

Name: _____

Date: _____

Groundhog's Day

Vocabulary

To hibernate (verb)- to sleep through the winter.

hibernation (noun)- comes from hibernate. (a long sleep through the winter)

legend- (noun) old story that is told from parents to children, and children's children, for many, many years

shadow- (noun) darkness made where the light can't go through (when the sun shines you can see the dark outline of your body on the ground)

"Happy Groundhog's Day!"

"Thanks, you too!"



What's Groundhog's Day?

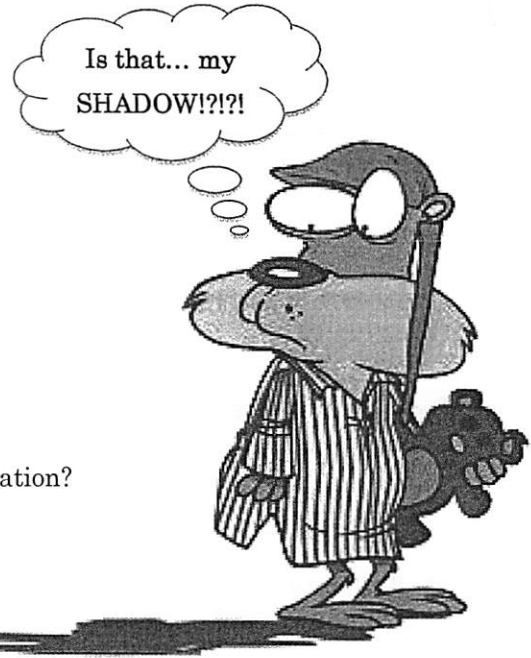
A groundhog is a (1) _____ animal that digs and lives under the ground. It is also called the woodchuck. Groundhogs live in many parts of (2) _____. In the winter they **hibernate** like bears and some other animals.

There is a **legend** that a few (3) _____ years ago Europeans brought Groundhog's Day to America. They said that the groundhog (4) _____ from its **hibernation** on February 2nd. (February 2nd is halfway between winter and spring.) If it comes up from its hole and it is (5) _____, it will see its **shadow** and be scared. If it sees its **shadow**, there will be 6 more (6) _____ of winter weather. But if it comes up and the sky is cloudy, it will not see its **shadow** and will not be scared. Then spring weather will come very soon.

Some people believe this **legend** and they watch the (7) _____ on February 2nd. Many people are happy if it's cloudy on that day. They think (8) _____ will come soon. But most people think it's just a fun **legend**. What do you think?

Questions

1. What is another name for a groundhog?
 2. Who brought the groundhogs to America?
 3. Where do groundhogs live?
 4. What does a groundhog do during the winter?
 5. When does the groundhog wake up from its hibernation?
 6. If a groundhog sees its shadow, what will happen?
 7. Does Japan have any legends?
1. Another name for a groundhog is ___.
 - a. a woodchuck
 - b. a squirrel
 - c. a fox
 2. Groundhog's Day is February ___. Why? ___
 - a. 14th a. It's the coldest day
 - b. 2nd b. It's when the groundhogs wakes up
 - c. 22nd c. It's when groundhogs goes to sleep
 3. The groundhog pops up out of its ___.
 - a. hole
 - b. nest
 - c. lair
 4. The groundhog is looking for its ___.
 - a. mother
 - b. friend
 - c. shadow
 5. If the sun is shining, it will ___ its hole.
 - a. go back into
 - b. stay out of
 - c. run around
 6. If it doesn't see its shadow, ___.
 - a. there will be six more weeks of cold weather
 - b. spring will come early this year
 - c. it will rain for the next two weeks
 7. The groundhog lives in ___.
 - a. the ground
 - b. a tree
 - c. a river
 8. The groundhog spends all ___ in its hole.
 - a. winter
 - b. spring
 - c. autumn
 9. People are looking ___ to spring.
 - a. backward
 - b. forward
 10. This kind of belief is called a ___.
 - a. festival
 - b. superstition *(to believe a legend)
 - c. true story



**Groundhog is a compound word. (ground + hog) Can you think of other compound words?*