

STUDENT NAME _____



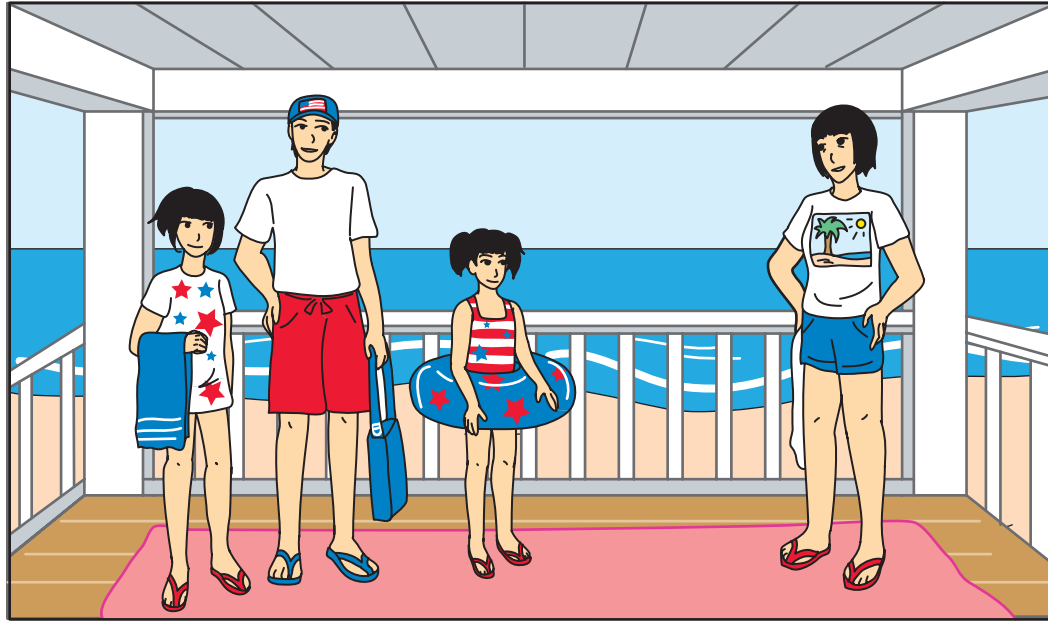
State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

GRADE 5
Reading Language Arts
STAAR Alternate 2

Administered Spring 2025
RELEASED

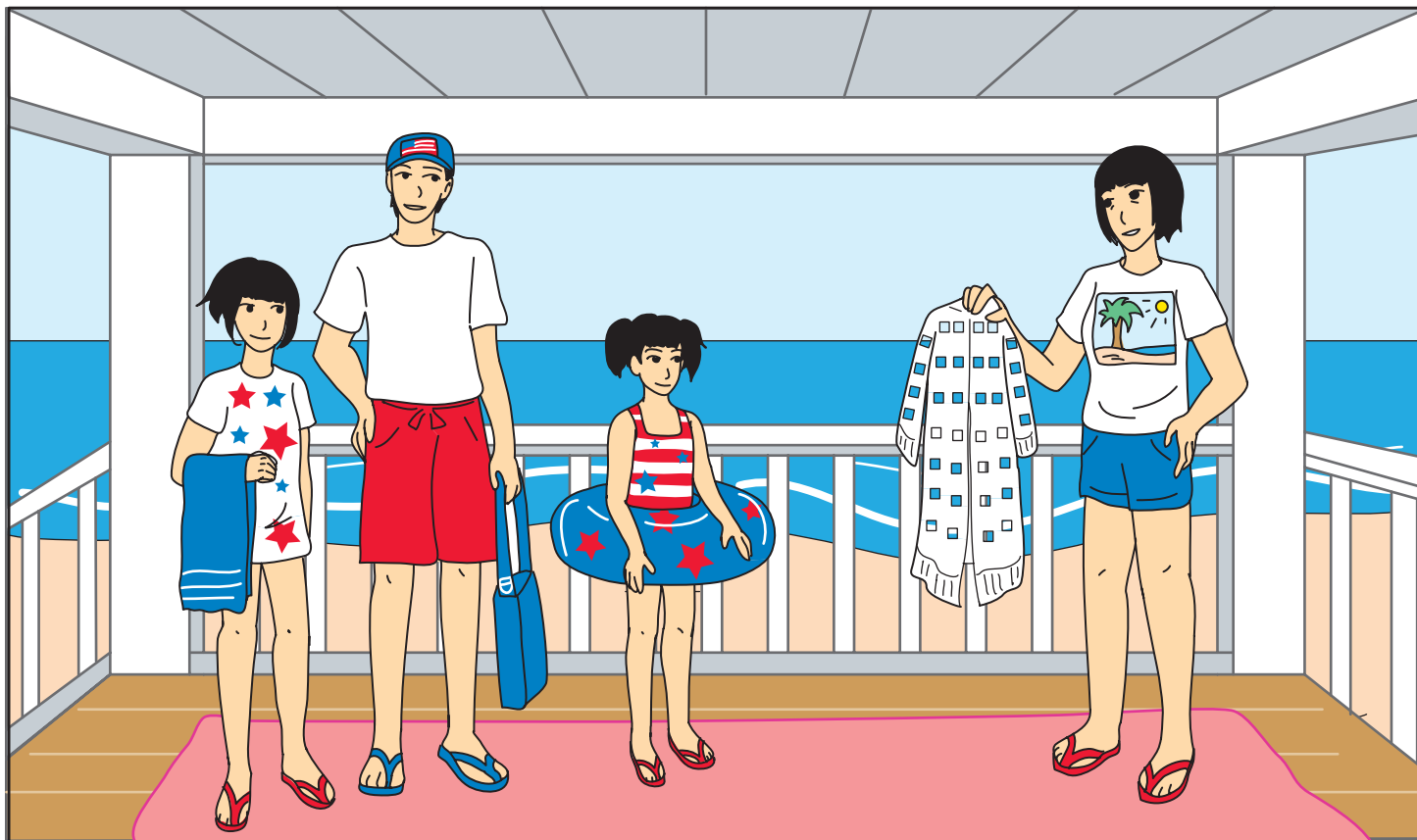
READING LANGUAGE ARTS

Check It Out!



"Red, white, and blue. Stars and stripes. The three of you look quite patriotic for the beach on the Fourth of July," Mom says to Jamie, Jenna, and Jack.

2a

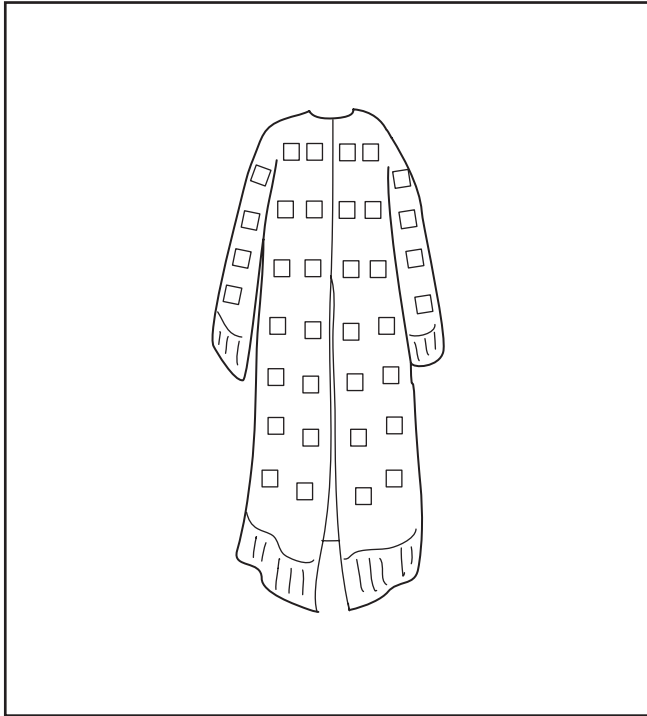


"This is what I just bought to wear to the beach," Mom says as she holds up a white swimsuit cover-up with an open-square pattern all over it.

"I can see right through those holes!" Jack says.

Mom laughs. "Then it's a good thing that I'll wear it over my swimsuit."

2b



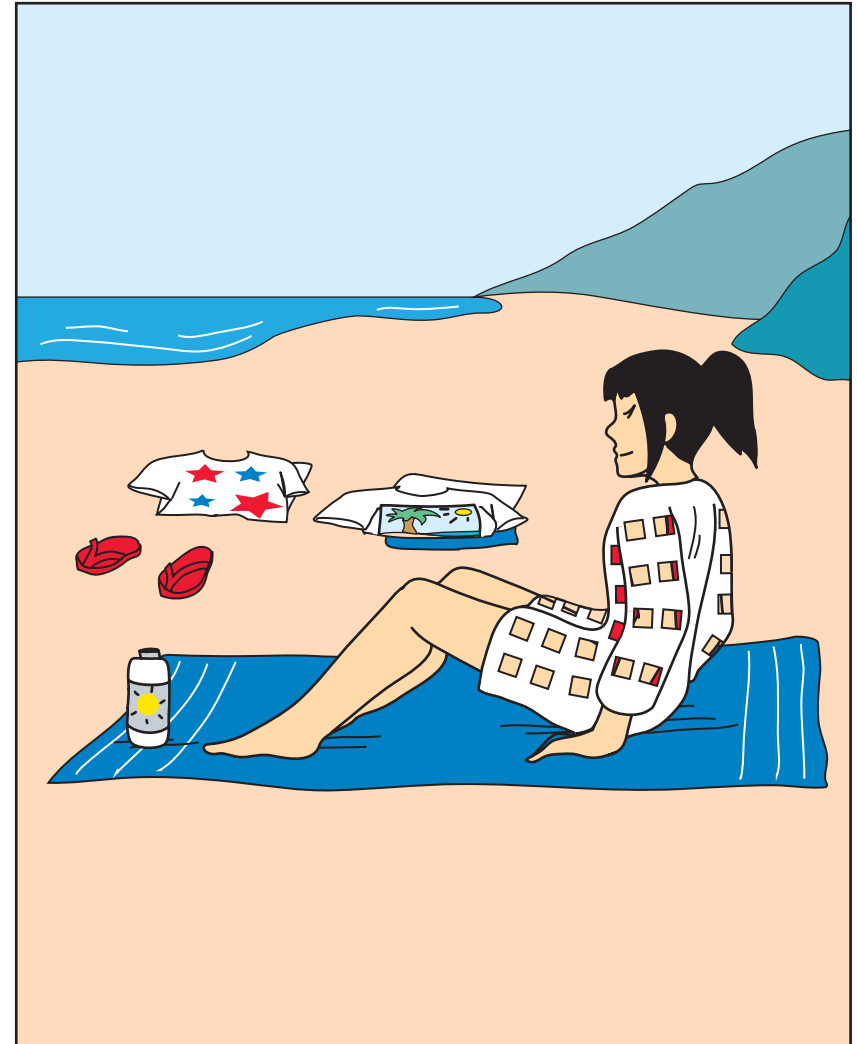
At the beach, Jenna decides to spread out her towel and relax.



"Don't forget to apply this," her mom says as she hands Jenna sunscreen. Mom drops her cover-up next to Jenna and heads to the water with Jenna's sister and brother.

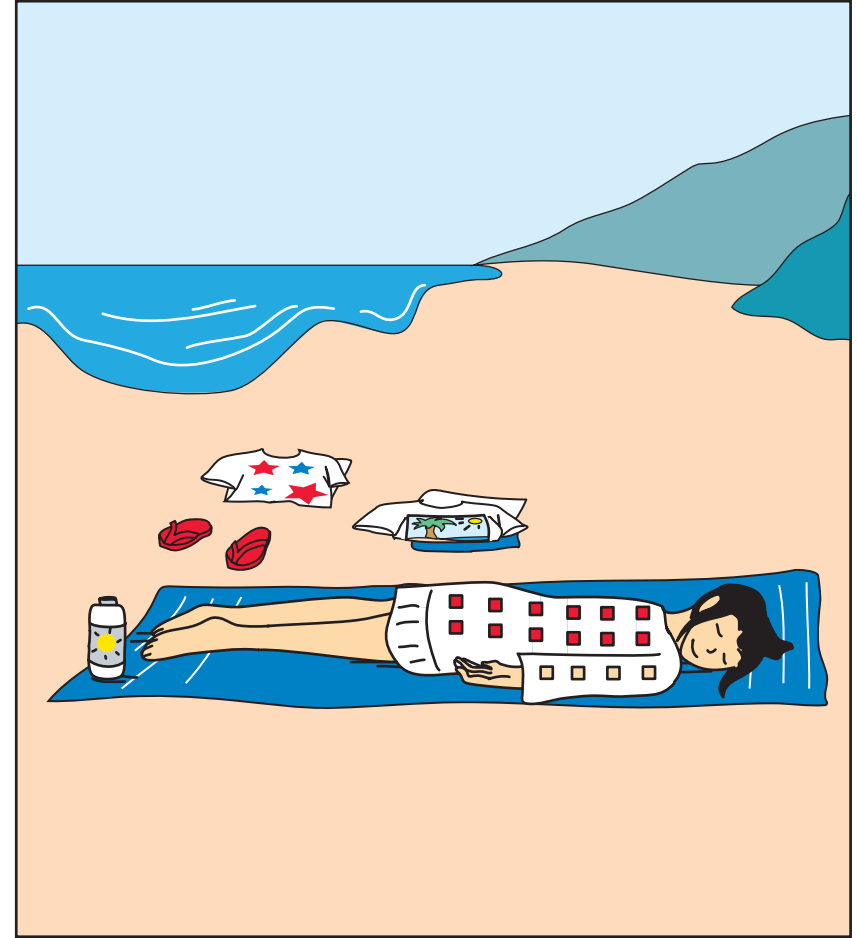
Jenna looks up at the clouds and sees that they are hiding the sun. The sky is getting overcast. She tosses the bottle of sunscreen to the side. As Jenna stretches out on the towel, she thinks to herself, *No need to put on sunscreen if it's going to be cloudy.*

The breeze from the sea starts to feel cool. So Jenna pulls her mother's cover-up over her. Even though it has the open-square design, it is just enough to make her comfortable.



Jenna spends an hour lying on her back, relaxing. Her sister Jamie then runs up and leans over, dripping water on Jenna.

"Don't get me wet!" Jenna says as she turns over on the towel and adjusts her mom's cover-up across her back. She soon falls asleep to the sound of the waves.



Mom wants Jenna to spread out the towel.

Mom wants Jenna to put on sunscreen.

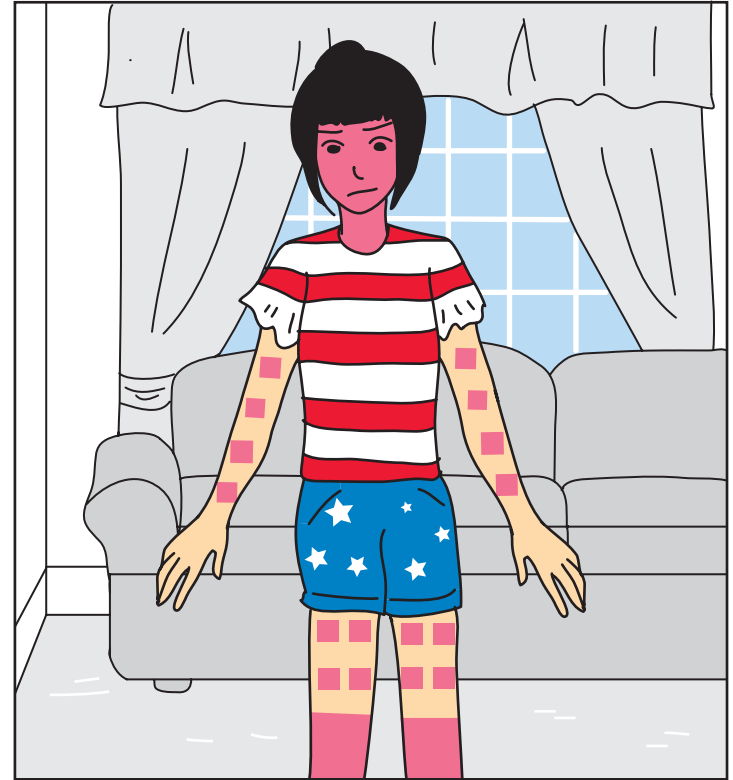
Mom wants Jenna to wear the cover-up.

An hour later, Jenna wakes up when Mom tugs at the cover-up. "Come on, sleepyhead. Time to go home and get ready for the picnic!"

As soon as Jenna gets home from the beach, she goes to her bedroom to change. When she walks out of her bedroom, everyone's mouth drops open. "Check it out! or should I say, 'Checker it out!'" Jack says with a little laugh.

"Jenna, did you use sunscreen on your arms and legs?" her mother asks.

"I didn't," Jenna says, "but it was cloudy."

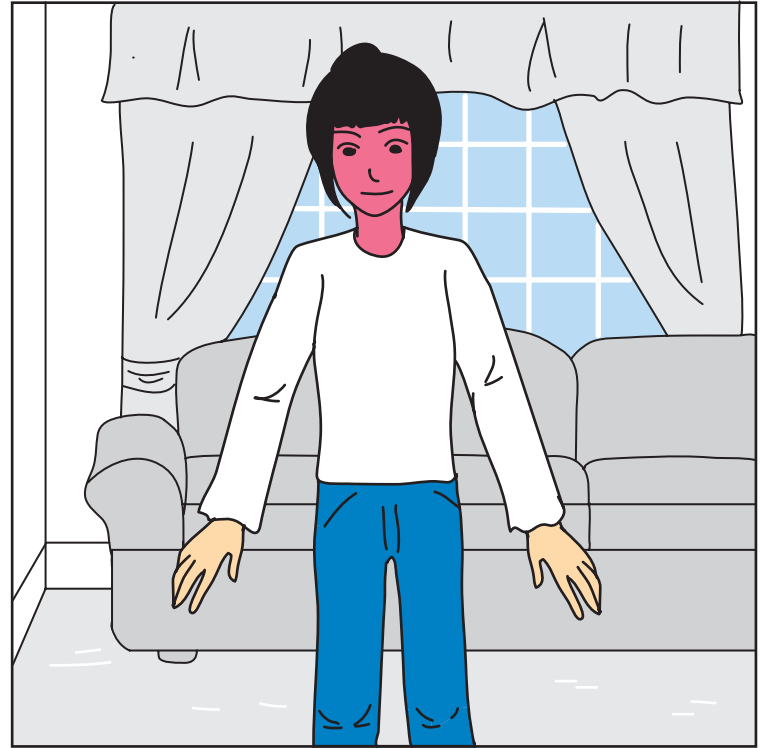


"You can still get a sunburn on cloudy, overcast days," Mom says.

"If I bring checkers to the picnic, can we play the game on your legs?" Jamie says.

Jenna looks down. Her mother's cover-up kept her warm but only partly blocked out the sun. Red squares dot her sunburned arms and legs. She really does look like a checkerboard!

"Oh no!" she cries as she runs back into her room. She comes out a few minutes later, wearing a long-sleeved white shirt and blue jeans.



"You are the most patriotic-looking person in our family!" says Jack. "Red face, white shirt, blue jeans!"

You can get sunburned even if the sky is cloudy and overcast.

You can play board games like checkers on your arms and legs.

You look patriotic if you wear the colors red, white, and blue.

Extreme Dinosaurs



ROGER HARRIS/SPL/Getty Images

Scientists have discovered more than 700 kinds of dinosaurs. Some were even more dangerous than *Tyrannosaurus rex*, one of the most dangerous dinosaurs on Earth.

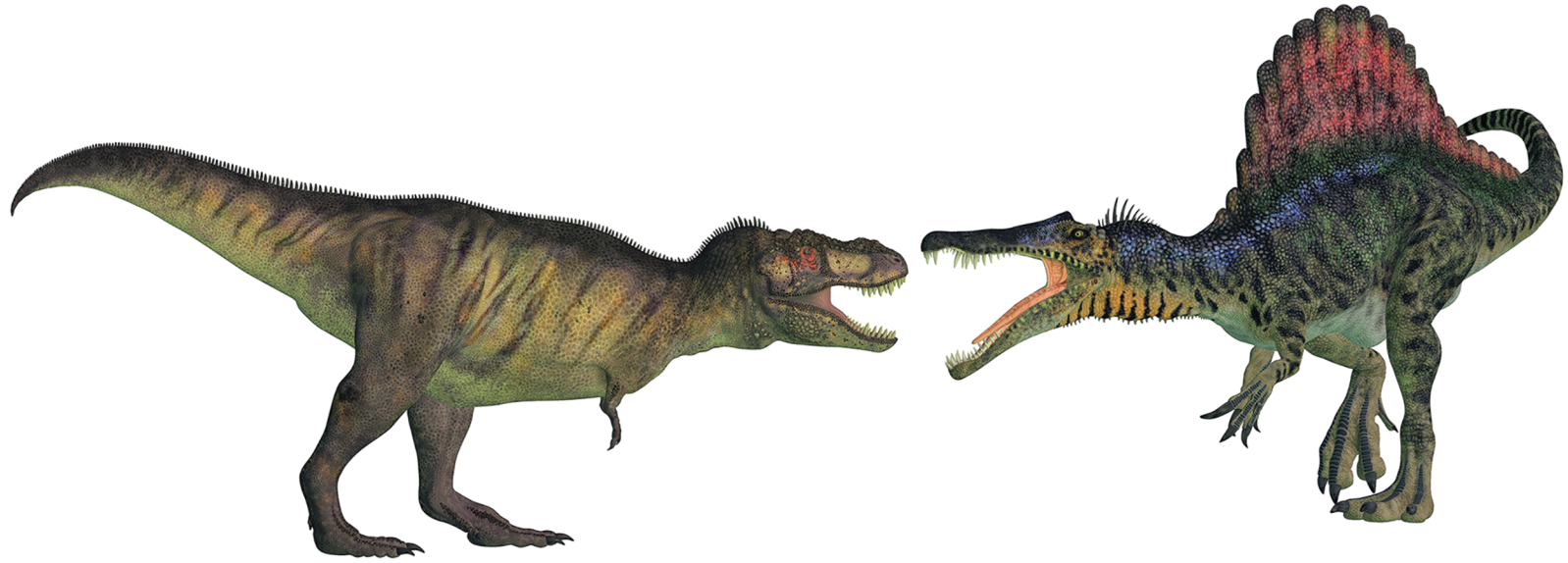


Paleontologists study fossils to learn about the dinosaurs that lived on Earth millions of years ago. By studying the fossils of *Ankylosaurus*, scientists know that this dinosaur had a heavy tail with a large club at the end. The dinosaur probably used this club to protect itself.

fossils

scientists

7a



Corey Ford/Stocktrek Images/Getty Images

Scientists discovered *Spinosaurus*, whose skeleton was larger than *Tyrannosaurus rex's* skeleton. *Spinosaurus* had teeth like a crocodile, a long neck like a crane, hips like a whale, and flat feet shaped like paddles.

Scientists believe that *Spinosaurus* must have been able to live and hunt animals both on land and in the water. Because of this they believe it is "the most dangerous dinosaur" that ever lived on Earth.

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8a



Corey Ford/Stocktrek Images/Getty Images

Scientists study fossils of footprints to find out how fast dinosaurs could run. They also study bones. Longer legs mean faster dinosaurs. Scientists compare the shapes of dinosaurs to the shapes of fast animals living today. Scientists believe that the family of dinosaurs known as ornithomimids were the fastest type of dinosaurs. These toothless, meat-eating dinosaurs were shaped like ostriches and could run as fast as 25 miles per hour.

Most dinosaurs were not very smart. They had very small brains. But the dinosaur with the largest brain for its size was *Troodon*, the smartest dinosaur. *Troodon* was not very big, but this dinosaur may have been as smart as some birds today.



Scientists studied the fossils of footprints and the length of dinosaur bones.

Scientists noticed that ornithomimids looked like ostriches.

Scientists compared the brains of dinosaurs with the brains of birds living today.

Wind Power



Three blades connect at the top of a tall tower to make a wind turbine.



When the wind blows, it turn the blades on the wind turbine. The moving of the blades is what creates electric power.

turns

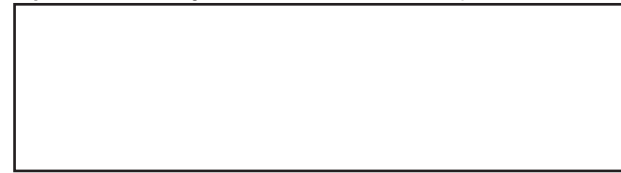
turned

11a



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When many wind turbines are built in one place, it is called a wind farm. On a wind farm, there needs to be at least 2,100 feet



each two wind turbines. The Roscoe Wind Farm has 627 wind turbines. That's a lot of land used for turbines on one wind farm!

above

between

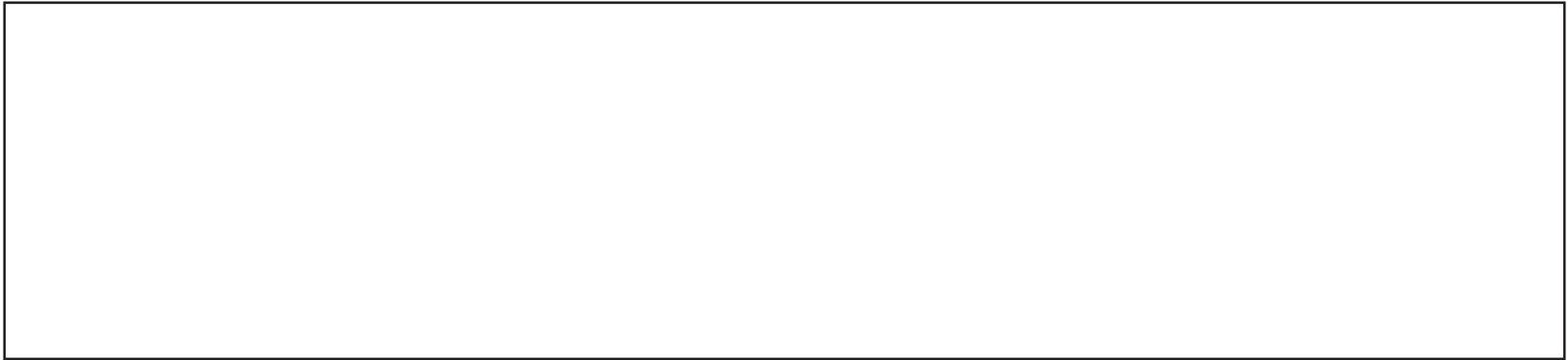
under

12a



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Wind power is becoming more popular as a source of renewable energy. Texas has a lot of flat, open land available for wind farms.



The state is home to some of the **more largest** wind farms in the world.

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The Caverns of Sonora



Rainer Hackenberg/Corbis/Getty Images

The Caverns of Sonora are some of the most beautiful caves on Earth.



Ross Frid/Alamy Stock Photo

The Caverns of Sonora are famous for having beautiful crystals. Some of the crystal formations looks like butterflies.

Some of the crystal formations
looking like butterflies.

Some of the crystal formations
look like butterflies.



Stephen Saks Photography/Alamy Stock Photo

Visitors must use stairs to go below the ground and tour the caves.

Once they are , visitors enjoy looking at the many beautiful crystal formations.

over the caves

inside the caves

behind the caves

16a



Stephen Saks Photography/Alamy Stock Photo

The Caverns of Sonora are in West Texas, between San Antonio and Big Bend National Park.

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Beauty, the Bald Eagle



AP Photo/Young Kwak

This is Beauty, a bald eagle. Many years ago, she lost the top part of her beak in an accident.

After her accident, Beauty was not able to feed herself. A raptor expert, a person who takes care of birds of prey, brought Beauty to a nearby raptor center. At the raptor center, the raptor expert and others formed a group called "The Beauty Team" to build Beauty a new beak.



AP Photo/Young Kwak



zookeeper

Dominic Lipinski/PA Wire URN:49317204 (Press Association via AP Images)



raptor expert

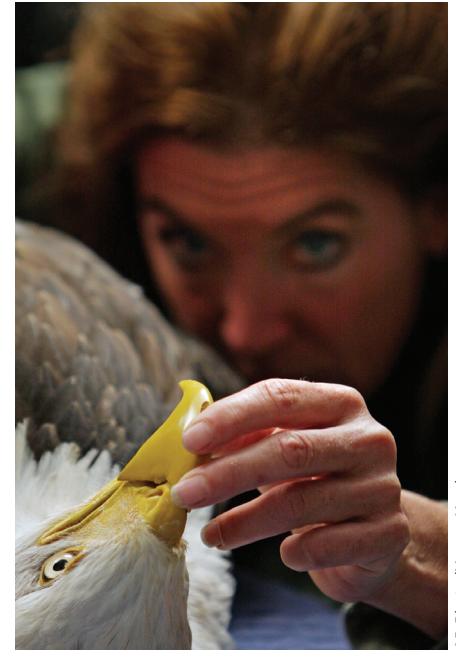
AP Photo/Young Kwak

No one had ever built a beak for an eagle before. But "The Beauty Team" was ready for the challenge. Eagle beaks are not solid. They have hollow areas where air must pass through. The team used a special computer program to make a 3D picture of the beak. From the picture, the team created a beak that was like Beauty's natural beak.



AP Photo/Young Kwak

Beauty's new beak had to be fitted by hand. At first it was not exactly the right size or shape, and the beak had to be fitted again. Beauty lay on the table for hours, letting team members try the beak on and off in order to get it just right. The experts were surprised by how calm Beauty remained.



AP Photo/Young Kwak

solid

special

surprised



AP Photo/Young Kwak

At the center, raptor experts take care of many birds of prey. After she got her new beak, Beauty stayed at the center and grew stronger. Some of her beak has slowly grown back and is pushing the new beak off. She is now able to feed herself. But Beauty will never be able to return to the wild. She will continue to live at the raptor center, where she is safe and cared for.

The raptor center has an area where large birds of prey can spread their wings and fly. Beauty can now land on tall tree branches and enjoy views of forests, a lake, and mountains.

When visitors come to the raptor center, they can meet Beauty and learn about protecting birds of prey. Learning Beauty's story can help keep other eagles safe. Beauty shows that people can do good things even when bad things have been done to animals.

At the center, raptor experts take care of many birds of prey.

Beauty can now land on tall tree branches and enjoy views of forests, a lake, and mountains.

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