The Meadowlands
A Wetlands Survival Story
By Thomas F. Yezerski

Name ______________________________ Date ________

1. If you stand on top of the Empire State Building, can you see the Meadowlands in New Jersey? ______________

2. Four hundred years ago, how many acres were in the Meadowlands? __________________

3. How long did the wetlands support the Lenni Lenape? ______________________________________

4. When did Dutch ships find the Meadowlands? _______ Who got sick and had to move away? ______________________

5. What did the loggers do in the 1800’s? ______________________________________________________

6. By the 1960’s, how many acres of wetlands were left? __________________ By 1985, how many acres? ____________

7. When did the state begin to close landfills and stop chemical dumping? ______________________________

8. The river and tide that meet in the Meadowlands helped the ecosystem survive for _____________ years.

9. When did the birds of prey disappear there? ______________

10. Have the birds returned? _____________________________

11. How do plants help the wetlands? _____________________________________________________________

12. In 2007, what special bird returned? __________________
The Meadowlands KEY
A Wetlands Survival Story
By Thomas F. Yezerski

Name __________________________ Date _______

1. If you stand on top of the Empire State Building, can you see the Meadowlands in New Jersey? YES
2. Four hundred years ago, how many acres were in the Meadowlands? 20,000
3. How long did the wetlands support the Lenni Lenape? Thousands of years
4. When did Dutch ships find the Meadowlands? 1609 Who got sick and had to move away? Lenni Lenape
5. What did the loggers do in the 1800's? cut down the Meadowlands trees
6. By the 1960's, how many acres of wetlands were left? 11,000 acres By 1985, how many acres? 7,000
7. When did the state begin to close landfills and stop chemical dumping? 1969
8. The river and tide that meet in the Meadowlands helped the ecosystem survive for 10,000 years.
9. When did the birds of prey disappear there? 1940's
10. Have the birds returned? Yes
11. How do plants help the wetlands? Algae and plants clean water and add to oxygen to the air for humans
12. In 2007, what special bird returned? Osprey