

Introduction

You are starting a year-long reading comprehension 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. The exercises will also help you prepare for standardized tests.

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, but you should reread the reading selection (or passage) each day. You will have to answer questions about the selection; sometimes you may have to draw a picture or make a graphic organizer. Refer to your **Help Pages** each day to be sure you're doing your assignments correctly. If you have any questions, be sure to ask your teacher. For the first few weeks, the daily tasks might be difficult, but don't worry. The more DRP you do, the easier it will become!

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

I sure wish my family could just buy the things we need. But for one thing, there are no stores close by. For another, we don't have enough money. What I would really like to be able to buy is soap! It takes my mother many days of planning and working to make soap for our family. She saves the wood ashes from the fireplace in a barrel. She also collects the grease and fat from cooking and butchering animals. Then, on the day of soapmaking, my mother, my sisters, and I spend many hours outdoors making the soap.

First, we boil the grease and fat in a large iron kettle. Then, we pour water on the saved ashes. As the water filters down through the ashes, a brown liquid drips out a hole in the bottom of the barrel. This liquid, called lye, is added to the boiling fat. The mixture slowly begins getting thicker. While it is still warm, we pour it into rectangular shaped molds. Mother cuts it into bars with a wire and then leaves the bars to harden.

This soap is very caustic on our skin. Do you know what? Sometimes it is fun being a kid. We don't have to take very many baths.

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. My purpose in reading this selection is to _____.
5. The genre of this selection is _____.

Tuesday Read the selection carefully.

6. A synonym for unkind is _____.
7. What does the word molds mean in this selection?
 forms constructs fungi
8. The word filters means _____.
9. A pair of homophones in the selection is _____ and _____.

Wednesday Read the selection carefully.

10. The mother and sisters make the soap in the kitchen of the home. True False
11. The selection doesn't say, but the soap probably _____.
 doesn't last long doesn't smell very good
12. Name the ingredients in the soap mixture. _____

Thursday Read the selection carefully.

13. Make a story string about how soap is made.

Friday Read the selection carefully.

14. 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.
