



# Student Worksheet (Answers)

## Grades 3-5

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*A selection of questions within the worksheet have been designed to support South Dakota Science Standards, updated as of 2024.*

*The answers can be found by exploring the dome, and using your brain!*

### **SAFARI ROOM** (located in the center of the Skydome)

1. Name one type of habitat in the Safari Room:

**Answer:** Desert, jungle/ rainforest, stream, pond.

2. How many different species of lizards can you find in this room?

**Answers may vary.**

3. Look at the beaks on the parrots. What do you think they eat?

**Answer:** Nuts and plants (fruit, leaves, etc.)

4. **(Standard: 3-LS2-1)** Keep an eye out for our Zebra Finches in the Safari Room. They can often be seen flying in a flock. How might this behavior benefit their survival in the wild?

**Answer:** Staying in a flock helps with keeping an eye out for predators or food, and flying in a group can help distract the predators when they attack.

5. **(Standard: 3-LS3-2)** Compared to plants found in the jungle, why might desert plants have little to no leaves?

**Answer: C**

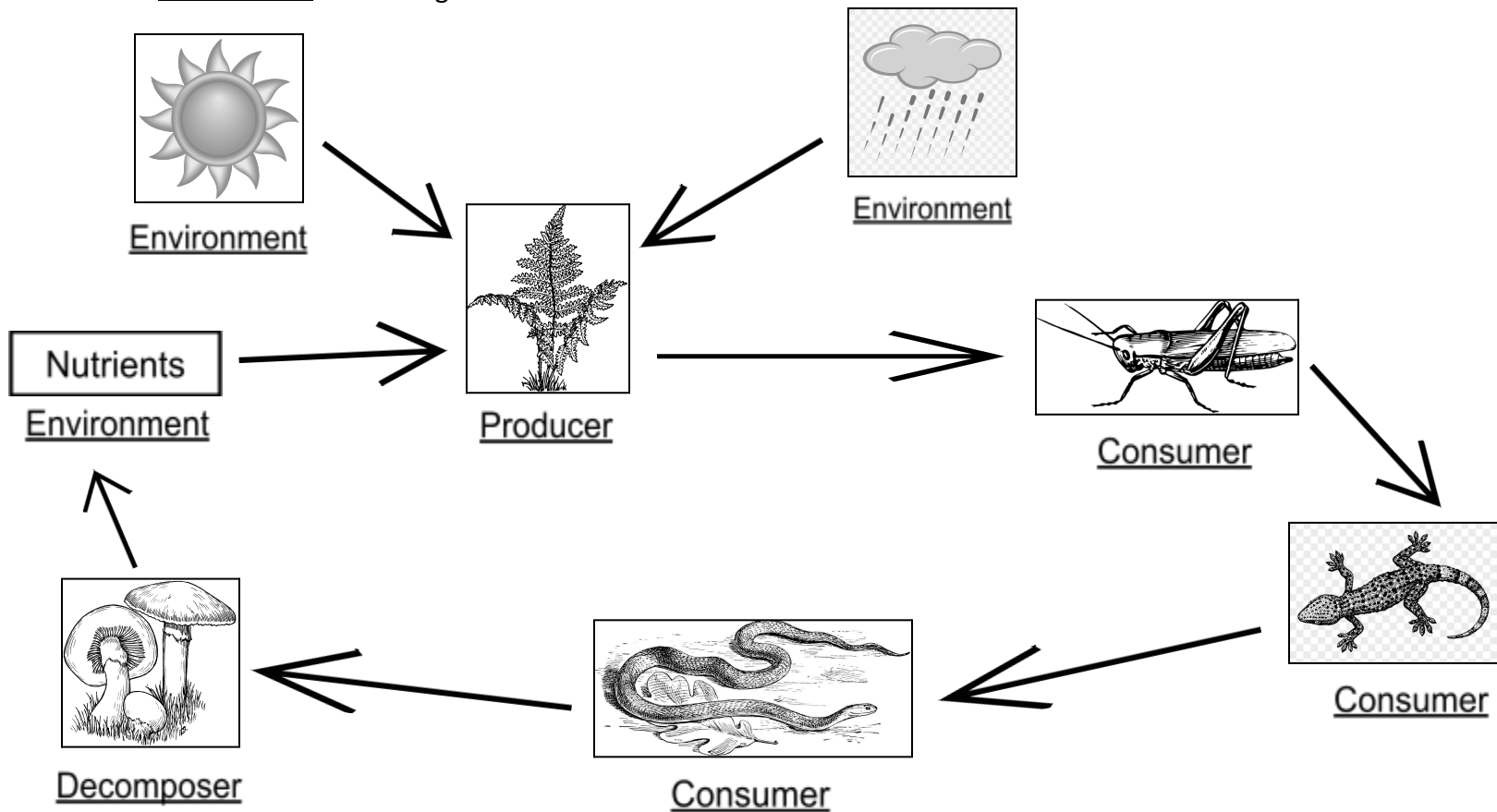
6. **(Standards: 5-LS2-1)** This model demonstrates a possible movement of matter within the environment of the Safari Room. Identify which images represent the environment, consumers, producers and decomposers. (Note: There can be more than one of each).

Producer: Creates its own energy.

Consumer: Gets its energy by eating plants and animals.

Decomposer: Breaks down dead organic material.

Environment: Non-living factors.



**MEZZANINE** (upstairs level of the Skydome)

1. What was the weight of the largest turtle that ever existed?

**Answer:** 4,500 pounds.

2. **(Standard: 3-LS4-1)** Similar to the modern day Gharial, what was the purpose of the ancient Gavial's narrow snout?

**Answer:** To catch fish.

3. How long can the fangs of a Gaboon Viper get? (Hint: answer found in the skeleton case past the sea turtle skeleton)

**Answer:** 2 inches long.

4. What is the maximum length of a Black Mamba?

**Answer:** 11 feet.

5. True or False: The Mexican West Coast Rattlesnake has the largest rattle segment of all rattlesnakes.

**Answer:** True

6. List two nicknames that are given to the Shingleback Skink.

**Answer:** Pinecone, bobtail, stump-tailed, and two-headed skinks.

8. **(Standard: 4-LS1-1)** What advantage does the bark on a tree or the scales on a snake provide to the organism?

**Answer:** Protection

**LOWER RING** (downstairs level of the Skydome)

1. How long is our Anaconda at Reptile Gardens?

**Answer:** 16 feet, 9 inches

2. Find the two species of Boa in the Lower Ring? What are they?

**Answer:** Rosy Boa and the Rubber Boa.

3. Maniac, the Australian Saltwater Crocodile, is currently estimated to weigh 1250 lbs. Our young American Alligator, named "Fluffy," weighs about 2 lbs.
- a. How many Fluffies would it take to weigh the same amount as Maniac?

**Answer:** 625

- b. Which would you rather have chasing you, the army of Fluffies or one Maniac?  
Why?

**Answer:** Fun question. Whatever the student decides.

4. Where in the world could you find an Axolotl?

**Answer:** Mexico City, Mexico (within Lakes Xochimilco and Chaka)

**Bonus:**

What is the rarest snake in the world?

**Answer:** Rough-scaled Python