Placement Stories

Spiral Island

Review Key Words[®]

environment	The environment is the outside and all that lives there.
located	Located means set in a certain place.
tropical	Tropical means found in parts of the world near the equator, where the weather is hot and wet.
artificial	Artificial means made by people, not made by nature.
Vrite a Prodiction	

Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

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Many people dream of living on a **tropical** island. Richart Sowa made this dream a **reality**—by **constructing** his own island!

Sowa wanted to live in a way that did not hurt the **environment**. In the 1990s, he began collecting **plastic** bottles along the coast of Mexico. Over time, he gathered more than 250,000 of them. Using nets to hold the bottles together, Sowa made the **base** of a floating **artificial** island. He placed wood on top of this base and then covered it with sand. Sowa also planted trees for shade, plus fruits and vegetables for food. The plants' roots grew around the underwater bottles and made the island'sbase more stable.

Sowa called his creation Spiral Island. 113 The island was about the size of a tennis 119 court, and it was located just off Mexico's 128 coast. Sowa built a small house in the 136 middle of his island. He made an oven that 144 got its power from the sun. He even made 153 a washing machine that got its power from 162 the ocean's waves. 170

Sadly, a hurricane destroyed Spiral
Island in 2005. But Sowa did not give up
the dream of living on his own tropical
island. By 2008, he had finished building
Spiral Island II.

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Spiral Island

Answer the Questions

- 1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Richart Sowa used 250,000 plastic bottles as part of the base for an island.
 - b. Richart Sowa created two tropical islands that did not hurt the environment.
 - c. Richart Sowa built Spiral Island II after a hurricane destroyed the first Spiral Island.
- 2. Where did Sowa's washing machine get its power?
 - a. from wood
 - b. from the sun
 - c. from ocean waves
- 3. What does the word **base** mean in this story?
 - a. the bottom part of something
 - b. a place where supplies are kept
 - c. wood covered with sand
- 4. Why did Sowa use power from the sun and waves?
 - a. so he wouldn't hurt the environment
 - b. because he didn't have wood to burn
 - c. because the island was so small

5. How did plants help Sowa?

- 6. An antonym is a word that has the opposite meaning of another word. Match each word with its antonym.
 - 1. stable a. ____ dream
 - 2. reality b. ____ destroying
 - 3. hurricane c. ____ natural
 - 4. artificial d. ____ shaky
 - 5. constructing e. ____ calm
- Number the events below in the correct order.
 _____ Sowa planted fruits and vegetables.
 - ____ Sowa put nets around plastic bottles.
 - ____ Sowa gathered bottles from the coast.
 - ____ Sowa had a dream of living on an island.
 - ____ Plant roots made the island's base more stable.

Number Correct:

Summarize the Story

Number of Words Written: