

Questions: Searching for Food

1. What is the main purpose of the article?

- A to describe different projects you can do
- B to give information about ant trails
- C to show what small creatures look like
- D to explain what worms eat

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
71	57
Examine and evaluate content, language and text features	

2. What is one thing you should do to take care of the creatures?

- A search for them under rocks and stones
- B find out all about them
- C collect as many as you can
- D put them back where you found them

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
81	66
Focus and retrieve explicitly stated information	

Questions 3 to 5 are about the Ant Project

3. Why do you put the apple by the ants' nest?

- A to block the ants' trail
- B so the ants will make a trail
- C to confuse the ants
- D so the ants will scurry around


Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
84	73
Make straightforward inferences	

4. Once an ant finds some food, how do the other ants from the nest find it too?

- A They watch the first ant and follow it.
- B They run around until they find the food.
- C They sense the scent left by the first ant.
- D They smell the food on the piece of paper.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
64	60
Focus and retrieve explicitly stated information	

5. Why do the ants scurry around after you've sprinkled the soil?

 The ant's is trying to make a new trail.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
53	53
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	


Questions 6 to 9 are about the Slaters Project

6. How do slaters find the food?

- A They walk down the passage.
- B They sense food with their antennae.
- C They follow the scent trail.
- D They see the food in the dark.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
83	78
Focus and retrieve explicitly stated information	

7. Look at the picture for the Study of Slaters. How does the picture help you to know what to do in the experiment?

 It helps me because I know what my experiment is supposed to look like when it's complete. It also helps me because if the picture wasn't there I wouldn't know if I'm supposed to bend the cardboard to the left or the right.


Percentage correct		
Score points	NZ	International average
1 mark	10	11
2 marks	40	21
Examine and evaluate content, language and text features		

8. Why do you need to let your slaters walk along the passage before putting the leaves in the box?

- (A) To see if they can learn the maze.
- (B) To see what they do when there is no food.
- (C) To see if the box is put together correctly.
- (D) To see which ones turn which way.


Data not available.
Item dropped from
final analysis

9. In Step 3 of the slaters project, what do you think will happen if you move the damp leaves to the left corner of the box?

 They will go over to the right then the left.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
57	55
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	

10. What is similar in the way ants and slaters find their food?

 They have both got antennae to smell the food.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
65	51
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	


Questions 11 to 13 are about the Wormery Project

11. Number the steps in the order you would follow to make a wormery. The first one has been done for you.

- 5 put the bottle in the shoebox
1 poke holes in the top of the shoebox
4 drop in the worms
3 add potato and onion
2 fill the bottle with soil and sand


Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
36	29
Make straightforward inferences	

12. Explain why it is important to put layers of soil and sand in the bottle

 It's important to put sand and soil in the wormery because the worms would need a place to get away from the light and because you get to see how the sand and soil mix up.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
24	26
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	

13. Explain why putting the onion and potato on the surface of the soil is important to the wormery project.

 So they will burrow up to the food and down to avoid the light to mix the sand and soil.

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
65	51
Interpret and integrate ideas and information	


Score points collapsed into 1 mark item during analysis phase.

14. Each project has What happens and Why in a separate box. What is the purpose of these boxes?

- A to explain the steps of the project
- B to explain what you need for the project
- C to explain what to do when you have finished
- D to explain what you have seen

Percentage correct	
NZ	International average
49	43
Examine and evaluate content, language and text features	

15. Which of the three projects did you find the most interesting? Use information from the text to explain your answer.

 I found the wormery because you can see what happens underground.

Percentage correct		
Score points	NZ	International average
1 mark	7	13
2 marks	42	30
Examine and evaluate content, language and text features		