

Winter Break Packet
for
Reading/Language Arts
Answer Key for Grades 6-8

Passage: “Florida’s Hummingbirds”

1. **D** LA.6-8.1.6.3 Analyze Words and Text
2. **A** LA.6-8.1.6.3 Analyze Words and Text
3. **C** LA.6-8.1.7.7 Comparison/Contrast
4. **B** LA.6-8.1.7.5 Main Idea/Details
5. **A** LA.6-8.1.7.2 Author’s Purpose/Point of View
6. **A** LA.6-8.6.2.2 Locates, Organizes, and Interprets Information
7. **D** LA.6-8.6.2.2 Locates, Organizes, and Interprets Information
8. **D** LA.6-8.1.7.5 Fact/Opinion; Strong vs. Weak Arguments
9. **C** LA.6-8.1.7.3 Main Idea/Details

10. Extended-Response - 4 Point Rubric Locates, Organizes, and Interprets Information
Example of a Top Score Response LA.6-8.6.2.2

Both charts provide the names of specific flowers that are the hummingbirds’ food source. However not all flowers can be grown in all regions. For example, the Butterfly Milkweed, the Cardinal Flower, and the Obedient Plant are easily found in Florida so a Florida gardener would not have trouble obtaining them. Additionally, a gardener has to be aware of the plants’ blooming season so they would know when to plant and when to expect the hummingbirds arrival. A wise gardener should arrange the flowers in groups to prevent conflict among the birds.

11. **D** LA.6-8.1.7.5 Main Idea/Details

Poem: “The Hummingbird’s Flight”

12. **A** LA.6-8.1.7.4 Cause-and-Effect
13. **C** LA.6-8.1.7.5 Main Idea/Details
14. **C** LA.6-8.6.2.2 Validity and Accuracy of information

Vocabulary Work

Vivid Verbs-range, nest, breed, migrate, garden, seep, lick
Nature Words- plumage, hummingbirds, rain, petal, spirit
Words with inflectional endings-flying, gardening, lovely, giddy, sunlit, hovering
Seasonal Words- winter, flower, spring, buds, temperate, rainbow

Maps of Plumage

Definition-feathers of a bird that cover its body
Sentence-The swan’s plumage looked as soft as a pillow.
Synonyms-feathers

Picture-answers will vary

Maps of Nymph

Definition-in mythology, a minor goddess or spirit of nature who lives in nature

Sentence- The wood nymph keeps the forest safe for the princess.

Synonyms-fairy, muse

Picture-answers will vary

Story: “The Story of Clever Hans”

- 15. **C** LA.6-8.1.6.3 Analyze Words and Text
- 16. **D** LA.6-8.1.7.4 Cause-and-Effect
- 17. **C** LA.6-8.1.7.7 Comparison/Contrast
- 18. **D** LA.6-8.1.7.2 Author’s Purpose/Point of View
- 19. **A** LA.6-8.1.7.5 Character/ Plot Development
- 20. **D** LA.6-8.1.7.5 Character/Plot Development

Article: “Sylvia Earle”

- 21. **D** LA.6-8.1.7.7 Comparison/Contrast
- 22. **C** LA.6-8.1.7.4 Cause-and-Effect
- 23. **B** LA.6-8.1.7.2 Author’s Purpose/Point of View
- 24. **C** LA.6-8.2.1.2 Character/Plot Development
- 25. **B** LA.6-8.6.2.2 Validity and Accuracy of Information
- 26. Short-Response- 2 Point Rubric Validity and Accuracy of Information

Example of a Top Score Response LA.6-8.6.2.2

Sylvia Earle delivered warnings about ocean pollution, declaring it the responsibility of all humanity to protect the ocean. Sylvia Earle's curiosity about the ocean resulted in many other wonderful benefits to the environment. It led her to a ten-year study of algae's relationship to food chains, an analysis of the damage and deterioration inflicted by pollution on Florida's Gulf waters, the idea for marine sanctuaries which protect some of the ocean waters today, and the discovery of 26 species of plants.