

WINTER BREAK "HOMEWORK MESSAGE" FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Winter Break Homework – Parents, please play games that reinforce fact-based knowledge and “mastery” with your child/children. Your grade level specific packet will help your child practice concepts and skills we are working on in the classroom. Please sign off on the packet(s) and have your children return it to their teachers.

What YOU can do. Please have you child/children continue to read nightly and complete the homework packets over break so we don't have a “winter break slide.” These packets are meant to reinforce what students already know. You can also have fun with learning by playing family games.

Playing family games helps solidify problem solving math skills and quick recognition skills. For example, **dominoes** are recognizable and memorable patterns (What do the dots look like? What is the pattern for a 9 versus a 3? What is similar?). The same is true for dice.

Dice games like *Yahtzee* include the recognition of patterns coupled with the skills of quick addition and strategy.

Board games such as *Candyland*, *Monopoly* and *Chess* require that children count, strategize, anticipate moves and use logic to help them win.

Card games such as *Top-It*, *War*, *Speed*, *Spot-it*, *Uno*, *Memory*, *Crazy 8's* and *Solitaire* are just a few great games that reinforce skills and strategy!

Sports and scoring – nearly every sport has math as its basis. Time, fractions (half, quarter, thirds), measurement (yards, feet), points (touchdown, field goal, conversions, free throw, 2 and 3 point shots, goals), angles, shapes, statistics, etc... talk with your child about sports!

Everyday counting and mental math– mental math problems (single and double digit addition and subtraction, fact families, doubles, triples, fractions, money, multiplication and division, even place value). *** Try writing numbers/letters/pictures on your child's back (facing away) with your finger to see if he/she can identify what the number is. Any number/symbol or equation based on their age level can be used!

Finally, **Computer Games & Apps** can be great! We recommend PARCC based GAMES - <http://www.play2pass.com/>
Use the top tabs HOME READING MATH to choose your grade. Other great websites include:

<http://www.mathisfun.com/>

<http://www.coolmath-games.com/>

<http://www.mathchimp.com/>

<http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>

<http://www.kidsmathgamesonline.com/numbers.html>

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math.htm#earlymath>

<http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>

Theses links are also on our Bradley website. Sites such as these help reinforce fundamental skills and the kids love them!

Have a wonderful Winter Break!

Mr. Wera

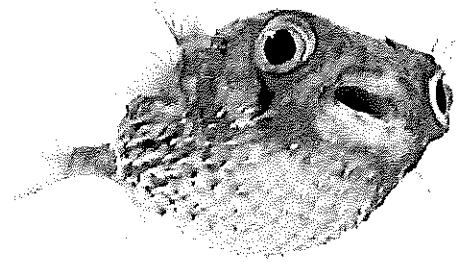
Who Wants a Spiny Snack?

Not many animals! How the spiny puffer stays safe in the ocean

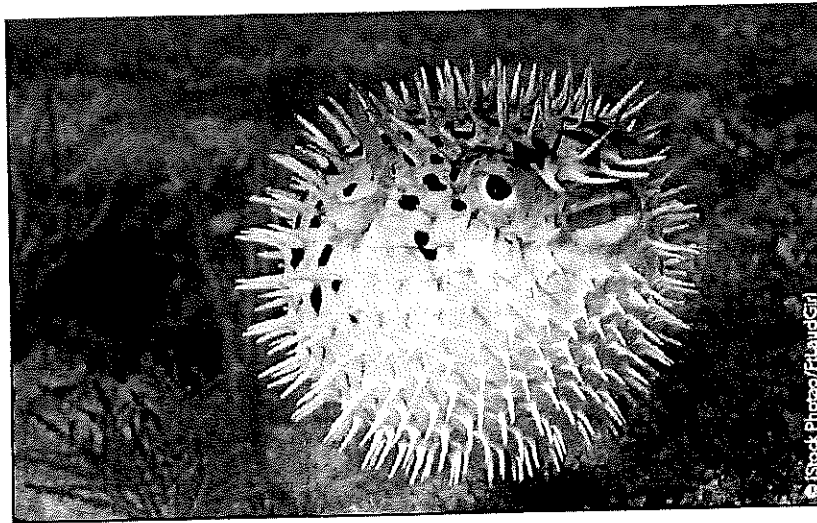
This article is provided courtesy of the American Museum of Natural History.

A shark glides through the warm water, searching for its next meal. It spots an ordinary brown fish swimming slowly in the clear waters ahead.

But as the shark approaches, PUFF-PUFF-PUFF! The fish puffs out into a round, spiny ball. The startled shark swims away. The pufferfish is safe for now — at least until the next shark or big fish swims by.



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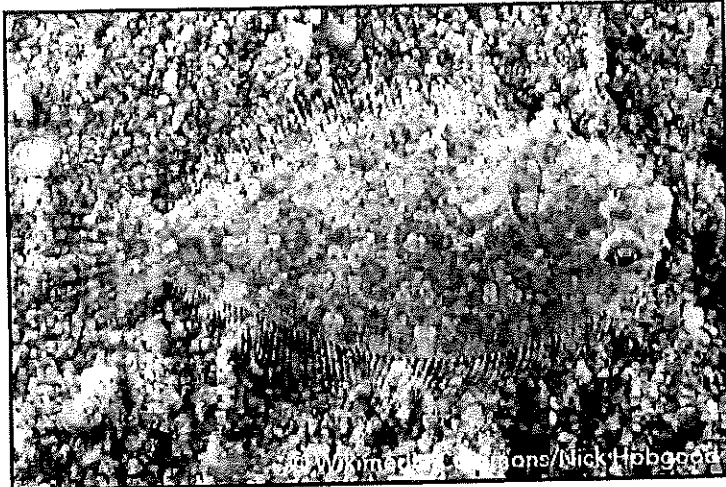
The ocean can be a dangerous place for small fish like the puffer. Its waters are full of predators like sharks, squid, and bigger fish that eat small fish. But pufferfish have adaptations that protect them from predators.

All animals have adaptations to stay alive. An adaptation is a body part or behavior that helps an animal live in its environment. Predators have adaptations that help them hunt. A shark's powerful, torpedo-shaped tailfin and sharp teeth are two adaptations.



A shark uses its sharp teeth to catch and eat prey.

Other animals have adaptations that provide protection from predators. These animals may be fast enough to escape predators. Or they might use camouflage, special patterns or colors that help them hide in their environment.



Can you find the flounder?

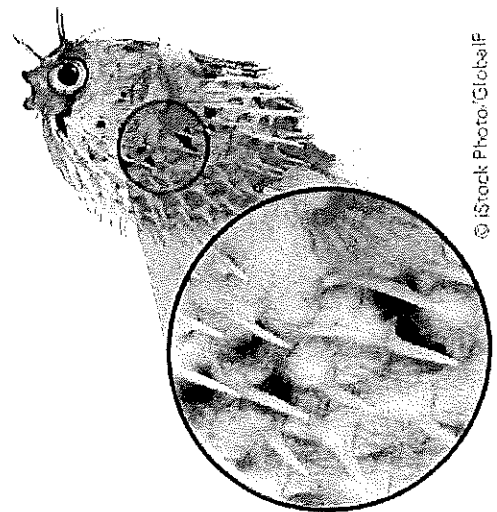


Porcupines have long sharp spines that protect them.

But some animals don't run or hide. They have bodies that are hard to eat. Just picture the sharp spines of a porcupine, hedgehog, or sea urchin. Few predators are large or tough enough to make a meal of those animals!

Some toads and snakes have their own way to discourage predators. They puff themselves up to look larger. The bigger an animal, the harder it is to catch and eat. Pufferfish combine both of these adaptations. They puff up AND they have long, sharp spines.

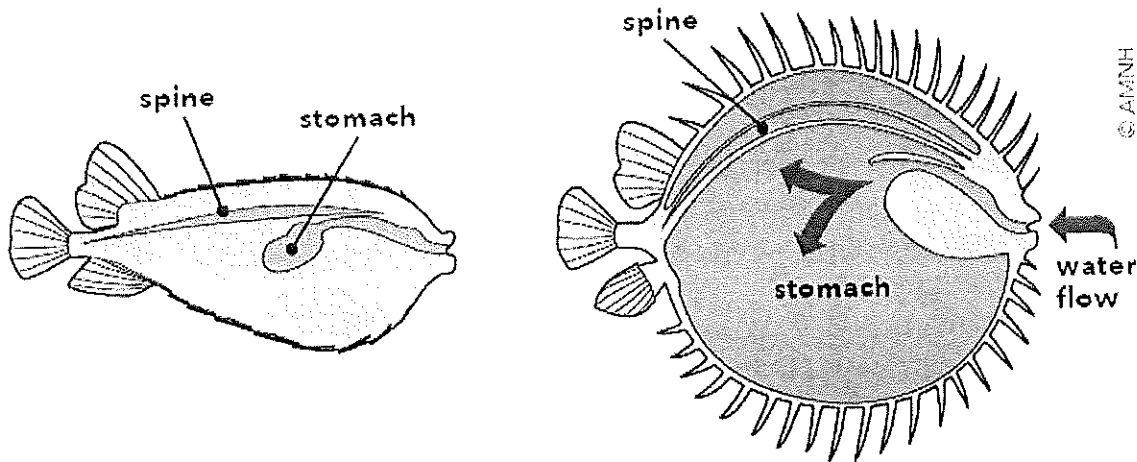
Swimming along, a pufferfish looks like any other fish. But when it is threatened, it swells up suddenly like a big balloon. When this happens, it's easy to see why some people call it balloonfish. But this fish is no soft, squishy balloon. Its skin becomes rigid, with sharp spines sticking out in all directions. Usually these spines lie flat against the side of the fish. When the fish puffs up, the outer skin stretches out and pulls the spines up.



A pufferfish's skin is hard and covered with sharp spines.

How does the pufferfish make this amazing transformation?

Despite its nickname, it doesn't blow itself up with air like a balloon. Instead, it fills up with water. The fish pumps a huge amount of water through its mouth into its stomach. Filled with water, its stomach becomes almost one hundred times larger. The stomach can expand like this because it's usually crumpled into many tiny folds. As water rushes in, the stomach unfolds. To make room for the swelling stomach, other organs like the liver and intestines are pushed to the side.



A spiny puffer can change from an ordinary-looking fish into a menacing spiny ball in a few seconds. Then only the biggest animals dare to eat it. The ocean may be full of dangers, but adaptations like sharp spines and puffing up help keep the puffer safe.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. At the beginning of the text, what does the fish do when the shark approaches?

- A It puffs out into a round, spiny ball.
- B It swims away, startled.
- C It swims slowly, searching for a meal.
- D It attacks the shark with its spines.

2. What does the author describe in this text?

- A why different kinds of sharks have different adaptations
- B the different predators that are likely to hunt porcupines
- C what happens when a predator eats a spiny pufferfish
- D how a pufferfish puffs up into a round spiny ball

3. Read these sentences from the text.

"Some toads and snakes have their own way to discourage predators. They puff themselves up to look larger. The bigger an animal, the harder it is to catch and eat. Pufferfish combine both of these adaptations. They puff up AND they have long, sharp spines."

Based on this evidence, why might a pufferfish puff itself up?

- A to try and convince a predator that the pufferfish is a toad or a snake
- B to be able to hunt, catch, and eat other fish more easily
- C to prepare itself to fight off a predator's attack
- D to make the pufferfish appear difficult to catch and eat

4. Why might the author have included the images of the flounder and the porcupine?

- A to force the reader to decide which animal looks more like the pufferfish
- B to show the reader examples of different animals with adaptations that protect them from predators
- C to suggest that the flounder and the porcupine would probably be better than a pufferfish at fighting off predators
- D to prove that animals that live on land and animals that live in the ocean are very different from each other

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A The ocean can be a dangerous place for small fish like the pufferfish because its waters are full of predators.
- B Predators like sharks have adaptations that help them hunt other animals.
- C Many animals have sharp spines, including porcupines, hedgehogs, sea urchins, and pufferfish.
- D Adaptations like sharp spines and puffing up help keep pufferfish safe from predators.

6. Read these sentences from the text.

"Swimming along, a pufferfish looks like any other fish. But when it is threatened, it swells up suddenly like a big balloon."

Why might the author have compared the pufferfish to a balloon with this simile?

- A to hint to the reader that balloons also swell up when they are threatened
- B to imply that balloons also look like normal fish when they are not blown up
- C to help the reader understand what a pufferfish looks like as it swells up
- D to suggest that pufferfish and balloons are similar in lots of ways

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

Predators have adaptations that help them hunt. _____, a shark's powerful, torpedo-shaped tailfin and sharp teeth are two adaptations.

- A However
- B For example
- C As a result
- D At first

8. What is an adaptation?

9. What is the purpose of a pufferfish's spines? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

10. Why might a large predator and a small animal that it eats have different adaptations?

1

I had a real dilemma. My aunt invited me on a trip to Florida. The only thing was, she said I could invite one of my friends. I knew both of my best friends would want to go. It was such a tough choice to make. What was I going to do?

Part A

What does the word dilemma mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. double
- B. difficult choice or decision
- C. severe problem
- D. issue

Part B

Which statement from the passage best supports your answer for Part A?

- A. My aunt invited me on a trip to Florida.
- B. I knew both of my best friends would want to go
- C. It was such a tough choice to make.
- D. The only thing was, she said I could invite one of my friends.

2

I couldn't wait until the dance. I got a new dress! I even got to wear high heel shoes that matched the dress. My mom said I looked glamorous. I did feel very beautiful and fancy when I had it on. I would look great for the pictures. I knew it was going to be a fun time.

Part A

What does the word glamorous mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. elegant
- B. rich
- C. tall
- D. gigantic

Part B

Which statement from the passage best supports your answer for Part A?

- A. I knew it was going to be a fun time.
- B. I did feel very beautiful and fancy when I had it on.
- C. I got a new dress!
- D. I even got to wear high heel shoes that matched the dress.

3

The kids next door were ingenious. They made a skateboard using a board and wheels from an old toy truck they found in the trash. It was the coolest thing ever! It even worked! I saw them riding down the street on it. I couldn't believe how creative they were.

Part A

What does the word ingenious mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. silly
- B. crazy
- C. problematic
- D. clever and inventive

Part B

Which statement from the passage best supports your answer for Part A?

- A. I couldn't believe how creative they were.
- B. It was the coolest thing ever!
- C. It even worked!
- D. I saw them riding down the street on it.

4

Mr. Morgan was my science teacher. He was really nice. He was also very lenient. He gave us a lot of homework. Even if we didn't turn it in, we didn't get in trouble. I always did mine anyway. I loved his class. He was my favorite teacher that year.

Part A

What does the word lenient mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. really nice
- B. bending the rules
- C. giving good grades
- D. leaning to the side

Part B

Which statement from the passage best supports your answer for Part A?

- A. I always did mine anyway.
- B. Even if we didn't turn it in, we didn't get in trouble.
- C. He was really nice.
- D. He gave us a lot of homework.
- E. He was my favorite that year.

5

My dad told my brother to justify why he was late getting his chores done. I thought he would get in trouble. He was able to explain easily. When he told my dad about the bus, my dad understood. There was nothing my brother could have done about the flat tire on bus 8!

Part A

What does the word justify mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. write and excuse
- B. avoid doing his chores
- C. give a good reason
- D. tell a story

Part B

Which statement from the passage best supports your answer for Part A?

- A. I thought he would get in trouble.
- B. He was able to explain easily.
- C. When he told my dad about the bus, he understood.
- D. There was nothing he could have done about the flat tire on bus 8!

6

There was a lot of exploration in the 1400s. Many countries wanted to establish colonies. They wanted to start up new settlements for their own. They also wanted to claim the land so it would belong to them. Many continents had not even been discovered. It was a neat time for explorers.

Part A

What does the word establish mean as it is used in the sentence?

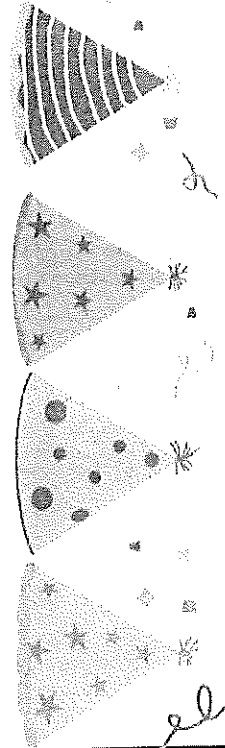
- A. start something
- B. claim new land
- C. begin new smaller countries
- D. discover new land

Part B

Which statement from the passage best supports your answer for Part A?

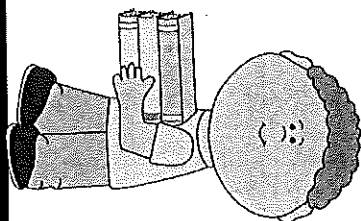
- A. They wanted to start up new settlements for their own.
- B. It was a neat time for the explorers.
- C. They also wanted to claim the land so it would belong to them.
- D. Many continents had not even been discovered.

1.) Ava is planning a birthday party. She invited 32 people to her party. 14 people have said they can come and 11 said that they can't make it. How many more people still need to reply to Ava?



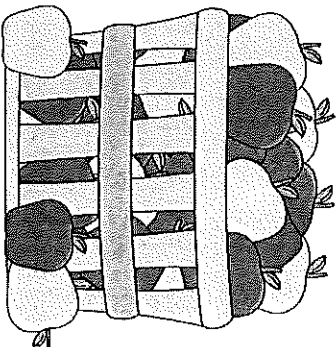
4.OA.3

2.) Liam has 10 pages left in his book to read. Declan has 3 times as many pages left to read in his book. How many more pages does Declan have to read than Liam?



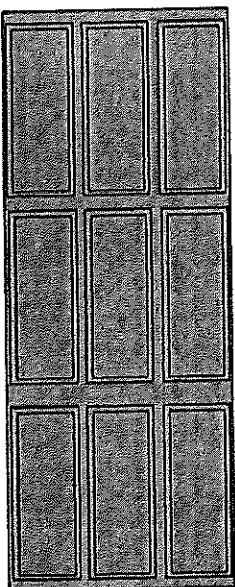
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3.) Lucas has 5 bags of green apples with 5 apples in each bag. Madeline has 6 bags of red apples with 7 apples in each bag. How many apples do Lucas and Madeline have combined?



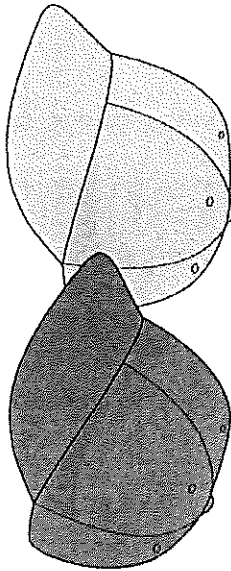
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4.) Adam has four boxes of chocolate with 6 bars of chocolate in each box. If he has 8 friends, how many bars of chocolate can each friend get if they all get the same amount?



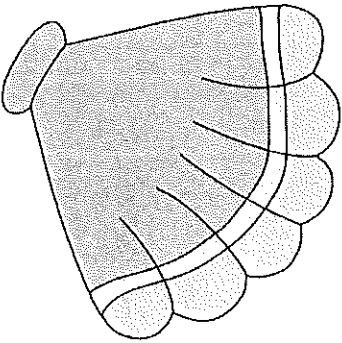
4.OA.3

5.) Jonathan and Jacob sold baseball hats over the weekend earning a total of \$60. Jonathan sold 5 red hats and Jacob sold 7 blue hats. If they sold each hat for the same amount, how much did they charge for each hat?



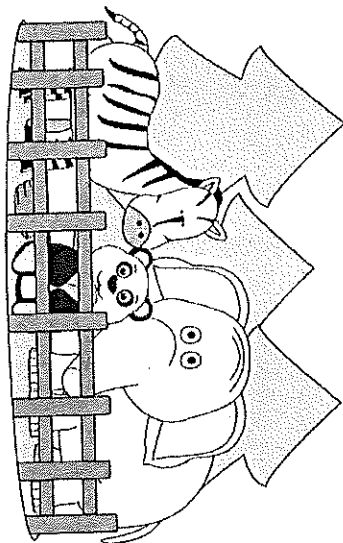
4.OA.3

7.) Alexis needs to collect 73 sea shells. So far, she has collected 7 purple shells, 13 pink shells and 21 white shells. How many more sea shells does Alexis need to collect?



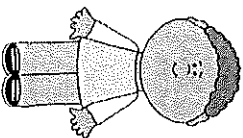
4.OA.3

6.) An adult ticket to the zoo is \$15. A child's ticket is \$8. How much would it cost 2 adults and 4 children to go to the zoo?



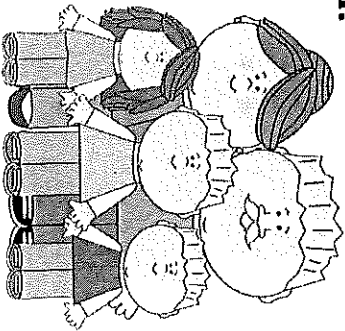
4.OA.3

8.) James likes to ride his bike every day in a park. The bike trail is a total of 12 miles long. On Monday he rode around the trail 3 times. On Saturday he rode around the trail 4 times. How many more miles did he ride his bike on Saturday than Monday?



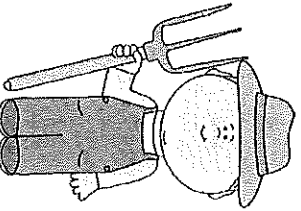
4.OA.3

9.) Sally has 17 pictures of her family and 18 pictures of her friends to put in a photo album. If she puts 5 pictures on each page, how many pages does she need in her album?



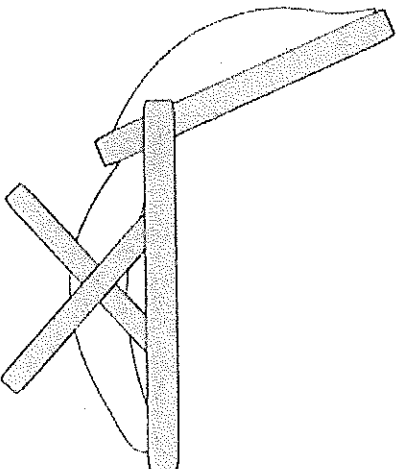
4.OA.3

11.) Farmer Joe is loading his truck full of vegetables to be sold at the farmers market. A bag of potatoes weighs 9 pounds and a bag of carrots weighs 6 pounds. If he puts 5 bags of potatoes in the truck and 8 bags of carrots in the truck, how many pounds of vegetables is he taking to the farmers market?



4.OA.3

10.) Brittney bought 4 chairs for \$72 each. If she paid for the chairs with \$300 cash, how much change did she get back?



4.OA.3

12.) A bakery sold 2,031 cookies between January and April. The chart below shows how many they sold each month. How many did they sell in April?

Month	Cookies Sold
January	598
February	499
March	576
April	

4.OA.3