean in the *Climbing Mount Everest* book?

*Tall, steep drop-offs **plunged** down on either side.*

- A. split into pieces
- B. jumped into water
- C. dropped down quickly



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: CLIMBING MOUNT EVEREST

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: THE *ENDURANCE* EXPEDITION

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you have wanted to be part of the group that sailed to South Georgia or the group that stayed on Elephant Island? Why?
3. How far did Shackleton sail from Elephant Island to South Georgia?
 - A. 22 miles (35 km)
 - B. 150 miles (240 km)
 - C. 800 miles (1,290 km)
4. When did Shackleton's crew first land on Elephant Island?
 - A. April 9, 1916
 - B. April 16, 1916
 - C. August 30, 1916



5. What does **route** mean in *The Endurance Expedition* book?

*Next, Shackleton tried to return to Elephant Island in a larger ship. He tried three times. Each time, ice or bad weather blocked his **route**.*

- A. the way someone talks
- B. the way to get somewhere
- C. a way to stop moving

6. What does **succeeded** mean in *The Endurance Expedition* book?

*This time, he **succeeded**. He reached Elephant Island on August 30.*

- A. sank into the ocean
- B. failed to reach a place
- C. did what was planned



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: THE *ENDURANCE* EXPEDITION

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: LEWIS AND CLARK AND SACAGAWEA

1. Write a few sentences describing how Sacagawea helped the explorers.
2. Would you like to be part of an expedition to map and explore land? Why or why not?
3. When did the explorers reach the Pacific Ocean?
 - A. 1803
 - B. 1805
 - C. 1806
4. How long did the entire journey take?
 - A. less than one year
 - B. about two years
 - C. more than eight years



5. What does **route** mean in the *Lewis and Clark and Sacagawea* book?

*Clark led some men along the Yellowstone River. Sacagawea helped plan their **route**.*

- A. the name of a person
- B. the path a group follows
- C. the way a fight starts

6. What does **region** mean in the *Lewis and Clark and Sacagawea* book?

*Many settlers began moving westward. Indigenous people already lived in the **region**. But settlers often took their land.*

- A. a type of animal
- B. a very large city
- C. a part of a country



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: LEWIS AND CLARK AND SACAGAWEA

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: MAGELLAN'S VOYAGE

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you like to travel around the world on a ship? Why or why not?
3. When did Magellan's fleet set sail from Spain?
 - A. 1519
 - B. 1520
 - C. 1521
4. About how many years did the journey around the world last?
 - A. less than two years
 - B. nearly three years
 - C. more than four years



5. What does **passage** mean in the *Magellan's Voyage* book?

*He hoped to find a **passage** through South America. Then, he would go on to Asia.*

- A. a place to stay far from
- B. a person to talk to
- C. a way to get through

6. What does **staged** mean in the *Magellan's Voyage* book?

*In April 1520, three of the ships' captains **staged** a mutiny. They tried to take over the fleet.*

- A. led a plan to act
- B. built a new ship
- C. watched and waited



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: MAGELLAN'S VOYAGE

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

EXPLORATIONS: REACHING THE NORTH POLE

1. Write a few sentences describing the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you like to visit the North Pole? Why or why not?
3. When did Roald Amundsen fly over the North Pole?
 - A. 1909
 - B. 1926
 - C. 1948
4. About how long did it take Cook's group to get back to Greenland from the North Pole?
 - A. one month
 - B. one year
 - C. seven years



5. What does **attempts** mean in the *Reaching the North Pole* book?

*Other explorers tried flying to the Pole. Richard Byrd made several **attempts**.*

- A. times of waiting
- B. ways to spend money
- C. tries to reach a goal

6. What does **disproved** mean in the *Reaching the North Pole* book?

*He said he flew over it on May 9, 1926. But his claim was **disproved**.*

- A. shown to be correct
- B. shown to be wrong
- C. too expensive



ANSWER KEY FOR EXPLORATIONS: REACHING THE NORTH POLE

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