



NATURAL MARVELS

Worlds Beneath Our Feet

Where is Mammoth Cave and what's special about it?
What are geodes and how are they formed?
Read *Worlds Beneath Our Feet* to find out!

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

1. Mammoth Cave is located in ...
 - a. Virginia
 - b. Kentucky
 - c. Kansas
 - d. Arkansas
2. The first spelunkers in the Mammoth Cave were ...
 - a. Canadians
 - b. Europeans
 - c. South Americans
 - d. Native Americans
3. The Cave of the Crystals is located in ...
 - a. Chihuahua
 - b. Mexico City
 - c. Cozumel
 - d. Honduras
4. Animals that can never leave the darkness are ...
 - a. Nocturnal
 - b. Herbivores
 - c. Troglodytes
 - d. Extremophiles
5. Which stone formation rises up from the floors of caves—*stalagmites* or *stalactites*?
6. What is the name of a scientist that studies caves?

TRUE OR FALSE?

- | | | | |
|-------|--|-------|---|
| _____ | 1. Mammoth cave is mostly made of sand. | _____ | 4. A geode is a solid rock. |
| _____ | 2. Gypsum flower crystals form from the mineral gypsum. | _____ | 5. Animals can survive in the Cave of the Crystals. |
| _____ | 3. Humans lived in the Skocjan Caves for thousands of years. | _____ | 6. No plants can grow deep inside caves. |

ANSWERS

- 1. b. Kentucky.** According to section “Where Is Mammoth Cave and What’s Special About It?” on page 8, we know that “Mammoth Cave lies in the central part of the U.S. state of Kentucky.” So, the correct answer is B.
- 2. d. Native Americans.** According to section “Mammoth Cave and Explorers” on page 18 we know that “The first spelunkers in the cave were Native Americans.” So, the correct answer is D.
- 3. a. Chihuahua.** According to section “Where Is the Cave of the Crystals and What’s Special About It?” on page 32 we know that “The Cave of the Crystals lies near the town of Naica, in Chihuahua, a northern state of Mexico.” So, the correct answer is A.
- 4. c. Troglobites.** According to section “Cave Creatures” on page 15 we know that “In this way, the cave crickets acts a bit like a food delivery service for troglobites—animals that never leave the darkness” So, the correct answer is C.
- 5.** According to page 38, *stalagmites* rise up from the floors of caves.
- 6.** According to page 38, a *speleologist* is a scientist that studies caves.

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. False.** According to section “How Mammoth Cave Formed” on page 10, we know that “Mammoth Cave lies in a region made mostly of limestone rock.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 2. True.** According to section “Spelunking Speak” on page 13, we know that “Gypsum flowers (top right) are one crystal form of the mineral gypsum.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. True.** According to section “Where Are the Škocjan Caves and What’s Special About Them?” on page 22, we know that “Humans have lived around Škocjan Caves for thousands of years.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 4. False.** According to section “How Did Those Crystals Get So BIG?” on page 35, we know that “A geode is a hollow rock with crystals lining its inside surface.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 5. False.** According to section “Otherworldly Life” on page 36, we know that “No plants or animals can survive inside, not even troglobites.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. True.** According to section “Cave Creatures” on page 16, we know that “Deep inside a cave, no plants can grow.” So, the correct answer is True.