Year 4 Science: Temperature: measuring how hot or cold

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try these without your notes first, then check the answer key.

Practice

1. What unit do we usually use for temperature?

2. A thermometer has a number every 10 °C and 10 small gaps between numbers. What is each mark worth?

3. Each mark is 2 °C. The liquid stops 3 marks above 30. What is the temperature?

4. You predicted 15 °C and measured 19 °C. How far out was your prediction?

5. Four readings of one cup are 18 °C, 19 °C, 18 °C and 26 °C. Which is likely to be wrong?

6. Why should the bulb stay in the water while you read the thermometer?

Fix the mistake

7. Correct this statement: "Every small mark on a thermometer is 1 °C."

8. Correct this statement: "You can read the thermometer as soon as it goes in."

9. Correct this statement: "If the water feels warm to my hand, it is warm."

10. Correct this statement: "The answer is 24."

Answer key (for parents and tutors)

1. What unit do we usually use for temperature?
   Degrees Celsius, °C.
2. A thermometer has a number every 10 °C and 10 small gaps between numbers. What is each mark worth?
   1 °C, because 10 ÷ 10 = 1.
3. Each mark is 2 °C. The liquid stops 3 marks above 30. What is the temperature?
   36 °C, because 3 × 2 = 6 and 30 + 6 = 36.
4. You predicted 15 °C and measured 19 °C. How far out was your prediction?
   4 °C, because 19 − 15 = 4.
5. Four readings of one cup are 18 °C, 19 °C, 18 °C and 26 °C. Which is likely to be wrong?
   26 °C, because it is far from the other three.
6. Why should the bulb stay in the water while you read the thermometer?
   Out of the water the liquid starts to change straight away, so the reading would be wrong.
7. Correct this statement: "Every small mark on a thermometer is 1 °C."
   Count the gaps between two numbers first; on many thermometers each mark is 2 °C or 5 °C.
8. Correct this statement: "You can read the thermometer as soon as it goes in."
   Wait until the liquid stops moving, then read it while the bulb is still in the water.
9. Correct this statement: "If the water feels warm to my hand, it is warm."
   Your hand compares with what it touched before; only a thermometer gives a number you can trust.
10. Correct this statement: "The answer is 24."
    Always write the unit: 24 °C.