

Go Ask the Judge

Mr. Dash and Mr. Twitch had a problem. A	9
big tree in between their houses was sick.	17
"It must be chopped down," they both said.	25
But this was another problem. That's	31
because Mr. Dash said the tree was in Mr.	40
Twitch's yard. Mr. Twitch said the tree was	48
on Mr. Dash's grass. "What can we do?"	56
asked Mr. Dash. "We can go and ask a	65
judge," said Mr. Twitch. "A judge can fix	73
this problem. He can tell us who has to	82
chop down the tree."	86
So that's what they did.	91
Judge Phil sat behind a big desk called "the	100
bench." The men told him their problem. "I	108
wish all problems were this simple," said	115
the judge. "You are neighbors. Act like it.	123
Cut down that tree together." "When?"	129
asked Mr. Dash and Mr. Twitch. "As fast as	138
you can," said the judge. "Now go!"	145
And that's just what they did.	151

Grade 2 • Unit 1 • Week 1

Short vowels, blends and digraphs

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *sh*, *th*, or *ch*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The New President

Don't read the underlined words. They tell when each person speaks.

<u>Caleb:</u> Hi Megan. So, you won! How does it feel to be class president?	7 13
<u>Megan:</u> It was great to get elected. But I have a lot of problems to fix. I just began fixing the first one.	21 31 35
<u>Caleb:</u> Which problem was that? Longer recess? Music in the lunchroom?	40 45
<u>Megan:</u> I got music in the lunchroom. We now play pop music, jazz, and hip-hop. We even have music with no words.	52 61 67
The teachers like that best.	72
<u>Caleb:</u> So, admit it... you must be glad.	79
<u>Megan:</u> No, not really. The boys won't let me put napkins on the tables. They prefer being messy.	86 94 96
<u>Caleb:</u> So, what is next? What else will you do before the end of the year?	104 111
<u>Megan:</u> It's a secret. The teachers are helping me. It is something all the kids want.	117 125 126
<u>Caleb:</u> Well, my lips are sealed. Good job so far, Megan.	133 136

Grade 2 • Unit 1 • Week 2

Closed and open syllables

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words that have more than one syllable.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Let's Sail to Spain

Captain Abel had a big ship. He was	8
getting ready for a long trip to Spain. But	17
there was a problem. He had a crew of six	27
little mice and six big cats. Captain Abel	35
knew one thing: To maintain order with a	43
crew of mice and cats, you need rules. Lots	52
and lots of rules.	56
Captain Abel's Basic Rules of Sailing	62
• Raise the ship's flag at sunrise.	69
Take it down at sunset.	73
• Wait your turn at meals.	78
Cats: No slurping your milk. And no eating	86
mice.	87
Mice: No grabbing your cheese. And no	94
grabbing the cats' tails.	98
• Act like brave sailors.	102
Cats: No acting like baby mice.	108
Mice: No acting like crazy cats.	114
• Follow the rules and you will get	121
paid. If not, you will go to the ship's jail.	131
There is no cheese or milk in jail. Only	140
raisins. Lots and lots of old raisins!	147

Grade 2 • Unit 1 • Week 3

Long a Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long sound that is spelled with an *ai*, *a*, *ea*, or *ay*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Don't Break the Law

Laws are rules. They tell us what we may and may not do. They help protect us. "Do not drive too fast" is a law. It keeps us safe.

Police officers and judges make sure we follow the laws. When someone breaks the law, he must pay a fine. He may be also be sent to jail. People in jail have to stay away from their family and friends.

Laws are different in each state. They are different in each country, too. In the United States, the law says you must drive on the right side of the street. In England, the law says you must drive on the left side. It is great if you know this law. It can save your life.

If you could make a law, what would it be? Maybe... kids can play all day? Or, no school on your birthday!

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Grade 2 • Unit 1 • Week 3

Long a Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long *a* sound that is spelled with an *ai*, *a*, *ea*, or *ay*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Get the Mail

It is fun to get mail. We can get a letter	11
from a friend, or a little postcard from a	20
far-off place like France.	25
People have been getting mail for	31
thousands of years. Long ago people got	38
mail in many ways. They got mail by rail.	47
That's mail that came on a train. They got	56
mail by horse. The horses rode on long	64
trails. The horses stopped at posts along	71
the way. Neither snow nor rain nor heat	79
stopped them. It might sound crazy, but	86
mail was even sent by pigeon, dogsled, and	94
balloon.	95
Today we don't send as much paper mail.	103
Instead, we send a lot of e-mail, or	111
electronic mail. We don't have to wait long	119
to get this fast kind of mail! As a result, the	130
letters our mail carrier brings us are called	138
snail mail. Can you figure out why?	145

Grade 2 • Unit 1 • Week 3

Long a Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long a sound that is spelled with an *ai*, *a*, *ea*, or *ay*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

More Billy Goats Gruff

The tale of the Three Billy Goats Gruff has	9
been told many times. The Little Billy Goat	17
went to cross the bridge. Troll said, “No, I	26
will eat you.” But Little Billy Goat said his	35
brothers were bigger. So Troll waited. And,	42
when Biggest Billy Goat stomped onto the	49
bridge, he kicked Troll away.	54
Troll was never seen again. Or so the tale	63
is told. But what happened next?	69
Well, Troll was very tricky. He made a coat	78
of goat hair. Then he got a boat and rowed	88
back under the bridge. When the Billy	95
Goats saw this, they came running. “Who	102
is under our bridge?” they yelled. “It’s	109
Gabby Goat, your father’s old friend.”	115
“Oh really?” said Biggest Billy Goat, boldly.	122
“Who ever heard of a goat with arms and	131
legs?”	132
“You can’t fool us!” scolded the other Billy	140
Goats. “You’re Troll!”	143

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 1

Long o Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long o sound that is spelled with an oa, o, oe, or ow.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

More Cinderella...

Do you like the well-known tale of	8
Cinderella? Have you read a book about	15
the girl who goes to a ball and finds her	25
prince? Cinderella is a tale told all over the	34
world. But it is told in a different way in	44
each place. In England, Cinderella is called	51
Tattercoats-- because she is dressed in	57
rag. Her only friends are geese. They try	65
to help Cinderella. Like other Cinderella	71
tales, this one has a ball and a prince. But	81
there are no girls squeezing their toes into	89
a glass slipper.	92
In West Africa, Cinderella is known as	99
Chinye. She is forced to go to the river one	109
night by her evil stepmother. She is forced	117
to get water to cook with. The shadows of	126
forest animals help her stay safe. Then an	134
old woman shows her how to turn a gourd	143
into gold. Chinye does this and lives	150
happily ever after.	153

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Long o Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long o sound that is spelled with an oa, o, oe, or ow.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Toad and Grasshopper

Toad and Grasshopper were best friends.	6
One day Toad said, "Come to my home for	15
lunch. My wife loves to cook. She is making	24
roasted spider, bug soup, and a big loaf of	33
bread."	34
"Yum," said Grasshopper. "Let's go." The	40
two went up the road to Toad's home.	48
"Please go and wash your legs before we	56
eat," said Toad. Grasshopper rubbed them	63
so clean they squeaked when he ate.	70
"Because of this noise, I can't eat," said Toad.	78
"Okay," said Grasshopper. "Come to my	84
home to eat." So, Toad did. "Please go and	93
wash your feet before we eat," said	100
Grasshopper. Toad hopped into the cold tub	106
of water. Then he hopped back onto the dirt	115
path. "Oh, no," said Grasshopper. "Look at	122
your dirty feet. I told you to wash them." "I	132
did," said Toad. "You can't eat at my table	141
with those feet," said Grasshopper. So Toad	148
hopped home-hungry and mad.	153

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 1

Long o Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long o sound that is spelled with an oa, o, oe, or ow.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Five Peas in a Pod

Once upon a time five peas sat in a pod.	10
The peas were green. And the pod was	18
green. So, the peas thought everything on	25
earth was green. The peas grew and grew	33
inside the pod. The hot sun beat down on	42
them. The rain cleaned them. It was safe	50
inside the pod, and the peas grew very	58
large. After many weeks, the peas felt a tug	67
on the pod. <i>Snap!</i> The pod was ripped off	76
its vine and tossed into a basket. <i>Crack!</i>	84
The pod popped open and the peas shot	92
out. “We will sleep where we fall,” called	100
out the peas. Over time, the peas sprouted	108
green leaves. The pea vines grew up until	116
they reached a window. A sick little girl	124
watched them grow taller each day.	130
Somehow, the peas gave her hope. “If they	138
can grow and get bigger, then so can I,” she	148
said. And so she did.	153

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 2

Long e Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Hansel and Gretel

Hansel and Gretel lived in a small hut with	9
their father and evil stepmother. “I don’t	16
know what to do,” said their stepmother.	23
“We have little food. Take the children to	31
the forest. Leave them there.” So the	38
father put the children in his cart. He took	47
them through the fields and deep into the	55
forest.	56
But Hensel had heard what the stepmother	63
said. So, he took a large piece of bread and	73
broke it into tiny pieces to make a path.	82
“We will follow these pieces home,” he told	90
Gretel. “I believe this will work.”	96
But after their father left them in the forest,	105
they discovered that the pieces of bread	112
had been eaten by birds. And to make	120
matters worse, Hansel and Gretel ended up	127
in the hut of a mean forest witch. She	136
wanted to eat them, too. But before she	144
could, Hansel and Gretel escaped. And	150
they lived happily ever after.	155

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 2

Long e Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Three English Pigs

Mother Pig lived with her three piglets,	7
Peppy, Pippy and Poppy. Peppy was very	14
dirty. He spent all day rolling in mud.	23
Pippy was kind, but always hungry. She	30
thought only of food. Poppy was smart, but	38
not very large. One day, Mother Pig said	46
she had money to build each piglet a house.	54
Peppy wanted a house of mud. Pippy	61
wanted a house of cabbage. And Poppy	68
wanted a house of bricks. Mother Pig built	76
the houses. But she feared only Poppy's	83
house was safe.	86
One day, Fox went to Peppy's and Pippy's	94
houses. He broke down the doors. The	101
piglets ran to Poppy's house to hide. When	109
Fox got there, the brick door was too	117
strong. So, Fox climbed the chimney.	123
Poppy quickly filled a pot with boiling	130
water. As Fox came down the chimney, he	138
fell into the pot. And the piglets lived safely	147
ever after.	149

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Long e Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

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Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Ugly Duckling

One sunny day, Mother Duck sat on her	8
nest. She waited for her chicks to hatch.	16
One shell cracked. Then another. “Peep,	22
peep,” said the baby chicks. But one large	30
egg had not yet hatched. “This must be a	39
turkey egg,” said Mother Duck. “How did it	47
get into my nest?”	51
One day, that big egg finally hatched. Out	59
popped an ugly chick. The other ducks	66
made fun of him. “Don’t worry, honey,”	73
said Mother Duck. “I know it’s not easy, but	82
you are kind. That’s the key to being	90
happy.” But the ugly duckling was sad. So	98
he swam away and hid.	103
Time passed. One day, the ugly duckling	110
saw three pretty swans. They swam to him.	118
“I’m sorry for being so ugly,” he said as he	128
looked down. And that’s when he saw his	136
face in the water. “I am not a duck or a	147
turkey,” he yelled. “I am a beautiful swan!”	155

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Long e Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Let's Compete!

"Did you know the school is having a contest?" asked Pete. "No," said Eve.	8
"What kind of contest?"	14
Steve walked up and joined his friends.	18
"Did you know the school is having a contest?" he asked.	25
Eve laughed. "Before someone else asks me the same question, just tell me: What kind of contest? And when?"	33
"I'll tell her," said Pete. "It's a play-writing contest. After the winner is picked, the kids who win get to put on their play."	36
"I think we should compete in the contest," said Steve. "We can write a funny play, like Snow White and the Seven Clowns."	42
"What do you think?" asked Pete. He and Steve turned to Eve.	50
"Give me a minute to think," she said. Then Even smiled. "Yes, yes, yes! Let's compete! We will make a great team!"	55
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Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 2

Long o Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Princess and the Pea

Once upon a time a prince wanted to marry	9
a princess. But, she needed to be a real	18
princess. He went all over the land to meet	27
princesses. Sadly, not one was real.	33
One stormy night, the prince heard a knock	41
on the door. There stood a girl. The rain	50
beat down on her. She was wet from her	59
head to her heels. "I am a real princess,"	68
she said. But she didn't look like one. So,	77
the queen set up a test. She put a small	87
green pea on the floor. Then she stacked	95
thirty-three large mattresses on top of it.	103
Next morning, the queen asked the girl,	110
"How did you sleep?" "It was like a bad	119
dream," said the girl. "I believe the bed	127
must be made of rocks. I'm black and blue	136
and weak from no sleep!"	141
"She is a real princess!" screamed the	148
prince. Then he and the princess were	155
married and lived happily ever after.	161

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 2

Long e Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Contest Winner

Pete sat in his chair and wiggled. “I hope I	10
win,” he said.	13
“Our play will get a lot of laughs,” said	22
Steve.	23
“Yes,” said Eve. “Snow White and the	30
Seven Clowns is very funny.”	35
“But before we can put on the play, we have	45
to win.”	47
“Look,” said Steve. “The judges are ready	54
to give out first prize.”	59
“I feel so nervous,” said Pete. “It’s scary to	68
compete in a contest.”	72
“Scary to compete?” asked Eve. “What will	79
you do if we have to put on the play in front	91
of the whole school?” “He’ll faint,” laughed	98
Steve. “As for me, I love acting in plays.”	107
Just then the judges stood up. “And the	115
winner is... Snow White and the Seven	122
Clowns.”	123
Pete and Eve jumped up and down. “Where	131
is Steve?” asked Pete. “Look,” yelled Eve.	138
“He’s the one who fainted!”	143

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 2

Long e Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long e sound that is spelled with an ee, ea, e, e_e, y, ey, or ie.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Rapunzel

Once an old man and woman wanted a	8
child. They lived in a hut near a beautiful	17
garden. But the garden was owned by a	25
witch. “I see my favorite salad greens in	33
that garden,” said the man’s wife. “I’ll just	41
die if I can’t get some.” So her husband	50
climbed over the garden wall to get them.	58
But the mean witch caught him.	64
“For these greens, you must give me your	72
first child,” she screeched. The man cried	79
out in fear. And when Rapunzel was born,	87
the witch locked her away inside a tall	95
tower. After many years, a kind prince was	103
passing by. He heard Rapunzel singing.	109
When he asked her, she let down her long	118
hair for him to climb. The two quickly fell in	128
love. When the witch found out, she cut off	137
Rapunzel’s hair and took her far away to	145
hide her. The prince tried for years to find	154
her. And finally one day he did!	161

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 3

Long i Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long *i* sound that is spelled with an *ie*, *i*, *y*, or *igh*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Fisherman's Wife

A fisherman and his wife lived in a tiny hut	10
by the sea. The hut was a pigsty. "I hate	20
this place," sighed his wife. But the	27
fisherman worked hard to try to make her	35
happy. One day, he caught a very odd fish.	44
"Please let me live," said the fish. "I can	53
grant you many wishes." The fisherman	59
was frightened. He didn't know how to	66
reply. So he dropped the fish back into the	75
water and ran home. "Go get my wish	83
granted," yelled his wife. "I want a bigger	91
home." The fisherman went and asked the	98
fish. "Tonight you'll live in a castle," said	106
the fish. And when the fisherman went	113
home, he did.	116
But his wife was still not happy. "I want a	126
home that reaches the sky," she cried. "Go	134
tell the fish." So that night, he did.	142
"Your wife is so greedy," said the angry	150
fish. "Your castle is now a tiny hut again.	159
Good-bye!"	161

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 3

Long i Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long *i* sound that is spelled with an *ie*, *i*, *y*, or *igh*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Man Who Never Lied

Once there lived a kind man who never lied.	9
Many people near and far knew about this	17
fine man. One day the king heard about	25
him, too. "Find this man," he said. "Bring	33
him to me right away."	38
"Is it true?" asked the king. "You have	46
never told a lie. Not even as a child?"	55
"Yes," said the man. "I have never lied in	64
my entire life." "Hmmm," said the king.	71
"We will see if you lie now. Go tell the	81
queen I'll be home for lunch." The king	89
stood with one foot in the stirrup of his	98
horse's saddle, and one foot on the ground.	106
So, the man went to the queen. "Maybe the	115
king will come for lunch and maybe he will	124
not," he said. "He had one foot in the	133
stirrup and one on the ground. That's all I	142
saw."	143
"The king tried to trick you," said the	151
queen. "But you really are an honest man."	159

Grade 2 • Unit 2 • Week 3

Long i Vowel Teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long *i* sound that is spelled with an *ie*, *i*, *y*, or *igh*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

More About Utah

Utah is a big state. It is the thirteenth	9
biggest in the United States. It has many	17
different land areas, or habitats. It has	24
forests. It has wetlands. And it has	31
deserts. Kings Peak in northern Utah is the	39
highest spot in the state. Beaver Dam	46
Wash National Conservation Area in	59
southern Utah is the lowest. Utah is the	67
second-driest state in the United States.	74
The arid, or dry, parts of the state get only a	85
few inches of rain a year. However, the	93
more humid parts of the state usually get 18	102
or more inches of rain. You can find a lot to	113
do in Utah. The state is known for its	122
beautiful and unique views. Many tourists	128
come back again and again. That's	134
because Utah has five national parks, seven	141
national monuments, and quite a few state	148
attractions.	154

Grade 2 • Unit 3 • Week 1

Long u vowel teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long *u* sound that is spelled with an *ew*, *ue*, *u*, or *u_e*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Rescue Park

In our small town we have a special park. It is a park for rescued animals. Here the animals are kept safe. They are housed in large, open spaces where they can run and play. Each year, hundreds of school kids visit the rescue park. The money from the visitors helps the park continue to save animals. If you visit our town's rescue park, you will find a lot to do. You can watch the animals eat, run, play, and even act silly. In one corner of the park, there is a special picnic area for visitors. Here you can have a barbecue. But there are rules about the kind of fuel you can use for the fire. The park owner doesn't want the animals hurt in any way. Our rescue park is truly a place that values animals. We are lucky to have it in our town!

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Long u vowel teams

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a long *u* sound that is spelled with an *ew*, *ue*, *u*, or *u_e*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Camping Out

After school ended, Dad took me on a	8
camping trip. We drove from our home in	16
Colorado to Utah. My mother packed food	23
for our trip. It was great, but too much to	33
carry. Dad laughed when he saw it. “I think	42
your mother packed food for eight, not	49
two!”	50
Dad and I hiked into the forest. The view	59
was beautiful. “Where should we put our	66
tent?” I asked.	69
“Let’s find a place below these trees. We	77
need a place near the river.” When we	85
found the perfect spot, Dad and I pitched	93
the tent. “This will be our house for the	102
next few days,” said Dad. Then he frowned.	110
“What’s that noise? It sounds like music.	117
Usually we are the only humans for miles!”	125
Dad and I walked to the river. Six kids were	135
playing music and swimming. “Now I know	142
what we can do with our extra food!” I said.	152

Grade 2 • Unit 3 • Week 1

Long u vowel teams

Lightning Reading

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Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

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Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Shark Teeth

Deep in the dark ocean, a shark quietly	8
swims. It moves slowly. Its round,	14
unblinking eyes look near and far. What is	22
it looking for? Its next meal.	28
But what do sharks eat? Each kind of	36
shark eats different foods. How do we	43
know? A shark's teeth are the key to what	52
it can eat. The great white shark has about	61
three hundred large, jagged teeth. Its sharp	68
teeth are used for ripping, grabbing, and	75
tearing food, such as seals and sea lions.	83
Sand tiger sharks have thin, razor-sharp	90
teeth. They look like pointy knives. Their	97
teeth are used for catching smooth and	104
slippery meals, such as octopus and squid.	111
Nurse sharks have long teeth with ridges.	118
Their teeth are used for grinding food, such	126
as crabs and lobsters. Unlike us, sharks	133
have many rows of teeth. When a shark	141
loses a tooth, one just moves forward in its	150
place. Shark teeth are truly amazing!	156

Grade 2 • Unit 3 • Week 2

r-controlled vowels

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *ar*, *ed*, or *ing*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

Everglades

The Everglades are in Florida. They are wetlands. That means the Everglades have a lot of water. In the swirling rivers, marshes, and swamps, amazing plants and animals can be found.

First, you can see mangrove trees, pine trees, and interesting plants, like orchids and bladderworts. Then you can see over 350 kinds of birds. These include storks, spoonbills, and egrets. Finally, you can see animals like alligators, snakes, manatees, and the Florida panther. The manatees and panthers are endangered, or at risk of dying out.

The Everglades have changed over the years. Animals new to the Everglades have done harm. Invader animals like the Burmese python were let loose by their owners. They are too large in number now. And they eat too many animals that live there. They even eat alligators. People are working hard to protect the Everglades from these invader animals.

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Grade 2 • Unit 3 • Week 3

r-controlled vowels

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *er*, *ir*, or *ur*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
WPM				

The Hurt Turtle

What do you do if you find an injured, or	10
hurt, turtle? Surprisingly, many turtles are	16
found hurt each year. Some are found on	24
the sides of roads. Others are found	31
lurking in the tall grasses of someone's	38
yard. Why? These turtles might have	44
escaped their homes. Or they might have	51
been turned loose.	54
What can you do? You can rescue the	62
turtles and make sure they survive. But be	70
careful. Some turtles bite! Don't pick up	77
the turtle. Instead, push it into a box. Then	86
hurry and take the turtle to a vet. That's	95
better than leaving the turtle where you	102
found it. You don't want to risk further	110
injury to the animal.	114
During the vet's exam, the vet can check	122
the turtle all over, x-ray it, and give it	131
medicine. Sadly though, most turtles found	137
cannot be returned to the wild. But the vet	146
can help find it a great home!	153

Grade 2 • Unit 3 • Week 3

r-Controlled vowels

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *er*, *ir*, or *ur*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Visit the Everglades

"We are going to take the best trip ever,"	9
said Dad. "A trip you'll never forget!"	16
"Where?" asked Kirk and Amber. "Is it	23
better than last year's winter trip when we	31
went skiing? Is it far away or close by?"	40
they wanted to know. "It is a place that is	50
fun for both boys and girls. It is a place you	61
both have wanted to visit. And it is a place	71
few kids get to go to."	77
"We need more clues," said Kirk and	84
Amber. "Okay," said Dad. "It is a place	92
filled with water and interesting plants and	99
animals. We will take a boat to see them.	108
Snapping alligators, beautiful birds, huge	113
snakes, and wild panthers can be found	120
there." "I know!" yelled Kirk and Amber.	127
"It's the Everglades." "Yes," said Dad.	133
"Now, go pack--socks hiking boots, slacks,	140
shirts, hats, and whatever else you need.	147
And don't forget your camera!"	152

Grade 2 • Unit 3 • Week 3

r-controlled vowels

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *ar*, *ed*, or *ing*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

“Why” Stories

Have you ever heard a short story that told	9
why something happened? Maybe the	14
story told why a camel has a hump. Or,	23
maybe the story told why zebras have	30
stripes. These stories are called pourquoi	36
(por-KWAH) tales. “Pourquoi” is the French	42
word for “why”.	45
Long ago people didn’t have science books	52
as we do now. They wondered about	59
plants, animals, weather, and other things.	65
So, they told stories to explain them. These	73
stories are still popular today!	78
Flip through a book of these stories. It will	87
be hard to pick your favorite. For example,	95
there’s the story about why deer have	102
horns. In this story, a deer wins its horns in	112
a race with a sneaky rabbit. Then there’s	120
the story of Pecos Bill riding a roaring,	128
soaring tornado. This story--also a tall	135
tale-- tells why the Grand Canyon was	142
formed. How fun!	145

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 1

r-Controlled vowels

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *or*, *oar*, or *ore*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

That's How I Saw It!

Long ago, Ant and Whale saw something	7
strange. It was an animal they had never	15
seen before. So they went to Wise Owl to	24
find out what it was. "What do you see?"	33
asked Wise Owl. "Tell me everything."	39
"It wore a black and white suit," said Ant.	48
"It was very big, but it had little arms. It	58
walked on shore and looked around. Soon,	65
more just like it came on shore. There were	74
hundreds of them. Maybe it was a new kind	83
of human?"	85
"That's not right," said Whale. "It was black	93
and white. But it was very small. It swam	102
through the water like a dolphin. Maybe it	110
was a new kind of fish?"	116
"Ahhh," said Wise Owl. "You both saw the	124
same thing. But you saw it in your own	133
way. However, I see it clearly. What you	141
saw... was a penguin."	145

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 1

r-Controlled /ôr/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *or*, *oar*, or *ore*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Pecos Bill's Tornado

Long ago everyone in the West knew Pecos	8
Bill. He was a cowboy who caused an	16
uproar everywhere he went. He rode a	23
mountain lion instead of a horse. He even	31
had a rattlesnake for a rope. Or so they	40
say!	41
Even though Pecos Bill rode a mountain	48
lion, one day something harder to ride	55
showed up. It was a roaring wind -- the	63
biggest, meanest tornado anyone had ever	69
seen. Pecos Bill grabbed this tornado.	75
Then he hopped on and soared from one	83
state to the next. He and the tornado	91
headed west to California. The tornado	97
caused so much rain that it washed out	105
deep holes in the ground. That's how the	113
Grand Canyon was formed. When the	119
tornado had no more roar left, Pecos Bill	127
fell off. He hit the ground so hard it	136
dropped below sea level. The spot where	143
he landed is now called Death Valley.	150

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 1

r-Controlled /ôr/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *or*, *oar*, or *ore*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Fox and Cat

Fox always bragged to Cat about how smart	8
he was. "I can escape any danger," he	17
said. "I have a hundred ways to get away.	26
You have only one--hiding. What good is	34
that?" he sneered.	36
Just then Cat raised her ears. "Oh, dear!	44
Do you hear that?" she asked. "It's a pack	53
of dogs. And they are near us! I always	62
steer clear of these pesky animals." Cat	69
raced up a nearby tree in fear.	76
Cat peered out from her hiding place. But	84
Fox just stood there. "Let me think how I	93
will escape," he said. Fox thought of one	101
way, then another. And while he was trying	109
to decide how to escape, the dogs got him.	118
Cat sighed. "It is clear to me that it's better	128
to have one sure way to escape than a	137
hundred--especially if you can't decide	143
which to use in your time of need."	151

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 2

r-Controlled /ir/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *ear*, *eer*, or *ere*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Here or There?

Once, a flock of birds lived in a large tree in	11
the country. It had been a great place to	20
live for many years. But over time the tree	29
grew old. The bird's nests were no longer	37
safe.	38
One winter a severe storm hit. "What will	46
we do?" asked the birds. The king bird	54
said, "This is our home. We must stay	63
here. The storm will pass." But the storm	71
raged on.	72
"What will we do?" asked the birds again.	80
Just then a little bluebird whispered, "I	87
know a safer place. It's only a mere mile	96
away in the city." The bird was so sweet	105
and sincere that the other birds agreed to	113
fly there.	115
When the birds got to the city, a bright	124
sphere of light poked through the clouds.	131
"Look!" they said, "We're in our new home	139
and the sun is greeting us."	145

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 2

r-Controlled /ir/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *ear*, *eer*, or *ere*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

King Grisly Beard

Once there was a king who had a beautiful	9
daughter. But she acted spoiled. One day,	16
the king had a big feast. He invited four	25
other kings to attend. The princess	31
sneered at each one. “Your beard looks	39
like a mop,” she said to the king from a	49
nearby city. “I’ll call you Grisly Beard.” Her	57
father was mad and said she had to marry	66
the next man she saw.	70
The next day a poor fiddler knocked on her	79
door. The princess shed tears as the	87
fiddler took her to live in the nearby city.	97
She even had to work as a maid. Everyone	106
jeered at her. One day the king of the	115
nearby city asked to meet her. The	123
princess shook in fear. But to her surprise,	132
the king was her husband. “I’m Grisly	139
Beard,” he said. “I pretended to be the	148
fiddler to teach you a lesson. But I’ve	154
always loved you.”	

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 2

r-Controlled /ir/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *ear*, *eer*, or *ere*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Manners in Tales

Tales are fun to read. But some tales also	9
teach lessons. Goldilocks and the Three	15
Bears is a popular tale. It shows good and	24
bad manners.	26
Manners are the way boys and girls act.	34
Saying “thank you,” and “please” show	40
good manners. Playing fair, and treating	46
others with care, show good manners, too.	53
When you share a toy, you are also using	62
good manners. However, pulling	66
someone’s hair is bad manners. It is also	74
bad manners when you stare at someone.	81
Goldilocks, the girl with yellow hair, knows	88
a lot about bad manners. For example, she	96
snuck into the bears’ house without being	103
asked in. She ate their food. She broke	111
their chairs. She even slept in their beds.	119
Every bad behavior she could think of, she	127
did. Luckily, the bears were kind and didn’t	135
hurt Goldilocks. They just scared her	141
away. Maybe next time she’ll knock first!	148

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 3

r-Controlled /âr/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *air*, *are*, *ear*, or *ere*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Tell the Tale

You have heard the story “Goldilocks and	7
the Three Bears.” This story from long ago	15
and far away has been told over and over.	24
Each time, a nosy girl with golden hair	32
sneaks into a bear’s hut and makes a big	41
mess. But what if this story was told in a	51
different way?	53
What if the story could take place	60
anywhere?	61
What if instead of porridge, Goldilocks ate a	69
big bowl of rotten pears, or a yummy pizza?	78
What if the story was told by someone in it,	88
such as Little Bear?	92
What if the story was about a boy instead of	102
a girl? And... what if a dragon wearing a	111
dress showed up?	114
There are so many fun ways the story could	123
be told. Now it’s your turn to tell it. Write a	134
new who, what, where, when and why.	141
Write the story any way you want!	148

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 3

r-Controlled /âr/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *air*, *are*, *ear*, or *ere*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Two Boys, One Day

Don't read the underlined words. They tell who's speaking.

<u>News Reporter:</u> I hear you saw something odd in the sky last night. Tell me about it.	5 15
<u>Boy 1:</u> Yes. I was sitting in a chair in my kitchen. Something shot through the air--fast! It looked like it was on fire. So I didn't dare go outside. I think it was a rocket crash-landing.	24 31 43 52
<u>Boy 2:</u> That's not what I think. I did see something shoot through the air like a flare. It was fast and far away. But I was standing outside. So I could see it wasn't a rocket. I felt a bit scared. Even the hair on my neck stood up! My dad said it was probably a comet. Or, maybe it was a meteor crashing to Earth.	60 69 78 89 99 109 117
<u>News Reporter:</u> Thank you, boys, for all that you shared. Maybe this mystery will never be solved. But what you saw last night was indeed a rare sight!	123 131 139 143

Grade 2 • Unit 4 • Week 3

r-Controlled /âr/ Syllable Patterns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *air*, *are*, *ear*, or *ere*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Start Your Computer

Kids love computers. They can play games on them. They can find answers to questions. They can even watch videos or write to friends. But some parents and teachers worry. They think it might be a mistake to spend so much time on the computer. They fear kids won't spend enough time playing with and talking to one another.

But experts, or people who know a lot about this, have given their advice. These experts have found little to worry about. They say computers provide many ways to talk and share with others. For example, kids learn to take turns when playing games, and to help their friends.

Now, some teachers are making sure their students never work alone on the computer. They also use a timer to decide the number of minutes each team of kids spends on the computer. In that simple way all kids are able to enjoy it!

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Grade 2 • Unit 5 • Week 1

Vowel -C-e. Consonant +le

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a vowel-C-e or consonant +le.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

A Kid Did That!

Few people know that many inventions were made by kids. But these smart boys and girls have changed the way we live. Caleb is a nine-year-old boy. He's an inventor of a new kind of toilet. This noisy toilet has a "flush reminder." When you sit down, a signal is sent to a switch on the toilet. When you get up, the signal beeps. Now you can't forget to flush!

Sydney was only four when she invented something. Her parents had blocked her from getting into some cabinets. *Maybe there were toys inside*, she thought. So, she used suction cups and an extension pole to open them. Now her invention is used by people in wheelchairs to open things.

Like these kids, you don't need to be grown-up to be an inventor. Join a group like FIRST or "By Kids, For Kids" and everyone will enjoy your amazing inventions now!

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Grade 2 • Unit 5 • Week 2

Vowel teams *oi*, *oy*

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *oi* or *oy* vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Wow! Robots

Robots have been made to make our lives	8
easier. Now they are being made to keep	17
us safe. ASH is a robot. It has arms and	27
legs as we do. But ASH can do something	36
extra special. It can fight fires. ASH can	44
see through thick smoke with its special	51
head. Its special legs help it climb stairs to	60
reach any fire. Its special arms can be used	69
to throw chemicals on the fire to put it out.	78
Although ASH looks like a person, it does	86
things that aren't safe for people to do.	94
However, not all robots look like people.	101
Robots can also look like animals. The U.S.	109
military has a robot that looks like a dog.	118
This dog follows the soldiers. It can carry	126
up to 400 pounds of stuff around. That way,	135
the soldiers don't get as tired. What a great	144
idea!	145

Grade 2 • Unit 5 • Week 3

Vowel Teams ou/ow

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *ou* or *ow* vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Emperor's New Suit

Long ago lived an emperor. He spent all	8
his money on clothes. And all day the	16
emperor could be found in his dressing	23
room.	24
One day two sneaky men cruised into town.	32
They claimed to be weavers. They claimed	39
to have the best cloth in the world. Soon	48
the emperor heard. He demanded they	54
make a suit suitable only for him.	61
The emperor's servants went to see the suit	69
being made. The weavers acted like they	76
were sewing the cloth. But there was no	84
cloth. Nothing. The servants didn't want to	91
seem foolish, so they told the emperor the	99
suit was beautiful.	102
The day came for the emperor to try on the	112
suit. The townspeople gathered to watch	118
him. The emperor saw no suit, but	125
pretended it was beautiful. The	130
townspeople too pretended it was beautiful	136
until a young boy yelled, "Yoo-hoo,	143
Emperor. Aren't you cold with no clothes	150
on?"	151

Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 1

Vowel Teams /ōō/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo, ui, ew, ue, u, ou, or oe vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Look for the Clues

What new tales have you read? Were they legends, tall tales, or folktales? Think. And look for the clues.

Clue 1: These stories are not true. But they are based on real people many knew long ago. What are they? These stories are legends. The story of Paul Bunyan and his blue ox named Babe is an example.

Clue 2: These stories seem bigger than life. But they are told as if they were true. They are also funny. What are they? These stories are tall tales. The story of Pecos Bill riding a tornado that blew across the West is an example.

Clue 3: These stories explain something about life. They can be about people or talking animals. There might even be magic. Numbers are important, like “The Three Little Pigs” or “The Seven Chinese Brothers.” What are they? These stories are folktales.

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Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 1

Vowel Teams /ōō/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo, ui, ew, ue, u, ou, or oe vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

The Foolish Wolf

One day Wolf was walking along a path. He	9
saw three men sitting around a fire with a	18
large pot. He wanted to eat the men. But	27
they looked sad. “Why are you sad?” he	35
asked.	36
“We wanted to make cachupa, our favorite	43
stew. It tastes better than the juice of the	52
most delicious fruit. But we have no	59
mandioca. Its large roots would make the	66
stew perfect.”	68
“Then go to the woods and get some,” said	77
Wolf.	78
“We are too old,” said the men. “But you	87
are young. We will give you half the food if	97
you get the roots.” So Wolf got the roots.	106
“When will the stew be ready?” asked Wolf.	114
“Very soon,” said the men. “But it would be	123
more suitable for you if it had some meat.	132
Go near the river and catch a rabbit.” Wolf	141
ran to the river, but ... SNAP! It was a trap.	151
“Now we have the meat for our stew!”	159
laughed the men.	162

Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 1

Vowel Teams /ōō/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *oo*, *ui*, *ew*, *ue*, *u*, *ou*, or *oe* vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Point River Times

June 4 Ruth Truman's second grade class at Point River Elementary School is putting on a play Friday. This is the highlight of the Youth Day celebration. This end-of-the-year play was the result of weeks of hard work.	2	Then the class voted on	77
	5	their favorite. "You won't be	82
	10	surprised by the winner,"	86
	14	said Mrs. Truman. "It was	91
	21	the popular tale 'Stone	95
	26	Soup'! My students read it	100
	28	earlier in the year."	104
	35		
	41	Mrs. Truman is proud of	109
		her students' interest in	113
Mrs. Truman explained that the students formed groups of three to pick their favorite tale. They then turned the tales into plays. All the groups in the class performed their plays.	45	reading. "To tell the truth, I	119
	50	think the library will be busy	125
	56	this June, July, and August	130
	62	with my young students	134
	68	asking for books, books, and	139
	72	more books. They really	143
		love to read!"	146

Vowel Teams /ôô/

Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 1

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo, ui, ew, ue, u, ou, or oe vowel team.
Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

The Number Three

Who knew three was such a popular number? It's true! Let me explain why. First, think about it. There are "The Three Little Pigs," "The Three Billy Goats Gruff," "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," and many other stories with three in the title. Second, look around you. Many things come in threes. There is red, white, and blue--the three colors of the American flag. There is the beginning, middle and end -- the three main parts of a story. There is also the saying "Three's a crowd!" The use of the number three is not a new thing. In "Rumpelstiltskin," the queen had three days to guess the little man's name. And after the beanstalk grew in "Jack and the Beanstalk," Jack had to get three things from the giant's castle. Try it! Look for clues in the stories you read. Can you find three?

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Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 1

Vowel Teams /ōō/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo, ui, ew, ue, u, ou, or oe vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

The Red Shoes

Once upon a time there was a pretty, young	9
girl. She had no shoes for the summer	17
because she was poor. In winter, she wore	25
large shoes made of wood. They felt like	33
canoes on her feet and left them red. A	42
shoemaker's wife saw this and felt sad. So	50
she made the girl a small pair of shoes from	60
old bits of red cloth.	65
One day the little girl's mother died. An old	74
lady took her into her home. The old lady	83
hated all red shoes, so she burned them.	91
Years later, the girl needed new shoes. The	99
old lady sent the girl to buy them. The girl	109
disobeyed the old lady and bought red	116
shoes once worn by a princess. But they	124
were cursed shoes and she couldn't get	131
them off. They made her feet dance and	139
dance until she got dizzy and fell down.	147
And when she got up, she started to dance	156
again and could not stop.	161

Grade 2 • Unit 6• Week 1

Vowel Teams /ôô/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo, ui, ew, ue, u, ou, or oe vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Who Was Aesop?

Aesop was a writer. No one is sure where	9
he was born. But his name means	16
“Ethiopia.” That’s a place in Africa.	22
However, he lived much of his life,	29
including his youth, in Greece. He lived	36
around 600 BCE and was a slave. Some	44
think he was short and odd looking.	51
His fables were first printed in English in	59
1484. Many people think Aesop heard	65
these stories, wrote them down, and	71
grouped them into a book. The truth might	79
never be known. But students all over the	87
world enjoy reading them.	91
Each of his fables teaches a lesson about	99
life. A moral is added to the bottom of each	109
story to explain this lesson. It’s something	116
important for you, the young reader, to	123
remember. Some examples are “slow and	129
steady wins the race” from “The Hare and	137
the Tortoise,” and “little friends may	143
become big friends” from “The Lion and the	151
Mouse.”	152

Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 1

Vowel Teams /ōō/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo, ui, ew, ue, u, ou, or oe vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

The Fir Tree

Out in the woods stood a little fir tree. He	10
had a good place to stand between other	18
trees on the mountain. The sun shone	25
brightly. The air was fresh. But the tree	33
wanted to see the world. He could not be	42
happy because it was all he could think of.	51
Woodcutters came and cut down the bigger	58
trees around him. They were made into	65
masts for boats to sail the world.	72
At holiday time, smaller trees were cut	79
down. They went to warm homes and were	87
decorated. The fir tree wanted this so	94
badly. Finally one holiday, he was cut down	102
and put in a home. But when the holiday	111
was over, he was put outside. The fir tree	120
should have been happy for all he had had	129
in the woods. He would be so happy if he	139
could have it all again. However, that was	147
over now. And so is this story.	154

Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 2

Vowel Teams /o/ o/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an oo or ou vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Rumpelstiltskin

Once there was an old miller. He had the most	10
beautiful daughter in the world. One day the	18
king demanded money from the miller. He had	26
none but lied and said his daughter could spin	35
straw into gold. The king locked the daughter in	44
a room with straw. While she began to bawl,	53
the door opened. A little man jumped in. He	62
said he would spin the straw into gold if she	72
gave him her first child. At dawn, the king came	82
and saw the gold. Because the king was so	91
happy, he married the miller's daughter.	97
Soon they had a child. One day the man came	107
to get the child. The queen cried, "This is awful!	117
What can I do?"	121
"I will let you keep the child if you can guess my	133
name in three days," the man said. On the third	143
day, the queen's messenger caught the man	150
singing his name: Rumpelstiltskin. The child	156
was saved!	158

Grade 2 • Unit 6 • Week 3

Vowel Teams /ô/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *al*, *aw*, *au*, or *aw* vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.
Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

The Frog Prince

One night a princess took a walk in the	9
woods. She came to a pool of warm water.	18
The princess sat there and played with a	26
small golden ball. She threw the ball higher	34
and higher. Oops! The ball fell into the	42
water.	43
“If only I could have my ball back,” she	52
cried. “I would give all my jewels for that	61
ball.” A frog heard this. He popped out of	70
the water and began talking to the princess.	78
“I want to come to your palace,” said the	87
frog. But the princess thought he wouldn’t	94
really come. So she finally agreed, if the	102
frog would get her gold ball. He did.	110
The next three days, the frog hopped to her	119
palace. And on the third night, he kissed	127
the princess. The princess screamed. But	133
the spell put on the frog by an evil witch	143
had been broken and he turned into a	151
prince.	152

Grade 2 • Unit 6• Week 3

Vowel Teams /ô/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *al*, *aw*, *au*, or *aw* vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

The Little Mermaid

In the deep warm waters lived the old Sea King.	10
The Sea King had six small princesses--all	18
mermaids. The youngest was curious about the	25
world above the sea. And when she turned	33
fifteen, she was allowed to rise above the water	42
for the first time. She saw a boat. Inside sat a	53
young prince.	55
But one night a terrible storm came and tossed	64
the prince into the water. The little mermaid	72
saved him. She fell in love and wanted to be	82
with the prince forever. So she asked a witch to	92
get rid of her tail so she could walk. In return	103
she had to give up the ability to talk.	112
The prince fell in love with her, but he wanted to	123
marry the mermaid who had saved him. But she	132
couldn't tell the prince the truth because she	140
couldn't talk.	142
The witch realized how much the prince loved	150
the little mermaid, so she gave her back her	159
voice. Once the prince knew who she really	167
was, they married and lived happily ever after.	175

Grade 2 • Unit 6• Week 3

Vowel Teams /ô/

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *al*, *aw*, *au*, or *aw* vowel team.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

A Local Discovery

<p>Newtown News August 20</p>	<p>Mr. Knowlings of Redwood Street sure was surprised when he opened an old chest found in his attic. Mr. Knowlings bought the house last month. He had heard the home was once part of the Underground Railroad during the Civil War. He knew he might find something from that time. But he had no idea how important his find would be. Mr. Knowlings found a stack of letters, two old photos, some clothes from the 1800's and several household items.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>39</p>	<p>44</p>	<p>51</p>	<p>60</p>	<p>66</p>	<p>73</p>	<p>80</p>	<p>84</p>	<p>“When I opened the letters, I was shocked,” said Mr. Knowlings. “I’m sure some museum will want these letters. They tell of all the men, women, and children--former slaves--hidden here. They are signed by the judge who once owned this house. I can imagine him writing the letters by candlelight. Reading them is like stepping back in time. Incredible!”</p>	<p>90 94 98 103 110 114 119 125 131 136 141 145</p>
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Grade 2 • Unit 7 • Week 1

Compound Words

Lightning Reading

*Highlight compound words as well as those with a *wr*, *kn*, or *gn*.
Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.
Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Reading Pictures

Almost everyone has read a story they couldn't forget. But have you ever "read" a photograph you couldn't forget? Like books, you can "read" pictures. And you can learn a lot from them.

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Taking photos has been a popular way to remember past events. Photos of families, animals, and places can take us back in time. The first photos were black and white. Looking at them can teach us about how people lived long ago. We see how they dressed and what their homes looked like. Most show people sitting and staring at the camera. No one smiles. When color photos began, things changed a bit. We can see kids running and playing, people smiling, and lots of details about how they lived.

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112
119
123

Whenever you see an old photo, ask yourself: What details do I see? What does it remind me of? What can I learn from "reading" this photo?

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139
148
150

Grade 2 • Unit 7 • Week 2

Inflectional endings

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with an *-ed* or *-ing* ending.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Uncovering Egypt

Across Egypt, great discoveries are being made every year. One recent discovery is an ancient Egyptian city. But this city wasn't buried under the sand. It was under the water. Scientists want to know what happened to it. Since it's an underwater city, learning about it has been a big problem.

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Scientists know the city was called Herakleion. It was named after the Greek god Hercules. The Egyptians also called the city Rahinet, which means "mouth of the sea." That means it was once a port city. But now it's ten yards under the sea.

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Scientists have found huge statues, temple walls, old shipwrecks, and hundreds of artifacts. Scientists think the city was covered when a huge earthquake hit 1,200 years ago. That caused a giant tidal wave to wash over the city. The underwater city had quietly rested undiscovered... up until now!

101
108
116
123
133
139
143

Grade 2 • Unit 7 • Week 3

Related Root Words

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a prefix and/or suffix.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Weather Risks

Many people listen to the TV weather report early each morning. It tells them how to dress for the day. It tells them which streets are best to drive on. It also warns them of bad weather. This is especially important during winter. A lot of dangers come with winter.	8 17 27 37 45 50
At any time, a blizzard can hit. Children love this because school is called off. But bad weather brings problems. Several feet of snow can pile up on streets and rooftops. This can cause roofs to fall in. The windchill can also drop, making it dangerous to be outside.	59 67 74 83 92 99
A low windchill can cause frostbite. It is dangerous both for people and animals. Animals' lives can be at risk because they can't find food. They also might not be able to find a place to keep warm. So the best winter weather advice is "stay indoors!"	107 113 122 133 142 146

Grade 2 • Unit 8 • Week 1

Irregular Plural Nouns

Lightning Reading

*Highlight the irregular plurals: *people*, *feet*, and *children*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Beach Erosion

The beach is an area most people enjoy.	8
Swimmers, surfers, divers, painters, and visitors	14
from all over can spend hours at the beach on a	25
sunny day. But people who live near a beach	34
see one thing others don't notice. They see that	43
the beach is always changing. Why? Wind and	51
water hitting the beach cause it to erode. That	60
means wind and water change the shape of the	69
beach. They chip away at rocks. And they	77
cause the sand to move.	82
As one writer wrote, "You can never step on	91
the same beach twice." This can be dangerous.	99
Big rocks can fall down on people. Houses on	108
beachside cliffs can fall into the sea. Today,	116
landowners are working to slow down beach	123
erosion. Some are bringing in extra sand.	130
Others are placing long mounds of rocks	137
offshore. These rocks break the force of the	145
waves hitting the beach.	149

Grade 2 • Unit 8 • Week 2

-er, -or Endings

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with "er" or "or" endings.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Let's Debate

Don't read the underlined words. They tell who's speaking.

Is living on the coast a good thing? Here's what two kids said. What do you think?	9 17
Pro (Kids for Living on the Coast)	24
<u>Jaden</u> : Living on the coast is a good thing. The fresh air makes people feel happier and healthier. The beach is also the prettiest place to relax. The sound of the waves reduces stress. Many people go to the beach for vacation. They exercise more there -- running faster, swimming longer, and taking sun-filled walks.	32 40 48 56 64 70 77 78
Con (Kids against Living on the Coast)	85
<u>Logan</u> : It costs a lot of money to live on the coast. And the coast isn't the safest place to be. It gets lots of storms, like hurricanes and floods. And since there's beach erosion, large rocks can fall on you. Your house can even tumble into the ocean. Also, if you don't keep covered, you can get a terrible sunburn!	95 104 113 120 129 138 145

Grade 2 • Unit 8 • Week 3

Comparatives -er, -est

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with with an *er* or *est* ending.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Kids in Business

When it comes to business, one thing is	8
certain. Kids are able to start and run a	17
successful business. It might not be as easy as	26
setting up a stand to sell tasty lemonade. But it	36
really can be fun.	40
Leanna Archer started a business in her	47
parents' basement. She sells products for hair.	54
She used her grandma's secret recipe. Her	61
parents were so happy with her success, they	69
joined her business. Fraser Doherty also used	76
his grandma's recipe. He started selling her	83
special jam. Demand quickly skyrocketed!	88
Now he sells to grocery stores. Abbey Fleck	96
had one great love -- crispy, yummy bacon. But	104
it was messy to cook. So at age eight, she	114
invented a device for cooking bacon carefully in	122
the microwave. No more mess!	127
So remember, like these kids, you can start a	136
business, too. All you need is a great idea and	146
lots of hard work.	150

Grade 2 • Unit 9• Week 1

Comparatives -y, -ly ending

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words that show comparison and end with a y or /y.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Making Ice Cream

Long ago, one tasty treat became a favorite of men, women and children everywhere --ice cream! But how is this amazing food made?

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15
23

It all starts on a farm with a cow and some chickens. That's where the milk and eggs come from. These ingredients go to a factory. There they are mixed together with sugar in a large vat. The mixture is then heated to kill any germs. Next, flavors are added. After that, the mixture is pumped through large tubes to be whipped and frozen. A machine pours the ice cream into containers.

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42
50
59
68
76
84
92
95

The containers are shipped to stores and shops in trucks with freezers. At the store you can buy your favorite flavor, take it home, and enjoy. But don't wait too long --ice cream melts quickly! Above all else, remember: don't eat too much.

102
111
120
129
137
138

Grade 2 • Unit 9 • Week 2

Schwa

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words that show comparison and end with a y or /y.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Set Up a Business

Have you ever wanted to start a business?	8
Do you have a knack for making something? Or	17
do you have a special skill? Then maybe that's	26
a sign you should be a business owner. But	35
how do you get started?	40
First, find the perfect business idea for you.	48
Pick something you love to do. Once you've	56
decided on an idea, get as much knowledge as	65
you can about how to run a business. Read	74
about starting a business. Write to people who	82
own businesses. Include questions about	87
common mistakes to avoid. There are no dumb	95
questions when you're learning something new!	101
Listen carefully to people's advice. Then make	108
a business plan. Have people you trust look at	117
the plan. Revise it as needed.	123
Finally, get the start-up money and materials	131
you'll need. What's left? Know it will take time.	140
But work hard, have fun, and make a lot of	150
money!	151

Grade 2 • Unit 9 • Week 3

Silent Letters

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with a *wr*, *kn*, *gn*, or *mb*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Art from Trash

When you walk by a trash can you might not notice the materials it contains. You probably only notice the trash's strong smell. But some artists have turned people's trash into art! These artists' works are changing how we look at garbage.

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42

Richard and Judith Selby Lang live in California. They collect trash from a nearby beach. They find lots of plastic trash--pieces of garbage bags, small children's toys, and old shoes. They use the plastic pieces to make collage art. They take pride in making something beautiful out of trash.

49
56
65
72
80
87
92

Some artists who use trash have become famous. El Anatsui is from Ghana in Africa. Some of his pieces hang in museums in New York City. Much of his art is made using flattened bottle caps. His art tells what he thinks about trash and recycling. He wants to open the world's eyes to some important issues.

99
107
116
125
133
141
149

Grade 2 • Unit 10 • Week 1

Possessives (singular and plural)

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with that have an apostrophe to show possession.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Recycle, Reuse

In the United States we buy more than 29 billion bottles of water a year. What is the result? A lot of plastic trash ends up on our streets! To correct this problem, many places have passed laws. These laws require people to recycle plastic bottles. The recycled plastic bottles can be turned into things like carpets and clothes.	9 18 28 35 43 49 57 59
However, most plastic bottles are brought to big trash dumps. This is unhealthful for Earth. Some of these bottles end up in rivers, lakes, or oceans. They are unsafe for the animals living there. What can you do?	66 74 84 92 97
You can recycle all of your bottles. Recycling one plastic bottle can save enough energy to power a lightbulb for six hours. You can also buy a drinking bottle and reuse it. Do this instead of buying more plastic bottles. Every person can make a big difference with these small changes.	104 111 120 130 137 145 148

Grade 2 • Unit 10 • Week 2

Prefixes

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words that have the prefix *un-*, *re-*, or *dis*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				

Old Plane, New Home

Look around you. Many objects you see can	8
be turned into other things. For example, water	16
can be turned into ice. Sand can be turned into	26
beautiful sand castles. Or, it can be heated and	35
turned into glass. Plastic trash can be made	43
into many useful things like clothes or home	51
items. But what if someone gave you an old,	60
useless airplane?	62
One man in Oregon turned a plane into his	71
home! He lives in this wonderful home for half	80
the year. It isn't the most colorful or fancy	89
place, but it has lots of room.	96
Of course, he has to explain to people why	105
he lives in a plane! But this man is not alone.	116
The list of things you can make from an airplane	126
is endless. People have made homes,	132
restaurants, even hotels out of strong planes	139
that are no longer flying.	144

Grade 2 • Unit 10• Week 3

Suffixes

Lightning Reading

*Highlight words with the suffix *-ful* or *-less*.

Please read for 1 minute. Count the words that you read correctly.

Try to beat your score each time.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Time				