



## Lesson 15 – Hot Air Ballooning Races

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Ballooning is a fun sport in which many balloonists like to compete. The **University Motors Mountaineer Balloon Festival** gives the balloonists a chance to race against each other to set records.

There are morning and afternoon launches of 40-50 balloons throughout the weekend.

The crews of each team spread out the balloon envelope on the ground and begin inflating it with large fans. When it is full of air they heat the air with propane burners attached to the balloon basket, which causes the balloons to stand upright. They are then ready to start a race.

One popular race is called **The Hare and Hound Race**. In this race, one balloon, called the Hare, goes first. The Hare flies off and finds an open space to land. This balloon pilot spreads a bright orange “X” on the ground. The rest of the balloons, called the hounds, then take off and try to find the hare and drop a beanbag as close to the “X” as they can. Points are given for how close each balloonist gets to the target. These points are added up to choose a grand champion for the weekend.

Use a ruler to measure in centimeters the distance each balloonist’s beanbag is from the target and find out who came first, second, and third in this race. Write the name of the winning balloons in the blanks provided.

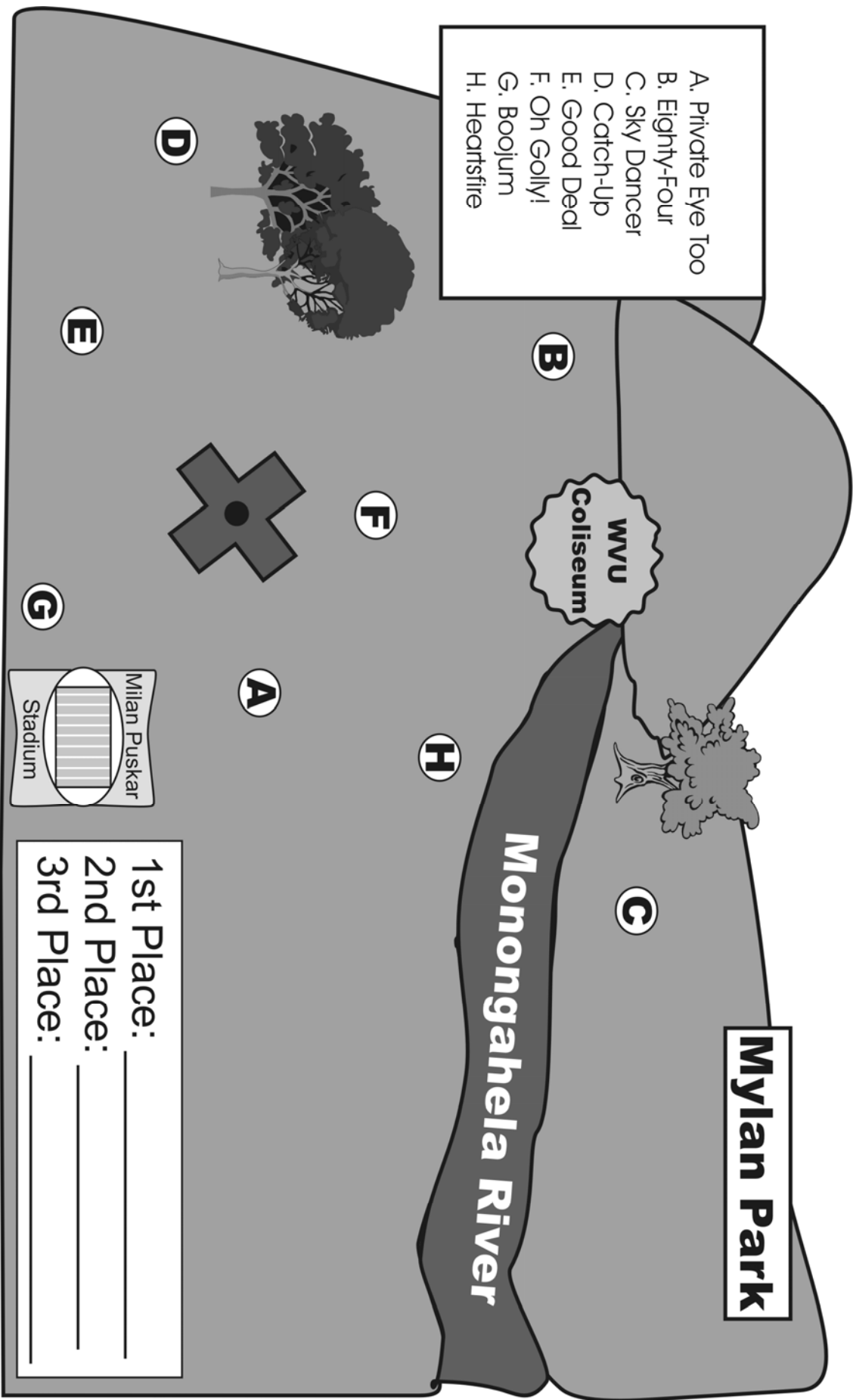
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Hare and Hound Worksheet

The "hare" balloon has landed and placed an "X" on the ground.

Measure in centimeters to find out which 3 "hound" balloons have come closest to the "hare".



- A. Private Eye Too
- B. Eighty-Four
- C. Sky Dancer
- D. Catch-Up
- E. Good Deal
- F. Oh Golly!
- G. Boojum
- H. Heartfire

1st Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Place: \_\_\_\_\_

# Answer Key

## Hare and Hound Worksheet

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Measure in centimeters to find out which 3 “hound” balloons have come closest to the “hare”.

