

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE **8** Real-Life Bloodsuckers

**DIRECTIONS:** After reading the article about vampiric animals, fill in the blanks to complete the summary paragraph below.

Sanguivores are animals that \_\_\_\_\_. A vampire \_\_\_\_\_ is a sanguivore. But blood is a skimpy food source, and about 80 percent of it is \_\_\_\_\_ with the rest being mainly \_\_\_\_\_. Blood contains very little \_\_\_\_\_, which is used to store energy, so a vampire bat needs to eat \_\_\_\_\_ its weight in blood each night!

PAGE **12** Cactus Trackers

**DIRECTIONS:** Circle the incorrect word or phrase below and write the correct word or phrase below it.

1. A saguaro cactus is a short, smooth plant.
2. The Sonoran Desert covers parts of Northern Mexico, Mexico's Baja Peninsula, Southern Texas, and Oklahoma.
3. Thieves are stealing the old, large, saguaros to sell to nurseries on the black market.
4. Park rangers are using passive integrative transponders that they will wrap around the cactuses' bases to prevent further thefts.

PAGE **16** Smashing Pumpkins

**DIRECTIONS:** Match the words in the left column with the words or phrases in the right column.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. trebuchet                    | a. pivot point  |
| ___ 2. kinetic energy               | b. stored energy  |
| ___ 3. Newton's First Law of Motion | c. energy of motion   |
| ___ 4. fulcrum                      | d. machine that uses a falling mass to throw an object  |
| ___ 5. potential energy             | e. principle that states that an object in motion will stay in motion unless a force acts upon it |

PAGE **18** Secrets of Silk

**DIRECTIONS:** Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What is the Silk Road?
2. What was the heavily guarded secret of silk, and what was the penalty for sharing the secret with foreigners?
3. Why did ancient sericulture practitioners use selective breeding? What was the result?
4. What are the two proteins that a silkworm produces from its spinneret, and what are their functions?
5. How similar is modern sericulture to ancient sericulture? Explain.