

# READING FLUENCY

## SAMPLE PASSAGES

### FOR GRADES 1-4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Birds of Prey

For a bird to be considered a bird of prey it must have certain body parts. Good eyesight is important to see from far away. This helps them hunt small animals. Strong feet are needed to help carry the food. A curved beak is good for tearing apart flesh. Sharp talons are used for catching prey.

There are many different kinds of birds of prey. Eagles nest in many locations including forests, swampland, and open prairies. They are large birds with long wings. Usually they like to be far from human activity. Falcons have long, sharp wings. They have special wings that help them to fly at great speeds. Owls are hunt at night. The other birds of prey hunt during the day time. Owls come in different sizes. Some are only inches in size like the Elf Owl. Others are more than six feet long like the Great Horned Owl. Owls hunt

18
34
51
56
71
85
100
118
135
153

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Birds of Prey Comprehension Questions

1. What body parts are important for a bird of prey?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What types of birds are birds of prey?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Let's Play Ball

The day was perfect. The cloudless sky looked purple against the bright shining sun and the air hot, but with a refreshing breeze. It was the kind of summer day that brought people together. Today was no exception. The field was freshly cut, and raked. The stands packed with fans. It was game day.

The pitcher stood tall and ready. She checked her left, and her right then threw in the first ball. The bat connected with a solid crack that sent the people in the stands shooting to their feet. The batter dropped her bat and sprinted to first base, but was sent back to the plate when the ball landed two feet outside the base line.

"Foul ball," yelled the umpire.

The batter struck a hitter's pose once more. This time the ball whizzed past before she could swing.

"Strike one!"

The crowd cheered. The pitcher wound up and threw again.

Crack!

The ball soared over the pitcher's head, flew over the second baseman and landed at the back fence. The hitter ran past first. She zipped around second and hesitated at third.

"Run, run, run!" The fans in the stands cheered as one.

She slid into home base the same moment the ball hit the catcher's hand. For a moment the field was still.

"Safe!"

The day was perfect.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Words Correct					
Words Incorrect					

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Maple Syrup Comprehension Questions

1. How old does a Maple tree have to be in order to collect syrup?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What type of tools would you need to use to get syrup from a tree?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What has to be done to the syrup after you collect it and before you are able to eat it?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Learning

## LAB RESOURCES

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I appreciate you downloading my sample reading fluency passages. You will find one passage for each grade level that includes a student version with larger font, a teacher version to record, and a set of three comprehension questions.

If you are interested in purchasing the full version of each grade level, please refer to the links below. The full versions also include data tracking pages and a list of all passages with word counts and Lexile levels. Enjoy!

**[First Grade Fluency Passages](#)**

**[Second Grade Fluency Passages](#)**

**[Third Grade Fluency Passages](#)**

**[Fourth Grade Fluency Passages](#)**

**[BUNDLED Grades 1-4 Fluency Passages](#)**

# Tips for Teachers

## PARENT LETTER:

I will send out this letter once a week with the student passage either stapled to it or copied it to the back. Parents will record how they practiced that week and sign that they read with their child.

## STUDENT PASSAGE:

The student passage does not have the numbered column or the progress tracking on the bottom of the page. The font is larger to make it easier to read. You can use this to send home every week for the child to practice. I would also print a copy and laminate it for the classroom. This way, when you test fluency, the students have a durable copy to read from while you track on the teacher's page.

## TEACHER PASSAGE:

This passage contains number along the side for easy counting and a table to keep track of correct and incorrect words. This can be used daily, or as many times as you can fit into your schedule. I would test the students on Monday and Friday to allow them time to practice at home. To keep track of the errors on the different days, I would use a different color pen each time I would test the fluency so I could easily differentiate errors.

## TRACK YOUR PROGRESS GRAPHS:

These two graphs, one for fiction and another for nonfiction, will show student progress. If you decide to test your students twice a week, you or the student can record their "cold read" or their first read in blue and their "hot read" after they practice in red.

## COMPREHNSION QUESTIONS:

Use the comprehension questions to quickly assess whether or not the students understand what they are reading. This can be used as homework or immediately after reading the passage.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Passage

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Farm

Let us take a trip to a country farm. What things will we see? Look 15  
over there in that field. Mice play in the tall grass. The Farmer's barn is 30  
bright red. The doors are white. Inside the hay is stacked up high. See 44  
the cow grazing in the field? There is a calf nearby. The sheep sleep in 59  
the shade under the tree. Soon they will wake and take a drink in the 74  
pond. There is a duck swimming in the pond. Her babies stay close 87  
behind. Hello duck! Say quack, quack, quack. The pig is in his pen. He is 102  
muddy. He is happy. The pig enjoys rolling in the dirt. Chickens peck the 116  
ground looking for seeds. The rooster struts on by. Past the fence do you 130  
see that horse? He is saddled and ready to ride. Will he gallop over the 145  
hill? Will he trot nice and slow? The farm is full of life! 158

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Words Correct					
Words Incorrect					

# The Farm

Let us take a trip to a country farm. What things will we see? Look over there in that field. Mice play in the tall grass. The Farmer's barn is bright red. The doors are white. Inside the hay is stacked up high. See the cow grazing in the field? There is a calf nearby. The sheep sleep in the shade under the tree. Soon they will wake and take a drink in the pond. There is a duck swimming in the pond. Her babies stay close behind. Hello duck! Say quack, quack, quack. The pig is in his pen. He is muddy. He is happy. The pig enjoys rolling in the dirt. Chickens peck the ground looking for seeds. The rooster struts on by. Past the fence do you see that horse? He is saddled and ready to ride. Will he gallop over the hill? Will he trot nice and slow? The farm is full of life!

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Farm

## Comprehension Questions

1. Where do the mice play?

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2. Describe what the barn looks like.

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3. What animals are at the farm?

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# 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Passage

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Silly Dreams

Every night I go to sleep I never stay in bed.	11
I go to faraway places, but only in my head.	21
Just the other day I had tea with the queen.	31
She was not very kind and really rather mean.	40
I can go to space, I will dance with the moon.	51
If I'm feeling hungry I eat him with a spoon.	61
The stars are tasty too with sugar and cream.	70
I eat until I burst it is only a dream.	80
I will ride a lion with a pink nose and purple tail.	92
I will race against a blue whale.	99
The jungle has lions, tigers and bears.	106
They all wear dresses and have feathers for hair.	115
Sometimes I fly and sometimes I soar.	122
The grass is my sky and the cloud's my floor.	132
I am graceful like the birds, I am faster than a rocket.	144
When I need to rest I sleep in a cloud pocket.	155
Today when I dream I will think about clowns.	164
They know how to chase away frowns.	171
I will play cards with fish. Sleep the middle of the sea.	183
I will share a piece of cake with a bumble bee.	194

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Words Correct					
Words Incorrect					

# Silly Dreams

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I will play cards with fish. Sleep the middle of the sea.

I will share a piece of cake with a bumble bee.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Silly Dreams

## Comprehension Questions

1. Where does the narrator go instead of staying in bed?

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2. Describe the personality of the queen.

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3. What does the narrator do when he is in space?

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# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Passage

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Earthworms

The earthworm is more than fish bait and bird food. They are nature's workman. 14  
Earthworms improve soil for humans, plants and animals. The tunnels they create help 27  
air and water reach deeper parts of the soil. More air and more water make for a 44  
healthier soil. 46

Did you know the diet of an earthworm is the dirt itself? These worms eat the soil 63  
they live in. This food source is great for the worm but not for plants. The waste 80  
released by the worm is then used to feed the plants because it has a lot of nutrients. 98

If you were to look really closely at the earthworm's body it looks like they are 114  
joined together with rings. They are actually put together with about 150 different 127  
segments. This helps the worm to move as each segment has muscles and bristles. The 142  
bristles are what give the worm control when moving through the soil. The different 156  
segments to the earthworm are also why they can survive and regrow parts of their 172  
body back if something pulls it apart. 178

Earthworms have no lungs to help them breathe. Instead they breathe through 190  
their skin. This is the reason they must stay in moist damp places. Their skin cannot dry 207  
out or they will not survive. 213

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Words Correct					
Words Incorrect					

# Earthworms

The earthworm is more than fish bait and bird food. They are nature's workman. Earthworms improve soil for humans, plants and animals. The tunnels they create help air and water reach deeper parts of the soil. More air and more water make for a healthier soil.

Did you know the diet of an earthworm is the dirt itself? These worms eat the soil they live in. This food source is great for the worm but not for plants. The waste released by the worm is then used to feed the plants because it has a lot of nutrients.

If you were to look really closely at the earthworm's body it looks like they are joined together with rings. They are actually put together with about 150 different segments. This helps the worm to move as each segment has muscles and bristles. The bristles are what give the worm control when moving through the soil. The different segments to the earthworm are also why they can survive and regrow parts of their body back if something pulls it apart.

Earthworms have no lungs to help them breathe. Instead they breathe through their skin. This is the reason they must stay in moist damp places. Their skin cannot dry out or they will not survive.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Earthworms

## Comprehension Questions

1. Why are earthworms an important part of nature?

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2. How are the earthworm's body segments helpful to them?

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3. Why is it important for an earthworm to keep its skin moist?

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# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Passage

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Aliens in the Water

The aliens took care with their appearance trying to morph their features into human ones. They could not afford to get caught. The human race did not know about their existence and it was essential that they never did. They boarded their space ship and set the coordinates to earth. It was a big day. They were finally going to visit the earthlings they had been watching for so long. They had to be careful not to get caught. The ship passed sailed into earth's atmosphere and hovered above the large body of water. The aliens could not suppress their excitement. They turned on the invisibility shield to hide the ship and dove into the water. All of the humans in the water welcomed them. They fit right in. Their fins and scales looked just like everyone else's. The aliens spent the day learning how the humans swam, the food they ate and how they played with one another. When it was time to leave they saw strange creatures in a floating ship above the water. The aliens watched as these creatures captured their human friends and haul them into the boat. The aliens did not want to be captured and they left earth deciding never to return.

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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Words Correct					
Words Incorrect					

# Aliens in the Water

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Aliens in the Water

## Comprehension Questions

1. Why was it a big day for the aliens?

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2. What did the aliens do on earth?

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3. Why didn't the aliens ever want to return to the earth?

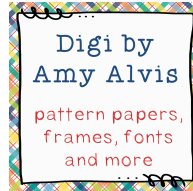
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