

Skills Worksheet

Directed Reading B

Section: Characteristics of Living Things (pp. 52–55)

LIVING THINGS HAVE CELLS

1. All living things are composed of one or more _____.
2. The smallest functional and structural unit of all living organisms is called a(n) _____.
3. What is the role of the cell?

4. What is the purpose of the cell membrane?

5. Name three functions that different parts of a one-celled protist perform.

6. Name two kinds of cells that perform specialized functions in humans.

LIVING THINGS SENSE AND RESPOND TO CHANGE

7. What are all living things able to sense and respond to?

8. A change that affects the activity of an organism is called

a(n) _____.

9. Name three examples of stimuli.

Directed Reading B *continued*

10. What must an organism be able to do to survive?

11. Define *homeostasis*.

12. What is your body trying to do when you are either shivering or sweating?

13. How does a turtle control its body temperature?

LIVING THINGS REPRODUCE

14. The process by which two parents produce offspring that share characteristics of both parents is called _____.

15. The process by which one parent produces offspring identical to the parent is called _____.

16. Most animals and plants reproduce by _____.

17. Most single-celled organisms reproduce by _____.

LIVING THINGS HAVE DNA

_____ **18.** What do the cells of living things contain?

- a.** hydrochloric acid
- b.** phosphoric acid
- c.** deoxyribonucleic acid
- d.** sulfuric acid

_____ **19.** What does DNA do?

- a.** carries instructions for the organism's traits
- b.** breaks down food in cells
- c.** acts as a stimulus in the environment
- d.** acts as a preservative in foods