



# Dear Upcoming 6th-Graders

Congratulations! By reading this letter, you have officially been promoted to 6th grade. In August, you will embark on an exciting new academic journey. Before starting 6th grade, you will practice and maintain several key skills this summer.

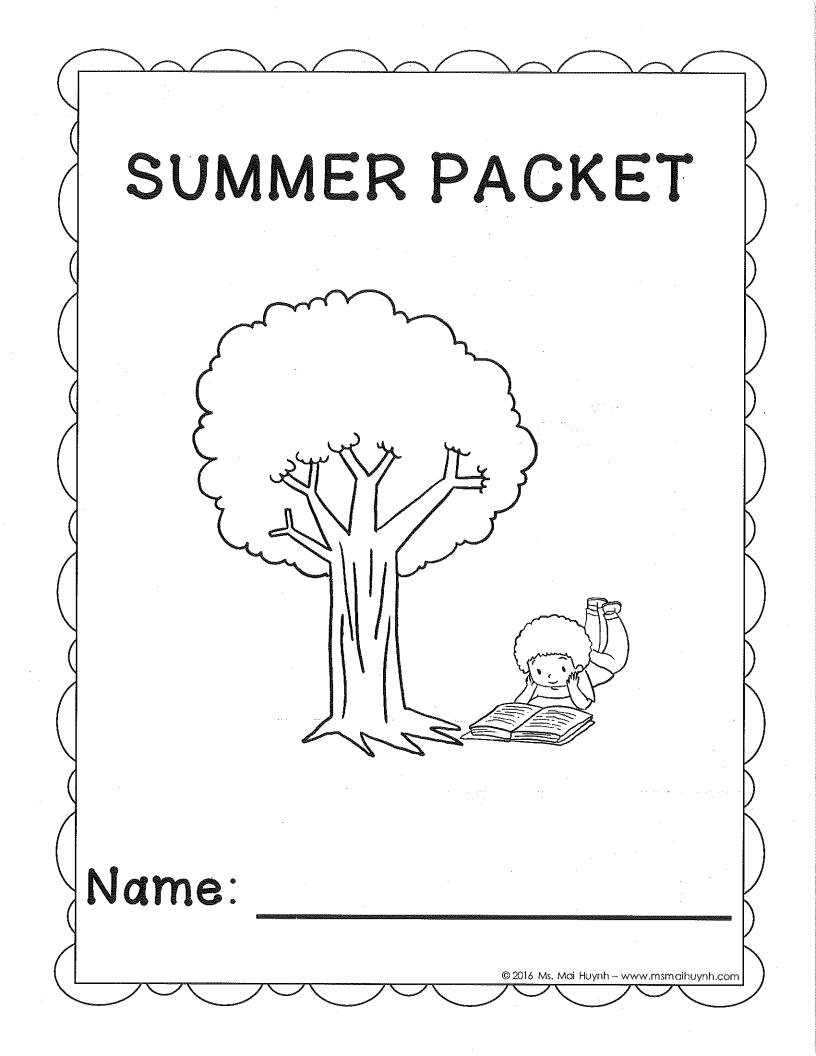
Students will complete a summer packet covering Math, Reading, and Language. All students must hand in their completed packets on the first day of school. These packets will be graded and the results will be posted to the school's online portal.

Additionally, parents are required to purchase a specific book for students to read and discuss in class during the first week of the new school year.

Title of book to purchase:

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

4th, 5th, & 6th-Grade Teachers





Read the short story. Then answer each question.

## The Princess Who Never Smiled

Many long years ago, there was a Tsar in Russia. The Tsar had a beautiful daughter who grew more and more lovely every year. To keep her happy, the Tsar gave her everything she could want. She had the finest clothes, the most beautiful jewelry, the most delicious food, and the best entertainment. Still, the princess never smiled. This pained the Tsar, and each night he asked, "Are you happy, my dear?"

"Yes, Father. I am very happy," the princess replied.

The Tsar did not believe her. After all, happy people smiled, and the princess never did.

After years and years of watching his beautiful daughter's sad face, the Tsar announced that whoever made her smile would have her hand in marriage.



Young men came from all over Russia.

A clown dressed in colorful stripes and polka-dots juggled glasses filled with water. The princess didn't smile.

A troupe of actors performed a skit dressed as donkeys. The princess did not smile.

A comedian told jokes dressed as a giant chicken. The princess didn't smile.

The Tsar looked on with tears in his eyes. Would anyone ever be able to make his beautiful daughter smile?

The seasons passed. The birds sang in the spring. The crops grew in the summer. Gorgeous colors stretched as far as the eye could see in the autumn. Snow covered the land and shown like crystals in the winter.

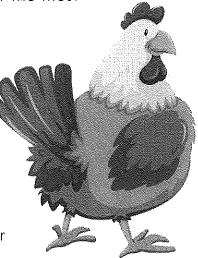


Still, the princess did not smile.

The Tsar did not know what else to do. Young men continued to come to the palace. Some brought sparkling jewels and laid them at the princess's feet. Some brought gowns of the softest silk with the most delicate handmade lace. Others brought the fattest geese or the most delicious chickens. Still, the princess did not smile.

In a nearby village, a young man named Jack worked for a farmer. He plowed the fields. He cared for the animals. He repaired the barn. He constantly worked, and the farmer was pleased.

At the end of the year, the farmer called Jack into his house. A large bag of money sat on the table. "You've worked well this last year," the farmer said. "Take as much money as you would like." The farmer left the room.



Jack thought for a few moments, then he took a single coin. He was an honest man, after all, and he did not want to appear greedy.

Jack went to the town well for a sip of water. As he drank, the coin slipped out of his hand and tumbled into the water with a splash! The young man stared into the well for a long moment. Perhaps, I didn't work hard enough, he thought. That must be why I had such bad luck. He resolved to work harder the next year.

Meanwhile, more and more people came to the palace. A zookeeper brought a dancing bear. The king of a far-off country brought the princess a pet parrot that spoke three languages. A falconer had his birds perform an aerial dance. Still, the princess did not smile.

The seasons passed again. Jack planted the corn in spring. He cared for it throughout the summer, and harvested it in the autumn, so the farmer had a full bin of corn by the time the snow sparkled in winter.

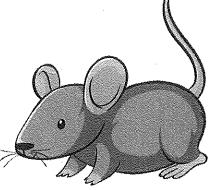


Once again, the farmer placed the money on the table and told the young man to take what he wanted and left the room. Again, Jack took a single coin so as not to be greedy. Again, the coin slipped from his hand and landed in the well with a *splash*! Again, the young man decided to work harder the following year, since he had such bad luck.

The third year came and went. Jack worked as hard as he could. He rarely slept. He rarely ate. He worked around the clock. At the end of the year, he took a single coin and went to drink at the well.

"Ah!" Jack cried.

The two coins from the previous years floated to the top of the water. Jack grabbed them and placed them in his pocket. "It is now time for me to see the world," he said, and he left the village.



Jack walked through a grassy field. The sun shone overhead and warmed him, so he stopped for a moment to enjoy its glow. A small mouse ran up to him as he stood with his eyes closed.

"Please, sir. Give me a coin, and I will help you."

Jack smiled down at the mouse and gave him the coin. The mouse scampered up the young man's leg and settled in his pocket.

Jack and the mouse continued their journey and soon came to a dense forest. The trees grew close together and kept the ground in darkness, and the creatures of the forest were unusually silent. Jack and the mouse proceeded carefully, but they soon met a beetle.

"Please, sir. Give me a coin, and I will help you."

Jack gave the beetle a coin, and the insect settled into Jack's hair. The group continued their way and soon came to a stream.

"Let's stop for a drink," Jack said. Mouse and Beetle agreed.



"Please, sir. Give me a coin, and I will help you."

Jack looked down to see a toad swimming at the edge of the water. He could not refuse, so he gave Toad his last coin. The toad joined Jack and his friends on their journey.

Jack soon came to the city. People bustled here and there. Horses filled the street. Voices shouted. The young man looked around, not sure where to go. At last, he noticed the Tsar's palace at the end of a long street and decided to go in that direction.

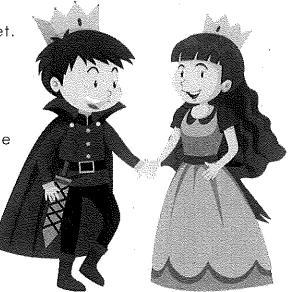
Jack dodged people throughout the city and soon stopped for a break in front of the Princess's window. He looked up and was shocked by her beauty.

Dizziness washed over Jack, and he fell into the mud in front of the castle. Toad dove into the puddle and gently flapped Jack's face to wake him. Beetle quickly cleaned Jack's boots, and Mouse took his coat to rid it of mud.

High above the street, the princess watched the small creatures take care of the young man. Their actions touched her heart. "He must be a very special man to inspire these creatures to care for him so well," she whispered, and she smiled.

"Look!" cried an old woman in the street. "The princess is smiling!"

A cry of joy went through the city, and the Tsar nearly burst with happiness. He had the guards bring Jack to the palace and treated him to a banquet. As the Tsar had promised, Jack and the princess were married. They lived happily ever after.





#### <u>Questions:</u>

1. In what country does the princess live?

2. What kinds of entertainment does the princess see?

- 3. Where does Jack work?
- 4. What creatures join Jack?
- 5. Why does the princess smile when she sees the creatures caring for Jack?
- 6. What can we learn from the story?

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math Review: Place Value

Review each number below. Color the box based on the place value of the underlined digit.

# Tenths: Blue

# Hundredths: Light Green

# **Thousandths: Dark Green**

4. <u>3</u> 8	17. <u>2</u> 4	75. <u>6</u>	57. <u>2</u> 5 7.5 <u>9</u>	2.7 <u>4</u> 3	6. <u>7</u> 08	4. <u>7</u> 12	.7 <u>8</u> 0	1.7 <u>1</u> 4	77.2 <u>7</u>
. <u>1</u> 30	. <u>7</u> 35	3. <u>8</u> 72	1.7 <u>8</u> 9	7.0 <u>2</u>	97. <u>8</u> 7	7 <u>.3</u> 42	21.0 <u>7</u>	.0 <u>3</u> 9	0.0 <u>3</u> 4
. <u>2</u> 08	. <u>3</u> 98	4. <u>4</u> 7 1.03 <u>2</u>	2.79 <u>9</u>	4.14 <u>2</u>	2.96 <u>6</u>	9.40 <u>2</u>	6.6 <u>5</u> 1	.8 <u>2</u> 1	12.1 <u>4</u> 5
10. <u>5</u>	3. <u>9</u> .91 <u>2</u>	.41 <u>3</u> 3.0 <u>5</u>	4.27 <u>5</u> 6.8 <u>1</u>	3.64 <u>4</u>	2.14 <u>2</u> 4.1 <u>9</u>	7.11 <u>4</u> .3 <u>6</u>	4.30 <u>2</u>	. <u>4</u> 6	. <u>9</u> 6
2. <u>3</u> 4	.63 <u>7</u>	.7 <u>9</u> 5.20 <u>5</u>	.1 <u>4</u> .05 <u>3</u>	1.3 <u>7</u> 5	.3 <u>3</u> 2 5.16 <u>4</u>	1.6 <u>4</u> 1 .71 <u>2</u>	.23 <u>6</u>	. <u>2</u> 02	. <u>4</u> 31
3. <u>5</u> 2.3 <u>4</u>	1.78 <u>2</u>	8.23 <u>5</u>	1.4 <u>3</u> 7	4.1 <u>4</u>	3.3 <u>8</u>	.23 <u>6</u>	1.23 <u>4</u>	2.1 <u>7</u>	1.3 <u>2</u>
2.7 <u>1</u>	.47 <u>8</u>	.27 <u>6</u> 8.3 <u>6</u>	1.07 <u>8</u> .3 <u>2</u>	43.8 <u>3</u>	.33 <u>3</u> .0 <u>3</u> 9	7.17 <u>5</u> 4.3 <u>7</u>	.27 <u>6</u>	23.7 <u>5</u>	4.7 <u>9</u> 22. <u>7</u> 9
14.7 <u>1</u> . <u>6</u> 8	1.11 <u>9</u> . <u>2</u> 2	.2 <u>3</u> .13 <u>2</u>	.8 <u>4</u> 9 .13 <u>2</u>	8.36 <u>3</u>	.7 <u>4</u> 1.00 <u>4</u>	2.1 <u>9</u> .09 <u>6</u>	.01 <u>1</u> 10. <u>0</u> 1	2. <u>5</u> 78	12. <u>6</u> 2
27. <u>6</u> 04	11. <u>6</u> 12	1.11 <u>1</u> 3. <u>1</u> 2	27.07 <u>8</u>	4.30 <u>6</u>	3.36 <u>4</u>	9.65 <u>2</u> 2.4 <u>6</u>	3.1 <u>4</u> 2	16. <u>2</u> 2	10. <u>9</u> 2
12. <u>5</u> 4	10. <u>2</u> 49	3. <u>4</u> 1 6.1 <u>4</u>	12.4 <u>1</u> 8	23.37 3. <u>2</u>	30. <u>2</u> 4	7. <u>4</u>	92. <u>6</u> 4	. <u>3</u> 42	14. <u>0</u> 05
			© 2	022 Performi	ng in Educatic	n, LLC		-	



# **Convert decimals to fractions.**

<sup>–</sup> Decimals Worksheet	1	•
Convert to fractions.		
1. 0.6 =	<sup>2.</sup> 0.2 =	
<sup>3.</sup> 0.95 =	<sup>4.</sup> 0.55 =	
<sup>5.</sup> 0.5 =	<sup>6.</sup> 0.66 =	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
7. 0.26 =	<sup>8.</sup> 0.02 =	
<sup>9.</sup> 0.8 =	<sup>10.</sup> 0.48 =	· · ·
<sup>11.</sup> 0.9 =	<sup>12.</sup> 0.17 =	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
<sup>13.</sup> 0.1 =	<sup>14.</sup> 0.3 =	
<sup>15.</sup> 0.29 =	<sup>16.</sup> 0.7 =	

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#### Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

### WRITING REVIEW

Directions: Circle all of the mistakes in this sentence.

## Did u c that gorgous sunset in the sky this evning.

Now, rewrite the sentence correctly:

Next, change the word sunset:

Finally, change the time of day:

Challenge: Change or add a word in the sentence to make it silly:



# **Order of operations**

Order of Operations Worksheet

Solve the following.

<sup>1)</sup>  $(40 + 14) \div 6 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>4)</sup> 35 + 6 × 30 - 23 =

<sup>7)</sup> 
$$24 \div 6 + 4 \times (3 + 6) =$$

<sup>9)</sup> 
$$(34 - 26) \times 3 - (20 - 8) \div 6 + 33 =$$
\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>10)</sup>  $6 \times 21 - 12 - 7 + 24 \div 3 - (33 + 12) =$ 

Reading & Math for K-5

Ν	а	n	n	e	:
* *	ч	• •		÷	•

## **SPELLING REVIEW**

Directions: Use these sight words to complete the activities below.

hundred while loud	brave e straight
Unscramble the words below:	Rewrite the words below:
ewilh	brave
erddnhu	hundred
udol	loud
vrbae	straight
tgstiarh	
Complete the sentence below with the corr <b>reflect quotient</b>	ect challenge word. night beach

The answer to a division problem is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_.

## **READING REVIEW**

#### FIRST DAY OF 6th GRADE By: A Thinker's Toolbox

Phillip was extremely nervous for the first day of middle school. He just moved from a different state and left all of his friends behind. Phillip was usually the smallest kid in his class and making friends never came easily to him. Jason was Phillip's only friend and he promised to keep in touch. How will I ever find a friend like Jason, Phillip thought. Starting a new school was a big deal to Phillip but starting middle school was even bigger. Despite his concerns, Phillip *mustered* up his courage and sat down in his homeroom class on his first day of 6<sup>th</sup> grade. A boy sat in the empty seat next to him and introduced himself as Brian. After talking for a bit, Phillip quickly realized that he and Brian had a lot in common. By the end of class, Phillip's concerns faded and he felt reassured that he would come to like his new school.

Directions: Read the passage above and then answer the following questions:

..

1. How does Phillip feel about 6<sup>th</sup> grade?

Why does Phillip feel that way?

2. What does *mustered* mean?

3. How did Phillip's feelings change in the story? How do you know?



## **Spelling word trails**

Spelling Worksheet

Unscramble each word, then find its trail of letters.

1.	k	У	i	t	b	]		
	i	b	0	С	k	1		
	b	۷	n	S	v	1		
	r	у	V	е	r			
		u	k	Z	t			
2.				-	r	7		
۷.	Х	У	g	j	f	~		
	а	X	n	h	b			
	l	е	i	е	n			
	w	х	r	е	С			
	z	р	е	r	d			
•	[	~~~~				7		
3.	f	W	r	е	V			
	I	s	I	d	0			
	u	t	d	u	<b> </b> .			
	i	0	i	t	u			
	f	n	а	r	у			
	F				r	'n		
4.	S	r	j	g	g			
	s	h	f	d.	е			
	v	m	i	е	n			
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5.	a	m	i	С.	р
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	а	ď	r	р	1
	W	р	w	0	s
	р	ŀ	0	h	q
6.	S	f	w	а	х
	р	q	d	S	е
	е	r.	e	S	r
	t	n	е	u	t
	у	n	е	0	W

7.	X	b	g	m	v
	h	а	f	r	g
	<u>y</u>	u <sup>-</sup>	s	u	n
	1	z	t	k	i
	<u>,</u> Z	m	r	а	t

8.	.b	I	u	v	h
	j	m	w	i	m
	j	f	$\mathbf{V}^{\dagger}$	S	x
	о	а	0	С	n
	S		n	S	i

otrynrlevaoiu nlrgee iceeeenrxp onwnssiic ineexma octrnve



# Adding decimals (1 decimal digit)

Find the sum. 1. $3.3 + 2.0 =$ 2. $8.9 + 4.2 =$ 3. $2.8 + 0.8 =$ 4. $8.7 + 1.6 =$ 5. $5.0 + 5.3 =$ 6. $4.1 + 6.5 =$ 7. $7.3 + 6.3 =$ 8. $9.6 + 0.7 =$ 9. $2.1 + 7.5 =$ 10. $7.7 + 9.2 =$ 11. $1.4 + 9.2 =$ 12. $8.2 + 4.9 =$	
3 $2.8 + 0.8 =$ 4. $8.7 + 1.6 =$ 5 $5.0 + 5.3 =$ 6. $4.1 + 6.5 =$ 7. $7.3 + 6.3 =$ 8. $9.6 + 0.7 =$ 9. $2.1 + 7.5 =$ 10. $7.7 + 9.2 =$	·
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9. 2.1 + 7.5 = 10. 7.7 + 9.2 =	
9. 2.1 + 7.5 = 10. 7.7 + 9.2 =	
11. 1.4 + 9.2 = 12. 8.2 + 4.9 =	
13. 3.7 + 5.9 = 14. 8.5 + 3.8 =	
15. 9.0 + 2.2 = 16. 5.2 + 8.8 =	
17. 1.0 + 1.5 = 18. 7.2 + 4.3 =	
19. 5.4 + 9.5 = 20. 1.9 + 9.1 =	



# **Convert mixed numbers to improper fractions**

Grade 5 Fractions Worksheet

Convert. <sup>1</sup> 1 $\frac{4}{9}$ =	<sup>2.</sup> 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ =	<sup>3.</sup> 3 $\frac{1}{6}$ =
<sup>4</sup> . $6\frac{4}{5} =$	<sup>5.</sup> $3\frac{7}{8} =$	<sup>6.</sup> $5\frac{3}{7} =$
<sup>7</sup> . 7 $\frac{4}{12} =$	<sup>8.</sup> $2\frac{1}{2} =$	<sup>9</sup> $7\frac{1}{2} =$
<sup>10.</sup> 10 $\frac{5}{8}$ =	<sup>11.</sup> $2\frac{1}{7} =$	<sup>12.</sup> $2\frac{1}{3} =$
$^{13.} 9 \frac{8}{11} =$	<sup>14.</sup> 1 $\frac{2}{4}$ =	<sup>15.</sup> 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ =
<sup>16.</sup> 3 $\frac{1}{10}$ =	<sup>17.</sup> 7 $\frac{3}{6} =$	<sup>18.</sup> $3\frac{5}{7} =$
<sup>19.</sup> 10 $\frac{3}{5}$ =	<sup>20.</sup> $2\frac{1}{10} =$	<sup>21.</sup> 4 $\frac{4}{6} =$

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Read the short story. Then answer each question.

## **Fossil Mystery**

"What is that?"

"It looks like a fossil."

"It looks part-human."

"It can't be..."

The archeologists all started talking at once. I listened to snippets from each of their conversations. The words "animal" and "human" were argued about, with half of us thinking it looked like one while the other half was thinking it looked like the other.



As the chatter started to dwindle, I spoke. "What if it's neither human nor animal? What if it's something we haven't discovered yet? Maybe even something from out of our world..."

There was silence as my **colleagues** digested what I was saying.

Frank said, "I think you might be right. It's not a dinosaur or any other animal we've encountered. It's not a human. What else could it be?"

The other scientists started talking with one another again. They were talking about tests they could run, and about species of animals they could look up to compare this fossil to. They began to head back to their laptops to begin researching.

Frank and I stayed behind. We continued to examine the fossil. It was hard to describe the creature that was fossilized. It was smaller than a human, but looked like it would have stood on two legs instead of four. Its head was large and it had 6 fingers on each hand, and 8 toes on each foot.



"Do you think it could have been a human from long ago?" Frank asked.

"Maybe, but I've never seen one with that many fingers and toes," I answered. "It could be a new animal species. Maybe it just looks like it would have stood on two legs, but it only looks like that because of the way it was fossilized. I really don't know."

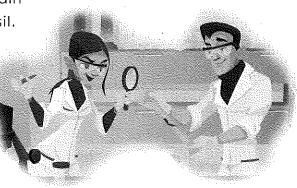
Frank and I headed back to our rooms to think it over and get some sleep.

The next morning, I rushed straight to the fossil. There were already other archaeologists there, with confused looks on their faces. As I headed closer, I began to see why. The fossil was different. It had changed overnight! Now it looked like a small bear.

"What happened?" I asked. No one had an answer. None of us could understand how a fossil we had dug up yesterday had just changed. We spent time examining it again. We took pictures and videos of it. We searched to see if anyone had ever come across a changing fossil. No one found anything that was helpful in solving our mystery. What kind of fossil was this?

When night fell, we set up a rotation to make sure two of us were with the fossil at all times. We wanted to make sure that someone wasn't playing a prank on us by switching fossils somehow. All was quiet for my watch, which was in the middle of the night.

In the morning, I went by the fossil to again find my colleagues puzzling over the fossil. It had changed again! No one had seen or heard anything on their watch. How and why did it keep changing? To this day, no one has found the answer to the mystery, but it is very interesting to see the creatures the fossil dreams up!





#### <u>Questions:</u>

1. Retell the story in your own words.

2. Is this short story fiction or nonfiction? How can you tell?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Create your own creature that the fossil might show next.

4. What does the word "colleagues" mean? How do you know?

5. Why do you think the fossil keeps changing?



# Subtracting decimals (1 or 2 decimal digits)

Fin	Decimals Worksheet d the difference.		
1.	0.90 - 0.08 =	2. 3.2 - 0.30 =	
3.	0.44 - 0.35 =	4. 9.6 - 7.5 =	
5.	6.0 - 5.6 =	6. 0.22 - 0.05 =	
7.	8.0 - 0.02 =	8. 9.1 - 0.26 =	
9.	8.7 - 2.1 =	10. 9.3 - 8.8 =	
			. *
11.	7.3 - 0.19 =	12 5.8 - 2.3 =	<u></u>
13.	8.0 - 2.4 =	14. 7.1 - 2.2 =	
15.	4.8 - 0.35 =	16. 0.85 - 0.4 =	1 
			· · ·
17.	3.6 - 0.31 =	18. 0.44 - 0.44 =	

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# **Spelling practice: education words**

3 Spelling Worksheet

Circle the word in each row that is spelled correctly. Cover it and write it again.



comprahension	comprehension	comprehention	
motiveit	motivate	motivaet	
evaluat	evaluaet	evaluate	
conclusion	conclution	canclusion	
examin	exammin	examine	
infarmation	inforrmation	information	
explaination	explanation	explenation	
creat	create	creaet	
focus	foccus	foceus	
curiculum	curriculum	curicculum	
asignment	assignmente	assignment	
resourses	resources	resorces	
assessment	asessment	asesmment	
colaboration	collabaretion	collaboration	
inclusive	innclusive	inclusiv	
acedemic	acedamic	academic	



Level T Reader

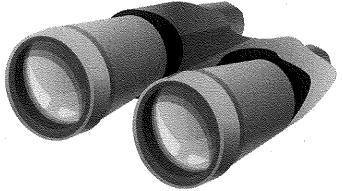
exhausted binoculars juvenile conceived procession refuge

# **Saving Thor**

"Are those seagulls?" Zeke asked, pointing to the top of the dikes.

Rania stopped pedaling and took her binoculars out of her backpack. "Not gulls. I'm not sure what they are, but they're pretty big. Maybe hawks? You take a look."

Zeke examined the birds through the binoculars. "They're young bald eagles, called juveniles. They don't get the white head feathers until they're adults."



As they watched, the two brown birds paced around on top of a cluster of boulders. Finally, they flew off, landing at the top of a dead tree overlooking the bay.

Zeke and Rania pushed their bikes to the top of the dike, and then looked down into the marsh grass. "Look!" Zeke cried. "There's another juvenile, and it looks like he is stuck."

As they got closer, they could see frayed yellow rope wrapped around one of the young eagle's legs, and it appeared as if the rope was caught between two massive boulders.

#### Level T Reader

# CE Lean Hig

"That's so sad," Rania said. "His friends are probably trying to help him."

Farther along the dike, the other two eagles flapped away from the dead tree they had been perched on, squawking and circling, before coming back to roost again on the same tree.

The stuck eagle looked up at them with eyes that did not look like fierce, eagle eyes. They looked defeated and exhausted.

"What's that place called where they rescue wild animals?" Zeke asked. "I saw a video of them rescuing an injured owl."

"Wildlife Refuge," Rania said. She dug her phone out of her backpack. After several rings, someone answered. "Wildlife Refuge. How may I help you?"

"We're out on the dikes near Canning, and I think we found a juvenile bald eagle," Rania said. "He has rope wrapped around one leg, and the rope is trapped between some rocks."

Rania answered a few questions and hung up. "Somebody will be here within the hour. Guess we'll wait and keep this guy company. Let's give him a name. How about Thorondor, like in The Lord of the Rings?"

Zeke shrugged. "How about just Thor, like in the comics?"

"Sure," Rania said, looking sadly at the eagle. "Hey, Thor. Hang in there, buddy. Help is coming."

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## **Ge**Lean Hing

Level T Reader

The eagle blinked, then launched himself into the air, only to have the rope pull him down, crashing back onto the rocks. The other eagles squawked.

"Oh my goodness, is he OK?" Rania asked. The teenagers were really worried that the eagle was going to hurt himself before the wildlife refuge people arrived. They looked around for help, but nobody was in sight. Rania kept talking to the eagle, telling him to be calm, but she knew he didn't understand.

It grew very quiet, and time seemed to be moving very slowly as they waited. Suddenly, Thor once again tried to join his friends, and once again was pulled back to the rock with a horrible sounding thud.

Zeke started to pull his shoes off. "I'm going to go down there and free him. All I have to do is pull the rope out from between those rocks, then Thor can fly away," said Zeke.

Rania knew immediately that that was a remarkably poorly conceived idea. Zeke's intentions were good, but his plan was bad. She looked flatly at Zeke and chose her words carefully. "Zeke, if you climb down to those rocks, Thor isn't going to understand that you are coming to help him. He is going



to be really scared. He'll probably hurt himself even worse, trying to get away from you. And if you get close, do you think Thor is just going to sit there and let you tug on the rope? Look at his beak and his claws. He is a wild animal. He's going to defend himself."

# **CE**Lean Ang

Just then Thor let out another screechy, troubled squawk.

"We can't just sit here and not do anything. Look at him," Zeke replied, undecided on what to do, as he hesitated for a moment and then continued to pull off his second shoe.

A low rumbling made them look toward the entrance to the dike road. Both teenagers were relieved to see a truck pull up next to their bikes. Zeke pulled his shoes back on.

A man and a woman got out, carrying what looked like a big dog crate. "Thanks for calling us," the woman said. "I'm Martha, and this is Ralph. Where is the little guy?"

"Thor," Rania said, pointing. "That's what we named him."



Ralph smiled. "Perfect strong name for such a majestic creature."

Martha and Ralph approached Thor cautiously, but the eagle barely moved, even as they got close to him.

"He looks exhausted," Martha said. "He may have been stuck here for quite some time." She held a blanket above Thor while Ralph cut the rope, and then together, they bundled the eagle up and carried him to the truck, gently placing him in the crate.

"Will he be okay?" Zeke asked.

## **CE**Lean Mag

"He doesn't seem to be injured," Ralph said. "But if he's been stuck for a while, he's probably pretty hungry. Don't worry, we'll get him fixed up in no time."

Zeke pointed to the other two eagles, watching from a distance. "We think those are his friends, or maybe siblings. When we showed up, they were trying to help him."

Ralph nodded, and he and Martha started to climb into their truck. "Thank you so much," Rania said through the open windows.

"No," Martha said. "Thank you for calling us. The two of you probably saved that eagle's life. Give us a call at the center in a few days, and we can let you know when Thor is ready to be released, and you can come and watch, if you like."

"Really?" Zeke said. "That would be awesome. I'd love to see him flying."

The other two eagles flew after the truck as Zeke and Rania got back on their bikes. "Do you think they'll follow the truck all the way to the Center?" Zeke asked.

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"Maybe, replied Martha. Maybe they will show up when Thor gets released. That would be way-cool."

"Maybe the eagles will bring us some medals for saving their friend," said Zeke, imaging a procession of bald eagles saluting him and Martha. CE Learn Hig

## Saving Thor (exercises)

1. Short Answer

What are young bald eagles called?

What kind of noise do eagles make?

What book is the name Thorondor from?

2. Rania gave 2 reasons why it would be a bad idea for Zeke to try to rescue the eagle himself. What were they? Can you think of a 3<sup>rd</sup> reason?

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# Write a paragraph describing the rescue from Thor's point of 3. view.