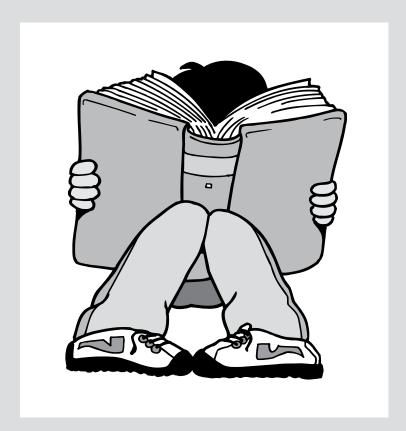
STUDENT TEST BOOKLET

6-8 Week Skills Assessments for Reading Comprehension and Fluency



GRADE 2 Weeks 6-18

Student Name _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

Buried Treasure

by Annie Gage

On the day we found the treasure, the air was cold. It had been raining a lot.

"Time to put the garden to bed, Amy," said Mama.

"Do we have to cover it with blankets?" I asked.

Mama smiled. "Sort of," she said. "We need to cover the garden with leaves."

I ran across the wet lawn. *Squish*, *squash*, *plosh*, said my boots in the soaking grass. Mama opened the shed. She balanced her big rake on the wheelbarrow. I put on my gardening gloves. Then I picked up my little rake.

Most of the leaves had fallen off our trees. Mama and I began raking. I used my hands and the rake to scoop up the leaves. I put the leaves into the wheelbarrow to join the pile Mama had started.

- 1. What does Mama mean when she says, "Time to put the garden to bed, Amy"? ○ A. The garden was wet. O B. They had to cover the garden with leaves.
- 2. Amy's boots squished in the **soaking** grass. What does **soaking** mean?

○ C. Leaves had fallen off the trees.

- O A. wet
- O B. cold

Whenever the wheelbarrow was full, Mama and I wheeled the load to the flower garden and dumped out the leaves. The piles were high! We spread them around. Every inch of dirt was covered.

After five trips from the trees to the flowerbeds, the lawn was bare. "Mama!" I said. "We've used up all the leaves under the trees!"

"Yes," Mama answered, "We still have the whole vegetable garden to tuck in for the winter. I wonder what we should do."

I looked around the neighborhood. Leaves had fallen onto the road. They lay clumped in the gutters. I pointed at them and asked, "Can we use those?"

Mama laughed. "Of course we can, Amy! What a great idea."

3.	Who	en the wheelbarrow was full, what did they do?
\bigcirc	B.	They walked around the neighborhood. They put the leaves in the flower garden. They played in the leaves.
4.		w many trips did Amy and Mama make from the sto the flowerbed?
\bigcirc	B.	seven five four
5.		ere did Amy and Mama get more leaves for the etable garden?
\bigcirc	B.	from the flowerbed from the trees from the gutters

Watching carefully for cars, we leaned over the curb. Then we raked the leaves out of the gutters. The leaves had been soaking in rainfall for so long they were mushy. A few times, a sour smell rose up from the rot.

"It's an icky smell for our noses," Mama said, "But it's a good smell for the yard. When leaves decompose in dirt, they help feed the soil."

When we got to the bottom of each leaf pile, our rakes scraped the concrete. The rakes made a loud scratching noise. That is when we found the treasure.

"Oh my goodness!" Mama shouted.

"What is it, Mama? Is something wrong? I asked.

"No, honey, something's right," she said.

I looked at the gutter. Under the soggy, rotten leaves were many earthworms. There were so many some had become tangled together in knots.

"Earthworms are good for the soil," Mama said.

"They make tunnels that help the earth get more oxygen."

6.	The	leaves smelled sour because
\bigcirc	B.	they were wet and rotten. they were dry. they were dirty.
7.	Mai	ma thought earthworms were helpful because they
\bigcirc	A.	can tangle in knots.
\bigcirc	B.	help the earth get oxygen.
\bigcirc	C.	live in the soil.

"Can we move the worms into our garden?" I asked.

"Good idea," said Mama. "They will make the soil even healthier for growing flowers and vegetables."

We found more earthworms under the wet gutter leaves. I carried the worms to the gardens in a little shovel called a trowel. We were just about finished when it was my turn to shout.

"Oooh!" I screamed. "Mama, it's huge!" There in front of me was the longest, fattest earthworm I had ever seen. It almost looked like a snake.

"That's a night crawler, Amy," Mama explained. "It's just a big earthworm."

"It sure surprised me!" I said.

After that, I was ready to go inside. So was Mama. All of our gardens' bare spots were covered with leaves. We had moved all of the earthworms we could find.

"After such hard work," Mama said, "I think it's time for the earthworm gardeners to have a special treat. How would you like some watery mud with dirt clods on the side?"

Hot chocolate and brownies had never tasted better.

8.	In the story, Amy learned				
\circ	B.	how to rake leaves. how to make hot chocolate and brownies. earthworms make soil healthier.			
9.	A tr	owel is a			
\bigcirc	B.	night crawler. rake. little shovel.			
10.	In th	ne story, did Amy really eat mud and dirt clods?			
\bigcirc	B.	No, she had hot chocolate and brownies. Yes, she used to eat mud when she was little. No, she just let her mother think she ate them.			

STOP

Please do not turn the page.
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Jenny was in a hurry. She skipped down 8 the block and jumped over a puddle. She ran 17 up the path and around the hedge. Saturday 25 morning was story time at Grandma's. 31 Several of Jenny's relatives would be there. 38 She didn't want to be late. It was almost ten 48 o'clock. 49 When Jenny reached the porch, she 55 knocked on the oak door. She heard someone 63 turn the doorknob. Paul, her favorite cousin. 70 opened it. "Am I late?" asked Jenny. 77 "No," said Paul. "But you are the last to 86 arrive. Let's join the others." 91 Story time was usually held on the back 99 porch. Last night it had rained. It was cold 108 outside, so they agreed to meet in the house. 117 They sat by the cozy fireplace in the living 126 room. Some drank hot chocolate while they 133 listened to the stories. 137 Jenny clung to her book. She read the 145 first story from her school reader. Then each 153 of her cousins took turns reading their stories. 161 After that, grandmother told them a funny 168 tale. The children enjoyed hearing about life 175 on the farm. 178

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING		
sky	(/)	word read incorrectly
blue sky	(^)	inserted word
	(□)	after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE
Number of Words Read Per Minute:
Number of Errors:
Number of Words Read Correctly:
Passing Criterion (50th %ile) =53

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It was Monday evening. Rob was waiting 7 17 for his dad to get home. As usual, they would trade stories after eating dinner. First, Rob 24 read from his book. Then his father told 32 stories about childhood baseball games. 37 He always loved to play on the corner lot. 46 Sometimes, his father told tall tales. Rob liked 54 both kinds of stories. Today, Rob had a good 63 story to read to his dad. It was about an old 74 fur trader. 76 Just then his dad came through the 83 kitchen door. "What story will you tell me 91 tonight?" asked Rob. 94 His father said he wasn't sure. "Maybe I'll 102 share a very exciting story about the time my 111 friends and I won a ball game. The prize was 121 free tickets to a Cubs game." 127 After a quick family meal, the two sat 135 down. Rob took his book from his backpack. 143 He eagerly began reading about the fur 150 trader. When he finished reading, he closed 157 his book. Now he was ready to listen to his 167 dad's baseball story. 170

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Number of Words Read Correctly:			
Passing Criterion (50th %ile) =53			

DIRECTIONS: Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

A Home for Lizzie

by Beth Thompson

I was in the backyard pretending I was a gold miner searching for treasure when I saw Lizzie. She was sitting on a rock, not moving at all. She could have been a leaf or a twig because her nubbly skin blended in with the dark-gray stone. But she was watching me. Then she slowly blinked her shiny, black eyes. It was like saying hello.

I named her Lizzie. When I said her name out loud, she lifted herself up on her tiny toes as if she were going to tiptoe away. But she didn't go. I guess she liked her name.

I think Lizzie knew I didn't want to hurt her. When I touched her back, she twitched her long, skinny tail. Maybe she thought my finger was a strange, new bug!

The sun had warmed Lizzie's rock. Now the rock felt like the porch steps under bare toes. "Does that rock feel good to your toes, too?" I asked her. But Lizzie only blinked a blink that could mean "yes," or could mean "no."

I found an empty, plastic butter tub under the kitchen sink. It was smooth, white, and just the right size for a lizard home. It had a clear, almost-seethrough lid. Mom helped me punch holes in the lid. I made six small holes so Lizzie would get lots of air.

1.	what was the child doing in the backyard?				
\bigcirc	B.	looking for leaves and twigs hunting for imaginary treasure sitting on a rock			
		ne first paragraph, why could Lizzie "have been af or a twig"?			
\bigcirc	B.	A. Lizzie's color blended in with the stone.B. Lizzie was standing on a rock.C. Lizzie had tiny toes.			
3.	Lizz	zie was			
\bigcirc	B.	a leaf. a twig. a lizard.			
4.	-	y did Lizzie's rock "feel like the back steps under toes"?			
\bigcirc	B.	Both had been warmed by the sun. They were the same color. Both were the same size.			
5.	The	child was going to use the butter tub			
\bigcirc	B.	for a new home for Lizzie. as a hiding place. under the kitchen sink.			

I picked a handful of grass and sprinkled it inside the tub. Then I showed it to Lizzie.

"Look, your very own room," I told her. "You don't have to share it with anyone." She blinked. "It has air conditioning and a nice, soft, green rug you can nibble on. Do you like it?" Lizzie blinked "yes," but it might have been "no."

I set her carefully on the grass in the tub and then put on the lid. I peeked through the holes to see what she would do.

Lizzie didn't move at first. Then she tried to climb up the side of the butter tub, but it was too smooth and slippery. She slid back to the grass and sat very still. She couldn't hide against the white plastic or the green grass. She couldn't warm herself against the cold, smooth tub. She couldn't feel the sun through the plastic ceiling of her new home.

I took off the lid and held it over my head, pretending I was Lizzie. Six tiny bits of sun shone through a cloudy window that needed washing. The wilted grass felt limp and coarse. Then I sniffed the tub. It smelled like butter and plastic and soapunder-the-sink, not at all like the backyard.

So I took Lizzie out of the butter tub and put her back on the rock. She didn't make a sound or run away. She just sat there, blinking. I knew this time she meant "yes" because now Lizzie was home.

6.	The '	'nice, green rug''
\bigcirc	B.	was wet and slippery. had holes in it. was a handful of grass and food for Lizzie.
7.	Did I	Lizzie climb out of the butter tub?
\bigcirc	B.	No, the sides were too smooth. No, Lizzie liked the new home. Yes, climbing out was easy.
8.	The o	child pretended to be Lizzie to find out
\bigcirc	B.	what lizards like to eat. why Lizzie slid back on the grass. how Lizzie felt living in the butter tub.
		did the child take Lizzie out of the tub and put ack on the rock?
\bigcirc	B.	The child didn't like Lizzie. The child realized Lizzie wasn't happy. The child was afraid of Lizzie.
10.	. Whi	ich words best describe the child?
\bigcirc	B.	thoughtful and caring hard working angry and nervous

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Misha opened her birthday present. It was from her grandmother. She was excited. "Cool, this is my best birthday gift ever!" Her new present wasn't a toy. It was a camera. Now she could take pictures of birds in the park.

Misha was a bird watcher. She knew 48 58 it was a good idea to try to be invisible when studying animals in the wild. Misha 65 wanted her clothing to blend with the colors 73 of the ground, trees, and shrubs. Bright reds 81 88 and vellows might frighten the birds. She didn't want them to fly away. Misha looked 96 103 through her closet. She found her camping clothes. She thought they would be perfect 110 for bird watching. 113

122 At the park, she took a photograph of a red-breasted robin. It was looking for worms. 130 She caught a glimpse of a hawk gliding 138 across the sky. The bird darted away before 146 she could focus her camera. Next, she 153 snapped a picture of a blue jay scolding a 162 squirrel. The birds did not see her. Even her 171 friends walked right past her. They did not 179 notice Misha crouching in the bushes. 185

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sky	(/)	word read incorrectly	
blue sky	(^)	inserted word	
	(□)	after the last word read	

Comments:

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Number of Words Read Per Minute:	
Number of Errors:	
Number of Words Read Correctly:	
Passing Criterion (50th %ile) =	_65_

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Nature has given animals ways to fool 7 their enemies. An insect called the walking 14 stick is an example. This insect is skinny 22 and brown or green in color. It is a strange-32 looking bug. When it stands still on a twig, it 42 looks exactly like a stick. This helps it avoid 51 being eaten by birds. 55 Some lizards can change their color, 61 helping them blend into the background. 67 One such lizard is a gecko. It can change 76 color when it is afraid. 81 The coloring of a fawn helps it blend into 90 nature. A baby fawn is light brown. It has 99 white spots on its back. When its mother is 108 away, it snuggles in tall grass to hide. 116 Some birds change the color of their 123 feathers with the seasons. They become 129 white in the winter to blend in with the 138 snow. In the summer, they turn brown. 145 Hawks are speckled with a mix of brown, 153 tan, and white. This camouflage helps them 160 hide when they are perched in trees. 167 Animals have different ways to hide. 173 The next time you walk in the forest, look 182

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Number of Errors:	
Number of Words Read Correctly:	
Passing Criterion (50th %ile) = <u>65</u>	

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

for clues of hiding animals.

187

DIRECTIONS: Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

Alligators

Frank Staub

Pretend that a monster is walking into your yard. It is ten feet long, and its skin is dark and scaly. Its mouth is full of sharp teeth, and its strong jaws could break your bones. Creatures like this really do walk into people's yards. But they are not monsters. They are alligators.

Alligators spend most of their time floating in or lying next to water. They live in wetlands. Wetlands are land covered with water. Water may stay in a wetland all the time or just during part of the year. Rivers, lakes, and swamps are freshwater wetlands. A freshwater wetland has little or no salt in it.

Many wetlands are gone now. People have filled them in with dirt and rocks. They wanted to make dry land for their houses. Some alligators in those areas have nowhere else to go. So, every now and then, an alligator crawls into someone's yard. It's probably looking for food in what used to be its home. An alligator can run fast. It can stand on its toes and lift its body off the ground to run. Small dogs watch out! A small dog would make a tasty meal for an alligator.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

From Alligators by Frank Staub. Copyright © 1995 by Lerner Publications Company, a division of Lerner Publishing Group. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

1.	Alli	gators
\bigcirc	B.	have moist, smooth skin. have strong jaws and sharp teeth. can not run fast.
2.	Alli	gators spend most of their time
\bigcirc	B.	floating in or lying next to water. lying on rocks. swimming in the ocean.
3.	Alli	gators are usually found in
\bigcirc	B.	swimming pools. oceans. freshwater wetlands.
4.	Why	y are the wetlands gone?
\bigcirc	B.	The wetlands were flooded. It stopped raining. People filled them with dirt and rocks.
5.	Why	y are alligators sometimes found in people's ls?
\bigcirc	B.	They are looking for food. They are searching for water. They are lonely.

Some people think alligators are big lizards. But they are not. Lizards don't grow nearly as big as alligators. Alligators are more like dinosaurs. Like dinosaurs and lizards, alligators are reptiles. All reptiles breathe air, have dry, scaly skin, and are cold-blooded. This means their blood gets cold when it is cold outside. Snakes and turtles are reptiles, too.

Alligators are strong predators. Predators are animals that hunt and eat other animals. Alligators can catch food on land and in water. They eat animals, not plants. The animals they hunt are called its prey. Young alligators eat insects, small fish, and crabs. As alligators grow, they catch bigger and bigger prey. Adult alligators eat fish, birds, snakes, turtles, and other alligators. A big alligator may even try to catch a deer.

Alligators do most of their hunting at night. Darkness is not a problem. At night they use their good sense of smell. Even during the day, alligators use their noses as well as their eyes and ears to find food.

6.	Alligators are more like	
\bigcirc	B.	snakes. dinosaurs. turtles.
7.	Why	are alligators reptiles?
\bigcirc	B.	They are cold-blooded and have dry, scaly skin. They are warm-blooded and have dry, scaly skin. They are strong and have smooth skin.
8.	Alli	gators eat
\bigcirc	B.	vegetables. plants. other animals.
9.	As a	illigators grow, they
\bigcirc	B.	catch bigger and bigger prey. spend more time in the water. eat less food.
10.		kness is not a problem for alligators when they at night because
\bigcirc	B.	they can see better at night than most animals. they have a good sense of smell. they sleep all day.

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It was recess, and Sidney was worried. 7 He was trying to decide what to do. Two of 17 his best friends were having an argument. 24 He was afraid their quarreling might turn 31 into a fistfight. 34 Sidney thought and thought about the 40 problem. Finally, he had an idea. He would 48 try to talk them out of fighting. Sidney 56 wanted to help them use better judgment. 63 Their class was planning a trip to the 71 museum next Tuesday. He knew they would 78 not want to miss the trip. 84 Outside, on the playground, Sidney 89 said, "I understand why you are both angry. 97 Do you know what could happen to you for 106 fighting? You could be suspended if you let 114 this problem get out of control. You might 122 miss next week's field trip, or you could 130 get hurt. Shake hands and forget about 137 arguing." The friends angrily yelled at 143 Sidney. They told him to stay out of their 152 business. 153 Sidney persisted. "Look, if you want to 160 fight, go ahead. I'll find new friends who 168 will get along." The two boys realized the 176 argument wasn't worth losing a good friend, 183 so they shook hands. 187

EVALUATING	G CC	DES FOR ORAL READING
sky	(/)	word read incorrectly
blue sky	(^)	inserted word
	(□)	after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE	
Number of Words Read Per Minute:	
Number of Errors: —	
Number of Words Read Correctly: Passing Criterion (50th %ile) =	

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Danny was concerned because he had 6 lied to his teacher. He was afraid to tell the 16 truth, so he decided to talk to his friend, 25 Debra. He asked her if she always told the 34 truth. 35 "Well, I know it's better," Debra calmly 42 said as she tightened her scarf. "My mother 50 says lying just makes things worse. She says 58 when we stretch the truth we lose a little 67 piece of trust. I know I feel terrible even 76 when I exaggerate." 79 "I know," groaned Danny. "I'm upset 85 because I broke a window at school. I said 94 I didn't do it. I blamed someone else. Now I 104 feel awful about fibbing." Debra felt sorry 111 for Danny. She told him to explain what 119 happened to his teacher. After a while, he 127 agreed. 128 The next day, Danny confessed. He was 135 relieved. His teacher was grateful he had the 143 courage to tell the truth. His parents were 151 proud he had been honest. He felt so good. 160 Danny did extra chores at home. He stayed 168 after school to help his teacher. Everyone 175

was happy because Danny finally told the

sky (/) word read incorrectly	
blue	
(\center{c}) after the last word read	

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE
Number of Words Read Per Minute:
Number of Errors:
Number of Words Read Correctly:
Passing Criterion (50th %ile) = <u>78</u>

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

truth.

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183

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