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A Million Whys Book 16: Science Quiz

The Desert Expedition, by Crafty Clover.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 11

Fill in the missing number. Use the number bank.

Number bank: 15 20 40 70 200 400 2014 3,000 11,000 15,000 20,000

1. Antarctica holds about _____ percent of Earth's fresh water, frozen as ice.
   From: Why Is Antarctica Called a Desert Even Though It Is Covered in Ice?
2. Petrified wood can show growth rings from trees that lived _____ million years ago.
   From: How Does Wood Turn Into Stone?
3. On a scorching day, a burrow can be _____ or more degrees cooler than the surface.
   From: Why Is It So Much Cooler a Few Feet Underground in a Desert?
4. The Gobi can drop to _____ degrees below zero in winter.
   From: Which Deserts Get Freezing Winters, and Why?
5. Roadrunners can run about _____ miles per hour.
   From: Why Does a Roadrunner Sunbathe in the Morning?
6. A ring in California's Mojave Desert called King Clone is about _____ years old, making it one of the oldest living things.
   From: How Can a Ring of Bushes Be 11,000 Years Old?
7. Scorpions have been around for more than _____ million years.
   From: How Does a Scorpion Find Its Way and Its Food in the Dark?
8. Some underground desert water is more than _____ years old.
   From: What Is Fossil Water, and Why Is It So Old?
9. In _____, scientists used GPS and time-lapse cameras and solved the puzzle.
   From: How Do Rocks Slide Across a Dry Lakebed?
10. More than _____ years ago, an enormous lake called Lake Bonneville covered much of what is now Utah.
    From: How Can Old Lake Shorelines Show Up on Desert Mountainsides?
11. Qanats have worked for about _____ years.
    From: What Is a Qanat, and How Does It Bring Water to a Village?

Watch a short video answer for every question at xdme.com

FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer key

1. **70** (Antarctica holds about 70 percent of Earth's fresh water, frozen as ice. Book 16, Question 6)
2. **200** (Petrified wood can show growth rings from trees that lived 200 million years ago. Book 16, Question 20)
3. **20** (On a scorching day, a burrow can be 20 or more degrees cooler than the surface. Book 16, Question 27)
4. **40** (The Gobi can drop to 40 degrees below zero in winter. Book 16, Question 39)
5. **15** (Roadrunners can run about 15 miles per hour. Book 16, Question 45)
6. **11,000** (A ring in California's Mojave Desert called King Clone is about 11,000 years old, making it one of the oldest living things. Book 16, Question 58)
7. **400** (Scorpions have been around for more than 400 million years. Book 16, Question 82)
8. **20,000** (Some underground desert water is more than 20,000 years old. Book 16, Question 106)
9. **2014** (In 2014, scientists used GPS and time-lapse cameras and solved the puzzle. Book 16, Question 124)
10. **15,000** (More than 15,000 years ago, an enormous lake called Lake Bonneville covered much of what is now Utah. Book 16, Question 125)
11. **3,000** (Qanats have worked for about 3,000 years. Book 16, Question 130)

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