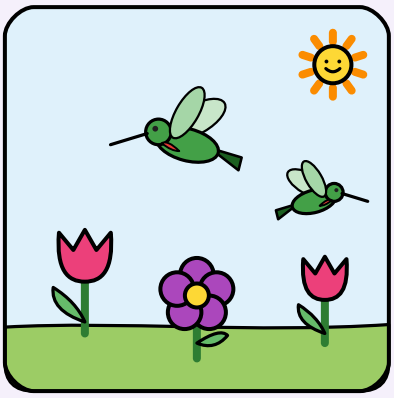
Tiny but Mighty Hummingbirds

Name: _____ Date: _____

Hummingbirds are the smallest birds in the world. The tiniest kind, the bee hummingbird, is only about two inches long, and it weighs less than a penny.



These little birds are amazing fliers. Their wings beat so fast, often more than 50 times every second, that they make a humming sound. That is how hummingbirds got their name! They can hover in one spot like a helicopter, and they can even fly backward. Their hearts can beat more than 1,000 times a minute.

All that flying takes lots of energy. Hummingbirds drink sweet nectar from flowers with their long, thin beaks and tongues. They also eat tiny insects. A hummingbird may visit more than a thousand flowers in a single day. At night, it rests in a deep sleep called torpor to save energy.

1 HOW? **How did hummingbirds get their name?**

Their wings make a humming sound. | They hum songs. | They eat honey.

2 **Draw a line from each word to its meaning.**

hover	a sweet juice made by flowers
nectar	a deep sleep that saves energy
torpor	small animals with six legs
insects	to stay in one spot in the air

3 **Read each sentence. Circle True or False.**

Hummingbirds can fly backward. True False

The bee hummingbird is about two feet long. True False

4 WHY? **Why do hummingbirds need so much food?**

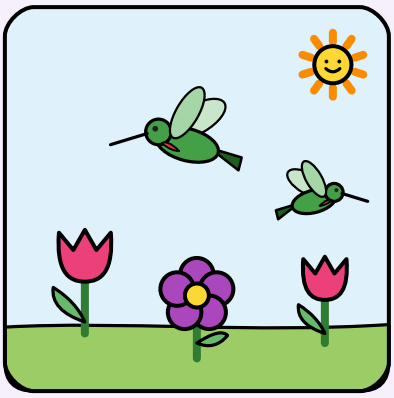
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Answer Key

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1 HOW? **How did hummingbirds get their name?**

(Their wings make a humming sound.) They hum songs. They eat honey.

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hover	a sweet juice made by flowers
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torpor	small animals with six legs
insects	to stay in one spot in the air

3 **Read each sentence. Circle True or False.**

Hummingbirds can fly backward. (True) False

The bee hummingbird is about two feet long. True (False)

4 WHY? **Why do hummingbirds need so much food?**

They use lots of energy when they fly.