

Name: _____

Date: _____ Period: _____

“Plain, Simple, Primitive? Not the Jellyfish”

By Carl Zimmer

Read the article about Jellyfish from the NY Times. Use it to answer the following questions – **IN FULL SENTENCES!!**

1. What do jellyfish look like?
2. Why do scientists believe that they have underestimated the jellyfish and its relatives?
3. Under what collective name are jellyfish classified? How has their classification changed over time?
4. What were jellyfish considered to be in the past?
5. How do Cnidarians develop? How is this different from other animals' development, such as that of humans or insects?
6. What are bilaterians?
7. In what way is a jellyfish symmetrical?
8. How did evolutionary biologists initially perceive Cnidarians? How does the fossil record weigh in this opinion?

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9. How have new discoveries about Cnidarian genes challenged current perceptions?

10. What type of research organism did Dr. Mark E. Martindale finally choose for his team's experiments? Why?

11. How do the genes of bilaterians and Cnidarians compare?

12. What is the so-called "molecular clock"?

13. What does Dr. Kevin J. Peterson believe was the common ancestor?

14. What is the "distinctive weaponry" of Cnidarians?

15. What information do scientists expect from the Genome Institute project?