

Name: _____

Groundhogs

by Anita N. Amin

Will this be a long winter, or will spring come early? Maybe a groundhog can tell you!



What is a groundhog?

A groundhog is a furry animal that lives in the ground. It is about as big as a raccoon.

Where can you find a groundhog?

Look in the grass. Groundhogs spend a lot of time searching for food on the ground.

Groundhogs can swim and climb. If you are looking for groundhogs, check trees and ponds too.

If you still don't see one, listen for a whistle. Groundhogs whistle out of fear.



Preview

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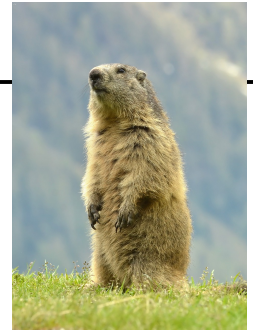
spring.

What is Groundhog Day?

Groundhog Day is a holiday on February 2. On this day, a groundhog comes out of its burrow after sleeping for the winter. When it comes out, the groundhog looks around. If it sees its shadow, the weather will stay cold for six more weeks. If it does not see its shadow, warm air is on the way!

Some people think groundhogs can predict the weather. Other people think this is a just silly holiday. What do you think?

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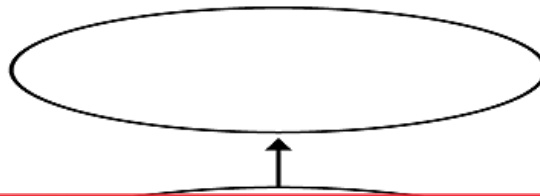


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1. List two facts from the article about a groundhog's burrow.

2. Complete the graphic organizer.



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3

What fact from the article helped you figure this out? _____

4. What was the author's purpose for writing this story?

- a. to tell a story about groundhogs
- b. to teach readers how Groundhog Day was started
- c. to teach readers about groundhogs
- d. to help readers learn about the weather

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Draw straight lines to match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

- | | | |
|--------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. burrow | • | • second month of the year |
| 2. groundhog | • | • body of water smaller than a lake |



Preview

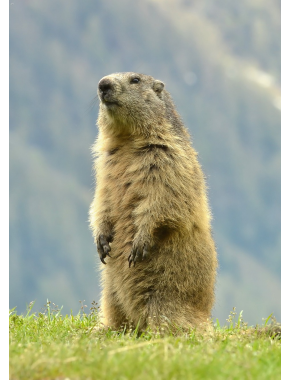
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- | | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 5. hibernation | • | • furry animal; woodchuck |
| 6. February | • | • to tell what is going to happen |

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Do you think groundhogs can predict the weather?
Explain your answer.

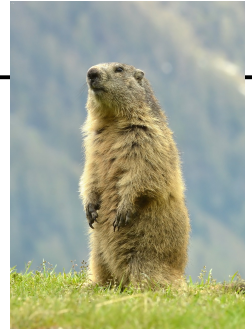


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ANSWER KEY

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1. List two facts from the article about a groundhog's burrow.

A groundhog's burrow has many rooms. They also have many exits.

(Also accept: A groundhog's home is a burrow.)

(Also accept: A burrow is an underground tunnel.)

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- c. to teach readers about groundhogs
- d. to help readers learn about the weather

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6. February

• to tell what is going to happen