

# Third Grade Choice Board

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: Review all activities. Place a check mark by the activities you choose to complete. Be sure to share your choices and work with your parent/s. Modify writing activities as needed. Return your signed choice board and all work when you return to school. Complete one reading, one math and science/social studies per day.*

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Must Do: Choose a book to read for 20 minutes. Fill out the reading log on the last page.</i>		
<b>Reading/Writing</b> <i>(choose 1 per day)</i>	<b>Math</b> <i>(choose 1 per day)</i>	<b>Science/Social Studies</b> <i>(choose 1 per day)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Find at least 2 advertisements online or in your home and write a paragraph explaining if the article convinced you to buy the product or not? Explain how you think most people would react to this ad?	<input type="checkbox"/> Round these numbers to the nearest 10. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;">                     37 _____                      56 _____                      94 _____                      83 _____                 </div>	<input type="checkbox"/> Create a pamphlet describing major natural disasters. Try to include: earthquake, fires, volcanic eruptions and floods. Draw a picture to demonstrate each one and then describe it.
<input type="checkbox"/> Write an opinion essay on why going to school to learn is better than staying home to learn. Use three specific examples to support your opinion.	<input type="checkbox"/> Round these numbers to the nearest 100. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;">                     137 _____                      56 _____                      750 _____                      857 _____                 </div>	<input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of 5 things taxes pay for in our community. Write a paragraph and discuss if you think these are good things to spend taxes on. 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Read a nonfiction text, then write a paragraph about why the author wrote this text and if you agree with the author on this topic.	<input type="checkbox"/> Create a quiz for your classmates to complete on rounding to 10 and rounding to 100. The quiz should be at least 10 questions and have 4 problems rounding to the nearest 10, 4 problems rounding to the nearest 100 and two word problems. You must also include an answer key.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fill up a sink with water. Make predictions and test out 5 objects to see if they will sink or float. Think about things that float. Can you design a new toy that floats? Draw a picture of the toy and label the important parts.

Read a non fiction text, then summarize this text to a family member and give three key details from the passage to support your summary.

Angela makes \$8 an hour. If she works 12 hours over the weekend, how much money will she earn? Use a number line to show your work.

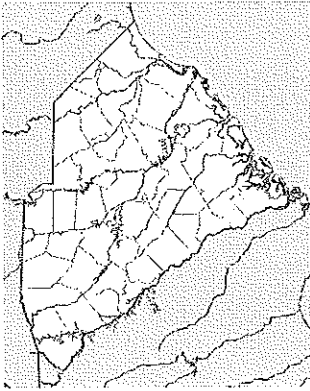
Ask your family if they know the family history of where your ancestors immigrated from. Create a family tree and go back as far as you can.

Read two non fiction texts on the same subject. Make two lists to show ideas they have in common and another list to show differences on the topic in your reading journal.

Use Loops and Groups to multiply these numbers.

1. $7 \times 4 =$ _____	2. $3 \times 6 =$ _____
3. $6 \times 4 =$ _____	4. $3 \times 7 =$ _____

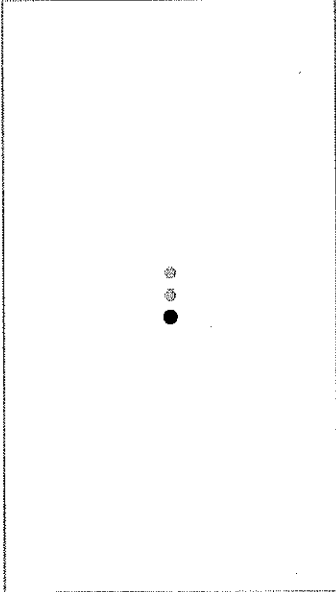
On the map below label South Carolina, Atlantic Ocean, North Carolina, and Georgia.



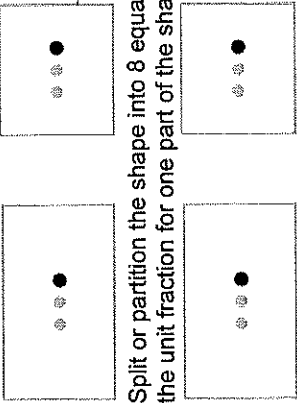
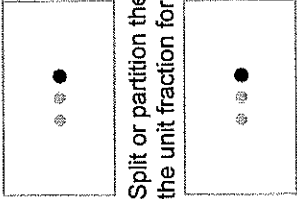
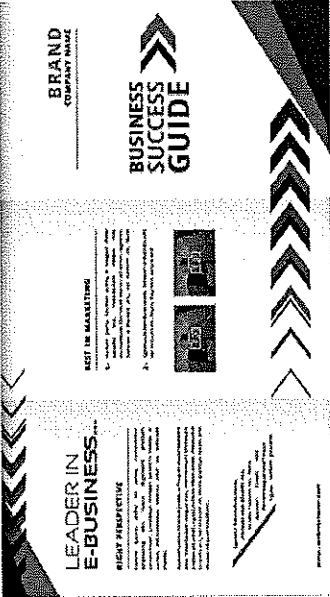



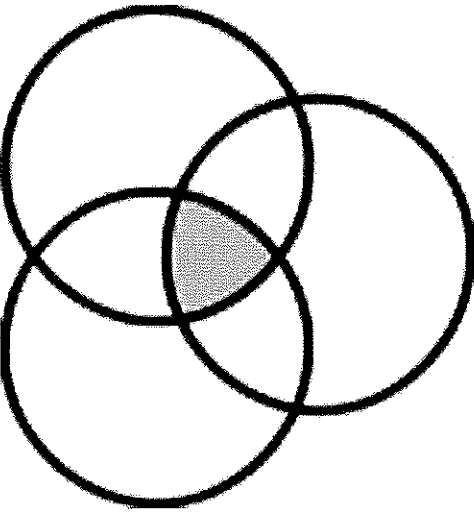
Read a non fiction text and make this graphic organizer in a notebook and complete it by drawing a picture of the problem and the solution and then writing a description of each.

The Problem	The Solutions

Create a number line from 0 to 1 and make it big enough to show halves, thirds and fourths on the number. Circle any equivalent fractions.



Draw a map that includes key features of your neighborhood or city. Describe how you would get to different locations using cardinal directions (north, south, east, west).

<p><input type="checkbox"/> After reading a nonfiction passage, find structures in the passage that the author uses to support their writing and discuss them with a family member. See if they can find a structure that you may have not noticed.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Split or partition the shape into four equal parts, write the unit fraction for one part of the shape.</p>  <p>Split or partition the shape into 8 equal parts, write the unit fraction for one part of the shape.</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a treasure hunt for someone in your family. Draw them a map and create clues to find the treasure at the end. Use map features.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Make a tri-fold pamphlet about your favorite restaurant, vacation spot or other place you might visit. Include a description on the front of the pamphlet and inside ask and answer three questions to inform your reader why this is a valuable place to go.</p> 	<p>Write the fraction for the part that is shaded.</p> <p>1.  _____</p> <p>2.  _____</p> <p>3. Which shape shows thirds? Circle your answer and explain how you know.</p>  <p><math>\frac{2}{3}</math>      <math>\frac{4}{4}</math></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Observe three different birds in your neighborhood. Draw a picture of each and record their behaviors. Create a Venn diagram of how they are similar and different.</p> 
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Write an opinion essay on whether 3rd grade students should have a cell phone. Use three specific examples to support your opinion.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> An elementary school was having an awards show on Friday. There were six stacks of seven chairs in the storeroom. Draw an array to show the total number of seats available for the awards show.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Write a letter to a "real life hero" that makes a difference in your community. Include an introduction (of yourself), a body and a conclusion.</p>

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Write a review for a nonfiction book or passage you have recently read. Would you recommend this book to other 3rd grade students? Why or why not?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Solve the following multiplication facts</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><math>4 \times 4 =</math> _____</td> <td style="width: 50%;"><math>9 \times 11 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>2 \times 12 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>8 \times 9 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>4 \times 11 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>3 \times 7 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>6 \times 7 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>12 \times 4 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>8 \times 10 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>4 \times 8 =</math> _____</td> </tr> </table>	$4 \times 4 =$ _____	$9 \times 11 =$ _____	$2 \times 12 =$ _____	$8 \times 9 =$ _____	$4 \times 11 =$ _____	$3 \times 7 =$ _____	$6 \times 7 =$ _____	$12 \times 4 =$ _____	$8 \times 10 =$ _____	$4 \times 8 =$ _____	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Think of a new species of animal that could live near your house. Write a story and draw a picture to describe it, include what adaptations the animal would have to help it survive. Label the adaptation on your animal diagram.</p>
$4 \times 4 =$ _____	$9 \times 11 =$ _____											
$2 \times 12 =$ _____	$8 \times 9 =$ _____											
$4 \times 11 =$ _____	$3 \times 7 =$ _____											
$6 \times 7 =$ _____	$12 \times 4 =$ _____											
$8 \times 10 =$ _____	$4 \times 8 =$ _____											
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Write a story using the animal you created as the main character. Be sure to include descriptive words that describe the animal's habitat and how it looks.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Solve the following division facts. Use the multiplication facts you know to help you.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><math>24 \div 4 =</math> _____</td> <td style="width: 50%;"><math>35 \div 5 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>99 \div 11 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>49 \div 7 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>80 \div 8 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>72 \div 9 =</math> _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><math>42 \div 7 =</math> _____</td> <td><math>21 \div 7 =</math> _____</td> </tr> </table>	$24 \div 4 =$ _____	$35 \div 5 =$ _____	$99 \div 11 =$ _____	$49 \div 7 =$ _____	$80 \div 8 =$ _____	$72 \div 9 =$ _____	$42 \div 7 =$ _____	$21 \div 7 =$ _____	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a home for the animal you already created using materials from around your house. Think about the habitat where the animal would live. What makes it the best home for this animal?</p>		
$24 \div 4 =$ _____	$35 \div 5 =$ _____											
$99 \div 11 =$ _____	$49 \div 7 =$ _____											
$80 \div 8 =$ _____	$72 \div 9 =$ _____											
$42 \div 7 =$ _____	$21 \div 7 =$ _____											
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Imagine you were asked to create a new cover design for one of your favorite non fiction books. Draw a cover to show what you would create. Then write a summary of the book to help a reader decide if they would want to read this book or not.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a math fact fluency quiz for a classmate, it needs to include 5 multiplication facts and five division facts. You must also create an answer key to go with it.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Multiplication</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Division</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>1.</td> </tr> </table>	Multiplication	Division	1.	1.	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a pamphlet about your new animal. Be sure to include information about what it eats, it's habitat, it's predators and any cool adaptations that help it survive.</p>						
Multiplication	Division											
1.	1.											

- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Multiplication Answers:  
Division Answers:

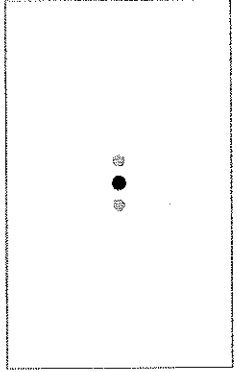
Think about the main character in your favorite biography. How would you describe this character's traits and feelings? Create a graphic organizer with three character traits and feelings and give evidence from the story to support your answer.

Character: \_\_\_\_\_

Trait 1:	Trait 2:	Trait 3:

Do you think kids should have their screen time limited? Why or why not? Write a paragraph sharing your opinion and supporting your opinion with reasons.

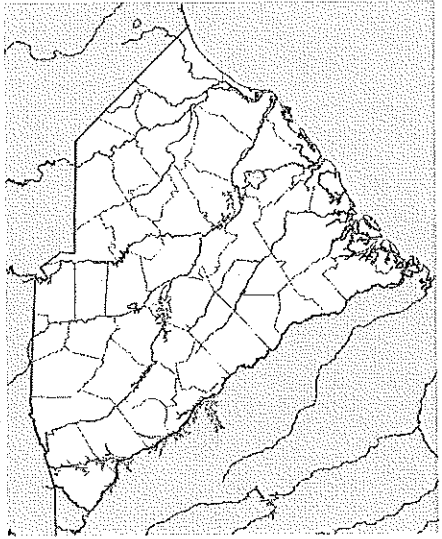
Marcus and Javante went to the store and both bought Snickers bars. When they got home, Marcus' mom said he could eat  $\frac{1}{3}$  of his bar before dinner. Javante's mom said he could eat  $\frac{1}{4}$  of his bar before dinner. Javante said he was able to eat more of his candy bar. Draw an explanation of why he is correct or incorrect.



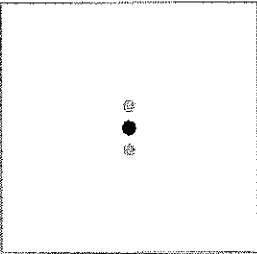
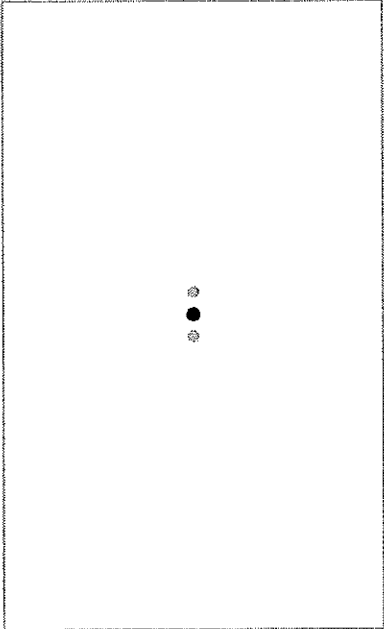
Solve these word problems about rounding, show your work:

1. Jackson and Noah went bird watching. Jackson saw 28 birds and Noah saw 37 birds. Rounding to the nearest ten about how many did they see altogether?
2. Levi collects baseball cards. He has 254 cards, how many does he approximately have if he rounded to the nearest 100.

On the map below label Charleston, North Charleston, Columbia, Myrtle Beach, Greenville, and Rock Hill.




Draw and discuss an invention that would help you with some part of your daily life. Make sure to label the diagram of your invention.

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create an autobiography of 1-2 pages to discuss your life. Make sure to include two problems and solutions that you have encountered in your life so far.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Monica went to the store to buy oranges. She bought 48 oranges total. If each bag of oranges holds 12 oranges, how many bags did she buy? Show your work using equal groups.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create an advertisement for your invention from the box above. Persuade someone why they must have this invention.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Interview a family member and write a biography about them. Be sure to include information about their early life, education, current life and at least 2 problems that they have encountered in their life. Be sure to illustrate your biography and include captions.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a graph and chart your families' favorite food. Be sure to label your graph.</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> You have just become the mayor of an island. Draw a map of your island and include all the things that your city will need. Make sure to label your map of the island.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create an advertisement for your favorite snack. Convince the reader why this snack is the best snack on the market. Make sure to include three points in your argument.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Find the area and perimeter of each rectangle.</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a poster explaining why it is important to wash your hands. Be sure the poster is easy to read and includes an illustration.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Read a nonfiction text, then write a paragraph about why the author wrote this text and if you agree with the author on this topic. Did this author write this text to Persuade,</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Draw a picture and label at least 4 different quadrilaterals. You may include squares, rectangles, rhombus, trapezoids, and parallelograms.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Using recycled materials build a boat that can float on water. You may not use cups, bowls or containers meant to hold liquids. Use your imagination. Send a picture of your boat to your teacher.</p>

Inform, Entertain or Explain? How do you know?	
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## Reading Log

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

 <b>Reading Log</b> <i>Read for 30 minutes a selection of your choice each day, and write a 3-5 sentence summary of the reading below.</i>		
Day 1	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary: _____
Day 2	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary: _____
Day 3	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary: _____
Day 4	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary: _____
Day 5	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary: _____

Day 6	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 7	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:

**Reading Log**

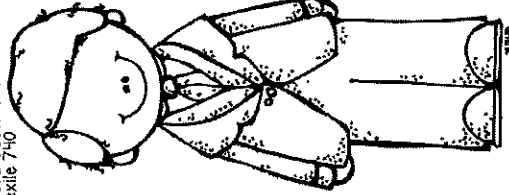


*Read for 30 minutes a selection of your choice each day, and write a 3-5 sentence summary of the reading below.*

Day 8	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 9	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 10	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 11	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 12	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 13	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:



Day 14	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:
Day 15	Title: _____ Author: _____	Summary:

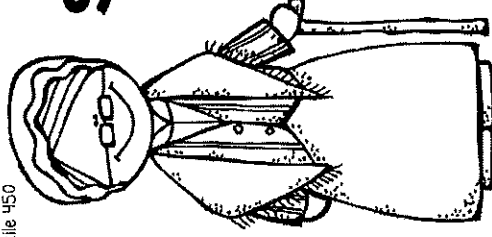


Name \_\_\_\_\_  
**Frederick Douglass**

Frederick Douglass was born in 1818. He was born a slave and had a tough life. While he was growing up, Frederick Douglass was traded to many different masters. Some of these masters treated him poorly. One of his masters had a wife who taught him how to read. Frederick Douglass started reading even though it was illegal for slaves read or write. He also taught other slaves to read.

One day a woman named Anna Murray convinced him to escape to freedom. As a teenager, Frederick Douglass escaped with the aid of Anna Murray. Frederick Douglass and Anna got married and stayed together for years. Frederick kept busy and used his skills to write books and journals about his life, experiences, and beliefs. His writings were very popular and changed many beliefs about slavery. He traveled and met very important people.

Frederick joined organizations and gave memorable speeches. He was fortunate to see the end of slavery in the 1860's. Douglas worked for many important places including the U.S. government. He held several government positions and even became a U.S. Marshal. Frederick Douglass was honored on a U.S. stamp and many parks, bridges, and buildings contain his name. He is portrayed in books, museums, and movies.



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sojourner Truth**

Sojourner Truth was born in 1797. She was a slave in New York. Her original name was Isabella Baumfree. She was first owned by a Dutch Family. As a young child, she only knew how to speak the Dutch language. She married another slave and had five children.

One day, Isabella escaped from her masters. Later she told journalists, she just walked away with one of her babies. She found a kind family called the Van Wageners. They were nice and kept her safe. Soon, the New York laws changed.

There was no slavery for the whole state of New York. Her son Peter was sold to a slave master in Alabama. Isabella wanted her child. She went to court and won her child back. It was a very historic court case!

Isabella Baumfree changed her name. She became Sojourner Truth. She gave speeches against slavery. She met President Abraham Lincoln and got to see the end of slavery.

Word Count 223  
Lexile 730

Name \_\_\_\_\_

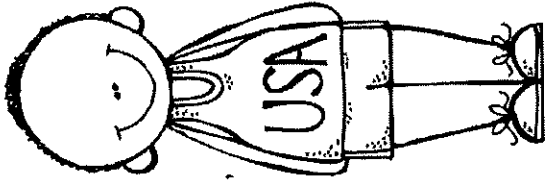
## Jesse Owens

Jesse Owens is an American Icon. He was born in Alabama in 1913, but his family moved to Cleveland, Ohio when he was still a child. His real name was James Owens. He was a hard working American and great athlete. Jesse Owens held steady jobs while he attended high school. He loved to run and soon joined his high school track team. Jesse Owens ran the hurdles, team relays, and was excellent at the 100 yard dash. Jesse tied the 100 yard dash record of under 10 seconds.

After high school, Jesse attended the famous Ohio State University. Jesse Owens never received a scholarship for his amazing athletic abilities. Unlike many other college athletes, he had to work and pay his way through college. In college, he broke world records. He became known as the "Buckeye Bullet".

In 1935, he set two world records for the hurdles and long jump. In the same day, he also tied the 100 yard dash record. The next year, Jesse went to the Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany. Jesse won four gold medals for the United States. Jesse Owens could long jump over 26 feet. That is like jumping across a small classroom!

He is honored for his performance at the Olympics. He is on two U.S. stamps and some places are even named after him.



Word Count 124  
Lexile 220

Name \_\_\_\_\_

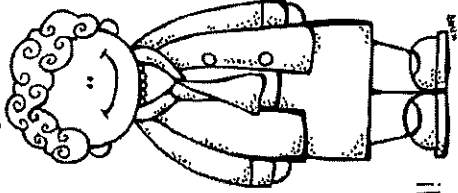
## Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune was born in the late 1800's. She was born in South Carolina. Mary loved to learn. She wanted to be a teacher.

Mary went to college. She became a teacher. Mary taught in Georgia and Florida. She was a well-known teacher who people loved!

Mary wanted to build a school. She needed money to do it. Mary had many people help her. She was brave. She went to the White House for help. She worked hard. She created Bethune-

Cookman College in Florida. First, it was an all-girl school. Later it included boys. Mary was the only female founder of a U.S. college. She was also the only female president of a U.S. college. Her college is still open and growing!



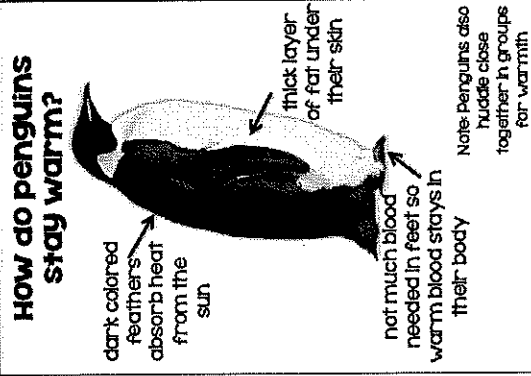
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## Keeping Warm in a Cold, Cold Place!

Antarctica is the coldest place on earth. In the winter time, temperatures can drop to -127 Fahrenheit degrees, but even in the summer temperatures rarely get above freezing. Yet lots of animals like penguins, seals, even some humans are able to live there despite the cold. How do they do it? Especially without clothes?

### penguins: Built for the cold

Penguins are birds that live in Antarctica. They have thick feathers that are small and very close together. The feathers have oil on them. The oil stops cold water from getting through and touching the penguin's skin. Under the skin, penguins have a thick layer of fat. The fat keeps them warm.



### Coldest Places on Earth

Exact Location	Continent
1. Dome Fuji, Antarctica	Antarctica
2. Vostok, Russia	Europe
3. Dome A, Antarctica	Antarctica
4. Amundsen, Antarctica	Antarctica
5. Mt. McKinley, Alaska	North America
6. Oymyakon, Russia	Europe
7. Verkhoyansk, Russia	Europe
8. Kinck, Greenland	North America
9. North Ice, Greenland	North America
10. Yukon, Canada	North America

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## Great People in U.S. History

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p.1



## Benjamin Franklin

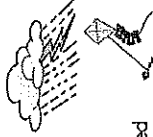
Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston in 1706. He grew up to become one of the founding fathers of the United States. He helped write the Constitution.

Benjamin Franklin was also a famous scientist! He helped discover electricity. He even wrote a book on electricity!

p.2

### SCIENCE DISCOVERIES

The scientist, Benjamin Franklin, designed important experiments that helped discover electricity. One experiment had a key attached to a kite. It was then flown in a lightning storm. This showed that lightning was actually a form of electricity.



### LOVE OF BOOKS

Benjamin Franklin loved books. As a child, he wanted to be a book publisher. When he was older, he printed important newspapers and created the *Poor Richard's Almanac* which is a very important book that farmers used to figure out when to plant their crops. He also founded and created the first library where people shared their books for free.

p.3

### A GREAT HELP TO HIS COUNTRY

Benjamin Franklin is most famous for being a founding father of United States of America. He signed the Declaration of Independence. He helped write the U.S. constitution. He also wrote articles to support the new country. In 1790 he died in Philadelphia, which is in the U.S.A., the country he helped create.

QUESTION: Do you know who is on the \$100 bill?



ANSWER: Benjamin Franklin

p.4

Home About Us Articles Contact Us Search

# EXPLORE TECHNOLOGY!

## Computers and the Internet

Article by *Gavin Livingston*  
January 28, 2014

Today we use computers everyday. And we use them for everything we use them to write letters and look up information. Computers are in our cars, phones, even our microwaves! It is hard to imagine what we would do without computers. How would we communicate?

So have we always had computers? Some say the first computer was the abacus, a counting machine invented 2500 years ago. But the abacus could only count, like a calculator.

### Techie Timeline

300 BC	1642	1841	1847	1894
The abacus calculator	The first electric computer	The first artificial intelligence	The first portable home computer	The first web surfing device

The first electric computer was built in 1894, only 70 years ago! These first electric computers were huge. They were as big as a house. Eventually, the technology improved and the computers got smaller. But it was not until 1975 that the first home computer was invented. That was four years after the very first email message was sent.

The first home computers were used for writing papers, playing simple games, and even counting—just like the ancient abacus! In 1983, the internet was invented. Now computers could talk to each other and share information. In 1994, web surfing began. This let people use their personal computers to learn so much about the world.

*Article Categories: Computers, Tech History, Communication*

## Are Elephants Social Animals?

Are elephant families similar to human families? Do they stay together or do they move around on their own the same way that bears, leopards, or skunks do?

A

Elephants are very intelligent animals. They also have great memories. Their memories help them remember other elephants for their entire lives. This may be why they have such long friendships.

B

Like human families, elephant families can be very small or very large. Some elephant families only have two members. Others have as many as 50. One thing is different about the elephant families. Only the females stick together as a family. The leader of the elephant family is usually the largest and oldest female elephant. She works with her sisters and cousins to nurture and care for the other elephants.

C

After the males become adults, they leave the family. The males hang out with other male friends or roam about alone. The males are mostly on their own for the rest of their lives.

D

This doesn't mean the elephants stop liking each other. They are very friendly and stay friends for life. They even form bond groups with up to five other families. Bond groups are like large groups of best friends. They defend each other from danger. The even babysit for each other.

E

Elephants also form clans. Clans are much like neighbors. Neighbors share the same roads and sidewalks. Clans of elephants stay in the same the same land during the dry season. It is hard to find food in the dry season, so they help each other. Sharing the land is important to their survival. So what do you think? Do elephants have some similarities to humans?

F

## Life as a Chimpanzee

A Chimpanzees are more like humans than any other animal. They are even social like humans. They live and travel with their families just like you.

B As many as 60 chimpanzees live together at any given time. Their bond is very strong. The females are very close to their mothers. The males stick close to other males to protect their families.

C Chimpanzees break into smaller groups of ten or less when they travel. They also sleep in smaller groups at night. It is safer to sleep in smaller groups. Do you think it may be easier to sleep in smaller groups too?

D Chimpanzees enjoy each others' company. They often hold social events called gatherings. During these events the smaller groups come together. At social gatherings the chimpanzees play and groom.

E Grooming is very important to chimpanzees. It takes place at the end of each day. Grooming is a time to remove bugs and dirt from each others' fur. They use this time to clean cuts and scrapes.

F Have you ever offered to do a chore for a reward? Chimpanzees do that too. Others expect a favor in return for their work. Chimps are also curious like humans. A lot of times they help groom newborn chimps. They want to see what the new baby looks like.

G Grooming might seem like work. Chimpanzees don't think so. It is a very important social time for them. It is a time for chimps to get to know one another better. Sometimes chimpanzees get mad at each other. They use this time to work out problems. When they are done, they play before bed.

## The Ring of Fire

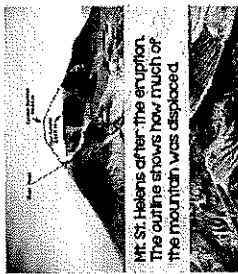
A In 1980, a small earthquake happened near the base of Mt. St. Helens in Washington which is a state in the United States. The earthquake caused the northern side of the mountain to slide down the hill. Then the Mountain erupted. Lava and rock flew down the mountain destroying everything in its path. A thick plume of ash and smoke rose 80,000 feet into the sky.

B Mt. St. Helens is an active volcano. The 1980 eruption was the largest ever in the mainland United States. There are not many volcanoes in the United States. Most volcanoes in the world are dormant, or sleeping. In the United States most active volcanoes, like Mt. St. Helens, are found on the West Coast or in Alaska or Hawaii.

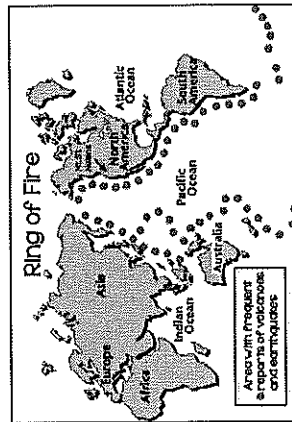
C Alaska and the West Coast are in what is called "The Ring of Fire". This is a giant ring that circles the Pacific Ocean. The Ring of Fire has 452 volcanoes. These are a mix of dormant and active volcanoes. The Ring of Fire is also where nearly all of the world's earthquakes happen.

D Earthquakes and volcanoes are closely related. They both happen because of changes underneath the surface of the earth. Under the surface there are large plates of Earth's crust, called tectonic plates. These plates move and bump into each other. This can cause earthquakes. Fortunately, the plates move very slowly, so this does not happen very often.

E The movement of tectonic plates can create gaps where melted rock called magma can pool. Magma is super hot rock that can flow like water. Volcanoes happen when a lot of magma pushes against the tectonic plates. With a lot of pushing, it can explode. The tectonic plates in the world that move the most are those in the Pacific Ocean. Because they move so much, there are more volcanoes and Earthquakes in the Ring of Fire than anywhere else in the world.



Mt. St. Helens after the eruption. The outline shows how much of the mountain was displaced.



## Dogs Are the Best Pets!

Dogs are a human's best friend and they make the best pets! First of all, dogs love you and they want to be with you. They greet you when you get home with a big smile on their face and they want to play. They want to sit on the couch with you, or go for a walk with you, or play with you. They love you and want to be around you. Dogs are very loving and loyal and they enjoy being with people or other dogs.

Dogs are fun! They love to play with you. They love playing with toys, going for runs, playing fetch, even a game of "peek a boo" behind a couch. Dogs love it all. They want to have fun and they are funny. Dogs do so many cute things when they are playing. And they can learn to do tricks!

Dogs love to go for walks, or go to the park and they want you to come with them. People who have dogs are much healthier than people without dogs because they get more exercise and fresh air. There is no other creature as fun or as a funny as dogs.

Dogs also protect you. When there is a strange sound or something doesn't seem right, dogs will start barking. Nobody can break into your house and rob you if you have a dog at home. If a stranger gets too close, the dog is the first one to notice and gets in between. Dogs are very loyal and protect your house and your family.

Dogs can be very intelligent. Some learn their name as a puppy and they can follow directions. They can even learn the names of their toys. And they can do fun tricks. Dogs can be so smart that many people put them to work. Many ranches and farms use dogs to guide other animals around. Dogs are even trained to guide humans who can't see. Dogs love to be obliging and helpful. But most importantly, dogs love you and make you happy.

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## Cats Are the Best Pets!

Cats are the best pets! Cats are loving and make the best cuddle buddies. They leave you alone when you want some private time. They will play with you for hours, but can have fun playing alone too.

Cats love to play. They love chasing and they will play for hours chasing and pursuing a toy on a string. Best of all, they take care of their toys. They do not chew them up and ruin their cat toys. This means you do not have to buy new toys every week. Many cats even put their own toys away and bring them out when they want to play. Cats have good manners. They are very generous and sometimes when they catch something they bring it to their owner to share.

Cats also take themselves for a walk. They do not need you to take them out every day. Instead, they just go for walks when they want to. It is almost impossible to put a cat on a leash and walk it around the block! The cat goes where it wants. But it always knows the way back and comes home when it is ready.

Cats clean themselves! You will never have to give a cat a bath. They smell good and take care of themselves. They groom themselves and will not make your house messy. They also go to the bathroom in a litter box. This makes cleaning up after them very easy.

Cats are quiet. They don't bark or yell. They purr and meow which are quiet and pleasant sounds. Cats usually meow only to let you know that they need food or water. They do not bark all day long. When you pet your cat and it purrs in happiness, it is a nice sound that brings a smile to your face. A purring cat is a happy cat. There is nothing better than curling up on a couch to cuddle with a purring cat.

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