

Name _____ Date _____

What Spurs Migration? Answer Key

Use what you have learned to answer the questions below.

1. Do the animals all use the same cues to trigger their migration? Explain. **Possible response:** No. They use different combinations of internal and external cues, depending on their environments and what they have to do to meet their survival needs: air, water, food, and the ability to reproduce.
2. Why do you think more than one thing triggers migration? **Possible response:** Animals that migrate are not able to get all their survival needs met by staying in one location. But they also have to be able to respond to changing conditions, such as overcrowding, predators, and competition.
3. Why don't all animals migrate for the same reason? **Possible response:** Animal habitats and the resources available in those habitats change. For example, temperatures can be mild or extreme. Food can be plentiful or scarce. The best place to raise young may not be a good place to find food.
4. Are internal or external cues more common? **Possible response:** External cues are more common because they include the impacts of humans on animal habitats and on migratory routes.
5. How else, other than migration, may these cues be important? **Possible response:** Internal and external cues may also be important in helping animals adapt to a changing climate and conditions. And in helping ecosystems that depend on disturbances caused by regularly migrating animals.
6. As humans we have many technologies available to us. Do you think natural cues are still important for our survival? Why or why not? **Possible response:** Yes. Natural cues are still important for the long-term survival of our species. Technology is not always dependable or available.