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.

Where do groundhogs live?
Groundhogs dig tunnels to live in. Their homes are called burrows. Their burrows may have many rooms. They also have many exits.

Do groundhogs sleep in the winter?
Groundhogs sleep all winter. This is called hibernation. Before their long nap, they feast on fruits, plants, and bugs. Then they go in their burrows and sleep until 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?
1. List two facts from the article about a groundhog's burrow.

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

2. Complete the graphic organizer.

a. his mom
b. his dog
c. his dad
d. the wind

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
# Groundhogs

*by Anita N. Amin*

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

3. **pond**  
   - underground animal home

4. **predict**  
   - a long winter’s nap

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.
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.)

2. Complete the graphic organizer.
   a. his mom
   b. his dog
   c. his dad
   d. the wind

3. Which is larger, a squirrel or a groundhog?
   a. groundhog

   What fact from the article helped you figure this out?
   The article says that a groundhog is about as big as a raccoon. Therefore readers should be able to figure out that a groundhog is bigger than a squirrel.

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
Groundhogs
by Anita N. Amin

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

1. 
   - 
   - "second month of the year"

2. 
   - 
   - "body of water smaller than a lake"

3. 
   - 
   - "underground animal home"

4. 
   - 
   - "a long winter's nap"

5. 
   - 
   - "furry animal; woodchuck"

6. 
   - February
   - "to tell what is going to happen"

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