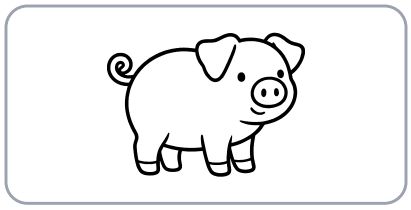
Name _____ Date _____

Reasons and Evidence

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Pigs Are Smarter Than You Think



Many people think of pigs as dirty, dull farm animals. I think pigs are smart, and scientists have found plenty of evidence.

First, pigs can solve problems. In one study, scientists taught pigs to use a joystick with their snouts. The pigs learned to move a dot on a computer screen until it hit a target.

Second, pigs can figure out how a mirror works. In another study, pigs first spent a few hours with a mirror. Then they saw a bowl of food in the mirror. Most of them turned away from the mirror and found the real food hidden behind them.

Third, pigs are smart about staying clean and cool. A pig keeps the place where it sleeps apart from its bathroom spot. Pigs roll in mud because they cannot sweat much, and the cool mud keeps them from getting too hot.

All of this shows that pigs deserve more credit than they get.

---

1. What is the author's point?

Pigs like computers. Pigs roll in mud. Pigs are smart animals.

2. Which reason does the joystick study support?

Pigs use mirrors. Pigs are clean. Pigs can solve problems.

3. What evidence does the author give that pigs are smart about staying clean?

_____

_____

4. Why do pigs roll in mud? How does this fact help the author's point?

_____

_____

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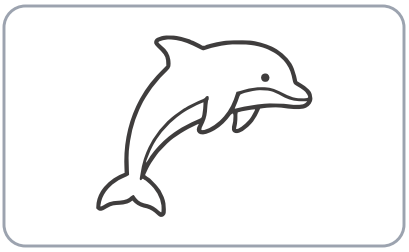
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Name _____ Date _____

Reasons and Evidence

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Clever Dolphins



Dolphins are clever in more than one way. Some of them use tools, and dolphins may even call each other by name.

In Shark Bay, Australia, some bottlenose dolphins use sea sponges as tools. Before a dolphin digs in the sandy sea floor for fish, it tears off a sponge and wears it over its beak. Scientists think the sponge protects the beak from sharp rocks and shells, the way a glove protects a hand. Young dolphins seem to learn the trick from their mothers.

Dolphins also seem to have names. Each bottlenose dolphin makes its own special whistle, called a signature whistle. When scientists played a dolphin's own whistle through an underwater speaker, the dolphin often whistled back. When they played other dolphins' whistles, it usually did not answer.

---

1. What two points does the author make about dolphins?

_____

_____

2. Which point does this evidence support? A dolphin wears a sponge over its beak while it digs. **tools** **names**

3. Which point does this evidence support? A dolphin whistled back when it heard its own whistle. **tools** **names**

4. Why does the author compare the sponge to a glove?

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

Reasons and Evidence

Which point does each piece of evidence support? Circle Point A or Point B.

An author wrote about honeybees and made two points.

Point A: Honeybees help farmers grow food.

Point B: A honeybee colony works like a team.

1. Bees carry pollen from flower to flower, so apples and almonds can grow. **Point A** **Point B**

2. Each worker bee has a job, such as cleaning, feeding young bees or guarding the hive. **Point A** **Point B**

3. Some farmers rent hives and bring them to their fields when the crops bloom. **Point A** **Point B**

4. A bee that finds flowers does a dance that tells the others where to fly. **Point A** **Point B**

5. About one of every three bites of food we eat depends on animals like bees that carry pollen. **Point A** **Point B**

6. On hot days, many bees fan their wings together to cool the hive. **Point A** **Point B**

7. Write one more piece of evidence for Point A or Point B. Tell which point it supports.

_____

_____

_____

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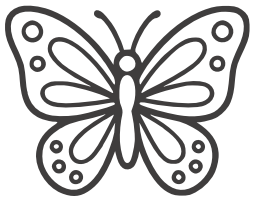
Name _____ Date _____

Two Texts on One Topic

Read both texts about monarch butterflies. Then answer the questions.

Text 1

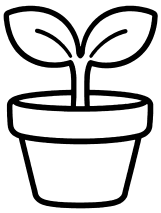
The Monarch's Milkweed



Monarch caterpillars eat only milkweed plants. A female monarch lays her eggs on milkweed leaves, one egg at a time. When the caterpillars hatch, they munch the leaves and grow quickly. Milkweed has a bitter poison in it, but it does not hurt the caterpillars. The poison stays in their bodies, even after they turn into butterflies. It makes them taste bad to birds. Their bright orange color warns birds to stay away.

Text 2

Helping the Monarchs



Many monarchs spend the winter in the mountains of Mexico. Scientists measure how many there are. Since the 1990s, the number has dropped sharply. One reason is that much of the milkweed monarchs need has disappeared. Fields and roadsides where it once grew have been plowed, paved or sprayed with weed killers. To help, people across North America are planting milkweed in gardens, schoolyards and parks. Every patch gives monarchs a new place to lay their eggs.

1. Monarch caterpillars eat only milkweed. **Text 1** **Text 2** **both**

2. Much of the milkweed has disappeared. **Text 1** **Text 2** **both**

3. Monarchs need milkweed. **Text 1** **Text 2** **both**

4. Use both texts to explain why planting milkweed helps monarchs.

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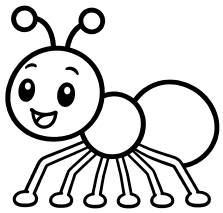
Name _____ Date _____

Two Texts on One Topic

Read both texts about leafcutter ants. Then answer the questions.

Text 1

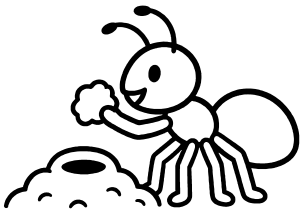
Leafcutter Ants



Leafcutter ants live in warm places from the southern United States to South America. Worker ants climb trees and use their sharp jaws to cut pieces of leaves. Each ant carries a piece over its head, like a little green flag, and the ants march home in long lines. A single colony can hold millions of ants. Their nest is a giant city of tunnels and rooms under the ground.

Text 2

The Ants' Hidden Garden



Leafcutter ants do not eat the leaves they carry home. Instead, they chew the leaves into a soft, wet mush. They use the mush to feed a fungus that grows in special rooms of their nest. The fungus is the ants' main food, and they feed it to their young, too. Worker ants take good care of this underground garden, pulling out harmful molds almost the way gardeners pull weeds.

1. A colony can hold millions of ants. **Text 1** **Text 2** **both**

2. The ants do not eat the leaves. **Text 1** **Text 2** **both**

3. The ants bring leaves to their nest. **Text 1** **Text 2** **both**

4. Use both texts to explain why leafcutter ants cut leaves.

_____

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

Topic Words

Draw a line from each word in the texts to what it means.

evidence	something that belongs to only one person or animal
study	a powder that plants need to make seeds
colony	a careful test that scientists do to learn something
pollen	a living thing such as a mushroom or a mold
fungus	something that can hurt or sicken an animal that eats it
snout	a large group of insects that live and work together
signature	facts or examples that show a point is true
poison	the long nose and mouth of an animal such as a pig

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Name _____ Date _____

Reasons and Evidence

Read a text that makes a point. Write its reasons and the evidence for each.

Title

The author's point

Reason 1	Evidence

Reason 2	Evidence

Reason 3	Evidence

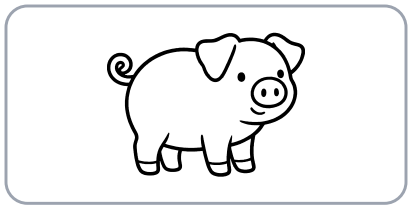
Does the evidence support the point? Why?

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Reasons and Evidence

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

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Second, pigs can figure out how a mirror works. In another study, pigs first spent a few hours with a mirror. Then they saw a bowl of food in the mirror. Most of them turned away from the mirror and found the real food hidden behind them.

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---

1. What is the author's point?

Pigs like computers. Pigs roll in mud. Pigs are smart animals.

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A pig keeps its sleeping place apart from its bathroom spot.

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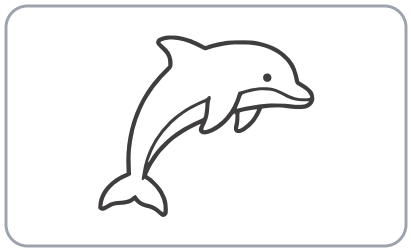
To keep cool, because they cannot sweat much. It shows they are smart about staying cool, not just dirty.

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Reasons and Evidence

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Clever Dolphins



Dolphins are clever in more than one way. Some of them use tools, and dolphins may even call each other by name.

In Shark Bay, Australia, some bottlenose dolphins use sea sponges as tools. Before a dolphin digs in the sandy sea floor for fish, it tears off a sponge and wears it over its beak. Scientists think the sponge protects the beak from sharp rocks and shells, the way a glove protects a hand. Young dolphins seem to learn the trick from their mothers.

Dolphins also seem to have names. Each bottlenose dolphin makes its own special whistle, called a signature whistle. When scientists played a dolphin's own whistle through an underwater speaker, the dolphin often whistled back. When they played other dolphins' whistles, it usually did not answer.

---

1. What two points does the author make about dolphins?

Some dolphins use tools, and dolphins may call each other by name.

2. Which point does this evidence support? A dolphin wears a sponge over its beak while it digs. **(tools)** **names**

3. Which point does this evidence support? A dolphin whistled back when it heard its own whistle. **tools** **(names)**

4. Why does the author compare the sponge to a glove?

To show how the sponge protects the beak, the way a glove protects a hand.

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Reasons and Evidence

Which point does each piece of evidence support? Circle Point A or Point B.

An author wrote about honeybees and made two points.

Point A: Honeybees help farmers grow food.

Point B: A honeybee colony works like a team.

1. Bees carry pollen from flower to flower, so apples and almonds can grow. **(Point A)** Point B

2. Each worker bee has a job, such as cleaning, feeding young bees or guarding the hive. Point A **(Point B)**

3. Some farmers rent hives and bring them to their fields when the crops bloom. **(Point A)** Point B

4. A bee that finds flowers does a dance that tells the others where to fly. Point A **(Point B)**

5. About one of every three bites of food we eat depends on animals like bees that carry pollen. **(Point A)** Point B

6. On hot days, many bees fan their wings together to cool the hive. Point A **(Point B)**

7. Write one more piece of evidence for Point A or Point B. Tell which point it supports.

Point B: Some bees guard the door of the hive while others gather food.

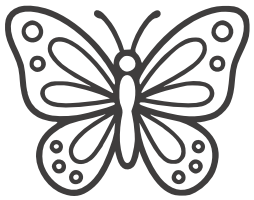
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Two Texts on One Topic

Read both texts about monarch butterflies. Then answer the questions.

Text 1

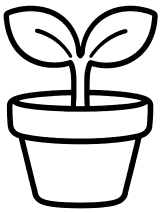
The Monarch's Milkweed



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Many monarchs spend the winter in the mountains of Mexico. Scientists measure how many there are. Since the 1990s, the number has dropped sharply. One reason is that much of the milkweed monarchs need has disappeared. Fields and roadsides where it once grew have been plowed, paved or sprayed with weed killers. To help, people across North America are planting milkweed in gardens, schoolyards and parks. Every patch gives monarchs a new place to lay their eggs.

---

1. Monarch caterpillars eat only milkweed. **(Text 1)** Text 2 both

2. Much of the milkweed has disappeared. Text 1 **(Text 2)** both

3. Monarchs need milkweed. Text 1 Text 2 **(both)**

4. Use both texts to explain why planting milkweed helps monarchs.

Monarch caterpillars can eat only milkweed (Text 1), and much milkweed is gone (Text 2), so new milkweed gives them food and places to lay eggs.

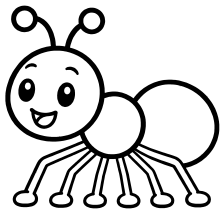
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Two Texts on One Topic

Read both texts about leafcutter ants. Then answer the questions.

Text 1

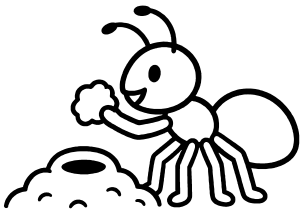
Leafcutter Ants



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Text 2

The Ants' Hidden Garden



Leafcutter ants do not eat the leaves they carry home. Instead, they chew the leaves into a soft, wet mush. They use the mush to feed a fungus that grows in special rooms of their nest. The fungus is the ants' main food, and they feed it to their young, too. Worker ants take good care of this underground garden, pulling out harmful molds almost the way gardeners pull weeds.

---

1. A colony can hold millions of ants. **(Text 1)** Text 2 both

2. The ants do not eat the leaves. Text 1 **(Text 2)** both

3. The ants bring leaves to their nest. Text 1 Text 2 **(both)**

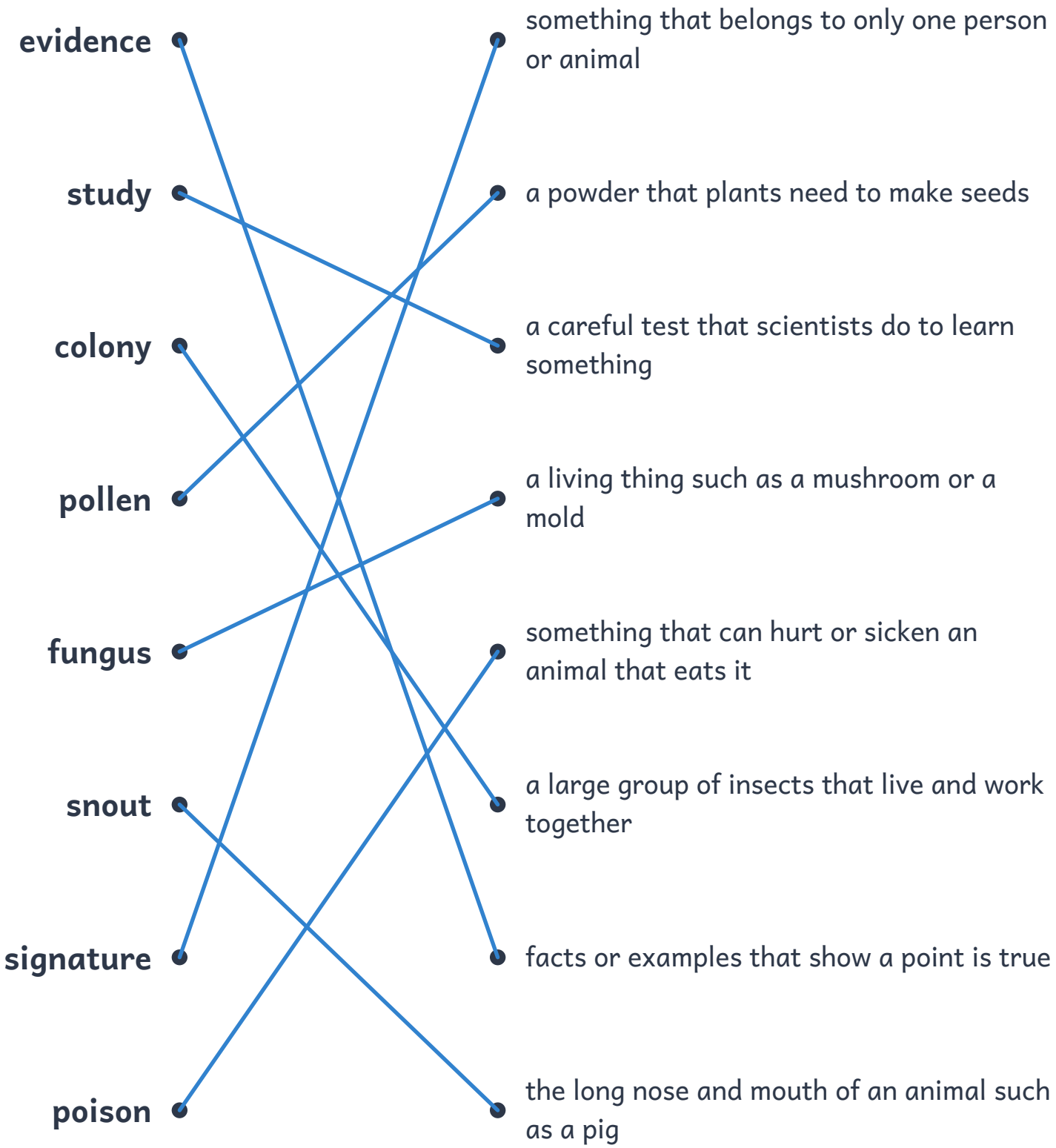
4. Use both texts to explain why leafcutter ants cut leaves.

They cut leaves and carry them home (Text 1) to feed the fungus they grow and eat (Text 2).

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Topic Words

Draw a line from each word in the texts to what it means.



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