

Student Comprehension Worksheet

Directions: Read the online *Science News* article "[New high-speed video reveals the physics of a finger snap](#)," which details scientists' exploration of the friction required for finger snapping, and answer the following questions. A version of the article, "Camera captures physics in a snap," appears in the December 18, 2021 & January 1, 2022 issue of *Science News*. If reading the version of the article that appears in print, skip question No. 2.

- 1. What is needed for a successful finger snap? Explain the physics of a finger snap.**
- 2. What is the duration, rotational rate and acceleration of a finger snap? Why might the article's author compare those measurements with a blinking eye and a baseball pitcher's arm?**
- 3. What equipment did scientists use to study finger snapping, and what variables did they test?**
- 4. What did scientists learn from studying snapping fingers covered in lubricant?**
- 5. What did scientists learn from studying snapping fingers covered in high-friction rubber?**
- 6. Based on the researchers' findings, would Thanos — the villain in the movie *Avengers: Infinity War* — have been able to snap his fingers while wearing a metal glove? Explain.**