

Kid Scoop

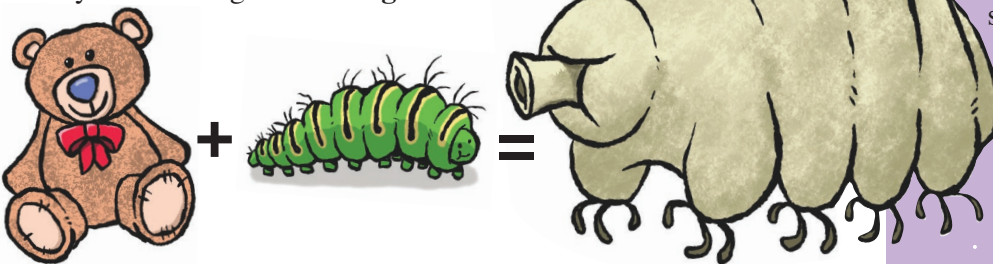
THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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TARDIGRADES TOUGHEST ANIMAL ON EARTH

Imagine an animal that looks like a combination of a caterpillar and a teddy bear. Can you picture that? Then you have imagined a **tardigrade**!



Tardigrades, sometimes called water bears or moss piglets, are really tiny. They're **microscopic**—you need a microscope to see them.

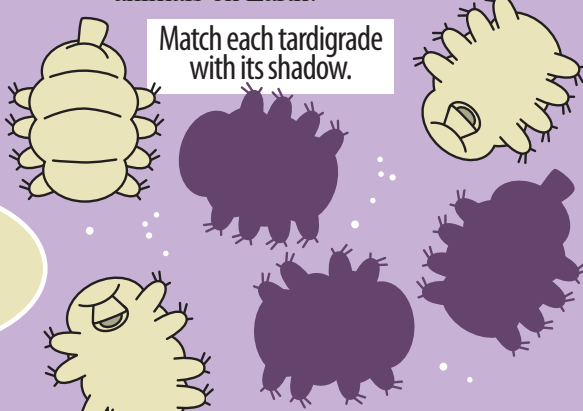
SURVIVED **INFORMATION** **REPLACE THE MISSING WORDS.** **SPACECRAFT** **HARSH** **REASON** **SURFACE** **LIVING**

Tardigrades on the Moon

In 2019, a small _____ called *Beresheet*, crashed on the _____ of the moon.

Beresheet was carrying a special "library." This library had all kinds of _____ about Earth, including some tiny tardigrades.

Some scientists think the tardigrades may have _____ the crash. They can survive all kinds of situations, including times with no water and no air. That's just one _____ they are often considered the toughest animals on Earth.



Match each tardigrade with its shadow.

A tardigrade's tiny feet have claws to help grip surfaces. A tardigrade's mouth is a tiny tube. They use this to suck food out of plants and animals.

WHERE TARDIGRADES LIVE

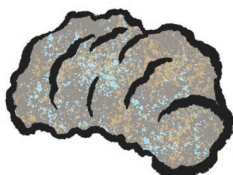


WHERE ON EARTH?

Tardigrades live **everywhere** on planet Earth. They live in the ocean and in every climate zone!

Here's a helpful tardigrade chart I made!

TARDIGRADE TOUGHNESS



When it is dry, tardigrades shrink into a little pill shape called a **tun**. They slow their breathing and **metabolism** to a death-like state. They can survive like this, without water, for **decades**. Once they get wet again, they come back to life in just a few hours!

WORD BOX

Metabolism: The processes in plants and animals by which food is changed into energy or to make cells and tissue.

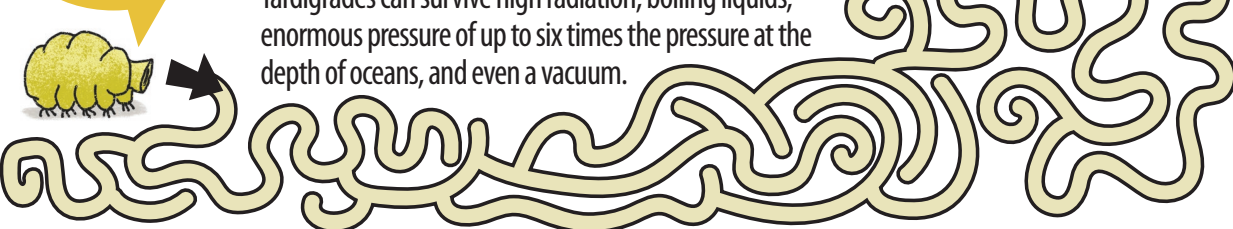
Use the Code

Tardigrades can withstand cold as low as negative _____ °F (-200°C)
They can live in temps as high as _____ °F (148.9°C).

	= 0		= 5
	= 1		= 6
	= 2		= 7
	= 3		= 8
	= 4		= 9

Tardigrades can survive high radiation, boiling liquids, enormous pressure of up to six times the pressure at the depth of oceans, and even a vacuum.

Can you help me reach the water droplet?



Kid Scoop Puzler

What do tardigrades eat?

Tardigrades really like to live in damp moss where they get all the food and water they need to thrive. Circle every other letter to discover the things tardigrades like to eat.

P K O N A P N C T R S Y B M
A S C B T U E G R H I Y A L A
C N F D S M W E D A Q T A

PL

Double Double Word Search

- TARDIGRADE
- CLIMATE
- SURVIVE
- LIBRARY
- DECADES
- TOUGH
- CRASH
- STATE
- HARSH
- CLAWS
- TINY
- DAMP
- TUBE
- PILL
- WET

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Decade Math

A decade is 10 years. Look through the newspaper for three numbers that are more than ten. Rewrite each one as decades and years. For example, 54 is five decades and four years.

Standards Link: Mathematics: Understand base 10 place value.



How do pennies look under a microscope?

ANSWER: Magnificent

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