

## Student Worksheet

### DIRECTIONS

Read the following news story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions. Use additional paper if necessary.

### STORY

**DNA Discovery May Bring Long-extinct Woolly Mammoth Back to Life**, 12/09/08

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/science/july-dec08/mammoth\\_12-09.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/science/july-dec08/mammoth_12-09.html)

### READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What did scientists recently do with a woolly mammoth hair?

2. What is the difference between a woolly mammoth and an African elephant?

3. Where did the woolly mammoth hair come from?

4. How is cloning an animal similar to trying to build a car?

5. How would scientists grow a baby mammoth?

6. What is keratin?

7. What ethical questions are raised by this discovery?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

**1. Do you think scientists should make a new woolly mammoth? Why or why not?**

**2. What is the difference between a chimp-Neanderthal hybrid and a human-Neanderthal hybrid?**

**3. Do you think scientists should make a Neanderthal? Even if you think they shouldn't, do you think someone will? What might happen if a Neanderthal is born after 40,000 years of extinction?**

**4. Do you think this discovery will lead to a scenario like the movie Jurassic Park? Why or why not?**

**Extension Activity**

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra ([extra@newshour.org](mailto:extra@newshour.org)). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.