

Directed Reading A

Section: Characteristics of Living Things

LIVING THINGS HAVE CELLS

1. The smallest unit that can perform all life processes is called
a(n) _____.
2. All living things are composed of one or more _____.
3. What covers a cell?

4. What does a cell contain?

5. Describe how the contents of a cell are protected from the cell's environment.

6. In an organism containing many cells, how is the work of the cell performed?

LIVING THINGS SENSE AND RESPOND TO CHANGE

7. Anything in the environment that causes a reaction or change in an organism
is called a(n) _____.

Directed Reading A *continued*

8. What are three examples of stimuli given in the text?

9. When an organism's outside environment changes, through what process does the organism maintain a stable internal state?

10. Why must an organism maintain stable internal conditions?

11. What is your body trying to do when you are either shivering or sweating?

12. How do some animals control their body temperatures?

Directed Reading A *continued*

LIVING THINGS REPRODUCE

- 13.** Two parents produce offspring that share their characteristics through _____ reproduction.
- 14.** A single parent produces offspring identical to the parent through _____ reproduction.
- 15.** Most single-celled organisms reproduce through _____ reproduction.
- 16.** Most animals and plants reproduce through _____ reproduction.

LIVING THINGS HAVE DNA

- _____ **17.** What does DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) do?
- a.** DNA controls the structure and function of cells.
 - b.** DNA breaks down food in cells.
 - c.** DNA acts as a stimulus in the environment.
 - d.** DNA acts as a preservative in foods.
- _____ **18.** What do organisms pass on to their offspring?
- a.** their cells
 - b.** their DNA
 - c.** copies of their DNA
 - d.** copies of their cells
- 19.** The passing of traits from parents to offspring is called _____.

Directed Reading A *continued*

LIVING THINGS USE ENERGY

20. What are three examples of activities of life carried out by all organisms?

21. The total of all chemical activities that an organism performs is an organism's _____.

LIVING THINGS GROW AND DEVELOP

22. How does a single-celled organism grow?

23. How do organisms with many cells grow?

24. In addition to getting larger, what other things might happen as living things grow?

Skills Worksheet

Section Review

Characteristics of Living Things

USING KEY TERMS

Complete each of the following sentences by choosing the correct term from the word bank.

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| cells | stimulus |
| homeostasis | metabolism |

1. Sunlight can be a _____.
2. Living things are made of _____.

UNDERSTANDING KEY IDEAS

- _____ 3. Homeostasis means maintaining
 - a. stable internal conditions.
 - b. varied internal conditions.
 - c. similar offspring.
 - d. varied offspring.
4. Explain the difference between asexual and sexual reproduction.

5. Describe the six characteristics of living things.

Section Review *continued*

MATH SKILLS

6. Bacteria double every generation. One bacterium is in the first generation. How many are in the sixth generation? Show your work below.

CRITICAL THINKING

7. **Applying Concepts** How do you respond to some stimuli in your environment?

8. **Identifying Relationships** What does the fur coat of a bear have to do with homeostasis?
