

Week One

The Food Festival

* Due Tuesday

Van and his family went to the local food festival.
 10 Van's eyes opened wide. He was amazed at how this
 20 quiet street had been changed. On each side, food
 29 booths were set up showing colorful flags. He knew
 38 a few. There was Mexico and there was China. Van
 48 followed his mom, dad, and sister down the street.

57 Mom stopped at the first booth. People were selling
 66 Greek salad there. Van's family shared a big plate of
 76 salad.

77 Then they walked to the Chinese booth. They had the
 87 beef noodle soup.

90 The next stop was the Indian booth for spicy curry.
 100 At the Mexican booth, they all had tamales.

108 At last, the family reached the end of the street.
 118 Everyone was full. "Which food did you like the best?"
 128 asked Dad.

130 The family members all spoke at once.

137 "The curry," said Van.

141 "The tamales," said his sister.

146 "The beef noodle soup," Mom said.

152 "And I liked the Greek salad best," said Dad with a
 163 smile. "I guess we can agree that *all* the food here is
 175 delicious."

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

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Week TWO

A Pet of His Own

* Due Tuesday

10 Jeff lived with his family and their three pets. His
 21 sister Kim had a bird. His brother Rick had two mice.
 34 Jeff wanted a pet of his own. "May I get a snake?" he
 44 asked his parents. He was polite because he knew good
 44 manners were important.

47 "A snake will eat my bird," shrieked Kim loudly. Her
 57 yell upset her bird. The bird started to chirp.

66 Jeff had another idea. "May I get a cat?" he asked
 77 politely.

78 "A cat will eat my bird," cried Kim.

86 "And a cat will eat my mice," said Rick.

95 Jeff was stumped by his pet problem and didn't know
 105 how to solve it. He wanted a pet that was different and
 117 unique. There was already one bird and two mice. He
 127 couldn't get a snake or a cat. What kind of pet wouldn't
 139 disturb or upset the others?

144 Then one day Jeff saw an ad for a rabbit. This pet was
 157 different. This pet could get along with the others.

166 Jeff's parents got him the rabbit. He was so thrilled to
 177 have a pet of his own that he shouted for joy.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

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Week Three

A Fire Dog

* Due Tuesday

11 Wilshire is a fire dog. He lives in the city. When
 22 Wilshire first came to the fire station, he was just three
 33 months old. He lived at the fire station day and night.
 42 Fifty firefighters lived and worked there, too. They took
 52 care of Wilshire. They fed the young dog. They gave
 him water to drink.

56 The firefighters hired a dog trainer. The trainer gave
 65 Wilshire lessons. He helped Wilshire learn to live in the
 75 fire station. He showed Wilshire where he could go. He
 85 showed Wilshire where he was not allowed to go.

94 Then it was time for exercise. Wilshire didn't even
 103 have to go outside. He was trained to run on a treadmill
 115 inside the station.

118 Soon Wilshire became close pals with one firefighter.
 126 Now Wilshire and the firefighter spend a shift at the
 136 fire station together. Then the firefighter takes Wilshire
 144 home. This gives Wilshire a break from the busy station.
 154 He also has fun meeting and playing with other dogs.

164 Wilshire got even more training. Now he can do fire
 174 safety tricks. He visits schools and shows children how
 183 to "Stop, Drop, and Roll." All that work keeps Wilshire
 193 very busy!

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WEEK FOUR

Looking for Animals

Ms. Lee takes her class to the woods for a hike. She
 12 tells her students to look for woodland animals. All the
 22 children carry notebooks. They plan to sketch and take
 31 notes about the animals they will see.

The group sets off down the path. High above, birds
 38 sing in the trees. One boy points to what he thinks is a
 48 robin. The others disagree. They say it is just a leaf.
 61

The children hear hooting. It is unlike the other
 72 sounds. They look up but are unable to see anything.
 81 An owl looks down at them. Its brown feathers blend in
 91 with the leaves. The children can not see the owl.
 102

The children pass by a small pond. A deer is drinking
 112 there, but it stands still as the group walks by. Its brown
 123 coat makes it seem to disappear into the woods. The
 135 deer slips away unseen.
 145

One girl looks down at the uneven path. She sees
 149 what look like small lumps of dirt. Then she stops
 159 watching. The lumps jump away. No one has seen the
 169 tiny toads that blend in with the ground.
 179

The hike is over. The class retraces their steps back to
 187 the bus. The driver unlocks the door. Maybe the class
 198 can return another day to look for more animals!
 208

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* Due Tuesday

Week FIVE

* Due Tuesday

Fox Gets Help

11 One day, Fox was walking in the woods. High in a
12 tree, he saw a nice bunch of grapes. "Those will make a
13 healthful snack," Fox thought. He jumped up to get the
14 grapes.

15 Fox nearly reached the grapes, but he could not jump
16 high enough. He really wanted those grapes. So Fox
17 made a plan. He got a ladder and leaned it on the tree.
18 He should be able to reach the grapes easily.

19 The wind began blowing strongly. As Fox stepped up
20 to the ladder, the wind blew it down on the ground. This
21 happened over and over again. Fox sighed loudly. He
22 was about to give up. Then Turtle crept up slowly.

23 Turtle had an idea that was helpful. He would hold
24 the ladder tightly while Fox climbed up. Fox went up the
25 ladder and picked the bunch of grapes.

26 When Fox was safely back on the ground, he shared
27 the grapes with Turtle. Fox was thankful for his friend's
28 help. Sometimes it takes a friend to help you reach a
29 goal.

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Two Kinds of Tundra

* Due Tuesday

The Arctic Tundra

3 Dr. Jones went to the **Arctic tundra**. It was very cold
14 with no trees. There were grasses and flowers. Dr. Jones
24 was hopeful that he would see animals. He made a
34 careful study of what he found.

40 In the sky, Dr. Jones saw playful **ravens** and **gulls**.
50 On the ground, he saw **gray wolves** and **Arctic**
59 **hares**. He knew that many of these animals had extra
69 fat. This was useful. It kept the animals warm during
79 the cold winter. Some of the animals slept while others
89 went south.

The Alpine Tundra

94 The next trip Dr. Jones took was to the **alpine**
104 **tundra**. He was greatly interested in comparing the two
113 places. This tundra did not have trees, either. The alpine
123 plants were almost like the Arctic plants. The animals
132 were clearly different, though.

136 Dr. Jones saw birds such as **jays** and **grouse**. He saw
147 **sheep** and **elk**. He knew that some of these animals
157 also had extra fat. It kept them warm. Some of these
168 animals slept through the winter. Others went south.

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Week Seven

Opossums

* Due Tuesday

12 An adult opossum is about the size of a big cat. When
22 the mother gives birth, she may have seven or more
babies. She has a pouch like a kangaroo.

30 Each baby opossum is the size of a honeybee. At
40 first, they stay inside the mother's pouch. After about
49 two months, the babies leave the mother's pouch. They
58 are still small. The mother can carry the babies on her
69 back. The baby opossums grow quickly. Soon the young
78 animals are on their own.

83 An adult opossum has long gray fur on its body.
93 Its face is white. It has black ears. The opossum has
104 a pointed snout with a pink nose. Its tail and feet are
116 pink, too. It has a mouth full of fifty sharp teeth.

127 An opossum has a very useful tail. This tail is almost
138 a foot long with very little hair. An opossum can use
149 this tail to grab onto things. Its tail helps it hold onto
161 tree branches. On each hind foot, an opossum has a
171 thumb. These thumbs help it grab onto things, too.

180 These animals are known for "playing possum."
187 When rattled by a predator, they lie still and don't move
198 at all until the threat goes away.

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WEEK - Eight**A Tortoise**

* Due Tuesday

- You will find that a tortoise is a mild fellow,
 10 It lives a life that's calm and mellow.
 18 A tortoise can live for quite a long span,
 27 In fact it may even live longer than a man.
 37 You'll never find a tortoise at sea,
 44 It lives on land—that's where it should be.
 53 Would a tortoise be able to win a race?
 62 Not since it moves at such a slow pace.
 71 It has four stumpy legs and four tortoise feet.
 80 For a snack, plants are its favorite of treat.
 89 Some creatures have feathers and some have hair,
 97 But what does our friend tortoise wear?
 104 A tortoise wears a hard outer shell,
 111 That always works to serve it well.
 118 When a tortoise doesn't know where to hide,
 126 It just pulls its head and four limbs inside.
 135 Even though a tortoise may be shy,
 142 It can walk around with its head held high.
 151 For a tortoise is a marvel of the animal pack,
 161 It carries its home right on its back.

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Roller Coaster Science *Week Nine*

Riding a roller coaster can feel like flying. The cars
 10 race up and down the track. They go around corners at
 21 a high speed. Do you know how a roller coaster works?

32 **The Ride Begins**

35 A long chain runs under the first uphill track. A
 45 motor moves this chain in a loop. It's like the moving
 56 belt at the store checkout. The roller coaster cars grip
 66 onto the chain. The chain pulls the roller coaster train
 76 up to the top of the hill.

83 **Moving Along the Track**

87 The train reaches the top of the hill. The chain is
 98 unhooked. **Gravity** takes the train down the track.
 106 Gravity is a **force** that pulls objects toward the center of
 117 the earth.

119 As the train moves down the track, it **speeds** up. It
 130 goes faster and faster. This speed helps move the train
 140 up the next hill. Then it all happens again.

149 **The Ride Ends**

152 When the ride is over, the roller coaster train must
 162 stop. There are brakes built into the track. These brakes
 172 stop the **motion** of the train. The roller coaster ends at
 183 the same position it started.

188 That is the science of a roller coaster. Think about
 198 these forces the next time you take a ride!

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