Fill in the missing numbers. Then answer the questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fools’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Passover</td>
<td>begins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Week begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. When does National Library Week begin?

2. What day of the week is April 26?

3. What is the date of the day after Earth Day?

4. How many Sundays are in April this year?

★ Bonus

Which day of the week will May 1 be?
Name: ________________________________

Video: “What Do Plants Need?”

Watch a Video

Teachers: Students can read the questions before they watch the video. That way, they’ll know what to pay attention to while watching!

1. What is one thing that plants need?

___________________________________________________________________________

2. Why do plants need it?

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

3. The video shows plants that get what they need in unusual ways. What is one unusual way that you learned about in this video?

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________
Name: 

Read and Think

Read your issue of Scholastic News.

As you read, answer the questions below.

1. Read “Stinky Plant.” Then STOP.

   What do insects do when they smell the rafflesia plant?

____________________________________________________________________________

2. How does what the insects do help the plant?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

3. Read “Slimy Plant.” Then STOP.

   What part of the Sierra Mixe is slimy?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

4. How does having slime help the plant?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

5. Read “Toilet Plant.” Then STOP.

   How do pitcher plants get nutrients?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________
## Three Gross Plants

Fill in the chart about the plants in your *Scholastic News*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>What Makes It Gross</th>
<th>How Being Gross Helps It</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rafflesia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw it.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Mixe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw it.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitcher Plant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw it.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCIENCE SKILLS**

Plant parts; plant form and function

**Issue:** This Plant Stinks!
Name: __________________________________________

Word Work
Answer the questions about vocabulary words from your issue of Scholastic News.

1. If you got pollen on your hands, how would it feel?
   ○ wet ○ slimy ○ dusty

2. If you got mucus on your hands, how would it feel?
   ○ dry ○ slimy ○ dusty

3. Why do living things need nutrients?
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

4. Draw foods that have a lot of nutrients on this plate.

5. What do animals do with the nectar they find in plants?
   ____________________________________________
Reading Checkpoint:
This Plant Stinks!
Fill in each correct answer.

1. What is this article mostly about? [main idea/details]
   A how being gross helps three plants
   B how corn plants grow
   C what kinds of nutrients different plants need

2. What is one way the three plants in this issue are alike? [compare/contrast]
   A They all have mucus.
   B They all are gross.
   C They all smell bad.

3. What is mucus? [vocabulary]
   A a sweet liquid inside plants
   B a dust made inside flowers
   C a thick, slimy liquid

4. What is gross about the rafflesia plant? [key details]
   A It makes slime.
   B It smells very bad.
   C Animals use it as a toilet.

5. Which of these is a problem for the pitcher plant? [problem/solution]
   A It grows too tall for its habitat.
   B Animals stay away from it.
   C Its habitat does not have many nutrients in the soil.
Name: 

Video: “Save Our Seas”

Watch a Video

Teachers: Students can read the questions before they watch the video. That way, they’ll know what to pay attention to while watching!

1. What is one reason the ocean is important to humans and animals?
   
   

2. Why is pollution bad for the ocean?
   
   

3. What is one way kids can help keep the oceans clean and healthy?
   
   

Name: ____________________________

Read and Think

Read your issue of Scholastic News.
As you read, stop and answer the questions below.

1. Read the first two paragraphs of the article. Then STOP.
   Why was the beach in California covered in trash?

   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

2. Read “Ocean at Work.” Then STOP. What did the ocean waves and the beach sand do to the sharp pieces of glass?

   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

3. What does sea glass look like?

   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

4. Read “Disappearing Glass.” Then STOP. Why do some people say it’s OK to take the sea glass from the beach in California?

   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

5. Why do other people say the glass should be left alone?

   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
Debate It!

In a debate, people with different opinions talk about what they believe. You can use “Beach of Glass” to have a debate! First, write reasons that support each side.

### Issue: Beach of Glass

Should people be allowed to take sea glass?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reasons:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reasons:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next, read the reasons on both sides. Then think about what you believe.

Last, write your opinion in one sentence below. Your opinion is what you think or feel about something.

______________________________________________________
Name: ________________________________

**Word Work**

Answer the questions about vocabulary words from your issue of *Scholastic News*.

1. Color in the words that describe pieces of **sea glass**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>colorful</th>
<th>sharp</th>
<th>smooth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sparkly</td>
<td>small</td>
<td>pointy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Why can you find sea glass only at beaches?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

3. A **souvenir** is ____________.

   ○ a kind of animal that lives in the ocean
   ○ something people keep to remind them of a place they’ve visited
   ○ a kind of storm that moves over the ocean

4. What is a souvenir that would remind you of your year in second grade? Draw it here. →
Reading Checkpoint: Beach of Glass
Fill in the circle for each correct answer.

1. What is this article mostly about? [main idea/details]
   A how the ocean changes the shape of the land
   B how broken glass on one beach turned into sea glass
   C the best ways to recycle garbage

2. Where is the glass beach? [key details]
   A California
   B Indiana
   C Missouri

3. What does the sidebar in this issue give information about? [nonfiction text features]
   A where the glass beach is
   B how to make sea glass
   C where different colors of sea glass come from

4. Why did people clean the beach in California 50 years ago? [cause/effect]
   A They learned garbage was bad for the ocean.
   B They learned garbage was good for the ocean.
   C They wanted to have a party on the beach.

5. The article says, “Nature turned a pile of trash into a beautiful treasure.” What do you think this means? [making inferences]
   A The sand on the beach turned old metal into gold coins.
   B The ocean turned broken glass into beautiful sea glass.
   C People cleaned up the trash on the beach.
Name: ____________________________

Video: “What Are Endangered Animals?”

Watch a Video

Teachers: Students can read the questions before they watch the video. That way, they’ll know what to pay attention to while watching!

1. When a type of animal is endangered, it is ______________________.
   ○ in danger of dying out forever
   ○ never going to die out
   ○ safe from harm

2. Pick one of the endangered animals from the video.
   Write it here. _______________________________________________________

3. Why is this animal endangered?
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

Visit www.scholastic.com/sn2
Read and Think

Read your issue of Scholastic News. As you read, stop and answer the questions below.

1. Read “Cute Little Kitty.” Then STOP.

Why might someone be surprised that the black-footed cat is such a good hunter?

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Read “Cats in Danger.” Then STOP.

What is one reason that black-footed cats are in danger?

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

3. Read “Scientists Are Helping!” Then STOP.

How does it help the cats to put tracking collars on them?

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

4. Read “Where’s That Cat?” Then STOP.

Why are black-footed cats hard for scientists to find?

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________
Main Idea and Details
Use your Scholastic News to fill in the boxes.

What is the whole article about?
Black-footed cats are great hunters, and they need help from people.

What is the section “Cute Little Kitty” about?
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

What is the section “Cats in Danger” about?
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

What is the section “Scientists Are Helping!” about?
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Visit www.scholastic.com/sn2
Main Idea and Details

Use your Scholastic News to fill in the boxes.

What is the whole article about?

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

Detail 1

____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Detail 2

____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Detail 3

____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Name: ________________________________

Issue: This Is the World's Most Dangerous Cat!

ANDY ELKERTON

Visit www.scholastic.com/sn2
Name: __________________________________________

**Word Work**

Answer the questions about vocabulary words from your issue of *Scholastic News*.

1. A **predator** is an animal that ________________.
   - ○ hunts other animals for food
   - ○ is not good at hunting
   - ○ eats only plants

2. Which words describe a black-footed cat? (Circle) or color them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>fuzzy</th>
<th>deadly</th>
<th>tiny</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tall</td>
<td>huge</td>
<td>fierce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. When a type of animal is **endangered**, it is ________________.
   - ○ never going to die out
   - ○ in danger of dying out
   - ○ not scared of people

4. Why is it a problem that people are destroying the black-footed cat’s **habitat**?

   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

**RI.2.4 Vocabulary**

**Issue:** This Is the World’s Most Dangerous Cat!

**Words:** fuzzy, deadly, tiny, tall, huge, fierce
Name: ________________________________

Reading Checkpoint: This Is the World’s Most Dangerous Cat!
Fill in the circle for each correct answer.

1. What is this article mostly about? [main idea]
   A different kinds of cats  
   B the black-footed cat and why it’s endangered  
   C how scientists use tracking collars to keep cats safe

2. An animal that hunts other animals for food is called a _______. [vocabulary]
   A habitat  
   B scientist  
   C predator

3. What happens when people destroy the cats’ habitat? [cause/effect]
   A The mice, birds, and insects that the cats eat are killed.  
   B More animals come to live in the habitat.  
   C The habitat becomes safer for the cats to live in.

4. Read the caption at the top of page 2. What does the cat do right before it jumps? [nonfiction text features]
   A It arches its back.  
   B It stays low to the ground.  
   C It runs really fast.

5. What is one way that people are helping the black-footed cats? [key details]
   A They help them have kittens at zoos. Then they bring the kittens to the wild.  
   B They destroy their habitat.  
   C They help them catch birds and mice.
1. A swirling, funnel-shaped cloud is called a _________________.
   ○ hurricane ○ tornado ○ drought

2. What is one thing that could happen during a hurricane?
   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________

3. Describe what it is like during a drought.
   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________
Name: ________________________________

Read and Think

Read your issue of Scholastic News.
As you read, answer the questions below.

1. Read “A Volcano Erupts.” Then stop.
   When and where did Mount Tambora erupt?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

2. Read “A Thick Cloud Spreads.” Then stop.
   What happened to the weather once the cloud spread around the world?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. Read “A Colder World.” Then stop.
   After the volcano erupted, people in the U.S. could not get enough food to eat. Why?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

4. Read “A Surprise Invention.” Then stop.
   How did the invention of the bicycle help people in 1816?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
Odd weather has been reported around the world! In China, ________________________________ ______________________________.

In the United States, ________________________________ ______________________________.

Some people are calling this the “Year Without a Summer.”

Scientists think they know why this is happening. In Indonesia, a volcano called ____________________ erupted. It ________________________________ ________________________________.

A huge cloud has spread around the planet. The cloud is blocking the sun. This has caused the weather to ________________________________ ________________________________.

But there’s some good news to come out of all this. A man has invented the ____________________.

He invented it because ________________________________ ________________________________.

People around the world are hoping the weather will be back to normal soon!

This is what the invention looks like.

Visit www.scholastic.com/sn2
Name: ______________________________

**Word Work**

Answer the questions about vocabulary words from your issue of *Scholastic News*.

1. When something **erupts**, it _____________.
   - O stops
   - O explodes
   - O freezes

2. Draw what it might have looked like when Mount Tambora erupted.

3. Why was the cold weather bad for the **crops**?

   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
1. What is this article mostly about? [main idea]
   A why volcanoes erupt
   B the invention of the bicycle
   C how the weather changed after a volcano erupted

2. When something erupts, it ________________ . [vocabulary]
   A explodes
   B gets quiet
   C stops moving

3. After the volcano erupted, a big cloud kept light and heat from reaching Earth. What happened next? [cause/effect]
   A Earth’s temperature got warmer.
   B Earth’s temperature got colder.
   C Farmers grew too many crops.

4. The author wrote, “There wasn’t much food for people to buy, so the food that was left became really expensive. A lot of people didn’t get enough to eat.” What do you think she means by this? [making inferences]
   A A lot of people didn’t have enough money to buy food.
   B A lot of people threw their food out.
   C There was no food for anyone to buy.

5. A man invented the bicycle because __________ . [key details]
   A people didn’t like horses anymore
   B people needed a way to get around that didn’t cost a lot
   C there were no horses left in the U.S.