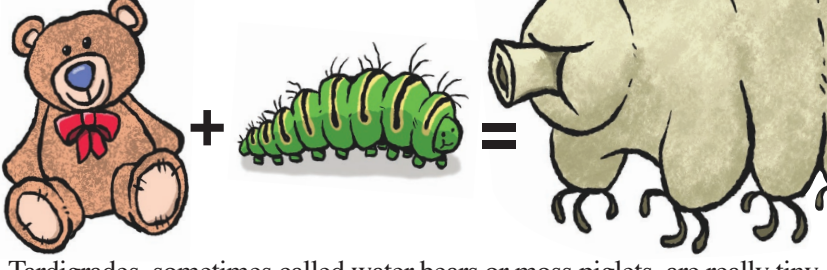


## TARDIGRADES TOUGHEST ANIMAL ON EARTH

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.

Replace the missing words.

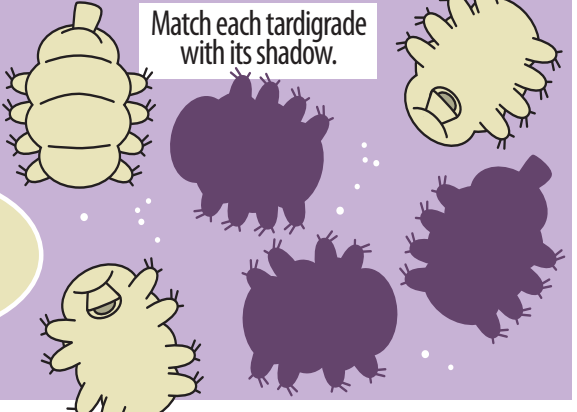
**SURVIVED** **SPACECRAFT** **SURFACE**  
**INFORMATION** **HARSH** **REASON** **LIVING**

### 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.

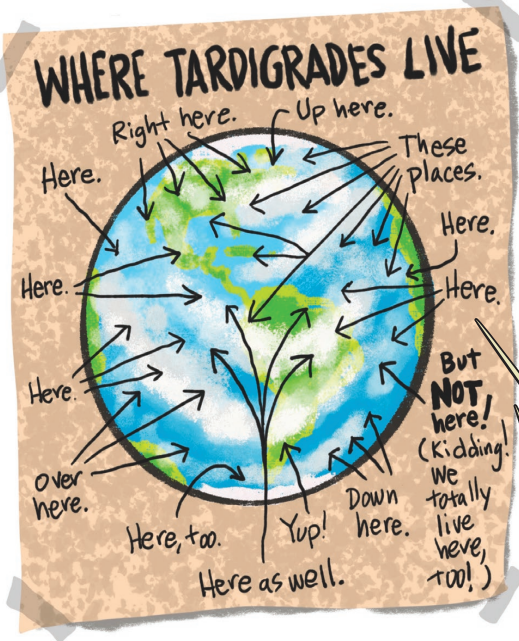


A tardigrade's tiny feet have claws to help grip surfaces.

A tardigrade's mouth is a tiny tube. They use this to suck food out of plants and animals.



Tardigrades have eight short, thick legs. The first pair of legs, closest to their head, is used for holding on to things. The other three pairs are used for walking.

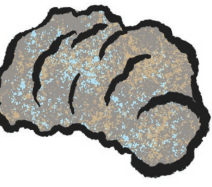


### WHERE ON EARTH?

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?



#### Extra! Extra!

#### Tiny and Tough

**Tiny and tough** both start with the letter "T." Using words that start with the same letter in a description, is called alliteration. Look through the newspaper for pairs of words that start with the same letter. What could your pairs of words describe?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Understand alliteration.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### 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?

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

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

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### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **RADIATION**

The noun **radiation** means the process of giving off energy in the form of waves.

Solar **radiation** is the energy and sunlight that comes from the sun.

Try to use the word **radiation** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

### 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!

### Write On!

#### Ticket to Space

Pretend you could win a ride into space on a rocket ship. Write a paragraph telling why you should win this prize.



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