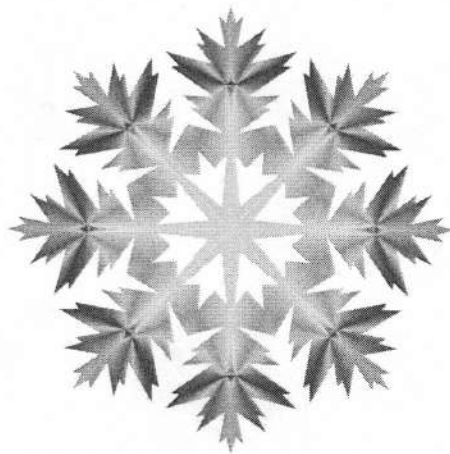


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Blizzard Bag 4



## Language Arts

Mrs. McCurdy  
Mrs. Ondayko



# The Father of Black History: Carter G. Woodson

by Caitlyn Meagher



U.S. National Park Service

*Carter G. Woodson*

Each February, people in the United States and Canada celebrate Black History Month. How did this celebration come to be? And who had the idea to create it? That trailblazer was Carter G. Woodson. Many people call him "The Father of Black History."

Carter G. Woodson was born in 1875 in Virginia to formerly enslaved parents. Woodson was not able to go to school at a young age because he had to work on a farm to earn money for his family. But this work did not stop him from learning. He taught himself many subjects.

Woodson got his high school diploma in less than two years. He graduated from college and became a teacher, then a principal. Woodson kept on studying! In 1912, he became the second African American to get a PhD from Harvard University.



As his own background shows, Woodson believed in the importance of education. He also believed in the importance of history. He wanted more people to know the many positive contributions Black people had made in America. At the time, most people in the U.S. had little understanding of Black history. They did not recognize how Black people contributed to American politics, economics, and culture. Woodson was determined to change this. He worked with his friends to create the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Now, the organization is known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. This organization has been researching and spreading information about Black life, history, and culture to the rest of the world. Woodson also created *The Journal of Negro History*, a resource where Black scholars could publish their research.

In 1926, Woodson created the first Black history week in the United States. The week was called Negro History Week. This week celebrated the many accomplishments and experiences of Black people throughout U.S. history. Today, this celebration is a full month called Black History Month! During Black History Month, people of all backgrounds discuss and learn about the Black experience in the U.S. This also inspired Canada to recognize February as its own Black History Month.

Woodson hoped someday all people would know and recognize the many contributions of Black Americans. Several other historians and teachers have carried on his important work.



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

1. What do many people call Carter G. Woodson?

- A. "The Father of History"
- B. "The Father of Black History"
- C. "The Father of Black History Month"
- D. "Grandfather Time"

2. The text describes a sequence of events in Woodson's life. What did Woodson do after he became a teacher, and then a principal?

- A. He went to school to get his high school diploma.
- B. He graduated from Harvard with a PhD.
- C. He earned a PhD by studying on his own.
- D. He published his research in *The Journal for Negro History*.

3. Read these sentences from the text.

"At the time, most people in the U.S. had little understanding of Black history. They did not recognize how Black people contributed to American politics, economics, and culture. Woodson was determined to change this. He worked with his friends to create the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. [...] This organization has been researching and spreading information about Black life, history, and culture to the world. Woodson also created *The Journal of Negro History*, a resource where Black scholars could publish their research."

Based on this evidence, what conclusion can you draw about how Woodson tried to achieve his goal of helping more people in the U.S. understand Black history?

- A. Woodson tried to achieve his goal by creating Black History programs in high schools, colleges, and graduate schools.
- B. Woodson tried to achieve his goal by convincing federal and state governments to share information about Black history.
- C. Woodson tried to achieve his goal by spreading resources to help educate people about Black history and contributions.
- D. Woodson tried to achieve his goal by replacing all existing history textbooks with new textbooks that included information about Black history.



4. Based on the text, why did Woodson create Negro History Week, which has since become Black History Month?

- A. to encourage people to celebrate Woodson's own contributions to research on Black History
- B. to celebrate the birthdays of important figures in the African American community
- C. to encourage African Americans to learn more about the histories of other communities in the United States
- D. to encourage people of all backgrounds to learn about and celebrate Black history and accomplishments

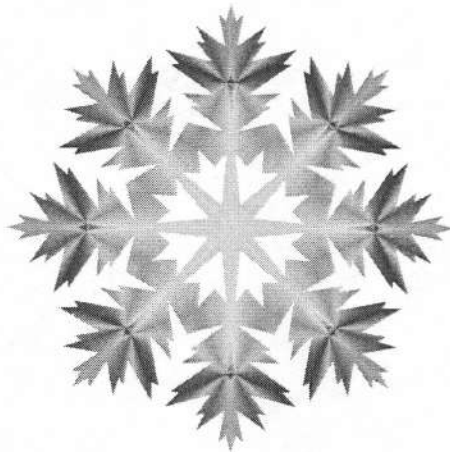
5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. February is Black History Month in the United States and Canada, but it was once a weeklong celebration of Black accomplishments and experiences called Negro History Week.
- B. Carter G. Woodson worked to help more people understand the contributions and experiences of Black people and started the celebration that has now become Black History Month.
- C. Carter G. Woodson created the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, which researches and spreads information about Black life, history, and culture to the rest of the world.
- D. Carter G. Woodson believed in the importance of education and history, as shown by his many years of school and studying and his time spent as a teacher and principal.



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

# Blizzard Bag 5



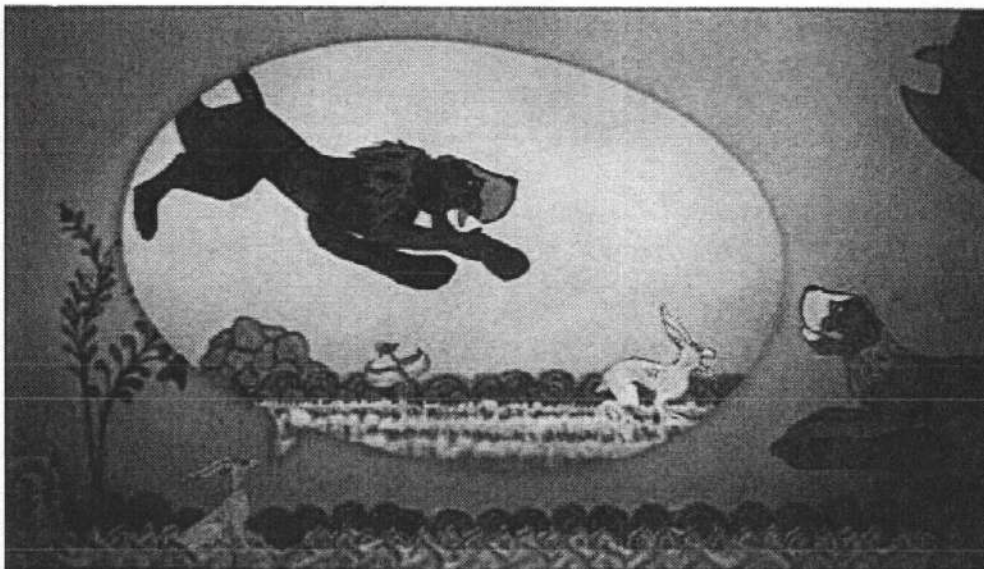
## Language Arts

Mrs. McCurdy  
Mrs. Ondayko



# The Fable of the Lion and the Hare

This text is provided courtesy of OLogy, the American Museum of Natural History's website for kids.



In ancient times, a ferocious lion lived in the forest, killing without remorse. The other animals were terrified. To stop the lion's deadly hunts, some animals offered to provide him with food each day. Some animals would still die, of course, but the rest would live in peace. The lion agreed and enjoyed months of the easy life. One day it was the hare's turn to present himself to the lion. Although small, the hare was very crafty.

"Lion, lion," the hare cried out as he approached. "Help me, help me! Another lion is trying to eat me. But I am to be your dinner! You must stop him!"

Furious that another lion was trying to steal his food, the lion demanded, "Take me to the thief. I will make him pay for this mischief!"

The hare and the lion made their way through the forest, eventually reaching the deep well. There the lion looked down and saw his own reflection in the water. Thinking he had found the creature who tried to steal his food, the lion jumped down, ready to fight. Alas, the lion never came out of that well, and the animals lived in peace from that day on.



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

1. What did some animals in the forest offer to the lion to stop his deadly hunts?

Please use the words in the question to restate it into a complete sentence answer.

2. The hare saved his own life by tricking the lion.

Support this conclusion with evidence from the text.

Please use the words in the question to restate it into a complete sentence answer.

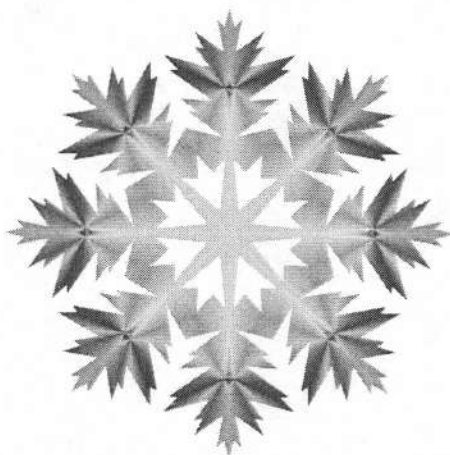
3. What is the theme of this story?

Please use the words in the question to restate it into a complete sentence answer.



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

# Blizzard Bag 6



## Language Arts

Mrs. McCurdy  
Mrs. Ondayko



# Removing Weeds to Help Giant Moose

This text is provided courtesy of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.



iStock

*a bull moose*

Have you ever seen pictures of cattle grazing in the American West? Wild animals also graze on the delicious grasses and shrubs. Some of those wild grazers include elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, and moose.

Moose are actually the largest type of deer. They're also the second-largest land animal in North America, just behind the bison. Moose are huge. A male moose, also called a bull, can stand six feet tall at the shoulder and weigh more than 1,500 pounds!

In the spring, bull moose start growing antlers, which by autumn can add another two feet to their height and stretch up to six feet wide. They use those antlers to defend themselves from predators such as bears and cougars, and sometimes to fight with other bulls during mating season. After mating season is over, their antlers fall off.

Moose are excellent swimmers and fast runners, reaching speeds of more than 35 miles per hour. Each of their brown hairs is hollow, and the air trapped inside provides insulation. Their



large size and insulating fur make it possible for moose to live in colder areas. Moose live in the northern regions of the United States, including Alaska, and throughout Canada. They prefer forests with streams and ponds.

Moose are herbivores, which means they only eat plants, not meat. They eat leaves, bark, pinecones, twigs, and buds of trees and shrubs. They also munch on plants found in streams and ponds. Researchers estimate one moose can consume more than 60 pounds of plants in a single day.

Unfortunately, invasive weeds are causing problems for moose and other wild animals that depend on native grasses and wetland plants. Some weeds spread quickly and crowd out native plants that should be growing there. They hurt wildlife by eliminating food, and they also cause problems for ranchers who depend on native vegetation to help feed their cattle. Invasive plants also degrade recreational areas, including ponds and lakes popular with both fishermen and moose!

Ranchers, farmers, and other landowners spend a lot of money to remove these invasive weeds and restore their land. Additionally, conservation groups are working with government officials to remove invasive vegetation. In Montana, the Bitter Root Land Trust is removing such plants in the Bitterroot Valley.

By working together with ranchers and other landowners, these wildlife conservation groups can make habitats healthy again. They can ensure there are healthy habitats and enough food for all kinds of wildlife, including the mighty moose.

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These conservation efforts are supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), which specializes in bringing together individuals, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and corporations to restore our nation's fish, wildlife, plants, and habitats for current and future generations.



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

1. What type of animal are moose?

- A. the smallest type of cat
- B. the largest type of deer
- C. the largest type of wolf
- D. the largest type of horse

2. How does the author describe moose's hair?

- A. Each hair is hollow inside, trapping air inside that insulates the moose in cold climates.
- B. Each hair is a different color, providing the bull moose with a beautiful coat.
- C. Each hair is a different length, making the bull moose's hair look like it's moving.
- D. Each hair is thin and fine, allowing the moose to stay cool in warm climates.

3. Read the following sentences from the text.

"Moose are herbivores, which means they only eat plants, not meat. They eat leaves, bark, pinecones, twigs, and buds of trees and shrubs. They also munch on plants found in streams and ponds... Unfortunately, invasive weeds are causing problems for moose and other wild animals that depend on native grasses and wetland plants. Some weeds spread quickly and crowd out native plants that should be growing there."

What can you conclude, based on this information?

- A. Invasive weeds are not a problem for moose, but they are a problem for other animals.
- B. Moose have learned how to dig up plants so that they can remove invasive weeds.
- C. Even though moose eat a wide variety of plants, invasive weeds can disrupt their diets.
- D. Moose diets vary from moose to moose, but most moose share a liking for rabbits.



4. The text states that ranchers spend a lot of money to get rid of invasive weeds. Why are ranchers interested in getting rid of invasive weeds?

- A. because the invasive weeds can hurt the plants that their cattle eat
- B. because they love moose and want to protect their food sources
- C. because they think the weeds are ugly and they want their land to look good
- D. because the weeds can irritate their skin when they're walking on their land

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. In the spring, bull moose grow antlers, and by the fall, their antlers are really large, stretching out as wide as six feet, which adds a lot of height and weight to their already large bodies.
- B. Invasive weeds can cause problems for fishermen because they can clog up recreational fishing areas like lakes and creeks, making it difficult for the fishermen to see fish.
- C. Moose are a huge type of deer that eat plants, and ranchers and conservationists are removing invasive weeds so that these and other animals can continue to eat the food they need.
- D. Moose are great at surviving in multiple environments, including both in the water and on land, because they are powerful animals whose long legs make them fast runners and strong swimmers.