

Level
F

Exploring

Content Area READING

- Science • Social Studies
- Language Arts • Mathematics

Teacher Created Materials, Inc.

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BODY RACE

Look Out Below!

Tough to Swallow

It's the greatest race ever. And it takes place inside your body! Race against time (or against an opponent) to travel through a human body. What's the story? You have been shrunk to the size of a germ and then swallowed (along with a slice of pepperoni pizza) by a teenager. You have 24 hours to get out of the body or...well, you don't want to know! Down the esophagus you go. Look out for deadly chunks of pepperoni flying by! Hold onto your joystick, it's going to be a bumpy ride, as the stomach starts churning. Next stop, the small intestine. Acid alert! Move fast or dissolve!

Going Down!

This hair-raising adventure takes you into the large intestine. Crash into the valley of the vili and you get absorbed into the bloodstream. Then it's a roller coaster ride through the circulatory system! Fight off white blood cells while maneuvering past pesky red blood cells. You need plenty of coordination!


NEW

You Gotta Have Heart

For the strong of heart, the race takes you through the body's most important muscle, the heart. If you have the skill, you can steer yourself out an artery and into the lungs. But there's no breathing easy here! You must enter little sacs, a.k.a. alveoli, then slide up tiny tubes called bronchioles. If you're lucky—and smart—you can make it through this maze, into the windpipe and out the mouth. Simple? No. Fun? Yes! A thrilling game with more twists than the large intestine—and you might even learn a little about how your body works!

Body Race



Rating: Everyone

Available in all stores.
From Penski, Inc.,
makers of the greatest
video games on Earth.

Comprehension Connection



Before Reading

1. What video games do you enjoy? Why do you think video games are fun?
2. Scan the headings and art for this ad. What do you think “Body Race” is? What might this text explain?
3. What should an advertisement do for the product it tells about?

During Reading

1. Why does the author use phrases such as *greatest race ever* and *hair-raising adventure*?
2. What qualities does the ad say are needed to succeed at this game? How are the qualities presented to make kids want to play the game?
3. Why does the author use sound effects in phrases such as *Acid alert!*, *Valley of the villi*, and *tiny tubes*?

After Reading

1. What “story” does this game have? What would you say is the purpose of the game?
2. How would you describe the tone, or mood, of this ad? Why do you think the author chose this tone?
3. How does the author use double meanings in headings? Why does he do that?

Skill Focus

Praising the Product—Viewpoint in an Ad

An ad wants you to buy something. So it always has a positive viewpoint about its product. How did this ad give you a good feeling about “Body Race”?

The ad praises the video game: “It’s the greatest race ever!” a “hair-raising adventure,” and a “thrilling game.” This makes readers think that the game is new and better than anything they have played before.

The ad compares the game to exciting activities: It is “a race against time,” “a bumpy ride,” and “a roller coaster ride.” Just reading the text increases your heart rate and makes you want to play.

The writer uses words to create humor and goodwill: “Hold onto your joy stick, it’s going to be a bumpy ride” and “A thrilling game with more twists than the large intestine” echo Hollywood and play with meanings to the reader’s delight.

The writer also challenges the reader: “You need plenty of coordination,” “If you have the skill,” “If you’re lucky—and smart.” We all want to think we have these qualities. To prove it, we must buy the game!

Writer’s World

1. Pretend you develop educational video game packages for Penski, Inc. Create a glossary of terms about the human body to include with the Body Race package.
2. Pick a video or TV show that teaches kids about a school subject. Write a review for the school paper. Tell about the program’s approach and subject matter. Give your rating for the program and explain why you feel as you do.
3. Read about one of the body systems involved in this game: digestive, circulatory, or respiratory. Create a color diagram of the system. Write a report summarizing the jobs of each part.



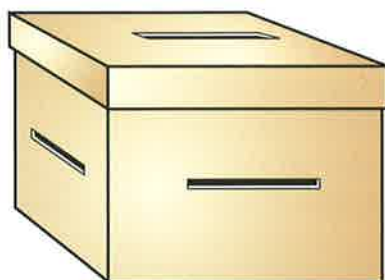
Experiment: Weather Stripping

A torn or open coat allows heat to escape from your body, just as a crack near a window in your house lets the cool or hot air escape. Sealing cracks and openings to the outside of your home with weather stripping can keep the warm (or cold) air inside and lower energy costs. This experiment shows how sealing small openings affects heat loss.

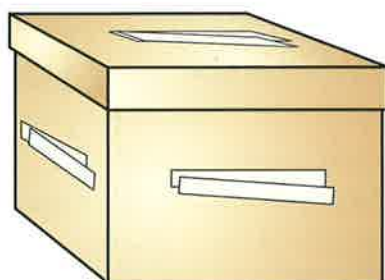
You Need

- two clear plastic cups or glasses
- 8-ounces hot water (no more than 100° F)
- 2 cooking or darkroom thermometers (that can be put underwater)
- masking or cellophane tape
- 2 small cardboard boxes (big enough to hold the glass or cup). Each has a long, thin opening or slit (about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch by 4 inches) in each of the four sides and in the top.
- a table fan

	Box 1	Box 2
Water temperature at start		
Temperature predictions		
Actual temperature after 15 minutes		



Box 1
Open slits



Box 2
Taped slits



You Do

1. Fill two glasses with 4 oz. hot water. Put a thermometer in each glass. Record the temperature on the chart.
2. Put one glass in Box 1. Close the top, but do not tape it.
3. Put the second glass into Box 2. This time, seal the top and side openings of the box with tape.
4. Turn on the fan and direct it toward the boxes.
5. On the chart, write what you think the water temperature will be after 15 minutes for each glass.
6. Check and record the temperature of each glass after 15 minutes.

What Happens

How did taping over the small openings of the box affect the water temperature? Where in your home might you find weather stripping?

Comprehension Connection



Before Reading

1. How do you stay warm outdoors in winter?
2. What kind of text is this? How do you know?
3. After taking a quick look at the experiment, what do you think weather stripping is? What do you think the purpose of the experiment is?

During Reading

1. Why is the “You Need” section listed after the introduction but before the steps?
2. How are box 1 and box 2 different? Why are they different in only one way?
3. What is the purpose of the chart? Why is this necessary in science experiments?

After Reading

1. What is the purpose of each of the four sections of the experiment?
2. Did you find any part of the experiment confusing or unclear? What changes in wording would you suggest?
3. What did this experiment show? How could you put this knowledge to work in your own life?

Skill Focus

One Thing Leads to Another

“If I do this, what will be the result?” This is a question that scientists ask when they do an experiment. An action that causes something else to happen sets up a cause-and-effect relationship. You can identify cause-and-effect relationships by the words you use to describe them: *because, cause, result, therefore, effect*.

In this experiment, what question are you trying to answer? “If I seal a box, how will the way it loses heat be affected?” The materials you use and the steps you follow are all designed to answer this question accurately.

As you perform the steps of the experiment, there are other causes and effects: You use the same amount of hot water in both cups. You use the same size box with the same side openings for both setups. This causes the setups to be equal. The effect of the wind from the fan is to cool the boxes.

What was the result of the experiment? The cup in the sealed box was warmer. So weather stripping, or sealing openings, is energy efficient because it prevents a system from losing heat or cold.

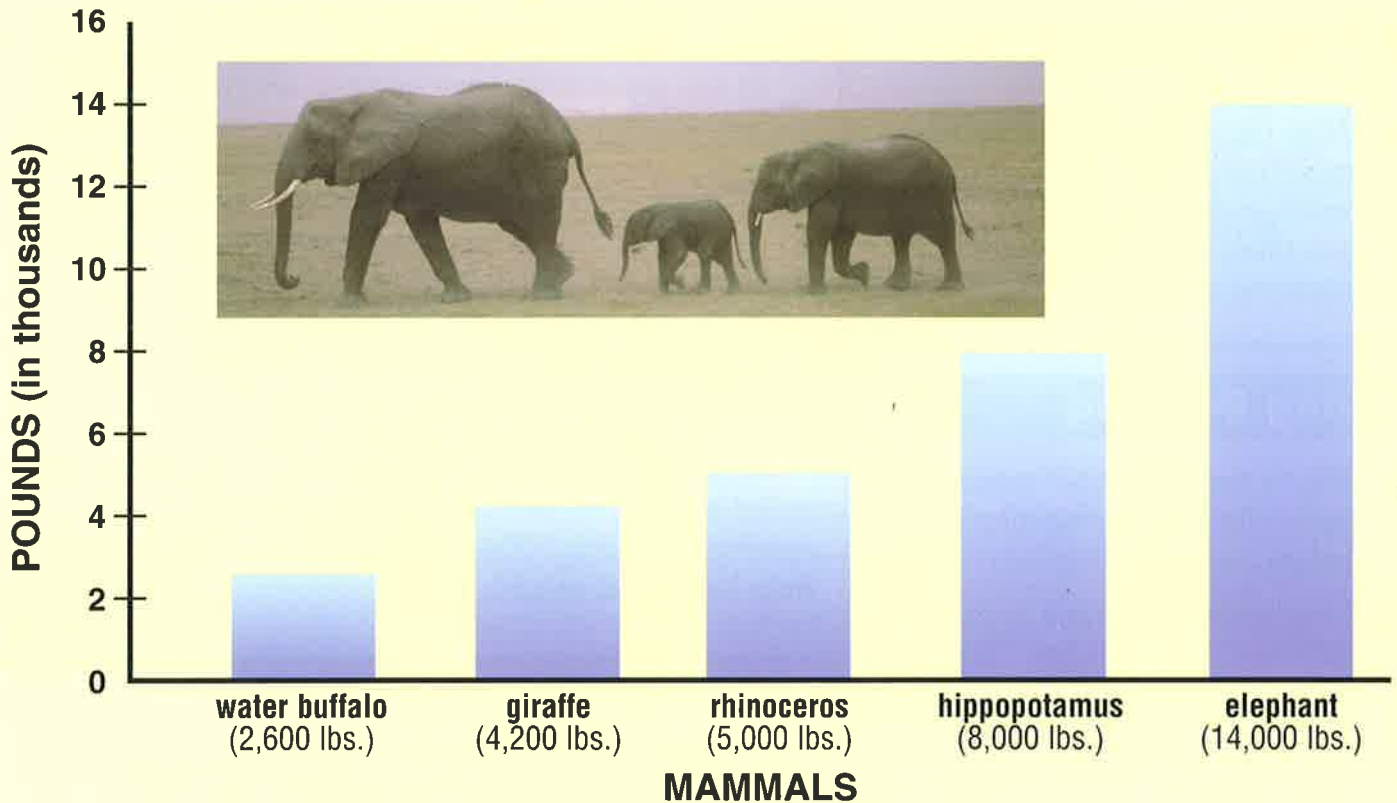
Writer's World

1. Be an energy expert. Check your home for cracks or openings that let cool or warm air escape. Make a diagram to show where weather stripping or caulking is needed. Then write a letter to your family explaining how they can save on energy costs.
2. Saving our energy resources is a goal for everyone. Find out other ways to save energy, such as recycling or cutting back on car use. Make a list of “Hot Energy-Saving Tips” for Earth-friendly consumers.
3. Pretend you own a business. It studies the energy efficiency of homes to save on energy costs. Write a pamphlet about your business. Explain what you do, why it works, and how customers will save money.



Top 5 Heaviest Land Mammals

African elephants spend most of their time eating. They can gobble up to 600 pounds of grass, leaves, and roots in one day! That might explain why they are the largest and the heaviest land mammals in the world. Here's how the heavies of the animal kingdom stack up. The weight given for each animal is the highest number of pounds that animal can weigh.



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