The background of the title area is a solid blue color. It is decorated with several white snowflake patterns of varying sizes and orientations. A prominent four-pointed starburst is located to the left of the text. The text is centered and reads:

Fifth Grade
Blizzard Bag
Day 9

Name: _____

Day 9

(5th Grade)

Math:

- Incredible Creations (Powers of 10)

English:

- Read passages and answer the question with each story:

1. Chemicals and Crops
2. A Tasty Treat
3. Are Touch Devices Worth the Cost?
4. Adventure's Call
5. The Can That Returns

Writing:

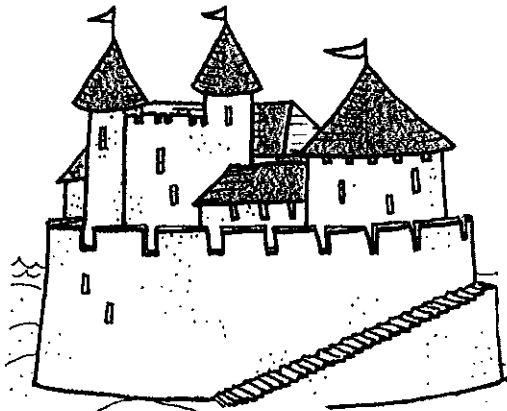
- At The Beach (Pick one prompt and write using the picture that is provided to help focus your story.)

INCREDIBLE CREATIONS

A team in British Columbia built the tallest sand castle. Team members used only their hands, shovels, and pails to build the 21-foot, 6-inch high castle.

The teams shown below spent a week building castles. Solve problems about their work.

1. The *Sand Wizards* worked 1000 times .0706 hours = _____.
2. The *Sculptors* traveled this far to the competition: 8,700 miles ÷ 10 = _____.
3. The *Builders Four* used this many shovels and other tools: 53,000 ÷ 10³ = _____.
4. The *Castle Quartet* worked 3,600,000 hours ÷ 10⁵ = _____.
5. The *Sand Crabs* drank this much water during the time they worked:
0.0114 liters x 10⁵ = _____.
6. This many birds flew over the sand castle builders during the week-long competition:
0.001746 x 10⁶ = _____.
7. This many spectators came to see the sand creations:
402,600,000 ÷ 10⁵ = _____.
8. The total number of hours worked by the builders was:
66,200,000,000 ÷ 10⁸ hours = _____.



Sand Castle Contest

Number of Buckets of Sand Used for Creations

Team	Perform the Operation	Answer
<i>The Sand Wizards</i>	0.0247 x 10 ⁵	
<i>The Sand Crabs</i>	37,000,000 ÷ 10 ⁴	
<i>The Builders Four</i>	0.0046 x 10 ⁶	
<i>The Sculptors</i>	93,266,000 ÷ 10 ⁵	
<i>The Castle Quartet</i>	0.0024566 x 10 ⁶	

The table gives a mathematical multiplication or division problem that will show the number of buckets of sand used for each castle. Solve the problems.

Name _____

Student:

Class:

Date:

Read the passage - 'Chemicals and Crops' - and answer the question below:

Chemicals and Crops

Chemicals and Crops

Chemicals are necessary to make sure farmers produce enough food for everyone. The chemicals used can prevent unwanted insects, weeds, rodents, fungus and other diseases from infecting the crop. These chemicals have obvious benefits, but we must also look at the risks.

Chemicals and Pesticides

②

If you are under 16, Child Labor Laws forbid you from handling certain classes and types of chemicals or pesticides; state laws may be even more stringent.

③

Do You Know... that chemicals and pesticides used in agriculture can be hazardous? Pesticides can be dangerous if you are working in fields that have been treated or sprayed with them or when handling and applying them. Pesticides can enter your body in many ways. Simple contact through skin and clothes is one of the main ways chemicals enter your body. Another way is through breathing mist, dust, fumes, or smoke containing pesticides and chemicals. You can even poison yourself if you don't wash your hands before eating.



Image source: <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/agriculture/chemicals.html>

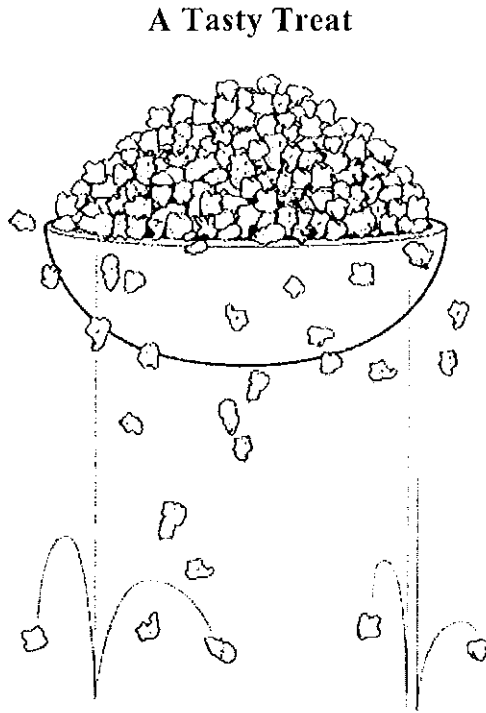
The EPA estimates that 10,000–20,000 physician-diagnosed pesticide poisonings occur each year among the approximately 3,380,000 agricultural workers in the United States.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration. <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/agriculture/chemicals.html> (12/04/2007).

1. Which sentence shows how pesticides can invade the body?
 - A "These chemicals have obvious benefits, but we must also look at the risks."
 - B "Pesticides can be dangerous if you are working in fields that have been treated or sprayed with them or when handling and applying them."
 - C "Pesticides can enter your body in many ways."
 - D "Simple contact through skin and clothes is one of the main ways chemicals enter your body."

Read the passage - 'A Tasty Treat' - and answer the question below:

A Tasty Treat



- 1 Popcorn has been around for over 5,000 years. Popcorn is made from corn. Corn was first grown in Mexico. The Mexicans and Native Americans enjoyed trading items. Popcorn may have been a trade item. That is one way it could have spread from one culture to another.
- 2 Native Americans used two methods to pop corn. One way was to heat it in clay pots that had lids. Some tribes placed a clay pot next to their cooking fire to heat the kernels. Other tribes heated a layer of sand in the bottom of the pot. When the sand was hot enough the kernels were added so that they could pop on top of the hot sand.
- 3 The second method was used by the Winnebago tribe and did not involve clay pots. The tribe members simply rubbed oil on the corn cob. Then they poked a long stick into

one end, and held the cob over the fire until the kernels popped. Oddly enough, the kernels stayed on the cob instead of flying off.

- 4 When the colonists came to America, the Native Americans introduced them to popcorn. There is a popular story about the brother of a Wampanoag chief. He brought popcorn to the first Thanksgiving. Most historians think it is only a story. There is no mention of the event in documents from Colonial times. Native Americans did bring popcorn to autumn gatherings planned by colonists. They also taught the colonists other ways of eating popcorn. One of their most popular dishes was popcorn soup.
- 5 Popcorn became a favorite treat for the colonists. Each family grew their own crop of corn. One of their favorite ways of eating popcorn was to pour cream and sugar over it and eat it for breakfast.
- 6 The colonists also began making the first metal popcorn poppers. One style of popper was made from thin metal rolled into a cylinder. It was put on an axis¹ and rotated by hand. The corn popped over the fire. Another popper was made from heavy wire mesh. It was rectangular. It had a long handle so the popper could be held and shaken over the fire during popping.
- 7 Today, popcorn is still a favorite snack for many. People eat popcorn at sporting events, carnivals, and many other places. The tasty treat that came from Mexico has become a food that equals fun.

1 axis: a straight line on which a body or geometric object rotates

2. Which paragraph explains ways of cooking popcorn used by Native Americans?
- A. Paragraph 2
 - B. Paragraph 4
 - C. Paragraph 6
 - D. Paragraph 7

Read the passage - 'Are Touch Devices Worth the Cost' - and answer the question below:

Are Touch Devices Worth the Cost

Are Touch Devices Worth the Cost?

- 1 Electronic touch devices are expensive. I see at least two big problems that should be solved before we spend school money on this. Let's look at these questions before we make a costly decision. First, does the tool really improve learning? Second, what is the cost of the tool?
- 2 First, we should examine what the new technology offers that is not already in the classroom. This is a question to ask before testing out any new fad in our schools. Touch pads have software applications, known as "apps," that teach students math, reading or writing skills. Students can already practice these skills with books, paper flashcards, a white board, and a pad of paper. As a teacher, I have helped hundreds of students study without a touch pad. There is no reason why schools should change a system that has always worked well.

- 3 Everybody agrees that touch devices are fun. Students enjoy using them. Students also enjoy watching movies, playing video games, and eating ice cream. That does not mean we should spend the school day watching movies and eating sugary snacks. Instead, teachers should engage students through media that challenge them rather than coddle them. It is true that a few studies show that touch pads engage students for a longer time than traditional pen and paper. But that does not mean that the students learn more. Young people are learning more than just facts and figures in school. They are also learning how to focus their attention, which is an even more important skill. Touch technology gives kids easy, flashy access to facts. It does not teach them how to become interested in their surroundings. Students who use touch devices are likely to forget how to interact with the world around them. They need to get away from technology in order to develop these skills.
- 4 Perhaps most importantly, this technology is expensive. A hundred pads of paper cost less than one touch pad. The school must buy both the hardware and the software that runs on it. That is, we have to buy a touch pad and then all the apps for it. Buying touch pads is just the first step down a slippery slope toward spending hundreds and thousands of dollars more on software. Students will want apps for spelling, for foreign languages, for music. The list of things we will need to buy is endless. More importantly, money must be spent training teachers how to use touch pads in the classroom. Teachers must learn how to adapt their lesson plans to suit the new technology. Using a touch pad might be as natural as picking up a pencil, but just because a kid can pick up a pencil does not mean she knows how to spell correctly. Teaching a person how to write well is challenging with or without expensive tools.
- 5 Where could we spend the money that is spent on new devices? Perhaps if the schools saved this money, we would be able to fund something infinitely more valuable than tools: teachers. We could hire more teachers and increase their pay and benefits. This would be a much better way to improve our schools. The money could also pay for better lunch programs, or art or music education. I believe that any of these options would be a better investment of our limited school resources.
- 6 Reflecting on these big questions makes our conclusion clear. Touch pads are expensive, but that does not mean they are valuable for learning. It is a waste of money to buy these unnecessary tools. Tools alone do not teach. Teachers teach.
3. **What is the main idea of Paragraph 2?**
- A. Touch technology will probably go out of style in a few years.
 - B. Most school subjects can be taught with touch device applications.
 - C. Teachers use many different learning tools and supplies in the classroom.
 - D. Students and teachers already have most of what touch devices have to offer.

Read the passage - 'Adventure's Call' - and answer the question below:

Adventure's Call

Adventure's Call
by Jan Burns



Buck is forced to become a sled dog in the frozen north.

- 1 Eleven-year-old Jack London stared in awe at the towering masts of the Arctic whalers, flat-bottomed Chinese junks with square sails, and trading schooners that rocked at anchor at the Oakland, California, waterfront. He wished he could jump aboard one and sail away to find adventure.
- 2 Jack loved to read adventure books and sea stories. From the age of 10, he had worked to help earn money for his family. Reading gave him hope that someday he'd find a better life for himself, like some of the characters in the books he had read.
- 3 Young Jack read mornings, afternoons, and nights. "I read as I walked to and from school," he once said, "and I read at recess when the other children were playing."
- 4 Eventually, Jack saved up enough money to buy a leaky boat, and taught himself to sail. Whenever he could, he sailed away alone, with a sack full of books.

The Call of the Sea

- 5 When Jack was 17, he joined a hunting expedition headed for the coast of Japan. The three-masted schooner *Sophia Sutherland* ran into a typhoon during Jack's turn at the wheel. He battled the swift-running seas and kept the ship on course.
- 6 When he returned home from his adventure, his mother persuaded him to enter a writing contest for young people. The contest offered a \$25 first prize. Jack vividly described how the schooner had heaved, shuddered, and rolled, and how the prow had pushed through the typhoon. He won the contest. This prompted him to consider becoming a writer.
- 7 To increase his vocabulary, he tried to memorize 20 new words every day. He wrote words and their meanings on slips of paper. Then he tucked them around his mirror frame or clipped them to a wire strung over his bed. This way he could read them the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night.
- 8 Jack tried to read all of the books written by successful writers of his day, especially Rudyard Kipling. He studied Kipling's *Just So Stories* and *The Jungle Book*, and copied pages of the books by hand so he could get a feel for the way Kipling put words and sentences together.
- 9 Despite his efforts to improve his vocabulary and writing style, editors and publishers rejected everything Jack wrote. If he could not publish his work and earn money, he knew

he would have to return to a different kind of work to make his living.

Striking Gold

- 10 The 1897 Klondike gold rush changed Jack's life. He joined the stampede to the Yukon territory in Canada with others seeking wealth and adventure. When winter set in and the lakes and rivers froze over, he and other gold seekers were forced to stay close to their cabins.
- 11 At night men gathered together and talked. Jack was good at drawing people out, getting them to tell their stories of digging for gold and traveling by dog team, and of their run-ins with howling wolves. He also met Louis Bond, and learned about a special dog named Buck.
- 12 When Jack realized he wasn't going to find any gold, he decided to write and sell stories based on his Yukon experiences. People in the United States seemed hungry for stories about that harsh land. He went home and established a lifelong routine of writing at least one thousand words every morning.
- 13 Jack worked hard, mining his Yukon experiences for stories. One of the stories he started was about a dog named Buck that was stolen, then forced to become a sled dog in the frozen north. Jack became so absorbed in his writing that the work grew to book size. He tried to write in such a way that his readers could see, feel, and hear the story. He wrote about the singing of the sled runners on the icy trails, the white snow, the black forests, and the flaming aurora borealis. He titled his book *The Call of the Wild*.
- 14 Jack's book became one of the best-selling books in American literary history. It has been in print continuously since 1903.
- 15 Jack wondered why his earlier writing hadn't succeeded. He finally reasoned, "I left out the most important thing—some of my own heart—a part of myself."
- 16 Jack London's adventures live on through his vibrant and realistic writing. During his life, he wrote more than fifty books and hundreds of short stories. His words still call readers to follow him into the wild.

"Adventure's Call" by Jan Burns, illustrated by Denny Bond, from *Highlights*, January 2004, copyright © 2004 by Highlights for Children, Inc. Reprinted by permission of Highlights for Children, Inc.

4. Why did the author most likely write this article?

- A. to encourage readers to write short stories
- B. to persuade readers to study modern authors
- C. to teach readers how to write like Jack London
- D. to inform readers about the life of Jack London

Read the passage - 'The Can That Returns' - and answer the question below:

The Can That Returns

The Can That Returns

Here is a great way to surprise your friends!

You will need:

- A round, empty coffee can with a lid
- A nut and bolt
- A long, thick rubber band
- A hammer
- A large nail
- Strong thread

What to do:

1. Ask an adult to help you hammer two holes in the lid and two holes in the bottom of the can with a nail.



Figure A

2. Cut a long, thick rubber band so that it forms one long piece. Starting from the outside of the can, thread the two ends of the rubber band through the two holes in the bottom of the can.
3. Next, thread the remaining ends of the rubber band through the holes in the can lid. Tie the rubber band securely on top of the lid to make a tight fit.
4. Ask an adult to pull the lid away from the can and hold it in place. While the lid is stretched away from the can, tie a nut and bolt or some other small weight to the rubber band so that the weight will dangle in the center of the can.
5. Last, replace the lid, and your returning can is done.

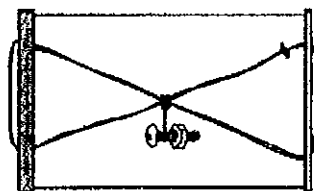


Figure B

6. When you roll the can away from you, the rubber band will wind up. When it comes to a stop, the rubber band will begin to unwind and the can will slowly roll back to you.

How to surprise your friends:

Tell your friends your can is obedient and will come to you when you call. Roll your can, and just as it stops say, "Come back to me, can." The can will roll back. All your friends will want to know how it works!

5. **What is the purpose of the section "How to surprise your friends"?**
- A. to give reasons why it is fun to surprise your friends
 - B. to show how friends might react when they see your can
 - C. to give a list of the best places to roll your can when you are with friends
 - D. to explain what to do when rolling your can in front of friends

At the Beach

Who is the person in this picture? What brought him or her to this setting? Describe this person's mood. What does this person's silhouette tell you? As this person gazes out to sea, what thoughts pass through his or her mind?

Imagine you are strolling along this beach. Using sensory details, describe the feel of the sand and water as you walk barefoot along the ocean's edge.

Imagine you are walking along this beach and meet the person pictured. You stop to talk to him or her for a few minutes. Write dialogue for the conversation the two of you have.

Write an essay about a day you spent at a beach, lake, or river. Use sensory details to describe the setting, and tell what you saw, felt, smelled, tasted, and heard. What patterns or textures in nature did you observe? Use adverbs and adjectives to make your description vivid and realistic.

Imagine that you see a bottle bob among the incoming waves and wash up onto the shore. You go over to investigate and notice a piece of paper rolled inside the bottle. You pull out the note and read it. Who wrote the note, and to whom was it written? What does it say? What action, if any, do you take?

Write a short story about a rescue at sea using this beach as your setting. Make the excitement and suspense mount to grab and hold your reader's attention.

Write a poem about a beach, the ocean, a sunrise, or a sunset. Your poem does not have to rhyme.

