

4th Grade: Science and Social Studies Work (5th packet, May 29)

This is the last packet for the school year!!

I hope to see you TOMORROW, May 30th for the Williamson Mart:

Finley Community Center, 11:00-1:00

Directions:

1. Do one daily assignment everyday. It can be science or social studies!
2. Complete the activity/worksheet.

Have a great summer vacation!
Stay safe and enjoy your time off!

Assignments: These assignments are from Science Spin and Science Exper.:

Activity/Worksheet:

Day 1: Read and complete "Name That Material!" page

Answer the questions and try the investigation!

Day 2: Read "Scholastic News: Are Aliens Real?" Read all articles

Complete the back page

Day 3: Review "Are Aliens Real", all articles!

Complete "Be a Quiz Whiz" page: 10 questions

Days 4: Read and complete "Mix and Match" page

Draw lines from the left to the right to answer ??s
Try the science investigation!

Days 5: Read Scholastic News: I escaped Australia's wildfires" Read all articles

Complete the back page

Day 6: Review Scholastic News: I escaped Australia's Wildfires", all articles

Complete "Sort it Out!" page with the Koala picture

Day 7: Complete "Be a Quiz Whiz" page about the wildfires, etc. Complete all 10 questions

Day 8: Read and complete "All mixed up!" page

Answer the questions and try the investigation!



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January 27, 2020



SCHOLASTIC

News

Edition
4

MORE
MEGA
MYSTERIES!

ARE ALIENS REAL?

For decades, people have spotted strange objects in the sky. Many say they're seeing visitors from outer space.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Was this girl
a witch?



What killed
King Tut?



Why is this
lake pink?



DO ALIENS EXIST?

People have been seeing strange objects in the sky for decades. Are they alien spacecraft? Even the U.S. government is trying to find out.

AS YOU
READ

Think about why so many people believe in UFOs.

June 1947: Kenneth Arnold flies his plane over the mountains of Washington State. He sees nine glowing objects speed by. Arnold says they moved like saucers skipping across the water. Soon, reporters come up with a name for the objects: flying saucers.

November 1975: Travis Walton and six others see a disc-shaped object in Arizona. Walton goes in for a closer look—and disappears. He returns five days later. He claims that aliens had beamed him up to their ship.

November 2004: Two U.S. Navy pilots observe an oval aircraft hovering over the Pacific Ocean. The craft moves toward them, then quickly zooms away.

GO
ONLINE!

Learn more about UFO sightings.

WORDS TO KNOW

phenomena *noun, plural.* unusual or remarkable things or events

extraterrestrial *adjective.* coming from or existing beyond Earth

KIST?

These are just a few of the many reports of UFOs—unidentified flying objects. These unexplained **phenomena** have led many people to wonder if we are alone in the universe.

Strange Sightings

For decades, books, movies, and TV shows have told stories of spaceships carrying **extraterrestrial** beings. But in real life, thousands of people report seeing UFOs every year.

Many who haven't seen a UFO still think they're real. In a recent survey of 26,000 people in 24 countries, nearly half said they believe that aliens exist. Even the U.S. Department of Defense investigates UFO sightings.

"When you see something in the sky that's not an

airplane, you wonder what it is," says Luis Elizondo. He says he led the Defense Department's UFO program for eight years. "Our job was to figure that out."

No Explanation

Sometimes, UFOs are really just shadows caused by sunlight or clouds. Other times, they're secret military planes (*see below*).

But often, says Elizondo, UFOs cannot be explained. People describe oddly shaped objects that move at sharp angles and high speeds.

"Whatever they are," Elizondo says, "they do not fit our current understanding of aircraft technology."

Unanswered Questions

Elizondo can't say for sure whether those UFOs are




**Have You
Ever Seen
a UFO?**

YES — 17%
83% — NO

In a recent survey, 17 out of 100 Americans said they had.

Source: 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment

carrying aliens. There is no real proof that aliens exist. But no one has proved that they do not exist either.

After all, humans have explored only a tiny part of our solar system.

And each year, scientists discover more planets, billions of miles away. How can we be absolutely sure that life does not exist on any of those faraway planets?

"If you don't ask the question, you'll never find the answer," says Elizondo.

—by Jennifer Li Shotz

THE MYSTERY OF AREA 51

Area 51 is a super-secret U.S. Air Force base in the Nevada desert. This testing site for spy planes opened in 1955. But the U.S. government denied it existed until 2013. Some people say that's because the government is hiding aliens there. There have been countless reports of odd aircraft flying in the area.

TOP SECRET



WHY MIGHT SOMEONE MISTAKE
THIS SPY PLANE FOR A UFO?

WAS SHE A
Witch?

More than 300 years ago, girls in Salem, Massachusetts, blamed witches for their bizarre behavior. What really happened?

It was a bitterly cold day in January 1692. Howling winds whipped through Salem Village in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. But inside one home, something even more chilling was happening.

Nine-year-old Betty Parris and her 11-year-old cousin Abigail Williams crawled on the floor. Their bodies twisted like pretzels. They said invisible spirits were biting them.

A doctor determined that the girls were under a witch's spell. Soon, other girls in Salem began having similar outbursts. Before long, innocent people were put on trial—and put to death—for practicing witchcraft.

But what really happened? More than three centuries later, no one knows for sure.

Living in Fear

To understand how the panic spread, it helps to know more

about the people of Salem at the time. They were mostly settlers from England called Puritans. This religious group lived by strict rules. Many had lived through wars with American Indians whose land they had stolen. The Puritans feared more attacks. Disease and starvation were also constant worries.

Life was especially hard for women and girls. Their lives were almost completely controlled by men.

Perhaps most important, Puritans thought all their hardships were caused by forces of evil. So it made sense that witches were blamed for the girls' strange behavior.

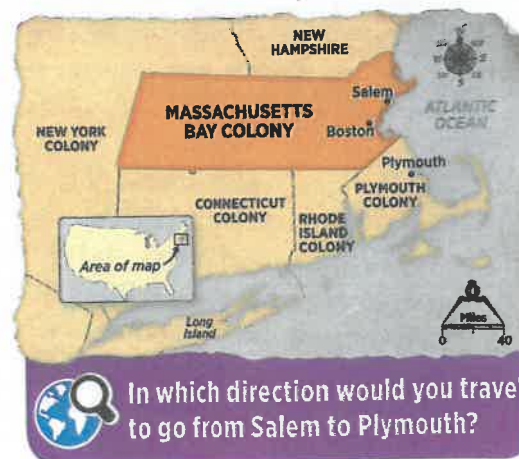
"Everyone believed in witchcraft," says Mary Beth Norton, an expert on the events in Salem. "It was the explanation for all kinds of weird things."

Courtroom Chaos

Betty and Abigail accused three women of cursing them. As news spread, **hysteria** broke out in Salem. Neighbors accused one another of witchcraft.

By the time the Salem witch trials began in May 1692, the town was gripped by fear. Even without evidence, about 150 people were accused of being witches. Twenty people were put to death. Others died in jail.

By 1693, the scare was over. The Puritans still believed in witchcraft. But they realized it was unjust to accuse people of things without any proof.



In which direction would you travel to go from Salem to Plymouth?



SIGNS OF A Salem Witch

In Salem in 1692, it didn't take any real proof to show that someone was using witchcraft. People could be accused of being a witch if . . .

They had a birthmark or mole—even though most people had them (and still do).

A dog got sick after eating a “witch’s cake.” It was a gross mixture of rye flour and the accuser’s urine!

A neighbor’s cow died, his crops were ruined, or he had just about any other type of bad luck.



Today, we use the term “witch hunt.” It describes a situation in which fear leads people to wrongly accuse others—just like what happened in Salem.

Innocent Victims

We now know that the people of Salem weren't witches. But *something* had caused the girls to act so strangely.

One theory is that food poisoning brought on the girls' odd behavior. But most historians dismiss this idea. Some think that the girls faked the whole thing. However,

Norton and some other experts blame the stresses of Puritan life. They believe that the girls were so **tormented** by fear that they became physically ill.

We may never know what really happened. The truth has been buried along with the innocent victims of the Salem witch hunt.

—by Lisa M. Herrington

WORDS TO KNOW

hysteria *noun*. a situation in which people behave in an uncontrolled way, often because of fear

tormented *verb*. caused extreme physical or mental pain

What Killed King Tut?

In 1922, the long-lost tomb of King Tut was discovered in Egypt. Tut became king of Egypt more than 3,300 years ago when he was just 9 years old. Ten years later, the boy king was dead. What happened to the famous ruler?

We asked two experts to weigh in.



Chariot Crash

Chris Naunton

President of the International Association of Egyptologists

I've studied about 100 years' worth of evidence, such as X-rays of Tut's mummy and notes from the discovery of his tomb. I believe injuries from a chariot accident killed Tut.

X-rays of Tut's mummy show that his ribs and heart are missing. One reason for that could be that they were so badly damaged that they had to be removed from his chest before burial.

It's likely that the damage to Tut's chest happened as a result of a chariot crash.

After all, many chariots were found in Tut's tomb.

And ancient Egyptian rulers were known to ride the horse-drawn vehicles while hunting or during battle.

Some say Tut died from an infected broken leg. But a chest injury is usually more serious than a leg injury.



Poor Health

Zahi Hawass

Archaeologist, Egyptologist, and Author

I helped conduct high-tech medical tests on Tut's mummy, taking more than 1,900 images. It's most likely that Tut died from a combination of diseases and infections.

Medical tests have revealed that Tut was unhealthy. He had a disease called malaria. The illness is carried by mosquitoes and can be deadly if left untreated. Tut also had a bone disease that prevented blood from flowing properly into his fingers and feet.



Tests show that shortly before Tut died, he broke his leg. I believe his leg got infected. Back then, an infection like this could prove deadly.

Tut might have broken his leg in a chariot accident. But the accident isn't what killed him. It was his poor health and an infection from the broken leg.

What Do YOU Think? Highlight two pieces of evidence to support your opinion. Use that evidence to write a summary of your opinion. Then cast your vote at scholastic.com/sn4!



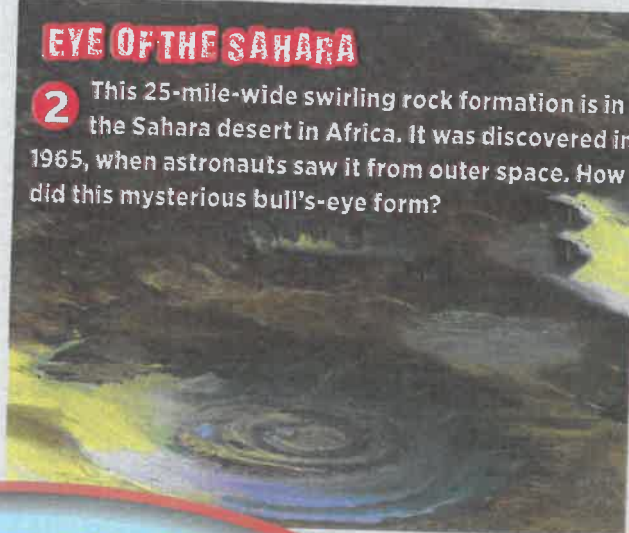
Most Mysterious Places

Check out these strange spots. Write the number of each in the correct spot on the map. Which mysterious location would you want to explore?



MESA VERDE

1 About 800 years ago, Native Americans built hundreds of homes along the cliffs of Mesa Verde in Colorado. Then they suddenly abandoned the homes. Why did they leave?



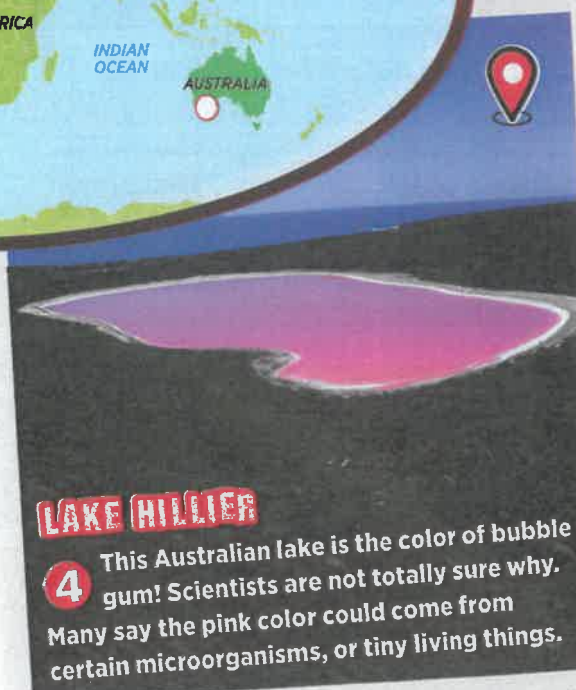
EYE OF THE SAHARA

2 This 25-mile-wide swirling rock formation is in the Sahara desert in Africa. It was discovered in 1965, when astronauts saw it from outer space. How did this mysterious bull's-eye form?



CAVE OF CRYSTALS

3 These 35-foot-tall crystals have been growing inside a Mexican cave for tens of thousands of years. Scientists think there could be an ancient life-form hidden inside them!



LAKE HILLIER

4 This Australian lake is the color of bubble gum! Scientists are not totally sure why. Many say the pink color could come from certain microorganisms, or tiny living things.

Meet the Beasts

Aliens are not the only mysterious beings people say they've seen roaming around. This chart tells you about some other legendary creatures.

Loch Ness Monster



What It Looks Like
A 20-foot-long creature that looks like a dinosaur or sea serpent

Where It's Been Spotted
A lake in Scotland

Fast Fact
The most famous photo of the monster isn't real. Someone stuck a fake monster head on a toy submarine!

Chupacabra

What It Looks Like
A 5-foot-tall creature with huge claws, red eyes, and spikes on its back

Where It's Been Spotted
Mexico and nearby countries

Fast Fact
It has been blamed for attacks on goats, dogs, and other animals.



Yeti

What It Looks Like
A tall, apelike creature with gray, white, or brown fur

Where It's Been Spotted
The snowy Himalayan mountains of Asia

Fast Fact
The yeti is said to only come out at night. The beast is sometimes called the Abominable Snowman.



1 Which beast is known as the Abominable Snowman?

2 Which creature is said to live in a lake?



WRITE ABOUT IT!

Pick one of the creatures to research. Do you think the beast is real? Why or why not?

Do Aliens Exist? pages 2-3

- 1** What is the article's main idea?
 - Ⓐ UFOs are really alien spacecraft.
 - Ⓑ No one knows if we're alone in the universe.
 - Ⓒ The U.S. government investigates UFOs.
 - Ⓓ Many people claim to have seen a UFO.
- 2** Which TWO statements would Luis Elizondo most likely agree with?
 - Ⓐ Kenneth Arnold actually saw a real alien spacecraft in Washington.
 - Ⓑ UFOs move differently than regular aircraft.
 - Ⓒ It is important to investigate UFO sightings.
 - Ⓓ All UFO sightings are easily explained.
- 3** UFOs are *phenomena* because _____.
 - Ⓐ U.S. Navy pilots have seen them
 - Ⓑ many people claim to have seen them
 - Ⓒ they have no clear explanation
 - Ⓓ they could be mistaken for spy planes



Was She a Witch? pages 4-5

- 4** Which of the following caused the others?
 - Ⓐ Twenty innocent people were put to death.
 - Ⓑ Hysteria broke out in Salem.
 - Ⓒ Two cousins in Salem accused three women of being witches.
 - Ⓓ People accused of witchcraft were put on trial.
- 5** What is the unsolved mystery from Salem?
 - Ⓐ what caused the girls' odd behavior
 - Ⓑ why people believed in witchcraft
 - Ⓒ what a witch hunt is
 - Ⓓ why the Salem witch trials happened
- 6** In the article, the phrase "the truth has been buried" means _____.
 - Ⓐ Puritans buried witches' bodies
 - Ⓑ the people of Salem hid the truth
 - Ⓒ the truth is important
 - Ⓓ the truth may never be known

Name: _____

Be a Quiz Whiz!

For each question below, fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

Do Aliens Exist? Pages 2-3

- 1 Which description of UFOs in the article is an example of a simile?
 - A "He sees nine glowing objects speed by."
 - B "Arnold says they moved like saucers skipping across the water."
 - C "The craft moves toward them, then quickly zooms away."
 - D "People describe oddly shaped objects that move at sharp angles and high speeds."
- 2 Which detail is best explained by the sidebar "The Mystery of Area 51"?
 - A "But in real life, thousands of people report seeing UFOs every year."
 - B "Sometimes, UFOs are really just shadows caused by sunlight or clouds."
 - C "Other times, they're secret military planes."
 - D "And each year, scientists discover more planets, billions of miles away."

Was She a Witch? Pages 4-5

- 3 Which event happened first?
 - A Betty Paris is said to be under a witch's spell.
 - B The Puritans settle in Salem.
 - C The Salem witch trials begin.
 - D Betty and Abby accuse three women.
- 4 What is the section "Innocent Victims" mostly about?
 - A how Puritans identified witches
 - B the life of the Puritans in Salem
 - C the people who were put to death
 - D theories about why the girls acted strangely

- 5 **Part A** Mary Beth Norton thinks the Salem girls acted strangely because they _____.
 - A were poisoned
 - B were cursed
 - C wanted attention
 - D were stressed

- 6 **Part B** Which detail best supports the answer to question 5?
 - A "One theory is that food poisoning brought on the girls' odd behavior."
 - B "Some think that the girls faked the whole thing."
 - C "They believe that the girls were so tormented by fear that they became physically ill."
 - D "We may never know what really happened."

What Killed King Tut? Page 6

- 7 Chris Naunton believes that King Tut's heart is missing because it _____.
 - A was removed for a burial procedure
 - B was stolen
 - C was damaged in a chariot crash
 - D was infected with malaria
- 8 According to Zahi Hawass, which of the following was NOT a cause of Tut's death?
 - A malaria
 - B a chest injury
 - C a bone disease
 - D a leg infection

The World's Most Mysterious Places Page 7

- 9 Which mysterious place was created by people?
 - A Mesa Verde
 - B Cave of Crystals
 - C Eye of the Sahara
 - D Lake Hillier
- 10 On which continent is the Cave of Crystals found?
 - A Europe
 - B North America
 - C Australia
 - D South America

Name that material!



Background knowledge

Materials can exist as solids, liquids, and gases. Liquids and gases can easily be poured to fill a space. Liquids can make a surface feel wet. You cannot easily pass your hand through a solid. Many gases have no color. Knowing some of these things can help you identify materials.

Science activity

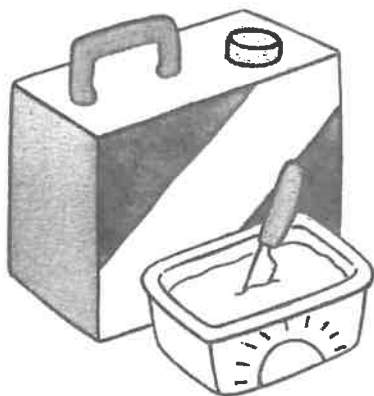
The table below tells you the properties of four different materials – chlorine, paraffin, mica, and margarine. Use this table to answer the questions.

Material	Chlorine	Paraffin	Mica	Margarine
Can it fill a space?	Yes	Yes	No	No
What color is it?	Yellow	No color	White and silvery	Yellow
Can it be poured?	Yes	Yes	No	No
Can you put your finger through it?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Can it make a piece of paper wet?	No	Yes	No	Yes

Which materials are solids?

Which materials are liquids?

Which materials are gases?



Science investigation

Using a pipette, place one drop of each of the following liquids onto wax paper: soapy water, fresh water, oil, rubbing alcohol. Have an adult help you. Can the shape of a drop of the liquid be used to identify the liquid? Explain.

Mix and match

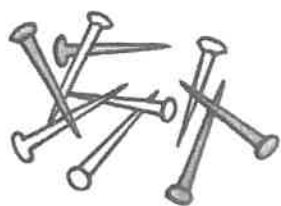


Background knowledge

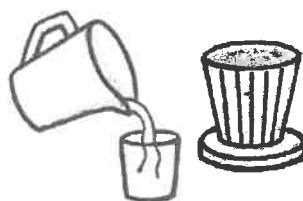
Mixtures are two or more materials combined together. They can be separated in many different ways. To find out which is the best way to separate a mixture, you must first ask yourself some important questions. For example, are the materials in the mixture soluble? Are the materials attracted to a magnet? Do the materials change when they are heated? What size are the particles in the mixture?

Science activity

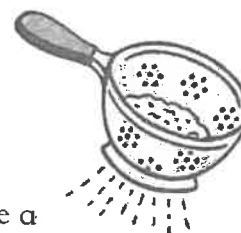
On the left, you can see four mixtures. On the right are four different methods for separating mixtures. Draw a line between each mixture and the best separation method. On a separate piece of paper, explain your choice.



Steel nails and copper nails



Dissolve in water and then use a filter.



Use a colander.



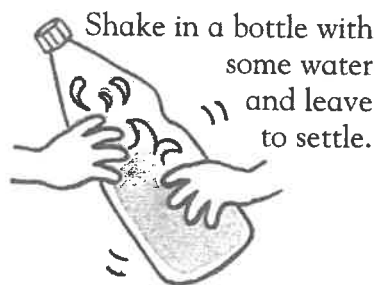
Rice and mung beans



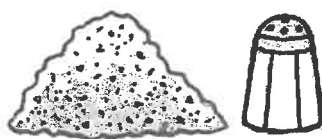
Use a magnet.



Soil containing mud and sand



Shake in a bottle with some water and leave to settle.



Sand and salt

Science investigation

⚠ Take extra care - ask an adult to supervise you.

Suppose somebody mixed together sand, paper clips, and sugar. Design and conduct an experiment that will separate the three materials from one another. How could you get the sugar back if you dissolved it in water?



March 2, 2020

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SCHOLASTIC

Edition
4

News

I ESCAPED AUSTRALIA'S WILDFIRES

With fires raging all around them,
12-year-old Dylan Lee and his family
had to run for their lives.



Go to
scholastic.com/sn4
to learn more about
how wildfires start
and get so out
of control.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Find out why voting is
so important!



WE WERE SURROUNDED BY FLAMES

**AS YOU
READ**

How have the wildfires affected Australia's people, wildlife, and environment?

Since September, Australia has been experiencing one of its worst wildfire seasons ever. (Wildfires in Australia are called bushfires.) Record-breaking heat and dry weather have made it easier for fires to start and spread. So far, the blazes have charred more than 27 million acres of land—an area about the size of Virginia. Nearly 30 people have died and thousands have lost their homes.

On New Year's Eve, 12-year-old Dylan Lee and his family were camping in the town of Narooma when bushfires closed in on them. This is Dylan's story, in his own words.

I knew something was wrong as soon as I walked outside that morning.

The sky was orange and the air was smoky. Everywhere I looked, people were frantically packing up and driving away. I ran inside and woke my parents. My mom said two words: "Start packing."

As we got ready to **evacuate**, the sun was blocked by a wall of heavy

smoke and the power was out. So we ran around in the dark gathering our things.

By the time we left, the sky was red and my eyes were stinging. Black, charred leaves rained from the sky. We didn't quite know where the fires were, but we knew we had to get out of there quickly. It was really scary.

Escaping the Fires

We drove to a nearby evacuation center. All morning, people flooded in, to the point where you couldn't move. The atmosphere was tense.

We were stuck there. Our

house in Sydney was too far away to get to that night.

Luckily, my dad's friend has a house not too far away. The drive there was the scariest part of the whole experience. At times, the smoke was so heavy that I couldn't see my hand if I held it in front of my face.

Through the haze, I saw dead wallabies lining the side of the road. Other animals just stood there, staring at the burning land that was once their home.

Home at Last

After two nights at my dad's friend's house, we

WORDS TO KNOW

evacuate *verb.* to move from a dangerous area or situation

desperate *adjective.* seemingly hopeless; very stressful

ESCAPE As Dylan's family tried to get to safety, the sky turned blood red.

SHELTER For a few hours, this evacuation center was the only shelter the family had.

DYLAN

woke up super early to drive home. Thousands of cars were already on the highway. The fires were so out of control that roads would suddenly close so firefighters could battle the blazes that popped up.

We pulled over to the side of the road to wait out the traffic. We wound up being stuck in our car for more than 14 hours!

Some locals handed out

food to the people stranded on the road, even though they may have needed it themselves. My sister and I helped them give out the food. It distracted us from the danger all around us.

The next morning, the roads cleared. We drove past burned trees, beaches, and villages. When we finally made it back to

Sydney, I was so happy to be home at last.

Those were definitely the craziest few days of my life. But I learned that even in **desperate** times, people can be kind. And I know just how lucky my family is to be safe. So much has been destroyed.



ANIMALS IN DANGER

As firefighters battle blazes, wildlife groups race to rescue animals. Even if animals survive the fires, many later die from starvation after their homes are destroyed.

Experts estimate that more than 1 billion animals have been

killed so far. That's three times the number of people in the U.S. On Kangaroo Island alone, more than 25,000 koalas have died.

"We need to pull together to save this Australian icon," says Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park owner Dana Mitchell.





SHE
GREW
UP TO...

FIGHT FOR

A hundred years ago, women
right to vote, thanks to fea

Alice Paul sat in a jail cell in Virginia. The year was 1917. The cell was filthy. The blanket on the bed hadn't been washed in months. And the food at the jail was crawling with bugs. Paul's crime? She thought women should be allowed to vote.

Women in the United States didn't always have that right. **Activists** like Paul helped change that, but it took decades of struggle.

Where It All Began

Paul was born in 1885. Her family belonged to a religious group called the Quakers. They believed that men and women were equals. At the time, not many others shared that view.

Paul often tagged along with her mother to women's **suffrage** meetings. So she knew that women weren't being represented well by the government. How could they be if they weren't allowed to vote for their leaders?

Paul's childhood set the stage for her life's work. After college, she became a leader in the American women's suffrage movement.

In March 1913, Paul helped organize a protest parade in Washington, D.C. More than 5,000 women marched in the parade. Thousands of men and kids also showed their support. But others were there for a



The 1917 suffrage protest outside the White House lasted about two years.

different reason—they disagreed with Paul's views. Angry onlookers hit, tripped, and yelled at the marchers. But it didn't stop them.

"The parade brought visibility to the suffrage movement," says Krista Niles. She works at the Alice Paul Institute.

A Tough Battle

Over the next few years, Paul wrote letters to Congress, gave speeches, and spread the word

WORDS TO KNOW

activists *noun, plural.* people who act to try to bring about change

suffrage *noun.* the right to vote

THE FIGHT FOR VOTING RIGHTS

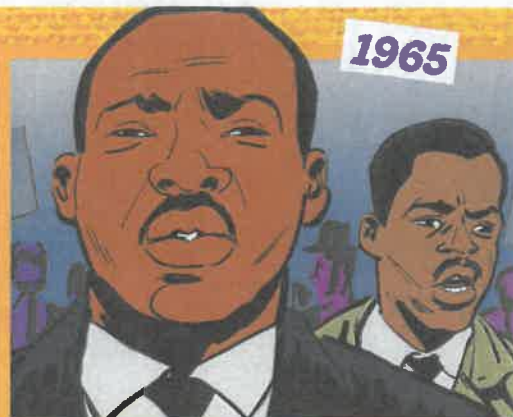
These are a few milestones in the history of voting rights in the U.S.

1872



In 1872, famous suffrage leader **Susan B. Anthony** was arrested for voting in a presidential election.

1965



WOMEN'S RIGHTS

in the United States won the
less leaders like Alice Paul.



about her cause. Then in 1917, she organized a group of more than 1,000 women to protest at the White House. No one had ever dared to protest outside the president's home before.

For eight hours a day, rain or shine, the women stood silently outside the White House gates,

holding signs. Paul insisted that the protest remain nonviolent.

After a few months, police began to arrest the women. Although they were standing quietly on the sidewalk, more than 200 suffragists were charged with blocking traffic. That's how Paul ended up in that filthy jail cell.

Winning the Vote

As word spread about their imprisonment, there was a

public outcry. The women were eventually released.

More importantly, they could no longer be ignored. Feeling pressured, President Woodrow Wilson announced his support for women's suffrage in 1918. Two years later, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was approved, finally granting women in the U.S. the right to vote.

Paul spent the rest of her life, right up until her death in 1977, fighting for equal rights.

"Alice Paul believed that one person can make a difference," Niles says. "You don't have to be wealthy or famous. It comes down to your personal courage."

—by Natalie Smith

EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

You're too young to vote—so why should you care?

Turn to page 7 and watch a video at scholastic.com/sn4 to find out!



"America is not a democracy. Twenty million women are denied the right to vote."
—Alice Paul



African Americans won the right to vote in 1870. But unfair laws in some states prevented them from voting for decades.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 finally prohibited discrimination in voting.



During the Vietnam War, Many Americans argued that if 18-year-olds could fight in wars, they should be able to vote.

In 1971, the voting age was lowered from 21 to 18.

**GO
ONLINE!**
Learn more about
our national
symbols.



It may be hard
to believe, but
these eaglets
will grow
into mighty
eagles.

SAVING BABY EAGLES

Last spring, wildlife rescuer Jaye Moore got an unexpected call. A woman and her dog had found two baby birds on the ground. When Moore arrived at the scene in Sequim, Washington, she knew these weren't just any birds. The plump, fuzzy chicks were baby bald eagles!

The bald eagle is important to our country. A symbol of strength, it was named the national bird in 1789. The birds were once endangered. They no longer are, but are still protected by special laws.

The eagles in Washington had fallen out of their nest, high up in the trees. Baby eagles, called eaglets, are supposed to spend the first two months of their life in their nest. These birds were

only about three weeks old.

"They needed to get back up to their nest as soon as possible," says Moore.

Returning Home

Moore called her friend Casey Balch, the owner of a local tree service, for help. They quickly came up with a plan. First Balch climbed the tree. Moore carefully placed the eaglets in a duffel bag. Then, they slowly pulled the bag up the tree. Overhead, the eagle parents kept a watchful eye.

"They were swooping above us the entire time, making sure their babies didn't get hurt," explains Moore.

The plan worked. The eaglets were safely

returned to their nest and reunited with their parents. Today, the healthy birds are often seen flying over the area.

"When we can return baby animals to their home in the wild, it's the best feeling in the world," says Moore.

NATIONAL SYMBOLS

Like the bald eagle, these other U.S. symbols represent our nation's values and traditions:

NATIONAL FLAG The stripes in the U.S. flag stand for the 13 original colonies and the stars represent the 50 states.

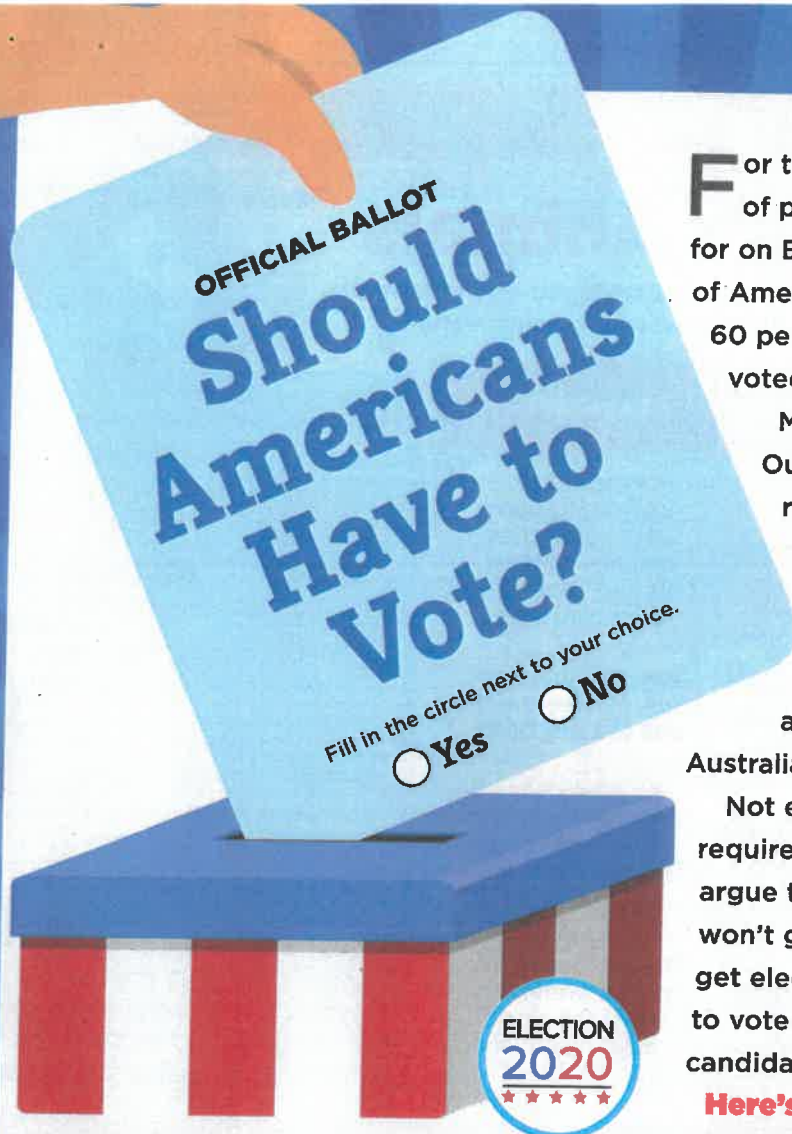


NATIONAL SEAL The Great Seal can be seen on the back of the \$1 bill and is used on government documents. It was first used in 1782.



NATIONAL TREE People across the country voted to make the mighty oak our official national tree in 2004.





For the next few months, you'll hear a lot of people talking about who they'll vote for on Election Day. But chances are, millions of Americans won't vote. In 2016, only about 60 percent of the people who could have voted for president actually did.

Many people say that's a problem. Our elected leaders are supposed to represent the interests of all Americans, but that can't happen if so many citizens don't vote. One solution is to make voting required. That's worked in Australia, where voter turnout is about 90 percent in most elections. Australians who fail to vote have to pay a fine.

Not everyone is ready to vote "yes" for required voting, however. Many people argue that requiring Americans to vote won't guarantee that the best candidates get elected. They say people who don't want to vote are less likely to learn about the candidates and their views.

Here's what two of our readers think.



Asa Johnson
Maryland

Voting is one of our most important rights. African Americans and women fought for years to gain that right. In some countries, people still don't have it. People who don't vote are taking that right for granted.

Voting is also a responsibility. Many people aren't happy with our leaders but don't vote. If voting were required, it would encourage everybody to make sure their voices are heard.



Marysia Salabaj
Illinois

Voting is an important right, but it's also a choice. Forcing someone to vote takes away their freedom.

Rather than requiring people to vote or punishing them for not voting, we should find ways to encourage them. For example, it's hard for many people to take time off work to vote. If Election Day were a national holiday, more people would have time to go to the polls.

What Do YOU Think? Highlight evidence to support your opinion, and then use that information to write a persuasive letter. You can cast your vote at [scholastic.com/sn4](https://www.scholastic.com/sn4)!

Australia's Animals

Thousands of plant and animal species are found only in Australia.
Here are a few of Australia's most well-known creatures.



Koala



ANIMAL	LIFE SPAN IN THE WILD	ESTIMATED POPULATION IN THE WILD	FAST FACT
Eastern Gray Kangaroo	8 to 10 years	16 million	When male kangaroos fight each other, they balance on their tails and "box" with their hind legs.
Koala	12 to 15 years	Less than 100,000	Newborn koalas are blind, earless, and the size of a jelly bean.
Yellow- Footed Rock Wallaby	12 to 18 years	Less than 10,000	Wallabies live on mountaintops and can jump as far as 13 feet from rock to rock.
Northern Hairy- Nosed Wombat	Up to 26 years	Less than 250	The northern hairy-nosed wombat is one of the world's rarest mammals.

Sources: National Geographic, Australia Zoo, energy.gov.au

1 Based on the chart, which type of animal is most in danger of becoming extinct?

- Ⓐ koala
- Ⓑ northern hairy-nosed wombat
- Ⓒ eastern gray kangaroo
- Ⓓ yellow-footed rock wallaby

2 True or False? There are about 10 times as many koalas in the wild as yellow-footed rock wallabies.

WRITE ABOUT IT!

Research another plant or animal species that is found only in Australia. Fill out the categories in this chart for that species.

We Were Surrounded by Flames pages 2-3

- 1** What is the article mainly about?
 - Ⓐ what caused recent wildfires in Australia
 - Ⓑ how Dylan Lee escaped the wildfires
 - Ⓒ how animals are affected by the wildfires
 - Ⓓ how firefighters battle wildfires
- 2** Which detail would be most important to include in a summary of the article?
 - Ⓐ "My dad's friend has a house not too far away."
 - Ⓑ "We knew we had to get out of there quickly."
 - Ⓒ "All morning, people flooded in."
 - Ⓓ "We woke up super early to drive home."
- 3** Which of these words is closest in meaning to *desperate* as it is used in the article?
 - Ⓐ helpless
 - Ⓑ fun
 - Ⓒ exciting
 - Ⓓ hopeful

She Grew Up to Fight for Women's Rights pages 4-5

- 4** Which of these events happened last?
 - Ⓐ Susan B. Anthony was arrested for voting.
 - Ⓑ The 19th Amendment was approved.
 - Ⓒ Alice Paul was arrested.
 - Ⓓ Paul organized a protest at the White House.
- 5** Women who fought for *suffrage* wanted _____.
 - Ⓐ the right to protest
 - Ⓑ the right to vote
 - Ⓒ a new president
 - Ⓓ a lower voting age
- 6** Which statement is supported by the article?
 - Ⓐ Paul was the first woman to fight for suffrage.
 - Ⓑ The voting age should be lowered to 16.
 - Ⓒ The fight for voting rights continued after the 19th Amendment was approved.
 - Ⓓ Only famous people can make a difference.

Name: _____

Main Idea
Common Core RI.4.1

Sort It Out!

After reading "We Were Surrounded by Flames," read and cut out the sentences at the bottom of this page. Decide whether each sentence describes the story's main idea, a supporting detail, or neither. Then paste or tape it in the correct box. Not all sentences will be used.



Main Idea

Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail



As firefighters battle blazes, wildlife rescue groups are racing to rescue animals.

Experts estimate that more than 1 billion animals have died in the Australian fires.

While stuck in traffic, Dylan and his sister helped locals hand out food to people.

Animals stared at the burning land that was once their home.

Dylan Lee and his family escaped from the wildfires in Australia.

Dylan's family fled their campsite and drove to an evacuation center.

Even though animals may survive the fires, many will later die from starvation.

After several days, Dylan and his family made it back home to Sydney.



Name: _____

Be a Quiz Whiz!

For each question below, fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

We Were Surrounded by Flames Pages 2-3

1 The first paragraph on page 2 provides ____.

- Ⓐ background information on the bushfires
- Ⓑ tips for readers who may want to help
- Ⓒ the author's opinion on the bushfires
- Ⓓ statements from the Lee family

2 Part A Which statement paraphrases the lesson Dylan Lee learned?

- Ⓐ People come together only in tragedies.
- Ⓑ In an emergency, strangers can't be trusted.
- Ⓒ Kindness can help fight bushfires.
- Ⓓ Kindness helps people through difficult times.

3 Part B Which detail best supports the answer to question 2?

- Ⓐ "All morning, people flooded in, to the point where you couldn't move."
- Ⓑ "The drive there was the scariest part of the whole experience."
- Ⓒ "It distracted us from the danger all around us."
- Ⓓ "When we finally made it back to Sydney, I was so happy to be home at last."

She Grew Up to Fight for Women's Rights Pages 4-5

4 The section "A Tough Battle" explains ____.

- Ⓐ Alice Paul's childhood experiences
- Ⓑ Paul's experience in jail
- Ⓒ milestones in the history of voting rights
- Ⓓ how Paul took action to bring about change

5 With which statement would Paul likely agree?

- Ⓐ Goals that are difficult to achieve are a waste.
- Ⓑ Don't stop fighting for what you believe in.
- Ⓒ Laws and rules are not meant to be changed.
- Ⓓ To make changes, everyone must agree.

6 Which question is not answered by the sidebar at the bottom of pages 4-5?

- Ⓐ Which states prohibited African Americans from voting after 1870?
- Ⓑ Why was Susan B. Anthony arrested?
- Ⓒ What was the purpose of the Voting Rights Act of 1965?
- Ⓓ Why did Americans feel the voting age should be 18?

Saving Baby Eagles Page 6

7 What is the main idea of the article?

- Ⓐ Rescuers worked together to return eaglets to their nest.
- Ⓑ Bald eagles are a U.S. symbol of strength.
- Ⓒ The eaglets fell from their nest.
- Ⓓ Jaye Moore got a call about fallen eaglets.

8 Which word could be used to describe the eagle parents?

- Ⓐ unaware
- Ⓑ protective
- Ⓒ unbothered
- Ⓓ vicious

Should Americans Have to Vote? Page 7

9 Which detail challenges the idea that Americans should be required to vote?

- Ⓐ "But chances are, millions of Americans won't vote."
- Ⓑ "One solution is to make voting required."
- Ⓒ "That's worked in Australia, where voter turnout is about 90 percent ..."
- Ⓓ "... people who don't want to vote are less likely to learn about the candidates ..."

10 If you take something for granted, you ____.

- Ⓐ show it to someone else
- Ⓑ don't appreciate it
- Ⓒ steal it from someone else
- Ⓓ understand its value

All mixed up!



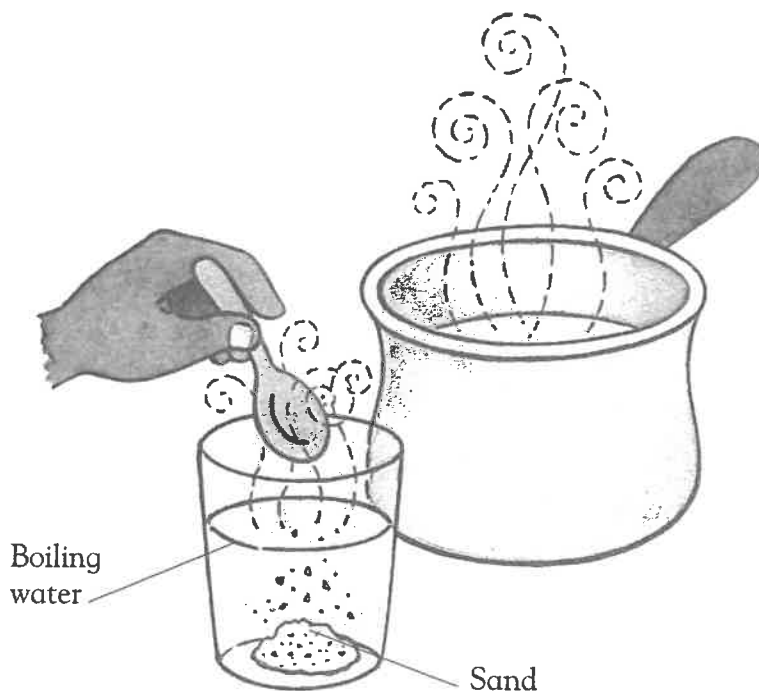
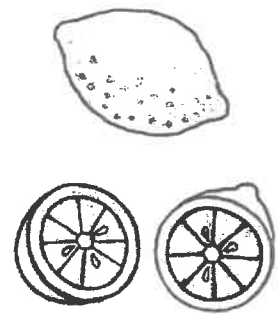
Background knowledge

When solids are added to some liquids, the solid dissolves into very tiny particles and seems to disappear. A mixture in which one material dissolves in another is called a *solution*. When you add sugar to a cup of tea, the sugar dissolves in the tea to form a solution. Some solids will not dissolve in liquids. For example, flour will not dissolve in water. Materials that dissolve in liquids are called *soluble*. Materials that do not dissolve in liquids are called *insoluble*. Water is a liquid that can dissolve many types of materials.

Science activity

Read the sentences below and decide which ones are true and which ones are false. Circle the right answers.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|-------|
| Sand dissolves in boiling water. | True | False |
| Sugar dissolves in lemon juice. | True | False |
| Soil dissolves in water. | True | False |
| Salt dissolves in tomato soup. | True | False |
| Sugar dissolves in sand. | True | False |
| Oil is soluble in vinegar. | True | False |



Science investigation

Design and conduct an experiment to see if a sugar cube dissolves faster in hot water or cold water.

