



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills
8th Edition

Maze Benchmark

Grade 6

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: _____

How to Make a Woodcut

The oldest known method for making multiple copies of the same image is by a printmaking technique known as the woodcut. The images produced by the woodcut are usually in black and white, it is possible to make colored also simply by using more blocks, one inked in a different color.

Woodcut technique was invented in ancient China. first it was used to print on fabrics such as silk. Later was used to print images on of paper. It was not until late middle ages that this Chinese technique was transferred to Europe. Paper-making to Europe from China at about same time.

As soon as books getting printed and distributed all over Europe,

Keep going 

woodcut technique was used to create _____ page illustrations. These illustrations helped
to _____ books to the public. There were _____ many woodcut prints sold in single
_____ sheets. These were called “single-leaf” prints. _____ artists became famous for
their “single-leaf” _____ .

The woodcut is a time-consuming printing _____ , but it does not require many
_____ tools, very expensive materials, or advanced _____ know-how. You just
need patience, some _____ materials that you can buy in _____ art supply or hardware
store, and _____ little skill.

To make a woodcut, _____ can either draw an image directly _____ a block of
wood or draw _____ a piece of paper which you _____ glue to the block. You then

Keep going 

a knife or other sharp tool remove all the areas of image are going to be

white in final print. This means that the that are going to be black

stand out in sharp relief.

After cutting is done, you apply the . Printmaking ink is thick and
sticky, cold honey. You take it out the can with a wide, flat .

Then you spread it on a of glass or marble, and roll out in a thin, even layer

a hard rubber roller. You then it over the carved surface of wood
block. The ink will cover uncarved portions of the block but will not touch

the parts that been cut out.

To print the by hand, you place a sheet paper over the inky block

Keep going 

and the back of the paper with spoon or similar tool. Once the has
been printed, you lift the away from the block and put in a rack to dry.

Then the block may be inked again in the same way as before to make another print.



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: _____

Blizzards of the United States

Blizzard is a term used to describe a kind of massive storm that covers everything with snow. Usually, blizzards also have strong winds and extreme cold.

Blizzards in the United States are caused by cold, dry air moving from the north and colliding with warm, humid air rising up from the south. They are most common in the Great Plains, Great Lakes, and the Northeast. Cold fronts from the Pacific Ocean colliding with warm air from the Gulf of Mexico cause blizzards in the Midwest. Winds become strong in prairie areas that are flat and free of trees. When cold air from eastern Canada meets warm fronts, it can cause major blizzards in New England.

When a blizzard hits, it may dump as much as twenty-five feet of snow.

Keep going 

when a blizzard hits, many public _____ get shut down. Buses and trains
running, and schools are closed. Snowdrifts _____ cover roads and train tracks
and _____ reach up as high as telephone _____ and the upper stories of buildings.
_____ may cover barns and other places _____ food is grown or stored.
Also, _____ are often made to stay indoors, _____ if they want to go out
_____ play in the snow, because of _____ risk of frostbite from the severe _____ and
blasting winds. When people know _____ blizzard is on its way they _____ stock up on
food in case _____ storm lasts for longer than a _____ or so and buy extra flashlight
_____ and candles just in case the _____ goes out.

Storm warnings on TV _____ radio stations tell people that they _____ stay at

Keep going 

home while the blizzard _____, and not go out driving in _____ cars unless it is necessary. The _____ amount of windblown snow can make _____ hard to see where you are _____. That is why drivers try to _____ off the road and airplanes are grounded until the storm lifts.

Very _____ blizzards may become historic events. In _____ United States there are storms that _____ still remembered for their sudden severity _____ the problems they caused. For instance, _____ the fall of 1880 a blizzard _____ the Midwest in October, covering crops _____ had not yet been harvested. Snow _____ buildings and stopped train service. Then _____ after storm hit until March. One _____ the longest of these storms lasted _____ nine days. Many people could not _____ their

Keep going 

homes for months at a time, and those who did often had to dig tunnels from their front doors. When the snow melted that spring, there were enormous floods that covered the plains and washed whole towns away.

In March of 1993 a blizzard called the Storm of the Century struck the east coast of the United States. The extent of the storm system was massive. It stretched from Canada into Central America. Snow fell in areas where snow is extremely rare, such as Florida and Alabama. Ten million people on the east coast lost electric

power. Blizzards are nothing to take lightly. Whenever there is a blizzard warning, it is best to be prepared for the worst.



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: _____

Popcorn

Do you buy a big box of popcorn when you go to a movie? If so, you are
engaging in a tradition that goes back thousands of years. Archaeological
evidence of popcorn has been found in Mexico going back five thousand years.
Popcorn has long been eaten as a popular snack in the United States because it is
inexpensive and tasty.

In the United States, popcorn is traditionally eaten with salt and butter. In
other countries, popcorn may be covered with sugar, caramel, chocolate, condensed milk,
cheese, jalapeño juice, or even bacon.

Only some strains of corn can be used as popcorn. Popcorn kernels have
tough outer hulls and starchy interiors. The kernel is not ready to be popped until the first

Keep going 

harvested because it is too . So, growers dry the kernels until reach about fifteen percent moisture. When heat source is applied, this moisture to steam and builds up pressure. hard interior becomes softer. Eventually, the becomes so great that the outer ruptures and the inside puffs up twenty to fifty times the size the original kernel.

Popcorn is easy make. All you need is a and a heat source. People once popcorn over campfires or stovetops. Although easy to cook, heating the kernels fast or too slow can result partially popped, burned, or unexploded kernels. avoid this, people all over the have designed machines that can heat kernels at the right speed and . Using oil or butter also

Keep going 

helps distribute heat evenly.

In China and Korea, is heated in a sealed canister. the pressure inside reaches a certain , the canister is loaded into a and the seal released.

All the explodes at once.

The steam powered maker was invented in Chicago in last century. It was loaded onto carts so that the snack could sold throughout the city. At that the popcorn was usually sold in paper bags. People also bought bags popcorn at carnivals and fairs all the country. Popcorn caught on because is a cheap and healthy snack.

movie theaters started opening all over United States, popcorn

Keep going 

vendors began parking carts in front of the theaters. would sell bags of

popcorn to walking by on the street as as to people going inside to

the movies. After some time had , movie theater managers saw that they

make an added profit by making selling popcorn in the theater lobbies.

theater managers did not like to this, because if the movie was people in

the audience would throw at the screen. But in the , almost all movie

theaters sold popcorn.

has historically been a very stable since it is inexpensive to

grow make. Therefore, when other snack and candy businesses failed during the

Great Depression or during World War II, popcorn growers and popcorn machine makers

Keep going 

both survived and prospered.

