

Name _____ Date _____

Main Ideas and Details

Cougars
Comprehension: Main Ideas
and Details

Read the selection below.

The Laughing Hyena

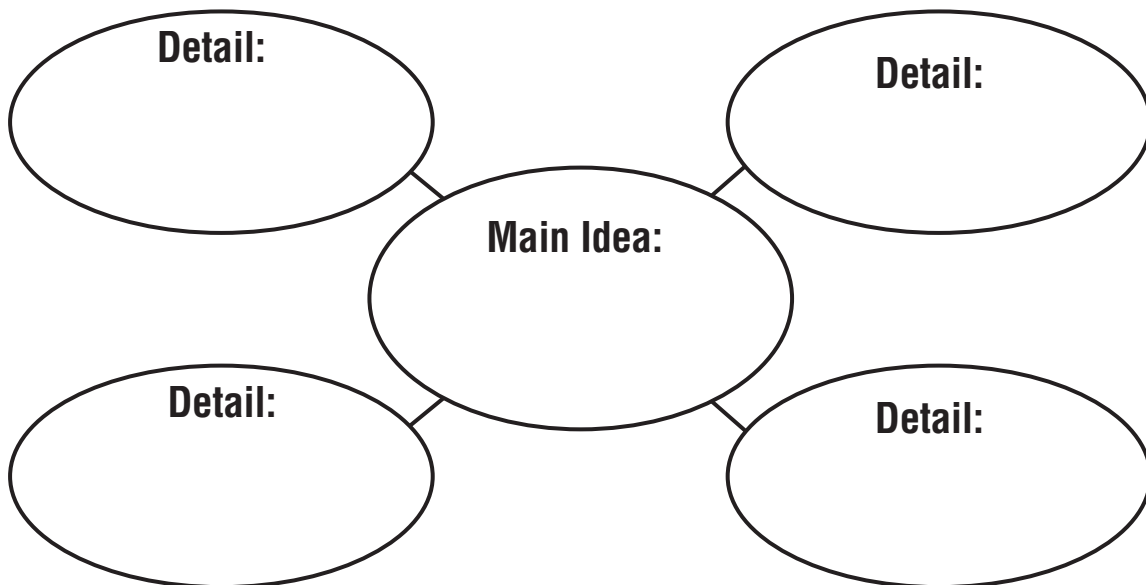
Hyenas have rounded ears and dark, bright eyes. Their fur can be tan to grayish brown. The hyena looks as though it might be a member of the dog family. However, it is actually more closely related to the mongoose and to members of the cat family.

The hyena is a vicious predator. It will hunt any four-legged animal no matter how big. It is also a clever scavenger. It will fearlessly defend a

kill from other animals, including lions. Its powerful jaws are specially adapted. They can easily crunch through tough hide and bone. The hyena is not a picky eater. It can digest animal parts that other hunters leave behind.

Packs of hyenas roam across sub-Saharan Africa. The hyena is most often recognized for the funny sound it makes—a laugh that isn't funny at all!

In the Web below, record details from the selection. Then write the main idea that the details support. Then answer the question below.



How is a hyena different from other carnivores?

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Read the selection below.

Red Wolves

In the past, red wolf packs roamed across the eastern United States. The extent of their original population is unknown. They were mainly found in the southeast, but may have wandered as far north as New England and as far west as Texas. Cities, towns, and farms built by the colonists swallowed up the red wolf habitat. Hunters earned rewards to rid the land of these “pests” that preyed on domestic herds. Little by little, the red wolf numbers declined until nearly none were left.

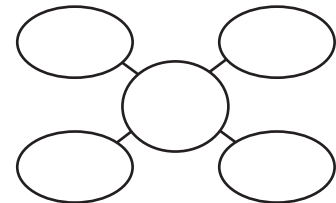
In 1970, the red wolf was in danger of disappearing without a trace. Fewer than

100 lived in a small area along the Gulf coast near the Texas-Louisiana border. Not many people even knew they were there.

In 1980, the Fish and Wildlife Service rounded up the last red wolves on Earth. They took them to a refuge where they would be safe. Fourteen that lived became part of a breeding program. Seven years later, four pairs of red wolves were returned to North Carolina.

Now the population of red wolves is making a strong comeback. They are finding a place in the wild to hunt and raise their pups in their native habitat.

Use a Web like the one shown here to record details and infer the main idea of the selection. Then use the Web to answer the questions below.



1. What is the unstated main idea of the selection?

2. Why did the Fish and Wildlife Service move the red wolves to one place?

3. How can you infer that breeding wolves in captivity is difficult?

4. Why did the Fish and Wildlife Service release the wolves in North Carolina?

Name _____ Date _____

Analogies

Cougars

Vocabulary Strategies:
Analogies

An analogy is a comparison that shows how two sets of words are related. The sentences below start by comparing two words. Think about the relationship between the first pair of words. Then choose a word from the box to fill in the blank and complete each analogy.

available	ferocious	particular	contentment
mature	resemble	vary	keen

1. *Dim* is to *bright* as *unavailable* is to _____ .
2. *Fix* is to *mend* as *change* is to _____ .
3. *Lovely* is to *ugly* as *gentle* is to _____ .
4. *Wild* is to *tame* as *unhappiness* is to _____ .
5. *Light* is to *dazzling* as *smart* is to _____ .
6. *Untamed* is to *wild* as *specific* is to _____ .
7. *Mirror* is to *reflect* as *twins* is to _____ .
8. *Seeds* is to *grow* as *children* is to _____ .

Name _____ Date _____

Final Schwa + /r/ Sounds

Cougars**Spelling:**

Final Schwa + /r/ Sounds

Basic Write the Basic Words that best complete the analogies.

1. *Hours* is to *clock* as *months* is to _____ .
2. *Governor* is to *state* as _____ is to *city*.
3. *Lincoln* is to *penny* as *Washington* is to _____ .
4. *Cat* is to *cougar* as *minor* is to _____ .
5. *Ear* is to *sound* as *tongue* is to _____ .
6. *Sun* is to *solar* as *moon* is to _____ .
7. *Firefighter* is to *fire truck* as *farmer* is to _____ .
8. *Attic* is to *above* as _____ is to *below*.
9. *Play* is to *scene* as *book* is to _____ .
10. *Harsh* is to *soft* as *sweet* is to _____ .

Challenge 11–14. You are one of the first reporters to arrive at the scene of an earthquake. Write a news story about it. Use four of the Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Spelling Words

1. cellar
2. flavor
3. cougar
4. chapter
5. mayor
6. anger
7. senator
8. passenger
9. major
10. popular
11. tractor
12. thunder
13. pillar
14. border
15. calendar
16. quarter
17. lunar
18. proper
19. elevator
20. bitter

Challenge

stellar
clamor
tremor
circular
adviser

Name _____ Date _____

Spelling Word Sort

Cougars
Spelling:
Final Schwa + /r/ Sounds

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

<p>Words with an <i>er</i> pattern for final schwa + <i>r</i></p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Challenge Words:</p> <p>Possible Selection Words:</p>
<p>Words with an <i>or</i> pattern for final schwa + <i>r</i></p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Challenge Words:</p>
<p>Words with an <i>ar</i> pattern for final schwa + <i>r</i></p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Challenge Words:</p> <p>Possible Selection Words:</p>

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Challenge

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Challenge Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

Connect to Reading Look through *Cougars*. Find words that have final schwa + /r/ spelling patterns. Add them to your Word Sort.

Name _____ Date _____

Proofreading for Spelling

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

The wolf, bear, and cougar are large North American predators. These animals have decreased over the years, even approaching the border of extinction. Bears can run 30 miles per hour. Imagine being a passenger in an express elevator and you'll get some sense of that speed. Cougars can run even faster and can leap up to 18 feet high. Wolves and cougars prey on other animals in the wild. Sometimes they might eat a domestic animal when their regular diet sources are scarce. While a rancher feels angry at this, others consider it a small price to pay for a healthy, balanced ecosystem, despite occasional thunder from a senator, congressman, or other pillar of the community. Wild predators aren't always popular, but they rarely threaten humans, having a natural, proper fear of people.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Spelling Words

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- stellar
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Direct Quotations

Cougars
Grammar: Quotations

An **indirect quotation** tells what someone said, but it doesn't use his or her exact words.

Indirect: Mr. Lorenz told us that Big Bend Park had miles of trails for hiking.

A **direct quotation** shows a person's exact words. Use quotation marks around a direct quotation, and capitalize the first word.

Direct: Mr. Lorenz said, "Big Bend has many miles of great trails."

Thinking Questions

*Does the sentence give a speaker's exact words?
Which words does the speaker say?*

Activity Tell whether the quotation is direct or indirect. Add quotation marks where they are needed.

1. Uncle Robert told us he wanted to visit Big Bend National Park. _____
2. He said, This is one of the biggest desert areas in America! _____
3. I asked him if he had ever seen a mountain lion. _____
4. Rachel echoed, Did you ever, Uncle Robert? _____
5. He laughed. Yes, I have, and that was a great day! _____

Place quotation marks where they are needed in the paragraph below.

Uncle Robert said, When I was walking on Emory Peak, I saw a large animal running in the distance. I knew right away it was a cougar.

Rachel interrupted him, Weren't you scared?

Rachel is my baby sister, and sometimes we think alike. I told Uncle Robert I had read that cougars could kill a dozen sheep at a time. I also told him they could jump nearly twenty feet high!

Uncle Robert told us both to relax. Then he said, In this park, the cougars are not used to humans. They don't want to meet us either.

Name _____ Date _____

Quotations

Cougars
Grammar: Quotations

Direct quotations and the names of stories and essays are placed in quotation marks. Capitalize the first word of a quotation and any proper nouns. If other words come before the quotation in a sentence, use a comma and a space before the quotation mark. At the end of the quotation, put a comma or other punctuation inside the quotation mark. Leave space after the ending quotation mark.

Ms. Brennan said, "Hello, class."
"Hello, class!" exclaimed Ms. Brennan.
We read "Cinderella" today.

Thinking Question

How can I separate a quotation from the rest of the sentence?

1–5. Write whether the punctuation and spacing in each sentence is correct or incorrect.

1. Our teacher explained, "The bay near Sayulita, Mexico, is now protected." _____
2. Veronica asked, "Which wild animals live along the coast?" _____
3. "Sea turtles lay their eggs on that beach", explained Rosa. _____
4. Manuel added, Also "pelicans nest nearby." _____
5. "Now the animals will be safe," said Jeremy. _____

6–10. Rewrite each sentence on the line. Use the correct spacing, capitalization, and punctuation. Remember to capitalize names of people, buildings, books, stories, and essays.

6. rachel said I went to the meeting at city hall

7. mr. wong read an essay called today's cities and then he asked for questions.

8. is there enough money in our budget asked mrs. harlow

9. i am so glad they want to make a park exclaimed max

10. he continued we all hope supervisor uratsu will support the idea

Name _____ Date _____

Writing Dialogue

Cougars
Grammar: Quotations

When you write a dialogue, you might want to split a direct quotation to vary your sentences. Add commas to set off direct quotations. Capitalize the first letter of the first part of the quote. Then begin the second part with a lowercase letter.

“Good morning,” said Ms. Brennan, “and welcome.”

You can also place a short quote in the middle of a sentence.

Ms. Brennan said, “Hello, class,” and smiled.

Thinking Questions

Which words tell who is speaking? Do they split the quotation, or come before or after it?

1–4. Rewrite the sentence on the line. Use the correct punctuation and capitalization for the split quotations.

1. Hey Louis said Christy do you want to climb this tree

2. No replied Louis I’m trying to catch a fish

3. Is it a trout asked Christy or a bass

4. Louis whispered I can’t tell yet as he reeled the line in

5–8. Fill in the blanks to complete the dialogue, using quotation marks.

5. _____ said Jason.

6. _____ exclaimed Lydia.

7. _____ said Jason _____

8. Lydia said, _____ and smiled.

Name _____ Date _____

Singular and Plural Nouns

Cougars
Grammar: Spiral Review

There are different ways to make a singular noun plural.

Add -s or -es	one bird, two birds; one potato, two potatoes
Change <i>f</i> to <i>v</i> and add -s or -es	one life, two lives; one half, two halves
Change <i>y</i> to <i>i</i> and add -es	one baby, two babies
Use the same word	one deer, two deer
Use a different word	one child, two children; one foot, two feet

Activity Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

1. Jim is one of six wilderness (guide) on this trip to Kenya.

2. He is leading a group of ten (person) on a nature observation hike.

3. Jim's group is sitting on a platform high up in the (tree).

4. They are looking down through the (leaf) at a pond.

5. The pond is a watering hole for animals and home to some (fish), too.

6. They feel a little like (spy), waiting and watching for thirsty animals.

7. Jim asks the group to be as quiet as (mouse).

8. Suddenly, they hear a herd of (elephant) approaching, and everyone smiles. _____

Name _____ Date _____

Conventions

Cougars

Grammar: Connect to Writing

Incorrect	Correct
Where can we see the snakes asked Jeremy?	"Where can we see the snakes?" asked Jeremy.

Activity Write the indirect quotation as a direct quotation. Add quotation marks, capital letters, punctuation, and spaces. You can also change words to improve your writing.

- Ms. Lin told us that the tallest animal on Earth is the giraffe. She said its long neck helps it reach leaves high in the trees.

- One journalist reported that scientists had discovered a new rainforest in Borneo. The animals there had never seen humans.

- The hyena stalks herds of wild animals. According to the tour guide, hyenas attack the sick or weak animals that stray behind the herd.

- This book, according to Jamal, is full of facts about wild animals. He says he will read the whole thing.

Name _____ Date _____

Focus Trait: Sentence Fluency

Clear Topic Sentences

Cougars
Writing: Write to Respond

Good writers begin a response to literature with an interesting introduction including a topic sentence that clearly states their response or opinion.

Unclear Response: Cougars are quiet.

Clear Response: Called “ghost walkers” in some parts of the world, cougars are well known for their ability to stay out of sight.

Read each question. Write an interesting introduction to a response to the question. Be sure to include a topic sentence that clearly states your opinion.

1. Would you like to see a cougar?

2. Which adaptation of the cougar do you think is most important?

3. What interests you most about the relationship between a mother cougar and her kittens?

4. Which is the most interesting fact you learned about cougars from the selection?
