



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills
8th Edition

Maze Benchmark

Grade 7

Student Materials

Name: _____

Date: _____

Practice Passage

Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he takes a school _____ to go to school. In the _____, he also takes a bus home.



Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____

Adjusted Score: _____

Archimedes

Archimedes was a Greek mathematician, inventor, astronomer, and philosopher. He was born in the Greek city-state Syracuse over two thousand years ago. Syracuse is on the coast of Sicily, an island in the Ionian Sea that is part of Italy. Very little is known about Archimedes' life. A biography that was written by a friend of his is lost. We believe that his father was an astronomer. He may have spent time studying in Alexandria, in Egypt, an important seat of learning and scholarship in the ancient world. He spent most of his life in Syracuse, but his work spread all over the ancient world.

Though Archimedes invented many machines, studied astronomy at night-time, and philosophized, mathematics was his greatest love and the subject he

Keep going 

in his essays. He discovered formulas the surface area and volume of sphere.

He calculated the value of pi, number that describes the ratio of circle's

circumference to its diameter. He on the concept of infinity. He a

system for estimating the number grains of sand it would take fill the universe.

His math was and precise, and meets modern-day standards

geometry and calculus. He also had great mechanical mind. His knowledge of

showed itself in his mathematical work, also in the machines he was

for during his lifetime. He explained levers work, designed pulley

systems, and the catapult.

For much of Archimedes' , Rome and Carthage were at war each

Keep going 

other, and fought for control Sicily. Archimedes designed war machines to
Syracuse. He made catapults, and something a claw, which may have been
kind of crane with a grappling at the end that could attack on the
sea from inside the walls. He may have invented giant that could use
the reflected rays the sun to set ships on . For two years, Rome had Syracuse
siege. Syracuse held the Romans off, the city fell in the end.

are several competing versions of exactly Archimedes died.

According to a Roman named Plutarch, Archimedes was studying a
diagram when the Roman troops marched Syracuse. A soldier
commanded him to with him to meet the General, Archimedes refused

Keep going 

because he was absorbed his diagram. The soldier drew his and killed

Archimedes. In some accounts, Archimedes' words to the Roman soldier who

him were, "Do not disturb my ."

A circle and a sphere were on Archimedes' tomb. Eventually, the location
of the tomb was forgotten, and archaeologists have yet to find it.

