

# 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

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

### TITLES

- 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.

### GENRE

- Genre is the name used to identify types of literature.
  - ex: *realistic fiction, fantasy, folktale/fairytale, science fiction, poetry, drama, nonfiction, real-world writing, biography, autobiography*

# Tuesday Notes

## WORDS

- **analogy** – An analogy shows the relationship between two things.
  - ex: *inside : outside :: up : down*
  - This is how you read this analogy: **inside is to outside as up is to down.**
  - The single colon stands for *is to*. The double colon stands for *as*.
- **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 word to change the word's meaning.
  - ex: *un + happy = unhappy*                      *re + new = renew*
- **singular/plural** – These are words in which the suffixes are added or removed to show number.
  - ex: *house + s = houses*                      *families – ies + y = family*
- **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 that you don't know or understand.
  - Sometimes you need to look up the word in a dictionary.

# Week One

Title \_\_\_\_\_

The invention of barbed wire by Joseph G. Glidden in 1874 changed the face of the Great Plains. Farmers began using the wire with twisted spikes along its length to fence in their livestock and to protect their homes and fields from roaming cattle.

Since wood was scarce, the farmers made fence posts out of soft limestone found on the Midwest plains. The rock was split into five-foot to six-foot long posts. In Kansas alone, there are about 40,000 miles of these post-rock fences strung with barbed wire.

Between 1883 and 1940 many companies produced barbed wire. Over 2,000 varieties of the fencing material have been available over the years.

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**Monday** Read the selection carefully.

1. The subject of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. At the top of this page, write a title for this selection.
3. The author's purpose in writing this selection is to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The genre of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Tuesday** Read the selection carefully.

5. A synonym for wandering found in the selection is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. What does face mean in this selection?     look                       the front of a rock
7. Write the base word of these selection words.  
varieties \_\_\_\_\_ invention \_\_\_\_\_ twisted \_\_\_\_\_

**Wednesday** Read the selection carefully.

8. Some of the rock fences are still being used on the Great Plains today.  
 True                       False
9. The selection doesn't say, but there was probably \_\_\_\_\_ limestone available.  
 not much                       a little                       lots of
10. In this space, draw a picture of a four inch piece of barbed wire.

**Thursday** Read the selection carefully.

11. The main idea of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_.
12. The main idea is     at the beginning.                       at the end.  
 not stated but implied throughout all the sentences.

**Friday** Read the selection carefully.

13. Highlight 5-6 key words in the selection. Write a 3-4 sentence summary of the selection using your key words. It is not necessary to use all of your key words. Be sure to use correct spelling and punctuation. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_