

Name: _____

Date: _____

Jekyll Island

Along the southeast coast of Georgia is a strip of islands called "The Golden Isles." Miles of beaches offer swimming and shell collecting for visitors. Each island is an unusual combination of wildlife and beautiful scenery, but one has a particularly interesting history as well: Jekyll Island.

Jekyll Island is the farthest south of the Golden Isles, and many different groups of people have lived here. Remains of Native American settlements from as early as 2500 BC have been found on the island. It was later settled by the French, followed by the Spanish in 1566. Next, the English took control of the island and by 1736 had established a settlement there.

A major part of Jekyll's modern history began in 1886, when fifty of the wealthiest and most socially important leaders of America purchased the island. Families such as the Vanderbilts, Morgans, Rockefellers, and Astors built summer cottages as retreats from the pressures of their business and social lives. The families shared meals and other activities together at The Jekyll Island Club. It is said that when all the club members gathered here in the early part of the twentieth century, they controlled one-sixth of the world's wealth. No uninvited guests were permitted on the island.

Over time, younger family members began to look for more exciting places to relax, and Jekyll gradually lost its popularity among the rich and famous. The last residents left in 1942. The island was fairly deserted for years and the buildings crumbled. Finally in 1947, the state of Georgia bought the island and turned it into a state park. A causeway was built so that the general public could visit the beautiful beaches. Many of the summer cottages were rebuilt so that the public could view them.

Today, Jekyll Island is a pleasant vacation spot for families. Development has been strictly controlled so that both the natural surroundings and the history of the island remains protected. The sun-kissed beaches of Jekyll Island show why it is truly a "Golden Isle."

1. Who mostly visits Jekyll Island today?

- A. the Jekyll Island Club
 - B. socially important leaders
 - C. families on vacation
 - D. wealthy business people
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2. Why is Jekyll Island called a "Golden Isle"?

- A. because wealthy families lived there
 - B. because of its sunny beaches
 - C. because the French found gold there
 - D. because it is owned by the state of Georgia
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3. The author's purpose in writing this passage is to

- A. tell the history of Jekyll Island
 - B. persuade a person to move to Jekyll Island
 - C. explain the activities of the Jekyll Island Club
 - D. describe the way the island looks
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4. How are the families who visited Jekyll Island in 1900 like modern day visitors?

- A. They settled the island.
 - B. They are in the Jekyll Island Club.
 - C. They were mostly French and English.
 - D. They went there to relax.
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Amelia Earhart: Free Spirit in the Sky

On July 24, 1897, a girl was born to Edwin and Amy Earhart who was destined to become a star. Amelia Mary Earhart, or “Meely,” as she was nicknamed, was born in Atchison, Kansas, to two parents who would raise her to be a free spirit and an independent girl. Because of her father's job, which took him and Mrs. Earhart away frequently, Meely and her younger sister, Muriel, often lived with their grandparents. When Amelia's parents returned, the girls would return to live with them. As a youngster, Meely loved to play sports, read books, and do things that at the time were usually done by boys. She also held a special affection for animals. Because she was such a curious girl, Meely's parents often let her explore. She performed science experiments, invented a chicken trap, and built her own version of a roller coaster. She knew, even at that time, that she could do whatever she set her mind to.

As Amelia grew older, life became more difficult. Her parents were having trouble, and her family moved frequently. Despite this, Amelia continued to focus on her studies. Perhaps she could be a nurse or a social worker. In fact, Amelia did become a social worker. It was while she was working at the Dennison House as a social worker that she became fascinated with something that would change her life. She started to go to air circuses, where pilots were performing stunts and giving lessons. Before long, Amelia was flying herself.

In 1928, Amelia was chosen to be a passenger on a special flight across the Atlantic Ocean. She would become the first woman to fly across that ocean. But Amelia was not satisfied with just being a passenger. Someday, she promised herself, she would be the pilot on a trip across the Atlantic.

Indeed, Amelia kept her promise. On May 20, 1932, she took off and became the first woman ever to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. This accomplishment launched Amelia into stardom. After that, she continued to set records.

It was her last quest to set a record that forever gave her a place in history. As Amelia attempted to be the first person, man or woman, to fly around the world directly at the equator, her plane was lost. The search to find Amelia and her plane came up empty. She was never found. There are many stories about just what happened. However, the world will never truly know. In the end, it is Amelia's courage to follow her curiosity, set goals, and work to achieve those goals that serves as an inspiration to many.

5. As a child, Amelia had a special affection for

- A. stars.
 - B. airplanes.
 - C. animals.
 - D. moving around.
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Right in Your Own Backyard

I have become very interested in taking care of the environment. This happened because of my neighbor, Mr. Edwards. But he is not your typical neighbor. You will not see Mr. Edwards working in his backyard. He works in everyone's backyard, which is Planet Earth!

He has spent many years working for environmental causes. But he never brags about the valuable work he does. Mr. Edwards believes it is people's duty to protect their home, Planet Earth. "Earth is one big backyard. We have to start in our own backyards and work outward," Mr. Edwards always says. Mr. Edwards has turned his words into action. First, he was named tree commissioner for our town. As commissioner, he oversees the planting of trees and teaches people about their environmental benefits. "If I can encourage one person to plant a tree, then I have done my job. Just think of how wonderful it would be if each person planted a tree," Mr. Edwards says. He has encouraged several citizens to plant more trees. In fact, our town has won the *Tree City USA Award* for the past nine years because of Mr. Edwards's work.

Just last year, Mr. Edwards adopted a highway. Throughout the year, he and his friends clean up the litter along his highway. One afternoon, when I was out in my own yard, Mr. Edwards stopped by. He asked me if I wanted to join his highway clean-up group. It is hard work, but also a lot of fun. We wear bright orange safety vests so people can see us on the roadside. We use sticks to pick up the litter, and the town comes and picks up our bags at the end of the day. One of my friends asked me why I clean up the highway when people keep littering anyway. My answer surprised us both.

"Earth is one big backyard. We have to start in our own backyards and work outwards," I proudly replied. We both laughed. I sounded just like Mr. Edwards. "May I join the highway clean-up group?" my friend then asked. "Sure!" I exclaimed with a smile.

6. This passage is an example of

- A. a letter.
 - B. a story.
 - C. a drama.
 - D. a folk tale.
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7. According to the passage, the author

- A. helps Mr. Edwards plant trees.
 - B. helps clean up litter along Mr. Edwards's highway.
 - C. works in Mr. Edwards's backyard.
 - D. adopted a highway.
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8. What would be another good title for this passage?

- A. How to Adopt a Highway
 - B. The Planet Earth
 - C. It's Everyone's Backyard
 - D. My Neighbor, the Tree Commissioner
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9. When the author says, "I sounded just like Mr. Edwards," what does she mean?

- A. Mr. Edwards tells people what to say.
 - B. She learned from Mr. Edwards.
 - C. Mr. Edwards is a very smart man.
 - D. Her voice sounded like Mr. Edwards's.
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10. Why do the highway workers wear orange vests?

- A. so they can be seen easily by drivers
- B. because that is the city color
- C. so all of the workers have matching outfits
- D. so people know that they are working

Answer Key

1. C) families on vacation
2. B) because of its sunny beaches
3. A) tell the history of Jekyll Island
4. D) They went there to relax.
5. C) animals.
6. B) a story.
7. B) helps clean up litter along Mr. Edwards's highway.
8. C) It's Everyone's Backyard
9. B) She learned from Mr. Edwards.
10. A) so they can be seen easily by drivers