

Mrs. Bartram's Home Instruction Packet  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading

Week of April 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>

Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Read “Be Water-Wise” and answer questions 1-8.

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – Antonyms 1-10

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Read “Beautiful Bluebonnets” and answer questions 1-7.

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-8

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Read “My Early Home” and answer questions 1-6.

~~Week of April 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>~~

*Spring Break*

~~Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-8~~

~~Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Read “Around and Around” and answer questions 1-8.~~

~~Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-4~~

~~Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-4~~

~~Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Read “Rainbow Happiness” and answer questions 1-7.~~

Week of April 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>

Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-8

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – Read “How to Wrap a Present” and answer questions 1-8.

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Context Clues 1-8

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Read “Different Kind of Bird” and answer questions 1-5.

Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-6

Week of April 27<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>

Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> – Read “Elves and the Shoemaker” and answer questions 1-10.

Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Study Skills 1-6

Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – Read “Insect Languages” and answer questions 1-8.

Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – Multiple-Meaning Words 1-8

Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – Study Skills 1-6

Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

## 8: Be Water-Wise

We're usually disappointed when rain spoils our outdoor plans. On the other hand, we can never be sure of having enough rain. There may be months and months with no rain. Then we really have problems. Water supplies become very low. People may not have enough water to wash laundry or water crops.



A lack of rain is only one cause for low water supplies. Each year, there are more and more people living on the earth. This growth in **population** can cause water problems. More people will use more water.

Everyone uses water **carelessly**. Some use too much water on their plants. Others let water run on paved streets. Sadly, there are many ways to waste water.

You can't control the rainfall. You cannot tell people where they can live. You can use water more **wisely**. When you use water wisely, you help save it for the future. Try these simple steps and help save water.

1. Do you let the water run when you brush your teeth? You should run the water only long enough to wet your toothbrush. Fill a small cup with water. Use that water for rinsing your mouth.

2. You might help your parents water outdoor plants and flowers. Remind them to water early in the morning or late in the evening. It is cooler at these times of the day. The sun will not dry up the water before it has time to soak into the soil. Make sure that water does not run onto a sidewalk or driveway.
3. Use a bucket of water to wash the family car. Don't let water run all the time. Most of it is wasted that way.
4. Take showers instead of baths. **Limit** your shower to five minutes. Each minute that you subtract from a shower saves three to ten gallons of water.
5. Do you help with the laundry? Make sure that the washing machine has a full load each time you use it. Washing only a few items at a time wastes water.
6. If you have a dishwasher, use it wisely, too. Only run the dishwasher when it is full of dirty dishes.

These are easy steps to follow. Once you begin saving water, you may think of other ways to save even more. If you save water today, you will have the water you need in the future.

Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

*Context Clues (I.B)*

1. What does the word **population** mean?

- A The number of people living in an area
- B Water supplies for people
- C Water problems caused by people
- D Lack of rain

*Synonyms/Antonyms (I.D)*

2. Which word means the opposite of **wisely**?

- A Carefully
- B Slowly
- C Suddenly
- D Carelessly

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

3. What is the root of the word **carelessly**?

- A Less
- B Care
- C Careless
- D Carefully

*Multiple Meanings (I.C)*

4. What is the meaning of **limit** in this passage?

- A End
- B Edge
- C Farthest away
- D Restrict

*Facts/Details (II.A)*

5. According to this passage, you should limit your showers to—

- A three minutes
- B five minutes
- C ten minutes
- D thirteen minutes

*Follow Directions (II.C)*

6. What should you do when you water your lawn?

- A Water every morning and every evening
- B Make sure the water hits the sidewalk
- C Use a bucket of water
- D Make sure the water soaks into the soil

*Main Idea (III.A)*

7. What is this passage mostly about?

- A Watering your lawn
- B Using water carefully
- C The lack of water in cities
- D Using dishwashers correctly

*Fact/Opinion (VI.A)*

8. Which of the following is an **OPINION** in this passage?

- A Everyone uses water carelessly.
- B There are many causes for water problems.
- C Shorter showers use less water.
- D You should water a lawn during the early morning or late evening.

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

### Practice 6: Antonyms

Directions: Read the following phrases. Find the word that has the opposite meaning of the bolded word. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct word.

1. locate the **exit**

- A window
- B entry
- C find
- D placement

2. **limber** movements

- A simple
- B strange
- C stiff
- D strong

3. the brave **conqueror**

- A general
- B leader
- C loser
- D fighter

4. **exchange** the presents

- A trade
- B keep
- C send
- D suggest

5. the **adventurous** child

- A brave
- B silly
- C lost
- D frightened

6. showing real **cleverness**

- A stupidity
- B understanding
- C beauty
- D education

7. **loafing** in the garden

- A resting
- B planting
- C working
- D looking

8. **scamper** away

- A hurry
- B turn
- C crawl
- D skip

9. **gentlemanly** behavior

- A kind
- B rude
- C different
- D friendly

10. to act **humbly**

- A softly
- B frightened
- C bravely
- D proudly

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

## 9: Beautiful Bluebonnets

If you visit Texas in the spring, you will see fields of bluebonnets blooming beside the highways. The bluebonnet is the state flower of Texas.

The bluebonnet has had many different names. In some places people called it the wolf flower. Other people called it buffalo clover. One of its most unusual names was “el conejo.” This is a Spanish **phrase** that means “the rabbit.” Why did people give this name to the flower? They could see a rabbit in each tiny flower. Take a close look at a bluebonnet if you see one. Maybe you will see a rabbit, too.

Today, most people call this flower a bluebonnet. How did it earn that name? The pioneer women in Texas often wore bright hats to block the hot sun. These hats were called sunbonnets. People thought the flowers looked like the women’s sunbonnets. This is how the flower earned its most popular name.

Scientists give each kind of plant a special name, too. A plant’s name explains why it is **unlike** any other plant. A plant’s scientific name is always in Latin, a very old language. The bluebonnet’s **scientific** name is *Lupinus texensis*.

Most bluebonnet plants are from nine to twelve inches tall. The first small plants appear in early spring. They grow in small groups, or clumps, along the

highways and roads. Most of the flowers look like tall towers of blue and white, but some of the flowers may be all white or pink and white. The plant’s leaves and stems feel “fuzzy.” The flowers have a sweet **fragrance**, or smell.

Bluebonnets are really wildflowers. This means they grow “on their own” in nature. But you can also have bluebonnets in a yard, garden, or field. It is best to plant bluebonnet seeds in the fall. Do not plant them very deep in the soil. Scatter the seeds in a place that gets lots of sun in the spring. Use a rake to spread a thin layer of dirt over the seeds. In the spring, you will have your first crop of bluebonnets.

If you want more and more bluebonnets each year, don’t pick the flowers. Let them die on the plants and drop their seeds in the soil. Next year, you will have even more lovely bluebonnets to enjoy!



Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

*Context Clues (I.B)*

1. In this passage, the word **phrase** means—

- A tiny flower
- B bluebonnet
- C group of words
- D wolf flower

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

2. What does the word **scientific** mean?

- A Like a flower
- B Not like science
- C Belonging to plants
- D From science

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

3. In this passage, what does the word **unlike** mean?

- A Special
- B Very old
- C Not the same as
- D Not in Texas

*Synonyms/Antonyms (I.D)*

4. Which word means about the same thing as **fragrance**?

- A Stem
- B Color
- C Soil
- D Smell

*Facts/Details (II.A)*

5. When should bluebonnet seeds be planted?

- A Early spring
- B June
- C Late Summer
- D Fall

*Follow Directions (II.C)*

6. Bluebonnet seeds should be planted—

- A deep in the soil
- B along the highway
- C in sunny places
- D away from other flowers

*Main Idea (III.A)*

7. The second paragraph is mostly about—

- A the correct name for a bluebonnet
- B how a flower came to be named “bluebonnet”
- C different names given to the bluebonnet
- D why the bluebonnet became the state flower of Texas

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

## Practice 1: Study Skills

Directions: Read each question. Then choose the best answer. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct answer.

This is part of the table of contents from a book called *Our World*. Use it to answer the questions.

Contents	
<b>Chapter One: The Earth</b>	<b>5-18</b>
What is the earth made of?	
Why are there earthquakes?	
How are rocks formed?	
What are fossils?	
<b>Chapter Two: Earth's Weather</b>	<b>21-28</b>
What causes the weather?	
What causes tornadoes and hurricanes?	
World-record weather	
<b>Chapter Three: Looking at Seas and Rivers</b>	<b>32-41</b>
Where are the world's oceans?	
What causes tides and waves?	
How are rivers formed?	
How does water affect the earth?	
<b>Chapter Four: Earth's Plants</b>	<b>45-53</b>
How do plants make their own food?	
Why do some plants have flowers?	
World-record plants	
<b>Chapter Five: Earth's Animals</b>	<b>56-66</b>
What are the main groups of animals?	
How do different animals survive?	
World-record animals	
<b>Chapter Six: Earth's Problems</b>	<b>69-75</b>
How do people change the earth?	
How does pollution hurt the earth?	
How can people save the earth?	

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

1. Which information would probably be found in Chapter Four?

- A A description of reptiles
- B How plants use sunlight and water
- C How the wind makes waves
- D A description of three kinds of rocks

2. On which page would you begin reading to find out about the weather?

- A 18
- B 21
- C 22
- D 28

3. In which chapter might you read about the world's smallest mammal?

- A Chapter One
- B Chapter Two
- C Chapter Four
- D Chapter Five

4. Which chapter is the longest?

- A Chapter Five
- B Chapter Four
- C Chapter Three
- D Chapter One

5. In which chapter might you read about the kind of rocks in the earth's crust?

- A Chapter Four
- B Chapter Three
- C Chapter Two
- D Chapter One

6. On which page would you begin reading to find out about different kinds of animals?

- A 53
- B 56
- C 66
- D 69

7. Which information would probably be found in Chapter Six?

- A Why people live in cities
- B Why people like animals
- C How people save themselves from storms
- D How people create problems for the earth

8. In which chapter might you read about the world's largest hail stone?

- A Chapter One
- B Chapter Two
- C Chapter Four
- D Chapter Five



Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

## 10: My Early Home

*The following passage is from the first chapter of the book Black Beauty, by Anna Sewell. It is a story about the life of a beautiful horse.*

The first place that I can well remember was a large pleasant meadow with a pond of clear water in it. Some shady trees leaned over it, and rushes and water lilies grew at the deep end. Over the hedge on one side, we looked into a plowed field. On the other side we looked over a gate at our master's house, which stood by the roadside. At the top of the meadow was a **plantation** of fir trees, and at the bottom, a running brook overhung by a steep **bank**.

While I was young, I lived upon my mother's milk because I could not eat grass. In the day time, I ran by her side. At night, I lay down close by her. When it was hot, we stood by the pond in the shade of the trees. When it was cold, we had a nice warm shed near the plantation.

As soon as I was old enough to eat grass, my mother went out to work in the day time and came back in the evening.

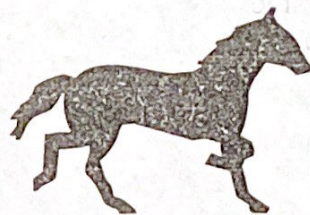
There were six young colts in the meadow besides me. They were older than I was; some were nearly as large as grown-up horses. I used to run with them, and had great fun. We used to gallop all together round and round the

field, as hard as we could go. Sometimes we had rather rough play, and they would bite and kick as well as gallop.

One day, when there was a good deal of kicking, my mother **whinnied** to me to come to her, and then she said:

“I want you to pay attention to what I am going to say to you. The colts that live here are very good colts, but they are cart-horse colts. Of course, they have not learned manners. You have been well-bred and well born. Your father has a great name in these parts, and your grandfather won the **cup** two years at the Newmarket races. Your grandmother had the **sweetest** temper of any horse I ever knew, and I think you have never seen me kick or bite. I hope you will grow up gentle and good, and never learn bad ways. Do your work with a good will, lift your feet up well when you trot, and never bite or kick, even in play.”

I have never forgotten my mother's advice; I knew she was a wise old horse, and our master thought a great deal of her. Her name was Duchess, but he often called her Pet.



Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Our master was a good, kind man. He gave us good food, good lodging, and kind words. He spoke as kindly to us as he did to his own children. We were all fond of him, and my mother loved him very much. When she saw him at the gate, she would neigh with joy and trot up to him. He would pat and stroke her and say, "Well, old Pet, and how is your little Darkie?" I was a dull black, so he called me Darkie. Then he would give me a piece of bread, which was very good. Sometimes he brought a carrot for my mother. All the horses would come up to him, but I think we were his favorites. My mother always took him to the town on a market day in a little carriage.

*Multiple Meanings (I.C)*

1. In this passage, the word **bank** means—

- A a place to keep or borrow money
- B the rising ground beside a river
- C a row or line of things
- D to depend on

*Context Clues (I.B)*

2. What does the word **plantation** mean?

- A Road
- B River
- C Bottom
- D Large group

*Context Clues (I.B)*

3. The word **whinnied** means—

- A ran
- B came close
- C kicked
- D made soft noises

*Synonyms/Antonyms (I.D)*

4. Which word means about the same thing as **cup** as it is used in this passage?

- A Bowl
- B Race
- C Award
- D Glass

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

5. In which word do the letters *est* mean the same thing as in the word **sweetest**?

- A Yesterday
- B Pester
- C Funniest
- D Estimate

*Facts/Details (II.A)*

6. What food does the master bring for Darkie's mother?

- A Carrots
- B Bread
- C Oats
- D Grass

Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>

## Practice 2: Study Skills

Directions: Read each question. Then choose the best answer. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct answer.

This is part of the table of contents from a book of poems. Use it to answer the questions.

Contents	
<b>1 All About People</b>	<b>3</b>
Smells, by Christopher Marley	4
Girls' Names, by Eleanor Farjeon	5
Boys' Names, by Eleanor Farjeon	5
The Postman, by Laura E. Richards	6
The New Neighbor, by Rose Fyleman	6
Get Up and Bar the Door (unknown)	7
The Cowboy's Life, by James Barton Adams	8
Paul Revere's Ride, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow	9
<b>2 All About Animals</b>	<b>13</b>
Puppy and I, by A.A. Milne	14
Tom's Little Dog, by Walter de la Mare	15
The Eagle, by Alfred, Lord Tennyson	16
The Mouse, by Elizabeth Coatsworth	16
Snail, by Langston Hughes	17
The Little Turtle, by Vachel Lindsay	17
The Cow, by Robert Louis Stevenson	18
<b>3 All Around the World</b>	<b>19</b>
From a Railway Carriage, by Robert Louis Stevenson	20
Travel, by Edna St. Vincent Millay	21
Whistles, by Rachel Field	21
Roads Go Ever Ever On, by J.R.R. Tolkien	22
Travel, by Robert Louis Stevenson	22

Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>

- Which of these poems was written by Eleanor Farjeon?
  - "The Postman"
  - "Snail"
  - "Travel"
  - "Girls' Names"
- Who wrote the poem "The Little Turtle"?
  - Eleanor Farjeon
  - Laura E. Richards
  - Vachel Lindsay
  - Edna St. Vincent Millay
- Which two writers wrote poems with the same name?
  - Christopher Marley and Laura E. Richards
  - A.A. Milne and Walter de la Mare
  - Robert Louis Stevenson and Edna St. Vincent Millay
  - Elizabeth Coatsworth and Vachel Lindsay
- Which poet has the greatest number of poems in this book?
  - Eleanor Farjeon
  - Robert Louis Stevenson
  - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
  - J.R.R. Tolkien
- On which page could you find a poem about a bird?
  - page 13
  - page 14
  - page 16
  - page 21
- Who wrote the poem "Paul Revere's Ride"?
  - Robert Louis Stevenson
  - James Barton Adams
  - Alfred, Lord Tennyson
  - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- Which of these poems was written by Rachel Field?
  - "The Little Turtle"
  - "Whistles"
  - "Boys' Names"
  - "The New Neighbor"
- A.A. Milne wrote the poem called—
  - "Roads Go Ever Ever On"
  - "Travel"
  - "From a Railway Carriage"
  - "Puppy and I"

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

## 11: Around and Around

Rain comes from the clouds that move through the sky above us. Raindrops come in all sizes. Some are big and fat. Others are only small **droplets** of water. The rain falls from the sky and flows into puddles, streams, rivers, lakes, and oceans. All the raindrops that **form** our **waterways** take a long journey to reach the earth.



After a storm or shower ends, the sun may come out. The sun's hot rays reach the puddles made by the rain. Just like a stove heats our food and water, the sun's rays warm the puddles. Soon the puddles begin to dry. The water seems to disappear, but it has only returned to the air. There it begins its journey again.

The sun's heat changes the water into a gas. When water is a gas, we usually can't see it. The gas is called water vapor. The change from water to a gas is called **evaporation**.

As the gas rises into the air, the wind takes it and other raindrops back into the sky. After a while, the water vapor forms into clouds again. If the wind is strong, the clouds move swiftly through the sky. The wind can carry one drop of rain far away. Raindrops may travel hundreds of miles. They can even travel to other countries. Sooner or later, though, the raindrops fall back to earth again.

These changes and movements are

part of the water cycle. The word "cycle" really means "circle." The earth's water travels in a circle as it falls to land and then returns to the sky again.

Every drop of water travels through the water cycle. This can be a short journey. Or a single raindrop may travel all the way around the world. The next raindrop that hits your head may have been part of a faraway ocean last year.

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

1. What is the base word of **evaporation**?

- A Pore
- B Evaporate
- C Vapors
- D Explore

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

2. In this passage, what does the word **droplets** mean?

- A Large, fat raindrops
- B Streams or rivers
- C Small drops of water
- D Clouds

*Antonyms/Synonyms (I.D)*

3. Which word is not a synonym for **waterway**?

- A Streams
- B Rivers
- C Lakes
- D Raindrops

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

*Multiple Meanings (I.C)*

4. What does the word **form** mean in this passage?

- A Make up
- B Shape
- C Paper
- D Start

*Summarize Ideas/Themes (III.B)*

5. Which sentence tells what this passage is mostly about?

- A Rain comes from clouds that move through the sky.
- B Water cannot be seen when it is a gas.
- C As part of the water cycle, rain drops go through changes and travel many miles.
- D Heat from the sun changes rain drops into water vapor.

*Cause/Effect (IV.A)*

6. Puddles of water dry and seem to disappear because—

- A heat from the sun changes the water into a gas
- B stoves heat the water
- C all water must go through the water cycle
- D the water must travel to faraway places

*Facts/Details (II.A)*

7. What does the word **cycle** mean?

- A Rain
- B Upward
- C Journey
- D Circle

*Genre Characteristics (VII.B)*

8. This kind of passage would most likely appear in a—

- A spelling book
- B history book
- C science book
- D novel

Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

### Practice 3: Study Skills

Directions: Read each question. Then choose the best answer. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct answer.

This is part of an index from a language arts book. Use it to answer the questions.

**Letters,**

- Addressing the envelope, 166
- Business letters, 162-167
- Friendly letters, 136-141
- Letter to the editor, 147, 151, 162
- Punctuation of, 164, 366, 367

**Library, 227-235**

- Card catalog, 228-229
- Computer catalog, 231
- Reference books, 222-234

**Paragraph, 69-81**

- Kinds of, 72-75
- Model paragraphs, 72-75
- Moving from one paragraph to another, 79
- Organizing ideas, 76, 78
- Parts of, 70-71
- Topic sentence, 70
- Using details, 77

1. Toby wants to know how to use the card catalog in the library. On which pages should he look?

- A pp. 227-235
- B pp. 227-230
- C pp. 228-229
- D pp. 231

2. To find the kind of letter he might write to his friend in New York, Toby should look on—

- A pp. 227-235
- B pp. 162-167
- C pp. 136-141
- D pp. 72-75

3. Toby wants to know about writing paragraphs that describe. He should be reading page—

- A 69
- B 70
- C 71
- D 72

4. During the next two weeks, Toby's class will learn about writing paragraphs. Which pages in their language arts book will they probably read?

- A pp. 69-81
- B pp. 70-71
- C pp. 162-167
- D pp. 227-235

Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

### Practice 4: Study Skills

Directions: Read each question. Then choose the best answer. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct answer.

This is part of an index from a math book. Use it to answer the questions.

#### Addition

with regrouping, 156-163  
estimating answers, 28-29  
of money, 166-170

#### Circle, 318-319

center of, 318  
using a compass, 318-319

#### Drawing

circles, 318, 319  
rectangles, 314-315  
squares, 314-315

#### Estimating answers

addition, 28-29  
subtraction, 38-40

#### Fractions, 240-245

comparing, 244-245  
using pictures to show, 240-243

#### Graphs, 196-215

bar, 202-206  
circle, 207-211  
line, 212-215  
picture, 196-201

1. On which pages could you learn about bar graphs?

A pp. 196-201  
B pp. 196-215  
C pp. 202-206  
D pp. 240-243

2. On which pages could you learn about using a compass?

A pp. 318-319  
B pp. 244-245  
C pp. 212-215  
D pp. 156-163

3. How many different kinds of graphs does this book include?

A 0  
B 2  
C 3  
D 4

4. To learn how to estimate answers in subtraction, you would look on pages—

A 28-29  
B 28-40  
C 28-38  
D 38-40



Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

## 12: Rainbow Happiness

It was raining. Molly couldn't go outside and play. She was disappointed because she had to be inside all day. She wondered what it would be like if she always had to stay inside. She thought that never seeing the sunshine or feeling a breeze would be terrible. Going outside and enjoying beautiful things each day was her favorite thing to do.

"Molly, it's time to go visit Grandma!" Molly's mother called to her. Today they were going to visit Grandma in a **nursing home**. Grandma was old. She stayed in a home with other **elderly** people. At the nursing home, Grandma got the kind of care she needed. Molly liked to visit her Grandma each week. Everyone was always happy on those special visits.

"Look! A rainbow!" Molly exclaimed as they drove. It had stopped raining. Now a beautiful rainbow arched in the sky. Molly thought again about how disappointed she was when she couldn't go outside. The beautiful rainbow was a great way to make her day happy again. She wished that Grandma could see the rainbow, too. But, she knew that Grandma had to stay inside since the ground was wet. Molly would have to describe the pretty rainbow to Grandma instead.

When they arrived at the nursing home, Molly led the family down the hall to Grandma's room. She knew exactly where it was. She visited

Grandma every weekend. Grandma was happy to see the family again. They all talked and laughed for the **rest** of the afternoon. Molly was pleased to see everyone so happy.

When it was time for the family to leave, Molly saw the **disappointment** in Grandma's eyes. Molly knew that they would be back to visit next weekend, but it was still sad to leave Grandma. On the drive home, Molly looked out the window to see the rainbow, but it wasn't there anymore. She wished it could have been there to cheer her up again.

When Molly got home, she had an idea. She took out her construction paper, markers, and scissors and went to work. She worked on her project each night after school that week. She didn't rush to finish. She wanted everything to be perfect.



The weekend finally came. Molly finished her project just in time to take it to the nursing home. When she saw Grandma, she opened her bag and pulled out the surprise.

"It's a rainbow to hang in your room, Grandma. I saw one after the rainstorm last week. It cheered me up because it was so beautiful. I decided to make one for you. Now you can feel cheered up each time you see it. I made one for each of your friends, too. I hope they like them," Molly said happily.

Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

Molly made the rainbows to make other people happy, but they made her feel great, too. It felt nice to make someone's day brighter.

*Context Clues (I.B)*

1. What does the word **elderly** mean?

- A Special
- B Old
- C Nice
- D Sad

*Context Clues (I.B)*

2. In this passage, what does the term **nursing home** mean?

- A A place to work on projects
- B A place to visit family members
- C A home for old people who need special care
- D A home without any windows

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

3. In which word do the letters *dis* mean the same as in **disappointment**?

- A Dish
- B Distant
- C Disk
- D Disappear

*Multiple Meanings (I.C)*

4. What does the word **rest** mean in this passage?

- A Something that remains
- B Stop
- C Place against something
- D Sit down

*Sequential Order (II.B)*

5. In this story, Molly first sees a rainbow—

- A on the way home from the nursing home
- B before she leaves for the nursing home
- C while she is visiting Grandma
- D on the way to visit Grandma

*Setting (II.D)*

6. Most of this story happens—

- A at Molly's school
- B in Molly's yard
- C at the nursing home
- D on a road

*Main Idea (III.A)*

7. This story is mostly about—

- A why Molly's grandmother is in a nursing home
- B how rainbows help make a girl and her grandmother happy
- C a little girl who does not like the rain
- D the best way to make elderly people happy

Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

### Practice 5: Study Skills

Directions: Read each question. Then choose the best answer. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct answer.

1. To find out how to pronounce a word, you should look in—

A an atlas  
B a newspaper  
C a dictionary  
D an encyclopedia

2. To find when a movie is showing at a local theater, you should look in—

A an atlas  
B a newspaper  
C an encyclopedia  
D a telephone book

3. To find several words that are synonyms for *hot*, you could look in—

A a thesaurus  
B an atlas  
C a newspaper  
D an encyclopedia

4. To find information for a report about how mountains are formed, you could look—

A in the newspaper  
B in an encyclopedia  
C in a dictionary  
D on a globe

5. To find out whether a word is a noun or a verb, you should look in—

A an encyclopedia  
B a telephone book  
C a dictionary  
D a newspaper

6. To find out when a special about tigers will show on television, you should look in—

A a dictionary  
B a magazine  
C an atlas  
D a newspaper

7. To find the distance from your home town to the state capitol, you would probably use a—

A globe  
B city map  
C state map  
D world map

8. You want to know the population of New York City for the past ten years. To find this information, you should look in—

A a magazine  
B an atlas  
C an encyclopedia  
D an almanac

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

### 13: How to Wrap a Present

Have you ever wrapped a present for someone? **Wrapping** a gift so that it looks neat and pretty may seem like a hard job. However, if you gather the right materials and follow some simple steps, you can create a package that others will like.

First, gather all the items you need for wrapping a gift. For most projects you will need wrapping paper, tape, scissors, ribbon, a gift tag, and a pen or pencil. Of course, you also need the gift that you want to wrap! Wrapping the gift is easier if it is in some sort of box.

Find a clean, flat surface for wrapping the present. A table or the floor is a good place to work. Cut a piece of wrapping paper large enough to wrap around the gift. Place the paper on your work surface with the printed side down. Then, place the gift in the center of the wrapping paper.

Next, pick up the edge of the paper and wrap the paper around the package. Make sure the paper fits closely against the gift. Hold the paper there, and pick up the edge of the paper on the opposite side of the gift. Wrap it across the gift in the same way you wrapped the first side. The second edge should cross over the first edge by at least one inch so the gift box is covered. **Fasten** the second edge of paper down to the other side with two or three small pieces of tape.

Two sides of the wrapping paper should still be open and not attached to the gift. Start at one of the open sides. Fold the wrapping paper neatly against the side of the package. Then, tape the folded paper down so it will not come open. Repeat the same steps at the end that is still open and not attached to the box. Once you finish these steps, your gift should be wrapped in the paper. No part of the gift should be **visible**.

Next, you make a bow and place it on the package. Before making the bow, look at the size of the package. Large packages usually have large bows. Small packages usually have small bows. Make a bow that fits the size of your package. Then fasten the bow to the package with some tape.

Finally, make a gift tag. On the tag, write the name of the person who will be receiving the present. You also can write the name of the person who is giving the present.

Now you are ready to give the gift to some lucky person.



Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

*Structural Cues (I.A)*

1. What is the root of the word **wrapping**?

- A Wrapped
- B Rapped
- C Wrapper
- D Wrap

*Synonyms/Antonyms (I.D)*

2. Which of the following words means the **OPPOSITE** of **fasten**?

- A Tape
- B Wrap
- C Open
- D Edge

*Sequential Order (II.B)*

3. What is the first step in wrapping a present?

- A Finding a clean, flat surface
- B Gathering all the materials
- C Cutting the paper the right size
- D Making a bow for the package

*Follow Directions (II.C)*

4. When you wrap the paper around the package, you should—

- A wrap it loosely around the gift
- B let part of the gift show
- C tape it to the gift box
- D wrap it closely around the gift

*Main Idea (III.A)*

5. What is this passage mainly about?

- A How to give presents to people
- B How to find materials for wrapping a present
- C How to wrap a present
- D How to make bows and gift tags

*Interpretations/Conclusions (V.B)*

6. If you follow and practice the directions in this passage, you will—

- A receive more presents
- B learn how to wrap neat and pretty packages
- C wrap packages better than any one else
- D be invited to many parties

*Facts/Details (II.A)*

7. Which one of the following is **NOT** listed in this passage as something you need for wrapping a present?

- A String
- B Scissors
- C Flat surface
- D Tape

*Sequential Order (II.B)*

8. What should you do right before you make the bow for the package?

- A Check how long the ribbon is
- B Make a large and small bow
- C Check the size of the package
- D Fasten the paper with tape

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

### Practice 9: Context Clues

Directions: Read the following sentences. Then choose the best word to fit in the blank. On your answer sheet, darken the circle for the correct word.

1. Tony always \_\_\_\_\_ about things he doesn't like.

A convinces  
B requires  
C defends  
D complains

2. My boots \_\_\_\_\_ my feet from the water and mud.

A protected  
B covered  
C polished  
D splashed

3. The store clerk put the money in the \_\_\_\_\_.

A counter  
B preserve  
C register  
D channel

4. The teacher gave a \_\_\_\_\_ when she wanted the children to sit down.

A situation  
B symbol  
C signal  
D speck

5. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ of dirt on the white tablecloth.

A dust  
B speck  
C canal  
D basin

6. I want to learn how to \_\_\_\_\_ so I can make a sweater.

A cloak  
B knit  
C lash  
D ripple

7. The teacher asked Sean to \_\_\_\_\_ our class at the meeting.

A require  
B exchange  
C produce  
D represent

8. Bobby was afraid to ski down the mountain \_\_\_\_\_.

A scale  
B slope  
C shield  
D support

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

## 14: A Different Kind of Bird

Owls have a unique appearance. They have large, round heads. Their large eyes are set in the front of their heads. This gives owls an interesting “stare.” People sometimes say an owl looks **wise**, or smart, because of its stare.



A layer of feathers covers an owl’s body. The feathers are so thick that an owl seems to have no neck. Some owls have a ring of feathers around each eye. The rings look like eyeglasses and add to their wise look. Owls are usually not colorful birds. Most have gray, tan, or brown feathers. There are exceptions. The snowy owl lives in the Arctic region. Its feathers are white like the snow and ice where it lives.

The eagle owl is a large bird from Africa and Asia. It can be 30 inches from head to tail, have a wingspan of five to six feet, and weigh more than five pounds. Then there is the elf owl, a very small bird. It lives in some desert regions of North America and is only five inches long.

Owls hunt and kill other animals for food. They have special claws called **talons**. The talons are perfect for grabbing mice, frogs, and rabbits. Owls also have sharp beaks. With their sharp talons and beaks, owls are some of nature’s best hunters.

Most owls are **nocturnal** animals. This means they are most active at night. Excellent eyesight lets owls see well in the dark. The pupils in their eyes open widely. This lets light enter the eyes so owls can see their prey in the dark.

Owls have good eyesight, but they cannot move their eyes very much. To see something to the side or behind, they must turn their entire head. They can do this easily because they have **flexible** necks. Some owls can turn their heads completely around and look behind them.

Owls may have great eyesight, but they also have excellent hearing. Feathers cover their “ears,” which are large openings on each side of their head. Owls use the feathers to direct sounds into the openings. Owls can hear soft sounds coming from 75 feet away.

Large wings covered with soft feathers also help owls at night. The feathers make very little sound as owls fly, so they can fly almost silently. They can approach their prey and not be heard.

Most owls do not make nests. Some find or make holes in the ground. Others use holes they find in trees. Some even use old nests built by another kind of bird. Owls like to use the same nest year after year.

A female owl lays from 2 to 12