

Name _____ Date _____

**CURRENT
EVENTS****SMART STUFF**

80.80.60

Directions: Have fun honing multiple-choice test-taking skills. Divide the class into two teams to play Smart Stuff, or have students find the answers on their own. Score 5 points for each correct answer. Smart Stuff is a great activity for students to practice their Internet research skills.

WORLD AND GEOGRAPHY

- Which do the Ural and Caucasus mountains separate?
 - Asia and Europe
 - Canada and Alaska
 - North and South America
- At 36,198 feet below sea level, this is the deepest point in the Pacific Ocean.
 - Waimea Bay
 - Mariana Trench
 - Sigsbee Deep
- Which can be found at 23.5 degrees north latitude?
 - Tropic of Capricorn
 - Tropic of Cancer
 - Arctic Circle
- The lowest point in North America is 282 feet below sea level. Where is it?
 - Crater Lake, Ore.
 - Death Valley, Calif.
 - Waco, Texas
- Which chain of islands did the British once call the Sandwich Islands in honor of the 4th Earl of Sandwich?
 - Florida Keys
 - Hawaiian Islands
 - Galapagos Islands

HISTORY

- The world's largest passenger-carrying zeppelin burst into flames as it landed in New Jersey in 1937. What was that airship's name?
 - Hindenburg*
 - Yankee Clipper*
 - Spruce Goose*

- Who was the only U.S. president to remain a bachelor, or unmarried?
 - James Buchanan
 - Ronald Reagan
 - Abraham Lincoln
- What chilly feat made Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen famous?
 - reaching the South Pole
 - climbing Mount Everest
 - swimming the Amazon
- Which country launched the first artificial satellite into space in 1957?
 - The United States
 - The Soviet Union
 - Great Britain
- What was the name of the first artificial satellite?
 - Rover
 - AI-0001
 - Sputnik

CULTURE AND SPORTS

- What do W.H. Auden, Sylvia Plath, and Langston Hughes have in common?
 - They were poets
 - They were governors
 - They were British
- Which Olympic sport uses a sand pit?
 - pole vault
 - fencing
 - long jump
- Which first daughter got married in May 2008?
 - Jenna Bush
 - Amy Carter
 - Chelsea Clinton

- Which baseball legend had nearly as many home runs as strikeouts in his career? (His nickname was "Joltin' Joe.")
 - Joe Jackson
 - Joe Torre
 - Joe DiMaggio
- Flamenco, gazpacho, and bullfighting are traditions of which European country?
 - Scotland
 - Spain
 - France

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Which is not one of the three basic types of rock?
 - igneous
 - sedimentary
 - gem stone
- A plane flying at the speed of sound is traveling at Mach 1. Which describes a plane flying at twice the speed of sound?
 - 1.2 Mach
 - Double Mach
 - Mach 2
- Who invented the mercury thermometer in 1714?
 - Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit
 - Anders Celsius
 - Isaac Newton
- Which describes a tsunami?
 - a subtropical storm
 - a giant wave
 - a hurricane
- What are Draco, Gemini, and Ursa Minor?
 - constellations
 - astrological signs
 - the Jonas Brothers' guitars