

## 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

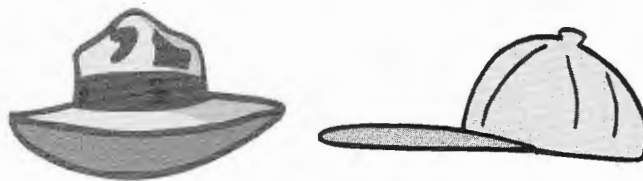
Long “u” stories:  
Luke the Mule  
The Duke’s Mule

**Short "a" Story: Hats and Caps**

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
and	who with
Pat	like red
Pam	likes blue
Sam	they have
Dan	many
pals	all
hats	the
caps	fun

**Hats and Caps**

0 Pat and Pam are pals who like hats. Pat likes red hats,  
 12 and Pam likes blue hats. They have many hats.  
 21 Sam and Dan are pals who like caps. Sam likes red  
 32 caps, and Dan likes blue caps. They have many caps.  
 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		Automatic Words	
Matt	jam	who	on
man	pan	likes	
cats	nap	are	
Nan	lap	the	
Sam		his	
tan		they	
fat		played	
cats		by	
tag		then	
ran		them	
ham		took	

## Matt and His Cats

0 Matt is a man who likes cats. Nan and Sam are his  
 12 tan, fat cats.  
 15 The cats played tag. Nan and Sam ran and ran. They  
 26 ran by a cab and a van. Then Matt got them ham and jam  
 40 in a pan. The cats took a nap on Matt's lap.  
 51



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**Short "i" Story: Kim Is Six**

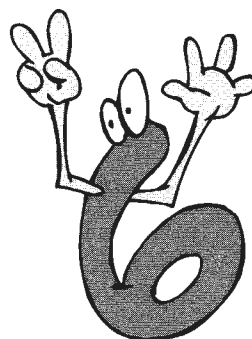
Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Kim	pigs	is
six	wigs	she
and		likes
has		car
kits		also
big		red
pins		
tin		
lids		
pink		

**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



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**Short "i" Story: Kit the Pig**

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Kit	the
pig	is
big	a
pink	likes
dig	to
sit	he
swim	and
Skip	too

**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



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

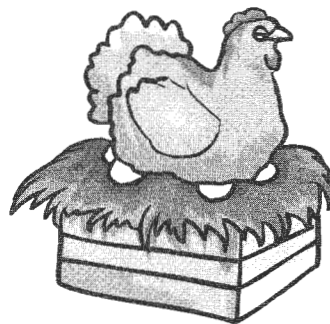
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**Short "e" Story: Bess the Hen**

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Bess	is
hen	a
red	she
yes	lives
big	then
pen	chicks
had	the
nest	her
ten	
eggs	

**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



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_  
 - Errors \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Short "e" Story: Meg and the Wet Pet**

Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Meg	mad	a
had	sent	the
pet	bed	was
cat		got
Ben		were
sat		to
wet		they
sand		too
mess		
dad		

**Meg and the Wet Pet**

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

27       Dad was mad that they were a mess. Meg was sent to  
 39       bed. Ben was sent to bed, too. Meg and her pet went to  
 52       bed. They were sad.

56



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

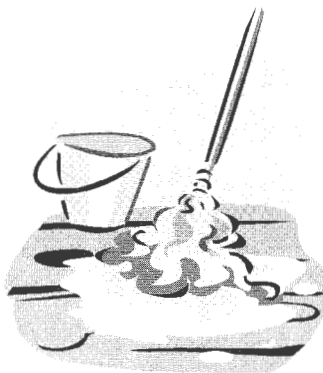
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# Short "o" Story: Dot's Job

Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Dot	did	a
had	not	was
job	sob	to
mop		of
lots		also
spots		up
globbs		get
on		like
top		began
box		

## Dot's Job

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



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_  
 - Errors \_\_\_\_\_  
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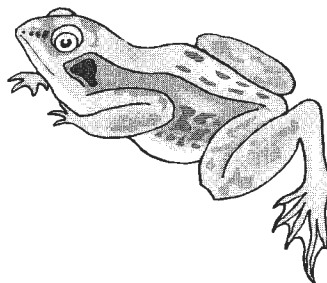


# Short "o" Story: Bob the Frog

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Bob	is
fond	a
frog	who
hop	likes
hopping	to
on	from
rocks	also
logs	then
plops	the
pond	of
in	

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

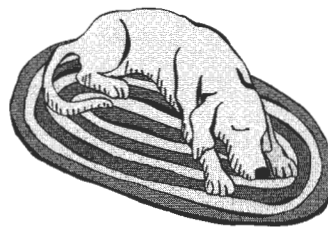
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**Short "u" Story: Mutt the Pup**

Decodable Words		Automatic Words	
Mutt	had	the	of
pup	sun	is	bath
pet	on	a	he
run	rug	likes	
and	felt	to	
mom	snug	then	
sat	bug	red	
him	fun	as	
in	hug	when	
tub	his	out	

**Mutt the Pup**

0 Mutt the pup is a fun pet. Mutt likes to run and run.  
 13 Mutt's mom sat him in the tub. He had a bath in the tub.  
 27 Then, Mutt sat in the sun on his red rug. He felt as  
 40 snug as a bug in a rug. Mutt is fun to hug when he is out  
 56 of the tub.  
 59



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**Short "u" Story: Bud the Bug**

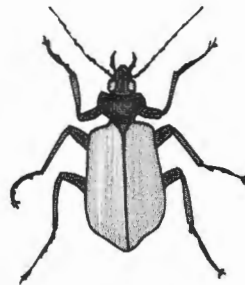
Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Bud	wet	the
big	had	was
bug	fun	only
in		he
mud		
did		
run		
not		
jog		
dug		

**Bud the Bug**

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

30 Bud dug and dug in the wet mud. He had fun in the  
 43 mud. Bud was a big bug in the mud.

52



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

# Long "a" Story: Dave and Jake

Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Dave	safe	was
went	gave	the
lake	up	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 \_\_\_\_\_

# Long "a" Story: Kate's Big Cake

Decodable Words		Automatic Words	
Kate	gate	a	you
had	not	was	be
big	at	to	took
cake	ran	would	her
late	up	open	
take	Nate	opened	
bake		face	
sale		now	
came		the	
big		thank	

## Kate's Big Cake

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

29 Nate saw Kate and the big cake at the gate. Nate ran  
 41 up to Kate. Nate opened the gate. Now Kate and the big  
 53 cake would not be late. Kate said, "Thank you," to Nate.  
 64 She took her cake to the bake sale.

72



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**Long "i" Story: Mike at Camp**

Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Mike	ride	for
camp	nine	took
it	mile	long
got	bike	
went		
had		
bikes		
red		
white		
fun		

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

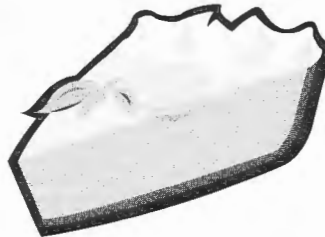
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# Long "i" Story: Cakes and Pies

Decodable Words		Automatic Words	
Kilee	lots	and	she
Mike	fine	were	
bake	baked	was	
bakers	lime	to	
time		all	
liked		the	
limes		so	
pies		they	
rice		of	
cakes		he	

## 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



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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# Long "e" Story: The Team

Decodable Words		Automatic Words	
flea	sea	a	so
bee	feed	were	his
pals	team	all	some
helped		four	grass
needed		each	good
and		other	
seal		wanted	
sheep		drink	
hive		of	
tea		find	

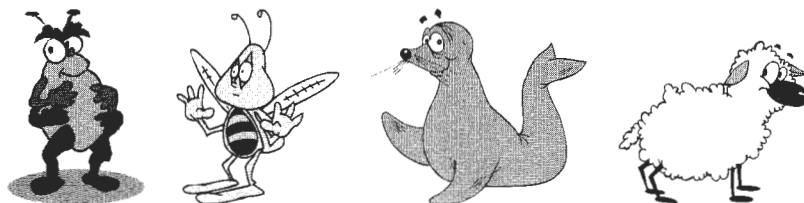
## The Team

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

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

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

77



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_



# Long "e" Story: The Mean Queen

Decodable Words	Automatic Words	
Jean	was	books
queen	he	so
nice	very	their
mean	no	not
scream	one	a
green	wanted	she
beans	would	her
red	threw	
beets	cook	
teacher	too	

## The Mean Queen

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

50 Jean was mean to her teacher. Jean did not like to  
 61 read her books, so she threw them. No one liked mean  
 72 Jean for a queen. They were sad that she was their queen.  
 84



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

# Long "o" Story: Joe the Mole

Decodable Words		Automatic Words	
Joe	choked	was	went
mole	pile	a	back
in	stones	who	be
home	poked	wanted	of
did	nose	new	
not	then	want	
stove	ran	lived	
hot	hole	looked	
smoke	fine	too	
made	home	for	

## Joe the Mole

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

41 Joe looked at a pile of stones for a new home. Joe  
 53 poked his nose on the stones. He did not like stones. He  
 65 went back to his hole. A hole can be a fine home for a  
 79 mole.

80



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

# Long "o" Story: Rose Rode Horses

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Rose	liked from
rode	horses she
woke	all
up	long
and	day
flag	each
pole	end
zone	way
whole	to
home	school

## Rose Rode Horses

0        Rose liked horses. She rode horses. She rode horses all  
 10    day long. Each day, Rose woke up and rode and rode. She  
 22    rode to the flag pole. She rode to the end zone.

33        Rose rode the whole way to school. She rode the  
 43    whole way home from school. Rose rode horses all day  
 53    long.

54



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

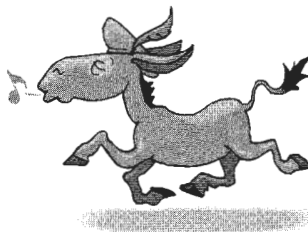
# Long "u" Story: Luke the Mule

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Luke	was sing
mule	lived when
mules	the sang
huge	other they
pen	named nice
June	care girl
tunes	took her
flute	of with
cute	played to
	hear in

## Luke the Mule

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

71



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

# Long "u" Story: The Duke's Mule

Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Duke	which he
had	to so
mule	you like
ride	say them
big	don't only
fell	horse why
well	not with
	were off
	for on
	this

## The Duke's Mule

0        A duke had a mule on which to ride. A mule, you say!  
 13      Don't dukes ride on big horses, not mules?  
 21        Well, horses were not for this duke. He fell off a horse,  
 33      so he does not like them at all. He likes only mules, so that  
 47      is why he is a duke with a mule.  
 56



Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_  
 - Errors \_\_\_\_\_  
 = CWPM \_\_\_\_\_



## Practice Passages

### First Grade

#### Level 1 : Exercise

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

#### 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

#### Level 1 : Pets

- 111 Pets: Helpful Pals
- 112 Dogs: Barking Buddies
- 113 Cats: Purring Pets
- 114 Birds: Flying Pets
- 115 Fish: Water Pets

#### Level 1 : Safety

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

#### Level 1 : The Sky

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

**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.

**Keeping Fit**

0           Exercise is good for you. There are many reasons why.  
 10       The best kind of exercise makes you breathe deeply. This  
 20       helps your lungs grow strong. It gets your heart pumping.  
 30       This helps your heart grow strong. Swimming is good  
 39       exercise. So is skating and bike riding. Walking is good for  
 50       you. So is jumping rope.  
 55           Some exercise can make you strong. Use your muscles  
 64       for heavy work. This will make your muscles stronger.  
 73       Doing push-ups makes you strong. So can bike riding and  
 84       skating.  
 85           Exercise makes you flexible. It helps you bend your  
 94       body. It helps you stretch. Dancing is good. So is karate.  
 105       Exercise helps stop weight gain. If you are active, you  
 115       burn off calories. Then your body will not store them as  
 126       fat.  
 127       Best of all, keeping fit will make you feel good!  
 137

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## Warm Up: Getting Ready

0        Your body needs to get ready for exercise. The muscles  
10       need to warm up. Take time to stretch. Do one stretch at a  
23       time. Count to 15. Do each stretch three times.

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

68       Next, do a thigh stretch. Roll over. Push yourself up  
78       on your hands and knees. Stretch one leg behind you.  
88       Then, pull your leg under your chest. Stretch one leg at a  
100      time.

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

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

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

184

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

**Take a Hike**

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

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

100 Stretch your legs before you walk. Start walking  
108 slowly. This will warm up your muscles. Then, pick up  
118 your speed. At the end of your walk, stretch your muscles  
129 again. Walking is a great way to get exercise!  
138

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## Jump Rope

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

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

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

116       Keep track of how many times you jump. Start with 30  
127 hops. Then, add some hops. Keep track of how long you  
138 jump. Add one minute each week.

144

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

# Skate Around

0        Skating is good exercise. It is fun, too. But skating is  
11    not easy. There are tools to buy. There are rules to learn.  
23    You must know what to do before you put wheels on your  
35    feet.

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

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

111       Learn to skate where there is no traffic. Look for flat  
122   roads. Stay away from rocks and holes. The best place to  
133   skate is in a park.

138

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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.

## All About Insects

0           An insect is a tiny animal. It has six legs. It has a  
13 body. An insect's body has three parts. Most insects have  
23 wings. Insects do not have a backbone.

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

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

171

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**Ants: The Hard Workers**

0       Ants are insects. Most ants live in the soil. They live  
11   in nests. Their nests are called colonies. Each colony has  
21   many ants. The colonies have a lot of rooms. Ants take  
32   care of their colonies. They keep food in their colonies.  
42   Each ant has a job. Some ants care for the nest. Others  
54   look for food. When they find food, they make a trail.  
65   Other ants find the trail. They carry the food to the nest.  
77       Each nest has one queen ant. The queen stays in the  
88   nest. She lays eggs. Each egg grows to be a larva. A larva  
101   is white. It looks like a worm. It has no eyes or legs. But  
115   it does have a mouth. The ants feed each larva. The larva  
127   grows. It wraps into a cocoon. The larva changes in the  
138   cocoon. It grows into an adult ant.  
145

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## Bees: The Busy Workers

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

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

105 Worker bees have other jobs. Some guard the hive.  
 114 Some keep the hive cool. Others take nectar from flowers.  
 124 Bees use nectar. They turn it into honey. The honey is put  
 136 into the hive. It is kept in the wax cells. Bees use honey for  
 150 food. Bees make more honey than they can use. Honey is  
 161 very sweet. People like honey, too.

167

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Fireflies: The Night Workers**

0 Fireflies are insects. But they are not flies. They are a  
11 kind of beetle. Fireflies have a hard shell. The shell covers  
22 their wings. Fireflies live in the grass. They eat small bugs.  
33 They also eat snails.

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

96 In the fall, fireflies lay eggs. They lay eggs on leaves.  
107 Rain washes the eggs to the soil. Each egg hatches into  
118 a larva. A larva stays in the soil all winter. Then spring  
130 comes. The larva comes out to feed. In the summer, it  
142 turns into a pupa. It stays a pupa for about two weeks.  
153 Then it becomes an adult firefly.  
159

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Ladybugs: The Helpful Workers**

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

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

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

132

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## Level 1: Pets

- 1 1 1 Pets: Helpful Pals
- 1 1 2 Dogs: Barking Buddies
- 1 1 3 Cats: Purring Pets
- 1 1 4 Birds: Flying Pets
- 1 1 5 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: Helpful Pals

0        Pets are animals that live with people. Pets are fun to  
11        have around. We like to play with them. Pets are fun to  
23        touch. We can talk to our pets. They make us feel happy.

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

96        Being in charge of a pet helps us to learn other things.  
108       Pets need to be safe. We must watch them. Some pets  
119       must stay inside. If they go outside, they could get hurt.  
130       We must keep them from danger. Watching pets helps us  
140       to learn to pay attention.

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

179       We have a lot of fun with pets. But we also learn from  
192       them! Pets are good for people!

198

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**Dogs: Barking Buddies**

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

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

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

132 Taking care of a dog can be hard work. But a dog will  
145 be your best friend for many years to come.  
154

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Cats: Purring Pets**

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

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

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

116 Play with your cat every day. Playing keeps them from  
 126 getting bored. It is also good exercise. Remember to take  
 136 your cat to the vet for check-ups. A healthy cat will have a  
 150 long life.

152

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## Birds: Flying Pets

0        Birds make good pets. There are many kinds of birds.  
 10      Like all pets, birds need special care. Birds must be treated  
 21      gently. Some birds like to be held. Others do not. Many  
 32      birds sing. Others can talk.

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

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

162       With good care, birds can live for many years.

171

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Fish: Water Pets**

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

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

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

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

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

143          If you take good care of your goldfish, it will live for  
 155      many years.

157

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## **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  
 11 know what to do if they are afraid. If children know what  
 23 to do, they can help themselves. They can try to keep out  
 35 of danger.

37 Adults teach children to be safe. They teach children  
 46 to stop and think. They teach children to have a plan.  
 57 Children need to have many plans. Having plans will help  
 67 them know what to do. Children need to know what to do  
 79 if they are lost. They need to know what to do if there is a  
 94 fire.

95 Children also need to know rules. Rules can keep  
 104 them safe. Children need to know the rules for crossing the  
 115 street. They need to know rules for bike riding.

124

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**If You Are Lost**

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

64            If you are lost in a city, look for help. Look for the  
77   police. Do not talk to strangers. Look for a telephone. Dial  
88   911. You do not need money to call. Tell the adult on the  
101   phone that you are lost. The adult will send the police to  
113   find you. The police will take you to your family.  
123

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Fire Safety**

0 Be safe about fire. Fire can cause danger. Never play  
10 with matches. Never play with lighters. Stay away from the  
20 stove. Do not try to cook alone.

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

74 If you see a fire, find a phone. Dial 911. Tell the adult  
87 on the phone about the fire. Do not hang up the phone.  
99 Listen and do what the adult tells you to do. The adult will  
112 send help. A fire truck will come.

119

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Bike Safety**

0        Riding a bike is fun. Children like to ride bikes. They  
11        need to be careful. They need to follow the rules. Wear a  
23        helmet. If you fall off your bike, you could hurt your head.  
35        A helmet helps to make sure that your head is not hurt.

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

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

137       You can have fun riding a bike. But be sure to be safe!  
150

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## Walking to School

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

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

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

95 Look both ways before you cross the street. Do not  
105 cross in the middle of the street. Go to a safe street corner.  
118 Obey the traffic signs. Watch for turning cars. Do not run.  
129 Always walk across the street. Do not walk between cars  
139 that are parked in the street or in a parking lot.

150 You can have fun walking to school. But be sure to be  
162 safe!

163

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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  
25       moving. The Earth moves around the sun. This movement  
34       makes days and nights. It also makes seasons.

42           We see the moon at night. It is the biggest object in  
54       the night sky. The moon looks like it shines. But it does  
66       not really give off light. The light from the moon comes  
77       from the sun. The moon moves around the Earth. As it  
88       moves, the moon changes shape.

93           We see stars at night. They look like small points of  
104      light. Stars look small because they are far away. But stars  
115      are really big. They are bigger than the Earth.

124

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Sun**

0        The sun is a star. It is the closest star to Earth. It is  
4        93 million miles away from Earth. The sun looks small  
24       because it is far away. But the sun is much bigger than  
36       Earth.

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

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

111      The sun is important to life on Earth. It gives us light  
123      and heat. The light and heat from the sun is called solar  
135      energy.

136

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Moon**

0 We can see the moon at night. It is a huge ball. The  
13 moon is made of rock and dust. It looks like it has spots  
26 on it. These spots are holes. The holes are called craters.  
37 They are made when a rock flies through space and hits  
48 the moon.

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

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

160

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Stars**

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

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

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

107 The sun is a star. It is a medium-size star. The sun is  
121 the closest star to Earth.

126

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Constellations

0        Some stars are in groups. From Earth, they form a  
10       pattern. A star pattern is called a constellation. The night  
20       sky has about 88 constellations.

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

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

118      We can use the Big Dipper to find other things in the  
130      sky. The two stars on the front of its cup line up with the  
144      Little Dipper. The Little Dipper is smaller than the Big  
154      Dipper. Its cup hangs down from its handle. Look for a  
165      bright star at the end of the Little Dipper's handle. That is  
177      the North Star. When we look at it, we know that we are  
190      facing north.

192

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## **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).

**Animal Habitats Introduction**

0 A habitat is a home for an animal. There are many  
11 kinds of habitats. The earth has 16 habitats. Some are  
21 on land. Some are in water. Habitats have a range of  
32 temperatures. They can be very cold. They can be very  
42 hot. Most animals can live in only one or two kinds of  
54 habitats. A whale cannot live on land, nor can a polar bear  
66 live in the desert.

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

98 Sometimes, animals move from one habitat to another.  
106 They do this in the spring. Then, they move again in the  
118 fall. They may move to find a warmer habitat. Or they may  
130 move to find more food.  
135

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Ocean Habitats**

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

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

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

207

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## Desert Habitats

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

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

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

173

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Habitat Help**

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

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

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

167      We can all do our part to help save animal habitats.  
178

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

**Wildlife Refuges**

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

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

73       People work in refuges. They work for the U.S. Their  
83       job is to watch out for the animals. The people are refuge  
95       managers. They visit the refuges every day. They look for  
105      animals. They count the ones they see. The people look for  
116      animal tracks. They count the tracks. If an animal is hurt,  
127      the managers help.

130

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## **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.

**Citizens**

0        People belong to groups. A family is a group. A class  
11       is a group. Friends are a group. Citizens are a group, too.  
23       They were born in a country. They belong to that country.  
34       People born in the U.S. are U.S. citizens. Some U.S.  
44       citizens live in another country. They have children born  
53       in that country. The children will be U.S. citizens, too.  
63       People come to the U.S. from other countries. They  
72       are looking for a better life. The U.S. is made up of people  
85       from different countries. That is why the U.S. is called the  
96       “melting pot.” People born in another country can become  
105      U.S. citizens. They have to do three things. First, they  
115      must apply to be a U.S. citizen. Then, they must pass a  
127      test. Finally, they talk to a judge. The judge decides if the  
139      person can be a U.S. citizen.  
145

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Right to Vote**

0 U.S. citizens are lucky. They have a lot of freedom.  
10 They have many rights. Voting is an important right. When  
20 people vote, they choose what they want. People in groups  
30 may want different things. Voting is a fair way to decide.  
41 Families sometimes vote. They might vote on what to  
50 have for dinner. Classes sometimes vote. They might vote  
59 on what to do after lunch. Friends can vote. They might  
70 vote on which movie to see.  
76 In the U.S., citizens who are 18 years or older can  
87 vote. They can vote for the people they want to be their  
99 leaders. They can vote for the president of the U.S. It is  
111 important for citizens to vote.  
116

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_  
- Errors \_\_\_\_\_  
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**The Laws of the Land**

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

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

80 In the U.S., people are expected to follow many laws.  
90 They must obey the laws in their city. They must obey the  
102 laws in their state. All U.S. citizens must obey the laws of  
114 the country. They must respect each other's rights. U.S.  
123 citizens must pay taxes. Taxes are money that people pay  
133 to their country. Tax money is used to pay for things the  
145 country needs.  
147

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Our Country's Government**

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

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

93           Washington, D.C., is a city. It is the U.S. capital city.  
104 It is an important place. Our government is there. Our  
114 top leaders are there. The president lives there. The city  
124 was named for George Washington. He was the first U.S.  
134 president.

135

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## How to Be a Good Citizen

0           What does it take to be a good citizen? One way is to  
13 be honest. Honest people tell the truth. They are honest  
23 with themselves. They are also honest with other people.

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

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

72           Good citizens are responsible. They do what they say  
81 they will do. They don't make excuses. They don't blame  
91 other people.

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

119           We are lucky to have many good citizens in our world.  
130

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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 Introduction**

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

54 The U.S. has symbols. They stand for our country.  
63 They stand for U.S. ideas. They stand for freedom. Our  
73 flag is a symbol. An animal can also be a symbol. The bald  
86 eagle is a U.S. symbol. A building can be a symbol. The  
98 White House is a U.S. symbol. A statue can be a symbol.  
110 The Statue of Liberty is a symbol. Symbols are important.  
120

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**The American Flag**

0        The American flag is a symbol. It stands for our  
10       country. The flag is a symbol of unity. It is also a symbol  
23       of strength. The colors of the flag are red, white, and blue.  
35       The colors are also symbols. Red is a symbol for hardiness.  
46       It also means valor. White is a symbol for purity. It also  
58       means innocence. Blue is a symbol for justice.

66       The American flag has 13 stars and stripes. The stripes  
76       are red and white. There are 7 red stripes and 6 white  
88       stripes. The stripes are symbols for the first 13 states. The  
99       flag has a group of stars. The stars are white on a blue  
112      background. Each star is a symbol for a state. A star is  
124      added each time a state joins the U.S. Today, the flag has  
136      50 stars.

138

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## The White House

0        The White House is a U.S. symbol. It is in  
10   Washington, D.C. The White House is a symbol of the  
20   president. It is also a symbol of our government.

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

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

118        The president gives speeches from the Oval Office.  
126   People watch these speeches on TV.

132

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Bald Eagle**

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

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

79       In 1782, Congress put the bald eagle on the Great  
89   Seal. The Great Seal is the stamp of the United States.  
100

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Statue of Liberty**

0        The Statue of Liberty is a U.S. symbol. It is in New  
12    York Harbor. It is one of the largest statues in the world.  
24    France gave “Lady Liberty” to the U.S. It was a gift of  
36    friendship.

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

89        The statue holds a tablet in the other hand. The date  
100   on the tablet is July 4, 1776. That was the day the U.S.  
113   became a country.

116

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Level 2: Community Helpers**

216 A Community

217 Fire Fighters

218 Police Officers

219 Doctors

220 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**

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

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

85       A community is special. Each one is different. It has  
95       special places. There are special things to do. But some  
105      things are the same. People work together. They play  
114      together. They help each other.  
119

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## Fire Fighters

0 Fire fighters are very brave. They run into burning  
9 places. They put out fires. They save lives. Fire fighters are  
20 not only brave. They are strong. They are healthy. They  
30 go up and down ladders. Sometimes, they have to carry  
40 people.

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

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

151 Fire fighters use many tools to help them with their  
161 job. They have fire hoses. The hoses are strong and help to  
173 put out fires. Fire fighters also have axes. Axes help them  
184 get into burning buildings.

188

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## Police Officers

0 Police officers have a special job. They make sure  
 9 that people follow laws. Some laws tell people what to do.  
 20 Other laws tell people what not to do. A law is a rule that  
 34 all people must follow. Police officers enforce laws. They  
 43 try to keep people from doing the wrong thing. Sometimes,  
 53 people do bad things. They break laws. Police officers  
 62 catch them.

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

110 Police officers wear uniforms. They carry a badge.  
 118 They use special tools. A whistle is a tool. So is a two-way  
 132 radio. Handcuffs are tools, too. Police officers carry guns.  
 141 They are trained in how to use guns and follow gun safety  
 153 rules.

154

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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# Doctors

0 Doctors help people who are sick or hurt. They try  
 10 to find out what is wrong. They ask questions. Doctors  
 20 may order blood tests. They may order X-rays. Doctors  
 30 tell people what the tests and X-rays mean. Doctors help  
 41 people to feel better. They may give medicine. Sometimes,  
 50 they may operate.

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

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

129

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## Teachers

0 Teachers are important. They help students learn.  
 7 Teachers help them understand. Students spend a lot  
 15 of time in school. They spend many hours with their  
 25 teachers.  
 26 There are all kinds of teachers. Some teach young  
 35 children. Some work with teenagers. Others teach at  
 43 colleges. Teachers work with many kinds of students. All  
 52 students learn in their own way. Some learn by seeing.  
 62 Others learn by hearing. Many students learn by doing.  
 71 Some students learn easily. Others have trouble learning.  
 79 Teachers have to know many ways to teach.  
 87 Teachers have special tools. Some use chalkboards.  
 94 They write with chalk. Others use dry erase boards.  
 103 They write with markers. Many teachers use overhead  
 111 projectors. Others use computers. Some teachers use  
 118 videos or music.  
 121 Teachers work very hard. They are always learning.  
 129 They pass on what they learn to their students. When  
 139 students learn, they feel good about themselves.  
 146

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## **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.

## Rain Forests: Nature's Friends

0           There are two kinds of rain forests. One kind is a  
11 tropical rain forest. Tropical rain forests are in warm  
20 places. The other kind is a temperate rain forest.  
29 Temperate rain forests are in cooler places.

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

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

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

218           Rain forests are in danger. People are cutting down  
227 trees in rain forests to make wood and paper. Rain forests  
238 need our help. We must ask people to stop cutting down  
249 rain forest trees.  
252

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**Animals of the Rain Forest**

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

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

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

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

174 Rain forests are home to millions of the earth's  
183 animals and insects.

186

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## Plants of the Rain Forest

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

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

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

119 Orchids are plants with flowers. Orchid flowers grow  
 127 in many colors. They are very pretty. They grow in many  
 138 sizes and shapes.

141

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## Why Rain Forests Are Important

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

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

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

134 A lot of the world's food first came from rain forests.  
145 Many nuts come from rain forests. So do fruits, like  
155 bananas and pineapples. Lots of spices come from rain  
164 forests, too.

166

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## Why Rain Forests Are Important

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9 half of the world's oxygen. Rain forests may be the lungs  
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155 bananas and pineapples. Lots of spices come from rain  
164 forests, too.  
166

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## The Human Body Introduction

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

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

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

139 The human body is an amazing machine!  
146

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Skeletal and Muscle System**

0 Every human body has a skeleton made up of 206  
10 bones. The skeleton supports the body. It gives the body  
20 shape. It also protects the lungs and kidneys. Bones are  
30 strong enough to support the body. They are also light  
40 enough so that the body can move. Bones are made of  
51 proteins. They are also made of minerals. Bone marrow is  
61 inside the bone. This is where red blood cells are made.  
72 Our bodies make more than one hundred million red blood  
82 cells every day.

85 Muscles are fixed to the skeleton. A human body has  
95 about 640 muscles. The muscles make the body move.  
104 Muscles move all the time. Even when the body is still,  
115 some muscles are still moving. They never stop working.  
124 Muscles keep our lungs breathing. The heart is the most  
134 important muscle. It keeps blood pumping throughout our  
142 body.  
143

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

## The Heart and Lung System

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

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

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

164

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Nervous System

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

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

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

182

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Digestive System

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

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

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

171       Leftover waste that the body can't use is sent on to  
 182     the large intestine. It stays there until it is expelled from  
 193     the body.

195

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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### **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 Introduction

0       Holidays are special days. They are days that are  
9       important to us. They help us remember the past. Holidays  
19      are times for people to celebrate. Many people do not have  
30      to work on holidays. Schools may be closed.

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

71       Many countries have the same holidays. Some  
78      celebrate New Year's Day, the first day of the year. Some  
89      countries celebrate Valentine's Day. It is a day to show  
99      love. Some countries celebrate Independence Day. It is  
107     their country's birthday. Thanksgiving is another holiday  
114     in some countries. People give thanks for all of the good  
125     things they have in their lives.  
131

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**New Year's Day**

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

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

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

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

184

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## 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.

210

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**Independence Day**

0 Independence Day is a special day. It is the birth of a  
12 country. It is a day of freedom. Many countries celebrate.

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

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

130 July 1 is a holiday in Canada. It is Canada Day. It is  
143 their date of freedom. Britain gave Canada home rule on  
153 that day in 1867.

157

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## Thanksgiving Day

0 Thanksgiving is a special day. For years, people have  
 9 set aside one day to give thanks for gifts that the earth has  
 22 provided. Long ago, it was a time to honor the fall harvest.  
 34 Harvest is the time when crops are taken from the fields.  
 45 They were stored for the winter. People were thankful that  
 55 they had food to eat. They gave thanks for a good growing  
 67 season. All major religions give thanks for the earth's  
 76 bounty.

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

121 Many people celebrate Thanksgiving in their own way.  
 129 It is a day to give thanks for life's blessings and fruits of  
 142 the earth.

144

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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### **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

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

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

118 Native Americans used things from nature to build  
 126 their homes. People in the Northwest lived in lodges.  
 135 Those in the Southwest lived in pueblos. The Plains  
 144 people lived in tepees. People in the Northeast lived in  
 154 longhouses.

155

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Northwest Homes: Wood Lodges**

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

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

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

153      Every lodge had a totem pole outside. The totem  
162      pole was different for each lodge. A totem pole was an  
173      important element of a lodge. It was a form of identity of  
185      the families that lived in the lodge.

192

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## Southwest Homes: Pueblos

0 Native Americans in the Southwest lived in the desert.  
 9 They lived in homes called pueblos. The desert did not  
 19 have many trees. Rocks and clay were natural resources  
 28 in the desert. These settlers mixed clay mud with wild  
 38 grasses to create adobe. Then, they used adobe as a  
 48 building material.

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

106 These Southwestern homes were built on top of tall,  
 115 flat mountains. Pueblos looked like apartment buildings.  
 122 The rooms were close together. Many families lived in a  
 132 set of rooms. As the families grew in number, more rooms  
 143 were added. Pueblos were very good homes for an area  
 153 with a dry, hot climate and very little rainfall.  
 162

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Plains Homes: Tepees**

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

41           Hunting buffalo was a very important part of life for  
51     the Plains people. Because they followed the buffalo, they  
60     needed homes that could be moved easily. Their homes  
69     were called tepees. The word *tepee* means "to dwell."  
78     About 10 people could live in one tepee.

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

160           Tepees were good homes for the Plains people. Tepees  
169    were easy to take down and carry whenever the people  
179    moved to follow the buffalo.

184

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# **Northeast Homes: Longhouses**

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

82       The longhouses were built next to each other in  
 91       villages. The Native Americans used tall tree poles to build  
 101      high walls around the villages. The high walls kept them  
 111      safe from attacks. Their villages were built near water.  
 120      The Native Americans used water for drinking, cooking,  
 128      and growing crops. Corn was one of their crops. They also  
 139      planted beans and squash. The crops were picked in the  
 149      fall and stored to eat in the winter.  
 157

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Level 3: The Solar System**

- 316 The Solar System Introduction
- 317 The Inner Planets
- 318 The Outer Planets
- 319 Asteroids and Meteoroids
- 320 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 Introduction

0        The solar system is made up of the sun, nine planets,  
11        and many moons. All but two of the planets have at least  
23        one moon. Asteroids, meteoroids, and comets are part of  
32        the solar system, too. The sun is the center of our solar  
44        system. Earth orbits around the sun.

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

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

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

232

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Inner Planets

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

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

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

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

195      Mars is known as the “red planet.” It is the fourth  
206      planet in order from the sun and has two moons. It takes  
218      687 days for Mars to orbit the sun. Like Earth, Mars has  
230      seasons. Since it takes Mars longer to orbit the sun, its  
241      seasons are longer.

244

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Outer Planets

0           The five outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus,  
8 Neptune, and Pluto. All except Pluto are huge, made up of  
19 gases, and have many moons. These planets orbit far away  
29 from the sun.

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

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

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

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

185          Pluto is the smallest planet. It is the farthest from  
195 the sun. Unlike the other outer planets, Pluto is rocky,  
205 with only one moon. It is smaller than some of the other  
217 planets' moons.

219

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## Asteroids and Meteoroids

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

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

75           There are other objects in space. Meteoroids also exist.  
84           Most are made up of asteroids. They were created when  
94           they crashed into each other. So, they are smaller than  
104          asteroids. Most are the size of a pebble. They also orbit the  
116          sun. Some orbit in a group. But others orbit alone. Some  
127          flying spacecrafts have been hit by these hard, tiny objects.  
137

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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## Comets

0 Comets are small, icy objects in the Earth's solar  
9 system. They are composed of three parts. Each comet has  
19 a nucleus, a coma, and a tail.

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

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

154 Comets orbit the sun. Some comets get so close to the  
165 sun that they crash into it. These comets are called "sun  
176 grazers."  
177

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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### **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.

## The Three R's

0        Every day, people throw many things into the trash. A  
 10   big dump truck picks up the trash, or waste material, and  
 21   takes it away. But where does all of that waste go? Most  
 33   of it goes to a local dump called a landfill. This can cause  
 46   problems.

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

102       People can help with the waste problem. They need  
 111   to learn about the "Three R's." The R's stand for reduce,  
 122   recycle, and reuse. People should practice the three R's  
 131   every day. We can all help protect our environment.  
 140

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

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**Reduce**

0           Reduce means to make something smaller. It also  
8           means to use less of something. There are many things  
18          people can do to reduce waste.

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

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

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

223

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

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**Recycle**

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

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

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

186 Taking the time to recycle can help protect our  
 195 environment.

196

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

**Reuse**

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

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

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

178 Finally, we can try to fix things that break. That is  
 189 better than throwing them in the trash. Or, if we can't fix  
 201 them, we can give them away. There are places that fix  
 212 broken items and then give them away. If we decide to  
 223 buy something new like a sofa or a bike, we should sell or  
 236 give away the old one. That way, the items will end up in  
 249 someone's home and not in a landfill. Reusing items will  
 259 help protect our environment.  
 263

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

**Be Safe With Waste**

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

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

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

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

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

187        Everyone must handle toxic items carefully. This will  
 195        help protect our environment.

199

Total Words Read \_\_\_\_\_

- Errors \_\_\_\_\_

= CWPM \_\_\_\_\_

# SIX MINUTE

## Appendix

# 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.

<b>Number of Words Read</b>														
60														
55														
50														
45														
40														
35														
30														
25														
20														
15														
10														
5														
<b>DATE</b>														

# Automatic Words Record Graph

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ LIST # \_\_\_\_\_

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

<b>Number of Words Read</b>														
<b>60</b>														
<b>55</b>														
<b>50</b>														
<b>45</b>														
<b>40</b>														
<b>35</b>														
<b>30</b>														
<b>25</b>														
<b>20</b>														
<b>15</b>														
<b>10</b>														
<b>5</b>														
<b>DATE</b>														

### Initial Assessment Record (for passage reading)

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

[illegible]



## Parent Fluency Assessment Report

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

EXPECTED CWPM FOR THIS GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Date	CWPM	Date	CWPM	Date	CWPM

## Fluency Record

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSAGE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSAGE #	DATE	CWPM	DATE	CWPM	DATE	CWPM	DATE	CWPM	DATE	CWPM

CWPM = correct words per minute

## Stud

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

## Partner Points Sheet

PARTNER 1 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER 2 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

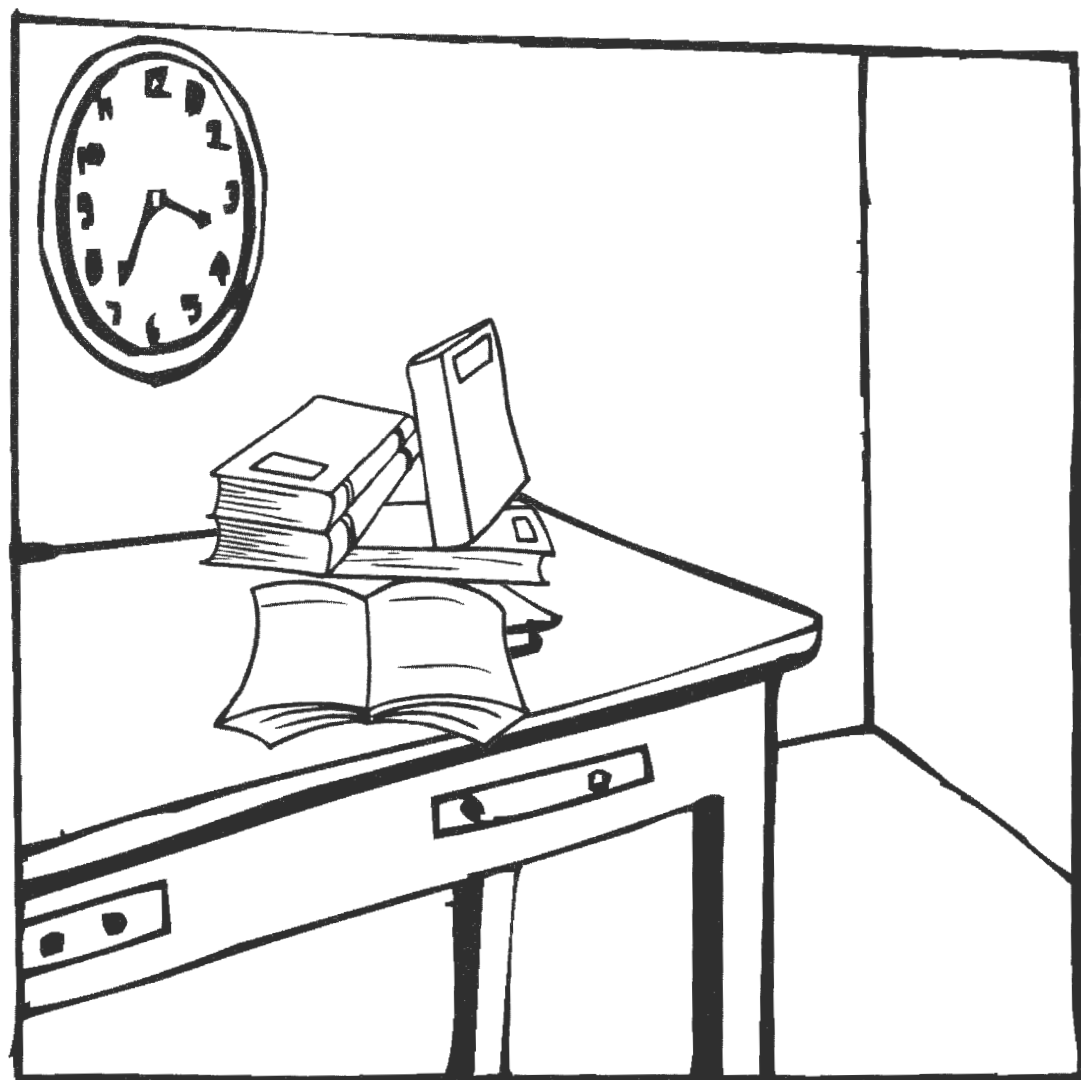
- Mark one point for the partnership for each task done correctly.

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

## 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



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