



Name: _____

Main Idea
Common Core RI.4.2

What's the Big Idea?

Read "Dolphins On Duty" and jot down the most important information from each section. Then use your notes to write a main idea statement for the whole article.

1 **Introduction**

2 **The Best of the Best**

Main Idea

3 **On the Job**

4 **Reporting for Duty**

To be used with the September 2, 2019, issue

Name: _____

Close-Reading Questions

Refer to this week's cover story, "Dolphins On Duty," to respond to the questions below. Reread the article to find details that support your answers. Remember to write in complete sentences.

1. Which details support the idea that the beluga whale mentioned in the first paragraph could be a spy?

2. How do dolphins help the Navy?

3. Explain how dolphins use sound to "see" underwater. Include information from the sidebar "How It Works" to support your response.

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Close-Reading Questions

Refer to “How Do You Get to School?” to respond to the questions below. Reread the article to find details that support your answers. Remember to write in complete sentences.

1. Why is Atule'er, China, considered remote? What details support this idea?

2. How does Lucas Meridith describe his ride to school?

3. How did the Yellow Boat of Hope Foundation change life for students in the village of Layag Layag?

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Plan an Essay

Read the debate on page 7 about trampoline parks. What do you think? Use this graphic organizer to plan a five-paragraph essay that explains your opinion. Then write your essay on another sheet of paper.

Introduction

Tell readers about the topic and state your opinion. Assume that they haven't read the debate.

Reasons

Come up with two reasons that support your view.

1. _____

2. _____

Evidence

Note facts or examples that support your reasons.

1. _____

2. _____

Counterargument

List an argument from the other side of the debate. Then respond to it.

Opponents say _____

However, _____

Conclusion

Summarize your opinion. You might end with a question or a suggestion for your readers.

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Be a Quiz Whiz!

For each question below, fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

Dolphins On Duty Pages 2-3

- 1 Part A** Why are dolphins able to find underwater mines better than humans can?
- Ⓐ They are easy to train.
 - Ⓑ They are very smart.
 - Ⓒ They have a great sense of smell.
 - Ⓓ They use sound to “see” underwater.
- 2 Part B** Which detail from the article best supports the answer to question 1?
- Ⓐ “Both animals are very smart and easy to train.”
 - Ⓑ “Handlers show them how to look for and mark the locations of underwater explosives called mines.”
 - Ⓒ “Using echolocation, the animals can easily ‘see’ through dark, muddy waters.”
 - Ⓓ “Since 1999, the U.S. military has trained them to sniff out chemicals in bombs.”
- 3** Which two words are most similar in meaning?
- Ⓐ adapt; notice
 - Ⓑ adjust; detect
 - Ⓒ detect; notice
 - Ⓓ adapt; discover
- 4** In “Animals Undercover,” the phrase “this story is nuts” means ____.
- Ⓐ a food that squirrels eat
 - Ⓑ something that is crazy
 - Ⓒ a secret
 - Ⓓ an undercover mission

How Do You Get to School? Pages 4-5

- 5** Before 2016, how did kids in Atule’er, China, get to school?
- Ⓐ They climbed down steel ladders.
 - Ⓑ They climbed down a rocky path.
 - Ⓒ They rode a gondola.
 - Ⓓ They climbed down rotting bamboo ladders.

- 6** Which sentence from the article tells how Lucas Meridith’s journey is different from the journey of kids in Atule’er?
- Ⓐ “Sounds pretty scary, right?”
 - Ⓑ “Lucas Meridith has a lot in common with the students in Atule’er.”
 - Ⓒ “The Colorado 12-year-old also travels down a mountain to get to school.”
 - Ⓓ “But Lucas doesn’t climb.”
- 7** According to the map on page 5, on which continent is the village of Atule’er located?
- Ⓐ North America
 - Ⓑ Europe
 - Ⓒ Asia
 - Ⓓ Australia

A Symbol of Liberty Page 6

- 8** The rays on the Statue of Liberty’s crown represent ____.
- Ⓐ friendship
 - Ⓑ hope
 - Ⓒ the seven continents
 - Ⓓ freedom
- 9** In the article, the word *waves* refers to ____.
- Ⓐ water in the ocean
 - Ⓑ the movement of a group
 - Ⓒ a hand signal
 - Ⓓ a famous landmark
- 10** Why was the Statue of Liberty important to immigrants?
- Ⓐ She was a gift from France.
 - Ⓑ She represented hope for a better life.
 - Ⓒ She recorded the memories of people entering the country.
 - Ⓓ She revealed secrets about the U.S.