

INFORMATIONAL TEXT PASSAGE WRITTEN AT TWO READING LEVELS!

Name: _____

Swimming Pools

Few things are more alluring than a swimming pool in the summer. Many people look for a pool when thinking of buying a house or of staying at a hotel. Swimming pools are relaxing, fun and a welcome addition to a hot summer day. Swimming pools appeal to people of all ages, but are especially popular with children and teenagers. Despite their incredible popularity today, swimming pools have a long history. Many people might be surprised to learn that one of the most popular places to be in the summer isn't a new or recent invention.

Swimming pools have been around for thousands of years. Archaeological evidence shows that swimming pools were in Mohenjo-Daro nearly 5,000 years ago. Mohenjo-Daro was an ancient civilization in what is now Pakistan. These pools were remarkably similar to modern swimming pools and were popular gathering places. The ancient Greeks and Romans had pools for both pleasure and fitness. The ancient Romans even had heated swimming pools.

Throughout much of history, swimming pools were only available for the very wealthy. In the nineteenth century, swimming pools started to become more popular with the upper middle class. People began to view swimming as a way to relax and improve their health. The ancient Roman baths in Bath, England, were refurbished after years of being neglected and became a popular destination. In the United States, swimming became a sport that showed social class and wealth.

During the nineteenth century, swimming became a competitive sport. Various swimming clubs began to emerge. In 1896, swimming was included as a sport in the first modern Olympics. This led to increasing popularity across the world, particularly in the United States. After the appearance of swimming in the Olympics, swimming clubs and pools became pervasive all over the country. After World War I, competitive swimming became even more popular. The swimming pool industry began to boom soon after. While pools were mostly in the homes of the very rich, more people were able to afford swimming pools after World War II. Above ground pools and affordable backyard pools became especially popular.

Today, swimming pools are a huge and lucrative business and are very popular. Pools are located in schools, colleges, hotels and homes across the United States and the world. Many people have fond memories of swimming in swimming pools and laying out by them during hot summer days. From ancient pools in ancient cities to Olympic sized pools at the local gym, swimming pools have been around far longer than many realize.

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Name: _____

Swimming Pools

Few things are more alluring than a swimming pool in the summer. Swimming pools are relaxing and fun. People of all ages like swimming pools, but they are very popular with children and teenagers. Despite their popularity today, swimming pools have a long history. Many people might be surprised to learn that one of the most popular places to be in the summer isn't a recent invention.

Swimming pools have been around for thousands of years. Evidence shows that swimming pools were in Mohenjo-Daro nearly 5,000 years ago. Mohenjo-Daro was a very old society in what is now Pakistan. These pools were remarkably similar to modern swimming pools. They were popular gathering places. The ancient Greeks and Romans also had pools. The ancient Romans even had heated swimming pools.

Throughout much of history, swimming pools were only available for the very wealthy. In the 1800s, swimming pools became more popular with more people. Swimming was viewed as a way to relax and exercise. The ancient Roman baths in Bath, England, were refurbished after years of being ignored and became popular. In the United Kingdom, swimming became a popular sport and a way to spend time with friends.

During the 1800s, swimming became a competitive sport. Various swimming clubs began to emerge. In 1896, swimming was included as a sport in the first modern Olympics. Once swimming was included in the Olympics, swimming clubs and pools became pervasive all over the United States. After World War I, competitive swimming became more popular. After World War II, more people could afford swimming pools after World War II ended. Above ground pools and cheaper backyard pools became especially popular.

Today, swimming pools are a huge and lucrative business. Pools are located in schools, colleges, hotels and homes across the world. Many people have fond memories of swimming in pools on hot summer days. From ancient pools in ancient cities to Olympic sized pools at the local gym, swimming pools have been around far longer than many realize.

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DIFFERENTIATED CONTEXT CLUES ACTIVITY!

Name: _____

Context Clues

Look back in the passage and use context clues to determine the meaning of each word. Circle the answer, then write down the context clues from the text that helped you determine the answer.

- alluring
a. irresistible b. pressing c. annoying
context clues: _____
- remarkably
a. repetitive b. discreetly c. extreme
context clues: _____
- refurbished
a. restored b. destroyed c. built
context clues: _____
- emerge
a. escape b. appear c. refuse
context clues: _____
- permeating
a. common b. unusual c. expensive
context clues: _____
- lucrative
a. worthless b. profitable c. difficult
context clues: _____
- fond
a. warm b. old c. uncaring
context clues: _____

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Name: _____

Context Clues

Look back in the passage and use context clues to determine the meaning of each word. Determine what each word means based on the way it is used in the passage, then write down the context clues from the text that helped you.

- alluring: _____
context clues: _____
- remarkably: _____
context clues: _____
- refurbished: _____
context clues: _____
- emerge: _____
context clues: _____
- pervasive: _____
context clues: _____
- lucrative: _____
context clues: _____
- fond: _____
context clues: _____

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WRITING ASSIGNMENT AND COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS ALSO INCLUDED!

Name: _____

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions using evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. What is the central idea of the passage? List two supporting details as well.

2. Why did the author include information about the pools found at Mohenjo-Daro?

3. The passage states that swimming pools were only available to the very wealthy throughout most of history. Why might this have been the case?

4. What role did the Olympics play in the increasing popularity of pools?

5. The author states that swimming pools are very popular. What evidence in the passage supports this claim?

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Name: _____

Writing Assignment

Swimming pools provide fun summer memories for many people. Think of a happy memory that you have that is connected to a certain time of year. In a well written paragraph, please explain what the memory is and how the time of the year played a role in it. In your writing, be sure to include the following:

- Describe the memory.
- Explain why the time of year was important.
- Explain why it was important to you.
- Make sure you proofread your writing to check for spelling and grammar issues.

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