

A Shadow

A shadow is a dark shape. It is made when something blocks the light.

The shade of a tree is really the tree's shadow. The sun shines on the tree. The tree blocks the sun's light. The shadow of the tree shows on the ground. We call it shade. The shade changes as the sun moves. The shade is short when the sun is high. The shade is long when the sun is low.

Shine a flashlight on the wall. Put a shoe in front of the light. A dark shape shows on the wall. Shake the shoe. The shadow shakes too. Move the flashlight. The shape of the shadow changes. Now shut off the light. The shadow disappears.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The _____ changes as the sun moves.
shade, shake, shut

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

If you shake your shoe, your shadow also _____.
shakes, shapes, shines

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

If you _____ off the light, the shadow disappears.
shake, shine, shut

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The shadow of a tree is called _____.

flash, shade, shape

5. What makes a shadow?

Word List

shine

shade

flash

Shane

shale

lash

shone

shake

bash

show

shave

mash

shore

Shane

mush

share

shape

gush

shire

shame

hush

Chimpanzees

Chimpanzees are like children. They are about four feet tall. They play whenever they get the chance. They teach each other by playing together. Chimpanzees like to chase each other. They like to swing from branch to branch. Like children, chimpanzees take a long time to grow up. They change as they grow too. Their faces get longer and darker.

Chimpanzees have hands. Their hands have thumbs. So they can catch things. They can make things too. They even make tools. They make tools to reach their food. Their chief foods are plants.

Chimpanzees like to touch each other. They hold hands. They pick in each other's hair. They do this to clean each other.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Chimpanzees _____ each other.

chase, chief, things

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Their thumbs let them _____ things.

catch, chase, each

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

They make tools to _____ their food.

chief, reach, teach

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Chimpanzees can _____ from a branch.

long, swing, teach

5. How are chimpanzees like children?

Word List

chase	long	catch
chose	song	match
choke	sang	hatch
chore	sing	hutch
cheer	swing	hitch
cheek	wing	ditch
chief	thing	witch

Chocolate Chip Cookies

What kinds of cookies do you like? Chances are you like chocolate chip cookies. Most people do.

The first chocolate chip cookie was made in the 1930s by Ruth Wakefield. Ruth wrote cookbooks. She and her husband also owned the Toll House Inn. One day she was making butter cookies, and she wanted to change them. She wanted to add chocolate. Ruth chopped a big piece of chocolate into small bits. She put these chips into her cookies. Maybe she thought they would melt while the cookies baked. But they did not melt. Each chip kept its shape.



Ruth shared her new cookies with friends. They liked the rich taste. She showed them how to make the cookies. Now many people make chocolate chip cookies.

Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Ruth Wakefield made the first chocolate _____ cookies.

chip, chop, rich

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The chips kept their _____ when Ruth baked them.

shapes, shared, showed

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Ruth's chocolate chip cookies had a _____ taste.

rich, shared, them

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Ruth shared her new cookies _____ her friends.

rich, shapes, with

5. Why do many people make chocolate chip cookies now?

Word List

shape	chip	them
shake	chop	they
shame	chap	then
shade	chat	the
shave	chit	their
shale	rich	those
share	which	there

Eating in China

China is a country with many people. Rice is a chief food of the Chinese people. In fact, much of the world's rice comes from China.

What else do Chinese people eat? Sometimes Chinese people munch on vegetables. Other times they eat vegetables with meat.

Stir-fry is a common Chinese lunch. To make a stir-fry, people chop the food into chunks. They fry it in a pan. A stir-fry may have vegetables, like carrots or bok choy. It may also have meat, like fish or chicken.



Most people in China eat their food with chopsticks. They hold two chopsticks in one hand. They move one chopstick. They hold one still. Have you ever had a chance to use chopsticks?

Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Rice is a _____ food in China.

chief, chop, much

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The people in China may use _____ to eat food.

chief, chopsticks, chunks

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Chinese people _____ food into chunks for a stir-fry.

chap, cheap, chop

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Some Chinese people _____ on vegetables.

chopsticks, chunk, munch

5. How do people in China make a stir-fry?

Word List

chop	much	chick
chip	such	chock
chin	rich	check
chill	which	chuck
chit	each	chunk
chat	peach	chug
chap	beach	chum

Seashells

Seashells are the homes of animals with soft bodies. These animals make their own shells. They make their shells bigger as they grow. Their shells protect them from fish and crabs.

Seashells can be many shapes and sizes. They can be flat or have sharp points. They can be short or long. Some shells are shiny.

It is fun to hunt for shells. Walk on the shore. Look in the sand and shallow water. Most of the shells you will find will be empty. The animals will not be inside. Take the shells home. Wash them with a toothbrush and water. Set them on a shelf, and show them to your friends.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Some animals make their own _____.
shallow, shelf, shells

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Shells protect some animals from _____ and crabs.
fish, shapes, shore

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

You can set shells on a _____.
sharp, shelf, short

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Seashells can be many _____ and sizes.

fishes, shapes, shores

5. Where can you find seashells?

Word List

shore

fish

shell

share

wish

shed

shape

dish

Shep

shame

dash

shop

shake

mash

shod

Shane

gash

shot

shine

gush

shock

Shoebills

Shoebills are often called whale-headed storks. These birds have big heads and thick necks. They look like storks. They have very large bills. Their bills are seven inches long. They are very heavy. Sometimes shoebills have to rest them on their chests. Sometimes they open and shut their bills very fast.

Shoebills live where there is fresh water. They fish for their food in the water. This bird uses its bill to catch fish. Its bill has sharp edges. When it bites down, the fish cannot get away.



Shoebills lay white-shelled eggs. Their chicks are gray. Both parents take care of the eggs and the chicks. They get food for them. They chew the food first. Then they give it to their chicks.

Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Sometimes shoebills rest their bills on their _____.

chests, chicks, whales

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Shoebills use their bills to _____ fish.

catch, sharp, shut

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Shoebill parents chew the food for their _____.

chicks, shells, whales

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Shoebills are also called _____ -headed storks.

sharp, whale, white

5. Why does the shoebill live near water?

Word List

shell	catch	white
shall	match	while
shack	hatch	whine
shock	hutch	when
shuck	hitch	where
shut	ditch	what
shun	witch	why

The Great White Shark

Some people shake when they see a great white shark. This shark is a meat-eating fish. Sometimes it even eats other sharks!

The great white shark has a wide mouth. It has rows of sharp teeth. Each tooth can be three inches long. This shark uses its teeth to tear up food. It swims where there is a lot of food. A great white shark is shaped like a missile. This shape helps it shoot through the water very fast. One shark swam more than six thousand miles. This trip took only three months.



These sharks have been shown in zoos. Some died soon after being captured. Others lived in the zoos for a short time. Then they were returned to the sea.

Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Great white sharks have rows of sharp _____.
mouth, teeth, this

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

These sharks' teeth can be _____ inches long.
fish, shape, three

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Great white sharks have _____ like missiles.
fish, shakes, shapes

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Great white sharks make some people _____.

shake, shape, teeth

5. Why do some people shake when they see a great white shark?

Word List

fish	teeth	they
wish	tooth	these
dish	heath	those
dash	sheath	there
mash	sheet	them
mush	shape	this
hush	shake	their

The Thumb

Look at your hand. The thumb is different from the other fingers. It is thicker and shorter than the rest of them. It sticks out too.

The thumb can face the other fingers. It can touch each of their tips. This helps the thumb and fingers work together.

Think of some things the thumb and fingers do together. They pick thin things up. They grip things tightly. The other fingers can't do these things alone.

Most animals do not have thumbs. They can't pick thistles out of their fur. They can't pull thorns out of their paws. They need us to do these things for them. Thank goodness we have thumbs.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The thumb is thicker _____ the other fingers.
than, them, this

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The thumb and the fingers work together to pick _____ things up.
than, thank, thin

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Animals without _____ can't pull thorns out of their paws.
things, thistles, thumbs

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Our thumbs help us grip _____.

thicker, things, thumbs

5. What do thumbs and fingers do together?

Word List

thumb	thick	them
thud	thin	then
thug	thing	than
thrush	think	that
thrash	thank	thus
thrill	thin	this
throb	think	their

The Wheel

Wheels are everywhere. They keep the world moving. There was a time, though, when there were no wheels. Think of what the world was like then. There were no cars. People walked most of the time. There were no wagons. People moved heavy things on sleds. People worked hard.

Then people invented the wheel. They made a round shape from wood. They put it on a cart. The wheel made the cart easy to push. Then people thought of other ways to use the wheel. People's work was easier.

We don't know exactly when or where the wheel was invented. We think it was about 5,000 years ago. We think it was where the Middle East is today.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The _____ made people's work easier.

what, wheel, when

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

We do not know exactly _____ the wheel was invented.

then, there, when

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

We _____ wheels were invented about 5,000 years ago.

then, they, think

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

People _____ of many ways to use wheels.

other, thing, thought

5. How did the wheel change the world?

Word List

wheel	they	thing
wheeze	this	think
when	then	thick
white	there	thin
while	them	thank
whine	than	thief
why	that	thought

Thunder and Lightning

The sky is filled with clouds. They are thick and dark. Suddenly you see a flash! Lightning shoots across the sky. Then you hear a bang! Thunder fills the air. Where did the lightning come from? Why did it thunder?

Dark, thick clouds are made of drops of water and ice. The water and ice have electric charges in them. The clouds may get darker and thicker. Then there are more drops of water and ice, so there are more electric charges too. Sometimes the charges make a giant spark. Then lightning shoots through the clouds.

Lightning is very hot. It heats the air near it. This hot air expands, moving very fast. This rush of air makes the loud sound of thunder.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Some clouds are _____ and dark.

then, they, thick

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The lightning flashes, _____ you hear the thunder.

then, this, with

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

The rush of air makes the sound of _____.

this, through, thunder

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Lightning shoots _____ the clouds.

thick, through, with

5. Why do you hear thunder after you see lightning?

Word List

thick	with	there
thin	moth	then
think	math	them
thing	path	the
thrill	bath	they
thrush	Beth	this
thrash	Seth	thus

What Animal Am I?

People enjoy riding on my back, and I whinny when I need something. What am I? I am a horse.

I am a tall bird, and I make a loud whooping sound. What am I? I am a whooping crane.

I live in ocean water, and I whistle while I blow air out of the top of my head. What am I? I am a white whale.

I am a house pet. I have whiskers that help me feel where I should walk, and my eyes shine in the dark. What am I? I am a cat.

I whimper when I want to go outside, I bark when I am excited, and I whine when I am sad. What am I? I am a dog.



Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Horses whinny _____ they need something.

what, when, whine

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

A white _____ blows air out of the top of its head.

whale, whisker, whistle

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Dogs _____ when they are sad.

whine, whinny, whistle

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Whales whistle _____ they blow out air.

while, whine, white

5. Why do cats need their whiskers?

Word List

whale

whine

when

wheel

while

what

wheeze

white

where

wheat

wheat

what

white

wheeze

why

while

wheel

which

why

whale

whip

White Whales

Whistle! Whoosh! Whack! What animals make these sounds? White whales make all of these sounds. They whistle loudly. You can hear them whistling under water. They whoosh when they jump. Their tails whack when they hit the water.

White whales are also called beluga whales. The word beluga means white. However, they are brown when they are born. They turn white when they are five years old. White whales have whiskers while they are young. The whiskers fall out when they get older.



White whales live where the water is cold. They live where there is ice. The white ice makes white whales hard to see in the water. They live in the Arctic Ocean.

Quiz Questions

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

White _____ whistle loudly.

whacks, whales, whiskers

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

Beluga means _____.

what, while, white

3. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

White whales have whiskers _____ they are born.

whacks, when, where

4. Fill in the blanks with words from the list below.

You hear a _____ when a beluga's tail hits the water.

whack, whistle, whoosh

5. Why are beluga whales hard to see in the Arctic Ocean?

Word List

whack	while	when
wham	whale	whet
whim	wheel	what
which	wheeze	where
whiz	wheat	why
whip	white	which
whiff	whine	whit