

To be used with the April 13, 2020, issue

Name: _____

Be a Quiz Whiz!

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

Fighting Food Waste Pages 2-3

- 1** “A Big Problem” helps readers understand how ____.
- Ⓐ wasted lunch food harms the environment
 - Ⓑ share tables have resulted in less food waste
 - Ⓒ the donation program helps the community
 - Ⓓ students were inspired to reduce food waste
- 2 Part A** In addition to helping the community, the share table has also helped ____.
- Ⓐ farmers
 - Ⓑ students at Lincoln Elementary
 - Ⓒ consumers in grocery stores
 - Ⓓ the staff of local grocery stores
- 3 Part B** Which detail best supports the answer to question 2?
- Ⓐ “But who’s mainly to blame for all the wasted food?”
 - Ⓑ “Lincoln Elementary began its program in January.”
 - Ⓒ “The group uses the food to provide free breakfast to people in need . . .”
 - Ⓓ “The program has made students more aware of what they eat—and don’t eat.”

Can Kids Save the Planet? Pages 4-5

- 4** Based on the first paragraph, readers can infer that Alexandria Villaseñor is ____.
- Ⓐ studious
 - Ⓑ artistic
 - Ⓒ determined
 - Ⓓ shy
- 5** Alexandria urges world leaders to ____.
- Ⓐ transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy
 - Ⓑ increase greenhouse gases
 - Ⓒ protest with her at Fridays for Future
 - Ⓓ use more fossil fuels

- 6** Alexandria’s protests have ____.
- Ⓐ made the U.N. change certain laws
 - Ⓑ inspired other kids to take action
 - Ⓒ had little impact on others
 - Ⓓ resulted in many job offers

He Grew Up to Start Earth Day Page 6

- 7** Which detail shows that Senator Nelson was pleased with the success of Earth Day?
- Ⓐ “He developed a lifelong appreciation for nature.”
 - Ⓑ “He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1963.”
 - Ⓒ “It would be ‘a national day for the environment.’”
 - Ⓓ “‘Earth Day achieved what I had hoped for and then some,’ Nelson said . . .”

8 How is the text structured?

- Ⓐ problem/solution
- Ⓑ compare/contrast
- Ⓒ question/answer
- Ⓓ chronological

Turning Trash Into Art Page 6

- 9** Which sentence best summarizes the article?
- Ⓐ Volunteers build sculptures from trash to educate people.
 - Ⓑ Billions of tons of trash ends up in Earth’s oceans.
 - Ⓒ Volunteers at Washed Ashore are creative.
 - Ⓓ Trash in oceans harms marine animals.

Is It OK to Swim With Manatees? Page 7

- 10** Which statement would Dr. Martine de Wit likely agree with?
- Ⓐ People can learn about nature only through touching and feeling.
 - Ⓑ Nature can be appreciated from a distance.
 - Ⓒ Nature should be learned about from textbooks only.
 - Ⓓ People should never interact with animals.

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Close-Reading Questions

Refer to "Fighting Food Waste" to respond to the questions below. Reread the article to find details that support your answers. Remember to write in complete sentences.

1. Summarize the reasons that throwing food away is wasteful.

2. Which details support the fact that every year we throw away about 40 percent of all the food grown in the U.S.?

3. How has the program at Lincoln Elementary changed students?

Name: _____

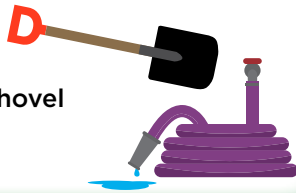
Make a Compost Pile

After reading “Fighting Food Waste,” study the informational text below to learn how to turn food waste into compost. Ask an adult to help you make a compost pile. Before you dig in, read the instructions below and answer the questions.



Materials

- “Brown material” like fallen leaves, nut shells, small twigs, shredded newspaper
- “Green material” like grass clippings and food scraps (such as vegetable peelings, eggshells, old bread, or fruit rinds—but NOT meat, oils, or dairy products)
- garden soil
- a garden fork or shovel
- a garden hose or watering can



Steps

1. Find a dry, shady area about 3 feet long.
2. Spread brown material in a layer that’s about 6 inches thick.
3. Add a 2-inch-thick layer of green material.
4. Add a 1-inch-thick layer of soil. This layer will help absorb the odor.
5. Add some water. The pile should be moist but not soggy. You may want to cover your pile with a tarp to protect it from rain.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 until the compost pile is about 3 feet high.
7. Every few weeks, mix the compost. This allows air to enter the pile. You may notice your compost steaming. It’s normal for an active pile to heat up. It can get as hot as 170°F!
8. In several months, your compost will become cool, crumbly, and dark. Some composters call this “black gold.” Add this finished product to garden soil. It’s full of nutrients that will help keep your plants healthy.

1. Circle the items you can include in a compost pile:

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| chicken | dead leaves | yogurt |
| eggshells | vegetable oil | onion peels |

2. Sketch a diagram that shows the layers of a compost pile. Label each layer.



3. What is the purpose of adding a layer of soil to your compost pile?

4. How can you prevent your compost pile from getting soggy?

5. Why is it beneficial to make a compost pile? Refer to the article for additional support.

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Close-Reading Questions

Refer to “Can Kids Save the Planet?” to respond to the questions below. Reread the article to find details that support your answers. Remember to write in complete sentences.

1. What is climate change? Why does it matter?

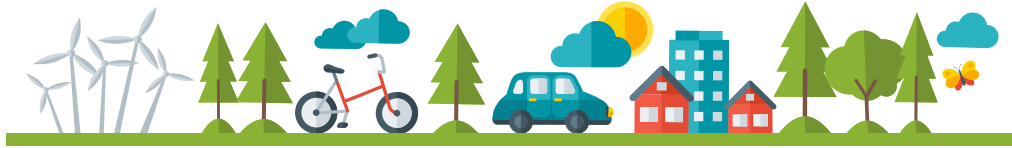
2. How are fossil fuels different from renewable energy?

3. According to the sidebar “The Greenhouse Effect,” how do greenhouse gases affect the environment?

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Writing a Letter
Common Core W.4.4

Name: _____



Your Opinion Counts!

Use this template to write a draft of a letter to a local, state, or national elected official. Once you've planned out your ideas, rewrite or type a final version. Then work with your teacher or a family member to mail it.

Dear _____,
(official's name)

_____ (today's date)

I am _____

I would like you to consider _____

I think this change will help _____ because _____

Finally, I want to say _____

Sincerely,

(your name)

(your address)

(your city, state, and ZIP code)

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Opinion Writing
Common Core W.4.1

Name: _____

Seeing Both Sides

Read the debate on page 7 of this week's issue about swimming with manatees. Identify reasons that support each side and record them on the chart below.

YES

It's OK to swim with manatees.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

NO

People shouldn't swim with manatees.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Next, choose which side of the debate you agree with most. Choose four words you might use in a paragraph that aims to convince others of your point of view. Draft your paragraph below.

Words to Use

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____