

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 in the English language. 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 a few minutes each day on DRP. You should read the 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 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.

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 and the English language.

SAMPLE

Help Pages

Monday Notes

SUBJECT of a selection and how to find it in the selection

- The subject refers to what the selection is about.
- Look at the first sentence.
- Look for any repeated words or names.
- Read the selection a second time.

TITLES and how to write a good 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 is why the author wrote the selection.

- 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 paints a picture with words of a person, place, event, or item.

GENRE names the kind of writing.

- fiction – The author writes about imaginary events and/or people.
- realistic fiction – The author writes about imaginary events that could be true.
- nonfiction – The author writes about real events, people, or facts.
- poem – The author writes in verse that sometimes rhymes.
- biography – The author writes about the life of a real person.
- recipe – The author gives instruction on how to cook something.
- directions – The author tells you how to do something.
- letter – The author writes a message to another person.

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 word to change the word's meaning.
 - ex: **un + happy = unhappy** **re + new = renew**
- **rhyiming words** – Rhyming words sound the same.
 - ex: **light – night** **brown – down** **man – fan**
- **singular/plural words** – These are words in which the suffixes are added or removed to show the number of things. Singular words indicate one thing. Plural words indicate more than one thing.
 - 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 to change the word's meaning or part of speech.
 - 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.
- **words in context** – When you read a word that 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 Twelve

Title

There are over 400 kinds of raptors found in the world. They live in cities, grasslands, jungles, mountains, woodlands, and on ocean coasts. Raptors are members of a group of birds called “birds of prey.” The word “raptor” comes from Latin, and it means “plunderer,” or one who takes by force. Raptors are predators, and the animals they hunt are called prey. Some raptors are nocturnal. Owls are part of this group. Other raptors hunt by day. These are called diurnal animals. Kites, hawks, and eagles are part of this group of raptors.

Raptors have special characteristics that make them very good hunters. They have strong wings; eyes that let them see ten times better than humans; great hearing; strong flight muscles that help them take off, fly, and land while carrying their food; and long, sharp, curved talons for grasping live prey.

Raptors are important to the earth’s environment. They control the number of rodents by hunting. They also get rid of weak or unhealthy animals. Some raptors hunt and feed on carrion. They are like nature’s cleanup crew because they help keep the earth and nature in balance.

Monday – Listen and follow along as your teacher reads the selection.

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 for writing this selection is to _____. inform teach
4. The genre of this selection is _____.

Tuesday – Read the selection with your teacher.

5. What does the word prey mean? _____
6. What does the word nocturnal mean in this selection?
 wise large active at night
7. Circle the compound words in the selection.
8. What does the word carrion mean? _____
9. What word in the selection is a synonym for the word holding? _____

Wednesday – Read the selection with your teacher.

10. Raptors eat only live prey. True False
11. Predators eat other animals. True False
12. Name two things that would happen if raptors disappeared. _____

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13. The selection doesn’t say, but raptors live on every continent except _____.
 Europe Africa Antarctica Asia

Thursday – Read the selection to yourself.

14. Skim the passage and underline the names of different kinds of raptors.
15. The main idea of this selection is _____.
 raptors are important to nature raptors are scary birds

Friday – Read the selection to your teacher or a friend.

16. Highlight 5-6 key words in the selection. Work with your teacher to write a 3-4 sentence summary of the selection using your highlighted key words. You don’t need to use all of your key words.
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