God's Tiny Titan

Name: ANSWER KEY Date: _____

Vocabulary Words: Match the definition to each word.

1. Tardigrades are sometimes called **water bears** because of their cute, bear-like appearance.
2. Tardigrades are the smallest animals with **legs**.
3. Tardigrades can survive being dried out for **hundreds** of years.
4. Even after being exposed to extremely high levels of **radiation**, tardigrades were unharmed.
5. Tardigrades live in **water**, where they suck up algae and other tiny organisms.

Word Bank: radiation, water, legs, hundreds, water bears

Multiple Choice: Choose the correct answer from the choices for each question.

1. How small is a tardigrade?
   a) About the size of a cat
   b) About the size of a basketball
   c) About one meter
   d) About half a millimeter

2. What happens to tardigrades when there is no oxygen?
   a) They die immediately
   b) They grow bigger
   c) They stop moving but come back to life when oxygen returns
   d) They turn into another animal

3. What special ability do tardigrades have?
   a) They can fly
   b) They can see in the dark
   c) They can talk
   d) They can survive boiling and freezing temperatures

4. What do tardigrades eat?
   a) Other large animals
   b) Leaves from trees
   c) Rocks
   d) Algae and tiny organisms

Discussion & Reflection: Answer the following questions in complete sentences

1. Why do scientists consider tardigrades to be "nature's ultimate survivors"?

Scientists call tardigrades "nature's ultimate survivors" because they can live through extreme conditions that would kill almost any other animal, such as being dried out, frozen, boiled, and exposed to radiation.

2. If you could study tardigrades, what would you want to learn about them and why?

(Answers will Vary.) Example: I would want to learn how their bodies survive extreme environments, because it might help us understand how life could exist on other planets or help humans survive in space.

3. This shows me that God is (Circle the word):

Wise Powerful Caring Creative All of the above

Explain your choice: