

**Wonders**

**Grade 5**

# **Weekly Assessments**

















Snakes use the muscles along the sides of their bodies to slither from place to place. They have four different ways to move. Some snakes bunch themselves up and then thrust themselves forward. Some push off and move in a wave-like motion. Some move the middle of their bodies up and down. This pushes their heads forward. And some grip the ground with their scales, using the scales and their muscles to push themselves forward.

Most snakes feed on small mammals. Big snakes, like pythons, will attack much larger prey. Constrictor snakes wrap themselves around large prey and compress it like a belt that is much too tight. Snakes will often win what look like impossible battles. Because they can move so rapidly and quietly, snakes are very effective hunters. The same muscles that move the snake along help to move the snake's meal through its system.

Snakes have many enemies themselves. Raccoons, birds, foxes, coyotes, and even other snakes eat snakes, and humans can be their enemies, too. Many humans are afraid of snakes and will hunt them to get rid of them. Humans also build communities in snake territory. With each generation, snakes have less and less room to live.

It is true that some snakes are poisonous. They use their poison to stun their prey before eating it. It is always best to be careful around snakes. Only an expert can tell which snakes are harmless and which are dangerous. However, a person can be careful around snakes without having a fear of them. The best advice is to find out if any poisonous snakes live in your area. In addition, if you are going camping or hiking, check to find out if the area has poisonous snakes.

If any poisonous snakes are found where you live or where you will be visiting, use photographs to learn to identify them. Also learn what steps to take when you come across a poisonous snake. With knowledge like this, you can replace your fear with caution.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Now answer Numbers 6 through 10. Base your answers on "Super Snakes."

6 Read the sentence from the passage.

Many people have a snake phobia because they know only the common myths about these reptiles.

The root of phobia is *phob*, meaning "fear." What is someone with a phobia most likely to do?

- (A) laugh
- (B) scream
- (C) sigh
- (D) yawn

7 Which details belong in a summary of the article? Write **three** details from the box into the chart. Not all of the details will be used.

Summary of "Super Snakes"

**Details:**

Snakes can push off from the ground to move.

Snakes have amazing ways to survive.

Find out what to do if you see a snake.

Few snakes are dangerous.

Many people fear snakes.

Some birds eat snakes.

**GO ON →**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**8** This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A:** Which sentence **best** summarizes the main idea of the article?

- (A)** If you are careless, you can be hurt or killed by a snake.
- (B)** Snakes have many gifts from nature, such as their skin.
- (C)** Snakes can be both dangerous and very interesting.
- (D)** Many people are very afraid of snakes.

**Part B:** Which sentence from the text **best** supports your answer in part A?

- (A)** "Here are some facts about snakes that will help you better understand these members of the animal kingdom living in our biosphere."
- (B)** "Snakes can go for weeks or even months between meals, and some snakes eat only once or twice a year."
- (C)** "Raccoons, birds, foxes, coyotes, and even other snakes eat snakes, and humans can be their enemies, too."
- (D)** "In addition, if you are going camping or hiking, check to find out if the area has poisonous snakes."

- 9 Read the sentence from the text.

These microscopic cells help them locate warm-blooded animals.

The word microscopic comes from the Greek roots *micro*, meaning “small,” and *scop*, meaning “see.” What does this suggest about microscopic cells?

- (A) They are hard to see.
  - (B) They are easily found.
  - (C) They are created by scientists.
  - (D) They are always changing in size.
- 10 Which statements **best** explain what results from learning more about snakes? Select **two** choices.
- (A) The reader fears snakes less.
  - (B) The reader begins to fear snakes.
  - (C) The reader begins to love snakes.
  - (D) The reader understands snakes better.
  - (E) The reader can find snakes more easily.
  - (F) The reader no longer avoids snakes in the wild.





# Answer Key

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Question	Correct Answer	Content Focus	CCSS	Complexity
1	B	Greek Roots	L.5.4b	DOK 1
2	B	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.5.2	DOK 2
3A	C	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.5.2	DOK 2
3B	A	Main Idea and Key Details/ Text Evidence	RI.5.2/ RI.5.1	DOK 2
4	see below	Greek Roots	L.5.4b	DOK 1
5A	C	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.5.2	DOK 2
5B	D	Main Idea and Key Details/ Text Evidence	RI.5.2/ RI.5.1	DOK 2
6	B	Greek Roots	L.5.4b	DOK 1
7	see below	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.5.2	DOK 2
8A	C	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.5.2	DOK 2
8B	B	Main Idea and Key Details/ Text Evidence	RI.5.2/ RI.5.1	DOK 2
9	A	Greek Roots	L.5.4b	DOK 1
10	A, D	Text Structure: Cause and Effect	RI.5.3	DOK 2
11	see below	Writing About Text	W.5.9b	DOK 4

Comprehension 2, 3A, 3B, 5A, 5B, 7, 8A, 8B, 10	/12	%
Vocabulary 1, 4, 6, 9	/8	%
<b>Total Weekly Assessment Score</b>	<b>/20</b>	<b>%</b>

- 4 Students should draw lines to make the following matches:
- botanical—plant
  - hydrated—water
  - cycle—circle
- 7 Students should write the following sentences to include in a summary:
- Snakes have amazing ways to survive.
  - Few snakes are dangerous.
  - Many people fear snakes.
- 11 To receive full credit for the response, the following information should be included: (Answers may vary but text evidence must be included from each article as well as an explanation of why the student finds it interesting. Examples follow.) Sequoias can be so big that tunnels can be made in fallen trees through which people can walk. Some snakes eat only once or twice a year.