Skill – Reading Comprehension Name: _____

Phobias: Are You Scared of Anything?

Adapted By: Have Fun Teaching

Almost everyone is afraid of something and most of the time these fears keep us safe. However, some fears are stronger than usual and become phobias. The word phobia comes from a Greek word meaning "to be frightened." Arachnophobia, or fear of spiders, is one of the more common phobias. Here are some others:

Agoraphobia—the fear being in open spaces
Coulrophobia—the fear of clowns
Glossophobia—the fear of speaking in public
Nosophobia—the fear of catching a disease
Acrophobia—the fear of heights
Phasmophobia—the fear of ghosts

Some people are afraid of things that seem very unusual.

Triskaidekaphobia—the fear of the number 13
Zoophobia—the fear of animals
Amathophobia—the fear of dust
Macrophobia—the fear of long waits
Chromophobia—the fear of colors

Do you have any phobias?

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Skill – Reading Comprehension Name: _____

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Read the story. Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Fears can sometimes keep us _____ from danger.
   - A. Scared
   - B. Safe
   - C. Frightened
   - D. Smiling
2. Phobia comes from a Greek word meaning _____
   - A. To be a spider
   - B. To be happy
   - C. To be scared
   - D. To be frightened
3. The fear of catching a disease is a phobia called, _____
   - A. Nosophobia
   - B. Acrophobia
   - C. Chromophobia
   - D. Heightsphobia
4. If a person has Coulrophobia, you will NOT find them here:
   - A. At the circus
   - B. At the zoo
   - C. At a haunted house
   - D. In an airplane
5. A person who has Acrophobia, has a fear of _____
   - A. Airplanes
   - B. Heights
   - C. Swimming
   - D. Wal-Mart

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ANSWER KEY

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