

Introduction

You are starting on a year-long program called *Daily Reading Practice* (or DRP for short). In this program you will have quick, short, daily reviews of many different skills you need to be a good reader. Doing the activities in this workbook will help you practice these skills so you can use them when you read novels, newspapers, magazines, reference materials, and even information on the Internet.

Each week, you will do a new page of your workbook. Follow the directions for each day. Your whole class might do the work together, or your teacher might tell you to do the work by yourself. Either way, your teacher will check each day to see if you have tried the assignment. It's okay if you get some of the answers wrong, but you should try your best. Your class will then go over the correct answers together. If you have made any errors, you should correct them in your workbook.

You will spend only a few minutes each day on DRP. You should read the reading selection each day. Don't be confused by the word selection. Selection is just another name for story, poem, letter, or article. Sometimes you will be asked to draw a picture or make a graphic organizer. Be sure to look at the **Help Pages** for help on how to do the graphic organizers and all of the other tasks you will be asked to complete. Look at these pages as often as you need to. If you have any questions, you should be sure to ask. For the first few weeks, the daily tasks will probably be difficult, but don't worry. The more DRP you do, the easier it will become.

Good luck with DRP, and remember that if you try your best every day, you will learn many things you need to know about reading.

HELP PAGES

Monday Notes

SUBJECT OF A SELECTION – HOW TO FIND IT

- Look at the first sentence.
- Look for any repeated words or names.
- Read the selection a second time.

TITLES – HOW TO WRITE ONE

- The title should hint at what the selection is about.
- The first word should always begin with a capital letter.
- The last word should always begin with a capital letter.
- All important words should begin with capital letters.
- Words like *a*, *an*, and *the* don't need to be capitalized unless they are the first word of the title.

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

- entertain – The author tells a personal or fictional story that is based on real or imaginary events.
- persuade – The author lets the readers know how he/she thinks about the subject or tries to talk the reader into thinking like the author thinks.
- inform – The author gives information about a subject.
- explain – The author helps the readers understand a subject.
- teach – The author gives directions on how to do something.
- describe – The author gives a picture with words of a person, place, event, or item.

FICTION/NONFICTION

- fiction – The author describes imaginary events and people.
- realistic fiction – The author describes imaginary events that could be true.
- nonfiction – The author describes real events, people, or facts.

Tuesday Notes

- **antonyms** – Antonyms are words that have opposite or almost opposite meanings.
 - ex: **hot/cold** **inside/outside**
- **base word** – A base word is the main part of a word without any prefixes or suffixes.
 - ex: **unhappy** = happy **jumping** = jump
- **compound word** – A compound word is one word made up of two words.
 - ex: **downtown** **into** **playground**
- **contraction** – A contraction is a word that is made from two words. An apostrophe is put in where the letters are left out.
 - ex: **cannot** = **can't** **is not** = **isn't**
- **homograph** – A homograph is a word that is spelled the same as another word, but is pronounced differently and has a different meaning.
 - ex: **live** – **live** **project** - **project**
- **homophones** – (sometimes called **homonyms**) Homophones are words that sound alike, but are spelled differently and have different meanings.
 - ex: **two, to, too** **weak, week**
- **prefix** – A prefix is the letter or group of letters put at the beginning of a base or root word to change the word's meaning.
 - ex: **un** + **happy** = **unhappy** **re** + **new** = **renew**
- **rhyiming words** – Rhyiming words sound the same.
 - ex: **light** – **night** **brown** – **down** **man** – **fan**
- **suffix** – A suffix is the letter or group of letters put at the end of a word or part of a word.
 - ex: **quick** + **ly** = **quickly** **move** + **able** = **moveable**
- **synonyms** – Synonyms are words that have the same or almost the same meaning.
 - ex: **small, tiny** **large, big**
- **unknown words** – The author uses a word you don't know or understand.
 - Sometimes you need to look up the word in a dictionary.
- **words in context** – When you read a word you don't know, it sometimes helps to read the rest of a sentence or story to be able to figure out the meaning of that word.

Week One

Title _____

The blue whale is the largest animal that has ever lived. Even though it looks like a fish and swims like a fish, it's a mammal because as a baby it feeds on its mother's milk.

An adult blue whale has no teeth. Instead it has giant bony brushes in its mouth. It eats by taking in a large mouthful of water. When the water comes back out, the brushes hold back all of the small plants and animals that are still inside the blue whale's mouth. Then the blue whale swallows this big amount of food and gulps another mouthful of water to do it all over again. This huge animal eats only the smallest food.

Monday Read the selection carefully.

1. This selection is about _____.
2. At the top of this page, write a title for the selection.
3. The author wrote this selection to _____. teach inform.
4. This selection is fiction. nonfiction. (Circle one.)

Tuesday Read the selection carefully.

5. A synonym for the words very large in the selection is _____.
6. What does the word swallow mean in this selection?
 a kind of bird eat
7. The contraction in this selection is _____.
It means _____.

Wednesday Read the selection carefully.

8. A whale probably swallows a small fish once in a while. True False
9. The selection doesn't say, but a blue whale _____ eat a shark.
 would would not
10. Write down one thing you already knew about a blue whale. _____

Thursday Read the selection carefully.

11. The main idea of this selection is that
 the huge blue whale eats very small food.
 the blue whale likes to eat.

Friday Read the selection carefully.

12. Highlight 5-6 key words in the selection. Write a 2-3 sentence summary of the selection using your highlighted key words. You don't have to use all of your key words. Be sure to use correct spelling and punctuation. _____

