

# 3rd Grade ELA


## L.3.4a

### Passage (Looking at the Life of a Scientist)

- 1 Picture this: Two people are dressed in special suits from head to toe. Their suits are made of fireproof fabric that protects the human body from heat. They are wearing gloves, boots, and face masks too.
- 2 The people walk out onto a sea of black rock. This rock is the same color as a city street, but it isn't smooth and flat. Instead, it is bumpy and looks just like the ripples in a pond. It is a little difficult for them to keep their balance as they move across the rock. "It's almost like walking on the waves of the sea," one of them says.
- 3 After walking a short distance, the two people stop near a layer of liquid red rock. One of them waves a long stick over the rock. The other reads the thermometer that is attached to the end of the stick. Then they both record the temperature in their notebooks. They look out toward the edge of a mountain to see where the red rock came from. They record this information in their notebooks also.
- 4 Does this sound like a great adventure? For these people, it most definitely is. After all, this is what a typical day is like for people who study volcanoes. These people are called volcanologists. Their job is to learn all about volcanoes so they can better figure out when they might erupt, or blow. Volcanologists look at all parts of a volcano. They study the liquid red rock called lava. They use special tools to gather information. Later, in their lab, they come up with ideas about how volcanoes work.
- 5 Volcanologists aren't the only scientists who have exciting jobs. Some scientists work with animals in the wild. They study animal homes and see how the animals live. They watch how the animals act with one another and how they take care of their young. One group of scientists studies animals that live near the North Pole. They watch birds to see where they like to eat, rest, and lay their eggs. They follow large animals such as polar bears. They want to see where the animals find food and how they live in the cold. Other scientists study animals in Africa. They take trips to see lions, leopards, and hippos in the wild. They learn a lot about these animals by seeing them in their homes.

#### The Wonderful World of Science

Scientists study many different things. Some study Earth. Others study animals, plants, and other living things. Scientists also study the human body and find ways to keep people well. Some scientists study the stars, moon, and sun. Others build and work on machines. Science is all about curiosity, or being curious. It's about wanting to know why and how something happens. You don't have to be a grownup to be a scientist. You can be one at any age. Look at the world around you and ask questions. Then, find ways to answer those questions. You can do experiments. You can watch something and take notes about what you see. There are many ways you can be a scientist right now.

Question **ST**  1 Alternate(s)

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4.a**

Read the sentence from paragraph 2:

The people walked out onto a sea of black rock.

Click on the TWO choices that explain the meaning of the phrase sea of black rock as it is used in the text.

**rocks that are solid**

**rocks that look like liquid** ✓

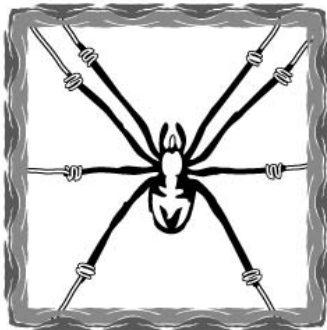
**rocks that are big**

**rocks that look like fire**

**rocks that are uneven** ✓

### Passage (Why the Spider Has Eight Long Legs)

- 1 Once, long ago in Africa, lived the first spider, Anansi. He looked like he does now, except he had eight short, fat legs. Anansi was clever but a bit lazy.
- 2 One day, Anansi was walking. Suddenly he smelled a delicious smell coming from Rabbit's house.
- 3 "Rabbit!" called Anansi. "What are you cooking?" Anansi peered into his friend's kitchen window.
- 4 "Greens, friend Anansi! Stay a while and help me do some chores, and when they are done we will eat together."
- 5 Unwilling to get stuck doing chores, Anansi said, "Friend Rabbit, I would love to eat some of your delicious greens. But right now, I have to run an errand." Thinking quickly, Anansi spun a bit of web. "Here, Rabbit. I will leave one end of this web with you." He tied the other end to his leg. "When the greens are done, just pull on the web, and I will come back."
- 6 Rabbit waved goodbye as Anansi went on his way. He had not gone more than a few yards when again he smelled something delicious cooking. He followed his nose until he came to the house of his friend Monkey.
- 7 "Monkey!" he called out. "What is it you are cooking that smells so good?"
- 8 "Beans, brother Anansi!" called Monkey. All of his little children came out to hug their friend. "Join us! We just need to wash some dishes and we can eat."
- 9 Anansi quickly offered to leave one end of his web with the monkeys. "I'll tie the other end to my leg," he said as he tied the web onto his second leg. "And when the beans are done, just pull on it and I will come back."
- 10 Well, as the story goes, Anansi continued walking, and six more times he smelled wonderful meals cooking in the kitchens of his friends. Soon he had webs dangling from all eight of his short legs.
- 11 He sat down at the river to rest. Which wonderful meal would be ready first? Just then he felt a tug.
- 12 "Ahh, Monkey's beans! I can't wait!" he said as he started to get up.
- 13 Then he felt another tug, and another, and another.
- 14 Soon, all eight of his legs were being tugged and pulled in eight different directions. His legs stretched and stretched until they were long and thin. Even today you can see that the spider has eight long, thin legs. He is always looking for food since he missed out on eight meals that day.



Question **ST**

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4.a

Read the sentence:

"Friend Rabbit, I would love to eat some of your delicious greens. But right now, I have to run an errand."

Click on the TWO words that explain the meaning of the word "greens" as it is used in the sentence.

lettuce ✓

banana

broccoli ✓

carrot