POLE MOUNTAIN LEARNING · PRINTABLE · NO DEVICE NEEDED

Vocabulary Mountain Adventures: Ride 1 of 5

Aspen Ridge · Grade 5



Name or class code _____ Date _____

Your trip

1. Read the passage at each stop. The vocabulary word is in **bold**.
2. Use clues in the passage. Circle the letter of the best answer, then write it on the trip map.
3. Stop 5 is the challenge: answer Part A, then choose the detail that supports it in Part B.
4. Your teacher checks each stop. If you missed one, reread for the clue and try again. Keep your first answer; write the new letter beside it with a star (★).

① Trailhead	② Creek Crossing	③ Switchbacks	④ Rock Garden	⑤ Summit
____	____	____	____	A ____ B ____
□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★

① Trailhead — *adapt*

Rain moved the trail fair from the park into the school gym, so its organizers changed the plan. They shortened the display tables and replaced the outdoor relay with a small model challenge.

They had to **adapt** their activities. The main purpose stayed the same even though the plan changed.

As used in this passage, what does the word “adapt” most likely mean?

(A) improve a plan without changing it
(B) make changes to suit new conditions
(C) copy a plan without considering the conditions
(D) give up before trying a different plan

2 Creek Crossing

issue

Before a night survey, a leader must **issue** the safety equipment. Each volunteer receives a lamp and a reflective vest from the supply desk.

The leader checks the name beside each set. After the survey, volunteers return the equipment.

As used in this passage, what does the word "issue" most likely mean?

(A) give out supplies for people to use
(B) publish a new copy of a magazine
(C) raise a problem for discussion
(D) bring used materials back to storage

3 Switchbacks

resilient

The first outdoor display collapsed in a sudden shower before the fair. The club felt disappointed.

Members worked together on a new indoor display. By the next meeting, they had recovered from the setback and were ready to welcome visitors. The **resilient** club had kept its project going.

As used in this passage, what does the word "resilient" most likely mean?

(A) able to recover after a setback
(B) successful without ever needing help
(C) unwilling to try again after a setback
(D) successful only when conditions stay easy

4 Rock Garden

reorganize

The club had already arranged its display, but the entrance moved to the other side of the room. Members had to **reorganize** the tables.

They changed the order and position of the tables to make a clear path from the new entrance. The same materials now worked in a different arrangement.

As used in this passage, what does the word "reorganize" most likely mean?

(A) restore the original arrangement
(B) arrange the same things in another way
(C) throw away every part and begin with new materials
(D) put things away without any arrangement

(5) Summit

turn the tide

For several meetings, fewer people had volunteered to help at the community fair.

The team hoped a new invitation from students would **turn the tide**.

The invitation explained the activities and showed why the fair mattered.

Afterward, volunteer numbers began rising, reversing the earlier decline rather than continuing it.

Part A. As used in paragraph 2, what does the phrase "turn the tide" most likely mean?

(A) change the movement of ocean water
(B) make events go the opposite way
(C) make a difficult situation stay exactly the same
(D) slow an unwanted trend without reversing it

Part B. Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to Part A?

(A) "For several meetings, fewer people had volunteered to help at the community fair."
(B) "The team hoped a new invitation from students would turn the tide."
(C) "…explained the activities and showed why the fair mattered…"
(D) "…volunteer numbers began rising, reversing the earlier decline…"

Trail Talk (bonus, not scored): berm

Riders lean into a **berm** to turn quickly without sliding off the trail.

What do you think a berm is?

_____

_____

POLE MOUNTAIN LEARNING · PRINTABLE · NO DEVICE NEEDED

Vocabulary Mountain Adventures: Ride 2 of 5

Pine Needle Switchbacks · Grade 5



Name or class code _____ Date _____

Your trip

1. Read the passage at each stop. The vocabulary word is in **bold**.
2. Use clues in the passage. Circle the letter of the best answer, then write it on the trip map.
3. Stop 5 is the challenge: answer Part A, then choose the detail that supports it in Part B.
4. Your teacher checks each stop. If you missed one, reread for the clue and try again. Keep your first answer; write the new letter beside it with a star (★).

1	2	3	4	5
Forest Start	**Rooty Bend**	**Pine Switchbacks**	**Rock Passage**	**Ridge Finish**
____	____	____	____	A ____ B ____
□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★

1 Forest Start

interpret

The old map used shapes instead of labels for several features. Inez compared those shapes with the map key.

She worked out which marks showed bridges and which showed lookout points. She could now **interpret** the map for the rest of the group.

As used in this passage, what does the word “interpret” most likely mean?

(A) describe how the marks look
(B) choose the most attractive part of something
(C) work out what something means
(D) repeat words without considering their meaning

2 Rooty Bend

compound

Loose soil washes into a stream after a storm. Walking across the damaged slope can **compound** the problem.

Footsteps loosen more soil, so the next rain carries an even larger amount away. Keeping people off the slope helps prevent that added damage.

As used in this passage, what does the word "compound" most likely mean?

(A) combine materials to make a new substance
(B) make an existing problem more serious
(C) an area of buildings enclosed by a wall
(D) separate one problem into smaller parts

3 Pine Switchbacks

impartial

The judge knew students on two of the design teams. She remained **impartial** when she examined their models.

She used the same criteria for every team and did not give friends an advantage. Her decision depended on the models, not on who had made them.

As used in this passage, what does the word "impartial" most likely mean?

(A) fair without favoring anyone
(B) unfamiliar with everyone involved
(C) supportive only of the people one knows
(D) willing to agree with the loudest group

4 Rock Passage

chronology

A display about the park used a **chronology**. The earliest event appeared first, followed by later events in the order they happened.

Dates helped visitors follow the changes from the park's opening to the present. The arrangement showed time order rather than ranking the events by importance.

As used in this passage, what does the word "chronology" most likely mean?

(A) events grouped by their location
(B) the distances between places where events happened
(C) the order in which events happened
(D) the reasons that people remember certain events

5 Ridge Finish

a silver lining

Heavy rain kept the class from using the outdoor stage.

Suri hoped to find **a silver lining** as the group moved indoors.

Although the rain ruined the outdoor plan, the smaller room let quiet students hear every speaker.

Suri stacked the programs on a table beside the door.

Part A. As used in paragraph 2, what does the phrase "a silver lining" most likely mean?

(A) a decoration made from shiny metal
(B) a promise that no problems will happen
(C) something good despite a setback
(D) a solution removing every problem

Part B. Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to Part A?

(A) "…from using the outdoor stage…"
(B) "…a silver lining as the group moved indoors."
(C) "…programs on a table beside the door…"
(D) "…quiet students hear every speaker."

Trail Talk (bonus, not scored): switchback

A **switchback** is a sharp turn that sends a climbing trail back across a hillside in the other direction.

Why might a trail use switchbacks instead of going straight up a steep hill?

_____

_____

POLE MOUNTAIN LEARNING · PRINTABLE · NO DEVICE NEEDED

Vocabulary Mountain Adventures: Ride 3 of 5

Granite Drop · Grade 5



Name or class code _____ Date _____

Your trip

1. Read the passage at each stop. The vocabulary word is in **bold**.
2. Use clues in the passage. Circle the letter of the best answer, then write it on the trip map.
3. Stop 5 is the challenge: answer Part A, then choose the detail that supports it in Part B.
4. Your teacher checks each stop. If you missed one, reread for the clue and try again. Keep your first answer; write the new letter beside it with a star (★).

1	2	3	4	5
Ridge Start	**Rock Garden**	**Banked Turn**	**Granite Roll**	**Meadow Finish**
____	____	____	____	A ____ B ____
☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★

1 Ridge Start — *infer*

No one had told Eli whether the garden had been watered. The soil was damp, the leaves were wet, and an empty watering can stood nearby.

He could **infer** that someone had watered it recently. He explained which clues had led him to that idea.

As used in this passage, what does the word “infer” most likely mean?

(A) remember an event one has seen
(B) choose an answer without using clues
(C) prove that every other answer is impossible
(D) reach an idea by using clues

2 Rock Garden

object

The club planned to put its display across the narrow doorway. Rosa decided to **object** before anyone moved the table.

She said the plan would block visitors and asked the group to choose another location. The members stopped to consider her concern.

As used in this passage, what does the word "object" most likely mean?

(A) a physical thing that can be seen
(B) ask for details without taking a side
(C) speak against a proposal or decision
(D) agree to follow a suggested plan

3 Banked Turn

apprehensive

The presentation had not begun, but Talia felt **apprehensive**. She knew the topic well.

Still, she kept imagining that she might forget her opening words. Her friend offered to listen while she practiced once more.

As used in this passage, what does the word "apprehensive" most likely mean?

(A) careful without feeling any worry
(B) worried about what may happen next
(C) uninterested in what may happen
(D) upset only about something already over

4 Granite Roll

biography

The library displayed a **biography** of a bicycle designer. Its chapters described the designer's childhood, schooling, family, inventions, and later work.

Each chapter took place at a later age. A separate booklet showed how to assemble a bicycle.

As used in this passage, what does the word "biography" most likely mean?

(A) a guide to someone's inventions
(B) a set of directions for building something
(C) a list of places arranged by distance
(D) a factual account about a real individual

(5) Meadow Finish

break new ground

Previous school displays had relied on pictures and written labels alone.

The team decided to **break new ground** with its next display.

It created the school's first touch-and-listen exhibit, giving visitors a way to explore that earlier displays had not offered.

The students tested their new approach with classmates and changed parts that were confusing.

Part A. As used in paragraph 2, what does the phrase "break new ground" most likely mean?

(A) dig into soil to make a deeper hole
(B) repeat a method exactly as it was used before
(C) improve the speed of an established method
(D) use a method not tried here before

Part B. Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to Part A?

(A) "…relied on pictures and written labels alone…"
(B) "…the school's first touch-and-listen exhibit…"
(C) "…break new ground with its next display…"
(D) "…tested their new approach with classmates…"

Trail Talk (bonus, not scored): roll-down

On a small **roll-down**, both wheels follow the sloping rock surface down to the trail below.

How is a roll-down different from a jump?

_____

_____

POLE MOUNTAIN LEARNING · PRINTABLE · NO DEVICE NEEDED

Vocabulary Mountain Adventures: Ride 4 of 5

Creekside Loop · Grade 5



Name or class code _____ Date _____

Your trip

1. Read the passage at each stop. The vocabulary word is in **bold**.
2. Use clues in the passage. Circle the letter of the best answer, then write it on the trip map.
3. Stop 5 is the challenge: answer Part A, then choose the detail that supports it in Part B.
4. Your teacher checks each stop. If you missed one, reread for the clue and try again. Keep your first answer; write the new letter beside it with a star (★).

① Pine Trailhead	② Flowing Turns	③ Lower Bridge	④ Return Climb	⑤ Trailhead Finish
____	____	____	____	A ____ B ____
☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★	☐ fixed ★

① Pine Trailhead — *justify*

Two routes led to the same picnic area. Mae chose one, and the group asked why.

She explained that it had a shorter distance and several shaded rest places for the group. Her reasons helped **justify** the choice.

As used in this passage, what does the word "justify" most likely mean?

Ⓐ give reasons that support a choice
Ⓑ explain the steps for building
Ⓒ make a choice sound more exciting
Ⓓ change a claim to match everyone else

2 Flowing Turns

conduct

A student leader may **conduct** a class survey. The leader prepares questions, asks each group, and writes down every answer.

A final check makes sure that no group has been left out. The resulting chart can help the class compare results.

As used in this passage, what does the word "conduct" most likely mean?

(A) allow heat to pass through a material
(B) direct a group of musicians in a performance
(C) how a person behaves in a group
(D) organize and carry out an activity

3 Lower Bridge

indifferent

The group discussed whether the banner should be blue or green. Arlo seemed **indifferent**.

He said either color was fine and returned to his drawing without joining the debate. The choice did not seem important to him.

As used in this passage, what does the word "indifferent" most likely mean?

(A) patiently waiting to express a preference
(B) feeling nervous about making a mistake
(C) having little interest in a choice
(D) strongly wanting one choice over another

4 Return Climb

evaluate

Appearance is only one feature of a model bridge. Students might compare strength, use of materials, and ease of building.

They use those points to judge how well each design meets the project's needs. That is how a class can **evaluate** its designs.

As used in this passage, what does the word "evaluate" most likely mean?

(A) list every feature without judging
(B) judge using relevant requirements
(C) choose whatever looks most familiar
(D) measure only the size of something

5 Trailhead Finish

range

A bird guide needs more than one example of a beak.

Different birds get food in different ways.

The guide shows short crushing beaks, long probing beaks, and curved tearing beaks.

These examples show the **range** of beak shapes.

Part A. As used in paragraph 4, what does the word "range" most likely mean?

(A) a long line of mountains across an area
(B) the variety among different examples
(C) the farthest distance a signal can travel
(D) an appliance used for cooking meals

Part B. Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to Part A?

(A) "…guide needs more than one example of a beak."
(B) "Different birds get food in different ways."
(C) "These examples show the range of beak shapes."
(D) "…short crushing beaks, long probing beaks…"

Trail Talk (bonus, not scored): loop

A **loop** follows a continuous route and brings you back to where you started.

How is a loop different from an out-and-back ride?

_____

_____

POLE MOUNTAIN LEARNING · PRINTABLE · NO DEVICE NEEDED

Vocabulary Mountain Adventures: Ride 5 of 5

Golden Aspen Loop · Grade 5



Name or class code _____ Date _____

Your trip

1. Read the passage at each stop. The vocabulary word is in **bold**.
2. Use clues in the passage. Circle the letter of the best answer, then write it on the trip map.
3. Stop 5 is the challenge: answer Part A, then choose the detail that supports it in Part B.
4. Your teacher checks each stop. If you missed one, reread for the clue and try again. Keep your first answer; write the new letter beside it with a star (★).

① Grove Entrance	② Golden Curve	③ Stream Bridge	④ Upper Aspen Corridor	⑤ Grove Trailhead
____	____	____	____	A ____ B ____
□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★	□ fixed ★

① Grove Entrance — *anticipate*

The club expected many visitors at the trail fair. Volunteers prepared a second welcome table.

They put extra maps there before the first guests arrived. The volunteers had worked to **anticipate** visitors' needs.

As used in this passage, what does the word "anticipate" most likely mean?

(A) notice a need only as it arises
(B) remember something that happened long ago
(C) expect a need and prepare beforehand
(D) make certain that something cannot happen

2 Golden Curve

balance

The club needed to **balance** quiet reading time with space for discussion. Its plan gave visitors silent tables near the windows and a conversation corner by the door.

The room could support both activities. The members checked that neither group had lost the space it needed.

As used in this passage, what does the word "balance" most likely mean?

(A) keep an object from tipping to one side
(B) give enough attention to both needs
(C) the money remaining in a bank account
(D) divide everything into exactly equal halves

3 Stream Bridge

conserve

Students preparing a club display use both sides of each sheet for planning and cut small labels from leftover pieces.

They still use paper, but less goes into the recycling bin unused. These choices help them **conserve** paper. The supply lasts through more projects.

As used in this passage, what does the word "conserve" most likely mean?

(A) save materials by stopping all work
(B) keep everything without ever using it
(C) replace used supplies without changing habits
(D) use resources without wasting them

4 Upper Aspen Corridor

significant

The team added one folded support under the middle of the model roof.

Before the change, the roof sagged; afterward, it held its shape through every test. The **significant** difference came from only that small piece.

As used in this passage, what does the word "significant" most likely mean?

(A) noticeable but of little consequence
(B) important enough to affect the result
(C) easy to notice because of bright colors
(D) interesting but unrelated to the result

5 Grove Trailhead

alternative

The original route passed a picnic area that was closed for repairs.

A second marked path could reach the same nature center without entering the closed area.

The guide suggested that path as an **alternative**.

The group checked the second path's distance and rest stops before deciding whether it suited their plans.

Part A. As used in paragraph 3, what does the word "alternative" most likely mean?

(A) the only choice that is allowed
(B) a choice that must be worse
(C) a change everyone must accept
(D) another option to consider

Part B. Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to Part A?

(A) "The original route passed a picnic area that was closed for repairs."
(B) "A second marked path could reach the same nature center…"
(C) "The guide suggested that path as an alternative."
(D) "…the second path's distance and rest stops…"

Trail Talk (bonus, not scored): singletrack

A **singletrack** trail is a narrow riding path, like the thin dirt ribbon between aspen trees.

Why do you think this kind of trail has single in its name?

_____

_____