Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Read both. People and places are made up, but the animal facts are real.

Keeper's Diary

Tuesday

I got to the giraffe barn at 6 this morning and found Juniper pacing back and forth. At 7:40, two tiny hooves appeared! At 8:15, the calf slid out and dropped about five feet (1.5 meters) onto the soft straw. I held my breath. Then she shook her head and blinked at me.

In less than an hour, she was wobbling on her long legs, and soon she was drinking milk. I could not stop smiling. We named her Pebble.

The Lakeside Times

Giraffe Calf Born at Lakeside Zoo

Wednesday



Giraffe calves can stand within an hour of birth.

Lakeside Zoo has a new resident. A female giraffe calf was born on Tuesday morning to a mother named Juniper, zoo workers said. The calf, named Pebble, was about 6 feet (1.8 meters) tall at birth. Giraffes give birth standing up, so a newborn calf drops to the ground. The fall does not hurt the calf, and it helps the calf take its first breath. A mother giraffe carries her baby for about 15 months before it is born.

1. Which account was written by someone who saw the birth? **the diary** **the news story**

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Answer the questions about the giraffe calf. Look back at both accounts.

2. Both accounts tell about the same event. What is it?

3. Name two things the diary tells that the news story does not.

4. Name one fact the news story gives that the diary does not.

5. Which account would you read to learn how giraffes are born in general? Explain.

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Read both. People and places are made up, but the animal facts are real.

Nest Watch Journal

Saturday night

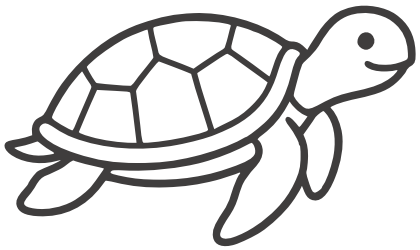
We have watched nest 12 for almost two months. Tonight the sand on top of it started to sink, and Ms. Rivera said that meant the babies were moving below. At 9:30, the first tiny head popped out! Then the sand seemed to boil, and dozens of hatchlings scrambled out at once.

We kept our flashlights off and stood back. The hatchlings flapped toward the bright water where the moon was shining. I counted 87 of them. The last one reached the waves at 9:52. I will never forget it.

The Gull Point Gazette

Hatchlings Head to Sea at Gull Point

Sunday



A loggerhead sea turtle, all grown up

More than 80 loggerhead sea turtle hatchlings crawled into the ocean at Gull Point Beach on Saturday night, volunteers said. The nest was one of 40 that the Gull Point Turtle Patrol marked this year. Loggerhead eggs take about two months to hatch. The hatchlings find the sea by heading toward the brightest light. That is usually the open sky over the sea, lit by the moon and stars. So people who live near the beach are asked to turn off their outdoor lights at night. Scientists think that only about one hatchling in a thousand lives to grow up.

1. Which account is a firsthand account? **the journal** **the news story**

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Answer the questions about the sea turtles. Look back at both accounts.

2. How do the two accounts agree about how many hatchlings there were?

3. The journal says the watchers kept their flashlights off. Which account explains why? What is the reason?

4. How is the focus of the journal different from the focus of the news story?

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

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Rescue Center Diary

Friday

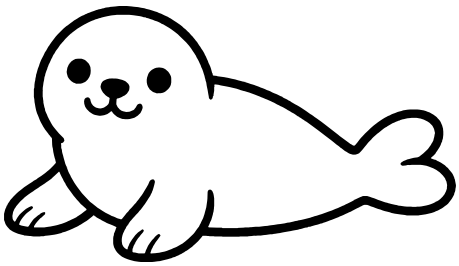
Today we let Pickles go! She is the harbor seal pup who came to us eight weeks ago, thin and weak. At first we fed her through a tube. Now she gobbles whole fish on her own and weighs twice as much.

We carried her crate down to the beach and opened the door. For a whole minute, she just sat and stared at the waves. Then she wiggled across the sand, slid into the water and was gone. I cried a little, but they were happy tears.

Harbor Town News

Rescued Seal Pup Returns to the Sea

Saturday



A harbor seal pup

A harbor seal pup named Pickles was set free on Friday. She had been found alone and too thin on Sandy Cove Beach eight weeks before. Workers at the Harbor Town Marine Rescue Center cared for her until she was healthy and could eat whole fish. Experts say most seal pups seen alone on a beach are not lost. A mother seal often leaves her pup on the shore while she hunts. Then she comes back for it. If you see a pup alone, stay at least 150 feet (about 45 meters) away and call a marine animal rescue group. Never touch or feed it.

1. Which account tells why a seal pup may be alone on a beach? **the diary** **the news story**

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Answer the questions about the seal pup. Look back at both accounts.

2. Who wrote the diary? Which words in it give you clues?

3. Why might a seal pup be alone on a beach?

4. What does the news story tell readers to do if they find a seal pup alone?

5. Both accounts tell about the day Pickles was set free. How are they different?

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Is each one a firsthand or a secondhand account? Circle one.

Firsthand: written by someone who was there and saw it.

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1. A zookeeper's diary about the day a giraffe was born **firsthand** **secondhand**

2. An encyclopedia article about giraffes **firsthand** **secondhand**

3. A letter a scientist wrote about her own dive to a coral reef **firsthand** **secondhand**

4. A news story by a reporter who talked to people who saw a whale **firsthand** **secondhand**

5. Your own notes from a trip to a wildlife park **firsthand** **secondhand**

6. A textbook chapter about animals of the desert **firsthand** **secondhand**

7. A photographer's blog about the eagles she watched at their nest **firsthand** **secondhand**

8. What can a firsthand account often tell you that a secondhand account cannot?

_____

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Read two accounts of one event. Compare them.

	Firsthand account _____ title	Secondhand account _____ title
Who wrote it?		
What is it mostly about?		
Feelings and opinions		
Facts and numbers		
What only this account tells		

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I got to the giraffe barn at 6 this morning and found Juniper pacing back and forth. At 7:40, two tiny hooves appeared! At 8:15, the calf slid out and dropped about five feet (1.5 meters) onto the soft straw. I held my breath. Then she shook her head and blinked at me.

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1. Which account was written by someone who saw the birth?

the diary **the news story**

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Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Answer the questions about the giraffe calf. Look back at both accounts.

2. Both accounts tell about the same event. What is it?

The birth of Pebble, a giraffe calf, at Lakeside Zoo.

3. Name two things the diary tells that the news story does not.

How the keeper felt, holding her breath and smiling, and the times: hooves at 7:40 and the calf at 8:15.

4. Name one fact the news story gives that the diary does not.

A mother giraffe carries her baby for about 15 months.

5. Which account would you read to learn how giraffes are born in general? Explain.

The news story, because it gives facts about how all giraffe calves are born, not just this one.

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Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

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Nest Watch Journal

Saturday night

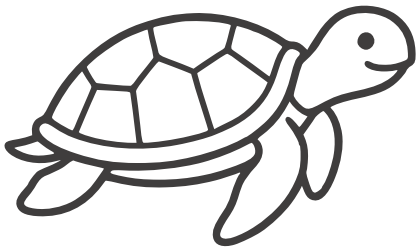
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1. Which account is a firsthand account? **the journal** the news story

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Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Answer the questions about the sea turtles. Look back at both accounts.

2. How do the two accounts agree about how many hatchlings there were?

Both say there were more than 80. The journal counted 87, and the news story says more than 80.

3. The journal says the watchers kept their flashlights off. Which account explains why? What is the reason?

The news story. Hatchlings head toward the brightest light, so other lights could lead them the wrong way.

4. How is the focus of the journal different from the focus of the news story?

The journal tells what one person saw and felt that night. The news story gives facts about sea turtles and asks people to help.

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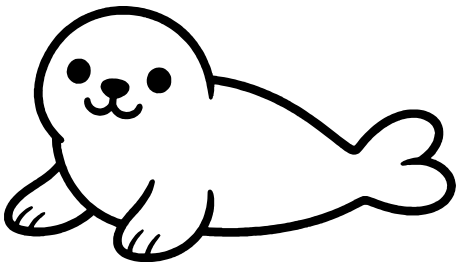
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Firsthand and Secondhand Accounts

Answer the questions about the seal pup. Look back at both accounts.

2. Who wrote the diary? Which words in it give you clues?

A worker at the rescue center. Clues: "we fed her," "we carried her crate down to the beach."

3. Why might a seal pup be alone on a beach?

Its mother may be hunting, and she will come back for it.

4. What does the news story tell readers to do if they find a seal pup alone?

Stay at least 150 feet away, call a rescue group, and never touch or feed it.

5. Both accounts tell about the day Pickles was set free. How are they different?

The diary tells how Pickles acted and how the writer felt. The news story gives facts and advice for readers.

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7. A photographer's blog about the eagles she watched at their nest — **(firsthand)** **secondhand**

8. What can a firsthand account often tell you that a secondhand account cannot?

How the person felt, and the small things they saw and heard up close.

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