

4th Grade Week 1

Dear Parent/Guardian,

During Week 1, your child will review a variety of skills, including genre, text features, antonyms, and read both informational and literary text to practice reading comprehension.

We also suggest that students have an experience with reading each day. Reading at home will make a HUGE difference in your child's school success! Make reading part of your everyday routine. Choose books that match your child's interests. Reading for 20 minutes a day will continue to grow your young reader's vocabulary and comprehension.

Links for additional resources to support students at home are listed below for letters and numbers review, sight word practice, colors, shapes, and more:

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

<https://www.education.com/>

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/>

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

Week 1 At A Glance	
Day 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Read for 20 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> Genre/Text Feature Page 236
Day 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Read for 20 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> Read "What is a Spacewalk?" and answer questions
Day 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Read for 20 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> Antonyms Page 237 <input type="checkbox"/> Using Antonyms for Context Clues
Day 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Read for 20 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> Read "Reading to Max" and answer questions
Day 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Read for 20 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> Fix the Story with Antonyms

Name _____

Scott Aldrich's Micro Art

Scott Aldrich is an artist. He uses microscopes and light. Aldrich trained to be a chemist, or someone who works with chemicals. He used microscopes to look at chemicals. The shapes he saw looked like art. Aldrich uses light filters. The filters let certain colors pass through chemicals. Then he takes pictures of the chemicals. He uses a camera with a microscope in it. The pictures look like familiar things!



Sirr Stafford

In his photography Aldrich reveals the world as seen through a microscope.

Answer the questions about the text.

1. How do you know this is expository, or informational, text?

2. What does the photograph show? Why is the photograph important?

3. What is another text feature in this text?

4. What does the caption tell you about Aldrich's art?

Name: _____ Class: _____

What Is a Spacewalk?

By NASA

In this informational text provided by NASA, the author discusses what spacewalks are and how astronauts stay safe when they leave their spacecraft. As you read, take notes on the steps astronauts take to go on a spacewalk.

Why Do Astronauts Go on Spacewalks?

- [1] Astronauts go on spacewalks for many reasons. Spacewalks let astronauts work outside their spacecraft while still in space. Astronauts can do science experiments on a spacewalk. Experiments can be placed on the outside of a spacecraft. This lets scientists learn how being in space affects different things.

Spacewalks also let astronauts test new equipment. They can repair satellites¹ or spacecraft that are in space. By going on spacewalks, astronauts can fix things instead of bringing them back to Earth to fix.



"EdWhiteFirstAmericanSpacewalker.1965.ws" by NASA / James McDivitt is in the public domain.

How Do Astronauts Go on Spacewalks?

When astronauts go on spacewalks, they wear spacesuits to keep themselves safe. Inside spacesuits, astronauts have the oxygen they need to breathe. They have the water they need to drink.

Astronauts put on their spacesuits several hours before a spacewalk. The suits are pressurized. This means that the suits are filled with oxygen.

- [5] Once in their suits, astronauts breathe pure oxygen for a few hours. Breathing only oxygen gets rid of all the nitrogen in an astronaut's body. If they didn't get rid of the nitrogen, the astronauts might get gas bubbles in their body when they walked in space. These gas bubbles can cause astronauts to feel pain in their shoulders, elbows, wrists and knees. This pain is called getting "the bends" because it affects the places where the body bends, Scuba divers can also get "the bends."

1. an object placed in orbit around the Earth, moon, or another planet in space to collect information or communicate

Astronauts are now ready to get out of their spacecraft. They leave the spacecraft through a special door called an airlock. The airlock has two doors. When astronauts are inside the spacecraft, the airlock is airtight so no air can get out. When astronauts get ready to go on a spacewalk, they go through the first door and lock it tight behind them. They can then open the second door without any air getting out of the spacecraft. After a spacewalk, astronauts go back inside through the airlock.

How Do Astronauts Stay Safe During Spacewalks?

When on a spacewalk, astronauts use safety tethers to stay close to their spacecraft. Tethers are like ropes. One end is hooked to the spacewalker. The other end is connected to the vehicle. The safety tethers keep astronauts from floating away into space. Astronauts also use tethers to keep tools from floating away. They tether their tools to their spacesuits.

Another way astronauts stay safe during spacewalks is by wearing a SAFER. SAFER stands for Simplified Aid for EVA Rescue. SAFER is worn like a backpack. It uses small jet thrusters to let an astronaut move around in space. If an astronaut were to become untethered and float away, SAFER would help him or her fly back to the spacecraft. Astronauts control safer with a small joystick, like on a video game.

"What Is a Spacewalk?" by NASA is in the public domain.

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. PART A: What does the word “thrusters” mean as it is used in paragraph 8 of the passage?
 - A. ropes that connect
 - B. machines that power
 - C. spacesuits that protect
 - D. bags that hold tools

2. PART B: Which details from the passage helps the reader understand the meaning of “thrusters”?
 - A. “hooked to the spacewalker.” (Paragraph 7)
 - B. “is worn like a backpack.” (Paragraph 8)
 - C. “fly back to the spacecraft.” (Paragraph 8)
 - D. “with a small joystick” (Paragraph 8)

3. Why are two doors needed to create an airlock on a spacecraft?
 - A. to make it safe for astronauts to enter and exit the spacecraft on Earth
 - B. to let the astronauts do scientific experiments to see how air in space affects living things
 - C. to allow astronauts to go into space without letting oxygen out of the spacecraft
 - D. to provide a place where the astronauts can connect their ropes to a spacecraft so they do not float away

4. PART A: What is the main idea of the passage, “What Is a Spacewalk?”
 - A. Astronauts wear spacesuits that allow them to breathe and move in space.
 - B. Astronauts need special machines to study outer space.
 - C. Astronauts go on spacewalks to do important experiments.
 - D. Astronauts have special tools to stay safe and work in space.

5. PART B: Which two details from the passage support the answer to Part A?
 - A. “Astronauts go on spacewalks for many reasons.” (Paragraph 1)
 - B. “This lets scientists learn how being in space affects different things.” (Paragraph 1)
 - C. “They can repair satellites or spacecraft that are in space.” (Paragraph 2)
 - D. “Once in their suits, astronauts breathe pure oxygen for a few hours.” (Paragraph 5)
 - E. “This pain is called getting ‘the bends’ because it affects the places where the body bends.” (Paragraph 5)
 - F. “When on a spacewalk, astronauts use safety tether to stay close to their spacecraft.” (Paragraph 7)

6. PART A: What is one kind of important work that astronauts do when they are on a spacewalk?
- A. Astronauts fly through space to explore during spacewalks.
 - B. Astronauts hook tools onto their spacecraft during spacewalks.
 - C. Astronauts can make repairs to objects during spacewalks.
 - D. Astronauts do scientific tests on their bodies during spacewalks.
7. PART B: Which detail from the passage supports the answer to Part A?
- A. "let scientists learn how being in space affects different things." (Paragraph 1)
 - B. "fix things instead of bringing them back to Earth to fix." (Paragraph 2)
 - C. "can cause astronauts to feel pain in their shoulders, elbows, wrists and knees." (Paragraph 5)
 - D. "to let an astronaut move around in space." (Paragraph 8)

Name _____

Words that have opposite meanings are called **antonyms**. For example, the words *rough* and *smooth* are antonyms. You can find out if a word has an antonym by looking in a **thesaurus**. A thesaurus is a book that lists words in alphabetical order. Following each word is a list of its synonyms and antonyms.

Read each pair of sentences. Choose an antonym for the underlined word from the box below. Write the antonym on the line.

specific

identical

entire

detailed

1. I only wanted to eat half of the apple. But the apple was so delicious that I ate the _____ thing!
2. Exercising is a general activity. Jumping rope is a more _____ activity.
3. We asked him for a short, simple answer. Instead, he gave us an answer that was long and _____.
4. These two puppies do not look different. They look the same because they are _____.

Using Antonyms for Context Clues

Name: _____

Circle the letter of the word that most closely matches the underlined word in the sentence. Use the antonym in blue as a clue to the correct meaning.

1. While she was indifferent to golf, he husband was an avid fan.

- A. boring B. likeable C. eager D. pleasant
-

2. I thought it was a fresh idea, but the teacher thought it was trite.

- A. special B. loud C. happy D. common
-

3. Stacey was suspicious when the clown handed them a box, but her gullible little brother opened it anyway.

- A. trusting B. sad C. doomed D. careful
-

4. While James is very outgoing, his older brother is very reclusive.

- A. withdrawn B. athletic C. popular D. hungry
-

5. The woman abhorred cleaning house, but she loved a spotless home.

- A. often B. demanded C. enjoyed D. hated
-

6. George is adept with crossword puzzles, while his sister is a failure at solving them.

- A. miserable B. skilled C. close D. bored
-

7. Instead of a grimace, Claudia had a big smile across her face.

- A. grin B. hat C. frown D. mask
-

8. She was an agile dancer, although her partner was quite clumsy.

- A. quiet B. nimble C. shy D. stiff

Name: _____ Class: _____

Reading to Max

By Heather Klassen
2016

Heather Klassen has written for Highlights. In this short story, a boy reads to a cat at an animal shelter. As you read, take notes on the relationship between the boy and the cat.

- [1] "This Saturday, we'll be visiting cats at the animal shelter. If you'd like to join us, here's a flyer,"¹ said Ms. Delgado, the school librarian.

Ben loved cats, and he had always wanted one. He hurried to grab a flyer. Then Ms. Delgado added, "We'll be reading to the cats." Ben stopped. Reading was hard. Still, he really wanted to visit the cats, so he took a flyer anyway.

After school, Ben showed the flyer to Dad.

"That sounds great," Dad said. On Saturday, Ben and Dad met some of Ben's classmates and their parents at the shelter.



"Ben started reading, and Max purred." by Renee Kurilla is used with permission.

- [5] "This is Max," the shelter worker told Ben as she handed him a gray cat. Ben carried Max to a beanbag chair. When Ben sat down, Max settled onto his lap.

"Here's my book," Ben told Max. He had taken a book he'd been working on. He started reading, and Max purred. After a few minutes, Ben looked up. Some of the cats stayed on his classmates' laps, but other cats roamed² the room while the kids read.

Ben stroked Max's back. *I'm glad Max is staying and listening to me read*, he thought.

On the way home, Ben told Dad, "Max is the best cat ever."

"I'm glad you two are buddies," Dad said. All week, Ben waited for Saturday. When it arrived, Ben got to read to Max again. Ben read and read while Max purred and purred.

- [10] "What if someone adopts Max?" Ben asked Dad later.

"I guess you'd read to a different cat," Dad said.

But I don't want a different cat, Ben thought.

Ben even told his next-door neighbor, Mrs. Patel, about Max.

1. a piece of paper advertising something
2. **Roam (verb)**: to go from place to place without purpose

"Max sounds like a special cat," said Mrs. Patel.

[15] Ben agreed.

Every Saturday, Ben read to Max. "I wish we could adopt Max," Ben said to Dad. He knew they couldn't. Mom had allergies.

Dad nodded. "But it's nice you can see Max at the shelter, right?"

"Yeah," said Ben.

One day at school, Ben realized that reading seemed easier. Still, he was surprised when Ms. Delgado gave him the Most Improved Reader award. "I want to show my award to Max," Ben told Dad.

[20] But on Saturday, Ben couldn't find Max at the shelter. "Someone must have adopted Max. What if I never see him again?" Ben said, frowning. Just then, Mrs. Patel walked into the visitors' room, carrying Max.

"Max *is* a special cat," Mrs. Patel said.

"So I'm adopting him. You can come over every day to visit him."

Having Max next door will be almost like having him as my own cat, Ben thought. He smiled at Mrs. Patel.

"Now we can read every day," Ben told Max as he stroked the cat's back.

[25] Max purred.

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. PART A: What is the main theme of the short story?
 - A. There's nothing harder than losing a close friend.
 - B. With enough practice, you can improve at anything.
 - C. It's important to help animals in need, when you can.
 - D. Humans and animals can offer each other support and friendship.

2. PART B: Which detail from the story best supports the answer to Part A?
 - A. "Ben stopped. Reading was hard. Still, he really wanted to visit the cats, so he took a flyer anyway." (Paragraph 2)
 - B. "When it arrived, Ben got to read to Max again. Ben read and read while Max purred and purred." (Paragraph 9)
 - C. "I wish we could adopt Max,' Ben said to Dad. He knew they couldn't. Mom had allergies." (Paragraph 16)
 - D. "Still, he was surprised when Ms. Delgado gave him the Most Improved Reader award." (Paragraph 19)

3. How does Ben feels about Max getting adopted?
 - A. He doesn't want to lose his reading buddy.
 - B. He wants Max to find a good family.
 - C. He thinks that Max would miss him a lot.
 - D. He doesn't want Max to be taken from the other cats.

4. How does reading to Max affect Ben?
 - A. He learns to develop better social skills.
 - B. He realizes how much he loves animals.
 - C. He decides he wants to work with animals when he grows up.
 - D. He becomes much better at reading.

5. Why is it important to the story that Ben talks to Mrs. Patel about Max?

Name _____

Knowing **Greek roots** can help you figure out the meanings of unfamiliar words. Look at the example in the sentence below.

The four seasons are part of a *cycle*.

The Greek root *cycl-* means “circular.” The word *cycle* means “a series of events that happen over and over again in the same order.”

Below are some other familiar Greek roots and their meanings.

tele = far

auto = self

techn = art, skill

Read the sentences below. The word in bold in each sentence has a Greek root. Use the Greek roots and their meanings from the box above to figure out the best definition of the word in bold. Then circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. He even helped make the largest **telescope** in the world!
 - a. an instrument used to see something that is close
 - b. an instrument used to see something that is far away

2. An **automatic** computer voice says the word.
 - a. done with a person’s control
 - b. works by itself

3. The armed forces use a communication **technique** that involves silent hand movements out in the field.
 - a. a skillful way of bringing about a result
 - b. an easy way to get a result

Name _____

When two vowels appear together in a word, they work as a vowel team to form one vowel sound.

boat

plain

tree

A syllable that includes a vowel team is called a vowel-team syllable.

lead as in *mislead*

maid as in *maiden*

A. Read the words in each row. Write the word that contains a vowel team. The first one has been done for you.

- | | | | |
|------------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. brake | state | speed | <u>speed</u> |
| 2. filed | sneak | dinner | _____ |
| 3. trainer | smoke | return | _____ |
| 4. secret | repeat | became | _____ |
| 5. summer | basic | staircase | _____ |

Many English words include Greek and Latin roots. Knowing the meanings of these roots can help you understand the meaning of unfamiliar words.

- The Greek root *scop* means “see.”
- The Latin root *ped* means “foot.”
- The Greek root *bio* means “life.”
- The Latin root *aud* means “listen.”
- The Greek root *photo* means “light.”

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B. Read each word. Circle the Greek or Latin root in the word. The first one has been done for you.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. <u>ped</u> estrian | 3. auditorium | 5. telescope |
| 2. photocopy | 4. biography | |