



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: ANCIENT FOOTPRINTS

1. Write a few sentences describing the main idea of Chapter 3.

2. Would you like to work as an archaeologist? Why or why not?

3. How old were the footprints in Happisburgh?
 - A. 100,000 years old
 - B. 900,000 years old
 - C. 3.6 million years old

4. Why do scientists photograph ancient footprints?
 - A. so the footprints will last longer
 - B. so they can study the prints in new ways and places
 - C. so other people cannot see or study the footprints



5. What does **examine** mean in the *Ancient Footprints* book?

*Archaeologists often **examine** objects such as bones and tools. But they study trace fossils, too.*

- A. throw away
- B. look closely at
- C. ignore

6. What does **delicate** mean in the *Ancient Footprints* book?

*Footprint sites are **delicate**. Scientists need to be careful. They may use soft brushes to move soil.*

- A. strong and rough
- B. cold and icy
- C. easy to break



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: ANCIENT FOOTPRINTS

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: BOG BODIES

1. Write a few sentences describing one thing that people can learn by studying bog bodies.
2. Would you want to see a bog body in a museum? Why or why not?
3. Where was the Lindow Man found?
 - A. Denmark
 - B. England
 - C. the Netherlands
4. Which place might preserve bodies the best?
 - A. a bog with little moss
 - B. a bog with lots of bacteria
 - C. a bog with little heat



5. What does **recent** mean in the *Bog Bodies* book?

*This is no **recent** crime. The man died more than 2,000 years ago.*

- A. buried
- B. new
- C. tall

6. What does **fabric** mean in the *Bog Bodies* book?

*For example, some bodies are found wearing clothes. Others have traces of **fabric**. Both show what ancient people wore.*

- A. light
- B. cloth
- C. sound



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: BOG BODIES

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: DINOSAURS

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 1.

2. Which type of dinosaur do you like best? Why?

3. When did scientists first use the term *dinosaur*?
 - A. in 1824
 - B. in the early 1840s
 - C. in the 1990s

4. What is one thing scientists could learn by studying dinosaur fossils?
 - A. which types of dinosaurs are not reptiles
 - B. which types of dinosaurs made the most noise
 - C. which types of dinosaurs came before others



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

*They realized that many kinds of dinosaurs had existed. Some were **massive**. Others were small and quick.*

- A. hungry
- B. tiny
- C. huge

6. What does **fragile** mean in the *Dinosaurs* book?

*Fossils can be **fragile**. So, scientists handle them carefully. They place the fossils in hard cases.*

- A. easy to carry
- B. easy to break
- C. cold and wet



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: DINOSAURS

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: KING TUT'S TOMB

1. Explain the main ideas of Chapter 2.

2. Would you like to be an archaeologist? Why or why not?

3. How many items were in King Tut's tomb?
 - A. 1,333
 - B. about 5,000
 - C. more than 150,000

4. Why did ancient Egyptians include everyday items in pharaohs' tombs?
 - A. They thought the pharaohs would need those items in the afterlife.
 - B. The pharaohs went into their tombs before they died.
 - C. The pharaohs were not rich enough to have treasure.



5. What does **hauls** mean in the *King Tut's Tomb* book?

*The team **hauls** rocks. The workers move hot sand. Suddenly, they uncover a shape.*

- A. moves something
- B. eats something
- C. writes on something

6. What does **valuable** mean in the *King Tut's Tomb* book?

*The tomb had **valuable** items such as gold and jewelry.*

- A. not very expensive
- B. worth lots of money
- C. made out of paper



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: KING TUT'S TOMB

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: LUCY SKELETON

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 2.

2. What would you like to learn about life on Earth 3.2 million years ago?

3. Where was Lucy found?
 - A. Ethiopia
 - B. South Africa
 - C. England

4. How would comparing the ages of skeletons show how hominin traits changed?
 - A. Newer skeletons would all have the same traits.
 - B. Older skeletons would show which traits came first.
 - C. Older skeletons would not be studied.



5. What does **examined** mean in the *Lucy Skeleton* book?

*Researchers **examined** Lucy's skeleton. They studied the pelvis and teeth. They learned that Lucy was an adult female.*

- A. threw away
- B. looked closely at
- C. broke apart

6. What does **injury** mean in the *Lucy Skeleton* book?

*Her right arm was hurt. Some scientists think this **injury** came from falling out of a tree.*

- A. harm to a person's body
- B. healing a person's body
- C. cooking a person food



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: LUCY SKELETON

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: ÖTZI THE ICEMAN

1. Write a few sentences describing what people learned by studying Ötzi's body.

2. Would you want to visit Ötzi in a museum? Why or why not?

3. About how many years ago did Ötzi live?
 - A. 61
 - B. 1,991
 - C. 5,300

4. How would the contents of Ötzi's stomach help show that he traveled?
 - A. The food he ate came from different places.
 - B. The food he ate all came from one place.
 - C. He didn't have any food left in his stomach.



5. What does **crouch** mean in the *Ötzi the Iceman* book?

*The hikers **crouch** down to look closer. A body is sticking out of the snow.*

- A. dig through a mountain
- B. jump up into the air
- C. bend down toward the ground

6. What does **preserved** mean in the *Ötzi the Iceman* book?

*Ice kept his body cold. That **preserved** it. His skin and organs stayed intact for thousands of years.*

- A. kept something unharmed
- B. broke something into pieces
- C. made something very warm



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: ÖTZI THE ICEMAN

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



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: ROSETTA STONE

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main points of Chapter 2.

2. Would you like to learn how to read hieroglyphs? Why or why not?

3. When was the Rosetta Stone found?
 - A. 1799
 - B. 1801
 - C. 1822

4. How might trading with faraway nations shape how Egyptians used language?
 - A. Egyptians wouldn't need to read or write.
 - B. Egyptians might learn the languages those nations used.
 - C. Egyptians might talk only with people from those nations.



5. What does **versions** mean in the *Rosetta Stone* book?

*But the French had made copies. They kept studying these **versions**.*

- A. new types of food
- B. new forms of an earlier thing
- C. very large buildings

6. What does **translated** mean in the *Rosetta Stone* book?

*Scholars could now read other hieroglyphs, too. They **translated** ancient texts. And they read writings found in temples and tombs.*

- A. broke something into many pieces
- B. changed something from one language to another
- C. changed the name of a person



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: ROSETTA STONE

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIGGING UP THE PAST: TERRA-COTTA ARMY

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 2.
2. Do you believe in an afterlife? Why or why not?
3. Which parts of the statues were likely made with molds?
 - A. their faces
 - B. their hands
 - C. their hair
4. What might happen if scientists didn't use radar?
 - A. They could spend more time digging up empty areas.
 - B. They could spend less time looking for underground items.
 - C. They could dig up underground items more quickly.



5. What does **unique** mean in the *Terra-Cotta Army* book?

*Each soldier is **unique**. They all have different clothes and faces.*

- A. very small
- B. exactly the same
- C. unlike any other

6. What does **researchers** mean in the *Terra-Cotta Army* book?

***Researchers** studied the statues. They learned how people made them.*

- A. people who study things
- B. people who build things
- C. people who break things



ANSWER KEY FOR DIGGING UP THE PAST: TERRA-COTTA ARMY

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