

Giggles with Garfield

Do you like lasagna? If so, you'd probably like the comic strip *Garfield*. The comic is written and drawn by Jim Davis. It's about the life of a cat named Garfield, who lives with his owner Jon.

Garfield is a big, orange cat. He was born in a restaurant kitchen and he's famous for loving lasagna. He's also famous for hating Mondays. He was named after Jim's grandfather, who was named after former President James Garfield.

Garfield's owner also has a pet dog called Odie. Garfield and Odie don't always get along, just like real dogs and cats. Odie and Garfield are opposites. Odie has a lot of energy and Garfield is known for being lazy.

Jim started drawing *Garfield* in 1978. The comic appeared in 41 newspapers in the United States. By 1983, *Garfield* had spread to 1,400 newspapers. It was published in seven different languages. In Sweden, Garfield's name is Gustaf.

In 2002, the Guinness Book of World Records said that *Garfield* was the most widely read comic strip in the world. In 2004, *Garfield: The Movie* was released in theaters. There have been many *Garfield* movies since then and several *Garfield* television shows, too.



Why do people love Garfield? Jim thinks it's because the cat is happy to be lazy. All he cares about is eating and sleeping. He represents a simple life in a time when people are always busy. Also, he has cattitude.



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NAME: _____ DATE: _____

1. Which of the following is Garfield NOT known for?
 - a. Loving lasagna
 - b. Loving Odie
 - c. Hating Mondays
 - d. Being lazy
2. What is Garfield's name in Sweden?
 - a. Jon
 - b. Gustaf
 - c. Davis
 - d. Olaf
3. Why did *Garfield* set a world record?
 - a. Because it was the most widely read comic strip in the world
 - b. Because Garfield ate the most lasagna
 - c. Because it was published in seven languages
 - d. Because it was a movie
4. Which reason is most likely why Garfield to represents a simple life?
 - a. He's easy to draw
 - b. He was born in a restaurant
 - c. He only cares about eating and sleeping
 - d. He is not very smart
5. What is the difference between *Garfield* and Garfield in the passage?
This question might be too hard, so I included it as an extra
 - a. Garfield is the name of the cat and *Garfield* is the name of the comic strip
 - b. *Garfield* is the name of the cat and Garfield is the name of the comic strip
 - c. They are the same
 - d. Garfield is the name of the cat and *Garfield* is the name of the president

Instructions for teachers:

These questions can be used to assess understanding of the reading passage.

The item in bold is the correct answer for each question.

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