

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

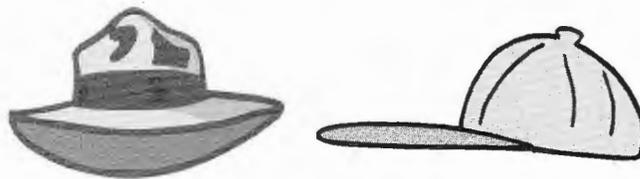
Long “u” stories:
Luke the Mule
The Duke’s Mule

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 _____

= CWPM _____

Short "i" Story: Kim Is Six

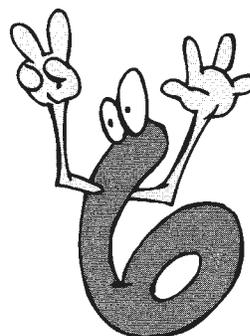
Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Kim	pigs	is
six	wigs	she
and		likes
has		car
kits		also
big		red
pins		
tin		
lids		
pink		

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

Short "e" Story: Bess the Hen

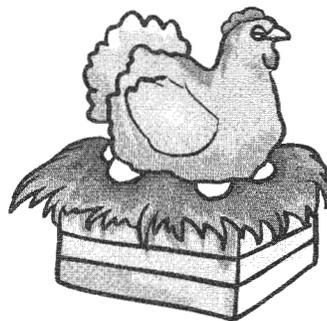
Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Bess	is
hen	a
red	she
yes	lives
big	then
pen	chicks
had	the
nest	her
ten	
eggs	

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 _____
 = CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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
glob		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 glob. 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



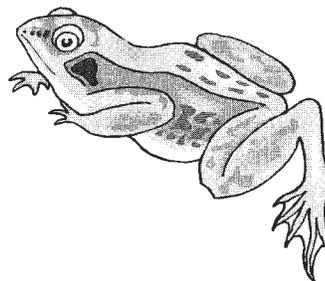
Total Words Read _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____

Short "o" Story: Bob the Frog

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

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 _____

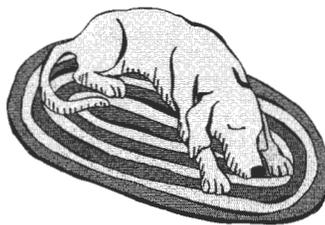
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Short "u" Story: Mutt the Pup

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 _____
 = CWPM _____

Short "u" Story: Bud the Bug

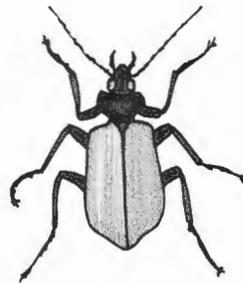
Decodable Words		Automatic Words
Bud	wet	the
big	had	was
bug	fun	only
in		he
mud		
did		
run		
not		
jog		
dug		

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
 = CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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	

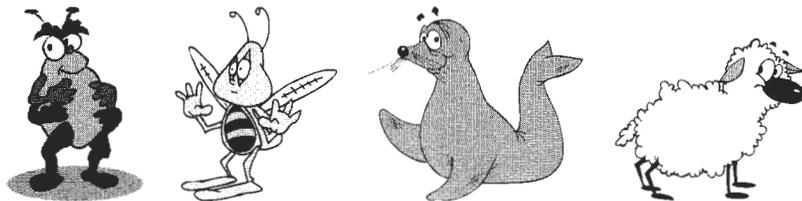
The Team

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

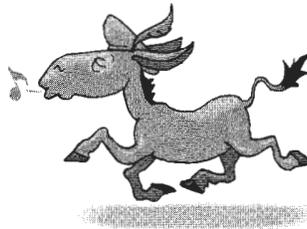
Decodable Words	Automatic Words
Luke	was sing
mule	lived when
mules	the sang
huge	other they
pen	named nice
June	care girl
tunes	took her
flute	of with
cute	played to
	hear in

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____

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 _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
 - Errors _____
 = CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
 = CWPM _____

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 _____

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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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

Valentine's Day

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

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

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

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

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

191 People all over the world enjoy Valentine's Day. No
 200 matter what their custom, the day is all about love.

210

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
 - Errors _____
 = CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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

Total Words Read _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
 - Errors _____
 = CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

- Errors _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____
- Errors _____
= CWPM _____

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 _____

= CWPM _____

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 _____

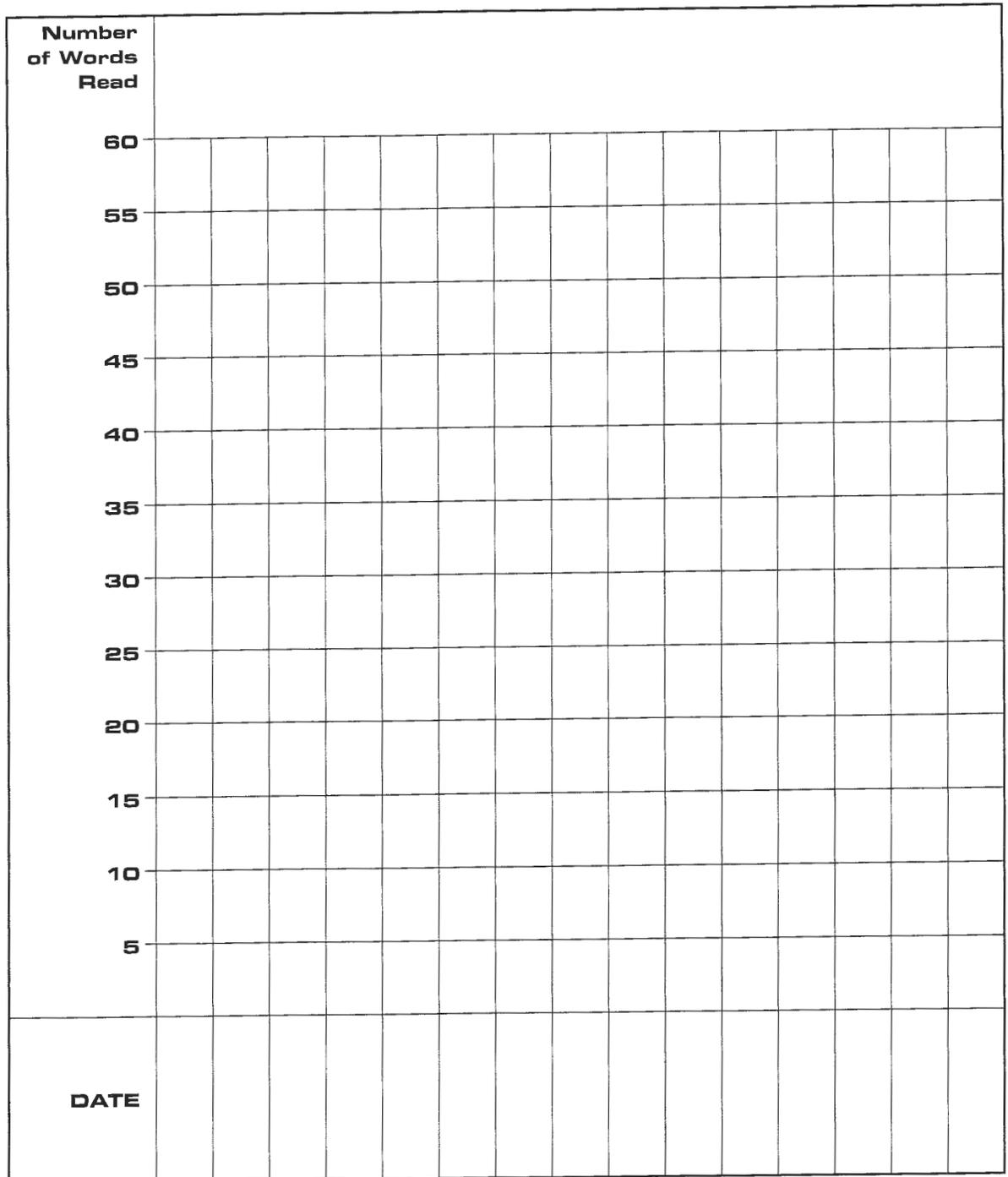
SIX MINUTE

Appendix

Phonetic Elements Record Graph

STUDENT _____ PHONETIC ELEMENT _____

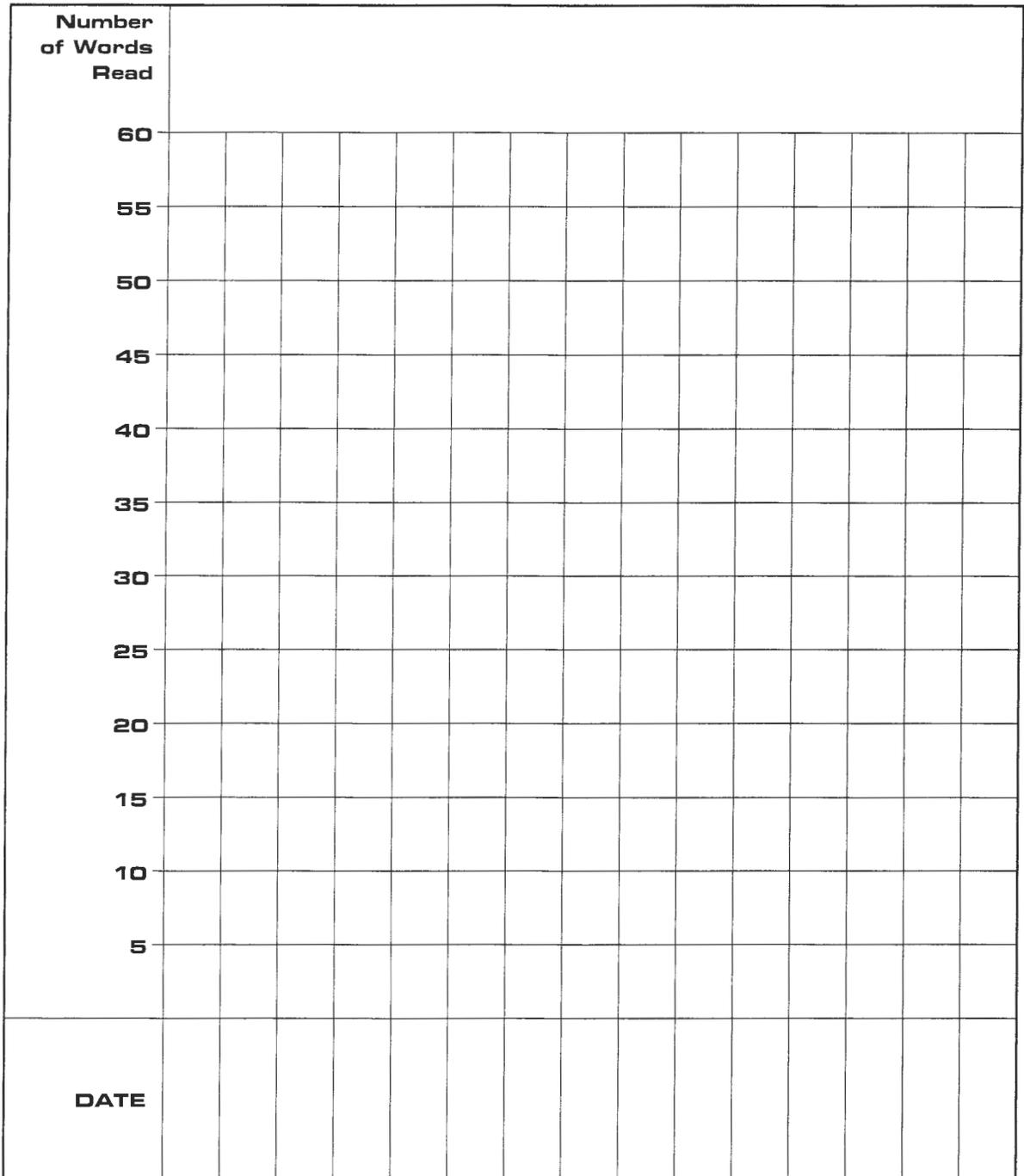
- Enter a date in the bottom row, and color that column bar up to the number of words the student read on that date.



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.



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								

CWPM = correct words per minute

Student Fluency Graph

NAME: _____ CLASS: _____

PARTNER: _____ DATE: _____

Correct Words Per Minute																			
120																			
115																			
110																			
105																			
100																			
95																			
90																			
85																			
80																			
75																			
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DATE																			
FLUENCY SHEET NUMBER																			
PASSAGE NUMBER																			

Partner Points Sheet

PARTNER 1 NAME _____

PARTNER 2 NAME _____

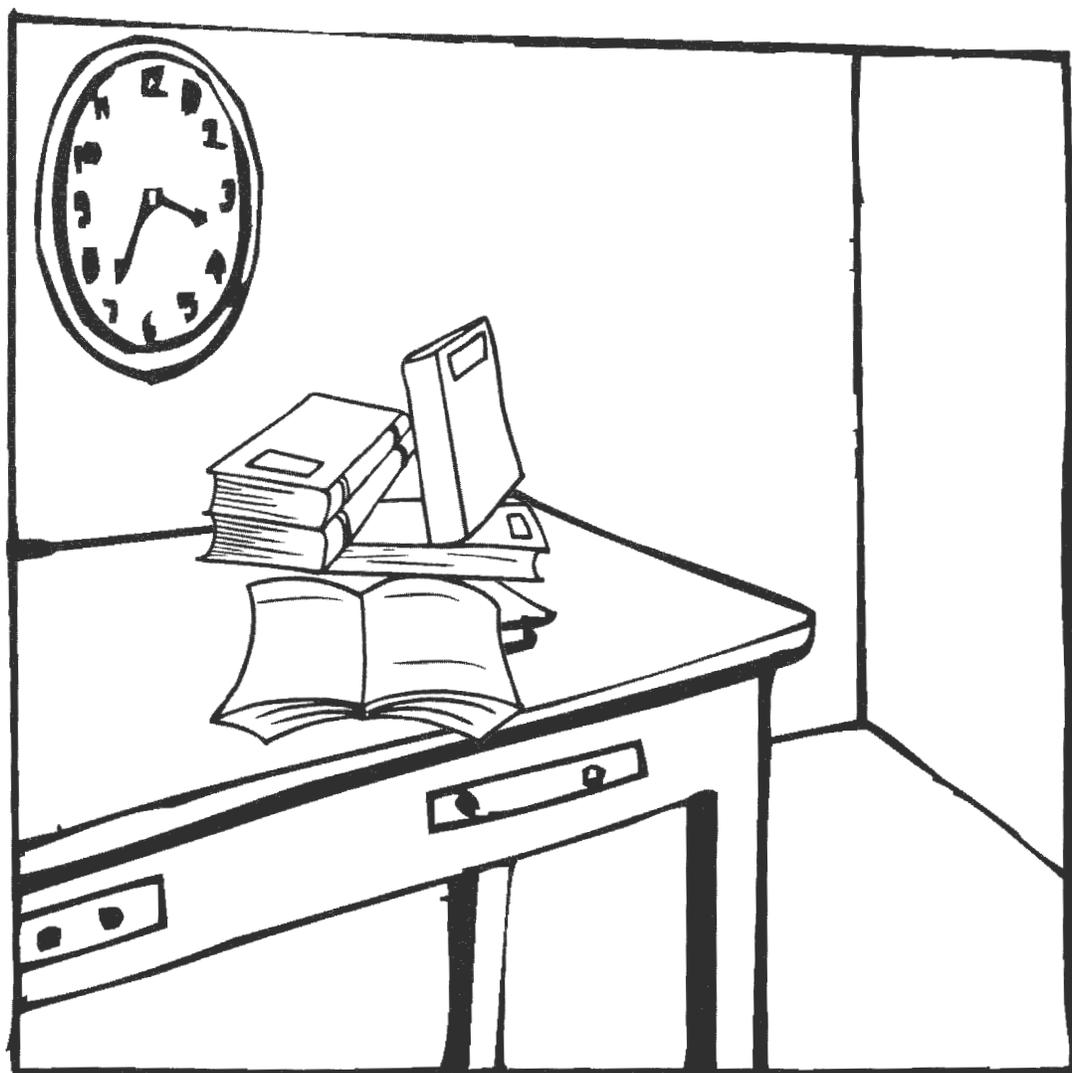
- Mark one point for the partnership for each task done correctly.

	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.								
TOTAL POINTS								

What Is Reading Fluency?

The ability to read text:

- Accurately
- Quickly
- With Expression



Why Is Reading Fluency Important?

It is directly related to:

- Reading comprehension
- Independent reading
- Work completion



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