

SMART STUFF

04.27.09

Directions: Have fun honing multiple-choice test-taking skills. Divide the class into two teams to play Smart Stuff. Score 5 points for each correct answer. Or, use Smart Stuff as a research activity. Students may research categories in groups or individually.

WORLD AND GEOGRAPHY

- Which crop is not widely grown as a dietary staple in Africa?
 - wheat
 - cassava
 - millet
 - Which is the capital of Peru?
 - Bogotá
 - Caracas
 - Lima
 - Which country was once part of what was known as Persia?
 - Iran
 - United Arab Emirates
 - Iraq
 - Which Muslim country was once part of India?
 - Afghanistan
 - Nepal
 - Pakistan
 - Which country was not a colonial power in Guyana?
 - Great Britain
 - Spain
 - the Netherlands
- What brought the United States and the Soviet Union to the brink of nuclear war in 1962?
 - The Soviet Union placed nuclear missiles in Cuba.
 - The Soviet Union helped Vietnamese communists.
 - The United States tried to assassinate Fidel Castro.
 - According to the Chinese calendar, 2008 was the year of which animal?
 - the elephant
 - the snake
 - the rat
 - Which two countries went to war over control of the Falkland Islands in 1982?
 - France and Germany
 - Argentina and Great Britain
 - Spain and Mexico

CULTURE AND SPORTS

- Who was the first African American to play Major League Baseball?
 - Willie Foster
 - Smokey Joe Williams
 - Jackie Robinson
- Poison Ivy and the Penguin are both enemies of which superhero?
 - Superman
 - Batman
 - Spider-Man
- Who wrote the book *Little House on the Prairie*?
 - Mark Twain
 - Laura Ingalls Wilder
 - Lucy Maud Montgomery

HISTORY

- What was President Abraham Lincoln doing when he was assassinated?
 - writing a speech
 - watching a play
 - preparing for reelection
- Where did the Renaissance begin?
 - Great Britain
 - France
 - Italy

- In Greek mythology, which monster had snakes for hair and could turn people to stone with one look?
 - Medusa
 - Basilisk
 - Sphinx
- Although it's known as a toy, the boomerang was used by which group for hunting?
 - Ninja warriors in Japan
 - South African Zulu tribe
 - Atlantic City, N.J.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Rice and cattle both produce which gas?
 - carbon dioxide
 - methane
 - oxygen
- Which location helped Charles Darwin develop his theory of evolution?
 - Oxford University
 - Galápagos Islands
 - Barbados
- What did Francis Crick and James Watson discover in 1953?
 - HIV, the virus that causes AIDS
 - Halley's comet
 - the structure of DNA
- What is sodium bicarbonate more commonly called?
 - baking soda
 - toothpaste
 - chalk
- Which is smallest?
 - an atom
 - an electron
 - a nucleus