Decodable Short-Vowel and Long-Vowel Stories

These 20 decodable stories may be used as review or extension activities to reinforce targeted phonetic elements in a teacher-led, small-group setting. Instructional options include:

- Teacher and students choral-read the story together.
- Teacher reads each sentence aloud, and students “echo” read the sentence.
- Teacher reads the story aloud as students follow along and fill in any words that the teacher intentionally leaves out.
- Student partnerships or small groups take turns reading alternate sentences of the story.
- Students individually whisper-read the story as the teacher monitors.

As students master the phonetic elements, they may take the decodable stories home for additional reading practice.

Decodable Short-Vowel Stories (in order of phonetic element introduction)

Short “a” stories:
Hats and Caps
Matt and His Cats

Short “i” stories:
Kim Is Six
Kit the Pig

Short “e” stories:
Bess the Hen
Meg and the Wet Pet

Short “o” stories:
Dot’s Job
Bob the Frog

Short “u” stories:
Mutt the Pup
Bud the Bug

Decodable Long-Vowel Stories (in order of phonetic element introduction)

Long “a” stories:
Dave and Jake
Kate’s Big Cake

Long “i” stories:
Mike at Camp
Cakes and Pies

Long “e” stories:
The Team
The Mean Queen

Long “o” stories:
Joe the Mole
Rose Rode Horses

Long “u” stories:
Luke the Mule
The Duke’s Mule
Short “a” Story: Hats and Caps

Decodable Words
and
Pat
Pam
Sam
Dan
pals
hats
caps

Automatic Words
who
like
likes
they
many
all
the
fun

Hats and Caps

0  Pat and Pam are pals who like hats. Pat likes red hats, and Pam likes blue hats. They have many hats.
12
21  Sam and Dan are pals who like caps. Sam likes red caps, and Dan likes blue caps. They have many caps.
32
42  All the pals have fun with hats and caps.
51

Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____
Short “a” Story: Matt and His Cats

Decodable Words
Matt jam
man pan
cats nap
Nan lap
Sam

tan
fat
cats
tag
ran
ham

Automatic Words
who on
likes
are
the
his
they
played
by
then
them
took

Matt and His Cats

Matt is a man who likes cats. Nan and Sam are his tan, fat cats.
The cats played tag. Nan and Sam ran and ran. They ran by a cab and a van. Then Matt got them ham and jam in a pan. The cats took a nap on Matt’s lap.

Total Words Read ______
- Errors ______
= CWPM ______
Kim is six, and she likes six! Kim has six car kits and six big pins. She also has six tin lids. Kim has six pink pigs and six red wigs. Six car kits, six big pins, six tin lids, six pink pigs, and six red wigs! Kim likes six!

Total Words Read ____
- Errors ____
= CWPM ____

Kim is Six

0 Kim is six, and she likes six! Kim has six car kits and
13 six big pins. She also has six tin lids. Kim has six pink pigs
27 and six red wigs.
31 Six car kits, six big pins, six tin lids, six pink pigs, and
44 six red wigs! Kim likes six!
50
Kit the Pig

0 Kit is a pig. Kit is a big, pink pig. Kit likes to dig. He
15 likes to sit and dig. Kit likes to swim. He likes to dig and
29 swim.
30 Skip is a big pink pig, too. He likes to dig and swim.
43 Kit and Skip like to dig and swim.
51

Decodable Words
Kit
pig
big
pink
dig
sit
swim
Skip

Automatic Words
the
is
a
likes
to
he
and
too

Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____
Bess the Hen

0  Bess is a hen. She is a red hen. Yes, Bess is a big, red
15  hen. Bess lives in a pen. She had a nest in the pen. Bess
29  had a big nest in the pen.
36  Bess had ten eggs in her nest. Then Bess had ten
47  chicks in her nest.
51
Meg and the Wet Pet

Meg had a pet cat. The cat was Ben. Meg and Ben sat in the wet sand. They got wet. Meg and Ben were a wet mess.

Dad was mad that they were a mess. Meg was sent to bed. Ben was sent to bed, too. Meg and her pet went to bed. They were sad.
Dot didn't like to mop. She didn't like the job. Dot began to sob and sob.

Dot's Job

0 Dot had a job. Dot's job was to mop. She had to mop and mop. Dot had to mop lots of spots. Dot also had to
13 mop up globs. She had to get up on top of a box to mop. Dot didn't like to mop. She didn't like the job. Dot
26 began to sob and sob.
41
54
59

Dot had a job. Dot's job was to mop. She had to mop and mop. Dot had to mop lots of spots. Dot also had to mop up globs. She had to get up on top of a box to mop. Dot did not like to mop. She did not like the job. Dot began to sob and sob.

Total Words Read ____
- Errors ____
= CWPM ____
Bob the Frog

0 Bob is a frog who likes to hop. He is a hopping frog.
13 Bob hops on rocks. He hops from rock to rock. He also
25 hops on logs. Bob hops from log to log.
34 Then Bob plops in the pond. Bob likes to get wet. He
46 is fond of the pond.
51

Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____
Mutt the Pup

Mutt the pup is a fun pet. Mutt likes to run and run.
Mutt’s mom sat him in the tub. He had a bath in the tub.
Then, Mutt sat in the sun on his red rug. He felt as snug as a bug in a rug. Mutt is fun to hug when he is out of the tub.

Total Words Read ____
- Errors ____
= CWPM ____
Bud the Bug

Bud was a big bug. Bud sat in the mud. He did not run in the mud. He did not jog in the mud. Bud only dug in the mud.

Bud dug and dug in the wet mud. He had fun in the mud. Bud was a big bug in the mud.
Long “a” Story: Dave and Jake

Decodable Words | Automatic Words
---|---
Dave | was
went | the
lake | saw
Jake | look
at | looked
snakes | for
in | today
big | to
cave | too
not | 

Dave and Jake

0 Dave went to the lake. Jake was at the lake. Dave saw
12 Jake at the lake. Dave was at the lake to look for snakes.
25 Jake was at the lake to look for snakes, too.
35 Dave and Jake went to look for snakes. They looked in
46 a big cave for snakes. It was not safe to look for snakes in
60 the big cave. They gave up. No snakes for Dave and Jake
72 today.
73

Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____
Kate's Big Cake

Kate had a big cake to take to a bake sale. She was late and came to a big gate. The gate would not open. Kate made a face.

Nate saw Kate and the big cake at the gate. Nate ran up to Kate. Nate opened the gate. Now Kate and the big cake would not be late. Kate said, "Thank you," to Nate.

She took her cake to the bake sale.
Mike at Camp

0 It was time for camp. Mike got up and went to camp.
12 The camp had bikes. It had red bikes and white bikes.
23 Mike got a red bike. It was fun to ride the bike.
35 Mike went for a nine-mile bike ride. It took a long
47 time to ride nine miles. Mike liked to ride his red bike. It
60 was fun to go to camp and go on bike rides.
71

Total Words Read ______
- Errors ______
= CWPM ______
Cakes and Pies

0  Kilee and Mike were bakers. Kilee was Mike’s wife.
9  Kilee and Mike liked to bake. They baked all the time.
20  Mike liked limes, so he baked lime pies. Kilee liked
30  rice, so she baked rice cakes. They ate lots of lime pies and
43  rice cakes. They had a fine time.
50  

Decodable Words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kilee</th>
<th>lots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike</td>
<td>fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bake</td>
<td>baked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bakers</td>
<td>lime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time</td>
<td>all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>liked</td>
<td>the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>limes</td>
<td>so</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pies</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rice</td>
<td>of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cakes</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Automatic Words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>and</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>she</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>were</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was</td>
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<tr>
<td>to</td>
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<td>all</td>
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<td>the</td>
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<tr>
<td>so</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____
The Team

A flea and a bee were pals. A seal and a sheep were pals. All four were pals. The four pals helped each other.

The bee needed a hive so his pals helped him. The flea wanted a drink of tea. His pals helped him. The seal wanted to find the sea so his pals helped him. The sheep wanted to feed on some grass.

All four pals helped each other. The pals were a good team.

Total Words Read ____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____
Long "e" Story: The Mean Queen

Jean was a queen. She was not a nice queen. Jean was a very mean queen. No one wanted to see her. Jean would scream a mean scream. Jean would scream at the cook. She threw green beans at the cook. Jean threw her red beets at the cook, too.

Jean was mean to her teacher. Jean did not like to read her books, so she threw them. No one liked mean Jean for a queen. They were sad that she was their queen.
Joe the Mole

Joe was a mole who lived in a hole. Joe wanted a new home. He did not want to live in a hole. Joe looked at a stove for a home. The stove was too hot. The smoke made Joe choke.

Joe looked at a pile of stones for a new home. Joe poked his nose on the stones. He did not like stones. He went back to his hole. A hole can be a fine home for a mole.
Long "o" Story: Rose Rode Horses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decodable Words</th>
<th>Automatic Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rose</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>rode</td>
<td>horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>woke</td>
<td>all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>up</td>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>day</td>
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<tr>
<td>flag</td>
<td>each</td>
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<td>pole</td>
<td>end</td>
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<td>zone</td>
<td>way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>whole</td>
<td>to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>home</td>
<td>school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rose Rode Horses

0 Rose liked horses. She rode horses. She rode horses all
day long. Each day, Rose woke up and rode and rode. She
rode to the flag pole. She rode to the end zone.
33 Rose rode the whole way to school. She rode the
whole way home from school. Rose rode horses all day
53 long.

Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____

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Luke the Mule

Luke was a nice mule. He lived in a huge pen with other mules. A girl named June took care of the mules. June played tunes on her flute. She played for the mules. Luke liked June’s tunes. He liked to hear tunes played on the flute. He liked to sing to the tunes. The other mules liked to sing, too. The mules looked cute when they sang to the tunes.

Decodable Words
- Luke
- mule
- mules
- huge
- pen
- June
- tunes
- flute
- cute

Automatic Words
- was
- lived
- the
- other
- named
- care
- took
- of
- played
- hear

Total Words Read _____
- Errors ______
= CWPM ______
A duke had a mule on which to ride. A mule, you say!

Don’t dukes ride on big horses, not mules?

Well, horses were not for this duke. He fell off a horse, so he does not like them at all. He likes only mules, so that is why he is a duke with a mule.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice Passages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Grade</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1: Exercise</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 Keeping Fit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102 Warm Up: Getting Ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103 Take a Hike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104 Jump Rope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105 Skate Around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1: Insects</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106 All about Insects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107 Ants: The Hard Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108 Bees: The Busy Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109 Fireflies: The Night Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110 Ladybugs: The Helpful Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1: Pets</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111 Pets: Helpful Pals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112 Dogs: Barking Buddies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113 Cats: Purring Pets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114 Birds: Flying Pets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115 Fish: Water Pets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1: Safety</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116 Safety Rules and Plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117 If You Are Lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118 Fire Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119 Bike Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120 Walking to School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1: The Sky</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121 The Sun, the Moon, and the Stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122 The Sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123 The Moon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124 The Stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125 The Constellations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Second Grade

Level 2: Animal Habitats
201 Animal Habitats Introduction
202 Ocean Habitats
203 Desert Habitats
204 Habitat Help
205 Wildlife Refuges

Level 2: Citizenship
206 Citizens
207 The Right to Vote
208 The Laws of the Land
209 Our Country’s Government
210 How to Be a Good Citizen

Level 2: Symbols of Freedom
211 Symbols of Freedom Introduction
212 The American Flag
213 The White House
214 The Bald Eagle
215 The Statue of Liberty

Level 2: Community Helpers
216 A Community
217 Fire Fighters
218 Police Officers
219 Doctors
220 Teachers

Level 2: Rain Forests
221 Rain Forests: Nature’s Friends
222 Animals of the Rain Forest
223 Plants of the Rain Forest
224 Why Rain Forests Are Important
225 How We Can Help Save the Rain Forests
**Third Grade**

**Level 3: The Human Body**
- 301 The Human Body Introduction
- 302 The Skeletal and Muscle System
- 303 The Heart and Lung System
- 304 The Nervous System
- 305 The Digestive System

**Level 3: Holiday Celebrations**
- 306 Holidays Introduction
- 307 New Year’s Day
- 308 Valentine’s Day
- 309 Independence Day
- 310 Thanksgiving Day

**Level 3: Homes of the Past**
- 311 Native Americans
- 312 Northwest Homes: Wood Lodges
- 313 Southwest Homes: Pueblos
- 314 Plains Homes: Tepees
- 315 Northeast Homes: Longhouses

**Level 3: The Solar System**
- 316 The Solar System Introduction
- 317 The Inner Planets
- 318 The Outer Planets
- 319 Asteroids and Meteoroids
- 320 Comets

**Level 3: Take Care of Waste!**
- 321 The Three R’s
- 322 Reduce
- 323 Recycle
- 324 Reuse
- 325 Be Safe With Waste
Level 1: Exercise

101 Keeping Fit
102 Warm Up: Getting Ready
103 Take a Hike
104 Jump Rope
105 Skate Around

Vocabulary

**exercise:** To move your body. To do some kind of physical activity.

**muscles:** Inside parts of your body that join bones together and help your body move.

**stretch:** To reach out your arms, legs, or body as far as you can to exercise your muscles.
Exercise is good for you. There are many reasons why. The best kind of exercise makes you breathe deeply. This helps your lungs grow strong. It gets your heart pumping. This helps your heart grow strong. Swimming is good exercise. So is skating and bike riding. Walking is good for you. So is jumping rope.

Some exercise can make you strong. Use your muscles for heavy work. This will make your muscles stronger.

Doing push-ups makes you strong. So can bike riding and skating.

Exercise makes you flexible. It helps you bend your body. It helps you stretch. Dancing is good. So is karate.

Exercise helps stop weight gain. If you are active, you burn off calories. Then your body will not store them as fat.

Best of all, keeping fit will make you feel good!
Your body needs to get ready for exercise. The muscles need to warm up. Take time to stretch. Do one stretch at a time. Count to 15. Do each stretch three times.

Start with a sit and reach stretch. Sit on the floor. Put your legs out in front of you. Keep your heels on the floor. Stretch your hands to your toes. Hold and count to 15.

Next, do a thigh stretch. Roll over. Push yourself up on your hands and knees. Stretch one leg behind you.

Then, pull your leg under your chest. Stretch one leg at a time.

Now, stand up. Do a back stretch. Lift and then bend your arms. Grab the elbow of one arm. Stretch the elbow down your back as far as you can. Stretch one elbow at a time.

Next, stretch your chest. Put your hands behind your back. Hold them together. Pull them slowly back and up.

Last, do a leg stretch. Lean against a wall. Bend one leg in front of you. Stretch the other leg behind you.

Stretch one leg at a time.
Take a Hike

Walking is good for you. A fast walk can help your heart. It can also help your lungs. Walking will help your bones be strong. It will help you to be fit.

Walking is easy to do. It is fun to walk with someone else. Ask a friend to walk with you. Try to walk fast for 30 minutes most days. Fast walking means that you can talk, but you can’t sing. You may be puffing a little. Be sure to wear good shoes. Tennis shoes are good walking shoes. Be sure to take water with you on your walk.

Stretch your legs before you walk. Start walking slowly. This will warm up your muscles. Then, pick up your speed. At the end of your walk, stretch your muscles again. Walking is a great way to get exercise!
Jump Rope

Jumping rope is fun. It is also good for you. Jumping rope helps your heart get strong. Your lungs will get strong, too. Jumping rope helps your feet and hands work well together.

Be sure to wear good shoes. You will need shoes that support your feet. Always jump on flat ground. Start out slowly.

Start with your hands beside your body. Keep your arms straight. Keep them relaxed. Jump on both feet. Land on the balls of your feet. Jump once for each turn of the rope. Be sure to keep your feet together. Keep your ankles and knees together, too. Learn to jump low. Learn to jump soft. Learn to jump standing straight up.

Keep track of how many times you jump. Start with 30 hops. Then, add some hops. Keep track of how long you jump. Add one minute each week.
Skating is good exercise. It is fun, too. But skating is not easy. There are tools to buy. There are rules to learn. You must know what to do before you put wheels on your feet.

If you want to be a skater, you will need skates. The skates must fit well. You will also need a helmet. It is good to have knee pads. Elbow pads are also good. Some skaters wear gloves.

Skaters can be dangerous. Skaters must know how to use their skates. They need to know how to get going. They need to know how to stop. Skaters fall down. You must know safe ways to fall.

Learn to skate where there is no traffic. Look for flat roads. Stay away from rocks and holes. The best place to skate is in a park.
Level 1: Insects

106 All About Insects
107 Ants: The Hard Workers
108 Bees: The Busy Workers
109 Fireflies: The Night Workers
110 Ladybugs: The Helpful Workers

Vocabulary

**egg:** A round object with a hard shell that is laid by a female. An egg grows into an animal.

**insect:** A very small animal with six legs and three main body parts. Most insects have wings.

**larva:** An insect when it first hatches from an egg. A larva looks like a worm.

**pupa:** A stage in the life cycle of an insect. The time when a larva changes into an adult.
An insect is a tiny animal. It has six legs. It has a body. An insect’s body has three parts. Most insects have wings. Insects do not have a backbone.

There are more than one million kinds of insects. They are found all over. Insects can live in hot places. They can live in cold places. There are many kinds of insects. Insects do not look alike. They come in many colors. They also come in many shapes.

Insects have a life cycle. Each insect starts life as an egg. The egg hatches. It becomes a larva. A larva looks like a worm. It has a mouth. But it does not have eyes. A larva likes to eat. It eats and eats. The larva gets very big. Then, it is too big for its skin. The larva sheds its skin. Later, the larva spins a cocoon. It lives in the cocoon. Now it is called a pupa. After a while, the pupa leaves its cocoon. Then, it is an adult insect.
Ants: The Hard Workers

Ants are insects. Most ants live in the soil. They live in nests. Their nests are called colonies. Each colony has many ants. The colonies have a lot of rooms. Ants take care of their colonies. They keep food in their colonies.

Each ant has a job. Some ants care for the nest. Others look for food. When they find food, they make a trail. Other ants find the trail. They carry the food to the nest.

Each nest has one queen ant. The queen stays in the nest. She lays eggs. Each egg grows to be a larva. A larva is white. It looks like a worm. It has no eyes or legs. But it does have a mouth. The ants feed each larva. The larva grows. It wraps into a cocoon. The larva changes in the cocoon. It grows into an adult ant.
Bees: The Busy Workers

Bees are insects. They have four wings. The bees’ wings move very fast. The wings make a buzzing sound. Bees live in a hive. A hive is made of cells. The cells are made of wax. Each hive has one queen bee. But it has many worker bees. Worker bees are little. But they are hard workers. They each have a job.

The queen bee has only one job. Her job is to lay eggs. Each egg hatches into a larva. Worker bees feed the larva. Each larva makes a cocoon. Then the larva turns into a pupa. The pupa turns into an adult bee.

Worker bees have other jobs. Some guard the hive. Some keep the hive cool. Others take nectar from flowers. Bees use nectar. They turn it into honey. The honey is put into the hive. It is kept in the wax cells. Bees use honey for food. Bees make more honey than they can use. Honey is very sweet. People like honey, too.
Fireflies are insects. But they are not flies. They are a kind of beetle. Fireflies have a hard shell. The shell covers their wings. Fireflies live in the grass. They eat small bugs. They also eat snails.

Fireflies have a big tail. Their tail makes a yellow light. They fly on warm nights. When they fly at night, they look like little lights in the air. Fireflies talk to each other using their tails. They flash light patterns to each other. Fireflies go to sleep about 9 p.m. When they go to sleep, their lights fade.

In the fall, fireflies lay eggs. They lay eggs on leaves. Rain washes the eggs to the soil. Each egg hatches into a larva. A larva stays in the soil all winter. Then spring comes. The larva comes out to feed. In the summer, it turns into a pupa. It stays a pupa for about two weeks. Then it becomes an adult firefly.
Ladybugs: The Helpful Workers

Ladybugs are insects. They are pretty. Their wings are red. They are shiny. The wings have black dots. These bugs are a kind of beetle.

People like ladybugs. The bugs are helpful. They eat aphids. Aphids are pests that eat plants. When there are no aphids, plants grow. Their flowers are pretty. Their fruit is good to eat. Ladybugs are good for plants. People like to have these bugs in their yards.

Ladybugs lay many eggs. The eggs are very tiny. Each egg hatches. It becomes a larva. The larva is little and long. It looks like a worm. The larva sticks to a plant. Then the larva splits open. A pupa comes out. It is in a cocoon. Soon, the pupa comes out of the cocoon. It is now a ladybug.
Level 1: Pets

Pets: Helpful Pals

Dogs: Barking Buddies

Cats: Purring Pets

Birds: Flying Pets

Fish: Water Pets

Vocabulary

care: To give pets what they need (for example, food, water, and a safe place to sleep).

pet: An animal that lives at home.

special care: More care than usual. Care that is given for an important reason.
Pets are animals that live with people. Pets are fun to have around. We like to play with them. Pets are fun to touch. We can talk to our pets. They make us feel happy.

But pets also help us. They help us learn. Pets need us to give them food. They need us to give them water. We have to take care of our pets. If we don’t take care of them, they could get sick or die. We have to remember to care for pets every day. That helps us learn to be responsible.

Being in charge of a pet helps us to learn other things. Pets need to be safe. We must watch them. Some pets must stay inside. If they go outside, they could get hurt.

We must keep them from danger. Watching pets helps us to learn to pay attention.

Taking care of pets is a lot of work. Sometimes, pets do not do what we want them to do. We may have to fix their mistakes. That helps us learn to be patient.

We have a lot of fun with pets. But we also learn from them! Pets are good for people!
Dogs: Barking Buddies

Dogs are good pets. But they are a lot of work. Be sure that you are ready to take good care of a dog. There are more than 400 kinds of dogs. Some are very small. Others are very big. Pick the kind of dog that is right for you and your family.

Dogs need food and water in a clean dish every day. They need shelter from bad weather. Dogs must have exercise. They like to go for walks. Their hair must be brushed often. They need to go to the vet for check-ups and shots.

Dogs must learn how to behave. You will have to spend time training your dog. Dogs need love. They like to be around people. You must spend time playing with your dog every day.

Taking care of a dog can be hard work. But a dog will be your best friend for many years to come.
**Cats: Purring Pets**

0 Cats are good pets. Like all pets, they need special care. Cats need food and water every day. Cats are meat eaters. They must have meat every day. Give your cat food made from beef, chicken, or fish. Cats do not need to drink milk. Give your cat fresh water.

10 Cats need a safe place to live. Cats that live indoors are safer than cats that live outdoors. If you let your cat outside, be sure it is in the daytime. At night, wild animals can attack a cat.

20 Cats use litter boxes. You need to keep your cat’s litter box clean. It must be cleaned at least once a day. Cats like clean litter boxes.

30 Play with your cat every day. Playing keeps them from getting bored. It is also good exercise. Remember to take your cat to the vet for check-ups. A healthy cat will have a long life.
Birds make good pets. There are many kinds of birds. Like all pets, birds need special care. Birds must be treated gently. Some birds like to be held. Others do not. Many birds sing. Others can talk.

Birds need cages. The cage should be large enough for the bird to fly around. Flying is good exercise. Put perches in the cage. Birds like to jump on perches. Put paper in the bottom of the cage. The paper must be changed every day. Put the cage in a warm place. The kitchen is not a good place for birds. They can get sick from oven fumes.

Birds eat special food. Buy the right kind at a pet store. Make sure that your bird always has food. Birds need water to drink. All birds love to take baths. Give your bird two cups of water. One is to drink. The other is for bathing. It is fun to watch birds splash in their bath.

With good care, birds can live for many years.
Fish: Water Pets

There are many kinds of fish. Some live in cold water. Others live in warm water.

Goldfish make good pets. They live in cold water. It is easier to take care of coldwater fish. Goldfish are fun to watch. They like to jump. They also like to splash.

Goldfish become excited when it is meal time. They swim very fast. Goldfish eat special fish food. They also eat vegetables. Peas are good for goldfish.

Like all pets, goldfish need special care. You will need to have a big fish tank for your fish. There should be a lid on the tank. The lid will keep the fish safe inside. Do not put too many fish together in one tank. Goldfish need room to grow.

Goldfish, like other fish, need clean water in their tank. You will need to clean the fish tank often.

If you take good care of your goldfish, it will live for many years.
Level 1: Safety

116 Safety Plans and Rules
117 If You Are Lost
118 Fire Safety
119 Bike Safety
120 Walking to School

Vocabulary

careful: To think as you do something to avoid danger.
danger: Something that can hurt you.
plan: To prepare to do something in the future.
safe: Not in danger.
Safety Plans and Rules

0 Children need to know how to be safe. They need to know what to do if they are afraid. If children know what to do, they can help themselves. They can try to keep out of danger.

37 Adults teach children to be safe. They teach children to stop and think. They teach children to have a plan.

57 Children need to have many plans. Having plans will help them know what to do. Children need to know what to do if they are lost. They need to know what to do if there is a fire.

95 Children also need to know rules. Rules can keep them safe. Children need to know the rules for crossing the street. They need to know rules for bike riding.
If You Are Lost

Sometimes, children get lost. If you get lost, don’t be scared. Stop and think about a plan. If you are lost in the woods, find a tree. Stay by the tree. Hug the tree. Do not move to another place. People will be looking for you. If you move, they may not find you. Stay in one place. Give people time to find you.

If you are lost in a city, look for help. Look for the police. Do not talk to strangers. Look for a telephone. Dial 911. You do not need money to call. Tell the adult on the phone that you are lost. The adult will send the police to find you. The police will take you to your family.
Be safe about fire. Fire can cause danger. Never play with matches. Never play with lighters. Stay away from the stove. Do not try to cook alone.

If your clothes catch on fire, do not run. Running will make the fire get bigger. Remember to stop, drop, and roll. What does this mean? Stop right away. Fall to the ground. Then roll around on the ground. This will help to put out the fire.

If you see a fire, find a phone. Dial 911. Tell the adult on the phone about the fire. Do not hang up the phone. Listen and do what the adult tells you to do. The adult will send help. A fire truck will come.
Riding a bike is fun. Children like to ride bikes. They need to be careful. They need to follow the rules. Wear a helmet. If you fall off your bike, you could hurt your head. A helmet helps to make sure that your head is not hurt.

Ride your bike on the right side of the street. This is the same way that cars go. A car does not expect to see a bike coming toward them. Stay in the bike lane. Do not ride on the part of the road where cars go. A car could hit a bike.

Learn the hand signals. The signals let the cars know if you are going to turn. If you want to turn left, make the left turn signal. If you want to turn right, make the right turn signal.

You can have fun riding a bike. But be sure to be safe!
Walking to School

Many children walk to school. They need to know safety rules. The rules will keep them safe.

Have a plan when you walk to school. Pick a way with few streets to cross. Walk the same way to school every day. Do not walk alone. Walk with a friend. Do not stop to play on the way to school or home.

Do not talk to strangers. A stranger is someone you do not know. Never take a ride from a stranger. If someone asks you to get in a car, yell "NO!" Then, run away.

Look both ways before you cross the street. Do not cross in the middle of the street. Go to a safe street corner. Obey the traffic signs. Watch for turning cars. Do not run.

Always walk across the street. Do not walk between cars that are parked in the street or in a parking lot.

You can have fun walking to school. But be sure to be safe!
Level 1: The Sky

121 The Sun, the Moon, and the Stars
122 The Sun
123 The Moon
124 The Stars
125 The Constellations

Vocabulary

constellations: Groups of stars that make patterns and have names.

moon: A bright ball of rock and dust that appears in the night sky.

stars: Points of light in the night sky.

sun: A large, bright star in the sky that gives off light and heat.
The Sun, the Moon, and the Stars

0 We see the sun every day. It looks like it is moving.
12 But the sun does not really move. It is the Earth that is moving. The Earth moves around the sun. This movement makes days and nights. It also makes seasons.
42 We see the moon at night. It is the biggest object in the night sky. The moon looks like it shines. But it does not really give off light. The light from the moon comes from the sun. The moon moves around the Earth. As it moves, the moon changes shape.
93 We see stars at night. They look like small points of light. Stars look small because they are far away. But stars are really big. They are bigger than the Earth.

Total Words Read ____
- Errors ____
= CWPM ____
The Sun

The sun is a star. It is the closest star to Earth. It is 93 million miles away from Earth. The sun looks small because it is far away. But the sun is much bigger than Earth.

The sun is made of gases. The gases are very hot. The sun gives off light. Light is a kind of energy. The sun lights up the Earth. Plants need the sun’s light to grow. They need the sun’s light to make food.

The sun also gives off heat. The heat from the sun warms the land. It also warms the water and the air. The sun’s heat warms all living things on Earth.

The sun is important to life on Earth. It gives us light and heat. The light and heat from the sun is called solar energy.
We can see the moon at night. It is a huge ball. The moon is made of rock and dust. It looks like it has spots on it. These spots are holes. The holes are called craters. They are made when a rock flies through space and hits the moon.

The moon is the Earth's satellite. That means that the moon moves around the Earth. It takes the moon about one month to orbit the Earth.

When it starts, the moon is between the sun and Earth. We can't see the moon from Earth then. One week later, the moon is one-fourth of the way around the Earth. It looks like a half-circle in the night sky. In two weeks, the moon is halfway around. It looks like a full circle from Earth. In three weeks, the moon is three-fourths of the way around the Earth. By the fourth week, the moon is back where it started.
The Stars

Stars are big, glowing balls. They are made of hot gases. The hot gases give off light. We can see the light from Earth.

Stars look bright. Some stars look brighter than others. Bigger stars look brighter than smaller stars. Stars that are hotter look brighter. The closer the stars are to Earth, the brighter they look.

Stars also seem to twinkle. We see stars through layers of moving air. It seems like the stars move a bit. Stars that twinkle more are close to the Earth’s horizon. That is because they have to travel through more air. Stars that are overhead do not twinkle as much.

The sun is a star. It is a medium-size star. The sun is the closest star to Earth.
Some stars are in groups. From Earth, they form a pattern. A star pattern is called a constellation. The night sky has about 88 constellations.

One is the Big Dipper. The Big Dipper is a group of seven stars. These seven stars form a dipper. A dipper is a big spoon. It looks like a gravy ladle. Three stars form the handle. Four stars form the cup.

The Big Dipper is easy to find in the night sky. This is because its stars are very bright. The best time to see the Big Dipper is in the middle of summer. Look in the northern sky. First, find the handle. Then it will be easy to see the cup.

We can use the Big Dipper to find other things in the sky. The two stars on the front of its cup line up with the Little Dipper. The Little Dipper is smaller than the Big Dipper. Its cup hangs down from its handle. Look for a bright star at the end of the Little Dipper’s handle. That is the North Star. When we look at it, we know that we are facing north.
Level 2: Animal Habitats

201 Animal Habitats Introduction
202 Ocean Habitats
203 Desert Habitats
204 Habitat Help
205 Wildlife Refuges

Vocabulary

animal: A creature of nature (not a person or a plant).
food: Something that is eaten.
habitat: A place where an animal lives or a plant grows.
land: The solid part of the earth.
refuge: A safe place.
temperature: The degree of heat or cold.
water: The liquid part of the earth (such as lakes, rivers, and seas).
A habitat is a home for an animal. There are many kinds of habitats. The earth has 16 habitats. Some are on land. Some are in water. Habitats have a range of temperatures. They can be very cold. They can be very hot. Most animals can live in only one or two kinds of habitats. A whale cannot live on land, nor can a polar bear live in the desert.

Habitats have what animals need. They have food. They have water. Habitats have hiding places. They have places to make nests. Habitats protect animals from cold or heat.

Sometimes, animals move from one habitat to another. They do this in the spring. Then, they move again in the fall. They may move to find a warmer habitat. Or they may move to find more food.
Ocean Habitats

Oceans cover much of our Earth. About 70% of the Earth is water. Oceans have four parts. They are habitat zones. The first zone is near the top of the ocean. The second zone goes down 1,000 meters. The third zone goes down to 4,000 meters. The last zone is the ocean floor.

Many animals live in the ocean. Billions of fish live in the ocean. There are more than 25,000 kinds of fish. Some are tiny, and some are huge. They have many colors. Most fish live in water that is close to the shore. They live in water that is less than 600 feet deep. Some fish live in the deep part of the ocean. There is less light in deep water. Some of these fish glow in the dark.

Other kinds of animals live in the ocean. Mammals live in oceans. A whale is an ocean mammal. So is a dolphin. They live in the water, but they swim to the top to breathe air. Reptiles also live in the ocean. A sea turtle is an ocean reptile. It also breathes air. When a sea turtle is resting, it can stay underwater for up to two hours. Ocean zones are habitats for many animals.
Desert Habitats

Deserts are very dry lands. They do not have much water. The temperature in a desert is both hot and cold. Deserts are very hot in the daytime. But, they can become very cold at night. There are many deserts. They are all over the world. Deserts make up one-fifth of the Earth's land.

It is hard to live in the desert. Many desert animals sleep during the day. They do this to stay out of the desert heat. These animals come out at dawn or dusk. Some desert animals dig holes under the ground. They stay in these holes during the hot part of the day. Other desert animals like lizards do not sleep during the day. Lizards have long legs. They have bodies that are close to the ground. This helps them stay cool.

Many desert animals do not need much water. The ones that do need water can get it from plants. A cactus is a desert plant. It stores water. Animals can get water from inside a cactus.
Habitat Help

Some animals are in trouble. There are not many of them left. They are endangered. These animals may become extinct. Then they will be gone forever.

How does this happen? One way is if the animal loses its home. An animal needs a special place to live. These places are habitats. Habitats have what the animal needs. They have food. They have water. Habitats have hiding places. They have places to make nests. Habitats protect animals from cold or heat. Animals die if they do not have the right habitat.

People need to help save habitats. We can make special places for animals. Wildlife refuges are safe places. So are national parks. We can recycle trash. We can stop using bad chemicals in our gardens. Then they will not end up in animal habitats. We can turn off lights and the TV when we are not using them. This will save energy. We can turn off the water while we brush our teeth. This will save water.

We can all do our part to help save animal habitats.
Wildlife Refuges

There are special homes for animals. They are safe places. These places are refuges. Refuges are on public land. They belong to the people.

The U.S. set up refuges. The first was in Florida. It was set up in 1903. That was more than 100 years ago. It is a refuge for birds and turtles. There are 530 refuges in the U.S. today. Each state has one. Some states have more than one.

People work in refuges. They work for the U.S. Their job is to watch out for the animals. The people are refuge managers. They visit the refuges every day. They look for animals. They count the ones they see. The people look for animal tracks. They count the tracks. If an animal is hurt, the managers help.
Level 2: Citizenship

206 Citizens
207 The Right to Vote
208 The Laws of the Land
209 Our Country’s Government
210 How to Be a Good Citizen

Vocabulary

citizen: Someone who lives in a certain city, state, or country.

government: A group of people who control the laws of a city, state, or country.

law: A system of rules that people in a city, state, or country must obey.
tax: Money that citizens pay to a government.
vote: To mark a paper or to raise your hand to show which law or person you want to choose.
People belong to groups. A family is a group. A class is a group. Friends are a group. Citizens are a group, too.

They were born in a country. They belong to that country.

People born in the U.S. are U.S. citizens. Some U.S. citizens live in another country. They have children born in that country. The children will be U.S. citizens, too.

People come to the U.S. from other countries. They are looking for a better life. The U.S. is made up of people from different countries. That is why the U.S. is called the "melting pot." People born in another country can become U.S. citizens. They have to do three things. First, they must apply to be a U.S. citizen. Then, they must pass a test. Finally, they talk to a judge. The judge decides if the person can be a U.S. citizen.
U.S. citizens are lucky. They have a lot of freedom. They have many rights. Voting is an important right. When people vote, they choose what they want. People in groups may want different things. Voting is a fair way to decide. Families sometimes vote. They might vote on what to have for dinner. Classes sometimes vote. They might vote on what to do after lunch. Friends can vote. They might vote on which movie to see. In the U.S., citizens who are 18 years or older can vote. They can vote for the people they want to be their leaders. They can vote for the president of the U.S. It is important for citizens to vote.
The Laws of the Land

0 People in groups work together. They also play together. People in groups have to get along with each other. People get along when they follow rules. Some rules tell what to do. Other rules tell what not to do.

39 Laws are rules that people must obey. Laws are made to help solve problems. They are also made to help stop problems. Many laws are made to keep people safe. All countries have laws. People are expected to follow the laws.

80 In the U.S., people are expected to follow many laws. They must obey the laws in their city. They must obey the laws in their state. All U.S. citizens must obey the laws of the country. They must respect each other's rights. U.S. citizens must pay taxes. Taxes are money that people pay to their country. Tax money is used to pay for things the country needs.
Our Country’s Government

Our country has a government. It is a group of people. They are the people in charge. In the U.S., citizens vote. They choose their leaders. These leaders are the government.

The first U.S. leaders wrote a plan. The plan is the U.S. Constitution. It lists all of the most important laws. It begins with famous words: “We the people of the United States.” The Constitution also lists the rights of U.S. citizens. We have many rights. One is the freedom to worship in our own way. Another is the right to vote.

Washington, D.C., is a city. It is the U.S. capital city. It is an important place. Our government is there. Our top leaders are there. The president lives there. The city was named for George Washington. He was the first U.S. president.
What does it take to be a good citizen? One way is to be honest. Honest people tell the truth. They are honest with themselves. They are also honest with other people.

Good citizens care. They care about themselves. They care about each other. Good citizens care about the world.

Good citizens show respect. That means that they are polite. They obey the law. They respect themselves. They respect other people, too.

Good citizens are responsible. They do what they say they will do. They don’t make excuses. They don’t blame other people.

Good citizens are brave. They are brave enough to do the right thing. They are also brave enough to ask for help when they need it.

We are lucky to have many good citizens in our world.
Level 2: Symbols of Freedom

211 Symbols of Freedom Introduction
212 The American Flag
213 The White House
214 The Bald Eagle
215 The Statue of Liberty

Vocabulary

America: A country. Also called the United States.

freedom: The right to do whatever you want to do. To not be controlled by someone else.

symbol: A picture, person, or object that stands for a thing or an idea.

United States: A country made up of 50 states. Also called America.
Symbols of Freedom

A symbol stands for something. It is special. A symbol puts a picture in our mind. Symbols are all around us. A heart can be a symbol. When we see a heart, it can mean love. It could also mean a valentine. A symbol can mean a sound. A music note is a symbol.

The U.S. has symbols. They stand for our country. They stand for U.S. ideas. They stand for freedom. Our flag is a symbol. An animal can also be a symbol. The bald eagle is a U.S. symbol. A building can be a symbol. The White House is a U.S. symbol. A statue can be a symbol. The Statue of Liberty is a symbol. Symbols are important.
The American flag is a symbol. It stands for our country. The flag is a symbol of unity. It is also a symbol of strength. The colors of the flag are red, white, and blue. The colors are also symbols. Red is a symbol for hardiness. It also means valor. White is a symbol for purity. It also means innocence. Blue is a symbol for justice.

The American flag has 13 stars and stripes. The stripes are red and white. There are 7 red stripes and 6 white stripes. The stripes are symbols for the first 13 states. The flag has a group of stars. The stars are white on a blue background. Each star is a symbol for a state. A star is added each time a state joins the U.S. Today, the flag has 50 stars.
The White House is a U.S. symbol. It is in Washington, D.C. The White House is a symbol of the president. It is also a symbol of our government.

The president lives in the White House. His family lives there, too. They have a private living space. The president also works in the White House. He works in the Oval Office. The Oval Office is in the West Wing of the White House.

The White House is a very large and famous place. It has 132 rooms. Many people come to visit the White House each year. The White House has a gym. It also has a movie theatre. There are tennis courts and a bowling alley, too.

The president gives speeches from the Oval Office. People watch these speeches on TV.
The Bald Eagle

The bald eagle is a symbol of the United States. It is our country’s bird. Eagles are symbols of strength. They are also symbols of bravery.

The bald eagle is a strong bird. It is also majestic. That is why it was picked to be a U.S. symbol. The eagle is not really bald. It has white feathers on top of its head. The feathers are hard to see. So the eagle looks bald even though it is not.

In 1782, Congress put the bald eagle on the Great Seal. The Great Seal is the stamp of the United States.
The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty is a U.S. symbol. It is in New York Harbor. It is one of the largest statues in the world.

France gave "Lady Liberty" to the U.S. It was a gift of friendship.

The Statue of Liberty has a crown on its head. The crown has seven rays. The rays stand for the seven seas. The rays also stand for the seven continents. The statue holds a torch in one hand. The torch is a symbol of welcome. It welcomes people who come to America.

The statue holds a tablet in the other hand. The date on the tablet is July 4, 1776. That was the day the U.S. became a country.
Level 2: Community Helpers

A Community
Fire Fighters
Police Officers
Doctors
Teachers

Vocabulary

community: A place that has many different neighborhoods.
doctors: People whose job it is to take care of sick people.
fire fighters: People whose job it is to put out fires.
neighborhood: A small area of a town and/or the people who live there.
police officers: People whose job it is to protect others and make sure that people obey laws.
teachers: People whose job it is to help others learn.
A Community

A community is a place. It has neighborhoods. A community can be small. It can also be big. It is where people live. There are many kinds of people. Some are families. Others are single. Some are old people. Others are young.

People work in a community. They have many jobs. Some work in stores. Others work in offices. Many have special jobs. Their jobs are to help people. Fire fighters have helping jobs. So do police officers. Teachers have helping jobs. So do doctors.

A community is special. Each one is different. It has special places. There are special things to do. But some things are the same. People work together. They play together. They help each other.
Fire fighters are very brave. They run into burning places. They put out fires. They save lives. Fire fighters are not only brave. They are strong. They are healthy. They go up and down ladders. Sometimes, they have to carry people.

Fire fighters wear special clothes. Their clothes are made to keep them safe. They are fire-resistant. Their pants and coats are called "turnouts." Turnout pants are turned inside out when fire fighters roll them down over their boots. The boots are hooked onto the rolled-down pants. Fire fighters can jump into their boots. Then, they pull up their pants, right side out. They can get to a fire quickly.

Fire fighter boots have handles on the top. The handles help fire fighters get their boots on. Fire fighters wear face masks. The masks help them to breathe in hot and smoky places. They wear helmets and gloves, too.

Fire fighters use many tools to help them with their job. They have fire hoses. The hoses are strong and help to put out fires. Fire fighters also have axes. Axes help them get into burning buildings.
Police officers have a special job. They make sure that people follow laws. Some laws tell people what to do. Other laws tell people what not to do. A law is a rule that all people must follow. Police officers enforce laws. They try to keep people from doing the wrong thing. Sometimes, people do bad things. They break laws. Police officers catch them.

The police keep people safe. They watch the streets. They also watch the highways. Police officers take care of people. They help people who are hurt. They help people who are lost. The police walk neighborhood streets. They make sure that everyone and everything are safe.

Police officers wear uniforms. They carry a badge. They use special tools. A whistle is a tool. So is a two-way radio. Handcuffs are tools, too. Police officers carry guns. They are trained in how to use guns and follow gun safety rules.
Doctors help people who are sick or hurt. They try to find out what is wrong. They ask questions. Doctors may order blood tests. They may order X-rays. Doctors tell people what the tests and X-rays mean. Doctors help people to feel better. They may give medicine. Sometimes, they may operate.

Doctors need special tools. One tool helps them to listen to people’s lungs. Another tool is used to check people’s eyes. Doctors use a different tool to look into ears. They use another tool to check blood pressure.

Doctors also help people who are well. They give people check-ups. Doctors tell people how to stay healthy. They talk about diet. They also talk about exercise. It is important to visit the doctor for check-ups.
Teachers

Teachers are important. They help students learn. Teachers help them understand. Students spend a lot of time in school. They spend many hours with their teachers.

There are all kinds of teachers. Some teach young children. Some work with teenagers. Others teach at colleges. Teachers work with many kinds of students. All students learn in their own way. Some learn by seeing. Others learn by hearing. Many students learn by doing. Some students learn easily. Others have trouble learning.

Teachers have to know many ways to teach. Teachers have special tools. Some use chalkboards. They write with chalk. Others use dry erase boards. They write with markers. Many teachers use overhead projectors. Others use computers. Some teachers use videos or music.

Teachers work very hard. They are always learning. They pass on what they learn to their students. When students learn, they feel good about themselves.
Level 2: Rain Forests

221  Rain Forests: Nature’s Friends
222  Animals of the Rain Forest
223  Plants of the Rain Forest
224  Why Rain Forests Are Important
225  How We Can Help Save the Rain Forests

Vocabulary

animals: Living creatures (such as bears, monkeys, and dogs).
nature: Everything in the world that is not human.
plants: Living things with roots, branches, and leaves.
rain forests: Thick forests with tall trees that grow very closely together.
temperate: An environment that is mild and comfortable.
tropical: An environment that is hot and wet.
There are two kinds of rain forests. One kind is a tropical rain forest. Tropical rain forests are in warm places. The other kind is a temperate rain forest. Temperate rain forests are in cooler places.

Rain forests are thick with trees. They are also wet places. It is always raining in a rain forest. Lots of plants and animals live in rain forests.

Rain forests have four zones, or layers. The top layer is the tops of giant trees. It is called the emergent zone. Birds and insects live there. The next zone is called the canopy. It is the upper part of the trees. Many kinds of animals live in the canopy. The understory is the next zone. It is the lower layer of the forest that has a lot of plants and small animals. It is dark and cool. The last zone is the forest floor. Insects and large animals live there.

Rain forests are important to the world. Rain forest plants make a lot of the earth’s oxygen. They also take carbon dioxide out of the air and store it in their roots. This helps to keep the earth cooler. Rain forest plants are used to make medicine. These drugs help people fight diseases. Rain forests also clean and recycle water for the earth.

Rain forests are in danger. People are cutting down trees in rain forests to make wood and paper. Rain forests need our help. We must ask people to stop cutting down rain forest trees.
Animals of the Rain Forest

Many animals live in rain forests. They live in all layers of the rain forests. Birds live in the emergent layer. They live in the giant trees. Birds also live in the canopy. It is the upper part of the trees. The toucan is a rain forest bird. Its beak is large and colorful.

Amphibians live in rain forests. They spend part of their time in water. The rest of the time, they spend on land. The red-eyed frog is a rain forest animal. It has bright red eyes.

Both small and large mammals live in rain forests. The jaguar is a rain forest mammal. It lives on the forest floor. The sloth is a rain forest mammal. It does not live on the forest floor. Sloths live in trees. They spend most of their lives hanging upside down from tree branches.

There are many insects in a rain forest. They are found in every layer. There are butterflies and beetles. Worms and spiders live in rain forests. So do ants and caterpillars.

Rain forests are home to millions of the earth's animals and insects.
Plants of the Rain Forest

Many kinds of plants grow in rain forests. They make oxygen for the earth. Rain forest plants are used to make medicine. Some of the plants can help stop cancer. Other rain forest plants give us food. Passion flowers are rain forest plants. People like to eat the fruit that grows on these plants.

Liana vines are plants. They grow all over a rain forest. The vines hook to each other. Animals swing on liana vines to move from tree to tree.

Strangler fig trees grow in rain forests. This tree wraps itself around other trees. It uses the other trees to grow up to the sunlight. Then, the other trees die. Only the strangler fig tree is left.

Orchids are plants with flowers. Orchid flowers grow in many colors. They are very pretty. They grow in many sizes and shapes.
Why Rain Forests Are Important

Tropical rain forests help the earth. They make almost half of the world’s oxygen. Rain forests may be the lungs of our earth.

Rain forests help to work against global warming. That means the earth is getting hotter. This is because heat from the sun is trapped by gases in the air. Too much carbon dioxide in the air makes it worse. Rain forest plants take carbon dioxide from the air. They store it in their roots and stems. They also store it in their leaves and branches.

Rain forests make up only 5% of the earth. But half of the world’s plants and animals live in them. Some of these plants and animals are not found anywhere else on earth. One-fourth of the medicines in the world come from rain forest plants.

A lot of the world’s food first came from rain forests. Many nuts come from rain forests. So do fruits, like bananas and pineapples. Lots of spices come from rain forests, too.
How We Can Help Save the Rain Forests

0 Many years ago, rain forests covered 20% of the earth.
10 Now, rain forests cover only 5% of the earth. Their trees
21 were cut down and sold for wood. One-and-a-half acres of
34 rain forest are lost every second.
40 Experts tell us that we must save the rain forests. They
51 are important to our earth. We need the rain forests. Once
62 the rain forests are gone, they will be gone forever. All of
74 the plants and animals that live there will be gone, too.
85 Everyone can help save the rain forests. There are
94 many things we can do. We can use less paper. Most
105 paper comes from trees. We can use less gas and plastic.
116 Gas and plastic are made from oil. The oil is taken from
128 rain forests. We can eat less red meat. Rain forests are cut
140 down to make room for cows. Cows are sold to make beef.
152 We should learn as much as we can about rain forests.
163 We can write letters to our leaders to ask for help in
175 saving the rain forests. We can raise money and give it to
187 programs that help rain forests. If people work together,
196 the rain forests can be saved.
202
Why Rain Forests Are Important

Tropical rain forests help the earth. They make almost half of the world’s oxygen. Rain forests may be the lungs of our earth.

Rain forests help to work against global warming. That means the earth is getting hotter. This is because heat from the sun is trapped by gases in the air. Too much carbon dioxide in the air makes it worse. Rain forest plants take carbon dioxide from the air. They store it in their roots and stems. They also store it in their leaves and branches.

Rain forests make up only 5% of the earth. But half of the world’s plants and animals live in them. Some of these plants and animals are not found anywhere else on earth.

One-fourth of the medicines in the world come from rain forest plants.

A lot of the world’s food first came from rain forests. Many nuts come from rain forests. So do fruits, like bananas and pineapples. Lots of spices come from rain forests, too.
The Human Body Introduction

People come in all sizes. Some are big. Some are medium. Some are small. People have different skin color. They have different hair color. People come in different shapes.

No matter how they look, all people have the same kind of body. All human bodies are exactly the same on the inside.

Every body has the same parts. The parts are in groups, which are called systems. The skeleton is one system. It is made of hard bones. Muscles are another system. Muscles make it possible for the body to move. They are attached to the skeleton. The blood system has arteries and veins. They carry blood to the other body systems. Blood makes the other systems work. The brain and the nervous system control how our bodies move. The digestive system takes care of all food and drink.

The human body is an amazing machine!
The Skeletal and Muscle System

Every human body has a skeleton made up of 206 bones. The skeleton supports the body. It gives the body shape. It also protects the lungs and kidneys. Bones are strong enough to support the body. They are also light enough so that the body can move. Bones are made of proteins. They are also made of minerals. Bone marrow is inside the bone. This is where red blood cells are made.

Our bodies make more than one hundred million red blood cells every day.

Muscles are fixed to the skeleton. A human body has about 640 muscles. The muscles make the body move. Muscles move all the time. Even when the body is still, some muscles are still moving. They never stop working. Muscles keep our lungs breathing. The heart is the most important muscle. It keeps blood pumping throughout our body.
The Heart and Lung System

Every human body has blood flowing through it. The body's blood never stops moving. It travels through a big network of pipes. They are the veins and arteries.

Blood is made up of three different parts: red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. These parts float in a clear liquid called plasma. Red blood cells carry oxygen throughout the body. White blood cells attack germs in the body. Platelets stop the bleeding when we cut ourselves. They help skin to heal.

The body needs oxygen to live. Oxygen keeps the body working. When a person breathes, air goes into the lungs. Lungs are like two big air bags. Inside the lungs are tiny holes called air sacs. They are surrounded by tiny blood channels. The heart pumps blood through them. Oxygen goes through the air sacs and enters the blood. The heart pumps this oxygen-rich blood through the arteries. The blood is then returned to the heart and lungs through the veins.
The Nervous System

The nervous system controls body functions. It is made up of the brain, spinal cord, and many nerves. The brain controls the body’s five senses. They are the ability to see, hear, feel, smell, and taste. The brain also controls the body’s parts so that they work well together.

The human brain is made up of many parts. The largest part is the cerebrum. This is the thinking part of the brain. The cerebellum is at the back of the brain. It controls movement and balance. The brain stem is at the top of the spinal cord. It connects the brain to the spinal cord. The brain stem controls movements that keep the body alive. These include breathing, digesting food, and the beating of the heart.

The spinal cord runs up and down the neck and back of your body. It is made up of nerves. When nerves are grouped together, they carry messages. Sensory nerves send messages to the brain. Motor nerves carry messages from the brain to muscles to make them move. The nervous system is the body’s control center.
The Digestive System

The digestive system takes care of the food we eat. Every body needs food for fuel. Food gives the body energy. It helps the body build new cells.

In order for food to turn into energy for the body, it must be changed. That is the job of the digestive system. It breaks down food and drink into their smallest parts. The food is changed into nutrients. Nutrients can be absorbed into the blood. The blood carries the nutrients to cells throughout the body.

Digestion starts in the mouth. This is where food and drink enter the body. The esophagus connects the throat to the stomach. The esophagus moves food from the throat. It pushes food down the neck and into the stomach. The stomach is a mixer. It mashes all the food together. Stomach acid turns the food into a liquid mixture. Then it sends this mixture to the small intestine. The small intestine breaks down the food even more. The liver, pancreas, and gall bladder help with this job.

Leftover waste that the body can't use is sent on to the large intestine. It stays there until it is expelled from the body.
Level 3: Holiday Celebrations

306 Holidays introduction
307 New Year’s Day
308 Valentine’s Day
309 Independence Day
310 Thanksgiving Day

Vocabulary

**celebrate:** To take part in a special activity for a particular event.

**custom:** A common way of celebrating or recognizing an event.

**holiday:** A special day in honor of a custom or an event.

**honor:** To treat a person or an event with special respect.

**special:** Something that is more important than usual.
Holidays are special days. They are days that are important to us. They help us remember the past. Holidays are times for people to celebrate. Many people do not have to work on holidays. Schools may be closed.

Most countries have holidays. They also have customs. A custom is a special way of doing something. People celebrate their customs. They have fun with their families. They have fun with their friends.

Many countries have the same holidays. Some celebrate New Year’s Day, the first day of the year. Some countries celebrate Valentine’s Day. It is a day to show love. Some countries celebrate Independence Day. It is their country’s birthday. Thanksgiving is another holiday in some countries. People give thanks for all of the good things they have in their lives.
New Year's Day

The first day of a new year is a holiday in many countries. New Year’s Day is a time to say good-bye to the old year. It is a time to welcome the new year. People all over the world celebrate New Year’s in many ways.

In the U.S., New Year’s Day is January 1. It is the first day of the new calendar year. People celebrate by having parties. They also watch parades and go to football games.

In Japan, New Year’s Day is also January 1. Their celebration lasts for three days. The date for the Chinese New Year is different each year. Some years it starts in January. In other years, it starts in February. The Chinese celebration lasts for one month. The Jewish New Year starts in either September or October. The celebration lasts for ten days. It begins at sundown of the first day. It ends at sundown of the last day.

People have been celebrating New Year’s Day for thousands of years. It is a time to reflect on the past and look forward to the future.
Valentine’s Day

Valentine’s Day may have been named after Saint Valentine. He was a Christian priest who lived during Roman times. In those days, many Christians were put in jail just because of their religion. Valentine was one of them. He would not change his religion. So he was killed on February 14 in the year A.D. 269. He left a note to a friend. He signed the note, “Your Valentine.”

Today, many countries celebrate this holiday on February 14. It is a day for people to show love. People send cards to their sweethearts. They also send cards to their friends and family.

In the U.S., it is the custom for men to give presents to their sweethearts. The gifts are often candy or flowers. Children celebrate Valentine’s Day, too. They have parties at school. They give cards to each other.

In Japan, women are the gift-givers. They give gifts to men they like. If a Japanese man gets a gift, he must give a gift in return one month later, on March 14.

In England, people bake treats for gifts. They make Valentine buns with raisins or plums baked inside.

People all over the world enjoy Valentine’s Day. No matter what their custom, the day is all about love.
Independence Day is a special day. It is the birth of a country. It is a day of freedom. Many countries celebrate.

The 4th of July is a U.S. holiday. The U.S. became a free country on that day in 1776. It became free from British rule. People like to celebrate on July 4. Families get together. They watch parades and wave flags. They also have picnics with lots of food. Many people eat hot dogs. They also eat watermelon. People watch fireworks after dark. The beautiful colors light up the sky.

July 14 is a French holiday. It is Bastille Day. France became a republic on that day in 1789. The French people did not want to be ruled by a king. They decided that they should rule themselves.

July 1 is a holiday in Canada. It is Canada Day. It is their date of freedom. Britain gave Canada home rule on that day in 1867.
Thanksgiving is a special day. For years, people have set aside one day to give thanks for gifts that the earth has provided. Long ago, it was a time to honor the fall harvest. Harvest is the time when crops are taken from the fields. They were stored for the winter. People were thankful that they had food to eat. They gave thanks for a good growing season. All major religions give thanks for the earth’s bounty.

Thanksgiving is celebrated in the U.S. It is on the fourth Thursday in November. Family and friends have a big meal. They eat lots of turkey, stuffing, and cranberries. There is pumpkin pie for dessert. Sometimes, people travel many miles to share this meal.

Many people celebrate Thanksgiving in their own way. It is a day to give thanks for life’s blessings and fruits of the earth.
Level 3: Homes of the Past

311 Native Americans
312 Northwest Homes: Wood Lodges
313 Southwest Homes: Pueblos
314 Plains Homes: Tepees
315 Northeast Homes: Longhouses

Vocabulary

abundant: A great amount of.
bark: The outside covering of a tree.
covered: Wrapped around or spread over.
element: A part or piece of a whole.
frame: A series of parts that fit together to make a shape.
hide: An animal skin.

Native Americans: The first people to live on the land that became the United States of America.

natural resources: Things found in nature that are helpful to people.
Native Americans

Native Americans were the first people to live in the United States. They settled in groups across the land. Each group had its own language and customs. Customs are special ways of doing things. Some groups shared the same culture, or way of living. Language is a part of a culture. So are the clothes that people wear and the food they eat. A certain type of house is part of a culture, too.

Native Americans depended on nature to live. They made good use of the natural resources. Natural resources are things found in nature. They are useful to people. Land is a natural resource. So are water and air. Fish and animals are natural resources, too.

Native Americans used things from nature to build their homes. People in the Northwest lived in lodges. Those in the Southwest lived in pueblos. The Plains people lived in tepees. People in the Northeast lived in longhouses.
Northwest Homes: Wood Lodges

Trees are a natural resource of the Northwest. The Native Americans who lived there used trees to build their homes. They lived in wood lodges. The lodges were long, rectangular buildings. Each one was large enough for several families.

The first step in building a lodge was to make a wood frame. The frame was then covered with boards or tree bark. Strips of bark were sewn together. Then the pieces were attached to the frame.

Each lodge had one big room. It was dark inside because lodges had no windows. In the middle of the room was a fire pit for cooking. A hole in the roof above the pit let the smoke outside. All of the families in a lodge shared the fire pit. One area of the lodge was for sleeping. Another area was for storing food and small items. Larger items like boat paddles were stored outside the lodge.

Every lodge had a totem pole outside. The totem pole was different for each lodge. A totem pole was an important element of a lodge. It was a form of identity of the families that lived in the lodge.
Native Americans in the Southwest lived in the desert. They lived in homes called pueblos. The desert did not have many trees. Rocks and clay were natural resources in the desert. These settlers mixed clay mud with wild grasses to create adobe. Then, they used adobe as a building material.

To build their homes, Native Americans poured thick adobe on the ground for a first floor. They let the adobe dry for many days. Next, they made thick adobe blocks and placed them in the sun to dry. Adobe blocks were then used to frame and build the pueblos. Wood poles were used for the roofs.

These Southwestern homes were built on top of tall, flat mountains. Pueblos looked like apartment buildings. The rooms were close together. Many families lived in a set of rooms. As the families grew in number, more rooms were added. Pueblos were very good homes for an area with a dry, hot climate and very little rainfall.
Plains Homes: Tepees

Buffalos were a natural resource on the plains. The Plains people ate buffalo meat. They used buffalo hide for clothing and boots. Spoons were made from buffalo horns. Glue was made from buffalo hooves. No part of the buffalo was wasted.

Hunting buffalo was a very important part of life for the Plains people. Because they followed the buffalo, they needed homes that could be moved easily. Their homes were called tepees. The word tepee means “to dwell.”

About 10 people could live in one tepee.

Spruce trees were also used to make tepees. The trees were used to make long poles. The tops of the poles were tied together. The bottoms were spread out on the ground. Then, the poles were covered with animal hide. They were fastened to the ground. The tepee was shaped like a cone. It had a fire pit in the middle. Smoke went up and out the opening at the top of the tepee.

Tepees were good homes for the Plains people. Tepees were easy to take down and carry whenever the people moved to follow the buffalo.
Northeast Homes: Longhouses

Native Americans in the Northeast used trees to build their homes. These homes were called longhouses. They were long and narrow with curved roofs. The people used poles to make wood frames. They cut strips of bark from birch trees and soaked it in water. This made the bark soft and flat. The people used tree roots to sew the bark strips together. They used the bark to cover the wood frames of the longhouses. Many families lived together in one longhouse.

The longhouses were built next to each other in villages. The Native Americans used tall tree poles to build high walls around the villages. The high walls kept them safe from attacks. Their villages were built near water. The Native Americans used water for drinking, cooking, and growing crops. Corn was one of their crops. They also planted beans and squash. The crops were picked in the fall and stored to eat in the winter.

Total Words Read ______
- Errors ______
= CWPM ______
The Solar System Introduction

The Inner Planets

The Outer Planets

Asteroids and Meteoroids

Comets

Vocabulary

moon: A natural satellite that travels around a planet.
orbit: To travel around in a circle.
planet: A large body that orbits the sun in the solar system.
rotate: To spin on a fixed object or position.
solar system: The sun, nine planets, moons, and objects in space.
The solar system is made up of the sun, nine planets, and many moons. All but two of the planets have at least one moon. Asteroids, meteoroids, and comets are part of the solar system, too. The sun is the center of our solar system. Earth orbits around the sun.

There are nine planets: four inner planets and five outer planets. The inner planets orbit close to the sun. They are called the “rocky planets.” They are made up mostly of rock. They have a few or no moons. The five outer planets orbit far from the sun. Most of them are made up of gases. All of the outer planets except one have many moons.

Asteroids are a part of the solar system. They are made up of rock. Some people call them the “minor planets.” Meteoroids are part of the solar system. They are smaller than asteroids, about the size of a pebble. The solar system includes comets. They are made up of gas, ice, and dust. They have long, thin orbits. They warm up as they go around the sun. Comets form heads and tails. Their tails are made of dust and ice. They look like falling stars in the sky.

The United States sends spacecraft to explore the solar system. There is still much to learn about the sun, the planets, and other objects in our solar system.
The Inner Planets

The four inner planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. They are closest to the sun in the solar system. These planets are also called the “rocky planets.”

Mercury is the second-smallest planet. It is the closest one to the sun. Mercury is about the same size as the moon. It is the fastest moving planet.

Venus is the second planet from the sun. It is the hottest planet in the solar system. Venus looks like Earth. It is about the same size. Venus is called “the morning star” or “the evening star.” Venus can easily be seen at dawn or at dusk.

Earth is the third planet from the sun. It is the fifth-largest planet. It has one moon. Earth is the only known planet on which there is life. Earth rotates on an imaginary, or a pretend, line. This line is called an axis. Earth leans, or tilts, on this axis. The tilting causes different parts of the Earth to face the sun at different times of the day and year. As a result, we have morning, afternoon, and evening in a day as well as four seasons in a year.

Mars is known as the “red planet.” It is the fourth planet in order from the sun and has two moons. It takes 687 days for Mars to orbit the sun. Like Earth, Mars has seasons. Since it takes Mars longer to orbit the sun, its seasons are longer.
The five outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. All except Pluto are huge, made up of gases, and have many moons. These planets orbit far away from the sun.

Jupiter, the largest planet, is the fifth planet from the sun. Jupiter is known to have at least 39 moons. A great red spot can be seen on Jupiter. The red spot is a big storm. It takes Jupiter more than 84 years to orbit the sun.

Saturn is the sixth planet from the sun and the second-largest. It is known for its many rings. These rings are made of ice chunks and rock. Saturn has 21 moons. It takes Saturn about 30 years to orbit the sun.

Uranus is the seventh planet from the sun. It is a huge, icy planet with a blue color. Uranus is the third-largest planet in the solar system. It has 22 known moons.

Neptune is the eighth planet from the sun and the fourth-largest in the solar system. It is a giant, cold planet with very strong winds. Neptune has 8 known moons.

Pluto is the smallest planet. It is the farthest from the sun. Unlike the other outer planets, Pluto is rocky, with only one moon. It is smaller than some of the other planets' moons.
Asteroids and Meteoroids

Asteroids are stony objects in space. Most asteroids are made up of rock. A few are made up of the metals iron and nickel. Some are a combination of both rock and metal. Asteroids came in all sizes. Most are small, but some are very large.

Asteroids orbit the sun in groups. The groups are called asteroid belts. The belts are between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. Asteroids are often called the “minor planets.”

There are other objects in space. Meteoroids also exist. Most are made up of asteroids. They were created when they crashed into each other. So, they are smaller than asteroids. Most are the size of a pebble. They also orbit the sun. Some orbit in a group. But others orbit alone. Some flying spacecrafts have been hit by these hard, tiny objects.
Comets are small, icy objects in the Earth’s solar system. They are composed of three parts. Each comet has a nucleus, a coma, and a tail.

The nucleus is the center of a comet. It is a small mass made up of ice, gas, and dust. The comet’s coma surrounds its nucleus. The coma is made up of water vapor, gases, and ammonia. These two parts make up a comet’s head.

The third part of a comet is its long tail. It is made up of dust and ion gases. A comet’s tail is its most visible part. The tail is formed when the comet is near the sun. The tail always points away from the sun because solar winds push it away. When the comet is moving toward the sun, the tail is behind the comet. When the comet is moving away from the sun, the tail is in front of the comet.

Comets orbit the sun. Some comets get so close to the sun that they crash into it. These comets are called “sun grazers.”
Level 3: Take Care of Waste!

321 The Three R's
322 Reduce
323 Recycle
324 Reuse
325 Be Safe With Waste

Vocabulary

environment: Everything around us (such as land, water, air, manmade things).

manage: To control or organize.

recycle: To make something new from something old.

unsafe: Dangerous, risky, or harmful.

toxic: Poisonous; something that can kill.

waste: Things that are thrown away or let into the environment.
Every day, people throw many things into the trash. A big dump truck picks up the trash, or waste material, and takes it away. But where does all of that waste go? Most of it goes to a local dump called a landfill. This can cause problems.

First, in many parts of the country there is not much space left in landfills to put the waste. Second, some of the waste is not safe. It could cause harm to the environment and to people. There are many things we can do to help manage waste and to help make the environment safe.

People can help with the waste problem. They need to learn about the "Three R's." The R’s stand for reduce, recycle, and reuse. People should practice the three R’s every day. We can all help protect our environment.
Reduce means to make something smaller. It also means to use less of something. There are many things people can do to reduce waste.

First, we can buy less and use less. We should buy only what we need and use all of what we buy. Buying things in bulk can reduce waste. This means to buy things in big containers. For example, buy a big box of cereal instead of several small boxes. There will be less to throw away. Buying in bulk is also cheaper.

Second, we should use fewer store bags. When we buy one or two things at a store, we should carry them out in our hands. Or, we can bring a reusable bag with us to the store. We should use this bag to carry the items we buy. We need to remember to take plastic and paper bags we already have at home back to the grocery store. Most stores have a big box near the front door to put bags for reuse or recycling.

Finally, we can get rid of junk mail. Reducing paper use will help reduce waste. There are toll-free phone numbers printed on catalogs that are mailed to us. We can call the catalog company and ask to be taken off its mailing list. Reducing waste will help protect our environment.
Recycle

Recycle means to turn a used object into one for a new use. The objects are put through a special process. Then, they can be used again. If something can’t be reused, it can probably be recycled. Every day, people throw away things. Most of these things should not be in a waste bin. They can be recycled. Save things like soda cans, glass jars, and paper.

Old paper can be recycled. It can be made into new paper for books. Glass can be melted down and then made into new glass items. Old soda cans can be made into new soda cans. A plastic soda bottle can even be made into a T-shirt! An old phone book can be used to make a new one.

Everyone should recycle. We should never throw out anything that can be recycled or reused. Most cities have recycling centers where people can take items. Sometimes, people are paid for their items. Schools and homes may have recycling bins. People put items in the bins. Then, a truck picks up the bin items. They are taken to recycling centers.

Taking the time to recycle can help protect our environment.
Reuse

Reuse means to use something more than once or to give it to someone who needs it. Reusing things is an important way to manage waste. There are many items we can reuse.

First, we can stop throwing away plastic. Plastic cups, forks, spoons, knives, plates, and bags should be saved. They can be washed and reused. We can save water bottles and soda cups. Many stores will let people refill their own cups. Not only will we be managing waste, we will be saving money at the same time.

Second, we can be careful about paper use. Cloth napkins are better to use than paper napkins. Not only are they larger and stronger, they can be washed and used for many years. Paper and cloth gift bags can be reused, too. When we get wrapped gifts, we can carefully unwrap them. Then, we can use the gift wrap paper again instead of throwing it away. We should remember to take cloth bags with us to the store. Then we won’t have to choose between paper or plastic.

Finally, we can try to fix things that break. That is better than throwing them in the trash. Or, if we can’t fix them, we can give them away. There are places that fix broken items and then give them away. If we decide to buy something new like a sofa or a bike, we should sell or give away the old one. That way, the items will end up in someone’s home and not in a landfill. Reusing items will help protect our environment.
Be Safe With Waste

There are many things around the house that are not safe to throw away. They are toxic. Toxic items have poison. They harm the environment. They can hurt or even kill plants, animals, or people.

Most homes have toxic items. Many of the items are for cleaning. They usually can be found in the kitchen. They can also be found in the bathroom. Oven and shower cleaners can be harmful. So can furniture polish.

Many people do not like to have bugs in their homes. So they keep products in the house to kill bugs like ants or flies. The products are toxic. They are poisonous.

Painting supplies are also dangerous. They are made of chemicals that can be toxic if they are inhaled or eaten. Even glue and felt-tip markers can be harmful.

We need to be safe with waste. First, we must read the labels on harmful items. We must follow the directions carefully. Second, we should never throw toxic materials in the trash. We must not pour them down the drain or onto the ground. They could end up in our water supply.

Everyone must handle toxic items carefully. This will help protect our environment.
**Phonetic Elements Record Graph**

**STUDENT** _______________ **PHONETIC ELEMENT** _______________

- Enter a date in the bottom row, and color that column bar up to the number of words the student read on that date.

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**DATE**
Enter a date in the bottom row, and color that column bar up to the number of words the student read on that date.
Initial Assessment Record (for passage reading)

TEACHER: ____________________________

CLASS: ____________________________ DATE: ______

- Rank students according to oral reading rate and then instructional reading level.

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Fluent reading is an important part of our language arts program. We will be assessing each student in this important reading skill during the school year.

Please check your child's progress against the expected correct words per minute (CWPM) rate listed above as a measure of his/her progress in this vital skill.

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**Fluency Record**

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PASSAGE NUMBER: ____________________

PARTNER: __________________________  DATE: ________

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<th>CWPM</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CWPM</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CWPM** = correct words per minute
Student Fluency Graph

NAME: ________________________ CLASS: ________

PARTNER: ____________________ DATE: _________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correct Words Per Minute</th>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>5</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATE

FLUENCY SHEET NUMBER

PASSAGE NUMBER
Partner Points Sheet

**PARTNER 1 NAME** ____________________________

**PARTNER 2 NAME** ____________________________

- Mark one point for the partnership for each task done correctly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The materials were taken out quickly and quietly.</td>
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<td>Partner 1 and Partner 2 were ready to read at the right times.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The partners helped each other to fix errors and record their scores.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The materials were cleaned and put away quickly and quietly.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS** _______
What Is Reading Fluency?

The ability to read text:

- Accurately
- Quickly
- With Expression
Why Is Reading Fluency Important?

It is directly related to:

- Reading comprehension
- Independent reading
- Work completion


