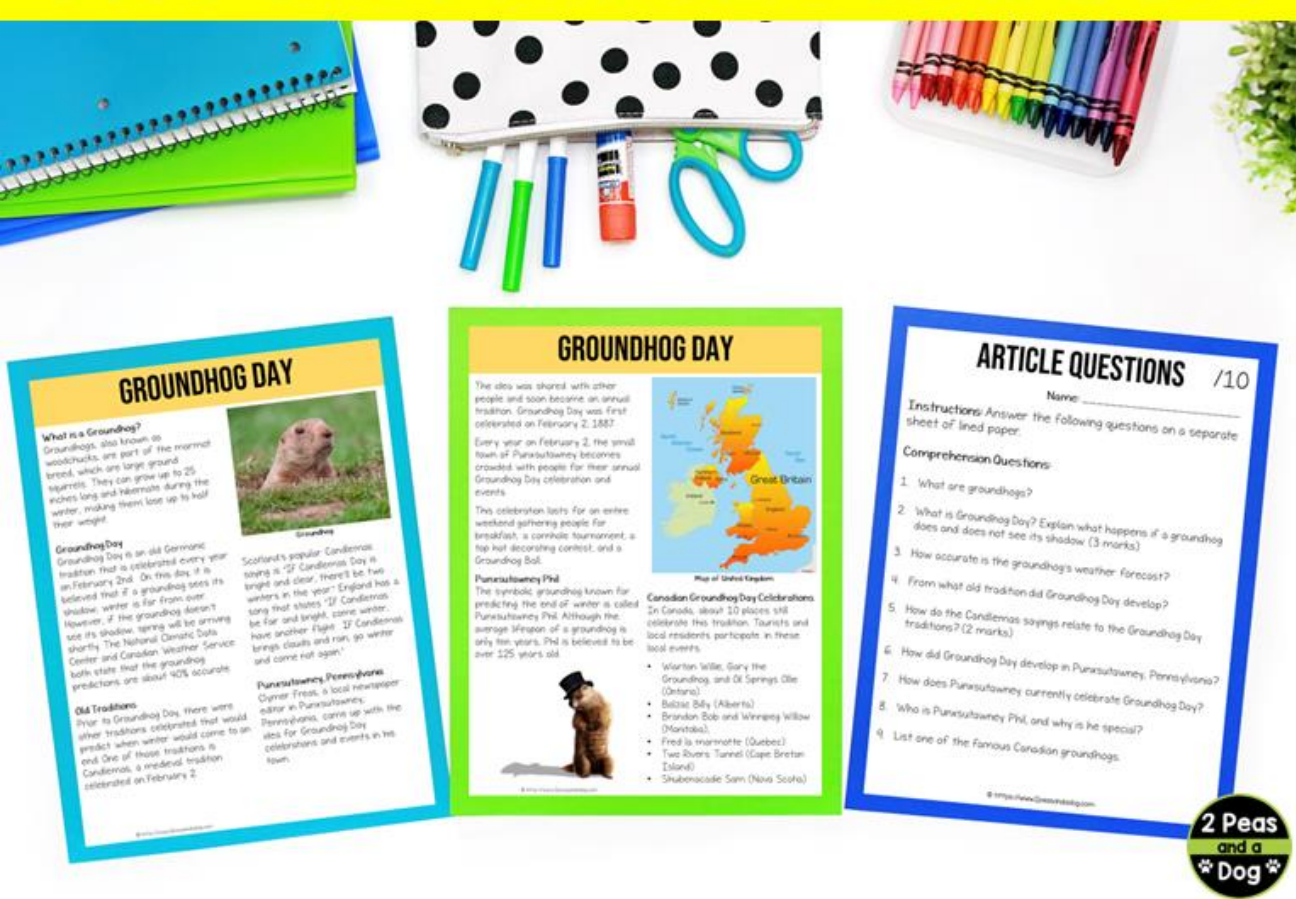


# GROUNDHOG DAY ARTICLE PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS

# RESOURCE INCLUDES



- ✓ 1 Non-Fiction Article
- ✓ Regular & Modified Versions
- ✓ Teacher Instructions
- ✓ MP3 Audio Files
- ✓ 3 Post-Reading Activities
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ Print & Digital Formats



## 2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources

# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## SAMPLE ANSWERS

What are groundhogs?

Groundhogs, also known as woodchucks, are part of the marmot breed which are large ground squirrels.

What is Groundhog Day and does not see its shadow?

Groundhog Day is an old tradition that is celebrated every year on February 2. On this day, it is believed that if a groundhog sees its shadow, winter is far from over. However, if the groundhog doesn't see its shadow, spring will be arriving shortly.

How accurate are groundhog predictions?

About 40% accurate.

From what old tradition does Groundhog Day come?

Old Germanic traditions.

How do the Canadian and American traditions differ?

They both predict the weather.

On this day, it is believed that if a groundhog sees its shadow, spring will be arriving shortly. If the groundhog doesn't see its shadow, winter is far from over. However, if the groundhog doesn't see its shadow, spring will be arriving shortly.

## ANSWERS

Instructions: Answer the following questions on this paper.

1. In paragraph 2, what does *Germanic* mean?

- A. From German heritage
- B. To be very happy
- C. To be celebrated
- D. None of the above.

2. What happens if a groundhog sees its shadow?

# ANSWER KEYS

4. Which sentence has the correct spelling and punctuation?

- A. This Celebration lasts for an entire weekend, gathering people for breakfast, cornhole, tournament, top hat decorating contest and a groundhog ball.
- B. This celebration lasts for an entire weekend gathering people for breakfast, cornhole tournament, top hat decorating contest and a Groundhog Ball.
- C. This celebration, lasts for an entire weekend, gathering people for breakfast, cornhole tournament, top hat decorating contest and a groundhog ball.
- D. This Celebration Lasts for an entire weekend gathering people for breakfast, cornhole tournament, Top Hat decorating contest and a Groundhog Ball.

## REGULAR ARTICLE

## MODIFIED ARTICLE

## GROUNDHOG DAY

What is a Groundhog?

Groundhogs, also known as woodchucks, are part of the marmot breed, which are large ground squirrels. They can grow up to 25 inches long and hibernate during the winter. They lose up to half their weight during the winter.



Groundhog

Groundhog Day is an old Germanic tradition that is celebrated every year on February 2. On this day, it is believed that if a groundhog sees its shadow, winter is far from over. However, if the groundhog doesn't see its shadow, spring will be arriving shortly. Groundhog predictions are about 40% accurate.

Scotland's popular Candlemas saying is "If Candlemas Day is bright and clear, there'll be two winters in the year." England has a song that states "If Candlemas be fair and bright, come winter, have another flight. If Candlemas brings clouds and rain, go winter and come not again."

Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania  
Clymer Freas, a local newspaper editor in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, came up with the idea for Groundhog Day celebrations and events in his town.

## GROUNDHOG DAY

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Groundhog

Groundhog Day

Groundhog Day is an old tradition that is celebrated every year on February 2. On this day, it is believed that if a groundhog sees its shadow, winter is far from over. However, if the groundhog doesn't see its shadow, spring will be arriving shortly. Groundhog predictions are about 40% accurate.

This celebration lasts for an entire weekend gathering people for breakfast, a cornhole tournament, a top hat decorating contest and a Groundhog Ball.

Punxsutawney Phil

A well-known groundhog is named Punxsutawney Phil. Although the average lifespan of a groundhog is only ten years, Phil is believed to be over 125 years old.

Canadian Groundhog Day

In Canada, about 10 places still celebrate this tradition. Tourists and local residents participate in these local events.

Word Bank

hibernate - an long rest/sleep during the winter months

# REGULAR & MODIFIED ARTICLES



# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## LESSON PLAN



### Groundhog Day

#### Lesson Overview:

Students will work on their non-fiction reading skills while reading this article.

#### Materials Needed:

Photocopy a class set of the following or use the provided Google Slides version for 1:1 technology schools:

- K-W-L Chart
- audio file
- version
- linking Google

**LESSON PLAN**

#### Video:

- Video: [Why Groundhogs Supposedly Predict The Weather On Groundhog Day](#)

## ARTICLE QUESTIONS

/10

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

Instructions: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper.

#### Comprehension Questions:

1. What are groundhogs?
2. What is Groundhog Day? Explain does and does not see its shadow.
3. How accurate is the groundhog's prediction?
4. From what old tradition did Groundhog Day come?
5. How do you think the tradition started?
6. How do you think the tradition is still practiced today?
7. How do you think the tradition will change in the future?
8. Who is Punxsutawney Phil, and what is his role?
9. List one of the famous Canadian groundhogs.

### THINKING QUESTION

Assessment	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Above Expectations
	✓-	✓	✓+

Which season do you enjoy the most? Why? Explain with details to support your answer.

**POST-READING ACTIVITIES**

# LESSON FORMATS



**PDF**

✓ Individual & Whole Unit



**DIGITAL**

✓ Google Slides

**RESOURCE CAN BE USED IN-PERSON OR ONLINE**