

# Packets 11-15 Topic Ideas

Third  
Grade

## Narrative

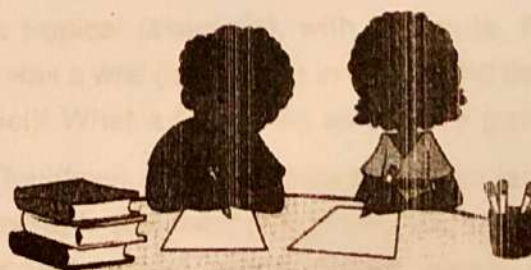
- Best friends
- Best/Worst experience
- Family fun
- Getting along with others
- Helping others
- Making wishes
- Happy times
- Scary times
- Special people
- Special time/trips
- Working together/  
Cooperation

## Informative

- Animals and their habitats
- Community helpers
- Other cultures/comparison
- Environment
- Famous/Historical people
- Healthy habits
- Holiday celebrations
- Life Cycles: Frogs, chicks, etc.
- Making healthy snacks
- Our nation's symbols
- Plants and trees
- Safety
- Using manners
- Weather: Wind and storms

## Opinion

- Healthy snacks
- Best sports
- My best friend
- My favorite animal
- My favorite family activity
- My favorite holiday
- My favorite story
- My favorite season
- Should we have pets?
- Taking care of others
- The best animal for a pet
- Where you want to live (i.e.  
city/rural/another country and  
why)



Choose 1 topic  
each day and write  
a story about that  
topic.



This story contains many homophones. Each time you come to a pair, circle the word that best fits the meaning needed.



I finally went to the (flea/flee) market at the (peer/pier). I always just (peer/pier) at it as we drive (buy/by). Today I took the bus there, though. The (fair/fare) was only 50 cents. At the market, it was like a country (fair/fare). A place like this could never be a (boar/bore)!

The first (aisle/isle) was like a tropical (aisle/isle), with coconuts, Hawaiian flowers, and volcanic rocks. There was a wild (boar/bore) in a pen, and there were chickens hanging by their (feet/feet)! What a (foul/fowl) smell they gave off!

To (flea/flee) the odor of those (foul/fowl), I walked down a different lane. Here it was like a circus. People were trying to (cell/sell) everything you can imagine. Three men dressed as (colonels/kernels) were giving away popcorn (colonels/kernels). The popcorn, they said, was grown by people living in (cells/sells) in the county jail. A clown was trying to (pedal/peddle) balloons while riding a bike with just one (pedal/peddle). Getting out of all that confusion was quite a (feat/feet)! Before I left, I wanted to at least (buy/by) something. So I got something to eat—a (stake/steak) on a (stake/steak).





# Place multiplication and division facts

Word form

Number of the Day

968

Expanded form

Odd or  
even?

10 more \_\_\_\_\_

10 less \_\_\_\_\_

100 more \_\_\_\_\_

1,000 more \_\_\_\_\_

Round to the nearest...

10 \_\_\_\_\_

100 \_\_\_\_\_

Sum of the Digits

Represent with base-10 blocks

Write 2 equations to  
make the number

Represent using coins and bills

Fact family using two of  
the digits

Comes between...

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Subtract from \_\_\_\_\_

$$\begin{array}{r} 30,000 \\ - 968 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# ice multiplication and division facts.

Word form

Number of the Day

436

Expanded form

Odd or  
even?

10 more \_\_\_\_\_

10 less \_\_\_\_\_

100 more \_\_\_\_\_

1,000 more \_\_\_\_\_

Round to the nearest...

10 \_\_\_\_\_

100 \_\_\_\_\_

Sum of the Digits

Represent with base-10 blocks

Write 2 equations to  
make the number

Represent using coins and bills

Fact family using two of  
the digits

Comes between...

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Subtract from \_\_\_\_\_

400,000  
436

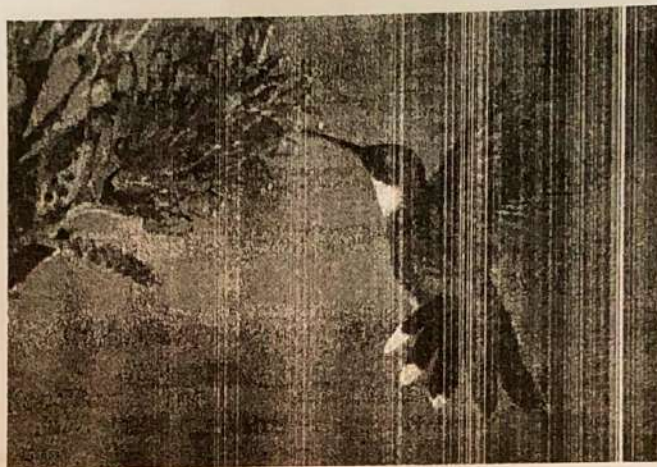


# A Mighty Flier

by Kelly Hashway

What is two inches tall, can hover in mid-air, and flies in every direction including backwards? It's not an insect. The answer is the bee hummingbird.

Most hummingbirds are about three to five inches long. But the bee hummingbird is only five centimeters, or approximately two inches, making it the smallest species of bird alive today. Really it isn't bigger than a large insect. But don't let its tiny body fool you. This



bird is a fierce flier. It can beat its wings up to 80 times per second. If you ever see one in flight, you'll notice its wings are just a blur to the human eye. Hummingbirds are also the only vertebrates that can hover in one place. Add to that being able to fly backwards and upside down, and these creatures are amazing flying machines.

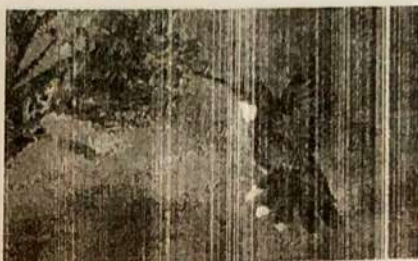
And being a master flier isn't the only one of the bee hummingbird's talents. The bee hummingbird does a great job performing its part in plant reproduction. During the course of a single day, the bee hummingbird can visit up to 1,500 flowers. And just like a bee, when the bee hummingbird drinks nectar from the flowers, pollen is transferred from the flower to the bird's body. This pollen is carried to the next flower. Transferring pollen from one flower to another helps plants make seeds.

Besides drinking nectar, bee hummingbirds eat insects. In fact, they eat about half their body mass each day. But what's more impressive is that they drink eight times their body mass every day. This is why they live in areas where there are gardens and shrubbery. These tiny birds are found primarily in Cuba, but some have been spotted in Jamaica and Haiti as well.

Despite its size, there's no arguing that the bee hummingbird is a mighty flier.

# A Mighty Flier

by Kelly Hashway



1. How do hummingbirds help flowering plants?
  - a. They give the flowering plants energy.
  - b. They help flowering plants make seeds and reproduce.
  - c. They build their nests in flowering plants.
  - d. They drink pollen in the flowers.
  
2. The bee hummingbird is about as large as....
  - a. a flea
  - b. a bee
  - c. a dragonfly
  - d. a sparrow
  
3. If you ever see a hummingbird in flight, you may have a difficult time seeing the wings. They would look blurry. Why?  

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4. What do hummingbirds drink?
  - a. pollen
  - b. insects
  - c. flowers
  - d. nectar
  
5. In which countries do bee hummingbirds live?  

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6. If a bee hummingbird weighed 2 grams, about how many grams of liquid would it drink in a day? Use your math skills to figure out the answer. Show your work in the space below.

answer: \_\_\_\_\_



# A Mighty Flier

by Kelly Hashway



The scrambled words below are vocabulary words from the article. Unscramble each word and write it on the line. Please be sure each word is spelled correctly.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

l i r m o y e a x a t p p

**hint:** about; roughly; estimated number

2. \_\_\_\_\_

b a t v e e e t r s r

**hint:** animals with backbones

3. \_\_\_\_\_

t e a r n c

**hint:** sweet liquid inside of flowers

4. \_\_\_\_\_

e l p n o l

**hint:** powdery dust in flowers that is used to help them reproduce

5. \_\_\_\_\_

f a n d t s e e r r r

**hint:** moved

6. \_\_\_\_\_

a s m s

**hint:** amount of matter something is made of; can be measured in pounds, ounces, grams, or kilograms



## by Kelly Hashway

A black and white photograph of a large, dark, textured rock formation, possibly a cave entrance or a large rock face, with some lighter patches and a small, bright white spot near the center.

- Taking care of others
- Where you want to live (like why)
- Healthy habits
- Emergency helpers
- Environment
- Famous/historical people
- Healthy habits
- Holiday celebrations
- How things are made
- Making healthy choices
- Our nation's symbols
- Safety
- Using numbers
- Weather and seasons