

Roots and Roofs

How new food practices changed where people lived.

6.2c "The Neolithic Revolution was marked by technological advances in agriculture and domestication of animals that allowed people to form semi-sedentary and sedentary settlements."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline tools or methods used to grow, harvest, or process food or manage animals. Circle results that helped people stay longer or year-round in one place.

Food Changes Home

- ① During the Neolithic Revolution, some communities changed how they got food. People added farming to hunting and gathering, planting seeds near soil and water. They used digging sticks and stone hoes to prepare fields. Stone sickles helped them harvest ripe grain. Grinding stones turned grain into flour. These technologies made food production more dependable, although weather and crop failure could still cause problems. They could store grain for later.
- ② People also began domesticating certain animals. They kept sheep, goats, and cattle that people could manage and breed. Animals supplied meat, milk, hides, and wool. Some could pull loads or help farmers work fields. Domestication gave communities food and materials close to home. Yet caring for herds required water, grazing land, and protection. As herds moved to fresh grass, some groups traveled with them. These pastoral nomads were not fully settled even though they depended on domesticated animals.
- ③ With crops to tend and animals to care for, many people stayed longer in one place. A semi-sedentary group might live in a village during the growing season but move at other times. A sedentary community remained in the same settlement year-round. Stored grain and nearby herds supported this change. People could build stronger houses and storage places. They also changed the land by clearing small fields and keeping animals near the settlement. Agriculture and domestication did not make every group settle, but they gave many groups a reason and a way to do so.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did stone sickles and grinding stones each help people get food? Include harvesting in your answer.

2 Give two ways domesticated animals helped communities.

3 What is the difference between a semi-sedentary group and a sedentary community?

4 Why could stored grain and nearby herds help people remain in one settlement longer?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine your group lives near a river valley. Write exactly three sentences: name one farming technology and one domesticated animal, tell how each helps your group, and state whether your settlement will be semi-sedentary or sedentary with a reason.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline tools or methods used to grow, harvest, or process food or manage animals. Circle results that helped people stay longer or year-round in one place. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did stone sickles and grinding stones each help people get food? Include harvesting in your answer.	Stone sickles harvested ripe grain, and grinding stones turned grain into flour.
2	Give two ways domesticated animals helped communities.	Animals supplied food and materials such as meat, milk, hides, and wool. Some also pulled loads or helped work fields.
3	What is the difference between a semi-sedentary group and a sedentary community?	A semi-sedentary group stayed in a village for part of the year but moved at other times. A sedentary community stayed in the same settlement year-round.
4	Why could stored grain and nearby herds help people remain in one settlement longer?	They provided food close to home and gave people a more dependable food supply.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our group will use stone hoes to prepare fields beside the river. We will keep goats for milk and hides. We will form a sedentary settlement because we can store grain and care for goats near our homes throughout the year.

Accept equivalent details from the passage, including other listed animal products or animal work. For the open response, accept a logical settlement choice if the student names a farming technology, a domesticated animal, and an accurate reason connected to food production or animal care.