**DAILY**

Name _____

Date _____

Warm-Up 1

THE OCTOPUS

The word *octopus* means eight feet. That is how the octopus got its name. The octopus is an animal that has eight arms that extend from the center. It eats small crabs and scallops along with fish, turtles, and crustaceans. It is even known to eat other octopuses. The octopus is able to catch its prey with its long arms. It then bites the prey and poisons it with a nerve poison. This poison softens the flesh and the octopus is then able to suck the flesh of the animal out of its shell or outer covering.

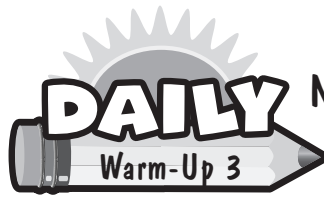
The octopus can mostly be found hunting during nighttime. Some people fear the octopus, but there is only one octopus that has been known to have a poison that is strong enough to kill a person. This is the Australian blue-ringed octopus.

Along with its eight arms, the octopus has a head with two eyes on either side. It has very good eyesight. The octopus does not have hearing. Each arm has suction cups in two rows. These suction cups help the octopus hold things. It is true that if the octopus loses an arm it will grow back. The octopus also has blue blood.

The octopus lives in dens and crevices of the ocean floor. This protects the octopus from its main predator, the moray eel. It also provides a place for the octopus to lay its eggs. The octopus can squirt black ink as a defense against its enemies.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is one feature that the octopus does **not** have?
 - a. good eyesight
 - b. excellent hearing
 - c. blue blood
 - d. the ability to squirt ink
2. This passage is mostly about . . .
 - a. the description of and eating practices of the octopus.
 - b. how an octopus eats.
 - c. anatomy of the octopus.
 - d. how the octopus defends itself.
3. What is the meaning of the word *extend* as used in the passage?
 - a. ingest
 - b. spread
 - c. ignore
 - d. arrange

**DAILY**

Warm-Up 3

Name _____

Date _____

THE OCEAN FOOD CHAIN

Seafood is the term used to describe the food that humans eat, but what does the seafood eat? Just like all animal groups, ocean creatures follow a food chain. The food chain in the ocean begins with tiny floating plants. These plants are known as phytoplankton. These plants float around in the ocean water near the surface. You can't see these plants with the naked eye because they are so small.

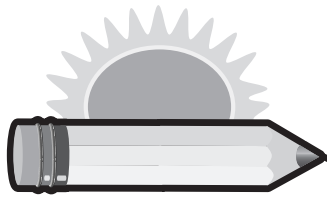
Next in the ocean food chain is zooplankton. Zooplankton are very small animals. They are microscopic as well. Small fish, which travel in groups, eat the zooplankton. These fish swim together and eat zooplankton as they go.

Larger fish then eat these smaller fish. The tuna fish is an example of these larger fish. The tuna will eat the fish that swim in schools, or shoals. Humans then eat these larger fish. By eating seafood, you are actually part of the ocean food chain.

Humans aren't the only ones that eat these larger fish. Sharks and sea lions along with other sea creatures eat these fish. The killer whale is the top predator in the sea. It is the top predator because it is not eaten by anything. The baleen whale bypasses the food chain by feeding on the zooplankton directly. The scavengers of the sea also play a role in eating the leftovers and parts of fish and animals left on the sea floor. Crustaceans are examples of scavengers.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. In the last paragraph, what does the word *scavengers* mean?
 - a. meat eating
 - b. foragers
 - c. plant eating
 - d. predators
2. What does the third paragraph explain?
 - a. how to catch a tuna fish
 - b. why fish swim in schools
 - c. the names of all of the fish that are at the top of the food chain
 - d. how humans are a part of the ocean food chain
3. Based on information in the passage, how do baleen whales bypass the food chain?
 - a. They hunt in groups.
 - b. They eat the zooplankton directly.
 - c. They are smaller than most whales
 - d. They are the top predator of the ocean.



Answer Key

Nonfiction

Animals

Page 9 The Octopus

1. b
2. a
3. b

Page 10 Toucans

1. c
2. c
3. b

Page 11 The Ocean Food Chain

1. b
2. d
3. b

Page 12 Mountain Animals

1. d
2. c
3. b

Page 13 The Flying Squirrel

1. d
2. c
3. a

Page 14 Tarantulas

1. b
2. c
3. d

Page 15 The Peacock

1. d
2. d
3. c

Page 16 The Leopard

1. c
2. d
3. b

Page 17 The Ant Colony

1. c
2. c
3. d
4. a

Page 18 Bats

1. d
2. b
3. b

Page 19 Salamanders

1. c
2. d
3. d

Page 20 Puffer Fish

1. d
2. d
3. c

Page 21 Silkworm

1. d
2. b
3. a

Page 22 Black Widows

1. d
2. c
3. c

Page 23 The Dove

1. d
2. a
3. c

Page 24 Holstein Cows

1. c
2. a
3. c

Page 25 The Sea Horse

1. c
2. d
3. d

Biography

Page 26 Nelson Mandela

1. c
2. a
3. c

Page 27 Catherine Bertini

1. d
2. a
3. b

Page 28 Mother Teresa

1. d
2. b
3. d

Page 29 Madame Curie

1. d
2. d
3. b
4. a

Page 30 Florence Nightingale

1. b
2. a
3. d

Page 31 Jim Thorpe

1. b
2. a
3. a

Page 32 Clara Barton

1. c
2. b
3. d