Name: Date: Score: / 6

Wetlands: Reading Comprehension

Nonfiction: Science · about 135 words

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

Wetlands

A wetland is land that is covered by water for at least part of the year. Marshes, swamps, and bogs are all kinds of wetlands. Wetlands may not look exciting, but they are some of the most important places on Earth.

Wetlands are home to many plants and animals. Frogs, turtles, herons, alligators, and many kinds of fish live in them. Ducks and geese stop at wetlands to rest and eat during their long migrations.

Wetlands also help people. Their plants act like a sponge. During heavy rain, they soak up extra water, which can help prevent floods. Wetland plants also trap dirt and pollution, which helps clean the water. The Everglades in Florida is one of the largest wetlands in the United States. It is so special that part of it is a national park.

1. **Main idea:** What is this passage mostly about?

   A. the history of Florida B. how to catch fish C. why deserts are dry
   D. what wetlands are and why they are important

2. **Detail:** Which of these is a kind of wetland?

   A. a desert B. a meadow C. a marsh D. a mountain

3. **Detail:** Why do ducks and geese stop at wetlands?

   A. to build houses B. to lay eggs on rocks C. to hide from rain
   D. to rest and eat during migration

4. **Vocabulary:** The passage says wetland plants act like a sponge. This means they...

   A. are yellow B. soak up water C. are used to wash dishes D. float away

5. **Detail:** What is one of the largest wetlands in the United States?

   A. the Everglades B. the Grand Canyon C. Lake Itasca D. Mount Rushmore

6. **Inference:** How do wetlands help prevent floods?

ANSWER KEY

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