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Stalagmite, Stalactite

Cross-Curricular Focus: Earth Science



Limestone caves often have some unusual rock formations. Rain soaks through the soil and rocks on land. It becomes groundwater, which is water stored below Earth's surface. Sometimes the groundwater is located above a limestone cave. Drops of water find their way through tiny openings and cracks in the roof of the cave. Microscopic particles of limestone from the roof are worn away as the drops of water travel. The water carries the particles along with it. Eventually the water evaporates, leaving the limestone deposit behind. Over time, many drops follow the same path. They add to the limestone formation bit by bit. By the time thousands of years have passed, all the tiny deposits add up to a large **stalactite**. A stalactite is a pointed rock formation. It hangs down from the roof of the cave and points toward the ground.

If the drops of water fall to the ground before they evaporate, the limestone formation starts to build from the floor of the cave upward instead. Once after drop adds to the formation over many years. When the deposits occur on the floor of the cave pointing up instead of from the roof of the cave pointing down, the limestone formation is called a **stalagmite**. The growth of all the cave formations occurs when a stalactite and a stalagmite form separately over time, but then meet in the middle and fuse together. This kind of formation is known as a single column.

Carlsbad Caverns in the Guadalupe Mountains of New Mexico is a world famous collection of limestone caves. The vast 40,760-acre collection of caves is home to some of the most amazing stalactites and stalagmites on Earth.

About 1898 a cowboy named Jim White saw smoke rising from the ground. When he went to investigate, he found it was not smoke but a large formation of bats flying upward from the caves. He began to explore the caves and saw the amazing rock formations. Later the caves were photographed, and visitors began to come from all over the world to see their natural beauty. Carlsbad Caverns became a national park in 1923. In 1995, it was named a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) In your own words, explain how a stalactite forms.

2) Explain how a stalagmite differs from a stalactite.

3) What is the formation called when a stalagmite and stalactite join together?

4) What mistake led to Jim White exploring the caves?


5) Carlsbad Caverns is located in what state?

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Name: _____

Class: _____



This is Amy. She's ten years old. She's short and fat. She's got long blonde hair. She's got small black eyes. She can swim and she can skip. She can't sing. She can't read English. Her favourite toy is a doll. It's purple. She's got two green yoyos. She's got a blue yoyo too. She's got two red kites.

1. What's her name? _____

2. How old is she? _____

3. Can she play football? _____

4. Has she got short hair? _____

5. Is she short? _____

6. Is her doll blue? _____


7. Has she got big eyes? _____

8. Can she sing? _____

9. Has she got three yoyos? _____

10. Is she fat? _____

11. Draw and colour her toys



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K5 Learning

Grade 1 Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Read the short story. Then answer each question.

The Boat Parade


The boats are floating along the lakeshore. It is the summer boat parade.

There are motorboats, rowboats and sailboats.

Jessica's favorite is the yellow motor boat with the flag. The rowboat decorated with flowers is Lisa's favorite. Tony likes the purple sailboat.

The boats float by one at a time. The people on the boats wave at the crowds. The crowds cheer the boats.

The boat parade is so much fun to watch. It is the best part of the summer.



Reading and Math for K-5

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"Don't oversell what you can do," he warned, "or you might not get another chance."A few months later, Joel flew to New York City to see Jerry Koarns, that year's president of the National Housewares Manufacturers Association. And when he did take breaks, he would slip his red exhibitor's badge into his jacket pocket ("if anyone knows you're an exhibitor, they're not going to spend their time with you") and wander the aisles in search of still more new ideas.Today, Joel Jacob works out of a small, windowless office neatly lined with enlarged photographs of generations of Jacob men and their delivery vehicles. Jacob & Sons -- and no place else -- from the time he was a small boy. Jacob & Sons could help -- he hit the road to learn about the retailing world.In January 1983, he went to the National Housewares Show in Chicago. This year, Joel says, Sprayco will ship several million units of product to about 150 customers. William, the eldest son, was a salesman; Sam spent a few years driving the horse-drawn delivery wagon; and Ben, Joel's grandfather, was the family bookkeeper and cashier.The Jacobs eventually developed customers throughout the state of Michigan. He brought his catalogs wherever he went, and talked bottles to anyone who would listen. Jacob & Sons had been through such a transformation. The son's brainchild has become the business within the business that the father was searching for; and once again, M. Jacob & Sons had been buying from them for years. By the Tain Stenetuts rob SNITIO EGUH A Evah Ewsdik Rof YitoP DNANDHY HNTerF .M DNALeG, Niest Neverage DNAHAH .M DNALee under Emos, SremotsUC EHT or DNATHGOUTHtI GNOhLALA DNAIN SNOAW DNaVE SNAUN DNaVE SNAUE .SABLE DNaVE .Relams pick up Yeht before Reggle stnucca, llorey eert tsul Nac OhW, Speer Ships EHMOC EHT URUMO EH - YORHTIIB HT62 SAREIVERS SWSL EntP eht roof yarps 31: pH DETNIJ DH EH Reffo y rotcadirts than thig eh .emit EHO SENNUEB EHT TNHIN YOUR DEVUN CNOVER EHT DEHTHEB ARHNINEBO, EIIHW EHT DEHTHEB , DEADEN YNAPMOC EHT TNHITEMOOS - RAF GNIAYMOW GNIA HAHDE EHTWE EH TUNTHINGS etihw dah i fi em deksa yeht ".ogake DNATFOB rehboor SEAS HTIW YLIAM YLIAL DOLOS A Saooj Da EHT TBATH, DETUNY EHT HAOOB DNAHTh PEATH PEATH PERSONE, DEADUAH elementary grade levels.Readers' Theater ScriptsSmall groups of students can perform these short readers' theater scripts in the classroom.Mini-Books (Very Basic)On this page you'll find a large selection of phonics-based mini-books for young readers.Literature Circle and Book ClubBook report forms, literature circles roles, book bingo, and other reading worksheets.Language Arts WorksheetsA complete listing of the English-Language Arts content on this site.Phonics WorksheetsA complete list of the phonics worksheets on S.T.W.Early LiteracyThis section has alphabet activities, phonics worksheets, basic sentence building activities, and more. "I can remember even talking about shoelaces," he says. He wanted to see how different types of companies presented themselves to the buyers. Sales volume, which had increased to around \$6 million in the decade after World War II, began falling, eventually dropping by more than 50%. Jacob & Sons, buying around \$40 worth of one-quart bottles a year to hold ink in the corporate print shop. Why not deliver a better one, at a better price? After four days, more than 90 rep firms had stopped by booth 9042. Students will read this classic fable and then answer questions about setting, characters, genre, and cause and effect.2nd gradeReading & Writing 1st Grade Reading ComprehensionA set of passages for students at a first grade reading level.2nd Grade Reading ComprehensionA set of articles and stories for students at a second grade reading level.3rd Grade Reading ComprehensionText for students who are reading at a third grade reading level.4th Grade Reading ComprehensionNon-fiction texts and fiction stories for students who are reading at a fourth grade reading level.5th Grade Reading ComprehensionA large collection of fifth grade fiction passages, non-fiction articles, and poems.6th Grade Reading ComprehensionSTW has a variety of biographical articles, non-fiction articles, and poems Written for 6th graders.Reading comprehension ² high schoolPassages for students who are reading above the 5th grade level.Animal ArticlesPrint articles on countless animal species, from anteaters and armadillos to wombats and zebras. In the late 40s, when the young Marty Jacob arrived at the scene, M.M.