**Facts About Fleas**

You’ll read about fleas in today’s story. Here are some facts about fleas:

- Fleas are insects.
  - All insects have six legs.
  - So fleas have six legs.
- Fleas bite and suck blood.
• A row of about five big fleas is one centimeter long.
• Different kinds of fleas live on different kinds of animals.

Cat fleas like to live on cats. Cat fleas are different from dog fleas. Dog fleas are different from human fleas. Human fleas are different from rat fleas.

The picture below shows a dog flea.

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Aunt Fanny’s Flea Circus

Aunt Fanny’s Flea Circus was formed in 1993. The circus had a great line-up of acts. Aunt Fanny had the most famous fleas in the world. One act was Carl Goodscratch, who dove 48 centimeters into two drops of water. When Carl did his dive, the people watching the show would sit without making a sound. Then they would cheer and stamp their feet. Another act that crowds loved was Martha Jumpjump, who skipped rope on a high wire. (The high wire was really a spider web that had been fixed up so that Martha wouldn’t stick to it.)
Then there was the French flea, Henry Ouch, the flea who trained rats. He would get into a cage with four or five rats and have them do all kinds of tricks. If they did not do what he told them to do, he would jump on their backs and bite them.

Aunt Fanny’s Flea Circus went around the world, bringing in big crowds and making lots of money. But in 1999, Aunt Fanny and the fleas started to fight a lot. The fleas said that Aunt Fanny was hogging all the fame. Aunt Fanny said that she could do what she wanted because she owned the circus. The fleas were mad at Fanny because of the way she acted. After each show, people would come up to Fanny. “Great show, Fanny,” they would say. The only thing Fanny did in the show was wave a stick at the fleas. The fleas did the real work.

Also, Aunt Fanny hogged all the money. She kept the poor fleas locked in a little box while she lived in expensive apartments. She fed the fleas dry bread while she ate...
expensive food. She put thousands of dollars into the bank, but she didn’t give the fleas a dime.

One night the fleas made up their minds that things had to change.

“She’s treating us like dirt,” Carl said. “Are we going to take that?”

“No,” all the other fleas agreed. “Things must change.”

MORE NEXT TIME
Number your paper from 1 through 16.

Review Items
1. What do all living things need?
2. What do all living things make?
3. Do all living things grow?

4. Which letter shows where the ground gets warm first?
5. Which letter shows where the ground gets warm last?
The pictures show the same twig in 4 seasons. Write the name of the season for each twig.

6. 7. 8. 9.

10. In the fall, are the leaves on trees **dead** or **alive**?
11. Camels can go for ___ days without drinking water.
12. How many pounds of water can a 1 thousand-pound camel drink at one time?

13. Which letter shows the felt tip?
14. Which letter shows the ink?
15. Which letter shows the shaft?
16. Write the letter that shows where an eraser would go on a pen.
1. A spider is not an insect because it doesn’t have the right number of legs. Look at the picture of a spider. How many legs does a spider have? ________________________________

2. How many legs does an insect have? ________________________________

3. How many legs does a flea have? ________________________________

4. If a fly is an insect, what else do you know about a fly? ________________________________

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B Story Items

5. In what year was Aunt Fanny’s Flea Circus formed?

   - 1993   - 1999   - 1949

6. In what year did Aunt Fanny and the fleas start to fight?

   - 1993   - 1999   - 1949

7. **Underline** the names of 3 fleas that were in the circus.

   - Carl Goodscratch  - Martha Jumpjump  - Aunt Fanny
   - Harry Hurt  - Henry Ouch  - Fran the Flea
8. Draw a line from each flea’s name to the objects the flea used in its act.

- Martha Jumpjump
- Henry Ouch
- Carl Goodscratch

9. The fleas were mad at Aunt Fanny because she hogged all the ____________ and all the ____________.

10. She made them live in a ________________

11. She fed them dry ________________

12. Where did Aunt Fanny live?

- in New York  
- in expensive apartments  
- in a circus tent

13. **Circle** the picture of the object where the fleas lived.

   A  
   B  
   C  
   D  
   E

**Skill Items**

14. **Underline everything the fleas said.**

   "No," all the other fleas agreed. "Things must change."

Here’s a rule: **Every person loved the flea circus.**

15. Tom is a person. So what else do you know about Tom?

16. Jean is a person. So what else do you know about Jean?
A

1
1. meter
2. yea
3. directions
4. Russia

2
1. greatest
2. minute
3. fancy
4. middle
5. surprise
6. juggle

3
1. second
2. gentlemen
3. tomorrow
4. money
5. scared
6. propped

4
1. week
2. ladies
3. cage
4. hour
5. hoop
6. steel

B

Learning About Time

Names that tell about time tell how long it takes for something to happen. A week tells about time. A week is seven days long. So if something will happen a week from now, it will happen seven days from now.
An hour is another name that tells about time. If you spent an hour watching TV, you may be able to watch two shows.

A second is a name that tells about time. When you count slowly, each number takes about one second.

A minute is a name that tells about time. A minute is much smaller than an hour.

Remember, names that tell about time tell how long it takes for something to happen.

Facts About Flea Circuses

When we left Aunt Fanny in the last story, the fleas were mad at her. Name three things they were mad about.

The fleas in the story talk, so we know they are make-believe fleas. But there are such things as flea circuses. And these flea circuses do have fleas that put on acts.

Here are some facts about real flea circuses:

- Most fleas that are used in flea circuses come from Russia.
- Fleas have been taught to juggle things.
- Fleas have been taught to jump through hoops.
- Some fleas have been taught to pull things that weigh a hundred times more than a flea.
The first trick a flea must be taught is to walk instead of hop. Fleas like to take a great hop to go from place to place. But they can walk. After they have been taught to walk, they can be taught to walk on a high wire or to pull a cart.

The Fleas Surprise Aunt Fanny

The fleas in Aunt Fanny’s Flea Circus were tired of the way Aunt Fanny was treating them. They made up their minds to do something about it. Carl spoke for all the fleas. He went to Aunt Fanny and tried to tell her that she would have to change her ways. But she wouldn’t even listen to him.

“Please, Carl,” she said. “Can’t you see I’m late for dinner? Now be a good little flea and go back to your nice little box.”

“Go to your dinner,” he yelled as loud as he could. “Things will be different tomorrow.”

Aunt Fanny was in for a great big surprise the next day. The circus was packed with people. Aunt Fanny picked up her stick and people clapped. “Ladies and gentlemen,” she said. “You will see the greatest flea show in the world. The first act is the famous Martha Jumpjump skipping rope on the high wire.” Aunt Fanny waved her stick, and Martha went up to the high wire. But she didn’t skip rope. She walked to the middle of the wire and fell off. “Booo,” the crowd yelled.
The next act was Henry Ouch. He got in the cage with three rats. But he didn’t make the rats do tricks. He hopped around the cage while the rats went to sleep. “Boooo,” the crowd yelled.

MORE NEXT TIME

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**E** Number your paper from 1 through 12.

**Skill Items**

Here are titles for different stories:

- a. 100 Ways to Cook Turkey
- b. Why Smoking Will Hurt You
- c. A Funny Story

1. One story tells about reading something that makes you laugh. Write the letter of that title.
2. One story tells about something that is bad for you. Write the letter of that title.
3. One story tells about how to make different meals out of one thing. Write the letter of that title.
Here’s a rule: *All the people got mad and booed.*

4. Tim is a person. So what else do you know about Tim?
5. Liz is a person. So what else do you know about Liz?

The fly boasted about escaping from the spider.
6. What word tells about getting away from something?
7. What word means *bragged*?

**Review Items**

8. Which is longer, a centimeter or an inch?
9. How many legs does an insect have?
10. How many legs does a spider have?
11. How many legs does a flea have?
12. If a beetle is an insect, what else do you know about a beetle?
A

1. **Underline** the 4 names that tell about time.
   - meter
   - hour
   - centimeter
   - inch
   - minute
   - second
   - week

B

2. Were the fleas in Aunt Fanny's flea circus **real fleas** or **make-believe fleas**?

3. How do you know?
   - They do tricks.
   - They are in a flea circus.
   - They talk.

4. Where do the fleas in flea circuses usually come from?
   - Rome
   - Russia
   - Canada

5. What's the first thing that fleas must be taught?

6. **Underline** 2 other things that fleas have been taught to do.
   - pull a cart
   - walk on a high wire
   - eat dry bread
   - bark
   - stand on their head

C  **Story Items**

7. In what year was Aunt Fanny's Flea Circus formed? ________________

8. In what year did Aunt Fanny and the fleas start to fight? ________________

9. The fleas were mad at Aunt Fanny because she hogged all the
   __________________________ and all the __________________________.

10. She made them live in a __________________________.
11. She fed them dry ________________________________.

Pick the right answers for items 12 through 15.

- pull a cart  
- bite Aunt Fanny  
- swim in a tea cup  
- fell off the high wire  
- skip rope on a high wire  
- make rats do tricks  
- sit on a horse  
- hopped around

12. What trick did Aunt Fanny want Martha to do?

__________________________________________________________________________

13. What trick did Martha do?

__________________________________________________________________________

14. What trick did Aunt Fanny want Henry Ouch to do?

__________________________________________________________________________

15. What trick did Henry do?

__________________________________________________________________________

The picture shows what each flea did. Write the name for each flea.

- Martha Jumpjump  
- Henry Ouch  
- Carl Goodscratch

16. ______________

17. ______________

18. ______________

19. Which flea tried to get Aunt Fanny to change her ways?

__________________________________________________________________________

20. **Circle** the picture that shows how Aunt Fanny probably looked after Martha fell off the wire.

[Circle the appropriate image]
A

1. scared
2. usually
3. fancy
4. disappear

B

Meters

You’re going to read about meters. We use meters to measure how long things are.
A meter is 100 centimeters long.

C

Directions on a Map

You are going to read about 4 directions: north, south, east, and west. Maps always show:
- north on the top.
- south on the bottom.
- east on this side:
- west on this side:
If something on a map goes north, it goes this way: ↑
If something on a map goes south, it goes this way: ↓
If something on a map goes this way ————> which direction is it going?
If something on a map goes this way ←——— which direction is it going?

Aunt Fanny
Changes Her Ways

The fleas had given Aunt Fanny a surprise. Martha Jumpjump did not do her act. Henry Ouch did not do his act. The crowd did not like the show at all, and Aunt Fanny was getting scared. If the rest of the fleas did not do their acts, Aunt Fanny would have to give money back to the people who paid to see the show.

The next act was Carl Goodscratch. He went up to the top of his 48 centimeter ladder. Then he looked up at Aunt Fanny and said, “Don’t you think that you should treat us better? Don’t you think that you should give us more money and give us a better place to live?”

Aunt Fanny looked at the little flea. Then she looked at the crowd. They looked mad. “Yes, Carl, yes, yes, yes,” she said. ★ “Do the dive and I will share everything with you.”

“Do you really mean that?” Carl asked.

“Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes,” Aunt Fanny said. Her hand was shaking so much that the stick was making a wind.
So Carl did a dive. People say it was the best dive he ever did. He turned around five times. He made seven loops. And he landed in the water without making any splash at all.


Now everybody in Aunt Fanny’s Flea Circus is happy. Aunt Fanny is happy because the fleas work harder and put on a better show. The fleas are happy because they live in a great big fancy dog house that is a meter high and a meter wide. And they have lots and lots of money.

THE END
Number your paper from 1 through 14.

Skill Items

Here are titles for different stories:
   a. Jane Goes on a Train       c. My Dog Likes Cats
   b. The Hot Summer            d. The Best Meal

1. One story tells about eating good food. Write the letter of that title.
2. One story tells about somebody taking a trip. Write the letter of that title.
3. One story tells about a time of year when people go swimming a lot. Write the letter of that title.
4. One story tells about pets. Write the letter of that title.

Use the words in the box to write complete sentences.

- escaping
- covering
- visited
- remove
- rough
- first
- waded
- tadpoles
- boasted

5. They ____ into the stream to ____ ____.
6. The fly ____ about ____ from the spider.
Review Items

7. In the summer, are the leaves on trees **dead** or **alive**?
8. Are those leaves **wet** or **dry**?

9. How many legs does an insect have?
10. How many legs does a spider have?
11. If a bee is an insect, what else do you know about a bee?
12. Where do the fleas in flea circuses usually come from?
13. What’s the first thing that fleas must be taught?
14. Write the 4 names that tell about time.
   - centimeter
   - hour
   - inch
   - minute
   - week
   - second
   - meter
1. Which is longer, a centimeter or a meter?
   - centimeter  - meter

2. How many centimeters long is a meter?
   - 100 centimeters  - 36 centimeters  - 48 centimeters  - 10 centimeters

3. Write north, south, east, and west in the right boxes.

4. Touch the X. An arrow goes from the X.
   Which direction is that arrow going? ________________________________

5. Touch the Y. An arrow goes from the Y.
   Which direction is that arrow going? ________________________________

6. Touch the B. An arrow goes from the B.
   Which direction is that arrow going? ________________________________
C  Story Items

7. The fleas were mad at Aunt Fanny because she hogged
   all the _______________ and all the _______________.

8. She fed them dry _______________________________.

The picture shows what each flea did. Write the name for each flea.

9. __________________

10. __________________

11. __________________

12. Did Aunt Fanny change her ways? __________________

13. Which flea made Aunt Fanny say she would change? __________________

14. Underline 2 reasons why Aunt Fanny is happy now.
   - The acts are better.   
   - The fleas work harder.
   - She lives in a dog house.
   - The fleas bite dogs.

15. Where do the fleas live now? __________________

16. Where did they used to live? __________________

17. Underline 2 reasons why the fleas are happy now.
   - They are scared.
   - They have lots of dogs.
   - They live in a nice place.
   - They have lots of money.

Skill Items

18. Underline everything Aunt Fanny said.

   "Ladies and gentlemen," Aunt Fanny said, "you will see the greatest
   flea show in the world."
**Facts About** Toads and Frogs

Toads and frogs are members of the same family. Here are facts about toads and frogs:

- They are born in water, and they live in the water until they are full-grown. Then they move onto the land.
• At first toads and frogs are tadpoles that have no legs.

• Then the tadpoles grow two back legs.

• Then they grow two front legs.

• Then the tail disappears and they are full-grown toads or frogs.

• Now that their legs are big and strong, frogs and toads live on the land.

Remember, they are born in the water and grow up in the water. Then they move to the land.
Goad the Toad

Once there was a toad named Goad. Goad was the biggest toad you have ever seen. Goad was bigger than a baseball. She was even bigger than a toaster.

Goad was not only big. She was smart. She was smarter than a trained seal. Not only was Goad big and smart, Goad was fast. She was faster than a cat chasing a mouse.
Goad lived near a large lake called Four Mile Lake. It was four miles from one end of the lake to the other.

Goad liked to visit places on Four Mile Lake. Sometimes, she would hop over to the logs near the north shore of the lake. Sometimes, she would hop over the hills on the south shore. Sometimes, she would go for a dip near the east shore of the lake.

When Goad was in the water, she was not fast. She could not swim as fast as a seal or a goldfish. In fact, she could not swim as fast as a very slow frog. When Goad was in the water, she looked like a floating pillow with two big eyes.

Because Goad was so big, and so fast, and so smart, thousands of hunters went to Four Mile Lake every year to see if they could catch Goad. People from the circus
knew that if they had Goad, they could put on a show that would bring thousands of people to the circus. Hunters from zoos knew that people would come from all over to visit any zoo that had a toad like Goad. Some hunters came because they wanted to become rich. Goad was worth thousands of dollars to anybody who could catch her. But nobody was able to catch her.

MORE NEXT TIME

D  Number your paper from 1 through 16.

Skill Items

Rule: Frogs have smooth skin.
1. The rule tells something about any _____.

Rule: Birds have two feet.
2. The rule tells something about any _____.
3. Is a robin a bird?
4. Does the rule tell about a robin?
5. Does the rule tell about an ape?
Rule: The largest mountains were covered with snow.

6. What’s the only thing that rule tells about?
   • any mountain
   • the largest mountains
   • any frog

7. Does the rule tell about Happy Valley?

8. Write the letter of each picture the rule tells about.

A  B  C  D

Here are titles for different stories:
   a. Liz Goes to the Zoo  b. A Pretty New Hat  c. The Green Dog

9. One story tells about someone who went to look at animals. Write the letter of that title.

10. One story tells about a funny-looking animal. Write the letter of that title.

11. One story tells about something you put on your head. Write the letter of that title.
**Review Items**

12. Which is longer, a centimeter or an inch?

13. Some of the lines in the box are one inch long. Some of the lines are one centimeter long. Write the letter of every line that is one inch long.

14. Write the letter of every line that is one centimeter long.

15. Where do the fleas in flea circuses usually come from?

16. What’s the first thing that fleas must be taught?
Some things happen as tadpoles grow.
1. Circle what happens first.
2. Underline what happens last.
   - Their tail disappears.
   - They grow front legs.
   - They turn red.
   - They grow back legs.
3. Make a box around the animals that live on the land.

A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H

B  Story Items
4. What kind of animal was Goad? ________________________________
5. Name the lake that Goad lived near. ____________________________
6. Why did the lake have that name?
   - It was 10 miles long.
   - It was 4 years old.
   - It was 4 miles long.
7. Was Goad fast or slow on land? ________________________________
8. Was Goad fast or slow in the water? ____________________________
9. Underline 2 reasons people wanted to catch Goad.
   - to get wet
   - to get tricked
   - to get rich
   - to have a great circus act
10. **Make a box** around the animal that could be Goad.

   A  B  C
   F

   D  E

11. Hunters from a zoo said 2 of the things below. **Underline** those 2 things.

   a. “I’d sure like to catch that toad.”
   b. “Let’s shoot it.”
   c. “That toad would make a good dinner.”
   d. “We must not hurt that toad.”

**Review Items**

12. Write **north, south, east,**

    and **west** in the right boxes.

13. An arrow goes from the **F.**

    Which direction is that arrow going? _________

14. An arrow goes from the **G.** Which direction is that arrow going?

15. An arrow goes from the **J.** Which direction is that arrow going?

**GO TO PART D IN YOUR TEXTBOOK.**
More Facts About Toads and Frogs

Toads and frogs are members of the same family. But toads are different from frogs. Here are some facts about how toads and frogs are different:

- Toads have skin that is rough and covered with warts.
- No toads have teeth, but some frogs have teeth.
- The back legs of toads are not as big or strong as the back legs of frogs.
Goad Uses Her First Trick

Goad lived near Four Mile Lake. Down the road from the lake was a town. The name of that town was Toadsville. It was named Toadsville because so many people who visited the town had come to hunt for a big, smart, fast toad. And in the evening you could find hundreds of people sitting around Toadsville talking about Goad. First they would talk about some of the traps that had been made to catch Goad. Then they would tell how Goad escaped. One of their favorite stories is the one of the great big net.

Five hunters from Alaska had come to Four Mile Lake with a net that was nearly a mile wide. They waited until Goad was on a hill where there were no trees, just some white rocks. Then they flew over the hill in a plane and dropped the great big net over the hill. ★ Goad was under the net. The five hunters rushed to the place where Goad had last been seen. But there was no Goad. There was some grass and five large white rocks. The hunters removed the net and began to go over every centimeter of the ground.
Suddenly, one of the hunters noticed that the biggest rock was moving. The biggest rock wasn’t a rock at all. It was Goad.

She had moved near the other rocks. Then she had turned over on her back so that her white belly was showing. That belly looked like a white rock. Suddenly, she turned over. “There she is,” one of the hunters yelled, but before the others could turn around, Goad hopped down the side of the hill and was gone.

MORE NEXT TIME
D Number your paper from 1 through 16.

Skill Items

Write the word from the box that means the same thing as the underlined part of each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>weight</th>
<th>measure</th>
<th>leaves</th>
<th>paws</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>grove</td>
<td>family</td>
<td>hooves</td>
<td>evening</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The deer ran into the small group of trees to hide.
2. The horse’s feet were covered with mud.
3. She used a ruler to see how long the rope was.

4. Look at object A, object B, and object C. Write at least 2 ways all 3 objects are the same.

- They are all big.
- They are pink.
- They are not round.
- They are striped.
- They are circles.
The workers propped up the cage with steel bars.
5. What 2 words refer to supporting something?
6. What word names a strong metal?
7. What objects were made of a strong metal?
8. What object was propped up?

Review Items
9. Which is longer, an inch or a centimeter?

10. Some of the lines in the box are one inch long. Some of the lines are one centimeter long. Write the letter of every line that is one centimeter long.
11. Write the letter of every line that is one inch long.

12. Where do the fleas in flea circuses usually come from?
13. What’s the first thing that fleas must be taught?

14. What color are the flowers that apple trees make?
15. When do those flowers come out?
16. What grows in each place where there was a flower?
1. At each dot, draw an arrow to show which way the string will move when the girl pulls it.

2. Which animal has smooth skin?  
   - toad  
   - frog

3. Which animal can jump farther?  
   - toad  
   - frog

4. Do any frogs have teeth?  

5. **Make a box around** the toads in the picture.

![Toads and a snake](image)

6. Goad was hard to catch because she was very  
   - old and slow  
   - fast and old  
   - smart and fast
7. What did the hunters from Alaska use when they tried to catch Goad?
   - a fish  
   - a box  
   - 12 dogs  
   - a big net

8. Goad fooled the hunters from Alaska by making herself look like a 
   - toad  
   - net  
   - rock

9. What part of Goad is white?
   - nose  
   - belly  
   - back

10. Underline the picture of Goad using her first trick.

![Image of Goad and her first trick]

Review Items

11. Write **north**, **south**, **east**, and **west** in the right boxes.

![Map of Australia with arrows]

12. An arrow goes from the **R**.
   Which direction is that arrow going?

13. An arrow goes from the **S**. Which direction is that arrow going?

14. An arrow goes from the **T**. Which direction is that arrow going?

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**GO TO PART D IN YOUR TEXTBOOK.**