



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8th Edition

Maze Benchmark

Grade 8

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: _____

Backstrap Weaving

Backstrap weaving is an ancient way of making cloth that has been used for thousands of years all around the world. It requires a wooden loom that be made easily and cheaply. The loom can be rolled up and . Since this type of weaving has been done by village women, who often also responsible for making food raising children, it is important that loom be easy to set up and put aside when necessary.

The weaving technique is simple but it long practice. First, a warp must made by stretching yarn or thread two sticks. The distance between the determines the length of the finished . One of the sticks is tied something solid, perhaps to a tree. other is fastened to the weaver

Keep going 

a strap that goes around her . The strap can be made of or it can be a leather .

The weaver is then able to the tension of the threads with movements of her body. She passes over and under the warp threads a tool called a shuttle. It a time-consuming process to weave fabrics this way, but the results are and beautiful.

The fabrics woven on looms are an important part of cultural heritage of the people who them. They are often full of motifs that refer to the myths religious beliefs of the distant past. Guatemala, for example, Mayan women often to weave when they are four five years old.

Keep going 

They use intricate _____ taught to them by other women _____ also invent their own

designs. Once _____ have woven a blouse, the women _____ often wear it for many years.

_____ blouse is unique, and it is _____ in the colors specific to a
community. The specific colors and patterns _____, as well as the way the _____ is
worn, tell others which area _____ woman comes from and whether she _____ married or
single.

In Indonesia, backstrap _____ usually involves threads dyed two different
_____. One traditional dye is indigo, which _____ a range of blues, and the
_____ is morinda, which produces shades from pink _____ purplish brown. These two
dyes are _____ to threads before they are woven _____ create a fabric covered in

Keep going 

patterns figures. Indonesian women who still practice ancient technique
often work together in groups called weaving collectives. This means
while working they can tell each stories and sing songs. In each culture where
backstrap weaving is used, when women teach their daughters to weave, they are also
teaching their peoples' history and ideas.

