

Welcome to 6th Grade ELA/Social Studies

Hello! I am Mrs. Beckman and I am truly excited to have you in my ELA/Social Studies class next year. In ELA, we will be reading many wonderful books and work on our writing skills next year. We will also be learning about the development of early civilizations and Mesopotamian and the Ancient Egyptians, in Social Studies. Next year will be a wonderful year and I look forward to see you in my class.

NOVELS FOR NEXT YEAR!!

Novels that we will be reading in class are all approved by and follow the curriculum of the Archdiocese and Queen of Peace.

Some Where There Is Still a Sun-a memoir by Michael Gruenbaum which focuses on the Holocaust and survival.

Holes- by Louis Sachar which looks at the theme of building friendships.

I Am David- by Anne Holm which focuses on the theme of survival and freedom.

Crispin: The Cross Of Lead- By Avi- A story of survival and friendship.

Other novels may be added throughout the year!

Classroom Grading Policy for 5th Grade ELA/SS and Expectations

Classwork - 15%

Homework - 15%

Participation - 10%

Quizzes - 20%

Test - 40%

(If assignments are not turned in on the assigned due date, 10% will be deducted each day! Students will have 10 school days to turn in assignments for any point value.)

Corrections: Test/Quizzes (only) - Those students who received an "F" will have be allowed to make corrections and submit for a revised grade.

All corrections will be made during recess or class time. No exceptions!

No corrections on homework assignments or pop quizzes.

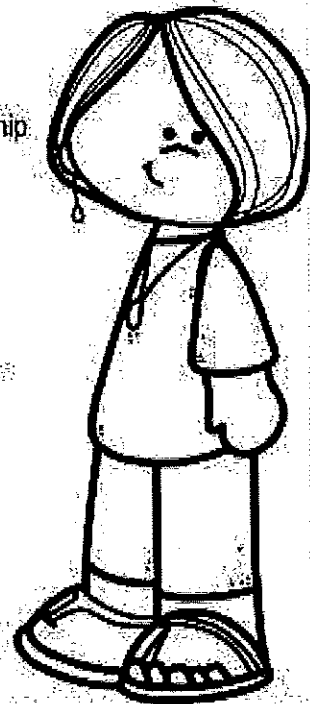
Remember to check your child's planner and initial by the assignment daily. This indicates that you are aware of your child's progress the classroom.

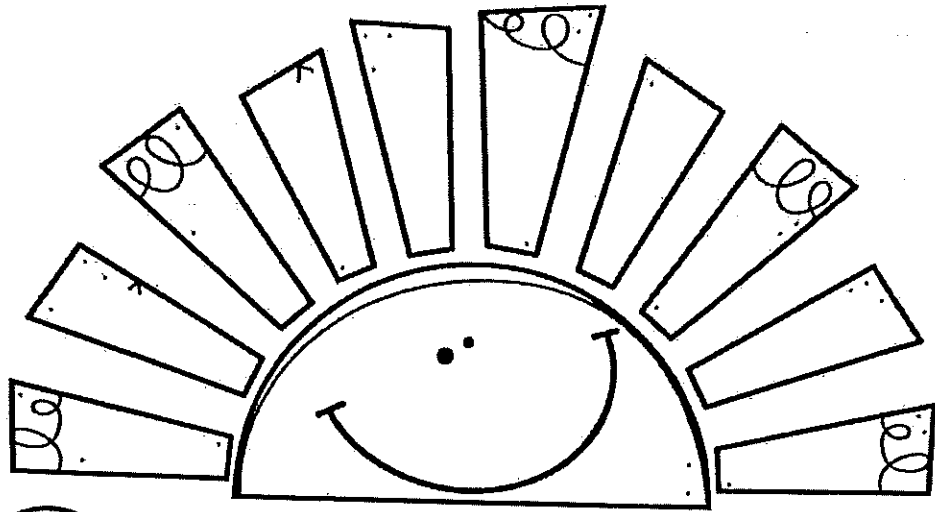
Check on Google Classroom for any Announcements.

All students must turn in work on given due dates without penalty.

Remember to sign your child's accountability card on Fridays.

Check Option C for student progress.





SUMMER REVIEW PACKET

Name _____

More Practice for Lesson 4 Circle the simple subject and underline the simple predicate in each sentence.

1. The Earth turns.
2. The Sun shines all the time.
3. We see it during the daytime.
4. Does the Sun sleep at night?
5. Can animals live without sunlight?
6. Can plants live without sunlight?
7. We need the Sun's light and warmth.
8. Dark clouds were covering the city.
9. The Sun had disappeared.
10. Down came the rain.
11. Thunder rumbled in the distance.
12. Fido splashed through the puddles.
13. Do you have an umbrella?
14. The rain has stopped.
15. Out came the Sun.
16. My tomato plants are growing!
17. The seeds have sprouted.
18. Have you planted a garden?
19. Soon we shall pick some zucchini.
20. Does Fido like zucchini?

More Practice for Lesson 8 Circle each letter that should be capitalized in the sentences below.

1. my friend kelly crossed the famous golden gate bridge in san francisco, california.
2. the panama canal connects the pacific ocean and the caribbean sea.
3. the amazon river in south america flows into the atlantic ocean.
4. i think niagara falls, between lake erie and lake ontario, is spectacular!
5. you will find the andes mountains in south america.
6. in the center of canada lies lake winnipeg.
7. phil hopes to sing the famous hymn "amazing grace" at carnegie hall in new york city next april.
8. last wednesday, i read the poem "trees" by joyce kilmer.
9. mr. gallup teaches at pasadena city college in california.
10. is concord the capital of new hampshire?
11. have you ever swum in the mediterranean sea?
12. monty and allison surf in the pacific ocean.
13. yes, boston is the capital of massachusetts.
14. the *titanic*, a luxury ship from great britain, hit an iceberg off the coast of newfoundland.
15. last july the rivas family camped near the grand canyon in arizona.

**More Practice
for Lesson 12**

Circle each helping verb in the following sentences.

1. Long ago, Alabama was called the Cotton State.
2. People may see moose, elk, caribou, and bears in Alaska.
3. Someday I shall visit the Grand Canyon in Arizona.
4. We might search for diamonds in Arkansas!
5. Gold was found in California in 1848.
6. Next winter Brent will be skiing in Colorado.
7. The Connecticut Colony had written a constitution more than a hundred years before the War of Independence.
8. Do people still live in Delaware's colonial homes?
9. In Florida's Everglades, a crocodile is sleeping peacefully.
10. Former President Jimmy Carter was born in Georgia.
11. Did this pineapple come from Hawaii?
12. Do all potatoes come from Idaho?
13. Our plane will land at O'Hare Airport in Chicago, Illinois, at 7:30 p.m.
14. Does Indiana manufacture baseball bats?
15. Nathan has been packing popcorn in Iowa for thirty years.
16. Have you driven through the wheat fields of Kansas?
17. Buffalo were wandering through the Kentucky mountains.
18. The Mississippi Delta has provided rich farmland in Louisiana.
19. People in Maine have built many ships.
20. Did your ship sail into the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland?

More Practice
for Lesson 13

Corny Chronicle #1: "The Fund Raiser"

Three clever friends, ① _____, ② _____,
proper noun (person) *proper noun (person)*
and ③ _____, wanted to raise money to purchase more
proper noun (person)
④ _____ for ⑤ _____. Their plan was to
concrete plural noun *proper noun (place)*
manufacture ⑥ _____ from ⑦ _____ and sell
concrete plural noun *concrete plural noun*
them to ⑧ _____, ⑨ _____, and others
proper noun (person) *proper noun (person)*
who might be interested.

In preparation for the project, the three clever friends
⑩ _____ and ⑪ _____ for many hours.
past tense action verb *past tense action verb*
United in their efforts, they were truly a ⑫ _____.
collective noun

After working together for nearly ⑬ _____ weeks, they
number
finally had their first product to sell. It looked like a
⑭ _____ but made them think of ⑮ _____
concrete singular noun *abstract singular noun*
or ⑯ _____. Thrilled with their product, they felt
abstract singular noun
sure that either ⑰ _____ or ⑱ _____ would
proper noun (person) *proper noun (person)*
buy it from them although ⑲ _____ doubted that it
proper noun (person)
would sell.

In the end the three clever friends were able to sell their
magnificent product for ⑳ _____ dollars to ㉑ _____,
number *proper noun (person)*
who plans to rent a storage compartment for it in
㉒ _____.
proper noun (place)

**More Practice
for Lesson 15**

Circle each letter that should be capitalized in the following sentences, poems, and song lyrics (capitalized like poems).

1. stephen foster wrote some humorous songs during the 1800s. my friends and i like to sing them around the campfire.

2. i come from alabama
wid my banjo on my knee,
i'm gwan to louisiana
my true love for to see,
it rained all night the day i left,
the weather it was dry,
the sun so hot i froze to death,
susanna, don't you cry.

—stephen foster

3. my teacher said that i should stop giggling, but i couldn't stop because i was reading poems by ogden nash. they were so funny!

4. celery, raw,
develops the jaw,
but celery, stewed,
is more quietly chewed.

—ogden nash

5. the ostrich roams the great Sahara.
its mouth is wide, its neck is narra.
it has such long and lofty legs,
i'm glad it sits to lay its eggs.

—ogden nash

6. whales have calves,
cats have kittens,
bears have cubs,
bats have bittens,
swans have cygnets,
seals have puppies,
but guppies just have little guppies.

—ogden nash

More Practice for Lesson 25 Circle each letter that should be capitalized in the following titles.

1. "down in the valley"
2. "a bicycle built for two"
3. "in the good old summertime"
4. "the man on the flying trapeze"
5. "the stars and stripes forever"
6. *the indian in the cupboard*
7. *the house at pooh corner*
8. *the voyages of dr. doolittle*
9. *the lion, the witch, and the wardrobe*
10. *the only game in town*
11. *where the red fern grows*
12. *the wind in the willows*
13. *old yeller*
14. *the phantom tollbooth*
15. *the sign of the beaver*
16. *emil and the detectives*
17. *the trumpet of the swan*
18. *the mouse and the motorcycle*
19. *my side of the mountain*
20. *little house on the prairie*

More Practice for Lesson 26 Circle each letter that should be capitalized in the following sentences and outlines.

1. confucius said, "virtue is not left to stand alone. he who practices it will have neighbors."
2. have you read *alice's adventures in wonderland* by lewis carroll?
3. yesterday i read a story called "aladdin and the wonderful lamp."
4. tonight i shall read "ali baba and the forty thieves."
5. as anabel drove toward boston, she sang her favorite song, "my old kentucky home."
6. I. the orchestra
 - A. percussion and strings
 - B. the brass family
 - C. the woodwind family
7. II. types of musical compositions
 - A. the waltz
 - B. the march
 - C. the symphony
8. benjamin franklin said, "one today is worth two tomorrows."
9. he also said, "a lie stands on one leg, truth on two."
10. "the ballad of the boll weevil" is an american folk song.
11. in 1892, john muir, an american naturalist, wrote to the editor of a magazine, "let us do something to make the mountains glad."
12. john muir wrote about the beauty of nature in a book called *the mountains of california*.
13. pearl s. buck's most popular novel, *the good earth*, won the pulitzer prize.
14. james thurber, an american humorist, wrote a story called "the secret life of walter mitty."

**More Practice
for Lesson 38**

Circle each letter that should be capitalized in the following sentences.

1. if grandpa zamora grew up in nicaragua, why doesn't he speak english with an accent?
2. Yes, captain cheung met ms. phan aboard the ship to india.
3. next year i shall take classes such as spanish, art, geography, mathematics, and english.
4. although dr. adan has taught history, he has never taught american government.
5. before aunt catherine traveled to japan, she studied japanese.
6. yes, i believe mom and dad invited mr. and mrs. fernando cabrera to their anniversary party in june.
7. while in europe, mom took classes in art history and french.
8. yesterday sergeant mundy told miss lu that he could do nothing about the flock of canadian geese in her yard.
9. during our two-hour social studies class, i noticed that even the teacher, dr. dreamer, was yawning.
10. i promised mother that i would clean the garage on saturday.
11. i assured father that i would find a safe place to store his fishing pole.
12. when aunt tanisha took chemistry, there were fewer than a hundred known elements.
13. does deputy cruz always comb her hair like that?
14. no, uncle wassim, i cannot go fishing, for i have to do a homework assignment for language arts.

Honey to the Bee

by ReadWorks



Bees are flying insects that feed on nectar and pollen. They are usually yellow and black and covered in fuzzy hair that makes collecting pollen easier. A bee's body is similar to that of other insects—for instance, an ant—with three major sections: the head, the middle section called the thorax, and the last section called the abdomen. The head of a bee has five eyes for seeing and two antennae for touching and smelling. Two sets of wings and three sets of legs can be found on a bee's thorax. Depending on the type of bee, the last set of legs might have little sacs that store the pollen that the bee has collected from flowers. Many types of bees have stingers. The bee stinger is the most feared part of a bee, and for good reason. Filled with poison, the stinger is a bee's protection from danger. The stingers are around 12 millimeters long. There are over 20,000 known bee species in the world. The best known is probably the honeybee.

Honeybees live in beehives, which have a distinct order that helps things run smoothly. At the bottom of the totem pole are the workers. Workers are young female bees. Some of their main duties include going out to find food (nectar and pollen), building the hive, and keeping it clean. Honeybees will travel up to eight miles if necessary to find nectar and pollen to bring back to the hive. Worker bees are actually the only bees that ever do any stinging. When this does happen, it is usually because they are trying to protect their hive from harm. A bee rarely

stings when it is away from the hive, but it might sting if it senses danger. The lifespan of a worker bee is anywhere from 4 to 9 months.

The queen honeybee is the biggest bee in the hive. There is usually only one per hive, and her job is to grow the family by laying eggs that will become the next generation of honeybees. She lays over a thousand eggs per day and can live anywhere from 3 to 5 years. When the time comes for a new queen to take over, some larvae are placed in special chambers to grow queen bees. These larvae are fattened up with royal jelly, a nutritious substance that worker bees secrete. It usually takes about two weeks for a female larva to grow into a queen bee. The first female bee to become a queen bee kills the other potential queen bees.

Male honeybees are called drones. They don't have stingers, and they don't collect nectar or pollen. Their only purpose is to mate with the queen. Several hundred drones can live in a hive at one time. As the winter months approach, the males are kicked out of the hive in order to make it easier for the queen and her workers to survive. Food needs to be saved as there are fewer flowers to collect pollen and nectar from. Less food means the drones are the first ones to go!

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is a bee?

- A. an insect that lives near water and eats fish
- B. a red-and-black insect that lives under the ground
- C. a flying insect that collects nectar and pollen
- D. a crawling insect with two sets of legs and no wings

2. What does this passage describe?

- A. wings, legs, mouths, and trees
- B. totem poles and winter weather
- C. different honeybees in a beehive
- D. poison and measurement

3. Different bees in a hive have different duties.

What evidence from the passage supports this statement?

- A. Worker bees gather food; the queen bee lays eggs.
- B. Bee stingers are about 12 millimeters long.
- C. Bees have two sets of wings and three sets of legs.
- D. The honeybee is probably the best known bee species.

4. Which bees are probably the least important bees in a beehive?

- A. worker bees
- B. the queen bee
- C. female bees
- D. drones

5. What is this passage mainly about?

- A. honeybees
- B. the bodies of bees
- C. different types of insects
- D. antennae and wings

6. Read the following sentences: "There are over 20,000 known bee **species** in the world. The best known is probably the honeybee."

What does the word "**species**" mean in the sentences above?

- A. colors or shades
- B. orders or levels
- C. kinds or types
- D. duties or jobs

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

There is less food available for the honeybees in the hive during the winter; _____, the drones are kicked out.

- A. never
- B. even though
- C. including
- D. consequently

8. What does a bee look like, according to the passage?

9. What are the main duties of worker bees?

10. Drones are the first bees to be kicked out of a beehive as the winter months approach. Why might this be? Make sure to consider the role of the drone in the beehive. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

The Echoing Green

by William Blake

The sun does arise, And make happy the skies; The merry bells ring To welcome the Spring; The skylark and thrush, The birds of the bush, Sing louder around To the bells' cheerful sound; While our sports shall be seen On the echoing Green.	5 10
Old John, with white hair, Does laugh away care, Sitting under the oak, Among the old folk. They laugh at our play, And soon they all say, "Such, such were the joys When we all--girls and boys-- In our youth-time were seen On the echoing Green."	15 20
Till the little ones, weary, No more can be merry: The sun does descend, And our sports have an end. Round the laps of their mothers Many sisters and brothers, Like birds in their nest, Are ready for rest, And sport no more seen On the darkening green.	25 30

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What arises at the beginning of the poem and descends at the end?

- A. the sun
- B. a bell
- C. a bird
- D. an oak tree

2. What is the setting of this poem?

- A. the nest of a bird
- B. a bush where birds live
- C. the echoing Green
- D. the home of Old John

3. Reread the second stanza of the poem:

Old John, with white hair,
Does laugh away care,
Sitting under the oak,
Among the old folk.
They laugh at our play,
And soon they all say,
"Such, such were the joys
When we all--girls and boys--
In our youth-time were seen
On the echoing Green."

What can you infer from this stanza about Old John?

- A. Old John spends most of his time worrying.
- B. Old John used to play on the echoing Green.
- C. Old John likes being an old man more than he liked being a boy.
- D. Old John does not get along well with the other old folk.

4. Who or what are "the little ones" in line 21?

- A. young birds
- B. boys and girls
- C. mothers
- D. old folk

5. What is the theme of this poem?

- A. the disappointments of old age
- B. the importance of hard work
- C. the power of dreams
- D. the joy of playing outdoors

6. What is the effect of using personification in lines 2 and 4?

- A. Personification suggests that nature can be dangerous.
- B. Personification contrasts birds with human beings.
- C. Personification explains the difference between skylarks and thrushes.
- D. Personification creates a mood of happiness.

7. Whom does "our" refer to in line 15?

- A. the old folks sitting together under an oak tree
- B. the people who ring merry bells to welcome the spring
- C. the boys and girls playing on the echoing Green
- D. the mothers around whose laps many sisters and brothers gather

8. What "shall be seen" on the echoing Green?

Drip-Tips and Other Adaptations in the Rainforest

by Mimi Jorling



Tropical rainforests have ideal climates for plant growth. Tropical rainforests are hot, humid, and wet. They have abundant rainfall and are warm year-round. Temperatures range from about 85 degrees Fahrenheit during the day to 70 at night. Tropical rainforests get at least 80 inches of rainfall each year. (Compare that to how much your town or city gets each year.) These two factors also create challenges for the plants that live there. As a result, plants in tropical rainforests have adapted to these conditions by making adjustments in how they grow.

The perfect conditions for plant life—warm temperatures and plenty of water—cause plants to grow quickly. One consequence of rapid plant growth is the depletion of nutrients in the soil. It also creates a thick layer of leaves in the upper part of the forest (the canopy) that blocks sunlight from reaching the forest floor.

Most plants get their nutrients, water, and oxygen from soil. However, in the rainforest, where soil is not nutrient-rich, many plants don't rely on it for their source of food. Some plants called epiphytes, or air plants, have learned to get water and nutrients from the air. Some examples of epiphytes in rainforests are mosses, lichens, and orchids. Although they often live on other plants, they don't take any nutrients from the other plant—they get what they need straight from the air with special root systems.

Other plants that grow on plants actually DO take nutrients from that plant. They are called parasitic plants, and the plant they grow on is called a host plant. Instead of getting food and

water from the soil, parasitic plants have developed roots to cling to a host plant, pierce through its leaves, stem, or trunk, and suck the nutrients out of the host. An example of a parasitic plant you might know is mistletoe. Parasitic plants can kill their host plant if they grow too rapidly. However, they tend to *not* kill their host plant because without a host, the parasitic plant will also die.

Another condition created by rapid plant growth is a lush canopy that shades out plants living below. Large trees grow quickly, reaching for sunlight. They create a dense shade that prevents sunlight from reaching the forest floor. In fact, only about 1 to 2% of sunlight reaches the ground in a tropical forest. Since plants depend on sunlight for growth, very few plants live on the ground. Instead, they find ways to live on other plants by climbing them, as vines do, or by growing very large, dark green leaves to absorb as much sunlight as possible.

Hot, humid, and wet conditions are also ideal for bacteria and fungi to grow. Water trapped in the crevices of a plant, in combination with warm temperatures, is a breeding ground for bacterial and fungal growth, which can harm plants. One adaptation many plants have made in the tropical forest is to develop smooth bark so that water runs off quickly. Another adjustment plants have made to shed water efficiently is to grow leaves with 'drip tips.' This shape prevents water from collecting on leaves. Look at the shape of leaves of plants around you. If possible, and after checking with an adult, gently pour water on the plant and watch where it goes. It may be channeled toward the stem of the plant or far away from it. These observations can give you clues to how a plant lives.

The environments plants and animals live in provide useful and harmful conditions for living. As a result, all living things must learn how to adapt to the challenges of where they live. The adaptations that plants in a tropical rainforest have help them survive in their particular environment.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What are the climates of tropical rainforests ideal, or perfect, for?

- A. building roads
- B. raising cattle
- C. extreme sports
- D. plant growth

2. One effect of rapid plant growth is the depletion of nutrients in the soil. What is another effect of rapid plant growth?

- A. the depletion of animal life in the lower part of the rainforest
- B. the creation of a thick layer of leaves in the upper part of the rainforest
- C. an increase in temperature from 70 degrees Fahrenheit to 85 degrees Fahrenheit
- D. a decrease in rainfall from 80 inches each year to 65 inches each year

3. Read these sentences from the text:

"There are also some plants called parasitic plants. They grow on other plants, their host plants. Parasitic plants actually DO take nutrients from their host plants. Instead of getting food and water from the soil, parasitic plants have developed roots to cling to a host plant, pierce through its leaves, stem, or trunk, and suck the nutrients out of the host. An example of a parasitic plant you might know is mistletoe. Parasitic plants can kill their host plants if they grow too rapidly."

Based on this evidence, how might a rapidly growing parasitic plant kill its host plant?

- A. by sucking too many nutrients out of its host plant
- B. by sucking too few nutrients out of its host plant
- C. by preventing the host plant from taking in food and water from the soil
- D. by trying to help the host plant take in food and water from the soil

4. Read these sentences from the text:

"Another condition created by rapid plant growth is a lush canopy that shades out plants living below. Large trees grow quickly, reaching for sunlight. They create a dense shade that prevents sunlight from reaching the forest floor. In fact, only about 1% to 2% of sunlight reaches the ground in a tropical forest. Since plants depend on sunlight for growth, very few plants live on the ground. Instead, they find ways to live on other plants by climbing them, as vines do, or by growing very large, dark green leaves to absorb as much sunlight as possible."

Based on this information, what can you conclude about the connection between a leaf's size and the amount of sunlight it absorbs?

- A. The smaller a leaf is, the more sunlight it absorbs.
- B. The larger a leaf is, the more sunlight it absorbs.
- C. The connection between the size of a leaf and the amount of sunlight it absorbs cannot be predicted.
- D. Large leaves and small leaves absorb about the same amount of sunlight.

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. Some plants, such as mosses, lichens, and orchids, have learned to get water and nutrients from the air.
- B. Instead of getting food and water from the soil, parasitic plants have developed roots to cling to a host plant, pierce through its leaves, stem, or trunk, and suck out nutrients.
- C. Plants in tropical rainforests have adapted to their warm and wet conditions by making adjustments in how they grow.
- D. Water trapped in the crevices of a plant, in combination with warm temperatures, is a breeding ground for bacterial and fungal growth.

6. Read these sentences from the text:

"Some plants called epiphytes, or air plants, have adapted to get nutrients from the air. Some examples of epiphytes in rainforests are mosses, lichens, and orchids. Although they often live on other plants, they don't take any nutrients from the other plants—they get what they need straight from the air with special root systems.

There are also some plants called parasitic plants. They grow on other plants, their host plants. Parasitic plants actually DO take nutrients from their host plants."

Why might the author have capitalized the word "DO"?

- A. to point out a similarity
- B. to make a contrast
- C. to summarize a process
- D. to make an argument