Earth's Wildest Places

Grade 3 Name: _____

Read the story carefully. Then answer each question below in a full sentence using evidence from the text.

Leo's Sahara Adventure

Leo, a brave young explorer, dreamed of visiting Earth's most extreme places. Today, he stood at the edge of the Sahara Desert, a sea of sand stretching further than his eyes could see. The sun beat down, turning the air into a shimmering wave. Even though it was early morning, the ground was already warm beneath his boots. He knew that during the day, temperatures in the Sahara could soar past 120°F (49°C), making it one of the hottest places on Earth.

As Leo ventured deeper, he saw small, clever creatures. A tiny fennec fox, with its huge ears, darted across the sand, looking for insects. These foxes have special fur on their paws to protect them from the scorching ground. Finding water was the biggest challenge here. Leo carried a large canteen, knowing every drop was precious. He learned that people often travel by camel, which can go for days without needing a drink.

The Sahara was a place of incredible beauty, with dunes like golden mountains, but also immense danger. Leo understood why survival here required great strength and knowledge. He felt small in the face of such a powerful landscape. Earth truly held some wild, amazing secrets, and the Sahara was certainly one of them.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) What did Leo dream of visiting?

_____

(2) What does the word "scorching" mean in the sentence about the fennec fox's paws?

(3) What is the main idea of this story about Leo's adventure?

(4) Why might Leo have felt small in the face of the Sahara's powerful landscape?

(5) According to the story, what specific temperature can the Sahara reach during the day?

(6) In what ways is the Sahara Desert different from the place where you live?