



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8th Edition

Australasian Version

Maze Progress Monitoring

Grade 2

AU-Year 2 | NZ-Year 3

Administration Directions and Scoring Keys

Examiner script	
<p>I am going to give you a worksheet. When you get your worksheet, please write your name at the top and put your pencil down.</p> <p>(Hand out the Maze student worksheets. Make sure students have written their names down before proceeding.)</p> <p>You are going to read a passage with some words missing from it. For each missing word you will see a box with three words in it. Your job is to circle the word you think makes the most sense in the context of the passage. Let’s look at the Practice Passage together. Listen as I read.</p> <p>Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he takes a school (pause) art, bus, work (pause) to go to school.</p> <p>Let’s stop there. Let’s circle the word “bus” because I think “bus” makes the most sense here. Listen to how that sentence sounds now.</p> <p>Every morning, he takes a school <u>bus</u> to go to school.</p> <p>Now it’s your turn. Read the next sentence <u>silently</u> to yourself. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense to you. When you are done, put your pencil down.</p> <p>(Allow up to 30 seconds for students to complete the example and put their pencils down.)</p> <p>If necessary, after 30 seconds say Put your pencil down. As soon as all students have their pencils down, say Good job.</p> <p>Now listen. In the (pause) afternoon, library, morning (pause), he also takes a bus home. You should have circled “afternoon” because “afternoon” makes the most sense. Listen. In the <u>afternoon</u>, he also takes a bus home.</p> <p>Okay, when I say “Begin,” turn the page and start reading the passage silently. Start on the page with the title. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense in the passage. You will stop when you come to a stop sign or I say Stop. Ready? Begin. Start the timer.</p> <p>At the end of <u>3 minutes</u>, stop the timer and say Stop. Put your pencils down.</p>	
Reminders	
Start timer	Start the timer after you say Begin .
Prompts	<p>If a student starts reading the passage out loud, say Please read the passage silently. (Repeat as often as needed.)</p> <p>If a student skips an entire page, say. Please be sure not to skip pages.</p> <p>If a student stops working, say Please keep going until I tell you to stop. Just do your best work. (Repeat as often as needed.)</p>
Discontinue	There is no discontinue rule. Every student should be encouraged to try their best until three minutes have passed.

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

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library
morning

, he also takes a bus home.



Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____

Adjusted Score: _____

The Chairs

Jeffrey lived with his mum, dad, and little brother on a quiet
dead-end street in the suburbs. On weekends, Jeffrey and his little
brother often played cricket out in the street. They'd shout and
make a lot **of** noise hitting the ball with a **wooden** bat. 2
Sometimes the ball got out **of** control and flew into another 3
family's **garden**. Jeffrey would run to get it **back** and toss it 5
to his brother.

Nobody minded that Jeffrey and his brother **made** a 7
racket playing cricket or that Jeffrey **dashed** across their fresh, 8
green, well-watered lawns **to** retrieve his cricket ball, nobody 9

Keep going ►

except for **one** neighbour who lived across the street. **This** 11

neighbour was named Mr. Chang. Once, **when** Jeffrey ran into 12

his garden to **get** his cricket, Mr. Chang came out **and** made 14

a cranky face. That was **the** only time Jeffrey really saw him. 15

Mr. Chang **never** sat in his garden. But one **day**, Jeffrey 17

saw two new chairs in Mr. Chang's **lawn**. 18

One chair was blue, and the **other** was red. Mr. Chang 19

always had **a** sour look on his face. It **was** hard to think of him 21

sitting **in** such cheerful looking chairs. 22

Later that **same** day, Jeffrey saw two more chairs 23

on Mr. Chang's lawn! They were yellow **and** green. The 25

Keep going ►

row of chairs pointed **right** at Jeffrey's house.

26

"Creepy," said Jeffrey. "**It's** like he's spying on us,"

27

said **his** mum.

28

The next morning, two more **chairs** were there: pink and

29

orange! They **all** faced Jeffrey's front door.

30

"I don't **like** those empty chairs," Jeffrey's mum said

31

after dinner. "They're harmless," Jeffrey's dad replied.

32

Just then the doorbell rang. Jeffrey answered **the**

34

door with his dad.

A woman **they** did not know stood there. She

said

36

Keep going ►

Mr. Chang was her father. She **said**, “Dad got new chairs to 37

watch **the** shooting stars tomorrow night. He would **like** you 39

to join us to watch **them**.” 40

Jeffrey and his dad looked at **each** other. His dad smiled 41

and said, “**How** kind! Jeffrey loves looking at the **night** sky.” 43

Jeffrey smiled. Yes! He had **almost** forgotten about the 44

upcoming meteor shower. He said, “Thanks. We’ll be there!”



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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

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Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____

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The Plane

The two children had never been on an plane before. Roy was very nervous. As they waited at the gate to board their plane,

he thought that **his** sister seemed a little nervous, too. 1

He asked Jane if she was worried **or** afraid. She cracked 3

her gum and **said** “No, silly. Why should I be? **Flying** is the 5

safest way to travel.”

As they waited for the plane to **take** off, Jane chewed 7

and popped her **gum**. Roy’s throat felt tight. He began **to** 9

sweat.

Roy’s mother reached over from **the** aisle seat. She patted 10

Keep going ►

his arm. “ **Everything’s** fine,” she said. 11

Now the plane **began** to move. Roy gazed out the **window** 13

at the grassy field beside the **runway** . 14

The engines roared. As the plane **went** faster and faster, 15

the field suddenly **turned** into a green blur. 16

Then Roy **was** pressed back in his seat as **the** plane 18

picked up even more speed. **Wow** ! 19

The cabin tilted upward. Roy saw **that** they were not on the 20

ground **anymore** . They were rising fast above the **earth** . 22

“Mum! Look!” he cried. He couldn’t **stop** looking as the 23

Keep going ►

fields became smaller **and** smaller. He saw a distant winding 24

river and some small lakes shining in **the** sunlight. 26

Then they flew into a **cloud**. Everything outside the plane 27
turned white.

After a few minutes, the jet flew **out** of the cloud. Roy 29
was now **looking** at a sea of clouds from **above**. 31

The clouds billowed up pure white, **making** all sorts of 32
strange shapes like **snow** castles. The sky was bright blue. 33

Roy's **ears** felt clogged. He was having trouble **hearing** 35
anything.

Keep going ►

He turned to Jane and **pointed** at his ears. She took a 36
piece of gum out of her pocket, **unwrapped** it from the 38
wrapper, and gave **it** to him. 39
She said something, but **he** couldn't hear it. She pointed to 40
her mouth and popped a bubble silently. 41
"Oh," Roy **said** . His own voice sounded small and **far** 43
away. But he understood now what Jane **was** telling him. 44
He put the gum **in** his mouth and chewed it. After **he'd** 46
chewed a few times, his ears **popped** . He could hear everything 47
in the cabin again, loud and crystal clear.



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The Starry Sky

Irena's sister had gotten married that day. It was night now.

The wedding reception was still going **on**. It had turned into a
loud **dance** party.

Irena danced with her father **to** the loud music. Her father
danced **in** a fast and silly way that **made** her laugh. He jumped
up and **down** and punched at the air with **his** fists. Irena got
tired after a **while**. Then she went back to the **table** where her

mother was sitting. She **was** hot and sweaty. Her mother picked
up a napkin and fanned her face **with** it.

Irena yawned. She was so **sleepy** that she forgot to cover

Keep going ►

the **yawn** with her hand. Her mother just **said**, “Why don’t 15

you go get some **air**? It’s so much cooler outside.” 16

So Irena **walked** out of the hotel onto the **lawn**. It was 18

night, and crickets were **singing**. She could see stars, and even 19

the Milky Way. And she could hear **waves** crashing on the 21

beach across the **street** from the hotel. She sat down **on** the 23

grass.

A few minutes later, Irena’s **father** came out to find her. He 24

called her name as he crossed the **lawn**. At first, she did not 26

even **hear** him. 27

The night sky, full of **both** brilliant and dim stars, amazed 28

Keep going ►

her **as** if she'd never looked at it **before** . It was so big and 30

so **mysterious** ! You could not see all of **it** at once. 32

As Irena sat there **on** the lawn gazing straight up, her 33

father sat down beside her and stroked **her** hair. 35

“Aren’t you sleepy, Mouse?” he **asked** . 36

She turned her head to see **him** . She could see his face a 37

little by the light of the stars. **He** was smiling. 39

“You see,” he said. “**All** that cloudy stuff, that’s billions 40

of **stars** like our sun. It’s a whole **different** arm of the spiral 42

galaxy we’re **in** . This galaxy is at least two hundred thousand 43

Keep going ►

light years across. That means it takes two hundred thousand 44

years for light to get from one **end** to the other!” 46

“I know,” Irena **said** with a laugh. “I learned it **all** in 48
school.”

“It’s amazing, though, isn’t **it** ?” 49

“Yes. Amazing,” Irena said.

Then they were both quiet, looking up.



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Shadow Play

Do you know all the things your shadow can do? There are quite a few of them.

You can use your hands to **make** strange shadows on a wall. 1

Have **a** friend shine a torch and move **your** fingers and thumbs 3

in different ways **to** see what happens. Maybe you can 4

make a shadow that looks like a **dog**, or a cat, or even a 6

dragon. 7

You can play games with your **shadow** when you are 8

outside the house, **too**. Of course, it will have to **be** a sunny 10

day for this to **work**. You will not be able to **find** your shadow 12

Keep going ►

if it is raining.

To play with your own shadow you **will** have to find it 14
first. But **you** won't have to look far. It **is** usually 16
right at your feet. But **is** it in front, behind, or to **one** side of 18
you? That all depends **on** where the light is coming from. 19
Mornings and late afternoons are the best **times** to play 21
with shadows. Shadows are **longer** then. Empty backyards or 22
school playgrounds **are** often a good place to find **your** 24
shadow. Try it! Then move around **and** watch how your shadow 25
moves.

Once **you** have found your shadow, try to **jump** on it. 27

Keep going ►

Can you do it? **Or** does the shadow keep moving away **just** as 29
you jump?

Try to chase **your** own shadow. Or run away while **it** 31
chases you. Try to dance with **it** . Try to stand still and freeze 32

your shadow. Try holding up sticks or **branches** to make your 34
shadow look strange.

It is even more fun to play **with** shadows if there is 36
more than **one** person playing. Stand still and ask **a** friend 38

to trace your shadow with **a** piece of chalk. Then do the **same** 40
with your friend's shadow.

Try playing **shadow** tag. In this game, you run **fast** after 42

Keep going ►

your friends and try to **step** on their shadows before they can 43

get away. The one whose shadow gets **stepped** on is “it.” 45

This game can **be** played with many friends at once. 46

A long time ago, people found that **they** could create 48

stories by casting shadows **on** a wall. They used pieces of 49

paper cut to look like animals and **people**. They placed a fire 51

behind the **paper** figures to cast shadows. Then they **made** the 53

shadows talk and have adventures. **It** was like going to the 54

movies. You can do all kinds of fun things with shadows.



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The Dishwasher

I used to babysit my little brother after school. One day, Mum
called home from work. She asked me to start the **dishwasher** . 1
She had put dishes in the **dishwasher** that morning but forgot to 2
start **it** . She suddenly remembered at work. That **was** why she 4
called me. She wanted **to** have clean dishes when she got 5
home . 6
I said that I would start **the** dishwasher right away. So I 7
went **into** the kitchen and put in some **detergent** . Then I 9
pushed the “on” button **to** start it. 10
I went back to **the** lounge room to finish my homework. 11

Keep going ►

I knew my mother liked it when **I** had all my homework 13
 done before **dinner** time. I could not relax until **I** had done it. 15
 Soon my little **brother** got hungry. He went for a **snack**. 17
 He often got himself a snack **in** the afternoons. He got it by 18
himself so that I could concentrate on **my** homework. I heard 20
 him scream, “Katie!”
I sighed. I put down my pencil **and** went to check 22
 on him. He **was** standing in the hall. His mouth **was** open. 24
 His eyes were wide. I **looked**. I saw the kitchen floor covered 25
in white bubbles. More bubbles were coming **out** of the 27
 sides and bottom of **the** dishwasher. 28

Keep going ►

I knew what had happened. **I** put hand soap into the
dishwasher **instead** of the dishwashing detergent. This was **a**
big mistake. My mother would be **upset** at seeing the kitchen
full of **soap** bubbles.
My little brother and I **found** towels. We spent the next few
hours cleaning up the bubbles from the **kitchen** floor. We
used every towel in **the** house. It took us two hours **to**
clean up the mess. We just **barely** finished in time.
At five thirty **in** the afternoon, Mum got home from
work. The bubbles were all gone.
We **kept** our secret. After dinner, we went **into** the

Keep going ►

lounge room to watch TV. **Half** an hour later Mum loudly called **44**

out, “Kids! Get in here!” **45**

We forgot **to** clean the soap from inside the **dishwasher** **47**

. When Mum ran it after dinner, the bubbles started all over again.



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Tin

One day, as I was walking down the street, I saw an empty tin can. I kicked the can so hard it hit a tree. I liked the sound it made.

When I got to school, I asked **my** teacher what tin is. He 2
said **that** tin is a metal. I asked **him** where it comes from. He 4
said **that** tin is found in other rocks. **It** has to be dug out of 6
the ground. 7
Tin miners dig deep pits **into** the earth. As the pits get 8
deeper and deeper, the miners climb down **into** them using 10
ropes or ladders.

Keep going ►

Once **the** rocks are out of the ground, **they** have to be 12
 melted to get **the** tin out. It all sounds hard! **But** tin has so 14
 many uses that **people** think the hard work is worth **it**. Tin is 16
 used in devices like **phones** and computers. It is also used **for** 18
 making signs. It was once used **for** making tinfoil to wrap up 19
 food **in**, but now aluminium is used for **that**. 21
 Tin isn't the only metal found **inside** rocks. Gold, for 22
 example, is also **found** inside rocks. That was what my 23
teacher went on to say. 24
 I asked, "**Are** there any metals that aren't found **in** 26
 rocks?"

Keep going ►

That's when he told me **about** bronze. Bronze is a metal 27

that **people** just made up! I shook my **head** in amazement. 29

He said that bronze **is** made by mixing melted tin with 30

melted copper. People discovered this metal in **ancient** times 32

and they put it to **all** kinds of different uses. Some of **the** 34

things people made with bronze back **then** - like bowls and 35

daggers - can be **found** in museums. 36

Then I thought about **the** can I had kicked. If tin **was** so 38

hard to get, I asked, "**Why** do we make cans out of **it** ?" 40

That was when he told me **that** tin cans are not made of 41

tin ! They are steel covered with a **thin** layer of tin. But 43

Keep going ►

both tin **and** steel can be recycled. So, next time I see a tin can 44
on the street, I am going to pick it up instead of kicking it!



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Adjusted Score: _____

Staying with Grams and Poppy

When my mum went on a trip to Alaska, I stayed with her parents. Grams and Poppy lived in the hills of New York state.

Both had retired and had lots of **time** for me.

1

I always enjoyed being **around** them. Poppy was funny,

2

and Grams **gave** the best gifts and hugs. Both **told** stories

4

about my mother when she **was** my age that made me laugh.

5

They had always made many trips to **visit** us in the

7

city, but this **would** be my first visit to their **house**. I'd only

9

ever seen it in **pictures**, and it looked like a cabin **built** out

11

of toy logs. When I **got** there, I was surprised at how

13

small

Keep going ►

the house was. The rooms were **so** small. And everything
smelled like pine.

The very first day, Grams said we **should** all take a nice
hike together. **I** said I didn't know how to **hike**. It sounded
like a lot of **work**.

"It's easy," Grams said. "You move one **foot**, then you
move your other foot **in** front of that one."

She handed **me** a box. "Now, lace up your **new** hiking
boots."

I looked at the **box**, frowning. "Why can't I just wear
my sneakers?"

Grams shook her head. She **explained** that sneakers don't 26

support your ankles **enough**. And boots grip the ground better. 27

I shrugged and went ahead and put **them** on. 29

Grams and Poppy each wore **a** backpack on their 30

shoulders. Their packs **held** our snacks and water. We each 31

wore a whistle on a shoelace around **our** necks. Grams 33

said to use the **whistle** if we lost sight of one **another**. I 35

raised my eyebrows but didn't **say** anything to that. 36

I thought I'd **be** scared or maybe bored just walking 37

around. But we saw some amazing things. **There** was a 39

great view from a **rocky** ledge. Birds and butterflies dancing 40

beside **a** stream. It was like being in **a** nature show. 42

Once, I spotted a **face** in a tree stump. It had knotholes 43

for eyes, a bump for the **nose**, and a scrape in the bark **for** 46

a mouth. Some moss growing on **the** top of the stump hung 47

like **hair**. When I pointed it out, Grams **and** Poppy clapped 49

their hands and laughed.

I learned a lot that day. Hiking **is** great exercise. I 51

learned that going **up** or down you always need to **watch** 53

your footing. Best of all, it's **like** being an explorer. I got to see 54

things I'd never seen before.



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Video Chat

Ang was happy as he drank his morning cup of tea and ate his toast. Today he was going to have a video chat with his grandson, Hao.

It would be his first video **chat** ever. His daughter, Mai, 1
had given **him** a tablet computer for his birthday. **He** used it 3
often. So far he'd **never** made a video call but he **was** 5
looking forward to doing so.

It **had** been a while since he had **seen** Hao, so Mai had 7
said they **should** do a video call. He looked **up** how to make 9
the call on **the** Internet. 10

Keep going ►

After lunch, he turned on **the** tablet and followed the steps. 11

The **tablet** started to beep and then Hao's **and** Mai's faces 13

were there. They looked **blurry** at first, but then the picture 14

became clear. They were sitting on the **couch** in their living 16

room. There were **books** and games on the shelves behind 17

them, and some happy-looking plants in the **sunlight** next 19

to the window.

"My goodness, **look** at that!" he said, "Is that **you**?" 21

"Hi, Grandpa!" Hao said.

In the **corner** of the screen there was a **small** box with 23

another face in it. Hao **tried** to see it better. He asked Hao 24

Keep going ►

who that person was. Hao peered at **the** screen, then laughed. 26

“Grandpa, that’s you!” Hao **said** . 27

They all laughed. Ang asked how **many** video calls Hao 28
had been on.

Hao **said** , “This is my first time!” 29

“Mine **too** !” 30

Ang was happy to share this **moment** with Hao. They were 31
both making **a** video call for the first time **in** their lives. It 33

did not matter **that** he was older, or that his **grandson** was 35

still so young. He smiled **at** Hao’s face on the screen. 36

Mai **said**, “Okay, you two. Stop laughing and **let’s** 38
 talk about what’s going on in **our** lives.” 39

“You first,” Ang said to Hao.

“**No**, you go,” Hao replied to Ang. 40

They were both suddenly a little shy. 41

Ang **decided** to be the one to begin **talking**. He 43
 described his day so far. **He** talked about how often he missed 44
his daughter Mai and grandson Hao, and **how** proud he was 46
 of them both. **He** said that he was happy they **could** see 48
 each other now.

Mai laughed. Ang **wondered** what was funny. He looked **49**
 at **them** both smiling at him. **50**
 “Wow,” Hao **said**. “I’ve never heard you talk so **much** **52**
 at one time!”
 “I know,” Ang **replied**. “This video chatting is not so **53**
 bad!”



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Fishing Rods

Pedro and Jevon wanted to go to the pond to catch some fish for dinner, but they didn't have fishing rods. They knew where there was a tree that grew long, thin twigs. They thought that they could use **their** mum's sewing thread to turn twigs **into** fishing rods.

Pedro went to the **shed** to get the tree clippers, and Jevon **asked** their mum for some thread. Then **the** boys went to the tree and **cut** two long twigs off it. They **tied** a long piece of thread to **the** tip of each twig. Now they **had** fishing rods! They took the rods **down** to the pond. They cast their

Keep going ►

rods so that the thread flew toward **the** water. To their 12
 surprise, the threads **just** floated on top of the water. 13
 Pedro **suggested** they tie small rocks to the **ends** of 15
 their threads. Jevon found two **small** rocks, and they tied them 16
 at **the** end of their threads. 17
 When they **cast** their lines this time, the threads **went** 19
 into the water. Now they were **really** fishing! The boys held 20
 onto their **rods** and waited for the fish to **bite**. 22
 The girl who lived next door **came** riding up on her bike. 23
 She **asked** them what fish they were trying **to** catch. Jevon 25
 said they were trying **to** catch whatever kinds of fish were **in** 27

the pond. The girl asked what **they** were using for bait. 28

“Bait?” Pedro **said**. He didn’t know what she was **talking** about. Jevon explained that they were **using** small rocks. 29 31

“Rocks for bait? Good **luck**!” the girl said. She laughed in **a** way that made it sound like **she** didn’t really mean it, and she **rode** away. 32 34 35

“Well, I don’t care,” Pedro **said**. Jevon nodded slowly. He thought that **he** had seen fish nibble on rocks **before**, but he wasn’t sure. 36 38

So, they **kept** fishing. It was nice to sit **in** the sun with 40

Keep going ►

a little breeze **blowing**. They saw birds flying low over **the** 42

water, and a mother duck and six **ducklings** swam by. There was 43

clover growing **in** the grass near them, and they **saw** bees 45

buzzing among the flowers. But **the** boys didn't see any fish. 46

"Maybe **it's** not fishing weather," Pedro said. Jevon 47

agreed that fish liked the rain. At **last**, they pulled in their 49

lines and **carried** their rods back home. 50

Lucky for them, their dad had already planned to make pasta
for dinner.



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One Spooky Night

It was late summer, and the boys were camping overnight. It was their first time camping on their own. They set up their tent in **a** field near a stream fed by **a** small waterfall. At the edge **2** of **the** field, there was a wall of **pine** trees and kilometres of **4** dense woods.

The woods were full of wild plants **that** deer liked. At **6** night, deer would **gather** for a sip of water and **a** meal. The **8** boys didn't know that **though**. What they did know was that **9** **black** bears were sometimes spotted in the **area**. The **11** oldest boy built a small **fire**. It was just big enough to **keep** **13**

Keep going ►

bears away.

When night came, there **was** no moon. A blanket of clouds **hid** all but a few stars. It **made** the night seem darker than it **was** at home. They were grateful for **the** fire. Suddenly, the boys saw five **sets** of eyes shining in the dark. **They** fed the fire, watching the eyes **closely**. Now and then, a pair would **move**, but mostly they just seemed to **stand** still. The oldest boy tried to **calm** the others. He said, “They’re just **deer** settling down for the night.” The **other** boys nodded. Still, they were on **edge** now and kept looking around.

Keep going ►

Then **the** sky rumbled, making the boys jump. **The** boys 29

tossed the last scraps of **wood** onto the fire. No one had **a** 31

plan for what they'd do if **rain** put out the fire. 32

They waited **for** what felt like forever. The sky **growled** 34

again, but the clouds were slowly **thinning**. More stars came 35

out. In the **darkness** now was only one set of **eyes**. These 37

eyes were low to the **ground** and they started to move closer. 38

Whatever the animal was, it made no **sound** at all. 40

Two of the boys **had** packed torches and took them out. 41

Only, they didn't work. They cried out, "**We** forgot to check 43

the batteries!" Thinking **quickly**, the oldest boy stood and spoke 44

up loudly and clearly. 45

He shouted, “We **see** you! Scram! Scoot!” 46

He waved his **arms** wildly as he shouted. The eyes 47

stopped moving. The other boys joined in, **shouting** and 49

waving their arms, too. The **eyes** moved away and then they 50

were **gone**. They came back farther away, halfway **up** a 52

tree. Whatever it was, it **was** watching them. 53

The boys got no **sleep** that night. In the early light **of** 55

morning, they saw the tracks. They **were** the footprints of a 56

cougar. The cat had most likely been hunting for deer.

