**Article of the Week #16**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* Circle words that are unfamiliar and define using context clues.

\*Write at least 5 questions/comments/connections

\*Highlight or underline ways the Zoo made the flight comfortable for Bao Bao

\*Write a central idea statement for each section

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| **Annotation Rubric** | Exceeds Expectations | Meets Expectations | Progressing | Not There Yet |
| **Strong** evidence of interaction with the text. | **Good** evidence of interaction with the text. | **Some** evidence of interaction with the text. | **Little/no** evidence of interaction with the text. |
| **50 points** | **40 points** | **30 points** | **20 points**  (or below) |

**Special Delivery: Bao Bao the giant panda leaves U.S. zoo for China**

WASHINGTON, D.C. —  The giant panda cub Bao Bao has left her home at The National Zoo in Washington, D.C., on a one-way flight to China. The 3-year-old will eventually join a panda breeding program and have cubs of her own. The National Zoo says Bao Bao is traveling now because it's better for pandas to travel in the winter months when it is cool.

Bao Bao's trip is a 16-hour nonstop flight. Bao Bao didn't have to worry about dealing with a talkative neighbor on the flight, though. She was the only panda on the plane. She traveled with a keeper and a veterinarian. She traveled in comfort, too. Bao Bao got a special metal crate the size of a double bed so she can stretch out. It was made especially for her. A sticker on its outside said it contains "one panda."

Her keepers brought plenty of Bao Bao's favorite foods on the flight. These include 55 pounds of bamboo, 5 pounds of apples and 2 pounds of sweet potatoes.

**"Most Of The Flight, We Hope She's Going To Eat"**

"Most of the flight, we hope she's going to eat," said panda keeper Marty Dearie, who traveled with Bao Bao to China. Dearie says pandas spend 13 to 16 hours a day eating.

Bao Bao left the zoo Tuesday morning and traveled to Washington Dulles International Airport in northern Virginia. There, she boarded a special FedEx plane. Fans were able to watch her departure from the zoo and airport on the zoo's Facebook page.

Bao Bao's new home in China is one of the bases run by the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda. Scientists at the center do research on pandas to help them survive as a species. Tourists also visit in order to see the pandas.

**Zoo Worker Will Help Panda Adjust To New Home In China**

Dearie will briefly remain with Bao Bao while she gets adjusted. In a few years, Bao Bao will become part of a panda breeding program.

Bao Bao delighted the zoo and panda fans when she was born. Her name means "precious treasure" in Chinese. Her mother, Mei Xiang, gave birth to her first cub, Tai Shan, in 2005, but then failed to give birth for years. Then, a cub born in 2012 didn't survive. Bao Bao was born Aug. 23, 2013.

Since then, she has grown from about the size of a stick of butter to more than 200 pounds. Her keepers describe her personality as "very independent," sort of like a household cat.

**For Zoo, Panda's Departure Is "Definitely Bittersweet"**

Laurie Thompson helps take care of giant pandas at the zoo. She said the zoo keepers have been preparing Bao Bao to leave for China since she was born. They have taught her behaviors that will make it easier for Chinese keepers to perform medical tests on the panda. Thompson said Bao Bao's departure is "definitely bittersweet." But her keepers "know she's ready."

"We're ready. We've done our part, and we're ready to send her to China so she can have her own babies someday," Thompson said.

With Bao Bao's departure, the National Zoo will have three remaining pandas. The zoo's two adult pandas, Mei Xiang and Tian Tian, arrived on loan in 2000. They belong to China, though. Any cubs they have belong to China too. The pair's first cub, Tai Shan, returned to China in 2010. Their third cub, Bao Bao's younger brother Bei Bei, was born in 2015. He will remain at the zoo for now.

**Giant Pandas At U.S. Zoos On Loan From China**

A total of four U.S. zoos have pandas that are on loan from China. Pandas born in the United States usually return to China by the age of 4. With Bao Bao's departure, there will be a dozen pandas remaining in the United States.

The National Zoo and Washington, D.C. residents have a special relationship with the creatures. The zoo's first pair of pandas, Ling-Ling and Hsing-Hsing, were a gift from China, arriving at the zoo in 1972 following President Richard Nixon's historic visit to the country. The pair had five cubs while living at the zoo, though none survived. Bao Bao's parents Mei Xiang and Tian Tian are the zoo's second panda pair.

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| **Monday:**  Read the article and annotate – *follow the annotation directions at the top of the page!* |
| **Tuesday:** Answer the following multiple choice questions   1. In the three opening paragraphs, the author… 2. Explains the reasons why it is bad for pandas to travel during warm weather 3. Describes the measures taken to make Bao Bao comfortable on her flight 4. Suggests that veterinarians were worried about Bao Bao behaving on the flight 5. Illustrates that it is extremely important to feed pandas a balanced diet 6. Which section of the article explains that Bao Bao has spent her life being prepared to leave the National Zoo for China? 7. “Most of the Flight, We Hope She’s Going to Eat” 8. “Zoo Worker Will Help Panda Adjust to New Home in China” 9. “For Zoo, Panda’s Departure is Definitely Bittersweet” 10. “Giant Pandas at U.S. Zoos on Loan from China” 11. How does the section “Giant Pandas at U.S. Zoos on Loan From China” MOST contribute to the article? 12. By giving background that shows the significance of pandas from China in the U.S. 13. By demonstrating the level of popularity of Chinese pandas at U.S. zoos 14. By explaining that President Nixon was especially fond of Chinese pandas. 15. By providing opinions regarding what to do with the Chinese pandas remaining in the U.S. |
| **Wednesday**: Look at how each word is used in the article. Define the word using context clues. Then write a sentence of your own using the word properly.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Word** | **Definition** | **Sentence** | | **1.bittersweet** |  |  | | **2. departure** |  |  | | **3. tourists** |  |  | | **4. historic** |  |  | |
| **Thursday:** Respond to the following question in **complete sentences**.  **Do you think moving Bao Bao to China was a good idea?**  Use information from anothertext we’ve read in class to support your answer in at least 4 sentences. |