

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.****The Cold Really Is Common**

Every person you know has probably had a cold, even you. Colds are one of the most common reasons people see their doctors. Colds are also a main reason people miss work and school.

Children in school get about six to ten colds every year. If there are many children in one family, they can get as many as twelve colds every year. Doctors believe that children in school get more colds because they work together in one room, so germs spread easily.

Some people once thought that you could catch a cold if the weather outside was cold, but this is not true. We know that one way to catch a cold is to touch something that has cold germs on it and then touch your eyes or nose. You can also get a cold if someone with a cold sneezes and you breathe in the germs.

One thing you can do to stay healthy is to wash your hands often. This will kill any germs that might be on your hands. You can help keep other people healthy by covering your mouth when you sneeze or cough.

There is no cure for the common cold, but many people are working hard to find one. Every person you know probably hopes someone will find a cure soon.

**Turn the page.**

Answer the questions below.

**1** After reading this selection, what can you say about most people and colds?

- They work hard to find a cure for the cold.
- They cover their mouths when they cough.
- They wash their hands often.
- They have had a cold.

**2** Which clue word in paragraph one helps you make a generalization about people and colds?

- every
- person
- hopes
- someone

**3** What is most likely true of children who have many colds every year?

- They live where the weather changes a lot.
- They do not go to the doctor often enough.
- They live and work with other children who have colds.
- Their parents don't dress them warmly enough.

**4** What is one thing you can say about all people who catch colds?

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**5** What can you say about all people who cover their mouths when they sneeze?

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**Common Core State Standards**

**Questions 1–5: Informational Text 1.** Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers. **Informational Text 3.** Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.