

Differentiated

GRADE
4

HOME LEARNING Reading & ELA

3 WEEKS

OF READING, WRITING, AND GRAMMAR LESSONS

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BY: *Teaching and Tapes*



Do You Get Enough Sleep?

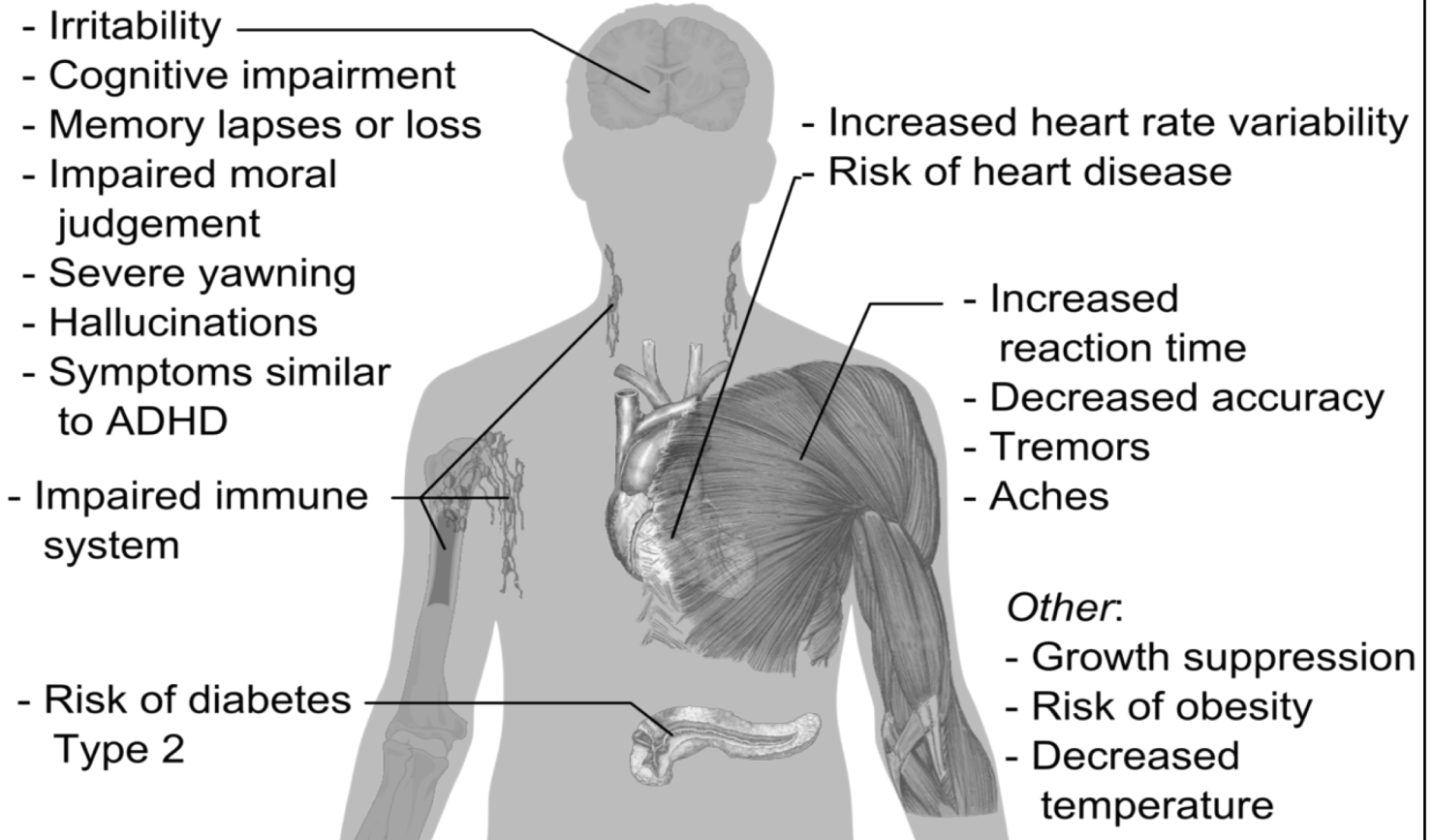
Humans should sleep up to one-third of each day. However, many people do not get enough sleep. A healthy lifestyle starts with getting plenty of sleep. How a person acts, thinks, and feels can all be affected by the quality of their sleep.

The National Sleep Foundation studied how much sleep each person needs. They found that children and adults need different amounts. When it comes to the number of sleeping hours needed, preschoolers need 11-13 hours each night. Kids in elementary school should sleep 9-11 hours each night. Teenagers need 8-10 hours of sleep. Adults need 7-9 hours of sleep.

The human body is designed to rest and renew during sleep. The brain gets ready for the next day as the body sleeps. The body's immune system does a

FIGURE A

Effects of Not Getting Enough Sleep





better job fighting sickness after a restful night of sleep. The heart and other vital organs also rest and recover during sleep.

People who do not get enough sleep can be at risk for heart disease and other medical problems. They can have mood swings that affect how they act. Sleepy kids can have problems listening in class. Not enough sleep can create other problems in school, too. For example, tired students may struggle to even stay awake.

E

Often poor habits lead to not enough sleep. Making small changes can help a person have a good night of sleep. For example, it is important that everyone in the family has a sleep schedule. Homework and activities should be finished long before bedtime. Staying up too late to work can harm the body's chances of a good night's sleep. Going to bed and getting up at the same time each day helps the body stay in a good sleep pattern. It is helpful to have a bedtime routine. The same routine each night can help you relax before bed. A restful evening can help a person fall asleep more easily. For a truly good night's sleep, screens such as computers and phones should be taken out of bedroom. Technology is great during the day. However, at night, the lights and sounds from screens can make it harder to fall asleep. Finally, for the best sleep, it is important to watch what you eat in the evening. People who want to have a good night of sleep should avoid eating big meals. It is also important to avoid caffeine and sugar at night.

Every person should be concerned about the hours spent sleeping. Getting a good night's sleep is more than just the hours spent dreaming. A person might have problems falling asleep, staying asleep, or even getting a restful sleep. It is vital to have a restful night of sleep or a person's health can begin to suffer. Sleep is vitally important to every human being.

1. Write two questions where the answer could be found in the text. Then find the answer to your question and color it.

1. _____

Color the answer to your question



2. _____

Color the answer to your question



2. After reading the article, do you believe you get enough sleep? Cite the evidence and details in the article that help you answer this question.

3. How can poor habits and choices lead to a lack of sleep? Cite the evidence and details in the article that help you answer this question.

4. In paragraph E, the text says, "People who want to have a good night's sleep should especially avoid eating large meals." What can you **INFER** about this statement?

INFERENCE = Educated guess.

PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Directions: Use the given words/phrases at least one time in a sentence.

CLOSE TO _____

BEHIND _____

EXCEPT FOR _____

ON TOP OF _____

THANKS TO _____

ALONG WITH _____



The Family Champ

Aito and Kimiko were playing ping pong in the basement. Their game was becoming very intense because they both wanted to win. Aito's younger sister, Kimiko, was usually slow. In the past couple of weeks, however, she had started to keep an eye on the ball. Aito used to just hit it hard and fast to her, but she never could hit it back. When he did this, the game would end. However, now he couldn't just whack the ball off the green table like usual because she could hit it back. Now he had competition.

Aito stuck out his tongue at her. He knew this made her really mad. He chucked the ball up, and then gave it a nice whack. The small white ball shot across the green table. To Aito's surprise, Kimiko was more than ready on her side. She stepped back and swung with full force at the white ball coming toward her. The ball shot back to Aito and hit him right in the face. He got mad.

"You're gonna pay for that one," he told her.

Kimiko huffed a deep breath. Her straight black hair was in her eyes now. She was starting to sweat a little bit from the game. "You're just afraid 'cause your little sister is about to beat you," she said.

She was right. Aito was not ready for her to beat him. He thought that he was the best player in the family. He looked at Kimiko standing there with a big smile. She was starting to make him nervous and he didn't like it.

She threw the ball up and hit it to Aito with all her might. She hit it too hard. It zoomed right past Aito's head. He could hear the 'whoosh' as it crossed his right ear. The ball zipped off the table and onto the other side of the basement. It landed somewhere in the corner with all of the boxes full of their parent's stuff.

He set his paddle down and went on the hunt. On that side of the basement, it looked like a cavern of cardboard boxes. Mom and Dad saved everything from when they were kids, so the boxes took up the other half of the basement. As Aito started his quest, he took out his cell phone and turned on his



light.

As he reached the back of the basement, he saw the water heater. It was tall, rusty, and the same color as the wall. It was also quiet. Aito looked around the floor by the heater. He saw a tiny dot of white when he put his light on the ground. He bent down to reach for it, when the heater suddenly turned on with a loud boom.

"Ahh!" he squealed. He bumped his head on the heater hard. His sister heard him screech all the way on the other side of the basement. It made her giggle.

He was angry at her. He almost left without the ball, but turned around, and reached for it. Instead of touching the ball, he felt a box. He took a better look and saw an old wooden box. It looked really old and fancy. There were Japanese characters etched on the sides of the wooden box. He got down on his knees and opened it.

Inside was a collection of old, black and white photos, and some trophies. There was also a heavy golden ping pong ball. When Aito looked at the photos, he saw a woman he recognized. She was receiving a trophy. She was standing on top of a trophy stand with men in the second and third place spots. He looked carefully at the background of the photo and saw the words "World Ping-Pong Championships". He knew the face of the woman very well. "Grandma?" said Aito, surprised.

"What are you talking about?" said Kimiko.

Aito looked at the photo and realized he was not the best ping pong player in the family. He wondered if maybe he wasn't even the second best player in the family anymore either.

1. Write three questions where the answer could be found in the text. Then find the answer to your question and color it.

1. _____

Color the answer to your question



2. _____

Color the answer to your question



3. _____

Color the answer to your question



2. Does Aito take the game against his sister seriously? How do you know? Refer to the details found in the text in your response.

3. What can you **INFER** about Aito's personality? What can you **INFER** about Kimiko's personality? Refer to the details found in the text in your response.

INFERENCE =

What the text says + what you know in your life

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



The World at Night

The world during the day is very busy. Adults go to work and children go to school. Animals graze in fields and birds are busy flying and searching for food. But what happens when we turn out the lights? Is everyone asleep? The answer is no! There is a whole amazing world that awakens when you and I go to sleep.

Animals, insects, and other creatures that wake at night and begin their busy life are called nocturnal. Nocturnal means to be active at night and sleep in the day. There are many animals that are nocturnal. You probably hear the buzz begin outside in the evenings before you go to bed.

If you have ever heard chirps and buzzes when it gets dark, you may be hearing insects like crickets, katydids, and frogs. These are just a few examples. Larger animals like owls, raccoons, and opossums are also nocturnal. There are good reasons why these animals prefer to sleep in the day and come out at night.

Some animals sleep during the day because of the temperature. In many areas, it can be too hot for an animal to be out in the day. For example, iguanas live in the desert. During the day, it can be over 100 degrees in the sun! This is way too hot for an iguana to hunt for food and do all the things iguanas do. So, they sleep in the shade of trees or rocks to keep cool. At night, when the temperature drops, they wake up and hunt.

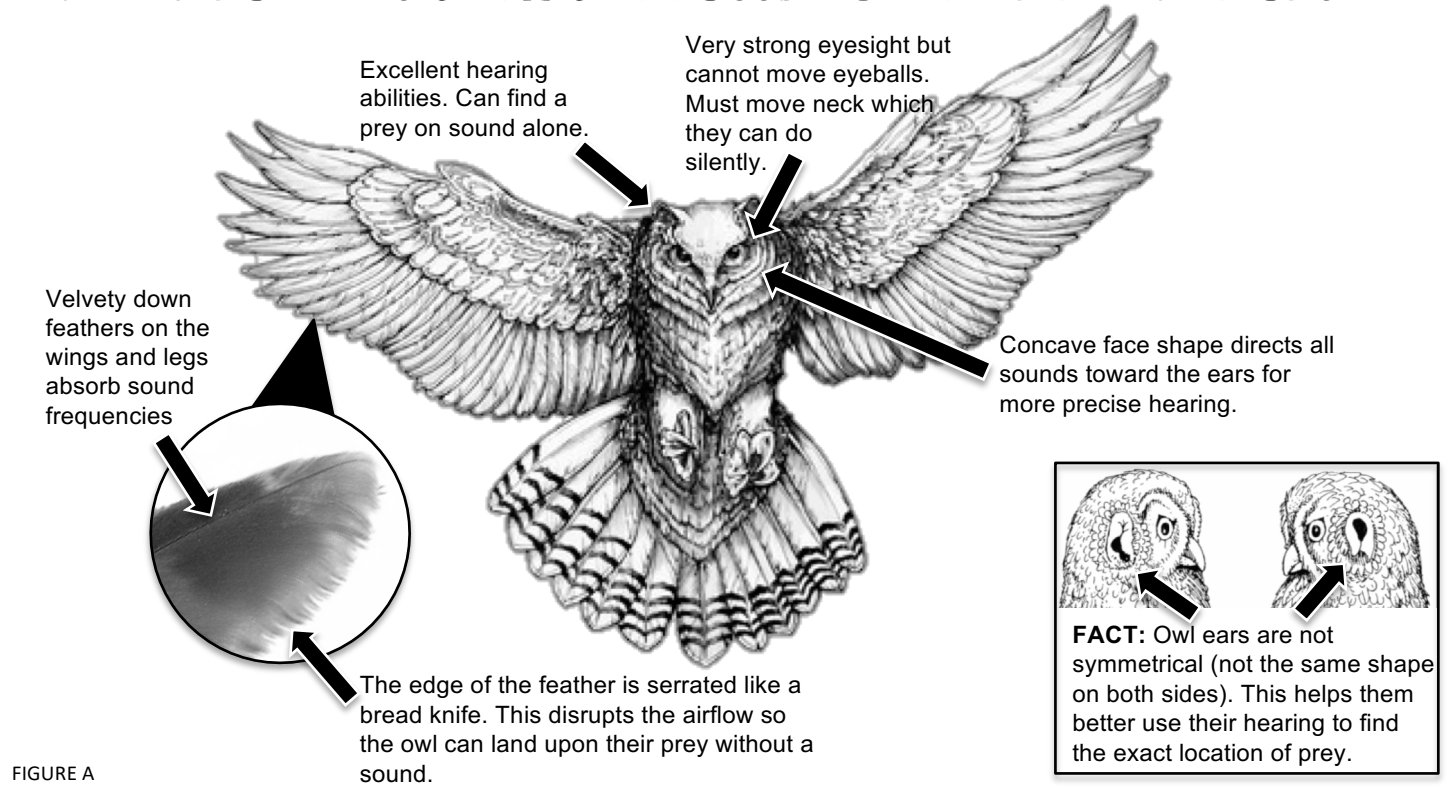
If you have ever had a hamster as a pet, or know someone who has, you know that they sleep during the day and are active at night. This is because it is part of their nature. They are nocturnal. Hamsters are not fast animals. If they had to go out during the day to get food and water, it would be easy for predators like hawks or other large birds to catch them. Hamsters rely on being nocturnal for survival. It is easier for them to hide in darkness to avoid being caught by predators.



F

Animals like owls are nocturnal because the food they eat is also nocturnal. Owls like to eat mice and other small rodents. Because these animals come out only at night, owls must come out at night to find them. Even with the darkness providing cover for these small rodents, owls are very successful hunters.

How Are Owls Such Successful Nocturnal Hunters?



There are some animals that eat the same types of food as others. For example, coyotes and mountain lions like to eat rabbits and deer. This can mean big trouble, though. Imagine there is one piece of your favorite pie left. You see it at the same time as your little brother or sister. What is going to happen? You're going to fight over it. The same thing happens in nature. This is called competition. Since coyotes and mountain lions eat the same things, it is better for one to hunt and eat during the day and the other at night. So, coyotes are nocturnal while mountain lions are active during the day. This is a way that nature finds an amazing way to balance.


Our human world is very busy during the day. Most of us are awake and active during daylight. The fascinating world of nocturnal animals just starts to wake up as our heads hit the pillow at bedtime.


1. What is the **MAIN TOPIC** of the text? _____

MAIN IDEA =

2. What is the **MAIN IDEA** of this text.

Topic + What the author says about the topic

3.  Color in a **KEY DETAIL** that supports the main idea of the text. Explain in your own words how this detail supports the main idea.

4.  Color in a **KEY DETAIL** that supports the main idea of the text. Explain in your own words how this detail supports the main idea.

5. Write a **SUMMARY** of this text.

SUMMARY =

Main Idea + Supporting Details

COMPLETE SENTENCES

Directions: Read each sentence. Write "Fragment", "Run-on Sentence", or "Correct" depending on how you would describe the sentence structure.

		Fragment? Run-on Sentence? Correct?
1.	Marco is a sweet boy, he really loves animals.	
2.	Plays well with his friends.	
3.	The science test is really hard, you should start studying right away.	
4.	I love math even though I think it is the hardest subject.	
5.	Ran around the room and jumped on the couch.	
6.	My best friend lives by the park on the other side of town.	

Choose one of the FRAGMENTS from above and write it as a correct sentence on the lines below.

Choose one of the RUN-ON SENTENCES from above and write it correctly on the lines below.



An Extraordinary Day

It was a bright summer morning. The dazzling sun danced in the bright blue sky. Sara's parents were having their morning coffee on the back porch. Sara was anxious to get to the shore to collect seashells. Her parents told her to run ahead and they would catch up soon.

Excitedly, Sara crossed the sand dunes and got to the beach. She could see the house from the shore. Grabbing her pail, Sara began to examine the sand for unique shells. Before long, the pail was half full. She glanced towards the water. At the water's edge she saw a large shell. It was far away, but it was huge. She approached the shell. Bending down, Sara picked up the most extraordinary shell she had ever seen. It was shiny and circular. The colors swirled in spirals and looked like a rainbow.

Sara was so absorbed in her discovery that she did not notice the large wave coming ashore. All of a sudden, the wave crashed around Sara, pulling her under. Panic and distress began to take over. Sara could not see anything. Blackness was all around her. Sara flailed her arms frantically, but she just went further under. Suddenly, two very strong arms grabbed Sara and swam her swiftly to the surface. Her head was now above the water. Sara tried to adjust her eyes to the sunlight after having been immersed in the water's blackness.

Someone was holding onto Sara tightly. Sara was boosted up so her head was above the surface. She could feel that her rescuer was swimming quickly towards the shore. Turning her head, Sara focused her eyes on her hero. She had Aphrodite-like beauty and Neptune-like strength. She had long, wavy blonde hair that reached far below the water and billowed around them. The woman's eyes were the color of the sea. Her smile was dazzling and kind. The woman did not speak to Sara. She simply nodded her head.



The woman swam Sara strongly towards the shallow water of the shore. When they arrived, the woman placed Sara firmly onto the sand. She paused for a second, nodded again at Sara, then turned and dove under the water. Sara didn't even have time to say "thank you" to the woman.

The woman swam away quickly. Soon she was quite far out into the deep water. Just before she was out of sight, the woman dove under the water. Sara rubbed her eyes. She felt she must have been seeing things. Where the woman's legs should have been, there was a shiny, slippery, sparkling tail! It splashed the water's surface as the woman disappeared from sight.

A beautiful woman with a fish tail could only mean one thing. Sara jumped up and ran back towards the house. She was dripping wet. No one was going to believe what had just happened to her. Sara couldn't believe her luck in being rescued by a mermaid. This was definitely an extraordinary day that she would never forget!

1. What is the **THEME** of this text? _____

2. Describe the **THEME** of the text.



Color in a **DETAIL OR SENTENCE** that helps you identify the **THEME** .
Explain in your own words how this detail supports the **THEME** .



Color in a **DETAIL OR SENTENCE** that helps you identify the **THEME** .
Explain in your own words how this detail supports the **THEME** .

5. Write a **SUMMARY** of this text.

DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

Describe your idea of the perfect day. Start from the beginning of the day and continue until the end of the day. Use at least 10 adjectives in your writing. Circle the adjectives.

Do you have any friends that are good friends. What makes someone a good friend? Use at least 10 adjectives in your writing. Circle the adjectives.



Brontosaurus: The Mixed Up Dinosaur

If you know anything about dinosaurs, you probably have heard of a Brontosaurus before. You might even be able to tell others what it looked like. It was a huge dinosaur with a long neck and really long tail. Its head was very small for its body. Even though it was very powerful, the Brontosaurus was also very gentle. It was not a meat eater. Instead, it was what we call an herbivore, or something that eats plants. This dinosaur is very popular and well known by many people.

The Truth Behind The Brontosaurus

It may seem strange to you, but Brontosaurus never really existed. Have you ever thought you knew what a certain animal or insect was but found out later that you were wrong? This is called mistaken identity. Brontosaurus was really a dinosaur that was made up of two dinosaurs that were already discovered and given names. The reason this happened was because of two men who had too much pride. They were both scientists called paleontologists. A paleontologist is someone who studies fossils. Each of these guys wanted to be better than the other.

Bone Wars

Othniel Marsh and Edward Cope were the two paleontologists with too much pride. They did not like one another, and they sometimes competed against each other. Back in 1877, they were on a mission to see who could discover the most dinosaur remains. They would even smash fossils just so the other could not get them. Sometimes, Marsh would pay people who worked for Cope to send the fossils they found to him instead of Cope. This rivalry between the two men became known as the Bone Wars.

Discovery Of Apatosaurus

In 1877, Marsh found the remains of a dinosaur skeleton. This skeleton had a long neck and tail. However, it was not the complete skeleton. Marsh did not care. He just wanted to make sure he was a better paleontologist than Cope. This caused him to be careless in his discovery. Usually, scientists would take their time to research their discoveries. Marsh decided to quickly name his new found dinosaur, Apatosaurus.

**The Discovery Of Brontosaurus—a Mixed Up Dinosaur**

Two years later, in 1879, Marsh had a team looking for fossils in another area. They found a skeleton that was similar to the one he called Apatosaurus. This newer skeleton was much larger and had more bones to it. However, there was one problem. This skeleton had no head! Marsh had a solution though. A few miles away they found a skull. Once again, Marsh was in a hurry to claim another discovery. So instead of figuring out who the skull belonged to, he added it to this second skeleton. He called his “new” discovery, Brontosaurus.

Marsh and his team did not tell anyone about what they had done. Several years later, someone realized that the Brontosaurus skeleton was actually the same as Apatosaurus. Since the second skeleton was larger and had fewer vertebrae bones, Marsh decided it had to be a new species. If he had taken time to research and investigate the bones, he would have found that the second skeleton was just an adult Apatosaurus. The first one was smaller because it was a young Apatosaurus.

The skull that Marsh used for Brontosaurus actually belonged to another type of dinosaur called Camarasaurus. There were many Camarasaurus remains found in the same area the skull was found. Marsh was too impatient to wait and find this out himself. It is even said that Marsh used the feet of the Camarasaurus for his Apatosaurus skeleton!

The Belief In Brontosaurus

People do not seem to want to let Brontosaurus go. It may have something to do with the name. Brontosaurus means “thunder lizard”. This sounds more powerful than Apatosaurus, “deceptive lizard”.

So, some may argue that the Brontosaurus really did exist. They would be sort of correct. But, you must remember that Brontosaurus was really a combination between Apatosaurus and Camarasaurus. Both of these dinosaurs had already been discovered and given their names. And in the scientific community, the name given first is the name that stays. Since Marsh originally discovered and named his first skeletal remains Apatosaurus, this is the official name.

1. Write a paragraph describing why there has been confusion about the Brontosaurus. Use the words **FIRST**, **THEN**, **NEXT**, and **FINALLY** in your paragraph.

2.  Color the sentences in the text that explain **WHY** there was no such thing as a Brontosaurus.

3. **EXPLAIN** in your own words **WHY** there was no such thing as a Brontosaurus.

4. Describe how an Apatosaurus and a Brontosaurus are **CONNECTED**.



[illegible]



The Kitten

Sophie had always wanted a pet. Her mom told her that she was not responsible enough for a pet. Sophie knew deep inside that if she only had a pet, she would do everything she was supposed to. She would wake up early for feedings, and she would clean up when her pet made a mess. She would play with her pet, and she would never have to be told to take care of it. Sophie could not understand why her mom thought she wasn't ready.

One day, Sophie was walking home from school when she heard a whimpering in the bushes. Curiously, Sophie looked inside of the bushes. To her surprise, there was a tiny kitten. The kitten was grey, and very fuzzy. It was all alone and looked scared and hungry. Sophie knew she had to help the kitten. She leaned down and scooped it into her arms. "I am going to call you Ghost," Sophie whispered.

Sophie ran home with Ghost in her arms. Her mom wouldn't be home for an hour, so Sophie set her plan into motion. She took Ghost into the bathroom and ran some warm, soapy water in the bathtub. She leaned down and tried to put Ghost into the water, but Ghost began scratching and meowing at Sophie. Sophie decided she was going to have to take things slowly. She got a cup and gently began to pour the water over Ghost's grey fur, while she spoke soothingly to the kitten. Ghost immediately calmed down and let Sophie give her a bath. Sophie used her coconut shampoo to wash Ghost, and soon he smelled fresh and clean. Sophie grabbed her pink, fluffy bath towel and dried him. She laughed as his fur stuck up wildly. "I bet you're hungry," said Sophie. "Let's go to the kitchen and get food."

Sophie and Ghost went to the kitchen and opened the pantry door. "Yes, I think I will give you some tuna," said Sophie to Ghost. She opened the can and put a small amount onto a plate. Ghost looked a bit confused at first, but as soon as he smelled the tuna, he hungrily began to eat, and eat, and eat! In a matter of seconds, Ghost had eaten all of the tuna. "I don't want to give you too much, Ghost," said Sophie. "We will have more in a while."



About that time, the front door opened and in walked Sophie's mom.

Sophie met her mom at the door with the kitten gently sitting in her arms. "Don't be mad. Well, um, it's just that, I found this scared kitten in the bushes and I brought him home" Sophie said quickly.

Sophie's heart was beating so quickly. She was worried that her mom was angry. She wanted to keep Ghost so bad, but was sure her mom was going to make her get rid of the kitten.

"Sophie, we've talked about this. I don't think you're ready for the responsibility of a pet. Pets are so much work. They need to be bathed, and fed, and have their messes cleaned up. It is a huge job to have a pet," Sophie's mom said.

"Mom, I know having a pet is a big responsibility, but I am ready for it. I found Ghost in a bush on my way home from school. He needed me. I brought him home, gave him a bath, dried him, and fed him some tuna. I promise I will be responsible for him. You won't have to do anything at all," Sophie said hurriedly. "Please, please, please can I keep him?"

Sophie's mom looked at the grey, fuzzy kitten in her kitchen. She looked at the hopeful expression on Sophie's face.

"I guess you better go get your wet clothes changed, Sophie, so we can get going," said Sophie's mom seriously.

"So we can take him to the animal shelter, you mean," said Sophie sadly.

"I think you better get your clothes changed so that we can run to the pet store and get Ghost some supplies. We can also ask the pet store for a recommendation for a veterinarian. Ghost will need a check-up and some shots," her mother said with a smile.

"You mean I can keep her?" Sophie squealed. "Oh Mom, this is the best day ever! I promise to care for Ghost. You won't be sorry," promised Sophie, hugging her mom. Sophie ran to her room to change her clothes. Her dreams had finally come true.

CHARACTER CLOSE UP: Sophie

Use details from the text to describe this character.



Color her **FEELINGS, THOUGHTS, or WORDS** in the text. Describe below.



Color her **ACTIONS** in the text. Describe below.

Is this a character you like or connect to? Why or why not? Use details from the text to support your response.

MAIN EVENT CLOSE UP

Use details from the text to describe the MAIN EVENT in this story.

CONTEXT CLUES

Directions: Use the context clues to determine the meaning of the underlined word in each sentence.

- ① To be defined as a desert, the place must get less than 10 inches of precipitation, such as rain or snow, per year.

Precipitation means: _____

Use the word in your own sentence: _____

- ② Birds and mammals are endothermic animals because they can generate their own body heat.

Endothermic means: _____

Use the word in your own sentence: _____

- ③ A koala bear is a marsupial because it can carry its own baby in a pouch on its body.

A marsupial is: _____

Use the word in your own sentence: _____

- ④ The river was full of noxious materials such as cleaning agents from factories and pesticides from the nearby farms.

Noxious means: _____

Use the word in your own sentence: _____



Can We Drink Salt Water?

Humans need to drink water every day in order to live. The human body cannot survive more than a few days without fresh drinking water.

We know water is critical for life. Human bodies are more than $\frac{3}{5}$ water. Blood is mostly (92%) made of water and the brain is nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ water. Even human bones are made of nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ water. A person who does not drink enough water can become dehydrated. A dehydrated person can become weak and could possibly die.

Our world is made of two types of water – fresh water and salt water. Fresh water helps the body flush out excess salts and other wastes. Not all salt is bad. The human body can process a small amount of salt. Too much salt is not good at all, though. The human body must stay in balance. Cells in the body release water when salt levels are too high. Eating salty foods and not drinking enough water can make a person thirsty. Thirst is the body's signal that it needs more water to keep working properly.

D

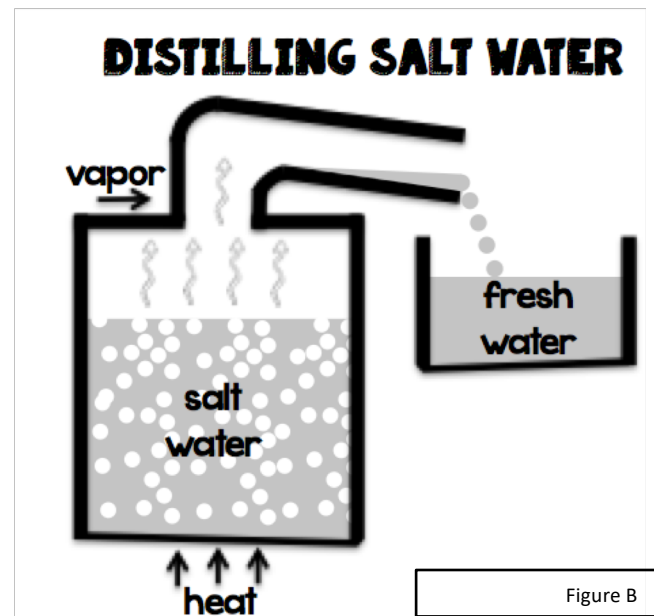
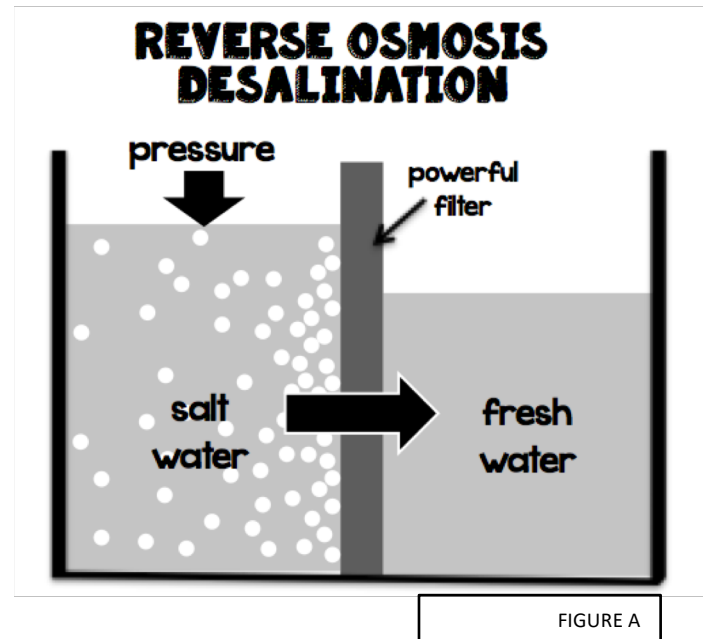
Drinking saltwater from the ocean is not healthy. Saltwater is a hypertonic fluid. This means that saltwater contains more salt than a body can handle. The amount of salt in the body increases quickly when a person drinks saltwater. The sudden rise in salt triggers the body's cells to release water. This makes the person drinking saltwater get thirsty faster. The body can become unbalanced very quickly. This can make the person critically sick.

However, fresh drinking water is not easy to find in many parts of the world. Some parts of the world struggle to find water even though they might be surrounded by ocean water. The Earth's oceans cover nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Earth's surface. The oceans also hold about $\frac{9}{10}$ of all of the Earth's water. Many countries rely on a process known as desalination in order to provide fresh drinking water to the citizens. Desalination can turn saltwater into water that humans can drink safely.



Scientists have discovered some ways to desalinate the ocean's water. Reverse osmosis relies on very fine filters to separate the water while leaving the salt behind. Distilling is the oldest method of desalination used by humans. Ancient sailors relied on distilling to create fresh water. In order to distill water, saltwater is heated to boiling which causes steam to rise. The steam is pure fresh water. The salt is left behind in the pan. The steam is captured and turned into fresh distilled water.

The desalination process can cost a lot of money. The cost of water usually doubles for desalinated water. Some countries of the world must rely on desalination in order to have fresh drinking water. Countries in the Middle East, such as Kuwait and Qatar, now drink around $\frac{3}{4}$ of the world's desalinated water.



Water is absolutely essential for life on Earth. However, not all water is safe to drink. The salinity, or the saltiness of the water, can make a huge difference.

Use the text to find and explain the meaning of the following words and phrases.

Step 1 : Underline the text that helps you understand the meaning

Step 2: Explain the meaning in your own words.

What does it mean?

HYPERTONIC FLUID is...

Now use the word **HYPERTONIC FLUID** in a sentence:

DESALINATION is...

Now use the word **DESALINATION** or **DESALINATE** in a sentence:

REVERSE OSMOSIS is...

Now use the word **REVERSE OSMOSIS** in a sentence:

DISTILLING is...

Now use the word **DISTILLING** or **DISTILL** in a sentence:

COMMON EXPRESSIONS

Directions: Explain what the following sentences mean in your own words.

You can kill two birds with one stone.

Your guess is as good as mine.

Cross that bridge when you come to it.

Don't bite off more than you can chew.



The Climb

They were halfway up the mountain when Anne called a time-out. She sat on a rock in the shade. She gulped water out of her bottle, but it still wasn't enough to quench her thirst. Anne was exhausted, yet she had bet her friend Lydia that she could make it all the way to the top.

The mountain really was not very big. It was more like a hill with five miles of hiking to the top. Anne, however, was more of an indoor person. She liked to read books and knit. This trek up the mountain was to prove that she was not a recluse.

"You ready, lazy bones?" Lydia asked.

"Maybe we were not meant to climb this mountain," said Anne. "Like how the Olympians never climbed Mount Olympus because they believed their Gods lived at the top."

"We are not in mythical times," said Lydia. "Stop wasting time and let's keep going."

Anne took Lydia's hand and stood up. They began walking further uphill and into the sun. The landscape of the climb was not very appealing. Most of the grass had been beaten down by other hikers and there were hardly any trees. As they reached the ten mile marker, some other hikers came down from the top of the mountain.

"Howdy," said one of the hikers. "It's a beautiful day. You heading to the top?"

"Unfortunately," said Anne after taking another long drink of her water.

"It's worth the hike," said the hiker. "Such a beautiful view of the town and the valley."

They continued on their way up. Anne was intrigued by the view of the town. She had lived there all her life. She had never seen it from above, unless you count the time she got on top of the roof to clean out the gutters. That was a horrifying experience that she did not want to repeat. She did not do well being so high off the ground. Now here she was, headed up into the clouds like some great explorer.



"I better be a hero at the end of this," Anne muttered as she climbed over a pile of rocks. She figured if she imagined that she was climbing Mount Olympus she would be made a hero when she reached the top and live in the clouds with Zeus and the other Greek gods and goddesses. "Not that I'd ever look down."

"You say something?" Lydia asked from the top of the rock pile.

"Nope, not me," said Anne.

When Anne stood at the top of the rocks she just climbed, she realized the last section of the hike was practically vertical. The rest of the hike, up until the rocks, had been nearly flat. It was manageable for someone who did not ever think that climbing a mountain would be any fun. Lydia had already marched ahead.

For the last mile, Anne thought of what her hero name might be. Perhaps it would be "Anne, Mountain Climber," or perhaps, "Anne, Undefeated Hiker." She would be gifted with the winged shoes of Hermes, the messenger for the Gods. She would never have to walk again. She could just float around reading.

"Look," said Lydia. "You made it."

At the end of the path, there was one bench looking out past the edge. There were no clouds surrounding the peak. It was a clear day and from the bench you could see most of the town. The red roofs were bright in the fading sun and you could pinpoint which homes had swimming pools. Anne sat there quietly for a while before Lydia said they should head back down to the car. During the 30-minute drive back to town, Anne knew that she had changed. She was not going to be just an indoor girl anymore. She had found her peace. It was at the top of that mountain.

Use the text to find and explain the meaning of the following words and phrases.

Step 1 : Underline the text that helps you understand the meaning

Step 2: Explain the meaning in your own words.

What does it mean?

MOUNT OLYMPUS is...

Now use the term **MOUNT OLYMPUS** in a sentence:

MYTHICAL means...

Now use the word **MYTHICAL** in a sentence:

ZEUS is...

Now use the word **ZEUS** in a sentence:

VERTICAL means...

Now use the word **VERTICAL** n a sentence:

HERMES is...

Now use the word **HERMES** n a sentence:

WHAT IS THE BEST SEASON?

FALL, WINTER, SPRING, OR SUMMER? WHY?

[illegible]



The Clean Up Crew

Have you ever taken a walk while eating a tasty treat or two? Chances are you have. I bet while you were walking around you even dropped some of it on the ground. If you have done it and I have done it, how many other people have done it? Think about large cities where a lot of people do this every day. How often do we stop and pick up the food crumbs that we drop? I am pretty sure not many of us do. We figure that if we are outside, some wild animals will come along and eat it. We are right about that. But have you ever taken a moment to see exactly who is coming for the food?

It makes sense that there are a lot of food scraps lying around in big cities. The more people there are, the more food that is dropped. Wild animals love to munch on the remains left behind. We might see this as no big deal at first. Someone or something will have to pick it up at some point, right? Why not let the wild animals have it? They need to eat, too! This can be dangerous though. No one really wants to see rodents such as rats and mice running around trying to collect food. Many rodents carry diseases.

Rodents are pretty smart animals. All they care about is finding food. They want to find it as quickly and as easily as possible. What better place to go than a large city? Rats and mice will usually come out at night. This is when they feel safe to scurry around the streets and dark alleys. They can be found searching for food in trash cans and dumpsters. Sometimes they will even go into people's homes.

However, there is an insect that has helped get rid of a large amount of rodents. This is the tiny pavement ant. Pavement ants are scavengers. Scavengers are animals or insects that feed on the remains of dead animals or other things found lying around. Pavement ants get their name because they like to live near cement. This makes cities perfect places to live. There is a lot of food nearby so it is easy



to go out and search for food, find it, and bring it back to their home.

Since they are so small, most of this activity goes on without humans knowing about it. These ants are a tiny clean up crew working around the clock, cleaning up after us just below our feet.



DID YOU KNOW?

An ant can lift 20 times its own body weight. If a 4th grader was as strong as an ant, they would be able to lift up a car!

E

Here is how it works. If pavement ants are cleaning up all of the food scraps, then there is nothing left for the rodents to come after. Since mice and rats do not like to be out during the day, they wait until it is dark. Ants on the other hand are so small that it does not matter if they are out during the day. Most people won't react if they see an ant crawling around on the ground. So, by the time night falls, the ants have already cleaned up the area. This leaves nothing for the rodents to eat and soon they will have to go elsewhere to find their next meal.

Thanks to the mighty pavement ant, not only are our streets and parks cleaned up, they are also free of unwanted rodents! So next time you see an ant crawling around, don't squash them. They are busy at work cleaning up after you and me.

1. Which of these text structures do you think best describes the overall text?

- ☐ **CHRONOLOGY** (sequence of events)
- ☐ **COMPARISON** (comparing two subjects, events, or ideas)
- ☐ **CAUSE / EFFECT**
- ☐ **PROBLEM / SOLUTION**

Why do you think this is the best way to describe this text?

Describe the overall structure of this text.

2. Read Paragraph E.

This paragraph has a cause and effect relationship.

Color the cause



Color the effect



DESCRIBE this cause and effect.

CAUSE:	EFFECT:



My Shadow

By Robert Louis Stevenson

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me,
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head;
And I see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed.

The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow—
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an india-rubber ball,
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play,
And can only make a fool of me in every sort of way.
He stays so close beside me, he's a coward, you can see;
I'd think shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me!

One morning, very early, before the sun was up,
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup;
But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head,
Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

1. Explain what the FIRST **STANZA** is about.
2. Explain what the SECOND **STANZA** is about.
3. How does the second **STANZA** build upon the first **STANZA**?
4. How is this poem **DIFFERENT** than prose or a drama?

Complete Sentences	Cite the Text	Correct Punctuation
-----------------------	------------------	------------------------
5. Describe the literary elements the author used in this poem. Use words from the WORD BANK in your response.

WORD BANK

stanza meter rhyming meter verse

COMPOUND SENTENCES

Directions: Add the commas where they belong in the following sentences. Some sentences may not need a comma.

I want to be a writer when I grow up so I work really hard in writing class.

I want to buy a new dress but I don't have enough money.

It is really sunny today so I think I will wear my sunglasses.

I don't like orange or red.

We picked them up early but they still missed their plane.

Directions: Create two compound sentences of your own that use some of the coordinating conjunctions from the word bank.

Word Bank			
and	or	for	nor
so	but	yet	



Man on the Moon!

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy wanted the United States to work together toward a common goal. President Kennedy wanted America to put a man on the moon by the end of that decade. Many scientists and astronauts worked hard towards the goal. The American space agency known as NASA was in charge of planning the many missions into outer space.

NASA wanted to be sure that the spaceships were safe. The first spaceships that NASA built were sent into space without people on board. After a few setbacks and changes in designs, NASA was ready to send people into space. The first Americans orbited the Earth in October 1968. Two months later, three astronauts traveled to the dark side of the moon and back, but they did not land on the moon. Three more astronauts traveled to the moon and back in May 1969. However, they also did not land on the moon.

Three astronauts took off from Kennedy Space Center in Florida on July 16, 1969. Their NASA mission was to land on the moon. After traveling 240,000 miles in 76 hours, the Apollo 11 spaceship arrived at the moon. The main spaceship remained in orbit around the moon while a smaller lunar module traveled down to the surface. The smaller lunar module was called The Eagle. At 4:17 on July 20, 1969, the lunar module touched down on the moon. Astronauts on board reported back to Earth with the words, "The Eagle has landed."

D

Six hours later, astronaut Neil Armstrong opened the hatch of the lunar module. Television cameras recorded Armstrong as he gently made his way down the ladder. At 10:56 on July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first human ever to step foot on the moon. As he placed his foot on the powdery surface, he reported, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Astronaut Buzz Aldrin joined Neil Armstrong on the moon 19 minutes later. Together, the two astronauts took photographs, ran scientific tests, planted a U.S. flag, and spoke to then President Richard Nixon.



After a few hours, the astronauts made their way back into the lunar module and closed the hatch. The two astronauts slept in the lunar module that night on the surface of the moon. On the afternoon of July 21, 1969, the lunar module began its journey back to the Apollo spaceship that had been orbiting the moon. The Eagle docked with the Apollo spaceship shortly after midnight on July 22, 1969. The astronauts then began their trip back to Earth. The crew of the Apollo 11 spaceship mission to the moon returned to Earth safely on July 24, 1969.

The Steps That Changed Us All

By Michael Smith, 57 years old

I was outside playing football with my friends when I heard my dad call my name. I knew that the time was finally here. We were going to watch history in the making. We all dropped what were doing. Once we got inside, we scrambled to find a place to sit. The adults were already there, gathered around the TV set. No one wanted to miss a second of the event.

The images we were seeing on TV were in black and white, but no one seemed to mind. We were witnessing the greatest scientific thing humans had ever done! American astronauts were going to land on the moon.

We watched the surface of the moon get closer and closer to the camera. Finally, we heard Neil Armstrong say "The Eagle has landed." Just a few minutes later, we watched Armstrong climb down a ladder. Everyone in the room held their breath. We listened to the TV for any words that would be spoken from the moon. As Armstrong stepped off the ladder, we heard him say "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

I can clearly remember looking at my dad and seeing tears running down his face. The whole thing was a memory I will never forget. It was one of those times in life that seemed like it couldn't be real. It felt like all of the limits of reality just disappeared. Walking on the moon seemed as crazy as the idea of talking animals. It seemed like a fantasy, but it was very real. It is fair to say that my life changed a little on that day. Maybe it made me a little more willing to try things that I had never done before. If people could walk on the moon, then anything is possible, right?

1. Which passage is the first hand account and which is the secondhand account?

FIRST HAND ACCOUNT = _____

SECOND HAND ACCOUNT = _____

I know this because _____

2. How are the first hand account and second hand accounts the **SAME**?



Color the details in the first hand account that match the information given in the secondhand account.

3. How are the details, tone, or feelings in the first hand account **DIFFERENT** from the information in the secondhand account?

4. Describe how the **FOCUS** is different in the two passages.

SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS

Directions: Write two synonyms (similar meaning) and two antonyms (opposite meaning) for each word given. Use a dictionary or thesaurus if needed.

	TWO SYNONYMS	TWO ANTONYMS
fast		
happy		
little		
new		
wrong		
scared		
start		
bad		
sad		
love		
small		



The Extra Passenger

Yuri Woodland was an explorer. He was the kind of person who you would take anywhere dangerous. Whether you were swimming in Shark Alley, or hiking through Grizzly bear country, Yuri Woodland was your man. He was a pilot, a hunter, a farmer, a boat captain, and a true outdoorsman. Standing six-feet tall, he was a big man, with a bushy red beard. He wore a green hat, and always, ALWAYS wore his hiking boots, even to bed.

Yuri was on an expedition to Brazil. The president of Brazil himself asked Yuri to explore the rainforest. His mission was to track the Amazon River. There had been more snakes slithering into the cities. It was Yuri's job to find out where the snakes were coming from. The Amazon River was dangerous. Many, many people got lost. Some never came back. This was naturally a job for Yuri.

When he arrived in Brazil, Yuri went to the first explorer store he could find. He prepared himself a backpack full of survival gear including a tent, fine rope, a knife, matches, swimming gear, a GPS tracker, and of course, a boat. While in the store, a little kid started talking to him. "I can survive anything," the boy said. "My dad used to take me all around the jungle. I can help you."

Yuri laughed. "I do things alone, kid," he said. He left the store and packed his gear and boat onto the back of his Jeep. He was off to the Amazon.

After he got his boat into the water, he started on his expedition. His destination was 100 miles up the Amazon River. As he went further and further into the Amazon, he saw fewer people along the river. At first, there were some fishermen in their fishing boats. By the end of the day, there was no one in sight for at least 10 miles. He landed his boat along the river and tied it to shore. Within minutes, he had a fire, a tent, and was cooking dinner.

Suddenly, he heard a rustle on his boat. It sounded like a snort. Maybe something crawled in, thought Yuri. He pulled out his knife for protection, and



then he approached the boat slowly. He raised his knife, screamed, threw the nets off the creature and nearly had a heart attack. To his surprise, the creature was actually a little kid. It was the same kid from the store.

"Hello!" belted the kid. "I am Sinai. Put your knife down. I ain't gonna hurt ya."

Yuri was ticked. This was no place for a kid, and he had work to do. He was already a day into the trip and he couldn't just leave him. "You're really grinding my gears," said Yuri, "I'll have to take you... but you better have your own food. I only pack for one."

To Yuri's surprise, the kid was very prepared. He brought his own backpack, and even had his own tent. It was good, because the moment Yuri saw his tent, he felt a single rain drop on his nose. Within moments, it was a downpour. They both sat in their tents all night, Yuri trying to figure out what to do with this kid.

In the morning, the rain let up. It didn't stop, but it slowed. When Yuri started to make his fire, he thought, "How lazy Sinai must be. He's still asleep in his tent." Suddenly, Yuri heard a scream from inside the jungle. He grabbed his knife and his compass and booked it into the forest. As he ran, the rain started to fall harder. Even though the leaves, the rain was piercing. He heard more cries and ran further in. He heard the rush of a river. It got louder and louder, and before he knew it, there was Sinai.

He was just barely clinging on to a log. The log was covered with white rapids. The kid had clearly tried to cross the river and fell. Thank goodness he was still there. Yuri ran to the log. It was slippery, and it was raining harder. He took his knife and stabbed it into the wood. He then hugged the log and shuffled down to where Sinai was holding on.

"Help me!" he cried.

"Give me your hand," said Yuri, calmly. "Give me your hand."



He grabbed a hold of Yuri's hand, but was tugged down. They both dipped into the rapids and were washed with water. Yuri hugged Sinai, and cradled him as they tumbled down the rushing river. He could hardly see anything as he went up and down in the water. Then, when he thought the river might just take them both, he saw a vine hanging down over the river.

Using his great strength, he reached up and grabbed it. He instantly swung out of the water and onto land, carrying Sinai with him. They made it. They were safe. They both knelt on the side of the river. It was still raining.

Yuri looked at Sinai, and Sinai looked back at Yuri. The kid put up a gentle smile. It was the only thing he could do. Then Sinai said something that absolutely irritated Yuri beyond belief.

"Oopsies!"

To be continued...



The Mini Explorer

The river was raging beneath my feet. One slip of my hand and it was all over. "Help me!" I wailed, hoping someone might hear me. Maybe Yuri, but he was already upset with me. I had definitely blown it with him. I was doomed.

"Help me!" I yelled louder. Who could hear me over the raging river though? I should have just stayed home with Mama and Papa. This is it, I thought. My fingers slipped a little further. I was holding on just by my finger tips.

Then I saw him. Yuri showed up just in time. "Help me!" I wailed. He told me to give him my hand. He was trying to pick me up out of the water, but his big clumsy fingers and his dumb knife were too slippery. He grabbed my hand, and I grabbed at his coat, and then SWUNK! We fell into the river! I started to panic, and Yuri put his arms around me. We were bumping into everything. I think I saw an alligator in that water. I started to breathe in the water, and I thought again... "I'm doomed!"

Then out of nowhere, we lifted up out of the water and into the air. We were flying for a second. Then, we hit the ground. Hard. The water was knocked right out of my stomach. I bent down to catch my breath. What a ride! That was crazy, I thought, then I looked at Yuri. If looks could kill, I would be one dead little kid.

"Oopsies," I said to him. This didn't help. He stood up and walked off into the forest. I can't repeat what he said, but I can tell you that he was MAD.

"What do we do now, kid?" he yelled. "Where do we go? We might be a mile down the river? What were you thinking? You weren't thinking were you?"

I let him finish, then I looked him good and hard in the eyes, and I told him. "Okay, mister. First of all, I was trying to cross the river because there were some ripe bananas on the other side of the river. I thought that you might like some



fresh fruit for breakfast. Second of all, I slipped 'cause it started raining again, so it's not my fault. Third of all, we just have to walk back up the river to get back to where we were. DUH!"

He was not a happy camper. I guess I can't blame him. It was kind of my fault. Yuri thought he knew everything, but he was wrong. He didn't even realize that you can't boat to where he was headed because the trees are so low. He would have known that if he asked a local, but he didn't like to talk to people. He's gonna have to change that.

Along the way, we came upon a mango tree. He took a look at it, and picked a fruit off the tree. "You're not gonna want that one."

"Oh hush you," said Yuri, and went for a bite. Yuri grinned. "When I want a little child's help, I'll ask for it." He bit into the mango, then started spitting it out everywhere. He was rubbing his tongue like a baby.

"I told you, you're not gonna want it, because spiders lay eggs in mangos on the bottom of the tree. You gotta start listening better, mister." This didn't make him any friendlier. I, however, was right.

To be continued...

1. From what point of view are each of the stories written?

THE EXTRA PASSENGER= _____

THE MINI EXPLORER= _____

I know this because _____

2. How are both stories the **SAME**?



Color the details in **THE EXTRA PASSENGER** that match the details in **THE MINI EXPLORER**.

3. How are the details, tone, or feelings **DIFFERENT** between the stories?

4. Which story do you like more? **WHY**?

DOGS OR CATS?

WHICH MAKE THE BEST PETS? WHY?

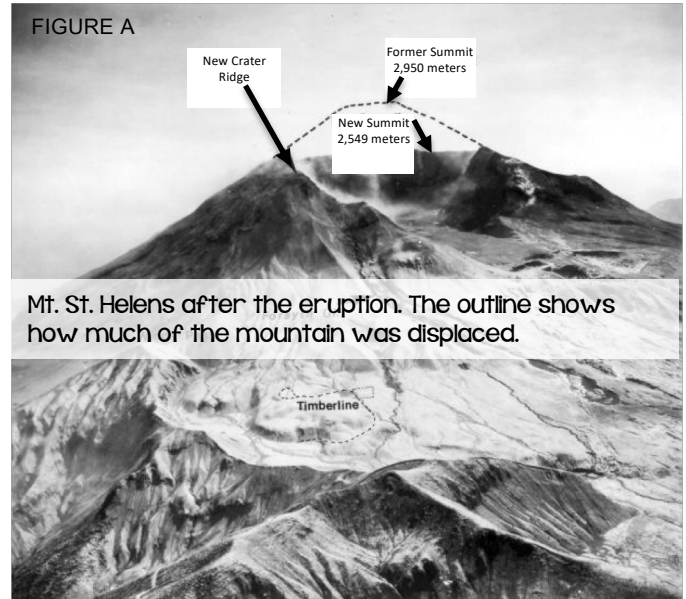
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The Ring of Fire

A

In 1980, a small earthquake happened near the base of Mt. St. Helens in Washington, which is a state in the United States. The earthquake caused the northern side of the mountain to slide down the hill. Then, the mountain erupted. Lava and rock flew down the mountain, destroying everything in its path. A thick plume of ash and smoke rose 80,000 feet into the sky.



Mt. St. Helens is an active volcano. The 1980 eruption was the largest ever in the mainland United States. There are not many volcanoes in the United States. Most volcanoes in the world are dormant, or sleeping. In the United States most active volcanoes, like Mt. St. Helens, are found on the West Coast or in Alaska or Hawaii.

Alaska and the West Coast are in what is called "The Ring of Fire". This is a giant ring that circles the Pacific Ocean. The Ring of Fire has 452 volcanoes. These are a mix of dormant and active volcanoes. The Ring of Fire is also where nearly all of the world's earthquakes happen.

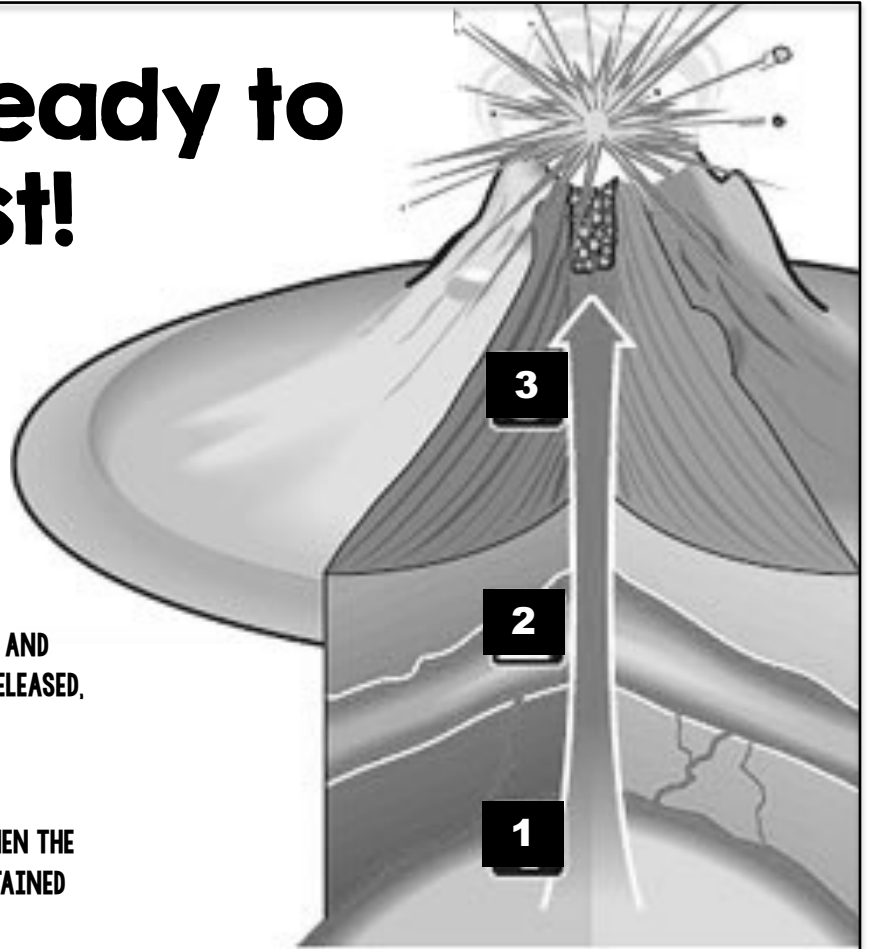


Earthquakes and volcanoes are closely related. They both happen because of changes underneath the surface of the earth. Under the surface there are large plates of Earth's crust, called tectonic plates. These plates move and bump into each other. This can cause earthquakes. Fortunately, the plates move very slowly, so this does not happen very often.

Figure C

Getting Ready to Burst!

- 1** MOLTEN ROCK, OR MAGMA, AT A TEMPERATURE OF MORE THAN 1650°F, RISES THROUGH WEAK SPOTS IN THE EARTH'S CRUST WHERE TECTONIC PLATES MEET.
- 2** THE MAGMA POOLS IN A CHAMBER. GAS AND WATER DISSOLVED IN THE MOLTEN ROCK ARE RELEASED, CAUSING PRESSURE IN THE CHAMBER TO RISE.
- 3** THE VOLCANO ERUPTS EXPLOSIVELY WHEN THE MAGMA AND HOT GAS CAN NO LONGER BE CONTAINED BELOW THE EARTH'S SURFACE.



The movement of tectonic plates can create gaps where melted rock called magma can pool. Magma is super hot rock that can flow like water. Volcanoes happen when a lot of magma pushes against the tectonic plates. With a lot of pushing, it can explode. The tectonic plates in the world that move the most are those in the Pacific Ocean. Because they move so much, there are more volcanoes and earthquakes in the Ring of Fire than anywhere else in the world.

1. Describe what **FIGURE A** shows.

How does it help the reader understand the text?

Complete Sentences	Cite the Evidence	Restate the Question
-----------------------	----------------------	-------------------------

2. Describe what **FIGURE B** shows.


How does it help the reader understand the text?

Complete Sentences	Cite the Evidence	Restate the Question
-----------------------	----------------------	-------------------------

3. Describe what **FIGURE C** shows.

How does it help the reader understand the text?

Complete Sentences	Cite the Evidence	Restate the Question
-----------------------	----------------------	-------------------------

4.  Color the information in Figure C that you cannot get from reading the text?

OPINION WRITING

Do you think students should be able to bring cell phones to school? Include an introduction, three reasons, and a conclusion.

Introduction (1 sentence) _____

Reason #1 (2 or more sentences) _____

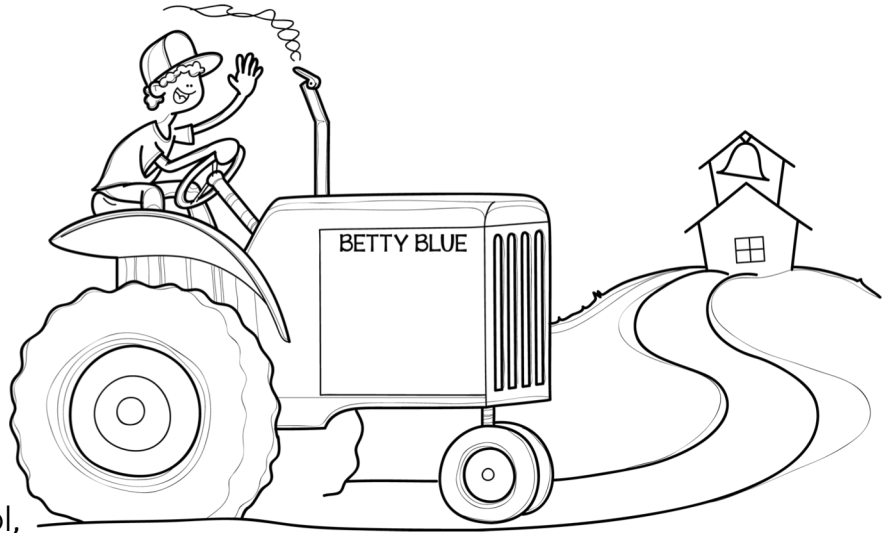
Reason #2 (2 or more sentences) _____

Reason #3 (2 or more sentences) _____

Conclusion (1 sentence) _____

The Unbreakable Betty Blue

Ol' Jeremy Bucklesworth had the biggest tractor in all of Tennessee. It was big, old, and the bluest blue you've ever seen. Jeremy named her "Betty Blue". He drove that tractor everywhere he went.



When Jeremy went to school, he would ride his tractor. When Jeremy went to the store, his tractor he would ride. When Jeremy went to the country square dance championship, Jeremy rode his tractor. Jeremy loved that truck, and the truck loved Jeremy. He would fix it when he had to, but boy, would he ride it all over when it was working. One day, he rode from the second the sun rose up to the minute the sun set. When he slept, he would always sleep with the keys in his hand. When he wasn't riding his tractor, he was dreaming about it.

Then one day, Larson moved to town. Larson owned a tractor, too. Larson was short. His hands were too big for his body. Whenever he shook someone's hand, he would break it. In his first day he broke six people's hands. On his second day, he broke ten. Within the first week, Larson had broken fifty-five hands. Before long, the whole town's hands were broken, and no one could do anything. No one could do homework, drive cars, throw footballs, or open jars. In one month's time, there was no one with working hands, except for Ol' Jeremy Bucklesworth. He never got off his



tractor for long enough to shake Larson's hand. The people of the town walked to the Bucklesworth farm, and approached Ol' Jeremy to ask him a favor.

"Jeremy, please drive him out of town. You have Betty Blue, the best tractor around. He's broken all of our hands and we don't know what to do. Won't you help us beat him with your Betty Blue?"

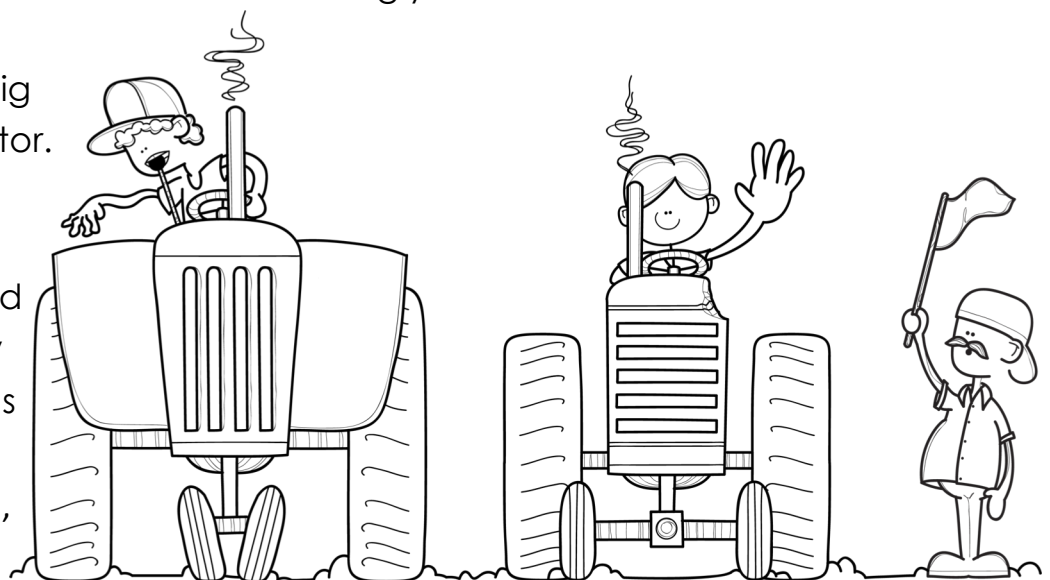
Jeremy thought of what he could do. "Doesn't Larson have a tractor, too?" Jeremy asked. Of course he did. Within an hour, Jeremy and the townspeople had a plan. He would challenge Larson to a tractor race. The winner could stay, and the loser would have to leave town.

The next day at noon, the whole town came to Main Street. Larson was there with his tractor ready to go. It was red, and it had a big dent. Larson was looking at his big hands with a mean grin. He hadn't broken anyone's hand in a while. Jeremy got off his tractor and walked up to him.

"May the best man win," said Larson, and they shook hands. Jeremy was caught off guard, and accidentally shook Larson's hand. He was only trying to show some sportsmanship, but he heard the crunch. Jeremy Bucklesworth's hand was broken. The whole town gasped. Larson let out a chuckle, then ran to his tractor.

Jeremy held his hand, and began to wonder. "Was this the end?" he thought to himself. "Am I about to lose this town to that ugly red tractor?"

He swallowed a big gulp then ran to his tractor. He got on, started the engine, and then wondered how he would use the controls. He saw Larson drive away. "Let's do this, Betty Blue!" he yelled to the town. Then,

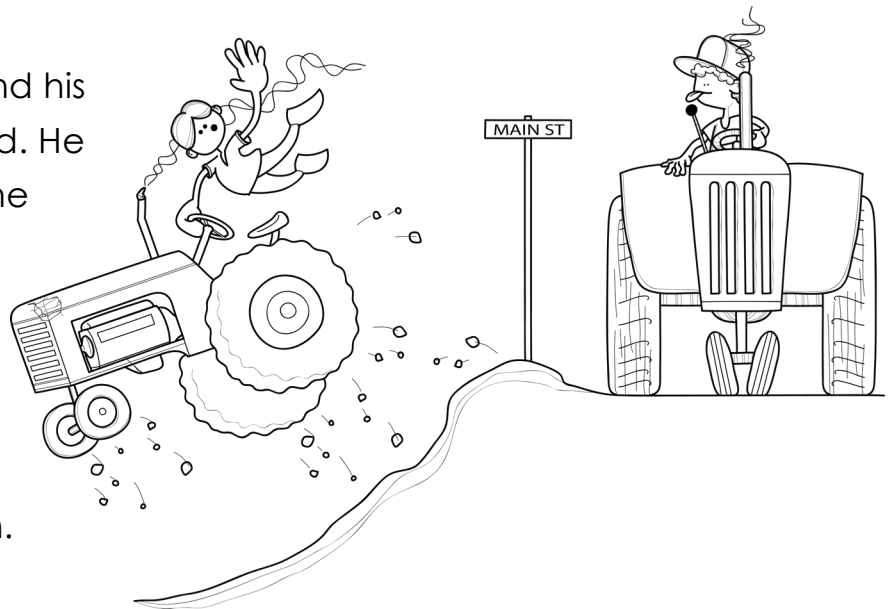


with his teeth, he bit down on the controls, and pushed on the accelerator.

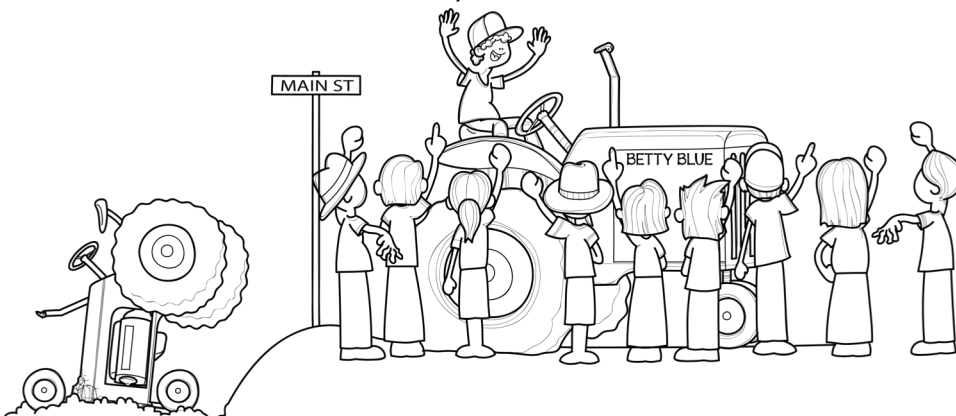
He was biting Betty Blue, but making good speed. Larson saw this and started to get scared. All they had to do was race up and down Main Street. Larson was already half way there. He just had to turn around, drive down, and the town was his. Ol' Jeremy Bucklesworth would not let that happen.

Larson turned his tractor around, and when he did, he saw Jeremy coming for him. He was headed right for Larson's tractor! It was on a collision course. Jeremy was playing chicken with him. Larson wanted to call his bluff, but he swerved at the last second. He went off the road, and drove his tractor right into a ditch. The tractor went flying, then fell with a great thwack. The front right tire on the wheel broke clean off. Larson's tractor was dead.

Ol' Jeremy, with his teeth and his broken hand, slowly turned around. He stuck out his tongue at Larson as he passed, then slowly drove back down Main Street, winning the race. The whole town cheered, with all their broken hands. Larson was so embarrassed, he just left his tractor and ran out of town.

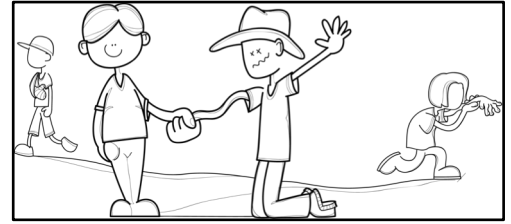


They decided to leave that broken tractor sitting in that ditch as a symbol to everyone in town that there is only one tractor and her name is Betty Blue.





Color the text that matches this **ILLUSTRATION** in the story.

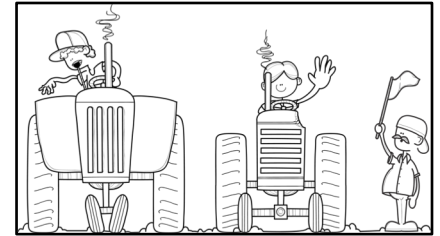


Describe how this illustration matches the text.

How does this illustration enhance the reader's understanding of the mood, setting, or characters?



Color the text that matches this **ILLUSTRATION** in the story.

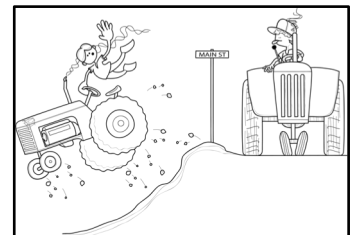


Describe how this illustration matches the text.

How does this illustration enhance the reader's understanding of the mood, setting, or characters?



Color the text that matches this **ILLUSTRATION** in the story.



Describe how this illustration matches the text.

How does this illustration enhance the reader's understanding of the mood, setting, or characters?

METAPHORS AND SIMILIES

What does the underlined part of each sentence mean in each sentence?

It's as plain as day that she works so hard so that she can be the best.

The twin sisters are like two peas in a pod.

The mother's soft voice was music to the baby's ears.

I do not like him because he is a shady character.

Do Forests Need Fires?

When you think of a forest fire, you probably think that the forest is destroyed and all hope is lost. Fires can sometimes start on their own. This might happen during a very hot and dry season. If an area experiences a drought, or a long time without water, then fires are more likely to happen naturally. Other times, humans are the reason fires start. Most times people start fires by accident. However, there are a few times when fires are started on purpose by firefighters and foresters. The reason for this is to help a forest survive.

Have you ever heard the term 'spring cleaning'? This usually happens when the weather gets warmer and your parents are tired of tripping over old things that have been sitting around the house for way too long. So they get rid of stuff that is unneeded. Nature goes through the same thing. Over time, weeds shoot up and bushes become overgrown in a forest. Leaves, branches, and even trees fall to the ground. Soon, the ground becomes so covered that nothing new can grow. Even as plants, trees, and bushes die, they still keep the ground covered. This is where fires can actually be useful. Fires clean up the area, much like your parents clean up the house. The fire will burn up all the old, dead brush so that the new life gets a fresh start. This is called a surface fire. Foresters have found that one of the best ways to prevent out of control fires is to set controlled fires. Controlled fires are set on purpose to clean out flammable old brush that can easily catch on fire. In fact, a controlled fire can reduce the chances of wildfire in a forest by half for the next five years.

A second way that fires help a forest is by getting rid of unwanted plants and trees. Plants and trees that naturally grow in an area are called native species. Plants and trees that are not supposed to grow in an area are called invasive species. Sometimes these invasive species can find their way into a forest. They usually cause problems for the native plants. This is because the unwanted plants

begin to take all the nutrients in the soil that the native plants need to grow. Without the nutrients, the plants will die. A forest fire can destroy all of these plants and only the native ones grow back. In fact, foresters have found a fire usually kills invasive species for 3-15 years. Sometimes it kills the invasive species forever. This cycle gives the forest a chance for a fresh start.

D

Change is important to a healthy forest. Some species of trees have seeds that rely on the heat from the fire. In fact, scientists say some species must have fire every 3-25 years in order to stay alive. Some trees have fire resistant bark. They need heat to open up their seeds. Plants like Manzanita and Scrub Oak also need intense heat from a fire to open their seeds. Their seeds fall to the ground and work their way into the soil. They will stay this way until enough heat allows them to break out of their shell. Once this happens, new plants will begin to grow. Scientists have even found that the leaves of these kinds of plants are coated with flammable oil. This flammable oil catches fire easily to encourage regular burning.

Even though we may think fires only destroy forests, we now see that they can be helpful. In many ways, forests need fires to survive.

The **MAIN POINT** the author is trying to make is:

Three supporting **REASONS** are:

1. Supporting **REASON**:



Yellow

Color the **EVIDENCE** that supports this reason.

2. Supporting **REASON**:



Orange

Color the **EVIDENCE** that supports this reason.

3. Supporting **REASON**:

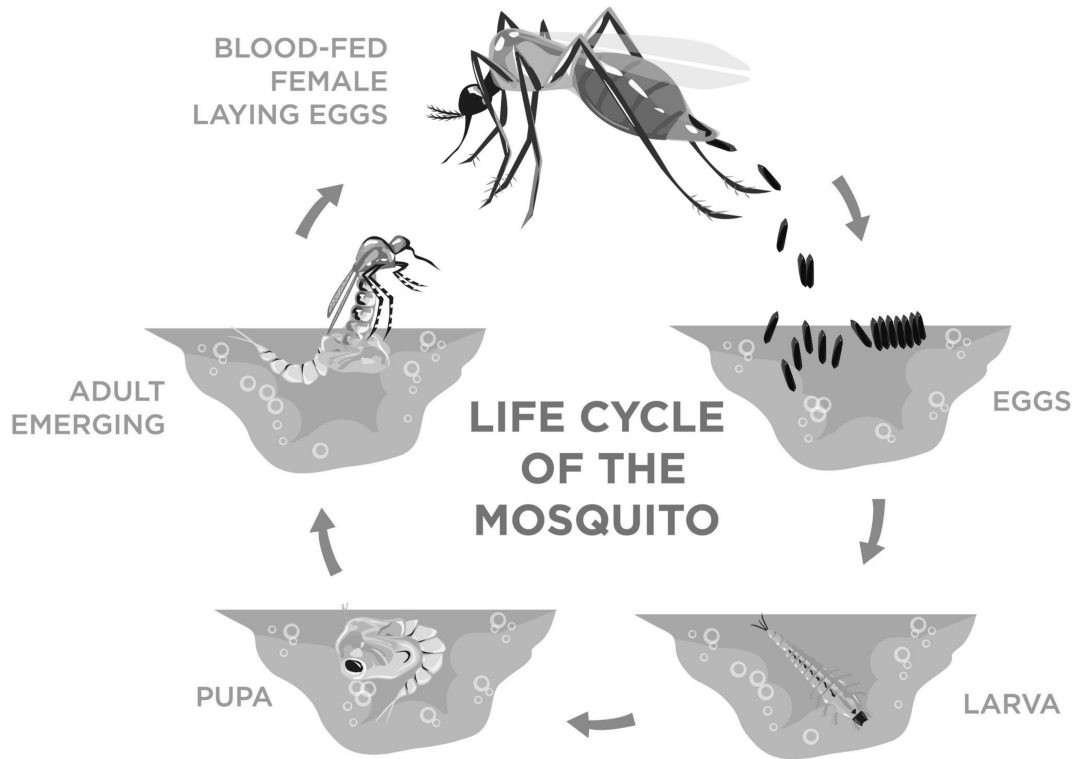


Blue

Color the **EVIDENCE** that supports this reason.

UNDERSTANDING DIAGRAMS

Directions: The diagram below shows the life cycle of a mosquito. Study the diagram. Then, write a paragraph with at least five sentences explaining the mosquito life cycle.



WE ARE ALL
IN THIS
TOGETHER!

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