



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8th Edition

Australasian Version

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

art
bus
work

 to go to school. In the

afternoon
library
morning

, he also takes a bus home.



Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____

Adjusted Score: _____

Fireflies

Do fireflies live near you? If so, you would see them

at
if
the

twilight in the summer.

Fireflies are

a
his
it

type of winged beetle that lights

from
in
up

like a small lamp. Their

abdomens

burn
check
light

up to warn predators, attract prey,

for
if
or

attract mates. There are around

2,000

humans
species
wagons

of fireflies. However, fireflies all over

her
round
the

world are endangered and

their populations

are
exit
stop

falling. It is now increasingly rare

as
for
to

see them on summer

nights.

Fireflies

live
melt
swim

in temperate and tropical climates in

cruel
fat
wet

, wooded areas. So

you are more

desirous
likely
slowly

to see them if you live

for
in
to

the countryside or in a wooded

castle
highway
suburb

than in a city. They hibernate

in
off
upon

winter by burrowing underground or

under

him
my
the

bark of trees. In the spring,

its
her
they

emerge and begin feeding. They like

as
go
to

Keep going



live near streams or ponds where **full** **least** **their** young will have lots of sources **in** **of** **the** food. Their diets are varied. Some **frogs** **plants** **species** eat slugs and snails while some **dance** **feed** **watch** on just plant nectar.

The ability **for** **on** **to** light up is enabled by a **chemical** **laboratory** **magical** process called bioluminescence. The enzyme luciferase **acts** **gazes** **hates** on a compound called luciferin in **the** **very** **with** presence of oxygen and other chemical **elements** **lollies** **sayings**. This is what produces light in **him** **my** **the** firefly's abdomen. Fireflies flash these lights **by** **in** **to** patterns to attract mates or prey. **In** **Out** **Such** some areas of the world, swarms **in** **of** **the** fireflies have been observed to flash **head** **him** **their** lights in unison. For example, the Thailand **firefly** **pattern** **whirl** synchronises itself perfectly to other fireflies **are** **it** **so** that large groups of fireflies flash **any** **during** **their** lights on and off at the

Keep going



last
most
same

time. If you stand on a

ceremony
riverbank
skyscraper

in Southeast Asia at dusk, you

are
can
try

see

these fireflies light up an

entire
inside
ugly

mangrove forest by switching on their

dusks
lights
phones

at the

same instant then turning

him
them
when

off at the same instant. People

haven't
they'll
who've

seen these

fireflies say that the

effect
mountain
photo

is beautiful and uncanny. Scientists are

over
quick
still

unsure

why they engage in this

behaviour
conspiracy
government

. But they have figured out how

ever
no
the

fireflies do

it, if not why.

Amylase
Luciferase
Substance

, the enzyme that is key to

if
my
the

firefly's light, has been

manufactured through

genetic
magnetic
robotic

engineering in labs. This synthetic enzyme

can
for
give

then

be inserted into cells in

many
order
that

to observe cell processes like the

formation
headache
retirement

of tumours.

The cells will express

friendship
luciferase
sympathy

under certain conditions and scientists can

speak
taste
watch

in

Keep going



real-time how cells change and

enable
grow
mark

These processes might also have applications

by
for
on

the production of sustainable

light sources.

Duck
Hall
Plant

material could be engineered to contain bioluminescent bacteria.

If
Near
Then

glowing trees might replace streetlamps on

city
dump
house

streets!

Unfortunately, firefly populations seem to

be
have
want

dwindling across the globe. Since

they require dark, wet, and wooded areas to reproduce and eat, deforestation in many areas

is leading to their decline.



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Archimedes

Archimedes was a Greek mathematician, inventor, astronomer, and philosopher.

He was born in the Greek city-state **all her of** Syracuse over two thousand years ago. Syracuse **helps lies says** on the coast of Sicily, an **avocado island opening** in the Ionian Sea that is **now old than** part of Italy. Very little is **held known played** about Archimedes' life. A biography that **did fell was** written by a friend of his **had lived was** lost. We believe that his father **came tried was** an astronomer. He may have spent **big rare some** time studying in Alexandria, in Egypt, **an for my** important seat of learning and scholarship **full in so** the ancient world. He spent most **end of the** his life in Syracuse, but his **ancestors infection reputation** spread all over the ancient world. **Even How Very** though Archimedes invented many machines, studied **as her the** night-time sky, and philosophised, mathematics was **his they us** greatest love and the subject he

Keep going



covered
dressed
strapped

for
off
we

a
it
on

for
my
the

a
his
lot

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

howled
jogged
worked

complained
developed
installed

as
for
of

by
from
to

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.

colourful
rigorous
sweaty

any
for
the

His calculations were and precise, and met modern day standards

a
it
she

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

checkers
mechanics
pressures

and
by
not

caught
grown
known

all
how
the

showed itself in his mathematical work, also in the machines he was for during his lifetime. He explained levers work, designed pulley

destroyed
improved
triggered

systems, and the catapult.

Keep going 

For much of Archimedes' **delay heart life**, Rome and Carthage were at war **down only with** each
 other, and fought for control **but next of** Sicily. Archimedes designed war machines to **defend offend resolve**
 Syracuse. He made catapults, and something **called designed yelled** a claw, which may have been
a her no kind of crane with a grappling **bird hook thread** at the end that could attack **ships trains waves** on
 the sea from inside the **city house sky** walls. He may have invented giant **dolphins mirrors paints** that could
 use the reflected rays **far of up** the sun to set ships on **call dinner fire**. For two years, Rome had
 Syracuse **above around under** siege. Syracuse held the Romans off, **but near with** the city fell in the end.
Far Little There are several competing versions of exactly **from how who** Archimedes died.
 According to a Roman **campaign historian statement** named Plutarch, Archimedes was studying a
considerate frictionless mathematical diagram when the Roman troops marched **into much often** Syracuse. A soldier

Keep going



commanded him to **come**
flee with him to meet the General, **but**
throw **how** Archimedes refused
that

because he was absorbed **and**
in his diagram. The soldier drew his **graph**
to **picture** and killed
sword

Archimedes. In some accounts, Archimedes' **dark**
last words to the Roman soldier who
young

drew
killed him were, "Do not disturb my **circles**
soaked **lashes**."
machines

A circle and a sphere were **emptied**
placed on Archimedes' tomb. Eventually, the location
taken

of the tomb was forgotten, and archaeologists have yet to find it.



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The Day the Sky Turned Black

My parents told me in July that the solar eclipse that was going to happen in August was a very rare event. A solar eclipse is when the **ink moon spot** appears to completely blot out the **dark night sun**. For this eclipse, in some parts **and of on** the world the sun would **be tell want** completely covered by the moon, although **he it now** would only be a partial eclipse **how place where** we live. After my parents mentioned **him it sun**, it seemed like everyone was talking **about little within** it and I wanted to know **more over some**, so I did some reading. I **called read said** that in ancient times people were **calmly near often** terrified of full solar eclipses. Since **him they what** did not understand what was happening **all for to** the sun, people in many cultures **created forced heard** elaborate myths and stories to explain **computers eclipses rockets**. Usually in these myths and stories **absent much some** animal, dragon or demon would try **go to we** eat the sun. People

Keep going



would go forever outside and bang on drums or ring bells ears upstairs until the animal or the demon

began created stopped swallowing the sun and let it ask go snow. Then they could relax again until

first soft the next eclipse, when they would have some to with rescue the sun all over again.

He I Who imagined that when night suddenly fell in next up the middle of the day, the

confidence performance temperature would drop and the stars would blow come die out. Babies, and people who

hadn't heard played showed about the eclipse, would weep and dance record tremble with fear. Birds would fly

into ever if the trees, cats would go out hunting, and even no dogs would curl up in their dropping running sleeping

places. Even though people now are most not too sophisticated to believe that a monster back or with

beast had eaten or stolen the food jar sun, a terrible feeling of impending evil had through would be felt

on the streets. Maybe as he it sounds weird, but I was excited in so to experience this feeling,

Keep going



especially since I **broke** **knew** **was** it wouldn't last long. I thought **and** **but** **that** once the sunlight started

to come **back** **just** **now**, there would be a feeling of **fear** **good** **sorry** triumphing over evil.

On the morning **from** **of** **with** the day of the eclipse, my **beast** **dad** **sun** and I made a viewer out **by** **in** **of** a cereal box. We cut off **first** **his** **the** top, glued a piece of white **light** **noise** **paper** to the bottom,

covered half the **eclipse** **mouth** **opening** with a piece of aluminium foil, **and** **but** **that** poked a hole in the foil

free **on** **with** a pin. Then we had to **fear** **spill** **wait**.

When the eclipse started, we took **none** **only** **the** viewer out to the balcony, and **cast** **stood** **yelled**

with our backs to the sun. **If** **No** **We** adjusted the viewer until the sun **caused** **shone** **wept** through the

pinhole and made a **discipline** **mythology** **reflection** on the white paper on the **bottom** **course** **writer** of the box. It was

very **dark** **gone** **tiny**, and looked like we had **beat** **cut** **won** a cookie with a circular cutter, **and** **but** **there** used

Keep going



the cutter to take

a
my
no

 little chunk out of the side.

At
Mid
Out

 the peak of the eclipse the

box
dad
sky

 turned a bit grey. Our cat

curled
faced
took

 no

notice whatsoever, and the construction

liars
singers
workers

 in the alley continued with their

foil
magic
work

 undeterred, as though nothing was happening.

But
It
So

 I was fascinated. I can't

wait to see another eclipse!

