

Activity Sheet 1a

Comprehension- American Bison (pg 28-35)

A) Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Find a word in the article that tells us bison are strong and powerful animals.

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2. How are bison useful to the grasslands?

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3. Bison can be seen rolling on the mud and in rivers. Why do they do that?

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4. Based on the article, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so.

	True/false	Reason
Europeans settlers in America hunted for bison for food.		
In Spring, bison go up the mountains to mate.		
Bison know if a plant is poisonous or not.		

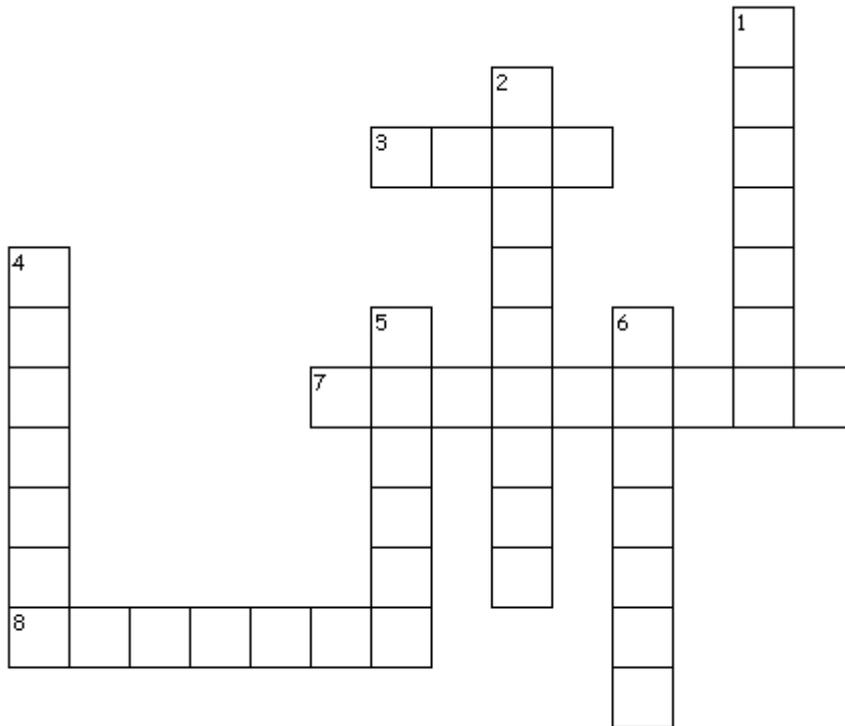
5. State 2 functions of the bison's horns.

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Activity 1b- Vocabulary

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The answers can be found in the story. Can you solve the puzzle? Have fun!



Across

- 3. to wander aimlessly
- 7. substances that help plants to grow
- 8. to step heavily on something and damage it

Down

- 1. no rain for a long time
- 2. able to cause hurt and harm
- 4. actions that are intended to harm or kill
- 5. nose and mouth of an animal
- 6. a hundred years

Answer Key

Comprehension and Vocabulary

- 1. The word is 'sturdy.'
- 2. As the bison roam around the plains looking for fresh plants to eat, they trample the ground with their hooves which are able to turn over the soil and mix air into it. This helps to keep the grasslands healthy.
- 3. There are insects that live in the bison's thick fur, so rolling on mud or in rivers help to get rid of these insects.

4.

	True/false	Reason
European settlers in America hunted for bison for food.	false	They hunted the bison for fun so as to starve the native Americans.
In Spring, bison go up the mountains to mate.	false	They go up the mountains to look for young grass.
Bison know if a plant is poisonous or not.	true	They use their muzzle to smell plants in order to identify if it can be eaten or not.

5. They were used to protect themselves from predators as well as to fight other bison.

Vocabulary

Across: 3) roam 7) nutrients 8) trample

Down: 1) drought 2) dangerous 4) violent 5) muzzle 6) century