

ANSWER KEY

Word Study
Level 8

Name: _____

E. Divide and read each word. Decide whether each syllable is open (O) or closed (C).

1. basin → / <u>ba</u> / <u>sin</u> → O / C	2. flatten → / <u>flat</u> / <u>ten</u> → C / C
3. pellet → / <u>pel</u> / <u>let</u> → C / C	4. silo → / <u>si</u> / <u>lo</u> → O / O
5. problem → / <u>prob</u> / <u>lem</u> → C / C	6. vacant → / <u>va</u> / <u>cant</u> → O / C
7. recent → / <u>re</u> / <u>cent</u> → O / C	8. offend → / <u>of</u> / <u>fend</u> → C / C
9. goblet → / <u>gob</u> / <u>let</u> → C / C	10. tulip → / <u>tu</u> / <u>lip</u> → O / C

F. Read each pair of words. Write the one that is the best match for the listed word.

1. hopping / hoping → <u>hoping</u>	2. fin / fine	flipper → <u>fin</u>
3. taping / tapping → <u>tapping</u>	4. dim / dime	dull → <u>dim</u>
5. rag / rage → <u>rage</u>	6. wagging / waging	swinging → <u>wagging</u>
7. spins / spines → <u>spins</u>	8. grim / grime	filth → <u>grime</u>
9. slim / slime → <u>slim</u>	10. ridding / riding	driving → <u>riding</u>

G. Pick the word that fits best with each set.

zero	virus	minus	apex
music	ivy	decide	moment

1. less / subtract → <u>minus</u>	2. zlich / none → <u>zero</u>
3. pick / vote → <u>decide</u>	4. climax / tiptop → <u>apex</u>
5. vine / plant → <u>ivy</u>	6. bug / illness → <u>virus</u>
7. tune / ditty → <u>music</u>	8. time / instant → <u>moment</u>

★ Pick 4 sets of words from the task above. Using a dictionary or thesaurus, find another word that fits with each set. Write the complete sets on the back. Student answers may vary.

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Name: _____

A. Read each syllable. Circle those where c says /s/. Box those where c says /k/.

cel	crem	cam	cite
cem	cine	col	cyn
cil	clag	cel	cess

B. Add a syllable from above to complete the words below. Use a dictionary to check the meanings of the words you make.

1. You can write with this.	pen/ <u>cil</u>
2. This is a time away from class.	re/ <u>cess</u>
3. This means be great at something.	ex/ <u>cel</u>
4. This means to compile things.	<u>col</u> /lect
5. This means to give a thrill.	ex/ <u>cite</u>
6. This is someone who is a skeptic.	<u>cyn</u> /ic

C. Read each syllable. Circle those where g says /j/. Box those where g says /g/.

gen	gest	gist	gel
gus	age	gol	gic
gal	gob	gym	gul

D. Add a syllable from above to complete the words below. Use a dictionary to check the meanings of the words you make.

1. This is another word for humane.	<u>gen</u> /tle
2. This is someone who is very sweet.	an/ <u>gel</u>
3. This is when a pony dashes.	<u>gal</u> /lops
4. This is an athlete.	<u>gym</u> /nast
5. This is another word for windy.	<u>gus</u> /ty
6. This is a fancy glass.	<u>gob</u> /let

★ On the back, put the syllables that begin with g and that you did not use in alphabetical order.
gest, gic, gist, gol, gul

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I. Write the phrase that is close in meaning.

shy bunny	run swiftly	glum spy	rocky cliff
cry softly	ugly cage	fancy space	nice prince

1. skittish rabbit	shy bunny
2. sad agent	glum spy
3. race quickly	run swiftly
4. weep gently	cry softly
5. spiffy place	fancy space
6. craggy bluff	rocky cliff
7. messy crate	ugly cage
8. polite noble	nice prince

J. Write the phrase that best answers each question.

over a runway	at nap time	next to a navy fence
in a big play space	in a sloppy kitchen	in the middle of a test

1. Where might a beautiful lilac be?	next to a navy fence
2. Where might one have fun?	in a big play space
3. Where might a pilot fly a plane?	over a runway
4. When might a pupil be silent?	in the middle of a test
5. When might a baby be in a cradle?	at nap time
6. Where might a broken table be?	in a sloppy kitchen

★ On the back, write each of the examples as a complete sentence (A beautiful lilac might be next to a navy fence, 2) One might have fun in a big play space, 3) A pilot might fly a plane over a runway, 4) A pupil might be silent in the middle of a test, 5) A baby might be in a cradle at nap time, 6) A broken table might be in a sloppy kitchen.

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Name: _____

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H. Combine the open syllable with the other syllables in each list. Then, answer the riddles.

e	be	gan	began
ven	even	yond	beyond
lect	elect	came	became
go	ego	side	beside
vil	evil	have	behave
rase	erase		

1. If you vote for someone, you help to do this: _____ elect

2. Six, ten, and one hundred are not odd but this: _____ even

3. If you are next to something, you are this: _____ beside

4. If you act politely, you do this: _____ behave

5. Bad, to the extreme: _____ evil

RO	ti	tle	title
bot	robot	dy	tidy
tund	rotund	rade	tirade
bust	robust	ny	tiny
tate	rotate	tan	titan
dents	rodents		

6. Rats and mice are these: _____ rodents

7. Something that is very little is this: _____ tiny

8. A word for "to spin" is this: _____ rotate

9. If everything is where it should be, a space is: _____ tidy

10. This is the name of a text: _____ title

★ Pick 3 words that you did not use. On the back, write a riddle for each. Student answers may vary.

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ANSWER KEY

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Word Study
Level 8

N. Read each sentence. Circle **Agree** or **Disagree**. Then, explain your answer. Student answers may vary.

- A plucky pal would make a great ally.
→ **Agree** or **Disagree**
Explain your answer.

- When you are hungry, you feel jolly.
→ **Agree** or **Disagree**
Explain your answer.

- Thrifty people often have empty pockets because they spend so much.
→ **Agree** or **Disagree**
Explain your answer.

- A clumsy grizzly could be a risk to people at a campsite.
→ **Agree** or **Disagree**
Explain your answer.

- Cups would be handy if you were trying to divvy up a bag of pecans.
→ **Agree** or **Disagree**
Explain your answer.

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Name: _____

Word Study
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K. Read the Changing Rule.

When a base word ends in a consonant and **y**, change **y** to **i** before adding a suffix that does not begin with **i**.

Checkpoints: 1. final **y** 2. consonant before **y** 3. suffix does not begin with **i**

L. Underline the last two letters in each base word. Then, add the suffixes to the base words to complete the phrase.

Base Word	Suffix	Completed Word
1. fancy	-est	fanciest spy
2. twenty	-ish	twentyish yams
3. bunny	-es	bunnies that cry
4. dry	-ing	drying yaks
5. display	-s	messy displays
6. sunny	-est	sunniest sky
7. sticky	-er	stickier gravy
8. angry	-ly	angrily yapping
9. sway	-s	sways and yells
10. baby	-es	babies you

M. Put each phrase above in the correct list.

y in Bold Word Is a Consonant	y in Bold Word Is a Vowel
twentyish yams	fanciest spy
drying yaks	bunnies that cry
angrily yapping	sunniest sky
sways and yells	stickier gravy
babies you	messy displays

* On the back, use 5 of the phrases in complete sentences. Student answers may vary.

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ANSWER KEY

Name: _____

Word Study
Level 8

P. First, follow the *Before You Read* steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the *As You Read* tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.	1. Pay attention to punctuation. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.

A Camp Tale

It was late at night, and there were strange rattles, buzzes, hums, and rumbles all around. Lucas held a light at his chin, which changed the shape of his face. The campers in the tent sat up as he began his tale.

“On a night just like this one, I was driving the camp bus down to the lake,” Lucas told them. “I was by myself because it was still a few months before camp would begin. I had my music on, but suddenly it went silent. The bus rocked from side to side and then came to a stop. Something strange was happening, and I was a bit scared. Then I felt the doors shake.”

Lucas scanned the tent for a moment. Several campers huddled together, and a few covered their heads with a blanket.

Time:	Self Corrections: WCPM:	Accuracy:	
			12
			25
			41
			42
			57
			72
			84
			98
			110
			116
			126
			136

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Name: _____

Word Study
Level 8

O. Read each sentence out loud. Then, rewrite the underlined words on the provided lines.

Read	Write
1. I watched the kind person help his friends.	_____
2. What just moved above the buildings?	_____
3. Colourful buds grew everywhere.	_____
4. I can easily walk on my hands for ten seconds.	_____
5. That person was touching the weight.	_____
6. Exhausted, I rested against the door.	_____
7. Whose hand almost touched the vase?	_____
8. Those seven colours were rightly chosen.	_____
9. She easily moved the box despite its weight.	_____
10. Whose strange cats are climbing up the tree?	_____
11. I watched seven seconds of the race.	_____
12. He rightly spoke up against the new rule.	_____
13. Did he push the colourful button above the door?	_____
14. We grew exhausted after climbing.	_____

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ANSWER KEY

Name: _____

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Q. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

- Where are Lucas and the campers?
Lucas and the campers are in a tent.
- According to Lucas's tale, what are some strange things that happen?
Answers may vary. A sample answer is: Some strange things that Lucas describes are the music going silent, the bus shaking, and something pulling on the bus doors.
- What do the campers do after Lucas's final words?
After Lucas finishes his tale, the campers take a minute to catch their breath and then make him promise to never tell another tale.

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Name: _____

Word Study
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Lucas went on. "Something was trying to open the doors in the back of the bus. I could not see what it was, but I could tell it was gigantic. I crept to the back of the bus to find out what was going on. I'll admit that my hands were shaking and my blood felt cold."

Lucas asked if anyone wanted him to stop, but every camper begged him to finish.

He resumed where he had left off. "I was more than a little scared as I tried to hold the door shut, but the thing was strong. I held onto that door with all my might. I felt it slipping out of my grasp. And then... I woke up."

When the campers were able to breathe again, they made Lucas pledge to never tell another tale again.

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ANSWER KEY

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S. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

- What example does the author give of a robot that is just for fun?
The author gives the example of a robot dog that can fetch a ball as a kind of robot that is just for fun.
- According to the text, where can robots go that humans can not?
According to the text, robots can go to the bottom of the ocean, outer space, and other remote places.
- How do robots and people depend on one another?
Robots depend on people to build and run them. People depend on robots to produce items and do work that they can not do.

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Name: _____

Word Study
Level 8

R. First, follow the Before You Read steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the As You Read tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. Highlight punctuation marks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pay attention to punctuation. Group words into meaningful chunks. Read with expression.

Time:	Self-Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
			9
			19
			29
			40
			49
			58
			72
			85
			96
			109
			115

Robots

Robots are devices that complete tasks by using computer commands. Cutting and welding pieces to make planes, for example, is done by robots. Robots lift boxes, assemble components, and handle tiny objects. Humans depend on robots to produce all kinds of items, including the computers in the robots themselves.

Robots depend on humans to build and run them.

Robots help do work that humans can not do. Robots are able to see and touch things at the bottom of the ocean and in other remote places. We know details about outer space because of the robots that were sent there. Some robots are just for fun. There's a robot dog that can fetch a ball!

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ANSWER KEY

Name: _____

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Level 8

T. First, follow the Before You Read steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the As You Read tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. 2. Highlight punctuation marks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay attention to punctuation. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.

Unique Friendships

Some animals have unique bonds with other animals. No one could have predicted that a crow and a kitten would become friends, but they did. The crow found the kitten crying outside. It protected the kitten and gave it insects to eat. A family gave the kitten a home, but the crow pecked at their door every day. When the kitten came out, the unlikely friends spent every minute together.

On the other side of the world, a baby hippo and a very old reptile also became friends. The hippo had lost its mother. It was scared and exhausted. When people found it, they gave it a protected space to live. It was there that the young hippo met a 130-year-old reptile. The reptile did not like anyone or anything—until the hippo showed up. The hippo rubbed noses and snuggled with the reptile. And the reptile accepted the hippo as its one and only friend.

Time:	Self-Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
			11
			23
			35
			50
			63
			70
			85
			97
			109
			122
			134
			146
			156

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Name: _____

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U. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

1. What animal does the crow befriend?
The crow befriends a kitten.

2. How did the hippo react when it met the reptile?
The hippo rubbed noses and snuggled with the reptile.

3. What is unexpected about the friendship between the hippo and the reptile?
Answers may vary but should include at least one of the following details: the hippo is young and the reptile is very old, the reptile does not like anyone or anything.

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ANSWER KEY

Name: _____

Word Study
Level 8

V. First, follow the Before You Read steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the As You Read tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. 2. Highlight punctuation marks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay attention to punctuation. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.

Muskrats

Time:	Self-Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:

In a city near a lake, a bus comes to a sudden stop as a small, clumsy animal crosses the lanes of traffic. 17

“That is a gigantic rat!” cries a person. 23

“But rats run faster than that,” adds another. 31

“What on earth is it?” asks someone else. 39

These people do not know that what they are seeing is a common North American mammal—a muskrat. Musk rats are rodents, but they are not rats. The muskrat got its name because of its strong, musky smell. Musk rats have webbed feet that help them swim. They can stay underwater for up to 17 minutes at a time! 47

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Musk rats spend most of their time in the water, only sometimes climbing out on land. Some muskrats dig their homes in the muddy banks of ponds and lakes. Other muskrats build lodges, which are huge nest-like dwellings made from plants and mud. Both kinds of muskrat homes have entrances that are underwater. 114

Musk rats mostly eat plants, but they will also dine on shellfish and frogs. 126

Many animals hunt muskrats, such as foxes, bobcats, otters, and water snakes. Humans have hunted muskrats for their dense, silky pelt, as well as for food. 138

Musk rats mostly eat plants, but they will also dine on shellfish and frogs. 149

Many animals hunt muskrats, such as foxes, bobcats, otters, and water snakes. Humans have hunted muskrats for their dense, silky pelt, as well as for food. 155

Musk rats mostly eat plants, but they will also dine on shellfish and frogs. 168

Many animals hunt muskrats, such as foxes, bobcats, otters, and water snakes. Humans have hunted muskrats for their dense, silky pelt, as well as for food. 179

Musk rats mostly eat plants, but they will also dine on shellfish and frogs. 191

Many animals hunt muskrats, such as foxes, bobcats, otters, and water snakes. Humans have hunted muskrats for their dense, silky pelt, as well as for food. 194

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ANSWER KEY

Name: _____
W. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

1. What do muskrats look like?

A muskrat is a small, clumsy animal that looks like a rat.

2. Where do muskrats spend most of their time?

Muskrats spend most of their time in water.

3. What can you infer about why muskrat homes have entrances that are underwater?

Answers may vary. A sample answer is: Muskrat homes have entrances that are underwater because they spend most of their time in the water.

Name: _____

A. Read each syllable. Circle those where c says /s/. Box those where c says /k/.

cel	crem	cam	cite
cem	cine	col	cyn
cil	clag	cel	cess

B. Add a syllable from above to complete the words below. Use a dictionary to check the meanings of the words you make.

1. You can write with this.	pen/ _____
2. This is a time away from class.	re/ _____
3. This means be great at something.	ex/ _____
4. This means to compile things.	_____ /lect
5. This means to give a thrill.	ex/ _____
6. This is someone who is a skeptic.	_____ /ic

C. Read each syllable. Circle those where g says /j/. Box those where g says /g/.

gen	gest	gist	gel
gus	age	gol	gic
gal	gob	gym	gul

D. Add a syllable from above to complete the words below. Use a dictionary to check the meanings of the words you make.

1. This is another word for humane.	_____ /tle
2. This is someone who is very sweet.	an/ _____
3. This is when a pony dashes.	_____ /lops
4. This is an athlete.	_____ /nast
5. This is another word for windy.	_____ /ty
6. This is a fancy glass.	_____ /let

★ On the back, put the syllables that begin with g and that you did not use in alphabetical order.

Name: _____

H. Combine the open syllable with the other syllables in each list. Then, answer the riddles.

e	ven	even	be	gan	
	lect			yond	
	go			came	
	vil			side	
	rase			have	

1. If you vote for someone, you help to do this: _____
2. Six, ten, and one hundred are not odd but this: _____
3. If you are next to something, you are this: _____
4. If you act politely, you do this: _____
5. Bad, to the extreme: _____

ro	bot		ti	tle	
	tund			dy	
	bust			rade	
	tate			ny	
	dents			tan	

6. Rats and mice are these: _____
7. Something that is very little is this: _____
8. A word for "to spin" is this: _____
9. If everything is where it should be, a space is: _____
10. This is the name of a text: _____

★ Pick 3 words that you did not use. On the back, write a riddle for each.

Name: _____

I. Write the phrase that is close in meaning.

shy bunny	run swiftly	glum spy	rocky cliff
cry softly	ugly cage	fancy space	nice prince

1. skittish rabbit	
2. sad agent	
3. race quickly	
4. weep gently	
5. spiffy place	
6. craggy bluff	
7. messy crate	
8. polite noble	

J. Write the phrase that best answers each question.

over a runway	at nap time	next to a navy fence
in a big play space	in a sloppy kitchen	in the middle of a test

1. Where might a beautiful lilac be?	
2. Where might one have fun?	
3. Where might a pilot fly a plane?	
4. When might a pupil be silent?	
5. When might a baby be in a cradle?	
6. Where might a broken table be?	

★ On the back, write each of the examples as a complete sentence (*A beautiful lilac might be _____*).

Name: _____

K. Read the Changing Rule.

**When a base word ends in a consonant and y,
change y to i before adding a suffix that does not begin with i.**

Checkpoints: 1. final y 2. consonant before y 3. suffix does not begin with i

L. Underline the last two letters in each base word. Then, add the suffixes to the base words to complete the phrase.

Base Word	Suffix	Completed Word
1. fancy	-est	_____ fanciest _____ spy
2. twenty	-ish	_____ yams
3. bunny	-es	_____ that cry
4. dry	-ing	_____ yaks
5. display	-s	messy _____
6. sunny	-est	_____ sky
7. sticky	-er	_____ gravy
8. angry	-ly	_____ yapping
9. sway	-s	_____ and yells
10. baby	-es	_____ you

M. Put each phrase above in the correct list.

y in Bold Word Is a Consonant	y in Bold Word Is a Vowel
	fanciest spy

★ On the back, use 5 of the phrases in complete sentences.

Name: _____

N. Read each sentence. Circle *Agree* or *Disagree*. Then, explain your answer.

1. A **plucky** pal would make a great **ally**.

→ *Agree* or *Disagree*

Explain your answer.

2. When you are **hungry**, you feel **jolly**.

→ *Agree* or *Disagree*

Explain your answer.

3. **Thrifty** people often have **empty** pockets because they spend so much.

→ *Agree* or *Disagree*

Explain your answer.

4. A **clumsy grizzly** could be a risk to people at a campsite.

→ *Agree* or *Disagree*

Explain your answer.

5. Cups would be **handy** if you were trying to **divvy** up a bag of pecans.

→ *Agree* or *Disagree*

Explain your answer.

Name: _____

O. Read each sentence out loud. Then, rewrite the underlined words on the provided lines.

Read	Write		
1. I <u>watched</u> the <u>kind person</u> help his friends.	_____	_____	_____
2. What just <u>moved</u> <u>above</u> the <u>buildings</u> ?	_____	_____	_____
3. <u>Colourful</u> buds <u>grew</u> <u>everywhere</u> .	_____	_____	_____
4. I can <u>easily</u> <u>walk</u> on my hands for ten <u>seconds</u> .	_____	_____	_____
5. That <u>person</u> was <u>touching</u> the <u>weight</u> .	_____	_____	_____
6. <u>Exhausted</u> , I rested <u>against</u> the door.	_____	_____	_____
7. <u>Whose</u> hand <u>almost</u> <u>touched</u> the vase?	_____	_____	_____
8. Those <u>seven colours</u> were <u>rightly</u> chosen.	_____	_____	_____
9. She <u>easily</u> <u>moved</u> the box despite its <u>weight</u> .	_____	_____	_____
10. <u>Whose</u> <u>strange</u> cats are <u>climbing</u> up the tree?	_____	_____	_____
11. I <u>watched</u> <u>seven</u> <u>seconds</u> of the race.	_____	_____	_____
12. He <u>rightly</u> spoke up <u>against</u> the new rule.	_____	_____	_____
13. Did he <u>push</u> the <u>colourful</u> button <u>above</u> the door?	_____	_____	_____
14. We <u>grew</u> <u>exhausted</u> after <u>climbing</u> .	_____	_____	_____

★ Make a list of words above that are hard to read or spell. Make flashcards to use for practice.

Name: _____

P. First, follow the *Before You Read* steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the *As You Read* tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed.2. Highlight punctuation marks.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pay attention to punctuation.2. Group words into meaningful chunks.3. Read with expression.

A Camp Tale

It was late at night, and there were strange rattles, buzzes, hums, and rumbles all around. Lucas held a light at his chin, which changed the shape of his face. The campers in the tent sat up as he began his tale.

“On a night just like this one, I was driving the camp bus down to the lake,” Lucas told them. “I was by myself because it was still a few months before camp would begin. I had my music on, but suddenly it went silent. The bus rocked from side to side and then came to a stop. Something strange was happening, and I was a bit scared. Then I felt the doors shake.”

Lucas scanned the tent for a moment. Several campers huddled together, and a few covered their heads with a blanket.

continued on next page

Name: _____

Lucas went on. “Something was trying to open the doors in the back of the bus. I could not see what it was, but I could tell it was gigantic. I crept to the back of the bus to find out what was going on. I’ll admit that my hands were shaking and my blood felt cold.”

Lucas asked if anyone wanted him to stop, but every camper begged him to finish.

He resumed where he had left off. “I was more than a little scared as I tried to hold the door shut, but the thing was strong. I held onto that door with all my might. I felt it slipping out of my grasp. And then... I woke up.”

When the campers were able to breathe again, they made Lucas pledge to never tell another tale again.

Name: _____

Q. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

1. Where are Lucas and the campers?

2. According to Lucas's tale, what are some strange things that happen?

3. What do the campers do after Lucas's final words?

Name: _____

R. First, follow the *Before You Read* steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the *As You Read* tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. 2. Highlight punctuation marks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay attention to punctuation. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.

Robots

Robots are devices that complete tasks by using computer commands. Cutting and welding pieces to make planes, for example, is done by robots. Robots lift boxes, assemble components, and handle tiny objects. Humans depend on robots to produce all kinds of items, including the computers in the robots themselves.

Robots depend on humans to build and run them.

Robots help do work that humans can not do. Robots are able to see and touch things at the bottom of the ocean and in other remote places. We know details about outer space because of the robots that were sent there. Some robots are just for fun. There’s a robot dog that can fetch a ball!

Name: _____

S. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

1. What example does the author give of a robot that is just for fun?

2. According to the text, where can robots go that humans can not?

3. How do robots and people depend on one another?

Name: _____

T. First, follow the *Before You Read* steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the *As You Read* tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. 2. Highlight punctuation marks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay attention to punctuation. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.

Unique Friendships

Some animals have unique bonds with other animals. No one could have predicted that a crow and a kitten would become friends, but they did. The crow found the kitten crying outside. It protected the kitten and gave it insects to eat. A family gave the kitten a home, but the crow pecked at their door every day. When the kitten came out, the unlikely friends spent every minute together.

On the other side of the world, a baby hippo and a very old reptile also became friends. The hippo had lost its mother. It was scared and exhausted. When people found it, they gave it a protected space to live. It was there that the young hippo met a 130-year-old reptile. The reptile did not like anyone or anything—until the hippo showed up. The hippo rubbed noses and snuggled with the reptile. And the reptile accepted the hippo as its one and only friend.

Name: _____

U. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

1. What animal does the crow befriend?

2. How did the hippo react when it met the reptile?

3. What is unexpected about the friendship between the hippo and the reptile?

Name: _____

V. First, follow the *Before You Read* steps. Then read the passage aloud, keeping the *As You Read* tips in mind to build your fluent reading skills. When you are ready, read to a teacher or record yourself reading.

Before You Read	As You Read
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note any challenging words or phrases. Ask for help, if needed. 2. Highlight punctuation marks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay attention to punctuation. 2. Group words into meaningful chunks. 3. Read with expression.

Muskrats

In a city near a lake, a bus comes to a sudden stop as a small, clumsy animal crosses the lanes of traffic.

“That is a gigantic rat!” cries a person.

“But rats run faster than that,” adds another.

“What on earth is it?” asks someone else.

These people do not know that what they are seeing is a common North American mammal—a muskrat. Muskrats are rodents, but they are not rats. The muskrat got its name because of its strong, musky smell. Muskrats have webbed feet that help them swim. They can stay underwater for up to 17 minutes at a time!

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Name: _____

Muskrats spend most of their time in the water, only sometimes climbing out on land. Some muskrats dig their homes in the muddy banks of ponds and lakes. Other muskrats build lodges, which are huge nest-like dwellings made from plants and mud. Both kinds of muskrat homes have entrances that are underwater.

Muskrats mostly eat plants, but they will also dine on shellfish and frogs. Many animals hunt muskrats, such as foxes, bobcats, otters, and water snakes. Humans have hunted muskrats for their dense, silky pelt, as well as for food.

Name: _____

W. Check your understanding by answering the questions in the space provided.

1. What do muskrats look like?

2. Where do muskrats spend most of their time?

3. What can you infer about why muskrat homes have entrances that are underwater?
