

To be used with the December 5, 2016, issue

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

# Great Migrations

In this week’s “Crab Crossing,” you read about the migration of red crabs on Christmas Island. Red crabs aren’t the only animals that migrate. Discover more about red crabs and other animals that migrate every year. Then answer the questions that follow. **Underline text evidence for your answer.**

## VOCABULARY

**migrate:** to move from one region or climate to another  
**migration:** a large number of animals migrating together



### Red Crabs of Christmas Island

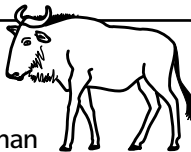
Red crabs don’t travel far or for very long. It’s the number of crabs traveling together that makes this migration so impressive. About 50 million of them travel the 3 miles from land to sea. It takes each crab about 5 days to make the trip. Some even cross roads to get there. During the height of the migration, Christmas Island appears to be covered in a giant, moving red carpet.

### Monarch Butterfly

Each fall, more than 60 million monarch butterflies migrate south for warmer climates. They travel about 2,500 miles from Canada and the northern United States to Mexico. It takes them up to two months to get there. Once in Mexico, they hibernate in the treetops. Tens of thousands of them can cluster on one tree. They group together to stay warm during cool nights.

### Wildebeest

Each year, about 2 million wildebeests in Africa travel more than 300 miles from Serengeti National Park in Tanzania to the Maasai Mara National Reserve in Kenya—and then back again. They migrate in a giant loop following the seasonal rains that bring green grass for them to eat. Along the way, they must look out for hungry lions and cross crocodile-infested rivers.



### Arctic Tern

These small seabirds migrate farther than any other animal. Each year, they travel about 44,000 miles round-trip between their breeding grounds in the Arctic and Antarctica. Arctic terns often return to the same area they were hatched to breed. They mostly fly over the ocean. But they stop to eat and rest along the way.



1. Which animal migrates from Canada to Mexico? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How far do Arctic terns travel each year? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why do wildebeests migrate? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which animal do you think makes the most dangerous journey? Why? (Cite a reason from the text to support your response.) \_\_\_\_\_  
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