

## Lesson 26

# Using Context Clues



MS CCRS L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

### Introduction

Sometimes when you read, you will see a word you do not know. You can figure out its meaning by looking at the words around it. You can use **context clues**.

- Sometimes a sentence includes a definition of the word.

#### **definition**

Living in a **frigid**, or **extremely cold**, place can be difficult.

- A sentence might also give an example that explains a word.

#### **example**

**Frigid** temperatures in the Arctic can be as low as **58°F below zero**.

### Guided Practice

Use context clues to figure out the meaning of each underlined word. Write the meaning. Then circle the words that were a clue.

**HINT** As you read, look for the words *such as*. These words might introduce an example that helps you figure out the meaning of an unknown word.

- 1 Animals adapt by changing in a way that allows them to live in a certain place.
- 2 The polar bear's furry snout and ears help it survive, or stay alive, in the cold Arctic.
- 3 The white fur of the Arctic fox lets it hide from predators such as wolves.
- 4 The Arctic bee has to shiver, or shake, to keep itself warm.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_



## Independent Practice

Read the sentence below. Then use it to answer numbers 1 and 2.

The ground squirrel hibernates, sleeping for months during the winter.

**1** What does the word hibernates mean?

- A** hides in the ground
- B** hides for a long, long time
- C** sleeps because it has nowhere to go
- D** sleeps to live through low temperatures

**2** What words help you understand the meaning of hibernates?

- A** “ground” and “squirrel”
- B** “ground squirrel” and “months”
- C** “sleeping” and “during the winter”
- D** “months” and “winter”

Read the sentence below. Then use it to answer numbers 3 and 4.

The fur on polar bears helps them repel, or keep away, cold water.

**3** What does the word repel mean?

- A** to fight
- B** to push something away
- C** to make something warm
- D** to soak up or take in

**4** What words help you understand the meaning of repel?

- A** “keep away”
- B** “fur on polar bears”
- C** “cold water”
- D** “helps them”