Dividing Arctic Seal Populations by Region

Grade 5 | Math | Nonfiction | Arctic animals Theme | ~147 words | CCSS.MATH.5.NBT.B.6

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

READ — READ THIS PASSAGE CAREFULLY. YOU MAY READ IT TWICE.

Arctic seals are remarkable marine mammals that live in the frozen regions near the North Pole. Scientists divide seal populations into different groups to study them better. Recently, researchers discovered 864 ringed seals living across 6 different Arctic ice regions. When they divided the total equally, each region had 144 seals. This division helps scientists understand how seals distribute themselves across habitats. Bearded seals are larger and live in smaller groups. Researchers counted 520 bearded seals across 4 separate areas, giving 130 seals per area. By dividing populations into manageable groups, scientists can monitor their health and survival rates more effectively. Harp seals migrate seasonally and require different counting methods. Dividing animal populations by geographic zones allows researchers to track changes in Arctic ecosystems. These division calculations help protect seal populations from climate change and overhunting. Understanding seal distribution through division is essential for Arctic conservation efforts.

Tip: Read the passage twice before turning to the questions on the next page.

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✏ **ANSWER** *USE THE PASSAGE ON PAGE 1 TO HELP FIND YOUR ANSWERS.*

MAIN IDEA

1. What is this passage mostly about?

TEXT EVIDENCE

2. According to the passage, how many ringed seals were found in each Arctic region?

VOCABULARY

3. What does the word 'distribution' mean in the passage?

INFERENCE

4. Why might scientists need to divide seal populations into separate groups for study?

CAUSE AND EFFECT

5. What happens because scientists divide animal populations by geographic zones?

TEXT EVIDENCE

6. How many bearded seals were found in each separate area studied by researchers?

✓ ANSWER KEY — Dividing Arctic Seal Populations by Region

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TEACHER / PARENT USE ONLY — Suggested answers shown below each question

Arctic seals are remarkable marine mammals that live in the frozen regions near the North Pole. Scientists divide seal populations into different groups to study them better. Recently, researchers discovered 864 ringed seals living across 6 different Arctic ice regions. When they divided the total equally, each region had 144 seals. This division helps scientists understand how seals distribute themselves across habitats. Bearded seals are larger and live in smaller groups. Researchers counted 520 bearded seals across 4 separate areas, giving 130 seals per area. By dividing populations into manageable groups, scientists can monitor their health and survival rates more effectively. Harp seals migrate seasonally and require different counting methods. Dividing animal populations by geographic zones allows researchers to track changes in Arctic ecosystems. These division calculations help protect seal populations from climate change and overhunting. Understanding seal distribution through division is essential for Arctic conservation efforts.

MAIN IDEA

1. What is this passage mostly about?

> The passage is mainly about how scientists use division to study and organize Arctic seal populations by region.

TEXT EVIDENCE

2. According to the passage, how many ringed seals were found in each Arctic region?

> Each region had 144 ringed seals, as shown when 864 seals were divided equally across 6 regions.

VOCABULARY

3. What does the word 'distribution' mean in the passage?

> Distribution means how seals are spread out or divided across different geographic areas and habitats.

INFERENCE

4. Why might scientists need to divide seal populations into separate groups for study?

> Dividing populations helps scientists manage large numbers, track changes in different areas, and monitor individual group health more accurately.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

5. What happens because scientists divide animal populations by geographic zones?

> When populations are divided by zones, researchers can better track changes in Arctic ecosystems and protect seals more effectively.

TEXT EVIDENCE

6. How many bearded seals were found in each separate area studied by researchers?

> There were 130 bearded seals in each area, calculated by dividing 520 total seals across 4 separate areas.