



THE ASS AND THE LOAD OF SALT

Read the story below.

A merchant, driving his Ass to home from the seashore with a heavy load of salt, came to a river crossed by a shallow ford. They had crossed this river many times before, but this time the Ass slipped and fell when halfway over. When the Merchant got him to his feet, much of the salt had melted away. Delighted to find how much lighter his burden had become, the Ass finished the journey very happily. Next day the Merchant went for another load of salt. On the way home the Ass, purposely let himself fall into the water. The angry Merchant immediately drove the Ass back to the seashore, where he loaded him with two great baskets of sponges. Ass again tumbled over; but when he had scrambled to his feet, it was under the load ten times heavier than before.



Answer each question.

1. Where was the Merchant driving his Ass?

2. What did happen with them when they crossed the river?

3. Why did the Ass purposely let himself fall into the water?

4. What did angry Merchant do with the Ass?

5. The load ten times heavier than before. True or False



Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Glaciers

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Glaciers are made up of fallen snow that, over many years, compresses into large, thickened ice masses. Glaciers form when snow remains in one location long enough to transform into ice. Presently, glaciers occupy about 10 percent of the world's total land area, with most located in Polar Regions like Antarctica, Greenland, and the Canadian Arctic. Glaciers also exist high in mountain ranges such as the Himalayas and the Andes. Although glaciers are made of ice and appear to be sitting still, they are actually moving. The weight of a glacier will cause it to move slowly down hill, sort of like a very slow moving river. The speed of glaciers varies widely with some moving as slow as a few feet a year while others may move several feet per day. Scientists have given names to different types of glaciers. Here are a few of the main types:



Ice cap - An ice cap is formed when ice completely covers an area of land such that no part of the land, not even mountain peaks, poke through the top of the ice cap.

Polar - A polar glacier is one that is formed in an area where the temperature is always below the freezing point.

Most of the country of Greenland is covered with a giant icecap that is nearly two miles thick in areas. Because of friction, the top of a glacier moves faster than the bottom. At over 125 miles long, Bering Glacier in Alaska is the longest glacier in the United States.

Answer each question.

1. What are the glaciers?
2. Where are most of the glaciers located?
3. Do the glaciers move?
4. How did the polar glaciers get formed?
5. Why does the top of a glacier moves faster than the bottom?
6. Name the longest glacier in the United States?



Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

The Nest Builders

Read the story. Then answer the questions.

A long time ago, the magpie was the only bird that knew much about nest building. One day the other birds came to her and asked her to teach them how to make nice nests. She told them to stand in a circle, and then she began to show them how it was done. The first thing she did was to get some mud and make a little round cake of it. "How very easy!" said the thrush. "Now I know all that is to be learned about nest building." She flew away to her home in the meadows; the magpie then took some slender twigs and laid them across and around the cake of mud. "That is all I need to learn," said the blackbird, flying away in great haste. Then the magpie put another layer of mud on top of the twigs. "Oh," cried the owl. "Who would need a better nest than that?" But the magpie went on working. After beating down the mud into the right shape, she took some more twigs and wound them loosely around the outside. "That suits me," said the sparrow; "and I'll go and make a nest just like it." And sparrows are still satisfied with untidy nests made of a daub of mud and a few sticks thrown around them. Then the magpie brought straw and soft feathers and lined the nest with great care, so that it would be a nice place to sit in. And so it happened that all the birds learned something from the magpie, but not one of them had the patience to stay until she had finished her lesson. The last bird that came was the turtle dove, but she took no notice of what the magpie had been doing. While the magpie was putting the last touches to her beautiful nest, she ended her lesson. "What's the use of trying to teach people who think they already know everything?" she said. And that is how it happens that the different kinds of birds build their nests in so many different ways. The magpie never tried to teach them again; and, indeed, they were very well content; for each one believed that there was nothing more to be learned.

Answer each question.

1. Why did the other birds come to the magpie?
2. What did the thrush learn and flew away?
3. Why did the blackbird fly in haste and did she learns anything?
4. Did the other birds learn the whole lesson?
5. Why did magpie angry on dove?
6. What did happen then?

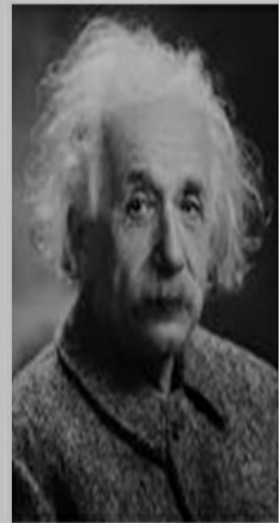


Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Albert Einstein

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Albert Einstein was born on March 14, 1879 in Ulm, Germany, his father was an electrical engineer, and his mother was a musician. She taught him to music. He didn't speak until he was two years old. When he was six, his father gave him a compass. He was fascinated by the way the needle always pointed north. This experience helped to create a great curiosity in him. He attended a high school called Luitpold Gymnasium Munich. After a year in Italy he went to Zurich, Switzerland. He took a job at the Swiss Patent Office, examining patents for people's inventions. The year 1905 was an exceptional year for Einstein. In that year he published three outstanding papers.



1. He outlined his photoelectric law in which he discussed the behavior of light. In 1921 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for this paper.
2. The second paper, which was his most famous, explored the relation of mass to energy.
3. The third paper was on the Special Theory of Relativity. He concluded the speed of light is always the same; 186,000 miles a second.

The Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey invited him to be their director. He spent the rest of his life in America. Einstein was married two times. He died at the age of 76. He developed the general theory of relativity, one of the two pillars of modern physics. Einstein's work is also known for its influence on the philosophy of science.

Answer each question.

1. What do you know about the early life of Albert Einstein?
2. Where did Einstein get a job?
3. Why was the year 1905 remarkable year for Einstein?
4. What was Einstein's major work?



Thank You!

