

3<sup>rd</sup>  
Grade

# Reading

Mrs. Sturgill

Weeks 1 through 3

Read story and answer questions on back.

On Fridays, work on Accelerated Reader.

Please also work on Study Island.

Name:

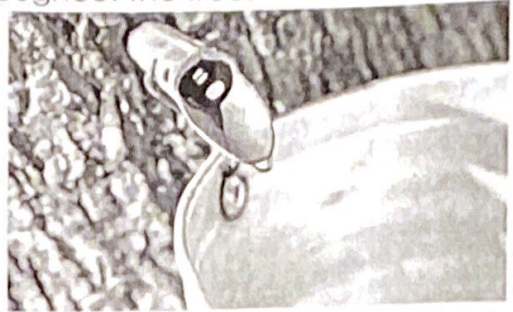
Nonfiction: Connections Between Sentences – Q2:9 Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

## Maple Syrup: Tapping into Sweetness

Maple syrup is made from the **sap** of the maple tree. Sap is a liquid that flows inside the tree. It carries water and nutrients throughout the tree.

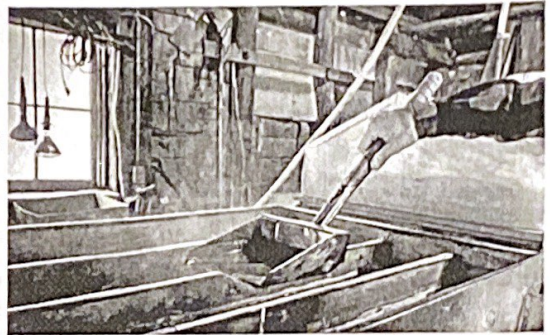
The process of getting the sap out of the tree is called "tapping the tree." First, a hole is drilled into the trunk. Next, a short hollow tube is hammered into the hole. This tube is called a **tap**. As the sap flows through the tree trunk, some of it drips through the tap. Smaller trees will only have one tap. Bigger trees can have more than one tap. Don't worry, tapping doesn't harm the tree.



Trees are only tapped from late winter through early spring. The weather needs to be just right for sap to flow. The temperature needs to be below freezing overnight. It needs to be above freezing during the day. When the sap freezes at night and thaws during the day it creates pressure inside the tree. This pressure causes the sap flow.

A bucket is placed under the tap to collect the sap. Once the bucket is full, it is emptied into a collection tank. Sometimes, plastic tubing is used instead of buckets. The tubing carries the sap right to the collection tank. Sap collection continues until tree buds appear. When buds sprout, the sap starts to turn bitter. It's time to remove the taps for the season.

Once the sap has been collected, it gets filtered to remove any dirt. Now, it's ready to be turned into syrup. It takes forty gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup. Why? Sap is mostly water. It has very little sugar in it. To get a thick, sweet syrup, the water must be boiled off. A piece of equipment called an evaporator heats the sap. Water evaporates as steam. The sap gets thicker and sweeter until it becomes maple syrup.



Worker checking maple syrup in evaporator

Sometimes, sandy grains of sugar form in the syrup. No one wants gritty syrup! The syrup goes through a filter to remove any sugar crystals. Finally, the syrup is poured into containers. It is now ready for sale.

Not all pancake syrups sold in stores are real maple syrup. Some are fake and don't have any maple syrup in them at all. However, real maple syrup has only one ingredient: maple syrup!

© One Stop Teacher Shop™

© One Stop Teacher Shop

Nonfiction: Connections Between Sentences – Q2:9

Monday	Tuesday
<p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/>	<p>Does tapping a tree to remove sap harm the tree?</p> <hr/>
<p>According to the text, what is <b>sap</b>?</p> <hr/>	<p>During what season do trees get tapped?</p> <hr/>
<p>What is the connection between these two sentences from the text?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First, a hole is drilled into the trunk.</li> <li>2. Next, a short hollow tube is hammered into the hole.</li> </ol> <p>cause/effect ; compare/contrast ; sequence</p>	<p>What is the connection between these two sentences from the text?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When sap freezes at night and thaws during the day it creates pressure inside the tree.</li> <li>2. This pressure causes the sap to flow</li> </ol> <p>cause/effect ; compare/contrast ; sequence</p>
<p>According to the text, what is a <b>tap</b>?</p> <hr/>	<p>What temperature should it be overnight when collecting sap?</p> <hr/>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>What is the connection between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph? (circle one)</p> <p>cause/effect compare/contrast sequence</p>	<p>What is the connection between these two sentences from the text?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some syrups are fake and don't have any maple syrup in them at all.</li> <li>2. However, real maple syrup has only one ingredient: maple syrup!</li> </ol> <p>cause/effect ; compare/contrast ; sequence</p>
<p>What could be used instead of buckets to collect the sap?</p> <hr/>	<p>Why does it take so much sap to make a small amount of syrup?</p> <hr/>
<p>Why shouldn't you collect sap from a tree that is sprouting buds?</p> <hr/>	<p>What does an evaporator do?</p> <hr/>
<p>How do the photographs in this article help you better understand how maple syrup is made?</p> <hr/>	<p>What happens right before syrup is poured into containers for sale?</p> <hr/>

Name:

Fiction: Characters in a Story – Q2:7

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

### The Perfect New Shoes

When Anthony's mom said he could have the new sneakers, he could not believe he'd heard her say 'yes'.

"I can have these?" he repeated. He looked around the shoe store, wondering if the "yes" had come from another woman who just sounded like his mom. His mom only bought things on sale. These shoes were full-price.

"You've been helpful at home. You've helped Dad with the yard. All that good work means, yes, I'll buy you those shoes. But make sure they fit with a little room to grow," Mom cautioned. "It'll be awhile before you get another pair this expensive."

These were his dream shoes, just like his favorite NBA player. The sneakers he had been wearing had literally fallen apart. His mom had thrown them in the trash before taking him shopping. His new sneakers were perfect, and he wanted to keep them that way until he wore them to school on Monday. Anthony carried them out of the store in a shoebox.

On Monday morning, Anthony woke to the sound of rain pounding on the roof. He needed to wear sneakers to school for gym, but he couldn't bring himself to put on his new shoes. If he wore them today, they'd get all muddy and wet. Then they wouldn't be perfect!

"You're going to miss the bus! Hurry up," his mom called.

"Just a minute. I'm putting on my shoes." Anthony dug in the back of his closet and found the shoes he hated, the lime green sneakers. Mom had found them in a yard sale last summer. She'd been so happy to get such a great deal on sneakers that still had the tags on them. Anthony thought the tags meant that the kid who owned them before him didn't want to wear them either. His new shoes were size 5. These were size 4, but he squeezed his feet into them. They pinched when he had them laced, but he would have to deal with it. He limped to the kitchen.

"What's wrong? Are you hurt?" asked Mom. Then she looked at his feet.

"You're wearing the green sneakers? You said they were the ugliest shoes ever made."

"They still are, and they barely fit. But it's raining, and I don't want to ruin my new ones walking to the bus," Anthony explained.

Mom started laughing. "So, we bought you shoes that are too good to wear?"

Anthony nodded, making a sandwich out of his toast and egg. "If I take on more chores, do you think we can buy me a backup pair? Nothing expensive, just something for rainy days."

"Some rainy day shoes? I think we can work something out," his mom said. "But promise me you'll wear your new ones before you outgrow them. Even the most perfect shoes are no good if you don't wear them."

© One Stop Teacher Shop™

© One Stop Teacher Shop

Fiction: Characters in a Story – Q2:7

Monday	Tuesday
<p>Before you read, make a prediction about this story based on the title.</p> <hr/>	<p>When Anthony's mom says "yes", how does Anthony feel?</p> <hr/>
<p>Who is the main character in the story?</p> <hr/>	<p>What reasons did Anthony's mom give for saying "yes" to the new sneakers?</p> <hr/>
<p>Who is the supporting character in the story?</p> <hr/>	<p>Why was Anthony so excited to get these new sneakers?</p> <hr/>
<p>What did Anthony ask his mom for just before the story begins?</p> <hr/>	<p>Why does Anthony keep his shoes in a shoebox as he leaves the store?</p> <hr/>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>What caused Anthony to wear his ugly, lime green sneakers?</p> <hr/>	<p>What detail in the story supports that Anthony's mom is usually thrifty (careful with money)?</p> <hr/>
<p>Where did Anthony's mom purchase the lime green sneakers?</p> <hr/>	<p>What does Anthony say he will do to earn another pair of shoes?</p> <hr/>
<p>How were his lime green sneakers different from his new sneakers?</p> <hr/>	<p>How will Anthony's rainy-day shoes be different from his new sneakers?</p> <hr/>
<p>How do you think Anthony is feeling about not being able to wear his new sneakers?</p> <hr/>	<p>What detail in the story supports that Anthony is responsible?</p> <hr/>

Name:

Nonfiction: Cause & Effect – Q2:6

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

## A World Without Frogs

Frogs are everywhere. They live on the land and in water. Frogs are found on every continent except Antarctica. But frog populations are **declining**. In the last 40 years, several frog species have disappeared. Scientists believe that several factors are causing this to happen. These factors include habitat loss, climate change, and pollution.

What would happen if frogs disappeared?

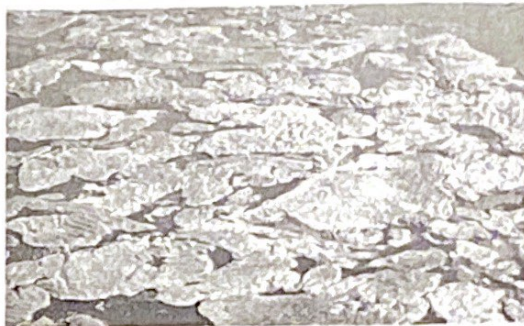
### Lots of Bugs!

Frogs eat bugs. Without frogs, there'd be a lot more bugs! Some bugs, like mosquitoes and ticks, carry diseases. More bugs would lead to more people getting sick from insect bites. Bugs would also have a negative effect on farmers' crops. More bugs would feed on their crops. In order to protect their crops from bugs, farmers would have to increase their use of pesticides. Pesticides don't only kill bugs. They can poison other animals. They can also harm humans.

### Too Much Algae in the Water!

Frogs help control the bug population. But did you know they control the growth of **algae**?

Frogs lay eggs in the water. The eggs hatch into tadpoles. Tadpoles eat algae. Algae is a tiny aquatic plant. It grows on the surface of ponds. Without tadpoles, algae could cover an entire pond. Algae would block sunlight from getting through. Plants need sunlight to grow. Due to the lack of sunlight, plants that grow under the water would die. The fish that eat those plants would also die.



Also, all that algae would affect the color of the water. Water is normally clear. Algae is bluish-green, so it would cause the water to turn bluish-green, too. It could also make the water taste and smell funny. If humans drank the water, then they could get sick.

Because tadpoles eat algae, they keep algae from growing out of control. They help keep water clear and healthy.

### Other Animals Would Go Hungry!

Many animals depend on frogs as a food source. Spiders and wasps eat frog eggs. Shrimp and fish eat tadpoles. Adult frogs are eaten by birds, snakes, and lizards. Without frogs, these animals would need to find a new food source. If they couldn't, then they might starve and die.

Frogs play an important role in the health of our planet. If our world didn't have frogs, we'd have more to lose than the sound of their croaking.

© One Stop Teacher Shop™

© One Stop Teacher Shop

Nonfiction: Cause & Effect – Q2-6

Monday	Tuesday
<p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/>	<p>Why do authors sometimes include headings in an article?</p> <hr/>
<p>Based on the first paragraph, what is the problem frogs are facing?</p> <hr/>	<p>In the section "Lots of Bugs!", what might happen if frogs disappeared?</p> <hr/>
<p>On what continent will you NOT find frogs?</p> <hr/>	<p>How do some bugs make people sick?</p> <hr/>
<p>According to the text, what is the meaning of the word <b>declining</b>?</p> <hr/>	<p>If there are too many bugs, what might farmers do to protect their crops?</p> <hr/>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>According to the text, what is <b>algae</b>?</p> <hr/>	<p>How might too much algae effect the water?</p> <hr/>
<p>How do tadpoles help control the growth of algae?</p> <hr/>	<p>Based on the article, what animals depend on adult frogs as a food source?</p> <hr/>
<p>How does the photograph help you better understand the article?</p> <hr/>	<p>If frogs disappeared, what would happen to animals that eat frogs?</p> <hr/>
<p>If algae were to cover an entire pond, what might happen?</p> <hr/>	<p>Do you think it is important to protect frogs? Support your answer.</p> <hr/>