2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Bounce Test



Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 158 words | Characters' actions and reasons

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Amina wanted to win a ribbon at the school science fair. She had a question: which ball bounces the highest?

2 She **collected** three balls: a tennis ball, a rubber ball and a soccer ball. Her brother Musa held a meter stick against the wall. Amina dropped each ball from the same height, one at a time. Musa watched carefully and wrote down how high each ball bounced.

3 The rubber ball bounced the highest. The tennis ball came second, and the soccer ball bounced the least.

4 "Let's test it again," said Amina. "Scientists always check their **results."** They dropped each ball three more times. The rubber ball won every time.

5 At the fair, Amina showed her chart and explained her test. She did not win first place, but the judge said her test was fair because she dropped every ball from the same height. Amina was **proud.** Next year, she wants to test which paper airplane flies the farthest.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Bounce Test: questions

Name _____ Date _____

🎯 **I can find answers in the text. Look back at the story to check.**

1 Circle the best answer

1. What did Amina test?

(a) how high balls bounce (b) how heavy balls are (c) how big balls are

2. Which ball bounced the highest?

(a) the soccer ball (b) the rubber ball (c) the tennis ball

3. Why did the judge say the test was fair?

(a) her brother helped (b) same height every time (c) she used big balls

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

- [ ] They tested every ball three more times.
- [ ] Musa held a meter stick against the wall.
- [ ] Amina collected three balls.
- [ ] Amina showed her chart at the fair.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Bounce Test: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

collected	gathered together
results	what a test shows
proud	pleased with what you did

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

Why did Amina test the balls more than once?

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The Bounce Test

1 Circle the best answer

1. a) how high balls bounce
2. b) the rubber ball
3. b) same height every time

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1, 4

1. Amina collected three balls.
2. Musa held a meter stick against the wall.
3. They tested every ball three more times.
4. Amina showed her chart at the fair.

3 Word meanings

collected: gathered together

results: what a test shows

proud: pleased with what you did

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

To check her results and make sure they were right, the way scientists do.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

From Egg to Frog



Name _____ Date _____

Nonfiction | 129 words | Sequence in a science text

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1. A frog does not start life looking like a frog. It goes through big changes called a **life cycle.**
2. First, a mother frog lays hundreds of eggs in a pond. The eggs are soft and covered in jelly. Together they are called frogspawn.
3. Next, tiny tadpoles **hatch** from the eggs. A tadpole has a long tail and lives underwater. It breathes with **gills,** just like a fish.
4. Then the tadpole starts to change. Back legs grow first, and then front legs. Its tail gets shorter and shorter. Now it is called a froglet.
5. Finally, the tail is gone and the young frog has lungs. It can hop out of the water and breathe air. One day it may lay eggs of its own, and the **life cycle** begins again.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

From Egg to Frog: questions

Name _____ Date _____

I can find answers in the text. Look back at the text to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. What are frog eggs called when they are together?

a froglets b frogspawn c tadpoles

2. How does a tadpole breathe?

a with lungs b through its tail c with gills

3. Which legs grow first?

a the front legs b the back legs c all four at once

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

- [ ] Legs grow and the tail gets shorter.
- [ ] The young frog hops out of the water.
- [ ] A mother frog lays eggs in a pond.
- [ ] Tadpoles hatch from the eggs.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

From Egg to Frog: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

life cycle	the stages in a living thing's life
gills	come out of an egg
hatch	body parts for breathing underwater

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

How is a tadpole different from a grown-up frog? Give two ways.

3 Draw and label something you learned.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: From Egg to Frog

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) frogspawn
2. c) with gills
3. b) the back legs

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 3, 4, 1, 2

1. A mother frog lays eggs in a pond.
2. Tadpoles hatch from the eggs.
3. Legs grow and the tail gets shorter.
4. The young frog hops out of the water.

3 Word meanings

life cycle: the stages in a living thing's life

gills: body parts for breathing underwater

hatch: come out of an egg

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

A tadpole has a tail and breathes with gills. A frog has legs, no tail, and breathes air with lungs.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Case of the Missing Lunchbox



Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 132 words | Clues and story events

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 On Monday morning, Leo couldn't find his lunchbox. He looked on the kitchen table. He looked in his backpack. It wasn't there.

2 "Let's be **detectives,**" said his sister Hana. "First, we look for **clues.**"

3 The first clue was on the floor: a trail of cracker crumbs leading to the back door. The second clue was outside on the porch: a wet paw print. The third clue was a noise. Crunch, crunch, crunch! It was coming from under the porch steps.

4 Leo and Hana bent down and **peeked.** There was Biscuit, their puppy, with the lunchbox between his paws. The lid was open, and the crackers were gone!

5 Leo laughed. "Case closed," he said. Dad packed Leo a new lunch, and Hana made a sign for the kitchen: KEEP LUNCHBOXES AWAY FROM BISCUIT.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Case of the Missing Lunchbox: questions

Name _____ Date _____

🎯 **I can find answers in the text. Look back at the story to check.**

1 Circle the best answer

1. What was missing?

a) Leo's backpack b) Leo's lunchbox c) Hana's shoe

2. What was the first clue?

a) a wet paw print b) a noise c) cracker crumbs

3. Who took the lunchbox?

a) Hana b) Biscuit the puppy c) Dad

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

- [ ] They heard a crunching noise.
- [ ] They found Biscuit under the steps.
- [ ] They found cracker crumbs.
- [ ] Leo could not find his lunchbox.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Case of the Missing Lunchbox: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

detectives	looked quickly
clues	things that help solve a mystery
peeked	people who solve mysteries

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

Why did Hana make a sign for the kitchen?

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The Case of the Missing Lunchbox

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) Leo's lunchbox

2. c) cracker crumbs

3. b) Biscuit the puppy

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 3, 4, 2, 1

1. Leo could not find his lunchbox.
2. They found cracker crumbs.
3. They heard a crunching noise.
4. They found Biscuit under the steps.

3 Word meanings

detectives: people who solve mysteries

clues: things that help solve a mystery

peeked: looked quickly

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

So everyone would keep lunchboxes away from Biscuit, because he took the lunchbox and ate the crackers.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Volcanoes



Name _____ Date _____

Nonfiction | 139 words | Main topic and key details

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 A volcano is an opening in the Earth's surface. Deep under the ground, it is so hot that rock melts. This melted rock is called magma.

2 Sometimes the magma pushes up and bursts out of the volcano. This is called an **eruption.** When magma comes out of the ground, it has a new name: lava. Lava can be more than 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, so it **glows** red and orange.

3 When lava cools, it turns into hard rock. Over many years, layers of cooled lava can build a volcano into a tall mountain. The islands of Hawaii were made this way.

4 Not all volcanoes are **active.** Some have not erupted for thousands of years. Scientists who study volcanoes are called volcanologists. They use special tools to watch for signs that a volcano might erupt, so people can stay safe.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Volcanoes: questions



Name _____ Date _____

🎯 I can find answers in the text. Look back at the text to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. What is melted rock under the ground called?

(a) magma (b) ash (c) lava

2. What happens when lava cools?

(a) it turns into water (b) it disappears (c) it turns into hard rock

3. What are scientists who study volcanoes called?

(a) astronauts (b) volcanologists (c) doctors

2 True or false? Circle one.

Magma is called lava when it comes out of the ground. True False

Every volcano erupts every year. True False

The islands of Hawaii were made by volcanoes. True False

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Volcanoes: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

eruption	when magma bursts out of a volcano
active	may still erupt
glows	shines with light

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

How can a volcano become a tall mountain?

3 Draw and label something you learned.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: Volcanoes

1 Circle the best answer

1. a) magma
2. c) it turns into hard rock
3. b) volcanologists

2 True or false

True: Magma is called lava when it comes out of the ground.

False: Every volcano erupts every year.

True: The islands of Hawaii were made by volcanoes.

3 Word meanings

eruption: when magma bursts out of a volcano

active: may still erupt

glows: shines with light

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

Each eruption adds a layer of lava that cools into rock. Over many years the layers build up into a mountain.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

A Helping Hand



Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 146 words | Lesson of the story

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Mr. Patel lived next door to Yusuf. He was eighty years old, and he walked with a **cane.** Every Saturday, Yusuf saw him carry heavy bags of **groceries** from the car to his house, one slow step at a time.

2 One Saturday, Yusuf had an idea. He ran over and said, "Can I help you carry those bags?"

3 Mr. Patel smiled. "That would be very kind," he said. Yusuf carried the bags to the kitchen and put the apples in a bowl.

4 "Do you like stories?" asked Mr. Patel. He told Yusuf how he had worked on trains when he was young. He had **traveled** across the whole country. Yusuf listened to every word.

5 After that, helping Mr. Patel became Yusuf's favorite part of Saturday. He carried the **groceries,** and Mr. Patel told a new story each week. "We make a good team," said Mr. Patel.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

A Helping Hand: questions

Name _____ Date _____

🎯 I can find answers in the text. Look back at the story to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. How old was Mr. Patel?

(a) forty (b) eight (c) eighty

2. What did Yusuf offer to do?

(a) walk the dog (b) wash the car (c) carry the groceries

3. What job did Mr. Patel have when he was young?

(a) he was a farmer (b) he worked on trains (c) he was a teacher

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

- [ ] Helping became Yusuf's favorite part of Saturday.
- [ ] Mr. Patel told a story about trains.
- [ ] Yusuf offered to help.
- [ ] Yusuf saw Mr. Patel carrying heavy bags.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

A Helping Hand: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

cane	a stick that helps a person walk
groceries	food bought at a store
traveled	went from place to place

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

What lesson does this story teach? Use an example from the story.

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: A Helping Hand

1 Circle the best answer

1. c) eighty
2. c) carry the groceries
3. b) he worked on trains

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 4, 3, 2, 1

1. Yusuf saw Mr. Patel carrying heavy bags.
2. Yusuf offered to help.
3. Mr. Patel told a story about trains.
4. Helping became Yusuf's favorite part of Saturday.

3 Word meanings

cane: a stick that helps a person walk

groceries: food bought at a store

traveled: went from place to place

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

Helping others can make a new friend. Yusuf helped carry the bags and, in return, heard Mr. Patel's stories every week.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Elephants



Name _____ Date _____

Nonfiction | 132 words | Key details and new words

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Elephants are the largest animals that live on land. A grown-up African elephant can weigh more than 6 tons, about as much as four cars.

2 An elephant's trunk is its nose and upper lip joined together. It is very strong and very useful. Elephants use their trunks to breathe, smell, pick up food and drink. To drink, an elephant sucks water into its trunk and then squirts it into its mouth.

3 Elephants also have tusks, which are long teeth. They use tusks to dig for water and to strip bark from trees.

4 Elephants live in family groups called **herds.** The oldest female, called the **matriarch,** leads the **herd.** She remembers where to find water, even in dry seasons. The whole **herd** helps to look after the babies, which are called **calves.**

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Elephants: questions



Name _____ Date _____

🎯 **I can find answers in the text. Look back at the text to check.**

1 Circle the best answer

1. What is an elephant's trunk?

(a) a long tooth (b) its tail (c) its nose and upper lip

2. What are tusks?

(a) strong feet (b) big ears (c) long teeth

3. Who leads the herd?

(a) the youngest calf (b) the oldest female (c) the biggest male

2 True or false? Circle one.

Elephants are the largest animals on land. **True** **False**

Elephants drink straight through their trunks, like a straw. **True** **False**

Baby elephants are called calves. **True** **False**

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Elephants: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

herd	a group of animals that live together
matriarch	baby elephants
calves	the female leader of a family

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

Name three ways an elephant uses its trunk.

3 Draw and label something you learned.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: Elephants

1 Circle the best answer

1. c) its nose and upper lip
2. c) long teeth
3. b) the oldest female

2 True or false

True: Elephants are the largest animals on land.

False: Elephants drink straight through their trunks, like a straw.

True: Baby elephants are called calves.

3 Word meanings

herd: a group of animals that live together

matriarch: the female leader of a family

calves: baby elephants

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

Any three of: to breathe, to smell, to pick up food, to drink (it sucks up water and squirts it into its mouth).

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Treehouse Plan



Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 148 words | Characters and problem solving

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Maya and her brother Eli wanted to build a treehouse in the old oak tree. Eli wanted to start right away. “Let’s just nail some boards together!” he said.

2 Maya shook her head. “First we need a **plan.”** She drew a picture of the treehouse. It had a floor, three walls, a roof and a rope ladder.

3 Their aunt, who was a builder, looked at the **plan.** “Good start,” she said. “Now **measure.”** They used a tape **measure** to find out how big the floor should be. They wrote every number down.

4 On Saturday, the three of them built the floor together. Aunt Rosa used the saw, Eli held the boards **steady,** and Maya checked the measurements. On Sunday, they added the walls and the roof.

5 When it was finished, Eli climbed the rope ladder first. “Your **plan** worked,” he told Maya. “Next time, I’ll help draw it.”

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Treehouse Plan: questions

Name _____ Date _____

I can find answers in the text. Look back at the story to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. Where did they build the treehouse?

a) on the roof
b) in the backyard shed
c) in the old oak tree

2. What did Maya want to do first?

a) make a plan
b) buy paint
c) nail boards together

3. What job did Eli do while they built?

a) checked the measurements
b) held the boards steady
c) used the saw

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

_____ They measured with a tape measure.

_____ Eli climbed the rope ladder.

_____ They built the floor.

_____ Maya drew a plan.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · FICTION

The Treehouse Plan: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

plan	an idea of how to do something, step by step
measure	find out how big something is
steady	still, not moving

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

Why was making a plan a good idea? Use details from the story.

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The Treehouse Plan

1 Circle the best answer

1. c) in the old oak tree
2. a) make a plan
3. b) held the boards steady

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 2, 4, 3, 1

1. Maya drew a plan.
2. They measured with a tape measure.
3. They built the floor.
4. Eli climbed the rope ladder.

3 Word meanings

plan: an idea of how to do something, step by step

measure: find out how big something is

steady: still, not moving

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

They knew what to build and how big to make it, so the treehouse was finished in two days and it worked.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Where Does Our Trash Go?



Name _____ Date _____

Nonfiction | 140 words | Main topic and key details

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Every day, families throw things away: boxes, bottles, cans and food scraps. Where does it all go?

2 Some trash goes to a **landfill.** A **landfill** is a huge hole in the ground where trash is buried. Trash in a **landfill** can stay there for a very long time. A plastic bottle may take hundreds of years to break down.

3 Recycling helps. When we **recycle,** old things are made into new things. Paper can be made into new paper. Cans can be melted and made into new cans. Some plastic bottles can even become fabric for clothes.

4 Food scraps like apple cores and banana peels can be composted. In a **compost** pile, tiny living things break the food down into rich soil for gardens.

5 You can help, too. Sort your trash, **recycle** what you can, and use things more than once.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Where Does Our Trash Go?: questions

Name _____ Date _____

I can find answers in the text. Look back at the text to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. What is a landfill?

- a) a recycling truck
- b) a huge hole where trash is buried
- c) a kind of garden

2. What can old cans be made into?

- a) food
- b) new cans
- c) soil

3. What happens to food scraps in a compost pile?

- a) they break down into soil
- b) they become paper
- c) they turn into plastic

2 True or false? Circle one.

A plastic bottle breaks down in a few days.	True	False
Paper can be made into new paper.	True	False
Compost helps gardens grow.	True	False

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING · NONFICTION

Where Does Our Trash Go?: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

landfill	make old things into new things
recycle	rotted food and plants that feed the soil
compost	a place where trash is buried

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

Name two things you can do to make less trash.

3 Draw and label something you learned.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

Scan for more free practice

FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: Where Does Our Trash Go?

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) a huge hole where trash is buried
2. b) new cans
3. a) they break down into soil

2 True or false

False: A plastic bottle breaks down in a few days.

True: Paper can be made into new paper.

True: Compost helps gardens grow.

3 Word meanings

landfill: a place where trash is buried

recycle: make old things into new things

compost: rotted food and plants that feed the soil

4 Written answer (sample) 💡

Any two of: recycle, compost food scraps, sort trash, use things more than once.

Scan for more free practice

2ND GRADE READING

My reading log

Name _____ Date _____

🎯 **I read every passage, answered the questions and colored my stars.**

Passage	Read it	Questions	Date
The Bounce Test	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
From Egg to Frog	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
The Case of the Missing Lunchbox	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
Volcanoes	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
A Helping Hand	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
Elephants	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
The Treehouse Plan	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	
Where Does Our Trash Go?	☆ ☆ ☆	☐	

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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