



Name: _____ Date: _____

Citrus Fruits



Directions: Read the passage, then answer the questions in complete sentences.

Nutrition Facts and Citrus Snacks:

Oranges, grapefruits, tangerines, lemons, and limes are all citrus fruits. Most citrus fruits have bitter peels and are sweet and juicy inside. Citrus fruits are part of the fruit food group. Most of them are very high in vitamin C, which helps heal cuts and gives you healthy skin.

Citrus fruits make refreshing, juicy snacks. Have you ever made homemade lemonade or an orange strawberry smoothie?

Citrus Fruits in History:

Most citrus fruits first grew in Asia thousands of years ago. Oranges first grew in China sometime between 2000 and 3000 B.C. In the year 1200, travelers brought oranges from China to France and Italy. In 1493, Christopher Columbus brought oranges from Spain to the Americas. Today, most citrus fruit in the United States is grown in Florida, California, and Texas.

Growing Citrus Fruit:

Citrus trees are subtropical plants, which mean that they need warm weather to grow. It takes about ten years before an orange tree grown from seed will grow fruit. Orange trees live for a very long time, often from fifty to eighty years. A full-sized orange tree grows an average of 1,500 oranges per year.

1. Where did oranges first grow?

2. How did they get to the Americas?

3. In the United States, where do most citrus fruits grow? Why?
