

5TH GRADE

Standards Practice Pack B

READING, WRITING, & MATH

Complete one assignment for reading, writing, and math each day.



Reading: Read the selection and answer the questions. When you are finished, be sure to read a great book!

Writing: Read the prompt and respond in writing. This is a great opportunity to practice your best writing skills and good handwriting.

Math: Complete the standards practice page. Draw pictures or use objects to help you.

A B C D E

F G H I J

K L M N O

P Q R S T

U V W X Y

Z

a b c d e

f g h i j

k l m n

o p q r s

t u v w x

y z

Bring in the Beavers!

by ReadWorks



It was the fifth straight day of heavy rain in the town of Leith. If it kept on pouring for much longer, the river would swell with rainwater and flood the town. All the citizens of Leith would have to flee their homes and find safety on higher ground. Anna and her parents stayed glued to the television set, nervously listening to the weather reports.

For now, the weatherman said, the situation was still safe, but helicopters were ready to lift people away at any moment if the rain did not stop soon. Anna felt her palms grow sweaty as she saw the frightened expressions on her parents' faces. Her parents never looked scared. They were used to the rain, since Leith was located in the rainy country of Scotland, but it had never, ever poured like this before. The town had cancelled school in case of a sudden emergency, so all Anna could do was try to read her favorite detective stories and hope for the rain to stop. Luckily, it did. When she awoke the next morning the skies were sunny and clear. It was a miracle. They had been spared from a terrible natural disaster.

Everybody in Leith breathed a great sigh of relief, but they knew they had to take action. Nobody wanted to face this flooding danger again. The day after the downpour stopped, the Mayor of Leith called a town meeting. Anna went along with her parents to find out more. She really did not want all her books and toys, and her pet dog Noodles, to get washed away in a flood.

At the meeting, the Mayor presented three experts who had different ideas about solving the problem. One man suggested they build a concrete dam upstream to block the river's path. With such a big dam,

the river would never overflow into Leith, even in heavy rain. Another lady suggested building a different structure, a high stone wall all around Leith to stop floodwater from getting in. The last speaker, a small, slender man with a heavy Scottish accent, had what seemed to be the craziest idea of all.

"You see," he said, "if we just bring some beavers back into our landscape, we might be able to kiss our problem goodbye. About 400 years ago, there were thousands of beavers roaming around the Scottish countryside. Our ancestors killed most of them off because they enjoyed hunting them for their warm fur. What our ancestors didn't realize was that we need to keep beavers alive for our own safety. The beaver builds dams in the rivers out of sticks, mud, and leaves. These dams are strong enough to stop a river from flooding in heavy rain. If we bring the beavers back, we can solve our problem by working with nature."

After the three experts spoke, the Mayor asked the citizens of the town to think for a week and then vote for the best plan. Anna's father said, "That last guy is crazy. He thinks he can solve the flooding problem with beavers? Really, how silly."

Anna's mother looked very thoughtful. "You know, Fred," she said. "It's worth a try. What harm can it do? If workmen build just one concrete dam or a stone wall, it won't be as useful as several dams built by the beavers. And besides, beavers are very cute, and they build beautiful dams out of things they find in the forest. Concrete dams are not nearly as beautiful."

There was much whispering and discussing all over town until the final vote was cast. Anna secretly hoped that the beaver plan would win. She had always wanted to see a beaver in real life. Since Leith was in the countryside, and everyone in town loved nature and animals, Anna suspected that the rest of the town might be on her side. When the vote finally came in, Anna was proven right. They would bring in the beavers!

Over the next two years, scientists brought beavers in from other parts of Scotland, and set them free upstream and in the countryside around Leith. Everyone noticed a difference. It rained and rained, but the river did not even come close to overflowing because of three dams the busy beavers had already made. For her fourth grade field trip, Anna's teacher brought her class into the countryside to see the beavers at work. They watched in awe as the furry creatures hurried back and forth from the dam carrying twigs and bark in their claws.

Beavers almost seemed like furry, cute little people. Before they left, Anna and her classmates shouted out a loud "thank you" to their animal friends for saving their town.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What danger are the people of Leith worried about?

- A. a fire
- B. a flood
- C. a tornado
- D. an earthquake

2. The river is a problem for the people of Leith because it could overflow and flood their town. How do they solve this problem?

- A. They solve this problem by cancelling school and having helicopters lift people away.
- B. They solve this problem by building a concrete dam upstream.
- C. They solve this problem by building a high stone wall around their village.
- D. They solve this problem by bringing in beavers to build dams in the river.

3. Anna and her parents are worried about the river flooding their village because of the rain.

What sentence from the passage supports this statement?

- A. "Anna and her parents stayed glued to the television set, nervously listening to the weather reports."
- B. "Anna's father said, 'That last guy is crazy.'"
- C. "Anna's mother looked very thoughtful."
- D. "Since Leith was in the countryside, and everyone in town loved nature and animals, Anna suspected that the rest of the town might be on her side."

4. How can the plan to use beavers to prevent flooding in Leith be described?

- A. foolish
- B. dangerous
- C. impossible
- D. successful

5. What is this story mainly about?

- A. a girl who watches weather reports on television and reads detective stories during the rain
- B. two parents who are worried about their daughter not being able to attend school because of the weather
- C. the danger that villagers face from a river and what they do about that danger
- D. the reason that there are no longer thousands of beavers roaming the British countryside

6. Read the following sentences: "The beaver builds **dams** in the rivers out of sticks, and mud and leaves. These dams are strong enough to stop a river from flooding in heavy rain."

What does the word **dams** mean?

- A. high stone walls that go all the way around a town
- B. structures that hold back the flow of water
- C. pools used by beavers to play in and trap fish
- D. high levels of water that sometimes cause flooding

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Bringing in beavers turns out to prevent the river from flooding _____ the idea seems crazy to some villagers at first.

- A. although
- B. because
- C. before
- D. especially

8. What is the first idea for preventing the river from flooding that is shared at the Mayor's meeting?

9. What are two reasons that Anna's mother gives in support of beaver dams over a concrete dam?

10. Think about the danger of flooding that the people of Leith faced. Would building a concrete dam have been a better or worse solution to that problem than bringing in beavers to build dams? Support your answer with evidence from the passage.

Brothers

by ReadWorks



Joseph had run away.

Philip could tell his mother was worried by the way she paced up and down the kitchen floor, twisting her hair into knots, while speaking softly into the telephone. "I don't know where he went," she whispered. She shot Philip a sidelong look that seemed to say, "Don't worry," then smiled as if this was just a normal, routine phone call. "No, we didn't get into a fight. There wasn't..." She left the kitchen, glancing quickly at the clock. Philip was going to be late for school.

Philip pushed his cereal around the bowl with his spoon. Joseph hated living at home. "I'm an old soul," he would sing to their mother whenever she asked him to clean the dishes or put away his laundry. "I can't be tethered," he'd sing, until their mother would laugh. "Joseph," she'd say, exasperated.

Joseph was nearly six years older than Philip and was what their mother called "a troublemaker." Philip had a loose understanding of what it meant to be a "troublemaker." It was someone who stayed out past curfew, lied, ran away, and hung around with "a bad

crowd." Philip had met this crowd, and he didn't think they were bad at all. In fact, he liked Joseph's friends. Whenever they saw him, they shook his hand like he was a grown man and not somebody's kid brother.

Last summer, Philip broke his arm playing baseball. That wasn't exactly true, when Philip came to think of it, but it was what he had told Joseph's friends when they saw the cast on his arm. They had given him the nickname "Captain" after that, and Laura, Joseph's girlfriend, always asked him, "Have you been drafted yet?"

Philip hadn't wanted to play baseball at all that summer. He had wanted to join the swim team, but his father said swimming wasn't a sport. Philip knew better than to argue with his dad and so he agreed. He hadn't realized that his baseball coach had stuck him in the outfield because he was a bad player, and that the coach didn't expect anyone to hit a ball that far into the field.

After dinner one night, Philip heard his dad explain it to his mother. "Philip's the worst player on the team. They put him in the outfield so he doesn't mess it up for the rest of the team," he'd said. He didn't know Philip could hear him. Joseph, who was sitting next to Philip, had nudged him, then squeezed his shoulder. "Don't sweat it, kid," he had said. "There's always something better out there."

Philip had broken his arm the day a fly ball-the only one of the game-soared into the sky right above his head. Philip hadn't been paying attention to the game, but suddenly he heard everyone calling his name. He saw the small black dot blot out the sun, and he raised his left hand high into the air and shut his eyes. He felt the ball land heavily in his glove. He was surprised by its weight. His hand was sore.

He ran back toward the mound, proud for the first time all season that he had helped his team. He wasn't looking where he was going and didn't notice the small rock hidden in the green of the outfield until his foot caught against it. Suddenly, he was soaring into the air. And then, just as quickly, he came crashing down, his arm outstretched, snapping as it hit the ground.

He had cried, knowing that his father would be disappointed and that he wouldn't be able to swim again until next summer.

Joseph had taken him out for ice cream.

"You know, there's a lot more to life than baseball," Joseph had said. "Take me. I wasn't meant for some crummy two-star town."

Philip had smiled, agreeing. He wasn't sure what Joseph meant by "two-star," but he knew that Joseph wanted life to move fast and hard.

"Someday, I'm gonna wipe the stain of this town from my boots, and really make it. You know, see the world, get famous, make money. And I'm going to do it my way."

Philip sat quietly. "You'll say goodbye before you go, right?" he asked.

Joseph laughed. "You're really something, you know that?"

When Philip thought about it, he realized that Joseph had never really answered him. They'd left the ice cream store and walked home, and Joseph had never mentioned leaving again.

By now, Philip's cereal had gone soft. It was inedible. His mother was organizing the cabinets. "You know, your brother's really done it this time," she said. She ran her fingers through her hair, sighing deeply.

"I'm an old soul," Philip sang. "I can't be tethered."

His mother smiled. She looked at the clock.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What has caused Philip's mother to worry at the beginning of the text?

- A. Joseph has fought with his mother.
- B. Philip has broken his arm.
- C. Joseph has run away.
- D. Joseph has stayed out past curfew.

2. What main problem does Joseph face in this story?

- A. Joseph breaks his arm.
- B. Joseph hates living at home.
- C. Joseph disappoints his father.
- D. Joseph does not want to play baseball.

3. Joseph thinks his family's town is holding him back from achieving his dreams and goals. What evidence from the text best supports this conclusion?

- A. "Philip had smiled, agreeing. He wasn't sure what Joseph meant by 'two-star' but he knew that Joseph wanted life to move fast and hard."
- B. "Someday, I'm gonna wipe the stain of this town from my boots, and really make it. You know, see the world, get famous, make money."
- C. "Joseph...had nudged him, then squeezed his shoulder. 'Don't sweat it, kid,' he had said. 'There's always something better out there.'"
- D. "'I'm an old soul,' he would sing to their mother whenever she asked him to clean the dishes or put away his laundry. 'I can't be tethered.'"

4. Based on the information in the text, how does Philip feel about his brother Joseph?

- A. Philip is annoyed by Joseph's behavior.
- B. Philip is disappointed in Joseph.
- C. Philip thinks that Joseph is a troublemaker.
- D. Philip cares for Joseph and looks up to him.

5. What is the main idea of the text?

- A. Philip wants to join the swim team but is forced to play baseball.
- B. Philip's "troublemaker" brother Joseph has run away.
- C. Philip's father is disappointed that he is not good at baseball.
- D. Philip catches a fly ball during a baseball game.

6. The author of the text first writes that Joseph has run away. Then the author goes back in time to the previous summer and writes about the day Philip broke his arm, and the conversation the two brothers had. Then the author returns to the day Joseph has run away from home.

Why might the author have included the part of the story about the day Philip broke his arm and the conversation the two brothers had?

- A. to show the reader that Philip does not want to disappoint his brother Joseph
- B. to make the plot more confusing by jumping between time periods
- C. to explain why Joseph's mother thought he was a troublemaker
- D. to show the reader how Philip may feel about Joseph running away

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

Philip asks his brother if he will say goodbye before he leaves town; _____, Joseph simply laughs and does not answer the question.

- A. however
- B. therefore
- C. for instance
- D. especially

8. When Joseph tells Philip he plans to leave town someday, what does Philip ask?

9. How does Joseph help his brother Philip? Give at least one example from the text to support your answer.

10. Is Joseph a good older brother to Philip? Support your argument with evidence from the text.

Casey at the Bat

by Ernest Lawrence Thayer

The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Mudville nine that day;
The score stood four to two with but one inning more to play.
And then when Cooney died at first, and Barrows did the same,
A sickly silence fell upon the patrons of the game.

A straggling few got up to go in deep despair. 5
The rest Clung to that hope which springs eternal in the human breast;
They thought if only Casey could but get a whack at that-
We'd put up even money now with Casey at the bat.

But Flynn preceded Casey, as did also Jimmy Blake, 10
And the former was a lulu and the latter was a cake;
So upon that stricken multitude grim melancholy sat,
For there seemed but little chance of Casey's getting to the bat.

But Flynn let drive a single, to the wonderment of all,
And Blake, the much despised, tore the cover off the ball;
And when the dust had lifted, and men saw what had occurred, 15
There was Jimmy safe at second and Flynn a-hugging third.

Then from 5,000 throats and more there rose a lusty yell;
It rumbled through the valley, it rattled in the dell;
It knocked upon the mountain and recoiled upon the flat,
For Casey, mighty Casey, was advancing to the bat. 20

There was ease in Casey's manner as he stepped into his place;
There was pride in Casey's bearing and a smile on Casey's face.
And when, responding to the cheers, he lightly doffed his hat,
No stranger in the crowd could doubt 'twas Casey at the bat.

Ten thousand eyes were on him as he rubbed his hands with dirt; 25
Five thousand tongues applauded when he wiped them on his shirt.
Then while the writhing pitcher ground the ball into his hip,
Defiance gleamed in Casey's eye, a sneer curled Casey's lip.

And now the leather-covered sphere came hurtling through the air,

And Casey stood a-watching it in haughty grandeur there. 30
Close by the sturdy batsman the ball unheeded sped-
"That ain't my style," said Casey. "Strike one," the umpire said.

From the benches, black with people, there went up a muffled roar,
Like the beating of the storm-waves on a stern and distant shore.
"Kill him! Kill the umpire!" shouted some one on the stand; 35
And it's likely they'd have killed him had not Casey raised his hand.

With a smile of Christian charity great Casey's visage shone;
He stilled the rising tumult; he bade the game go on;
He signaled to the pitcher, and once more the spheroid flew;
But Casey still ignored it, and the umpire said, "Strike two." 40

"Fraud!" cried the maddened thousands, and echo answered fraud;
But one scornful look from Casey and the audience was awed.
They saw his face grow stern and cold, they saw his muscles strain,
And they knew that Casey wouldn't let that ball go by again.

The sneer is gone from Casey's lip, his teeth are clinched in hate; 45
He pounds with cruel violence his bat upon the plate.
And now the pitcher holds the ball, and now he lets it go,
And now the air is shattered by the force of Casey's blow.

Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright;
The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light, 50
And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout;
But there is no joy in Mudville-mighty Casey has struck out.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is the crowd in Mudville watching?

- A. a TV show
- B. a play
- C. a movie
- D. a game

2. What is the climax of this poem?

- A. when Jimmy and Flynn get to second and third base (lines 13-16)
- B. when Casey stepped up to bat (lines 21-24)
- C. when Casey lets the first ball pass without swinging at it (lines 29-32)
- D. when Casey is taking a swing at the third ball (lines 45-48)

3. The people watching the baseball game felt that Casey could help the Mudville team win the game.

Which lines from the poem best support this conclusion?

- A. lines 1-4
- B. lines 5-8
- C. lines 13-16
- D. lines 29-32

4. Read lines 21-28 of the poem. How does Casey probably feel when he first steps up to bat?

- A. confident
- B. shy
- C. sleepy
- D. worried

5. What is the main idea of this poem?

- A. The people of Mudville think that Casey will lose the baseball game for his team, and Casey does lose the game.
- B. The people of Mudville think that Casey will lose the baseball game for his team, but Casey wins the game instead.
- C. The people of Mudville are sure that Casey will win the baseball game for his team, and Casey does win the game.
- D. The people of Mudville are sure that Casey will win the baseball game for his team, but Casey loses the game instead.

6. In the first half of the poem, the poet uses many similar phrases like "Casey at the bat" (line 8, line 24), "Casey getting to the bat" (line 12), and "Casey, mighty Casey, was advancing to the bat" (line 20). Why might the poet have used such similar phrases over and over?

- A. to show the reader that Casey is a very good baseball player
- B. to suggest that the people watching the game do not want Casey to bat
- C. to hint that Casey often bats during baseball games
- D. to make the reader get excited about Casey coming to bat

7. Read these stanzas from the poem.

"Fraud!" cried the maddened thousands, and echo answered
fraud;
But one scornful look from Casey, and the audience was awed.
They saw his face grow stern and cold, they saw his muscles
strain,
And they knew that Casey wouldn't let that ball go by again.
The sneer is gone from Casey's lip, his teeth are clenched in hate;
He pounds with cruel violence his bat upon the plate.
And now the pitcher holds the ball, and now he lets it go,
And now the air is shattered by the force of Casey's blow.

In the second of these stanzas, the poet uses verbs in a different tense from all of the previous stanzas. How does the verb tense change between the previous stanzas and this second stanza?

- A. The previous stanzas were in past tense, and this stanza is in present tense.
- B. The previous stanzas were in present tense, and this stanza is in past tense.
- C. The previous stanzas were in future tense, and this stanza is in present tense.
- D. The previous stanzas were in present tense, and this stanza is in future tense.

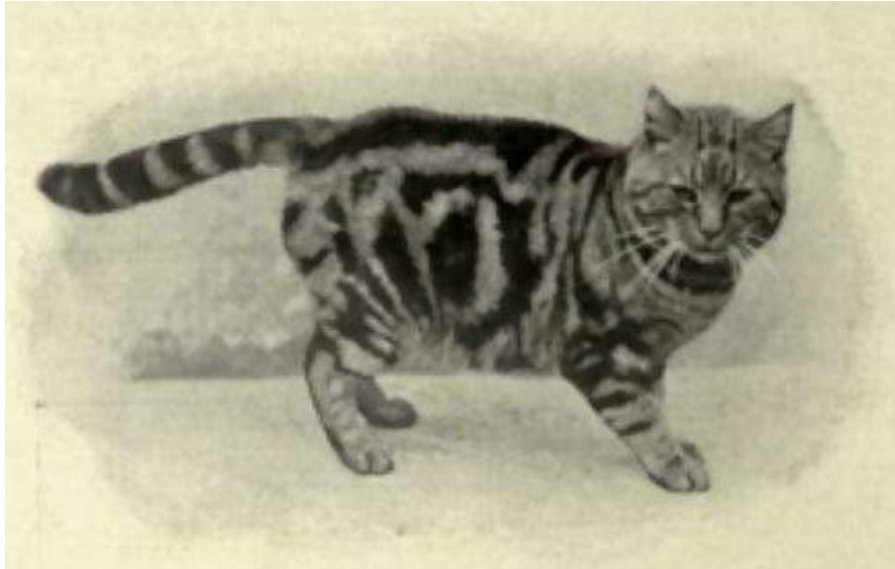
8. Why is there no joy in Mudville at the very end of the poem?

9. Describe how the people watching the game feel when Casey is at the bat. Use evidence from the poem to support your answer.

10. Suspense is the state of nervousness or excitement that comes from being unsure about something. How does this poem create a feeling of suspense? Use evidence from the poem to support your answer.

Cats Can Save the Day

by Daniel Scheffler



It was Saturday morning in the Da Silva household, and Bianca was daydreaming as she waited for her family to come down for breakfast. Her mind was filled with the things she learned at school that week and what she would do for the weekend. Her mind was so busy, and she had so many rushing thoughts, that she didn't see the neighbor's cat climb through the window. The next minute, the spotty cat was curling around Bianca's legs. Bianca, as if falling from the sky, snapped out of her daydream and saw the feline smiling up at her.

"Purr, purr, purr."

"Oh, hello, Mister Chopsticks! I have missed your little visits," Bianca exclaimed.

The cat reminded her of the visit to her grandmother in Portugal last summer. Granny Da Silva lives near the ocean in a small beach cottage and had four cats that were all the size of dogs. Bianca couldn't believe her eyes when she first saw them. The one, obviously the ruler of the lot, filled an entire comfy chair in her granny's lounge. Bianca tried to pick him up but he was just too heavy. His name was Pedro, and he just flopped down and rolled onto his back with his white tummy showing, ready for Bianca to give it a scratch.

Bianca's sister, mother, and father were allergic to cats. They would start sneezing and their eyes would water terribly. So the family was not allowed to have its own cats. Bianca loved the opportunity to pat Chopsticks. He came to visit often when her family wasn't around, searching for scraps and, of course, some loving. Bianca handed that out easily, as she just adored the little guy. She jumped up from her chair, and opened the enormous double door fridge to grab some of last night's chicken for the cat. Chopsticks knew what was coming, so he purred harder and looked very excited.

Bianca felt good to be able to love someone else's cat this way, and wondered if Chopsticks had the same kind of love from the neighbors. She never really saw the next-door neighbors so she couldn't imagine Chopsticks's life with them. As usual, Bianca started dreaming about what happened next door. She imagined the neighbors were at work all day and never home to look after the cat. She imagined Chopsticks's bowl to be overflowing with kibbles, poured into it just once a week, carelessly.

Bianca's daydreaming was always like this. She would start thinking about something and the next moment, minutes would have gone by, and she would totally have lost her bearings. Sometimes she would snap back to reality and have space travelled, or been at a concert in the park, or even swimming with sharks in the ocean. Her mother always told her to use her daydreams as inspiration for her drawings. Bianca had wanted to be an artist since a young age. When she was very little, she would make scribbles on everything, always scribbling wherever she could. Now that she was older, she started to draw her daydreams with some amazing results.

Her creative energy was flowing, and her brain was still, as if in meditation, when she was drawing. After daydreaming, she would head to her tiny bedroom and lie on the floor listening to the radio, just drawing for hours, with no breaks-not even to eat. She used colors and pencils and paints, and whatever she could find. For her it was sheer bliss. She never felt so alive as when she was expressing this creative vigor in her.

Chopsticks was a big inspiration to her, and she started drawing comics where Chopsticks was the hero and would have to save the neighboring cats from disaster. Sometimes Chopsticks, in the green cape she designed for him, would have to rescue some young kittens from a burning building, or even a female cat that got stuck up in a tree. She took Chopsticks on these crazy adventures that she drew stories of, and that was her favorite thing to do in the whole world.

"I wonder what will be your next adventure, Chopsticks?" said Bianca.

The cat just purred as he ate his pieces of chicken from the saucer Bianca had put down for him. She was thinking how Chopsticks could be happy from getting just a tidbit of chicken, and how he looked totally satisfied.

Bianca poured some milk and cereal into a bowl for herself. She had waited for too long now; her family was obviously still sleeping with no intention of getting up so early. She pulled out some paper and started drawing with colored pencils. She started dreaming up a whole new storyline for Chopsticks. First she was going to give him a brand new suit, not just a cape.

Chopsticks suddenly became Captain Chopsticks in Bianca's drawings, and she filled pages and pages of him flying all over the world, helping fellow cats. Bianca laughed out loud as she drew some booties for Captain Chopsticks-she had decided a superhero cat needed to have protection for his little paws. She made them silvery and shiny; leather boots that looked like they could propel the cat into the space age, or at least up to the moon.

Captain Chopsticks was on the Great Wall of China helping cats stuck out in the rain, and he was in Australia running next to kangaroos to bring home a litter of kittens. The hero was all around the globe, even in the Amazon, saving a bunch of adventure-seeking cats stuck on a little canoe. And so the

drawings went on. Bianca had endless ideas, and they just came to her as she was sitting in the brightly lit kitchen.

Bianca started to question whether she would like to live a similar life, like Captain Chopsticks, and travel the world saving people. And that led her to the next daydream of her in a superhero suit flying across the world saving people in distress.

"That's a funny image, Chopsticks-me, in a tight pink Lycra suit!" Bianca laughed.

But Chopsticks just licked his paws and stared at her. He stopped for a moment as if to laugh with her, but he didn't in the end. He just continued to lick himself clean.

"Well thanks for the comments, Chopsticks," Bianca said to the cat.

"Who are you talking to?" Bianca's father said, suddenly.

"Oh, no one. I was just drawing," said Bianca.

Chopsticks quickly jumped out the window and made himself scarce. He knew that Bianca might adore him, but the rest of the family not as much. Bianca finished her cereal, and kept drawing as her father peered over her shoulder looking at her work.

"I can't believe how amazing your drawings are, my girl," he said.

"Thank you," Bianca replied.

"Where do you get the inspiration for this Captain Chopsticks? He looks like a real action hero star," he said.

"Oh you know, from cats stuck in memory," Bianca said with a little smile.

The family suddenly all came down, and Bianca moved her drawings aside to spend time with everyone. Coffee and croissants were going around the table as everyone laughed and chatted about the perfect weekend ahead. Bianca listened for a second, but almost immediately went back into her daydream.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is Chopsticks?

- A. Chopsticks is a kangaroo in Australia.
- B. Chopsticks is a cat that visits Bianca.
- C. Chopsticks is a cat that lives with Granny Da Silva.
- D. Chopsticks is a kitten in a burning building.

2. When in the story does Bianca daydream?

- A. in the beginning of the story ONLY
- B. in the middle of the story ONLY
- C. in the beginning and end of the story ONLY
- D. in the beginning, middle, and end of the story

3. Bianca daydreams a lot.

What evidence from the passage supports this statement?

- A. Bianca daydreams about what happens next door and dreams up a new storyline for Chopsticks.
- B. Bianca cannot believe her eyes when she sees how big Granny Da Silva's cats are.
- C. Bianca's sister, mother, and father are allergic to cats, so her family does not have any cats.
- D. After Chopsticks arrives, Bianca jumps up from her chair and opens the fridge to grab some chicken for the cat.

4. What might be one reason that Bianca's drawings are amazing?

- A. She loves the opportunity to pat Chopsticks.
- B. She is waiting for her family to come down for breakfast.
- C. She has drawn a lot ever since she was little.
- D. She visited her grandmother in Portugal last summer.

5. What is a theme of this story?

- A. the pains and struggles of growing up
- B. the importance of choosing your friends carefully
- C. the importance of a good education
- D. the connections between life and art

6. Read the following sentence: "She started **dreaming up** a whole new storyline for Chopsticks. First she was going to give him a brand new suit, not just a cape."

What does the phrase **dreaming up** mean?

- A. burning or setting on fire
- B. making food or cooking
- C. making up or imagining
- D. cleaning up or organizing

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

First, Bianca daydreams about Chopsticks saving others; _____, she daydreams about herself saving others.

- A. next
- B. earlier
- C. such as
- D. primarily

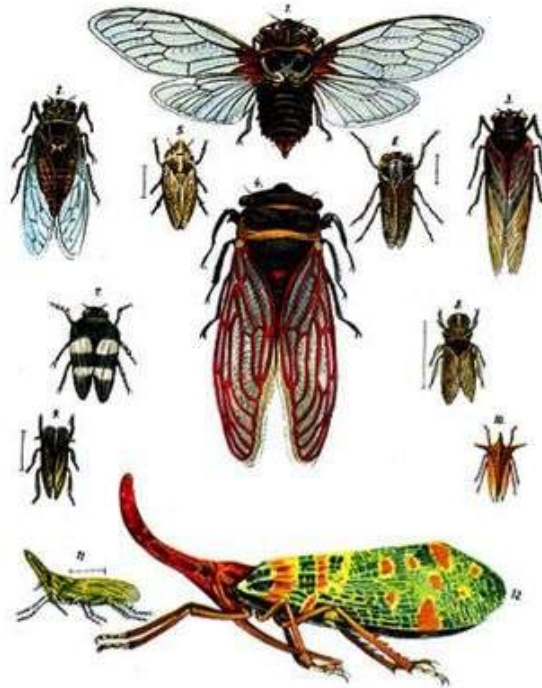
8. Name two things that Bianca daydreams about.

9. What does Bianca draw?

10. How are daydreams a link, or connection, between Bianca's life and her drawings? Explain your answer with evidence from the passage.

Cicadas: No Ordinary Bugs

by ReadWorks



1. Eichenzikade (*Cicada plebeja*). 2. Mannzikade (*Cicada orn.*).
 3. Siebzehnjährige Zikade (*Cicada septendecim*). 4. Prachtzikade (*Cicada speciosa*).
 5. Weidenbaumzikade (*Aphrophora salicis*). 6. Mäuerzikade (*Cisim nervosus*).
 7. Gebänderte Stierzikade (*Cercopis bittata*). 8. Oberzikade (*Leidia aurita*).
 9. Dornzirpe (*Centrotus cornutus*). 10. Langhornzikade (*Triquetra grossa*).
 11. Europäischer Laternenträger (*Diptyophora europea*).
 12. Chinesischer Laternenträger (*Fulgora candelaria*).

Cicadas are not ordinary bugs. They live in groups known as broods, which are like families. Every brood has a different cycle and stays in the same area for life.

Cicada broods are found all over the world. Each one is assigned a roman numeral. Depending on their broods, cicadas have different life cycles. In the United States, there are 15 different broods. Most of them are on a 17-year cycle. However, three have a 13-year cycle.

Most of their lives are spent deep underground. Once they are almost fully grown, cicadas crawl up to the earth's surface and emerge above ground to mate. After hurriedly mating and laying eggs for the next generation, they die soon thereafter.

With their large, red, fiery eyes, cicadas might look scary. Yet they are harmless. They can't sting or bite. Like all insects, they have three body parts: the head, thorax, and abdomen. They have short, bristly antennae. Their bodies are generally dark-colored. Sometimes their clear wings have orange veins. Adult cicadas grow to about one to two inches long and have six jointed legs. They are some of the noisiest creatures on earth.

The reason that cicadas are so noisy is the male bugs call out to the females to attract a mate. It's a competition where each male tries to call louder than other males. When a whole brood sings at the same time, the large chorus can sound like a roar.

Female cicadas stay busy laying their eggs in trees. A single Brood II female can produce as many as 600 eggs. Once the eggs drop to the ground, young cicadas, known as nymphs, are born. Soon after, the baby nymphs travel within the earth for nourishment. They dig as far as two feet deep and stay underground until they are almost mature enough to mate.

Brood II and Brood X cicadas keep growing beneath the earth until the spring of their 17th year. Then they start to crawl back to the surface. To prepare for their return above ground, the nymphs build small cones, like tunnels, that stick above the soil. Soon after they reach the surface, the nymphs shed their skins to grow larger. This process is called molting, and it transforms the nymphs into adults, ready to mate. But shortly after reproducing, they die. Their young dig into the earth, only to emerge in another 17 years. So the cycle repeats again and again.

In 1970, cicadas from Brood X invaded Princeton, New Jersey. When the famous songwriter Bob Dylan was awarded a special degree at Princeton University, the bugs were so noisy the musician wrote a song about them. Since he thought he was hearing locusts, he called the song "Day of the Locusts." Here are some of the words to the song:

As I stepped to the stage to pick up my degree

And the locusts sang off in the distance

Yeah the locusts sang such a sweet melody

One of the last appearances of Brood X was during 1987 in Princeton. Then they emerged again in 2004. Brood X is found in American states, including Illinois, Michigan, New York, and Georgia. Cicadas have "a tendency to be homebodies and do not travel far beyond the region in which they come out," said Princeton ecology professor Henry Horn.

Most cicadas on the east coast of the United States belong to Brood II. They live in an area that stretches from Connecticut in the North down to North Carolina in the South. Brood II last appeared in 2013. In northern states such as New Jersey, this happens around early June when the temperature warms up to about 64 degrees. Once the nymphs crawl out above ground, they find a leaf on which to perch. Then they transform and turn into winged adults capable of flying around and reproducing.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Where do cicadas spend most of their lives?

- A. in trees
- B. on the ground
- C. underground
- D. in bushes

2. Which of the following shows the correct sequence of events in the lives of Brood II cicadas as described in the passage?

- A. Next generation hatches; young cicadas emerge from underground; adults mate and lay eggs; nymphs transform into winged adults; adults die.
- B. Nymphs make their way to the surface of the earth; nymphs transform into winged adults; adults mate and lay eggs; adults die.
- C. Nymphs transform into winged adults; adults mate and lay eggs; next generation hatches; young cicadas emerge from underground; adults die.
- D. Adults die; next generation hatches; adults mate and lay eggs; young cicadas emerge from underground; nymphs transform into winged adults.

3. Read the following sentences from the text:

"The reason that cicadas are so noisy is the male bugs call out to the females to attract a mate. It's a competition where each male tries to call louder than other males."

What can be concluded about female cicadas based on this information?

- A. Female cicadas choose mates that have the loudest call.
- B. Female cicadas are louder than male cicadas.
- C. Female cicadas choose mates that have the largest abdomen.
- D. Female cicadas choose mates that prove themselves to be the strongest.

4. Which of the following conclusions about cicada broods is supported by the passage?

- A. All cicada broods emerge from the ground at the same time.
- B. We cannot accurately predict when a cicada brood will emerge.
- C. Broods on a 13-year cycle are larger than broods on a 17-year cycle.
- D. Different broods on 17-year cycles can emerge at different times.

5. What is this passage mostly about?

- A. cicada broods around the world
- B. how cicadas help plant life
- C. the life cycle of cicadas
- D. Bob Dylan's "Day of the Locusts"

6. Read the following sentences:

"Most of their lives are spent deep underground. Once they are almost fully grown, cicadas crawl up to the earth's surface and **emerge** above ground to mate. After hurriedly mating and laying eggs for the next generation, they die soon thereafter.."

What does "**emerge**" mean?

- A. grow bigger
- B. transform
- C. hide under
- D. come out

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Male cicadas call out to female cicadas to attract a mate, and each male tries to call louder than the next. _____, a brood of cicadas can be extremely noisy.

- A. As a result
- B. Although
- C. For example
- D. Previously

8. How long is the life cycle of Brood X?

9. Describe the life cycle of a Brood X cicada.

10. Based on the text, explain why cicadas spend most of their lives underground. Use information from the text to support your answer.

Name:

Date:

Grade 5 Mathematics Homework • Add and Subtract Decimals

Estimate the sum or difference and then solve.

$$9.52 + 7.96 =$$

$$52.4 - 19.8 =$$

Estimate:

What strategy did you use to estimate?

Actual:

Estimate:

What strategy did you use to estimate?

Actual:

Rodney estimated $17.98 - 9.2$ is about 8. Is his estimate reasonable? Explain why or why not.

Name:

Date:

Grade 5 Mathematics Homework • Read, Write, and Compare Decimals to the Thousandths Place

1. Which is greater 0.045 or 0.405? Explain your thinking.

2. Circle the greatest value in each row:

a. 231.23

23.321

2.331

b. 7.456

7.45

7.465

c. 1.103

1.032

1.23

Name:

Date:

Grade 5 Mathematics Homework • Rounding Decimals

Write 3 numbers that round to 2.8

Choose one decimal above and explain why it rounds to 2.8

Circle the numbers below that round to 17.3

17.34

17.254

17.18

17.28

17.219

17.318

17.355

17.309

17.25

Name:

Date:

Grade 5 Mathematics Homework • Add and Subtract Decimals

Estimate the sum and then solve.

$$2.45 + 13.68 =$$

Estimate:

What strategy did you use to estimate?

Actual:

$$45.31 + 7.8 =$$

Estimate:

What strategy did you use to estimate?

Actual:

Estimate the difference and then solve.

$$64.5 - 19.38 =$$

Estimate:

What strategy did you use to estimate?

Actual:

$$45.31 - 7.8 =$$

Estimate:

What strategy did you use to estimate?

Actual:

Name:

Date:

Grade 5 Mathematics Homework • Multiplying with Partial Products

Ann is trying to multiply $3,450 \times 6$. She thinks she can decompose 3,450 into other numbers and multiply each of them by 6.

Show how Ann might decompose the number to find the product of $3,450 \times 6$.

Does Ann's idea work with other factors?

Choose one of the problems below to show if it works.

$$368 \times 4$$

$$279 \times 5$$

$$620 \times 6$$