

4th Grade

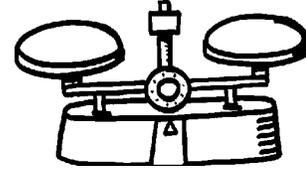
Day 1

Name _____

Date _____

Use RDW to solve Problems 1–3.

1. Evan put a 2-pound weight on one side of the scale. How many 1-ounce weights will he need to put on the other side of the scale to make them equal?



2. Julius put a 3-pound weight on one side of the scale. Abel put 35 1-ounce weights on the other side. How many more 1-ounce weights does Abel need to balance the scale?

3. Mrs. Upton’s baby weighs 5 pounds and 4 ounces. How many total ounces does the baby weigh?

4. Complete the following conversion tables, and write the rule under each table.

a.

Pounds	Ounces
1	
3	
7	
10	
17	

The rule for converting pounds to ounces is _____.

b.

Feet	Inches
1	
2	
5	
10	
15	

The rule for converting feet to inches is _____.

c.

Yards	Feet
1	
2	
4	
10	
14	

The rule for converting yards to feet is _____.

5. Solve.

- a. 3 feet 1 inch = _____ inches
- b. 11 feet 10 inches = _____ inches
- c. 5 yards 1 foot = _____ feet
- d. 12 yards 2 feet = _____ feet
- e. 27 pounds 10 ounces = _____ ounces
- f. 18 yards 9 feet = _____ feet
- g. 14 pounds 5 ounces = _____ ounces
- h. 5 yards 2 feet = _____ inches

6. Answer *true* or *false* for the following statements. If the statement is false, change the right side of the comparison to make it true.

- a. 2 kilograms > 2,600 grams _____
- b. 12 feet < 140 inches _____
- c. 10 kilometers = 10,000 meters _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Let's Take a White House Tour

By John Riley and Barbara Burt
2010

The White House is an important building in the United States. It's where the president lives. You can take a tour there! As you read, take notes on what a person will experience on a tour of the White House.

A bit of history before we begin...

- [1] President John Adams and his wife, Abigail, moved into the White House on November 1, 1800. That makes the year 2000 the 200th anniversary of the White House.

Back when the Adamses moved in, the building was called the President's House.

It was the largest house in America. Abigail Adams said it was twice as big as her church back home in Massachusetts. It was also cold and drafty,¹ and some of the rooms and stairs weren't finished. But the Adams family believed that the house would stand for a long time, and it has. In 200 years, 40 presidents have lived and worked in the White House at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. It has become a famous symbol of American leadership.



"The White House DSC03305" by Nicolas Karim is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Start the tour!

Today, some rooms of the White House are open to the public. More than one million people visit each year. Other rooms are private, set aside for the personal use of the president's family and their guests. The wallpaper, furniture, and art have changed over the years. First families² try to make the White House a comfortable home for as long as they live there.

- [5] Although the inside of the White House has changed, the outside has stayed the same. Offices have been built in wings on both sides, but the main part of the White House looks much as it did when President Adams arrived 200 years ago on a chilly November day.

To take a tour, you'll need tickets. You can pick them up at the White House Visitor Center. The tours take place in the morning. After waiting in line, you'll enter the East Wing and walk down the East Colonnade. A colonnade (a long hallway with windows or columns) extends from both sides of the main building.

1. having cold air move through it
2. the families of U.S. presidents

On the ground floor, you can look into some rooms as you walk by. The Red Room has walls and furniture covered in apple-red fabric. The Green Room contains furniture that was made in America 200 years ago! Many people think that the Blue Room, with gold wallpaper and a blue and gold rug, is the most beautiful room in the White House. The Green Room, Blue Room, and Red Room are often used for receptions.³

Upstairs, the grand East Room is often used for large gatherings. The grand piano can be used to entertain guests. The East Room can also be set for large dinners and even rock concerts! Presidents often hold their press conferences⁴ there.

When the morning tours are over, the ropes are removed and the rugs are put back into place.

The private White House

- [10] The White House belongs to all the citizens of the United States, but it's also the home of the president's family. Only guests of the first family get to see the private rooms on the second floor.

If you were an overnight guest, your bedroom would be on the second or third floor. You might watch a movie in the family movie theater, or bowl a game in the underground bowling alley!

The White House outdoors

The public tour doesn't include the big "backyard" of the White House. But if you were a White House guest, you could visit the Children's Garden, play tennis, swim in the pool, go for a jog on the jogging path, and admire the flowers and trees.

Visiting the president at work

The president's offices are located in the West Wing. You'll need a special appointment to visit. The president's office is called the Oval Office because of its shape. Each president can decorate the office any way they like, but one thing never changes: the Oval Office is very impressive. Imagine how many world leaders have met with U.S. presidents here. Perhaps, someday, you'll be the person sitting behind the desk!

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3. social gatherings
4. an interview or announcement given to the press

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. What is the main idea of the text?
 - A. People can see the private and public areas of the White House on a tour.
 - B. People can see many important rooms in the White House on a public tour.
 - C. People learn a lot about the White House on public tours, but do not see a lot of it.
 - D. People are not allowed to tour the White House when important people are staying there.

2. PART A: Which of the following describes the Adamses' opinion of the White House?
 - A. They thought it was too uncomfortable to be a home.
 - B. They thought it should remain the same over the centuries.
 - C. They thought it would continue to be an important building.
 - D. They thought it was too small for their family and employees.

3. PART B: Which detail from the text best supports the answer to Part A?
 - A. "Abigail Adams said it was twice as big as her church back home in Massachusetts." (Paragraph 3)
 - B. "the Adams family believed that the house would stand for a long time, and it has." (Paragraph 3)
 - C. "The wallpaper, furniture, and art have changed over the years." (Paragraph 4)
 - D. "First families try to make the White House a comfortable home for as long as they live there." (Paragraph 4)

4. Why are some areas of the White House not included in the tour?
 - A. They are under construction.
 - B. There are expensive rugs on the floor.
 - C. The president and his family live there.
 - D. They are the oldest rooms in the house.

5. Based on the information in the text, why has the White House "become a famous symbol of American leadership"? (Paragraph 3)
 - A. It is the oldest house in America.
 - B. It is the biggest house in America.
 - C. The president lives and works there.
 - D. Presidential elections take place there.

6. How do the authors organize information in the text?
 - A. They provide information about the White House and tours of the building.
 - B. They describe how each room in the White House has changed over time.
 - C. They compare the president's house with other world leaders' houses.
 - D. They list different rooms in the White House that they have toured.

7. Which statement describes the authors' most likely purpose in the text?
- A. to tell people what to expect on a tour of the White House
 - B. to urge readers to visit the White House as guests of the president
 - C. to offer advice on how the tour of the White House could be better
 - D. to make the president feel bad for not allowing tours of private rooms
8. How does the sentence "Perhaps, someday, you'll be the person sitting behind the desk!" contribute to the text?
- A. It urges readers to tour the Oval Office.
 - B. It challenges readers to sit behind the president's desk.
 - C. It suggests that readers could be the president one day.
 - D. It suggests that there is a way to sneak into the Oval Office.
9. What are the different uses for the White House? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Animal Instinct

Hours before giant waves pounded coastlines in South Asia, many animals started behaving strangely. In Sri Lanka, elephants trumpeted frantically and fled to higher ground. Bats and flamingos deserted low-lying areas. Many other animals escaped unharmed.

Wildlife experts are amazed that many animals survived the tsunami. The series of huge waves killed thousands of people in South Asia and East Africa in 2004. Experts say animals might have sensed the approaching waves and moved to higher ground.



Philippe Desmazes/AFP/Getty Images

Elephants' sharp senses may have warned them about the tsunami.

"I think animals can sense disaster. They know when things are happening in nature," said an official at the national wildlife department in Sri Lanka.

More Wild Stories

Other stories of odd animal behavior before the tsunami have also surfaced. Giant waves flooded low-lying parts of Yala National Park in Sri Lanka, uprooting trees and killing hundreds of people. Wildlife officials reported, however, that few animals died. The park is home to hundreds of animals, including elephants, monkeys, leopards, tigers, deer and water buffalo.

In Thailand, elephants carrying tourists from Japan bolted for the hills, and other elephants

broke free of their chains. In one fishing village, nearly 1,000 locals escaped safely after birds squawked madly.

Making 'Sense' of It

Why might animals have known trouble was on the way? Forget special powers. Instead, experts say that animals have better senses of hearing, smell and sight than humans do. Those sharp senses help warn animals when natural disasters, such as volcanic eruptions or earthquakes, are about to happen.

"It doesn't surprise me that animals had an early warning of the tsunami," animal expert Michael Dee of the Los Angeles Zoo told *Weekly Reader*. "The senses of certain species are far stronger than what any human has." Dee points out that dogs, for example, have a stronger sense of smell than humans and that cats can see better in the dark than people.

Scientists say that animals might have felt the vibrations from the earthquake that set off the tsunami. In addition, many animals, including elephants, pigeons, and dogs, can also pick up infrasound. That is a sound that is too low in pitch for humans to hear.

"Elephants can hear or feel other elephants grumble up to 2 miles away, so they probably felt the earthquake," said Dee. "Their first instinct would be to move away from the direction of the sound." An instinct is a natural, untaught behavior or reaction.

Before the tsunami struck, animals may have started to flee because they saw other creatures running. "Animals take their cues from other animals," said Dee.

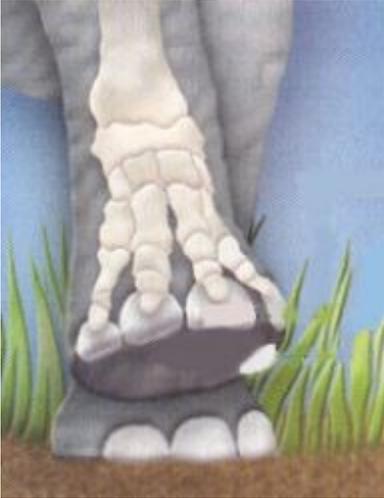
The Mystery Continues

How animals sense danger has fascinated people for centuries. Most scientists are quick to point out, however, that nothing has ever been proven.

Will animal instincts be used to create a warning system about natural disasters anytime soon? "I wouldn't count on [it]," said Dee.

In the meantime, animals are helping out in other ways. For example, elephants are assisting in the cleanup of areas hit by the tsunami.

Hearing With Their Feet



Leigh Haeger

Scientists say that elephants can pick up vibrations from earthquakes through their broad feet.

Elephants' toenails are in the skin and not attached to the toes.

Elephants' soles have sensitive foot pads that detect vibrations, such as those from an earthquake. That signals elephants to move to more stable ground.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Yala National Park is home to hundreds of animals. Where is it located?
 - A. Japan
 - B. Thailand
 - C. the United States
 - D. Sri Lanka

2. Scientists say that elephants could have felt vibrations from the earthquake. Which of the following best describes the *effect* of feeling those vibrations?
 - A. Elephants made friends with other animals.
 - B. Elephants helped with cleanup efforts.
 - C. Elephants might have picked up infrasound.
 - D. Elephants may have sensed danger.

3. Which of the following conclusions does this passage support?
 - A. Dogs and cats make good pets because of their strong senses.
 - B. Most animals in East Asia and South Africa dislike water.
 - C. Animals' sharp senses helped many escape the deadly waves.
 - D. Natural disasters can occur without warning.

4. Read the following sentence from the passage: "Before the tsunami struck, animals may have started to flee because they saw other creatures running."

In this sentence, the word **flee** means

- A. run away
- B. stay put
- C. make noise
- D. remain quiet

5. Which statement best describes the central idea of this passage?
- A. In 2004, a tsunami killed thousands of people in South Asia and East Africa.
 - B. Animals started to behave strangely before the tsunami struck.
 - C. Many animals survived the tsunami because they sensed it coming.
 - D. Animals have better senses of hearing, smell, and sight than humans do.
6. What did elephants do to help after the tsunami?
7. What is the author's reason for including the "Hearing With Their Feet" diagram with the story?
8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

_____ humans can't pick up infrasound, some animals can.

- A. Instead
- B. But
- C. Although
- D. However