

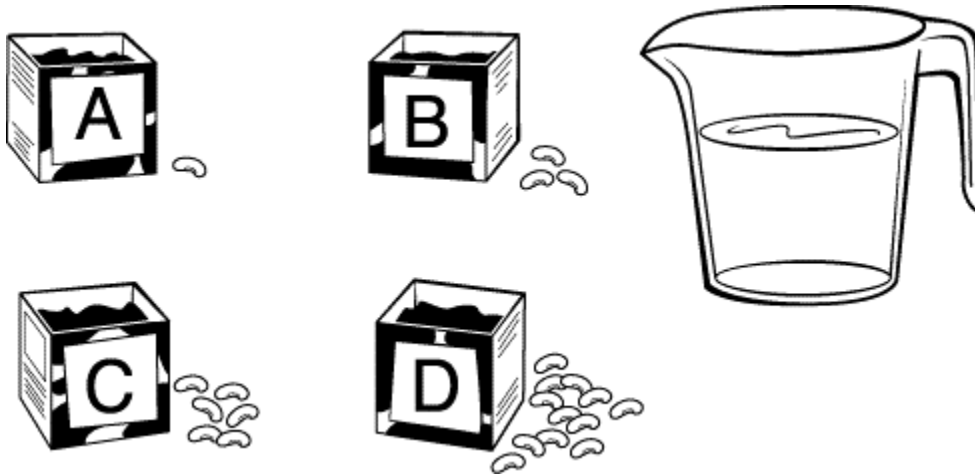
**McGraw-Hill Science © 2000, Texas Edition  
TAKS Practice Test**

**Grade 3, Chapter 12  
Keeping in Balance**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following information to answer Questions 1 and 2.



How does crowding affect bean plants? A student performs an experiment to find out.

She fills four milk cartons with soil.

She plants 1 seed in Carton A, 3 seeds in Carton B, 6 seeds in Carton C, and 12 seeds in Carton D.

- 1 Which carton, if any, should be watered most?
- Carton A
  - Carton B
  - Carton D
  - All cartons should be watered equally during the experiment.
- 2 In Cartons B, C, and D, the growing bean plants will \_\_\_\_\_ water, minerals, and room to grow.
- compare
  - produce
  - compete for
  - live without

Use the information below and your knowledge of science to answer Questions 3 and 4.

### A Frog Leaping To Catch an Insect



- 3 The \_\_\_\_\_ of a frog includes where the frog lives, what it eats, and what might eat it.
- habitat
  - camouflage
  - producer
  - ecosystem
- 4 The frog's powerful legs help it leap toward food. A frog's legs are an example of a(an) \_\_\_\_\_.
- adaptation
  - camouflage
  - niche
  - habitat

- 5 Ducks live in the water. How are duck feathers different from the feathers of birds that live on land?
- Duck feathers are lighter.
  - Duck feathers are more colorful.
  - Duck feathers are waterproof.
  - Duck feathers are thicker and heavier.

- 6 Many predators hunt rabbits. What is the most likely color of rabbits that live in cold, snowy places?
- Dark brown
  - White
  - Black
  - Dark red



**Head of a honeycreeper that  
eats seeds and nuts**

- 7 How does the honeycreeper shown here compare with a honeycreeper that eats nectar from flowers?
- The honeycreeper that eats seeds and nuts has a larger head.
  - The honeycreeper that eats seeds and nuts has a smaller head.
  - The honeycreeper that eats seeds and nuts has a shorter, stronger beak.
  - The heads of both honeycreepers look the same.

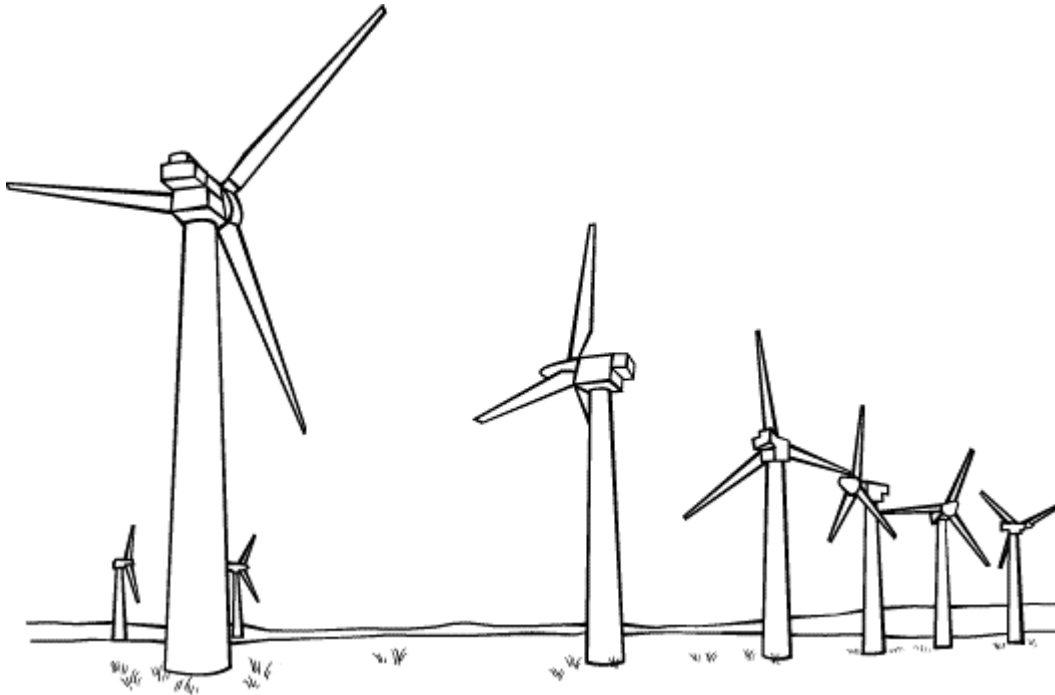
**Use the information below and your knowledge of science to answer Questions 8 and 9.**

Students visit Nathan River on a class field trip. Some of the students see a family of beavers in the river.

Beavers use their sharp teeth to cut down trees and branches. They use tree parts to build a dam in the river. They also build lodges to live in.

- 8** The second paragraph describes how beavers \_\_\_\_\_.
- live in an ecosystem without changing it
  - developed adaptations, such as sharp teeth
  - change their environment to build a habitat
  - find food in the river
- 9** To learn more about the beavers in Nathan River, what should the students do?
- Capture a beaver in a net, then study it closely.
  - Wade into the river near the dam.
  - Observe the beavers from the river bank at a safe distance.
  - Feed beavers food that is left over from lunch.
- 10** A volcano erupts. It destroys most of the life in a nearby forest. Will the forest grow back again? If so, how?
- Yes. New trees will grow right away.
  - Yes. Grasses will grow first, then larger plants, and then trees.
  - Yes. Squirrels and other small animals will plant tree seeds.
  - No. The forest will not grow back.

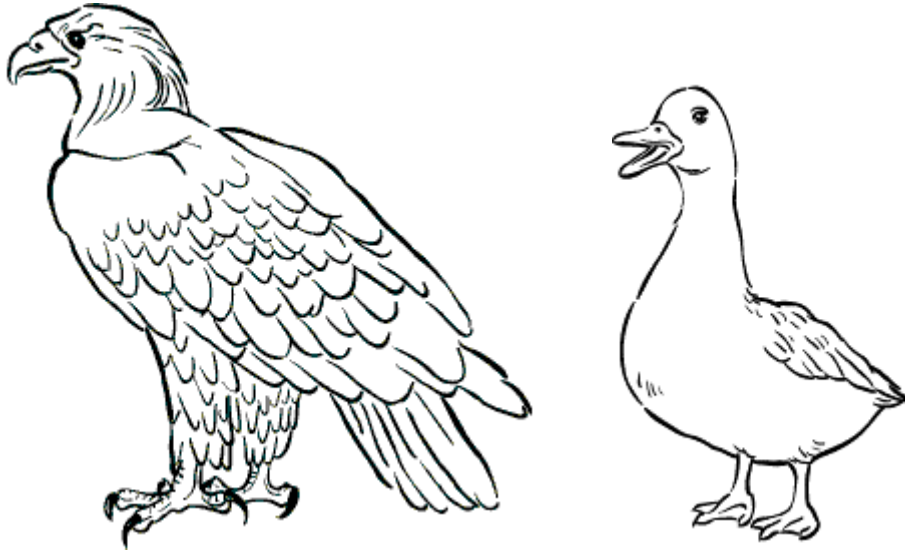
Use the information below and your knowledge of science to answer Questions 11 and 12.



- 11 Why do people build windmills, such as the windmills shown here?
- To capture and use the energy of wind
  - To slow down the wind over open spaces
  - To make the wind blow faster
  - To grind grain into flour
- 12 What kind of resource is the wind?
- Nonrenewable resource
  - Renewable resource
  - Living resource
  - Unusable resource

**13** Fires, floods, earthquakes, and other events can change ecosystems. In each of these events, how do organisms respond?

- All organisms perish, meaning they die.
- All organisms thrive, meaning they live and reproduce.
- All organisms relocate, meaning they move away.
- Some organisms perish, others thrive, and still other relocate.



**14** Do a duck and hawk compete with one another for food? Why or why not?

- Yes. Both are adapted to hunt the same prey.
- Yes. Both are consumers in the same ecosystem.
- No. The duck is a predator, the hawk is prey.
- No. They are adapted to eat different kinds of food, and they live in different habitats.

## Answer Key and Correlations

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>TAKS</b>	<b>McGraw-Hill Science Grade 3 textbook</b>
1	All cartons should be watered equally during the experiment.	5.2A	p. 355
2	compete for	3.8B	p. 355
3	ecosystem	5.9B	p. 358
4	adaptation	5.9A	p. 365
5	Duck feathers are waterproof	5.9C	p. 326
6	White	5.9C	p. 366
7	The honeycreeper that eats seeds and nuts has a shorter, stronger beak.	5.9B	p. 364
8	change their environment to build a habitat	3.8D	p. 376
9	Observe the beavers from the river bank at a safe distance.	3.1A	p. R5
10	Yes. Grasses will grow first, then larger plants, and then trees.	3.8C	p. 376
11	To capture and use the energy of wind.	3.8D	p. 361
12	Renewable resource	5.11C	p. 361
13	Some organisms perish, others thrive, and still others relocate.	3.8C	p. 377
14	No. They are adapted to eat different kinds of food, and they live in different habitats.	5.9A, 3.8B	p. 362