Name: Date: Score: / 6

Dolphins: Reading Comprehension

Nonfiction: Animals · about 140 words

Read the passage. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

Dolphins

Dolphins live in oceans all around the world, and a few kinds live in rivers. Though they live in water and look like fish, dolphins are mammals. They breathe air through a blowhole on top of their heads. A dolphin must come to the surface to breathe, even when it sleeps. Scientists think dolphins rest one half of their brain at a time.

Dolphins are very social. They live in groups called pods. Pod members work together to hunt fish and protect each other from sharks. Dolphins talk using clicks, whistles, and squeaks. Each dolphin even has its own special whistle, like a name.

Dolphins use echolocation to find food. They make clicking sounds that bounce off objects. By listening to the echoes, a dolphin can tell the size, shape, and distance of a fish, even in dark or cloudy water.

1. **Main idea:** What is this passage mostly about?
   A. sharks in the ocean B. how fish breathe C. dolphins and how they live D. river animals

2. **Detail:** How do dolphins breathe?
   A. with gills B. through their mouths underwater C. they do not breathe
   D. through a blowhole on top of their heads

3. **Detail:** What is a group of dolphins called?
   A. a herd B. a flock C. a pod D. a pack

4. **Detail:** What is special about each dolphin's whistle?
   A. It is the same for all dolphins. B. It scares sharks. C. It is very loud. D. It is like a name.

5. **Vocabulary:** Echolocation is...
   A. swimming very fast B. a kind of fish C. jumping out of the water
   D. finding things by listening to echoes of sounds

6. **Inference:** Why do scientists think dolphins rest one half of their brain at a time?

ANSWER KEY

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5. **Vocabulary:** Echolocation is...
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6. **Inference:** Why do scientists think dolphins rest one half of their brain at a time?
   so they can keep coming to the surface to breathe while resting