

3RD GRADE ELA NEWSLETTER

MAY 25-29, 2026

NAME: _____

SECTION: _____

Homework:

Monday:

- No homework- Memorial Day

Tuesday:

- Read "A Tornado in a Bottle" and answer the questions.

Wednesday:

- Read "Do Dog's Dream" and "A Dog's Sleep Cycles" and answer the questions.

Thursday:

- Color by Number- Antonyms. Find the synonym for the identified word and color accordingly.

Novel Studies

3A, 3B, 3C: Charlotte's Web
3D: Harry Potter
3E: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

Reminders

- The entire completed homework packet is due on Friday.
- Bring your novels to class everyday. **Novels will count for a participation grade! Students must bring their own copy daily.**

Upcoming Events

- No School: May 25th
- Grammar Quiz- Adverbs
 - Tuesday 5/26/26
 - Practice Quiz on IXL
- Award Ceremony: June 2

Name _____ Date **Tuesday**

READING: INFORMATION
RI.3.3

QUICK CHECK

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!



Directions: Read the passage and choose the correct answer to each question.

A Tornado in a Bottle

Tornadoes are violent winds that rotate and pick up speed. As the winds spin, they form a funnel cloud. This spinning column of air is made up of water droplets, dust, and other debris. Tornadoes are dangerous, so it's not safe to observe one in real life. However, you can make a tornado in a bottle. This experiment will allow you to see how the winds move in a tornado without facing any dangers.

What you'll need:

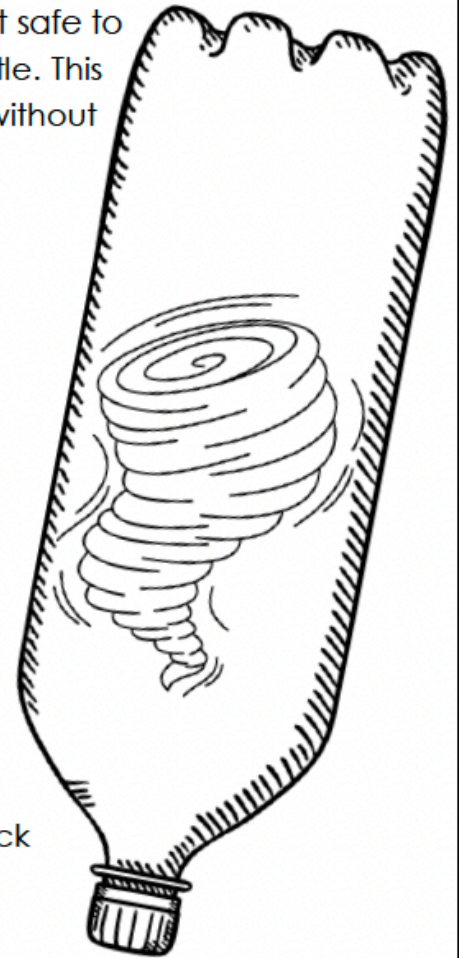
- a clear plastic water bottle with a cap
- water
- liquid dishwashing soap
- glitter
- food coloring

Steps to Making a Tornado in a Bottle

First, fill your bottle with water until it reaches around three-quarters full. You should leave about two inches of air at the top of the bottle. Next, add two squirts of liquid dishwashing soap. Next, sprinkle a few pinches of glitter into the bottle. After that, add a few drops of food coloring. Adding color to the water will make it easier to see the tornado in action. Finally, tightly screw the cap back onto the bottle.

Test Your Experiment!

It's time to see if your tornado works! Turn the bottle upside down. Grasping it by the neck, twirl it in a circular pattern as fast as you can. Move your wrists in a circular motion as if you were drawing circles in the air. Stop after about 15 seconds and hold the bottle still. Look inside to see if you can see a mini tornado forming in the water. Getting the tornado to function correctly may take a couple of tries. Eventually, you should see a swirling funnel of colored water and glitter that looks like a tornado. The force that makes the water spin in a circular motion is called centripetal force. This force pulls objects inward towards the center of the circle. That's why you see the glitter spinning around inside the bottle.



1. Which type of nonfiction writing would best describe this article?
 - a) historical events
 - b) scientific ideas
 - c) steps in a procedure
2. What is the first step to making a tornado in a bottle?
 - a) Add two squirts of liquid dishwashing soap.
 - b) Fill the bottle with water until it reaches around three-quarters full.
 - c) Observe a tornado in real life.
3. Which step comes after adding glitter to the water in the bottle?
 - a) Add a few drops of food coloring.
 - b) Tightly screw the cap back onto the bottle.
 - c) Move your wrists in a circular motion.
4. Why is adding color to the water a necessary step?
 - a) Adding color to the water makes it easier to spot leaks coming from the bottle.
 - b) Adding color to the water makes the swirling funnel sparkle.
 - c) Adding color to the water will make it easier to see the tornado in action.
5. What happens right before twirling the bottle in a circular pattern?
 - a) The bottle should be turned upside down.
 - b) The bottle should be filled with water.
 - c) The water should form a mini tornado inside the bottle.
6. What is the effect of moving your wrists in a circular motion while holding the bottle?
 - a) Water droplets, dust, and other debris will spin around in the bottle.
 - b) A swirling funnel that looks like a tornado will form in the bottle.
 - c) The water will turn a bright color.
7. What is the first thing you would do before starting this experiment?
 - a) gather the needed supplies
 - b) find an adult
 - c) watch a tornado on television
8. What causes the water in the bottle to spin in a circular motion?
 - a) outward forces
 - b) glitter moving in the bottle
 - c) centripetal force
9. What would happen if you left out the last step when making a tornado in a bottle?
 - a) the tornado would spin inward
 - b) water would escape from the bottle
 - c) bubbles would form in the bottle
10. What should you do if you do not see a mini tornado forming in your bottle?
 - a) keep trying to twirl the bottle
 - b) give up and start over
 - c) ask a friend for help

QUICK CHECK

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!



Directions: Read the passage and choose the correct answer to each question.

Do Dogs Dream? (Text 1)

Did you know that dogs dream just like humans do? It's true! Dogs usually have four or five dreams each night. Dreams usually last for only a few seconds, but sometimes they can last up to 20 minutes.

Dogs dream about the things they do during the day. If your dog spends his days chasing squirrels, he's likely to dream about doing just that. Dogs use dreams to process and make sense of the things they've experienced during the day. When you spend time playing with your dog, there's a good chance your dog will dream about your play session.

Dreams can be a way for dogs to relieve stress and process information. For example, if your dog is afraid of thunderstorms, he may have a nightmare about one. You may see him twitch and whimper in his sleep. If his behavior becomes alarming, you can try to wake him up gently. Otherwise, let him sleep. Dreaming can help him to work through his fear and hopefully become less afraid of storms.

A Dog's Sleep Cycles (Text 2)

Dogs sleep in cycles just like humans do, but their cycles are faster. Dogs go through about 20 of them each night, while we go through only 4 or 5.

The first sleep cycle happens when your dog is lightly snoozing. Their heart rate slows down, and their blood pressure drops. They might start to breathe slowly. Your dog will wake easily from unexpected sounds.

The second cycle starts after about 10 minutes of light sleep. This is when dogs enter the rapid eye movement phase (REM). You will see your dog twitch and make light barks. This usually means they're dreaming, but it doesn't always mean they are having a bad dream. The brain waves during this stage are active, just like when dogs are awake and alert.

Dogs enter deep sleep during the third and final sleep cycle. Your dog will look very relaxed. He may even lie on his back with his paws in the air. During this phase, it will be harder to wake him up. This is the final stage of sleep before your dog wakes up refreshed and ready to start the day.

1. What is similar about the information presented in both texts?
- a) Both texts are about a dog's sleep cycles.
 - b) Both texts are about dogs when they sleep.
 - c) Both texts are about dogs that chase squirrels.



2. What is different about the information presented in both texts?
 - a) Text 1 lists key details about sleep cycles. Text 2 lists key details about dreams.
 - b) Text 1 and 2 include different details about why dogs dream.
 - c) Text 1 describes how and why dogs dream. Text 2 explains how dogs sleep in cycles.
3. Which of the following statements correctly summarizes the two texts?
 - a) Dogs dream and have sleep cycles just like humans do.
 - b) Dogs dream about things they do during the day.
 - c) Dogs sleep in cycles just like humans do, but their cycles are faster.
4. Which detail from Text 1 explains what dogs dream about?
 - a) Dogs usually have four or five dreams each night.
 - b) Dogs dream just like humans do.
 - c) Dogs dream about the things they do during the day.
5. Based on details found in Text 2, which sleep cycle might a dog dream in?
 - a) the first sleep cycle
 - b) the second sleep cycle
 - c) the third and final sleep cycle
6. According to Text 1, what does the author suggest you do if your dog is dreaming?
 - a) Wake your dog up and play with him.
 - b) Unless your dog's behavior becomes alarming, let him sleep.
 - c) Comfort your dog during a nightmare.
7. Which detail from Text 2 explains how your dog might act during the first sleep cycle?
 - a) Your dog will look very relaxed.
 - b) You will see your dog twitch and make light barks.
 - c) Your dog will wake easily from unexpected sounds.
8. What was the author's purpose for writing Text 1?
 - a) to encourage the reader to watch a dog dream
 - b) to inform the reader about how and why dogs dream
 - c) to entertain the reader with a funny story about a dog
9. What was the author's purpose for writing Text 2?
 - a) to explain the different sleep cycles that dogs go through
 - b) to prove that dogs twitch and bark in their sleep
 - c) to inform the reader about why dogs sleep so much
10. How are the ideas the same in both texts?
 - a) Both texts tell the reader why dogs wake easily.
 - b) Both texts describe why dogs like to chase squirrels.
 - c) Both texts explain that dogs may twitch and whimper in their sleep.

