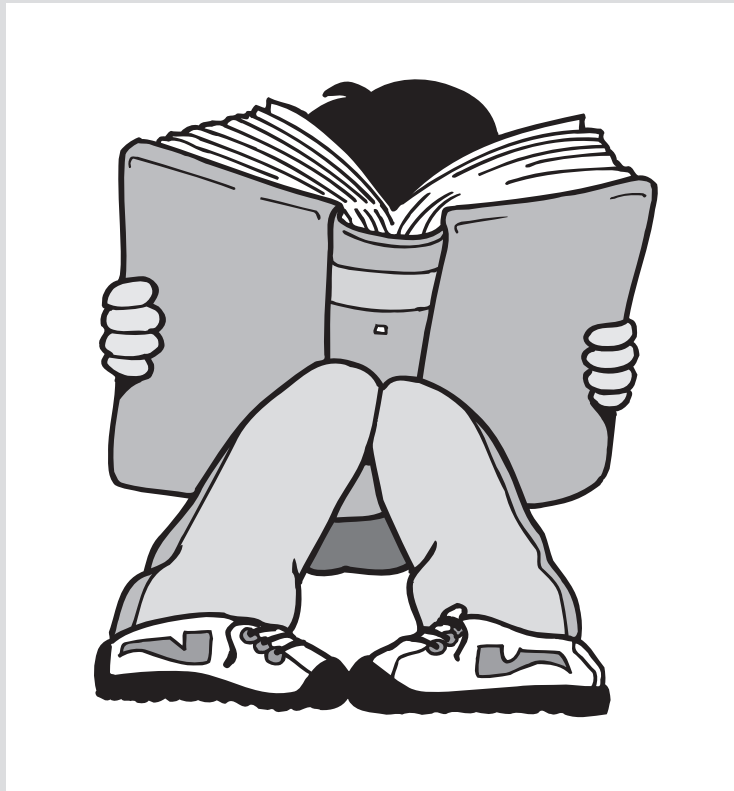


STUDENT TEST BOOKLET

6-8 Week Skills Assessments for
Reading Comprehension and Fluency



GRADE 3
Weeks 6-18

Student Name _____

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

The Lonely Dragon

Nancy Antle

The average dragon's idea of a good time is to kidnap a princess, burn down a village, and scare the wits out of everyone. But Charles was a sweet, good-natured fellow who wanted nothing to do with those kinds of things, so he had no dragon friends. Unfortunately, he looked exactly like all the other mean and nasty dragons, and no human ever stayed around long enough to find out how nice he really was. He was often lonely.

One day Charles decided that he'd had enough of being lonely and was going to do something about it. He headed off across the countryside in search of a friend.

The first person he met was a woodcutter in the forest. Charles managed to sneak up on him, so the man didn't have time to run away.

"Will you be my friend?" he asked rather timidly.

The man realized from the tone of Charles's voice that he was not the usual fearsome sort of dragon. He took a minute to think. Then he said, "Friends are supposed to do things for each other. If I'm your friend, what will you do for me?"

Charles thought a moment, then he turned and knocked over five trees with a single blow of his tail.

"Perfect!" shouted the woodcutter, and he took Charles home to supper.

As Charles entered the woodcutter's yard, he turned to ask a question and knocked over the fence with his tail. He became flustered and turned around quickly to apologize. He knocked a hole in the front wall of the man's house.

"This will never do," the woodcutter said. "You are much too big to be my friend!" And he sent Charles back from where he had come.

Charles was very depressed, but he kept traveling. Soon he saw an old woman plowing her field. Luckily, the old woman was nearsighted and didn't realize Charles was a dragon until he was right beside her.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

1. Why was Charles lonely at the beginning of the story?
 - A. He had no friends.
 - B. He was lost in the forest.
 - C. He had no family.
 - D. The man ran away.

2. Charles didn't want to make friends with other dragons because they were
 - A. big and lazy.
 - B. mean and nasty.
 - C. huge and had scales.
 - D. timid and shy.

3. Charles had trouble making friends because most people
 - A. didn't like the way he talked.
 - B. didn't like the way he laughed.
 - C. were shy with dragons.
 - D. were afraid of dragons.

“Will you be my friend?” he asked, even more timidly.

The old farmer peered in the direction of his voice. “Friends are supposed to do things for each other,” she said. “If I’m your friend, what will you do for me?”

Charles thought a moment and said, “I could go home ahead of you and start a fire and warm your supper. I’m very good with fires.”

“Perfect,” said the woman. “I’m always too tired in the evening to fix myself a hot meal. A fire-starter is just what I need.”

That evening Charles went to the old woman’s house, started the fire with one breath, and began warming her supper. The old woman’s house was even smaller than the woodcutter’s, but somehow Charles managed to control his tail and not knock anything over. His new friend seemed pleased with the supper he prepared, and she even gave him a kiss on the cheek before she went to bed.

Charles finally found a big enough space under one of the windows and lay down. He was so happy that he let out a long sigh of contentment. Unfortunately, his sigh set the curtains on fire.

“This will never do,” the old woman cried as she jumped up to douse the curtains with water. “You are much too hot to be my friend!” She sent Charles out the door and back from where he had come.

Now Charles was even more depressed. He walked slowly back through the woods. He hadn’t gone very far, though, when he came upon a little man sitting in a clearing. The man was huddled in the morning sun with a blanket around his shoulders and a crown on his head. He didn’t look any happier than Charles.

Charles thought the man would run away. But he didn’t. So Charles sat down and sighed. So did the man. Charles sighed again. So did the man.

“I’ve had a rotten day,” Charles finally said.

“Me, too,” the man replied.

“Why was your day so rotten?” Charles asked politely.

“You first,” the man said.

“Well, it isn’t just this day especially,” Charles said. “My whole life is rotten.”

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

4. The woodcutter and the woman liked friends who

- A. were kind and thoughtful.
- B. were fun.
- C. could do something for them.
- D. liked the same things.

5. Which word **best** describes Charles?

- A. good-natured
- B. grumpy
- C. uncaring
- D. creative

6. In the story, the old woman jumped up to douse the curtains with water. The word *douse* means

- A. dry
- B. soak
- C. burn
- D. grease

The man nodded, and Charles began telling him how lonely he was and how he had gone in search of a friend. He told him about the woodcutter and how his tail got in the way. He told him about the farmer and how his breath had ruined everything.

“Why didn’t you run away when you saw me coming?” he asked.

“I thought you were the answer to my problems,” the man said.

“I figured if you ate me, at least I wouldn’t be lonely any more.”

“You are lonely, too?” Charles asked.

The man nodded and pointed to his crown. “See this?” he asked. “Do you know what this means? It means I’m a king. Wonderful. I collect taxes and rent from my subjects, have a party once a year, and that is the only time I ever have any fun.

“No one ever comes to my door and says, ‘Oh, I was just passing by and thought I would pop in for tea.’ Nobody asks me over for dinner, or wants me to come have a peek at their new baby. Nobody thinks a king would want to do any of those ordinary things. But I’m really just an ordinary guy.”

“To make matters worse I live alone in a drafty 300-room castle. I can never keep a fire going, so I’m always cold. Lonely and cold—that’s the story of my life.”

The king sniffed and wrapped the blanket tighter around himself, and then he looked at Charles.

“I don’t suppose you’d be interested in being my friend?” he asked.

Charles felt his heart leap, but he hardly dared to agree. “They say that friends are supposed to do things for each other,” he said. “If I’m your friend, what can you do for me?”

“Why, I’ll be your friend,” the king replied.

“Perfect!” said Charles.

The king took Charles back to his dragon-sized castle, and Charles got a fire going in the fireplace. They kept each other company and roasted marshmallows and lived happily ever after.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

7. The king has trouble making friends because
- A. he was mean to people who came to his door.
 - B. he was interested in different things.
 - C. people didn't like kings.
 - D. people didn't realize he was an ordinary guy.
8. Charles agreed to become friends with the king because
- A. he wanted to live in a castle.
 - B. he wanted to eat the king.
 - C. he liked the king, and the king liked him.
 - D. everyone wanted to be friends with a king.
9. The king said, "I live alone in a drafty, 300-room castle."
In this story, the word *drafty* means
- A. lonely and quiet
 - B. ordinary
 - C. slightly windy and chilly
 - D. warm and cozy
10. What lesson does this story teach about friendship?
- A. Only tall people make the best friends.
 - B. Friends are the same age.
 - C. Friends don't do things for each other.
 - D. True friends are hard to find.

STOP

*Please do not turn the page.
You may go back and check your work.*

TOTAL SCORE: ____/10

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

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Marta felt lonely as she sat on the front porch 10
 steps. Her family had moved to a new city, and she 21
 was missing her old friends. She stared at the kids 31
 playing in the yard across the street. Marta was 40
 timid and shy, so making new friends was difficult. 49

Marta’s mother came outside and sat on the edge 58
 of the steps beside her daughter. “Why are you so 68
 gloomy?” she gently asked. 72

“I miss my old friends, and the kids across the 82
 street are having so much fun,” replied the girl. 91

“They look friendly, and they’re about your age. 99
 Since you know how to play hopscotch, you might 108
 ask to join them,” encouraged her mother. 115

Marta whispered, “I’m afraid they won’t let me 123
 play.” 124

“You’ll never know if you don’t try. I’ll wait here 134
 while you walk over to them. Please be careful while 144
 crossing the street. Remember to look both ways,” 152
 Marta’s mother said lovingly. 156

Marta checked for oncoming cars in each 163
 direction before crossing the road. She quietly went 171
 over to where the children were playing hopscotch. 179
 They welcomed her and asked if she would like to 189
 join them. Marta smiled and waved to her mother. 198

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)	= <u>79</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.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

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It was a sunny day, and Jerome was sick with 10
the flu. Feeling sorry for himself, he sat on the 20
couch. He looked out the window at his backyard 29
swing set. It wasn’t exactly the swings that were 38
on his mind. Today was circus day, and he couldn’t 48
go. He was terribly disappointed. He would miss 56
watching the trapeze act. While playing on his 64
swing, Jerome often imagined he was a famous 72
trapeze artist swinging high above the crowd. 79
He decided to rest by taking a short nap. 88
When he woke up, the room had become very 97
dark. The outside windowpane had been magically 104
covered by a piece of cloth! “What in the world 114
happened?” he wondered. 117
Slowly, two friends pulled the cloth open like 125
curtains on a stage. Out of his window, Jerome saw 135
more friends. They were swinging, running, and 142
jumping around his yard. They had decided if 150
Jerome couldn’t go to the circus, the show would 159
come to him. 162
They played catch with large hoops and walked 170
along the top edge of a brick wall pretending it was 181
a high wire act. His friends looked so ridiculous! 190
Jerome curled over and roared with laughter. He 198
felt better now. Jerome thought it was wonderful to 207
have such good friends. 211

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
sky (/)	word read incorrectly
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DIRECTIONS: Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

Hopalong

Concetta C. Doucette

I've been lucky. I've found lots of things while delivering newspapers on foot.

My route runs about two miles. I used to deliver the papers on my bike, even in bad weather. Last Friday afternoon, my front wheel collapsed—it had rusted. I groaned. I knew my parents wouldn't feel sorry for me because they'd told me not to leave my bike in the rain and snow. Now the frame was badly rusted and the bike probably wasn't worth the cost of repairs.

The only way to pay for a new bike was with my route money. But I had already spent all of my savings for Christmas gifts. So I'd have to walk my route for at least two months. On Lincoln's Birthday, I had just started my route when a sudden rainstorm hit. The wind was blowing so hard that I could barely hang onto my papers. Branches and shingles were all over the place.

I had just started to run home when I heard a yipping noise. Although I was a bit afraid to track down the sound, I took a few steps into the woods. It was cold and dark. The wind was bending saplings every which way, making shadowy figures that looked like forest monsters. I was beginning to think I'd imagined the noise and was just about to run back when I tripped over something.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

1. How does the main character earn spending money?

- A. doing chores for his mother
- B. delivering newspapers
- C. running errands
- D. fixing bicycles for his friends

2. Why wasn't the bike worth fixing?

- A. The main character wanted a new bike.
- B. The bike was too old.
- C. The repairs would cost more than the value of the bike.
- D. The main character was not responsible.

3. In the story, the word **route** means

- A. spending all of your savings.
- B. bending saplings.
- C. a definite path someone takes.
- D. cost of repairs.

I fell to my knees. It was a puppy! He was covered with leaves and branches and lying in a hole that had filled with water. His struggling had created a pit of mud. Cautiously, I lifted him out. He gave a small cry, and I saw that his left back leg had a lump bigger than a baseball. He wasn't wearing a collar or dog license, so I put him inside my canvas bag and carried him home. He felt much lighter than my load of newspapers.

My mother warmed some milk while I towed the dog dry. "He's just a little pup. Let's take him to Doc Burnett."

"We can't possibly afford a vet bill now, Rocky. I'm sorry. We'll have to take the pup to the animal shelter."

I couldn't let that happen! I knew no one else would want such a sick mutt, and the shelter would have to get rid of him. I couldn't hold back the tears. "Please, Mom," I begged. "Drive us to the vet. I'll pay the expenses with my route money."

"But what about the new bike?" she asked.

"It'll wait. I don't mind walking. Please, Mom!"

"If it's what you really want..."

"Yes. Yes," I said.

"O.K.," she said, taking her raincoat off the hook. "I'll warm up the car. Come out when I honk the horn."

I gently bundled up the puppy in an old blanket. His muscles were all loose and floppy. He didn't try to wriggle free. It seemed as if he were too sick, too tired to move. I think he knew I was trying to help.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

4. Rocky volunteered to pay for the vet because
- A. he felt guilty about damaging his bicycle.
 - B. his parents couldn't afford it.
 - C. he felt guilty about hurting the pup.
 - D. his parents didn't want the pup to go to the vet.
5. Which word **best** describes Rocky's mother?
- A. understanding
 - B. funny
 - C. uncaring
 - D. rich
6. Rocky changed his plans to buy a bike after he found the puppy because
- A. the puppy needed to see a vet.
 - B. the puppy had been treated cruelly.
 - C. his mother didn't want him to have a pet.
 - D. Doc Burnett was a good vet.

When Doc Burnett saw the pup's leg, he scratched his beard. He took out his instruments and examined the dog thoroughly.

When he was finished, he asked, "Where are your folks?" "Mom's in the waiting room," I told him.

He motioned for me to get her. Then he suggested that I wait outside.

My mother knew how much I hated being treated like a child. She told the vet, "Rocky's sacrificing his route earnings to pay for this. I'd appreciate your discussing the case with him."

It was great to be treated like an adult. But it wasn't so great to be responsible for someone else.

Doc Burnett got right to the point. "I'll have to amputate the leg to save the dog's life," he said. "If you agree, I can do the surgery tomorrow morning."

I tried hard not to cry, but the tears came anyway. "Do what you have to," I croaked out. Then I bent over the table and gave the mutt a big hug. "You'll be O.K.," I whispered in his ear. "Doc Burnett's the best."

I had a million questions in my mind. When the vet's assistant took the mutt into the kennel area, I asked, "Doc, will he be able to walk with three legs?"

"He'll get along just fine," Doc Burnett said earnestly. "Do you know Jelly Bean, the Strenharts' dog?"

I shook my head.

"The Strenharts live on Miller Road. Call them. I'm sure they'll let you see their dog. Jelly Bean's been minus a leg for almost four years now; she's healthy, frisky, and lovable."

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

7. Rocky's mother showed respect for Rocky by

- A. telling Rocky she was proud of him.
- B. letting Rocky keep the puppy as a pet.
- C. asking Doc Burnett to operate for free.
- D. asking Doc Burnett to speak to Rocky.

8. Doc Burnett had to amputate the pup's leg to save his life. What does the word *amputate* mean?

- A. to bandage
- B. to cut off
- C. to sew up
- D. to take an x-ray

Wednesday morning my parents let me stay home from school. They knew I wouldn't be able to think about anything but the pup anyway.

My dad arranged to get home early. Late that afternoon, the three of us rode to the veterinary hospital and visited the mutt.

He was still pretty doped up, but Doc Burnett said the surgery had been a success and the puppy should recover quickly, with the proper care. He'd have to stay in the hospital a couple of weeks.

Funny thing—we didn't even think about naming the puppy. Doc Burnett called him Dog Braden. The next time we visited, we decided the pup deserved a personal name. We eventually settled on Hopalong—because he hopped and licked us every time we saw him.

The day Hopalong came home, I placed an engraved collar around his neck. He hopped all over the kitchen, licking each one of us. I knew he felt like part of our family now.

Doc Burnett is letting me pay off Hopalong's bill a little at a time. It's going to be a long time before I'll have the money to buy a new bike, but I don't care. If I hadn't been walking, I'd never have found Hopalong. Delivering the papers isn't such a long and lonely job, now that Hopalong comes with me.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

9. Which word **best** describes Rocky?

- A. rude
- B. unselfish
- C. careless
- D. forgetful

10. Which of the following sentences **best** explains Rocky's attitude about money?

- A. He spent it foolishly.
- B. He was stingy.
- C. He was greedy.
- D. He spent it wisely.

STOP

*Please do not turn the page.
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TOTAL SCORE: _____/10

Passage #1

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As Grandmother sat on her covered porch, 7
 she watched the cows come in from the meadow. 16
 She had many fond memories of her childhood. 24
 She remembered when she was a young milkmaid. 32
 Grandmother had milked cows by hand. She 39
 loved the animals’ steamy breath on cold, winter 47
 mornings and the smell of straw and hay. She 56
 was happiest feeding the calves milk from buckets. 64
 She remembered every year her father and 71
 mother drove to the hatchery. There they 78
 purchased newly hatched baby chicks. The chicks 85
 were kept in a warming box. This large, boxy 94
 device was kept in the pantry. It was heated with 104
 electricity. The chicks were fed finely ground corn 112
 and fresh water. When their feathers developed, 119
 they were turned loose into the yard. The chickens 128
 liked to scratch in the grass and catch bugs. 137
 Each of the four seasons was enjoyable, but 145
 spring was best. She looked forward to seeing the 154
 crops sprouting in the fields. She thought of running 163
 after pink, squealing piglets. It made her laugh out 172
 loud. 173
 Grandmother was happy she still lived on the 181
 farm. However, country life had changed. Almost 188
 everything was automated. She realized machines 194
 were useful, and life was easier now. Perhaps some 203
 change is good. 206

**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) = 86

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.

Passage #2

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Joyce and Ben lived in the city. Their house was 10
 one mile west of Uncle Mack’s ranch. The children 19
 often went with their father to visit when he worked 29
 at the ranch. Roaming around the farm and riding 38
 ponies were always an adventure. Now they were 46
 older and expected to help on weekends. 53

It did not take long before Joyce and Ben 62
 realized farming was very hard work. Uncle Mack’s 70
 business depended on raising sheep, calves, and 77
 crops. To increase his income, he was also a horse 87
 trader. He knew almost every horse, colt, and pony 96
 in six counties. Most profitable for him was trading 105
 ponies. When he acquired a new pony, he would 114
 invite the kids for a ride. They tried not to become 125
 too attached with each new, adorable horse. They 133
 were aware it would soon be sold or traded. 142

One day they fell in love with a wonderful, 151
 little, brown and white spotted pony. It had a 160
 golden, flowing mane and tail. Secretly, they named 168
 him Scout. They were disappointed one Saturday 175
 afternoon when they rode their bicycles to the ranch. 184
 Scout was nowhere to be found. They turned and 193
 asked where the pony was. Uncle Mack smiled and 202
 answered, “You mean Scout? He is at the feed store 212
 being fitted for a new saddle.” Scout was theirs to 222
 keep. 223

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

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Comments:

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

The Girl Who Brought Down the Wind

Constance Veatch Toney

One spring long ago, the wind roared down from his western palace to play with the earth. It was his favorite game. But that day, for some reason, the wind was angry.

Instead of sailing gently through the trees, he ripped them from the ground and flung them about. Instead of whistling merrily through the wind chimes, he tore off roofs, flattened temples, and scattered the newly planted rice shoots.

The people were terrified and called out fearful curses against the wind. This angered the wind even more.

“I will show them!” he howled. “When I have finished here, I will stay in my palace. Let them see just how much they need me.” The wind pulled his dark cloak of clouds about him and stormed back to his palace. And there he stayed.

The people in Cherry Blossom’s province gave thanks when they saw the wind departing. For days afterward they cleaned, gathered, chopped, and rebuilt. Cherry Blossom helped her father repair their little house. She went with her mother to search for rice seedlings and fruit trees to replant. She watched over her baby brother and thought about the wind and all he had done.

As weeks passed, the people noticed something strange. While they rebuilt their houses, no gentle breeze came to cool their sweating brows. When they replanted their rice fields, no playful winds rippled the water.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

1. Why did the wind decide to stop blowing?
 - A. The wind was sorry for causing so much damage.
 - B. Cherry Blossom was upset.
 - C. The people told him to stop.
 - D. The wind was angry because people had yelled at him.

2. At first the people were glad when the wind stopped blowing. Why did they change their minds?
 - A. They missed the cooling breezes.
 - B. They were sorry they hurt the wind's feelings.
 - C. They needed a breeze to fly their kites.
 - D. They were ashamed of the way they acted.

“Why is it so hot, Father?” Cherry Blossom asked one day.

“The wind has gone elsewhere,” her father replied, wiping his forehead.

“Where is the wind?” she asked her mother.

“I fear we drove it away with our curses,” her mother said with a wave of her fan.

“How can we bring back the wind?” Cherry Blossom asked.

“Perhaps Wind Singer can tell us,” her father answered.

The people gathered around the old man called Wind Singer. He had more wrinkles than a dried plum, and his hair hung down like cobwebs. He was very wise.

“Sing down the wind for us,” the people begged.

“I have called the wind for many years,” he said. “I will try again.” Wind Singer’s voice sailed out into the air like a thin note from a bamboo flute. It drifted along the ground and then fell silent.

The people sighed and waited for the first breath of wind. Nothing happened.

“The wind is very angry with us,” the old man said. “I do not think he will return until we apologize.”

“But he hurt us and ruined our houses!” one man cried.

“Nevertheless,” Wind Singer cautioned, “the wind is like a spoiled child who must be always entertained. We must coax him back.”

So the people tried many things. Some went to the temple and beat upon gongs and cymbals. Others blew silver flutes and whistles. The wind listened but sat unmoved in his palace. Great bonfires burned in the night. The people hoped the wind might see the flames and come to play with them. He watched the stars instead.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

3. Wind Singer said that the wind is like a spoiled child because the wind

- A. liked to play with toys.
- B. thought he was better than everyone else.
- C. wanted people to entertain him.
- D. destroyed so many buildings.

4. Which word **best** describes the wind?

- A. selfish
- B. cooperative
- C. cheerful
- D. generous

Cherry Blossom saw all these things and thought about them. Remembering Wind Singer's words, she went to her father. "If the wind is like a child, perhaps we should make him a toy to play with," she said.

Her father smiled and shook his head. "What can a girl know of these things?" he asked. But he told his neighbor who told others. The people laughed at Cherry Blossom and her idea, but Wind Singer sat and thought.

The days grew hot. No wind blew in rain clouds, so the rice fields slowly dried, and the young seedlings withered. The trees drooped, and the birds could not fly. The wind chimes in every window were silent. A great, hot hush settled over the province.

At last, Wind Singer came to Cherry Blossom's house. "Make a toy that will bring down the wind for us," he said.

Cherry Blossom took paper and carefully cut out a strange shape. She painted a beautiful design over the paper, using all the colors she thought the wind would enjoy. Then she sewed the paper to thin wooden slats and added a tail of colored cloth. She tied a long string to it and carried the wonderful toy outside and fixed it to a long pole.

The people gathered about Cherry Blossom and her strange creation. She ignored their snickering and watched the tail.

Was it moving ever so slightly?

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

5. How did the people treat Cherry Blossom **before** she made the toy?

- A. They offered to help make the toy.
- B. They laughed at her.
- C. They encouraged her to build the toy.
- D. They ignored her.

6. Which word **best** describes Cherry Blossom?

- A. lucky
- B. creative
- C. impatient
- D. mysterious

From his western palace the wind was surveying Cherry Blossom's province when he saw the brightly painted thing on the pole. Silently he sailed out to look at it. Gently he puffed at its tail. Why, it was only cloth! He could easily blow it any way he wished. First to the left, then to the right. It switched like a cat's tail. The wind chuckled.

Next the wind pressed against the beautiful toy. It crackled and shifted easily on the pole. Why, it's only paper! He thought. How often had he tossed paper up into the sky and chased it for miles? But this paper was different. It was beautiful and delightfully shaped. It would be much more fun to lift this pretty scrap up into the sky and play with it.

Softly at first, then with stronger gusts, the wind lifted his new toy up off the pole and carried it above the treetops. At just the right moment, Cherry Blossom leaned forward and caught the string she had tied to the paper. The people held their breath.

Suddenly, all about them, the trees sprang to new life, their leaves clapping in the breeze. Wind chimes sang from every window, and the birds rose up on eager wings to dance with the wind.

The people cheered and laughed. "Cherry Blossom!" they chanted. "The girl who brought down the wind!"

Cherry Blossom only smiled and held tightly to the string, while high above her the wind tugged and played with his pretty new toy.

Ever after, the children in the province made bright paper toys like Cherry Blossom's so that the wind wouldn't forget to come down from his western palace. And even today, in all parts of the world, children still bring down the wind every spring in the same special way.

Now answer the questions about this part of the story.

7. Cherry Blossom's trick worked because the wind
- A. couldn't resist playing with the new toy.
 - B. missed the people.
 - C. wanted to please Cherry Blossom.
 - D. was no longer angry with the people.
8. How did the people feel about Cherry Blossom **after** she tricked the wind?
- A. They were jealous of her success.
 - B. They were sad they hadn't made the toy.
 - C. They were happy she succeeded.
 - D. They were afraid the wind would get angry again.
9. Cherry Blossom's toy was a paper
- A. airplane.
 - B. ball.
 - C. kite.
 - D. frisbee.
10. What lesson can you learn from Cherry Blossom?
- A. Always finish what you start.
 - B. Adults can solve problems more quickly than children.
 - C. You can solve any problem if you are old and wise.
 - D. Have faith in yourself no matter what others say.

STOP

*Please do not turn the page.
You may go back and check your work.*

TOTAL SCORE: ____/10

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Lin and Vern lay stretched out on the grass. 9
 They were friends. They liked to watch clouds floating 18
 across the blue sky. They enjoyed the endless, 26
 changing shapes. The boys imagined they saw bears, 34
 ocean liners, angels, and people with funny faces. 42
 They thought the thunderhead cloud they saw on 50
 the horizon was a giant, snow-covered mountain. 58
 The friends talked about what they had seen. 66
 They wanted to learn more about storms and clouds. 75
 So they went to the city library. There they learned 85
 some interesting new facts. Different cloud shapes 92
 have names. Many storms are seasonal. For example, 100
 tornadoes usually occur in springtime. These funnel 107
 clouds look like huge coils. This violent storm slashes 116
 across the land. It causes serious damage to buildings 125
 in its path. 128
 The curious boys often had lively talks. They 136
 wanted to know why a hurricane has a calm center 146
 eye. Why are tornadoes so powerful? 152
 Both kinds of storms spin in a circular pattern. 161
 The boys wondered if the two storms had other things 171
 in common. 173
 Each of them enjoyed predicting the weather. 180
 Every morning they watched the clouds. Would it 188
 rain today? It may be no surprise to learn that they 199
 became weather forecasters after college. 204

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) = 93

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.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

People tell stories about Big Foot. Some of them 9
believe this beast is real. They say it lives in the 20
deep, mountain forests of the western United States. 28
It is described as being over six feet tall with coarse, 39
human-like hair from head to toe. Big Foot is said to 51
give off a very foul odor. 57

Some people claim to have heard a loud, bellowing 66
cry when they were camping. Did Big Foot make 75
the noise? Visitors to the area have told friends they 85
saw the hairy beast. Some say they saw it running 95
through the forest. Yet, they didn’t tell forest rangers. 104
They were afraid the animal would be captured. 112
Others insist they have photographs of huge 119
footprints that prove its existence. 124

Most people think Big Foot is an imaginary 132
creature. They say the reports are just plain silliness. 141
They suggest the people who saw the beast were 150
simply mistaken. They failed to report the sightings 158
because it was just their imagination. 164

What is the truth? Until a live Big Foot or its 175
skeleton is found, the debate will not end. Stories 184
about Big Foot are like tales about the jack-a-lope. 195
Cowboys invented it. It is a cross between a 204
jackrabbit and an antelope. They made it up while 213
sitting around campfires. Could this be how the 221
legend of Big Foot began? 226

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) = 93

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.

NOTES

NOTES

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