

SMART FUN FOR COOL KIDS

# Kid Scoop News<sup>®</sup>

MAY 2026

## STEMDINI

Abracadabra! Amaze your family and friends with The Magic Rain Trick! But watch out or the rain will fall on you.

## CATS

Cats have been friends for people for thousands of years. They appear in lots of stories — from fairy tales to comic strips!

## WATER SAFETY

Summer is nearly here. Make sure you know the facts about Water Safety to stay safe at the beach and at the pool.

Help us finish coloring this page!



## READING REWARDS!

Students at this school get rewarded with gold coins that get them books from a special machine.

This copy of **Kid Scoop News** belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

# On Track Reader 2025-26



During the 2025-26 school year, Book Mark & Nautical Yarn will provide **free tutoring** through their **ON TRACK READER Tutoring Program** held at Book Mark in downtown Ludington. With the help of volunteer tutors, students are assisted in foundational reading skills using a well-respected, research-based curriculum. Students may be in grades K - 3.

- Beginning this fall, the Literacy Team at Ludington Elementary School will administer assessments in reading skills to each student
- The Literacy Team will share results with K-3 teachers prior to Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduled for October 2025
- If assessments warrant intervention, teachers will encourage parents to enroll their children in the ON TRACK READER program
- Representatives of the ON TRACK READER program will be available on-site during conferences to collect permission slips (Actual tutoring sessions will begin the following Tuesday, October 21, 2025)
- Tutors will customize a tutorial program for each student based on the student's instructional needs
- Students will be tutored individually or in small-groups by volunteer tutors (frequently retired educators) trained in the science of reading

### Schedule for 2025-26

On Track Reader will meet 10-12 times in each Session.

- Session 1 (October 21 - December 4, 2025)
- Session 2 (January 13 - February 26, 2026)
- Session 3 (March 17 - April 30, 2026)

Tutoring sessions meet from 3:30 - 4:30 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### Tutor Training and Tutor Training Dates Parent Training

If you would like to learn how to help your child improve their reading skills at home, On Track Reader will be offering parent training at Book Mark this fall.

Please email [info@ontrackreader.com](mailto:info@ontrackreader.com) to let us know that you are interested and we'll get back to you with date and time.

### Tutor Training

If you would like to join our amazing team of volunteer tutors, please email us at [info@ontrackreader.com](mailto:info@ontrackreader.com) to let us know of your interest.

We are always happy to hear from new tutors (no experience necessary except to love and wish to help children).

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Yarn**



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**231-843-2537**

SHOP ON LINE AT [bookmarkludington.com](http://bookmarkludington.com)

### QUESTION OF THE MONTH

"What do you like best about Kid Scoop News?"

Send your answer to:

**KID SCOOP NEWS**  
181 Andrieux St. Suite 200  
Sonoma, CA 95476

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



## WOODWORD'S CORNER

**Dear Readers,**

May is a time to honor teachers, nurses, brothers, sisters and moms for all they do to help us and look after us. It's also the coming of summer, the celebration of Cinco de Mayo and at the very end of the month, Memorial Day when we remember, and honor, those who died for our country. That's a lot of things to think about this month.

**The magic of science** comes alive on our Stemini pages. Fool your friends with these clever tricks that all have their basis in science.

There's some fascinating information about **Cats** in this month's issue. Apparently, an Egyptian goddess was illustrated

with the head of a cat. Our artist, Jeff Schinkel, shows all you cat lovers how to draw one.

With the weather warming and summer just around the corner, we want to make you aware of the importance of **Water Safety**. Knowing how to be safe in a pool or at the ocean is essential — so this page comes just at the right time.

So, enjoy this action-packed issue and take time out of the month to thank those mothers and others who help you through your day and through the month of May.

Happy May,

*Woodward*

### An Ancient Egyptian Legend

## CATS Save The World From Darkness

Read each panel. Then number them in the correct order to tell the story.



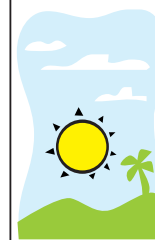
But each night, the great sun god, Ra, would turn himself into a cat and use his sword to chop Apep into pieces.



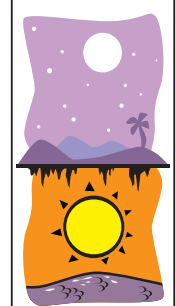
The great serpent of darkness, Apep, would try to eat the sun and make the world dark forever.



Apep, however, was so powerful that he came back every night to try and defeat Ra as he traveled through the underworld.



When the sun rose each morning, the people knew that once again Ra had won the battle.



Every night, the sun traveled through the underworld.



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# Reading is Rewarding!

**H**ave you ever wished a vending machine could give you something better than salty or sugary snacks?

At Lincoln Elementary School in Santa Rosa, CA, they have a vending machine that does just that. It's filled with **books!**

## Golden Rewards

The machine doesn't take regular money. It works only with a special golden coin. But how do you get one?

The students in Ms. Knapp's 3rd grade class explain how it all works.

"We have to be good to get a gold coin," says Luis. Good behavior at Lincoln is rewarded with a chance for a golden coin.

"At an assembly, the principal calls your name and gives you a golden coin and you get to choose a book in the machine," explains Simonas.

## The Reading Machine

"The machine has buttons with numbers on them," says Agustin. "It has lights and is big and colorful."



"I got *Pete the Cat and the Missing Cupcake*," says Daniela. "I love the book!"

Lincoln is one of thousands of schools across the country that now have book vending machines. One machine can hold 200 to 300 books.

"For me," says Keyla, "it is fun to read and we learn so much by reading."

Leah adds, "when you know how to read, it keeps your mind busy."

At Lincoln Elementary, this vending machine isn't just giving out books. It's helping students become lifelong readers in a really cool way.



Special thanks to Lincoln Elementary third grade teacher Christa Knapp, her students, and principal Dr. Jeanine Wilson for their help with this page.

## Kid Scoop News® SCOOP THE NEWS GAME

Read the article on this page. Then answer the questions below!

**What is this article about?**

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**Where did it happen?**

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**Who is it about?**

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**How does it work?**

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# Observing Memorial Day

Complete the crossword puzzle. Then circle those words in this article.

**M**emorial Day was called Decoration Day when it started as a day to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves.

After the Civil War, people across America started a tradition of setting one day a year aside to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers.

On May 30, 1868, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery. After the speech, thousands of people who came to hear him decorated the graves of more than 20,000 Union and

Confederate soldiers buried there.

After World War I, Decoration Day was expanded to remember those who had died in all American wars.

In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

**T**oday a flag is placed on each grave at Arlington National Cemetery. The president or the vice president gives a speech and lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

## Across

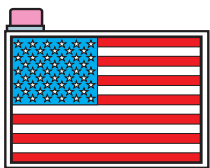
- a talk given to an audience
- monument to the dead
- a long established custom
- for special or future use

## Down

- final resting places
- to retain an idea in the memory
- ground where dead are buried
- someone who serves in the military
- the first day of the working week
- to make something more attractive
- great respect and admiration
- a day set aside sometimes to commemorate something

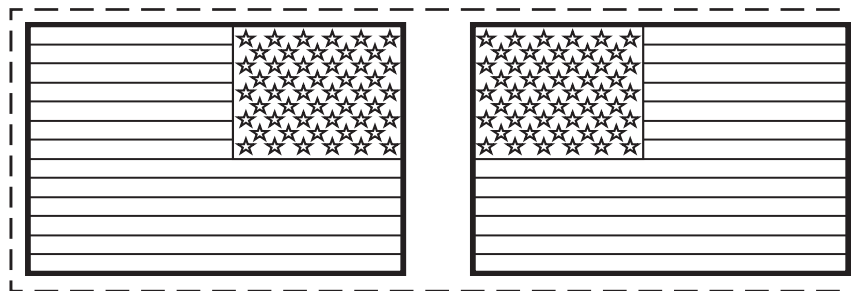


How many stars can you find on this page?



## American Flag Pencil

- Color the two flags at right.
- Cut along the dotted line.
- Fold the little flag around the top of your pencil and use glue to fasten the folded flag.



THE MAGIC OF SCIENCE  
**STEMDINI**  
 THE SCIENCE OF MAGIC



This trick takes a little practice. Do it a few times until you can do it well. Then, perform it for your friends and family!

**STUFF YOU'LL NEED:**

- scissors
- clear plastic lid
- small glass
- pitcher of water

**THE MAGIC RAIN TRICK**

**Prepare your props**

Place the glass upside down on the plastic lid. Trace around the glass to make a circle, drawing a little tab as shown. Cut just outside the circle to make it a little bit larger than the mouth of the glass. Be sure to cut out the tab.

**1. Perform the trick**

Place your pitcher and glass on a table. Hide the plastic circle in the hand you won't use to pour.

**2.** Pour water from the pitcher into the glass, until it begins to overflow. Say **"I can tip this glass of water over my head and keep it from pouring out."**

**3.** Put down the pitcher and cover the mouth of the glass with the hand hiding the plastic circle. Secretly place the circle over the mouth of the glass, covering the entire top.

**4.** Pick up the glass with your other hand and turn it over quickly, but gently. Slowly remove the hand holding the top of the glass. If done right, the circle will stick to the glass and the water won't spill out.

**5.** Lift the glass over your head and say **"Magic tricks are hot work. I think I'll cool off."** Then gently push on the tab. The plastic circle will come off and the water will fall on you!

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step directions with accuracy.

**The Science Behind the Trick:**

**Air pressure is all around us. The plastic lid sticks to the surface of the water and is pressed by air pressure. Even when the glass is turned over, air pressure will hold the plastic lid in place.**

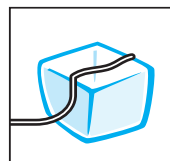
**Salty Science**

Most of the ocean doesn't freeze. Why? Salt water freezes at a lower temperature than fresh water.

- GET:** ice cubes, thread, salt
- 

**DO:**

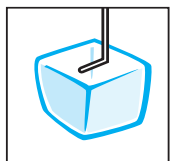
1. Soak your thread in some water then lay it on top of an ice cube.



2. Sprinkle a tiny bit of salt along the thread and wait about 30 seconds.



3. Lift the thread. Does the ice cube cling to the thread and get lifted as well?



**Explanation:** The salt melts the surface of the ice. The coldness of the ice then refreezes this water, trapping the thread and freezing it to the ice.

Standards Link: Science/Investigation: Conduct simple experiments.

## Float an Egg

**Question:** How can you make an egg float in a bowl of water?

**Hypothesis\*:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note: a hypothesis means a thoughtful guess.

### GET:

a large bowl  
warm water  
an egg  
salt  
spoon



### DO:

1. Fill your bowl with warm water.
2. Gently place the egg in the water. What happens?

1. Remove the egg and stir at least one cup of salt into the water. Stir until you can't see any grains of salt.
2. The water will look cloudy.  
Place the egg in the salty water. What happens?

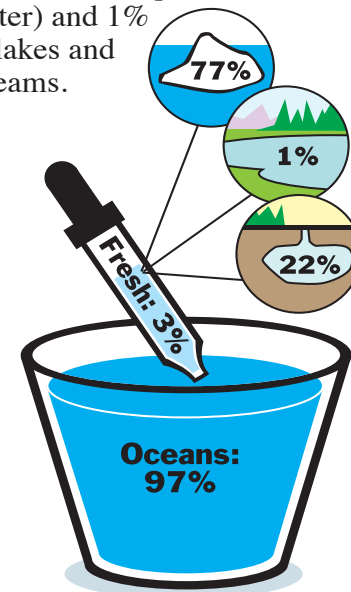
## An Egg-splanation

Did the egg float? Adding salt to water makes it heavier. In salty water, the amount of water the egg displaces weighs more than the egg and the egg floats.

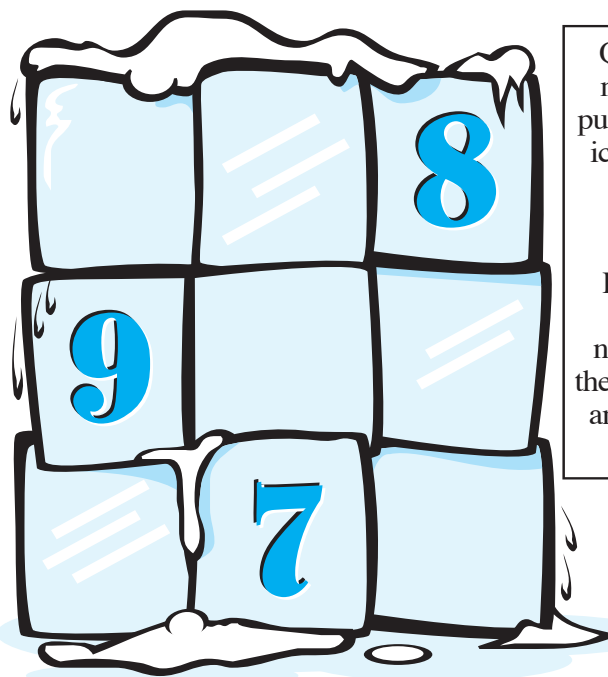
**Standards Link:** Science/Investigation: Conduct simple experiments.

## Water Planet

97% of the world's water is in oceans. The remaining 3% is fresh water. That 3% of fresh water divides into 77% contained in icecaps and glaciers, 22% in groundwater aquifers (drinking water) and 1% in lakes and streams.



## Kid Scoop® Puzzler



Quick! Before it melts! Solve the puzzle frozen in my ice cubes and you will have good luck!

Fill in the blank squares with numbers to make the sum of each side and each diagonal add up to 15.



**Standards Link:** Mathematics: Number Sense: Adding sums to 15.

## Double Double Word Search

QUESTION  
PRESSURE  
PRACTICE  
SCIENCE  
SURFACE  
MAGIC  
FLOAT  
WATER  
TRICK  
TRACE  
SALT  
BOWL  
HIDE  
HEAD  
EGG

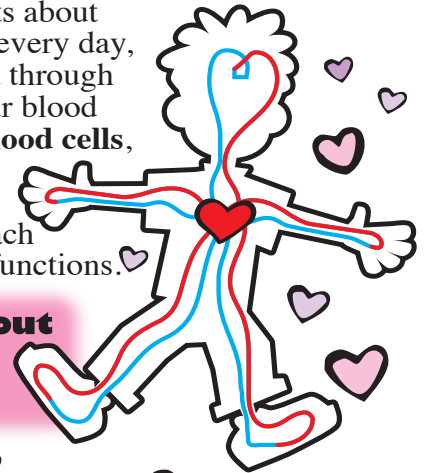
Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

K	C	I	R	T	M	T	H	E	M
P	A	S	U	R	F	A	C	E	G
R	F	H	I	D	E	S	G	I	C
E	S	L	A	T	C	G	E	I	T
S	M	E	O	I	A	G	R	L	C
S	H	D	E	A	R	E	A	I	N
U	I	N	O	I	T	S	E	U	Q
R	C	P	R	A	C	T	I	C	E
E	T	L	W	O	B	R	I	C	K

**Standards Link:** Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

# Blood

Your heart beats about 100,000 times every day, pumping blood through your body. Your blood contains red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma, each with different functions.



## Why is blood red?

**B**lood is made up of tiny cells. Most of them are red, which is why blood looks red.



Red blood cell

**Blood makes up about 7% of a person's body weight.**

**Red blood cells** carry oxygen to all parts of the body. A single drop of blood contains millions of red blood cells which constantly travel through your body delivering oxygen and removing waste. Blood is made up other kinds of cells, too.



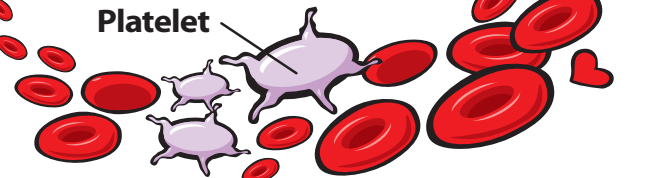
White blood cell

## What is plasma?

**P**lasma is a yellowish liquid that carries nutrients, hormones, and proteins throughout the body. Plasma is mostly water, absorbed from the intestines from what you drink and eat, with the liver supplying important proteins.

## What are some other kinds of blood cells?

- **White blood cells** battle germs that invade the body.
- **Platelets** are cells that get sticky and thick when they come into contact with air. When you get a cut, the platelets get gooey and plug up the cut.



Platelet

**Standards Link:** Life Science: Students know that multicellular organisms have specialized cells to perform specialized functions.

If you weigh 50 pounds:

◆ × ▼ ▼  
milliliters  
or about  
\*  
pints

If you weigh 80 pounds:

⋈ ♥ ▼ ▼ ▼  
milliliters  
or about  
★  
pints

If you weigh 100 pounds:

⋈ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼  
milliliters  
or about  
×  
pints

## How much blood is in my body?

**U**se the code to find out how much blood is in each of the kids at left. Which one is closest to your weight?

### SECRET CODE

- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| 0 = ▼ | 5 = ★ |
| 1 = ◆ | 6 = × |
| 2 = ⋈ | 7 = ♪ |
| 3 = * | 8 = ■ |
| 4 = ♥ | 9 = ▲ |

How many hearts can you find on this page?

# Water Safety

It's fun to play in water, whether at a pool, beach, lake, river or water park but it is important to know your limits and stay safe. **Remember, drowning can occur in less than two minutes.**

## Swimming Pool Safety Rules

Put a check mark next to the rules that make swimming in a pool safer. Cross out rules that do not make pools safer.

- Never go in the water alone. Always be sure an adult who can swim is watching you.
- Do not depend on inflatable toys or water wings to keep your head above water.
- Dive only from a diving board, not the side of the pool.
- Don't crawl or walk on a pool cover.
- Stay in the shallow end of the pool if you are not a strong swimmer.

**ANSWER:** Did you check them all? Great job!



### Find It

Find these things hiding in this picture: a banana, a house, a crayon, a fish, a surfboard and a dinosaur.

### Sort It

After finding the hidden pictures, sort each object by the number of syllables.

**1 syllable** | **2 syllables** | **3 syllables**

**Standards Link:** Vocabulary: Recognize syllables in words; decode words with two or more syllables.

# Kid Scoop® Puzzler

## Lifesaver Letter

Use the Lifesaver Letter code to find out what you should always wear when on a boat at the beach or lake.



### CODE:

A = ▽	J = *
C = ★	K = ♣
E = ◐	L = ♥
F = ●	T = ▶
I = ▲	Y = ◆



**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension; students follow simple written directions.



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# Runner's Run-on Sentence



Wow! The story below is a giant run-on sentence! Fix it by adding punctuation and capital letters where needed.

Roger loves to go for a run every morning he wakes up before the sun rises he always stretches his muscles first and then he heads for his favorite trail that is next to a creek

as Roger runs he enjoys seeing the frogs birds and butterflies busily beginning their day on weekends Roger runs with his friend Stacy who lives down the street from Roger they both signed up for the Midtown Park 5K Fun Run it is being held next Saturday afternoon at 1:00.



## Two Shoe Review

Match each pair of shoes. Can you find the single shoe that has no match?



## What do runners do when they forget something?


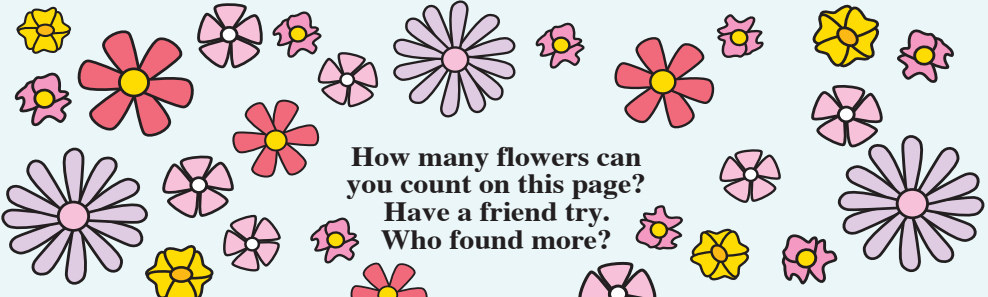

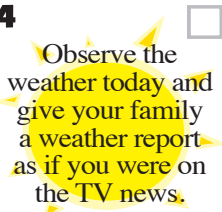
















Circle every third letter to reveal the answer.

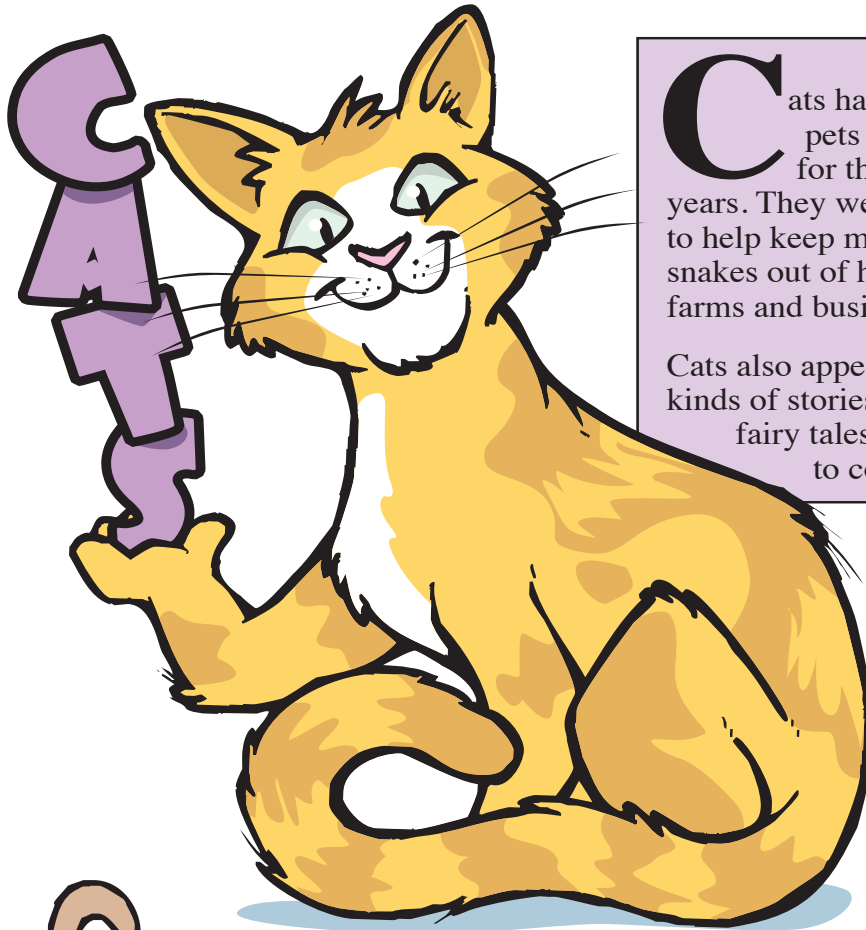
A W **T** W Q H F T E B N Y K T J H P O  
X M G J S T V W H E S E G F I D X R H L M  
N P E M G M E W O H T R K L Y

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# Kid Scoop ACTIVITY CALENDAR

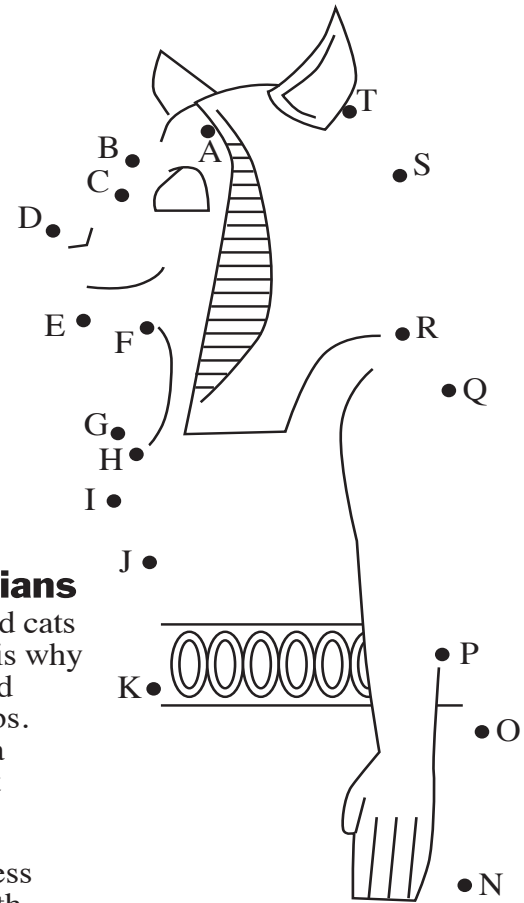
## MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Tick the box on each day when you have completed 20 minutes of reading. Children who develop a love of reading will become better students and build a better future.</p> 	<p>How many flowers can you count on this page? Have a friend try. Who found more?</p> 				<p>1 Celebrated around the world, this day marks a celebration of spring and the coming of summer.</p> <p><b>May Day</b></p>	<p>2 Tell your sibling how much you care for them. If you don't have a brother or sister, choose someone who could be your pretend sibling.</p> <p><b>Brothers and Sisters Day</b></p>
<p>3  Children's Book Week begins tomorrow. The theme this year is "Books: Get Curious."</p>	<p>4  Observe the weather today and give your family a weather report as if you were on the TV news.</p> <p><b>National Weather Observers Day</b></p>	<p>5 Take time today to honor your teacher and show how much you appreciate all their hard work.</p> <p><b>National Teachers Day</b></p>	<p>6 Thank your school nurse today and give her a token of your gratitude.</p> <p><b>National School Nurse Day</b></p>	<p>7  Visit a pet shelter this week and spread a little kindness.</p> <p><b>Be Kind to Animals Week</b></p>	<p>8 Copy a puzzle out of your newspaper. Race a friend to see who can complete it first.</p>	<p>9 Write a poem about lost socks. Where do they go? How will they ever find their way back to their match?</p> <p><b>Lost Sock Memorial Day</b></p>
<p>10 Make a special homemade gift for your mom or another special lady. Draw her portrait and give her this perfect gift.</p> <p><b>Mother's Day</b></p>	<p>11  Clean your bicycle today and make sure it is in good condition. Check your helmet, too.</p> <p><b>Bike Month</b></p>	<p>12 Compose a limerick today. Five lines, the last words of the 1st, 2nd and 5th lines rhyme, and the 3rd and 4th are a separate rhyme.</p>	<p>13 Can you draw a cross section of a tulip? Label the different parts of a tulip.</p> <p><b>Tulip Day</b></p> 	<p>14 Put your thumbs in your armpits and "flap your wings."</p> <p><b>Dance Like a Chicken Day</b></p> 	<p>15 Take a jump rope outside and skip as fast as you can for ten minutes and then slowly for another ten minutes.</p> 	<p>16 Using a black marker, draw an alien. Now exchange your drawing with a friend to color in the drawing.</p> 
<p>17 Go for a hike today in the countryside. Wear good, sturdy shoes and make sure to take some water.</p> 	<p>18 Museums are important places. Gather your family and visit a museum today.</p> <p><b>International Museum Day</b></p>	<p>19  Celebrate by finding a good photograph and describe why you chose it.</p> <p><b>National Photo Month</b></p>	<p>20 On this day in 1927, Charles Lindbergh flew alone across the Atlantic to Paris. Find out the name of his plane and quiz a friend.</p>	<p>21 The American Red Cross was founded on this day in 1881. Check your first aid supplies and make sure they are up to date.</p>	<p>22 Play a musical instrument today. If you don't own one, invent your own.</p> 	<p>23  Start to collect loose change today in a jar. It's amazing how much you'll save if you add a little each day.</p>
<p>24 Put on some music and get everyone dancing. Dancing is great exercise, so keep it up for 20 minutes at least.</p>	<p>25  This is the day to remember those who gave their lives for freedom and country.</p> <p><b>Memorial Day</b></p> 	<p>26 List three reasons why a good night's sleep is important.</p> <p><b>Better Sleep Month</b></p> 	<p>27 Ask your parents if you can take over a section of the garden. Dig it over and plant some flowers, vegetables or seeds.</p> 	<p>28 Start a science experiment today such as growing a crystal. Follow the scientific method: question, hypothesis, method, data, observation and conclusion.</p>	<p>29 Invent a dessert using fresh fruit and a little ice cream or frozen yoghurt. Share it with your family at dinner tonight.</p> 	<p>30  Get a large sheet of paper and a crayon and make a rubbing today – from a coin, or any indented surface you can find.</p>
<p>31 Make a pledge that you will always say NO to smoking.</p> <p><b>No Tobacco Day</b></p>						



**C**ats have been pets for people for thousands of years. They were taken in to help keep mice and snakes out of homes, farms and businesses.

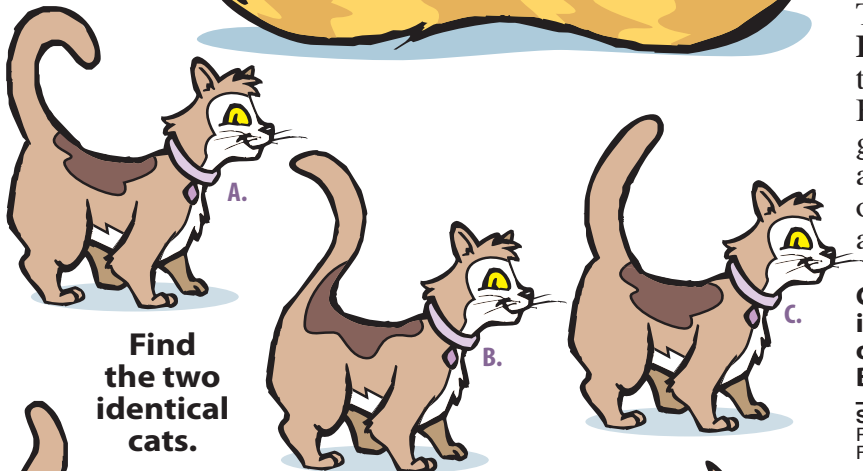
Cats also appear in all kinds of stories, from fairy tales to legends to comic strips.



**Ancient Egyptians**

Egyptians considered cats to be sacred, which is why they mummified and buried them in tombs. They would honor a god by portraying it with a cat's head.

The Egyptian goddess **Bast** was shown with the head of a cat. Bast is the Egyptian goddess of sunrise and the protector of cats, women and children.



Find the two identical cats.

Connect the dots in alphabetical order to draw Bast.



Standards Link:  
Reading Comprehension:  
Follow simple written directions.



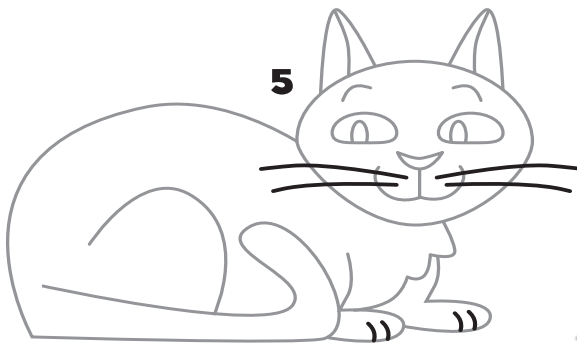
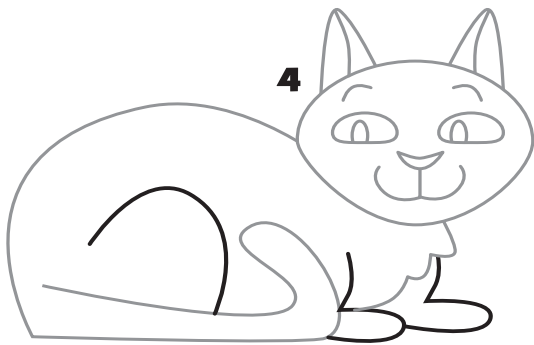
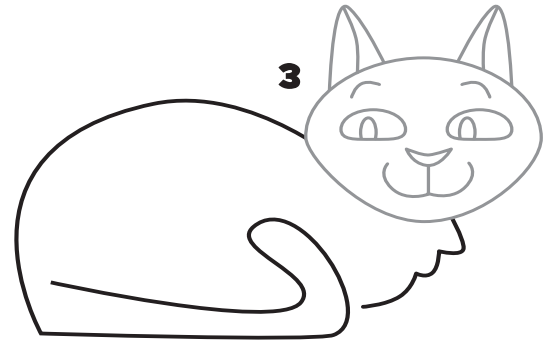
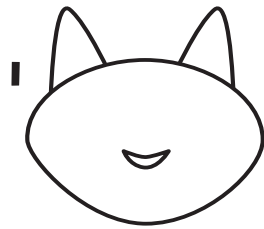
**Cat Prints**

Just like fingerprints, this part of a cat's body has a pattern of ridges that is unique to that cat.

**SENO**

Unscramble the word to find the answer.

# How to Draw a CAT



Recreation Center



HumanKind



Performing Arts

COMMUNITY + CULTURE



WEST SHORE  
Community+College

# What Happened and Why: Cause and Effect

One event makes something else happen. That's cause and effect!



News articles tell about the cause and the effect of things that happen. News articles report on something that happened and explain why. The headline tells **what** happened — or the **effect**. The article gives more details

and tells **why** it happened — or the **cause**. A good headline sparks your curiosity and makes you want to read the article to learn more.

**Caution! This article is not real news! It is just for fun!**

## Discovering Cause and Effect

Read this silly article to answer these questions.

WHAT happened? This is the EFFECT.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WHY did it happen? This is the CAUSE.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Think about something that happened at your school this week. What was the CAUSE and EFFECT?

CAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

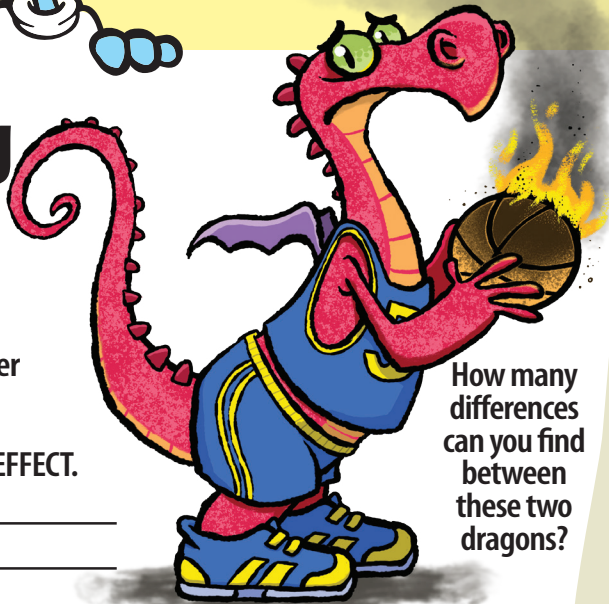
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

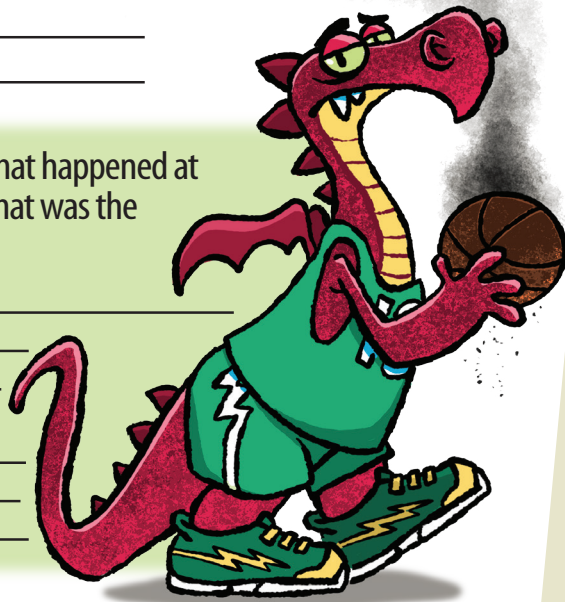
EFFECT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



How many differences can you find between these two dragons?



## Dragon Burp Burns Ball

BLAZETON – Karly Kindling sparked surprise in the people watching last night’s basketball game between the Southside Scorchers and the Eastside Embers at Flaming Torch High School.

“I ate a burrito just before the game,” said Karly. “I overdid it with the hot sauce I added. The burrito caused my stomach to be a bit upset when I started the game.”

The burrito caused stomach gas to form in the belly of the star forward for the Eastside Embers. Just as she caught the ball from a teammate, she burped.

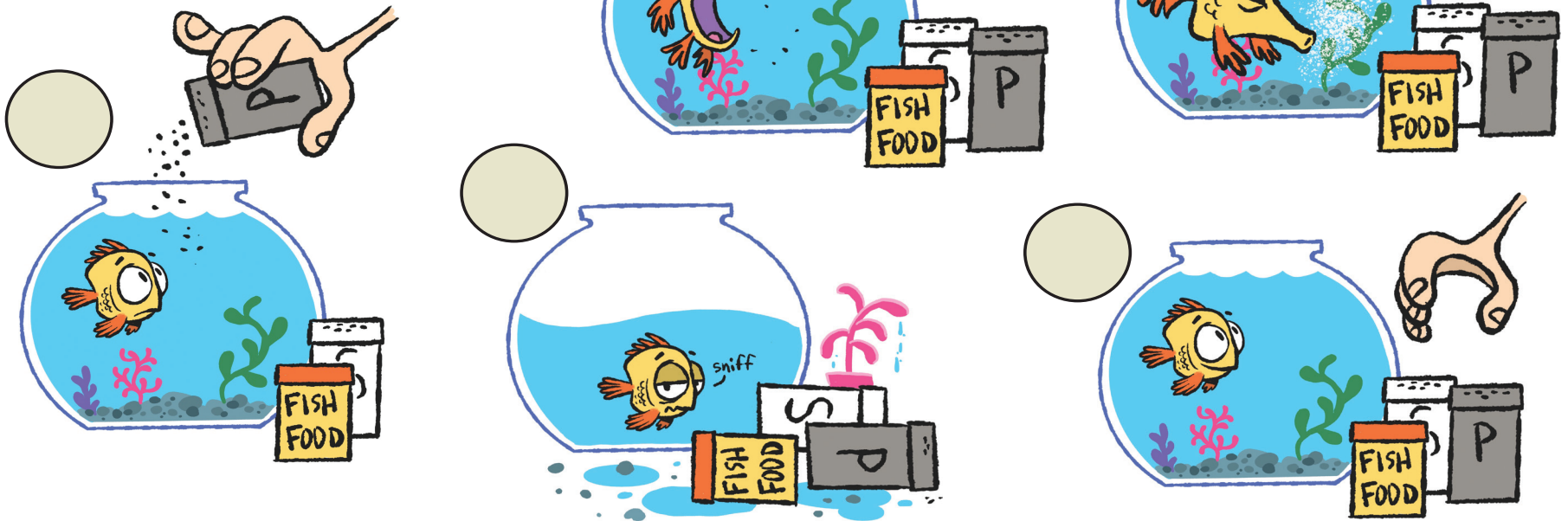
The burp caused a burst of flame to shoot out of her mouth, burning the basketball to a crisp.

“Karly took it well. She took a big breath and got right back in the game, shooting a three-pointer with a new ball moments later,” said coach Coalsworth.

“But from now on,” said Coalsworth, “our players will be sticking with orange slices and ice water before a game!”

### Scrambled Story

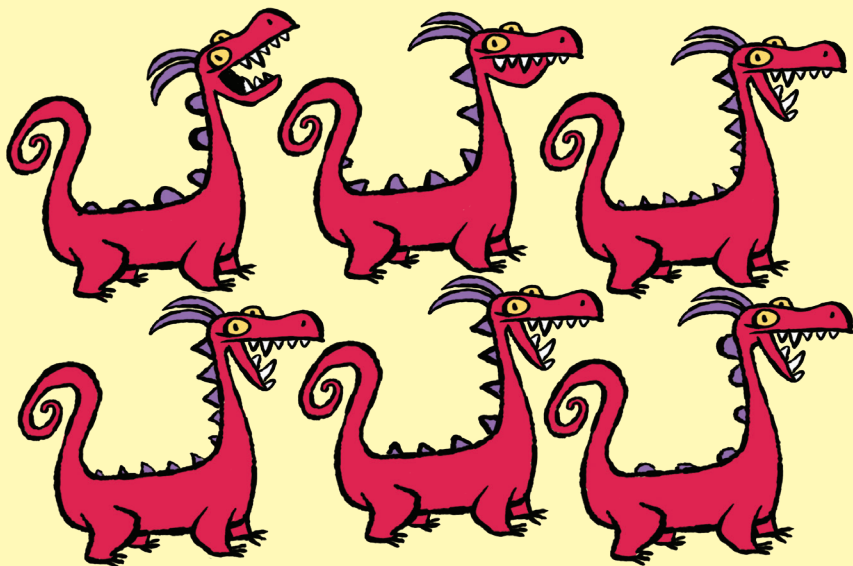
Look at the pictures below. They tell a silly story of cause and effect. But they are out of order. Number the pictures to show the correct order.



### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### Dragon Doubles

Only two of these dragons are exactly alike. Can you find them?



### Double Double Word Search

- BASKETBALL
- BURP
- CAUSE
- DETAILS
- DRAGON
- EFFECT
- EMBERS
- FLAMES
- HAPPEN
- NEWS
- ORDER
- READ
- THINK
- WATER
- WHY

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

J	C	A	U	S	E	J	G	K	O
X	L	D	E	T	A	I	L	S	R
I	W	A	T	E	R	E	K	S	D
S	R	E	B	M	E	F	N	E	E
H	A	P	P	E	N	F	I	M	R
K	Y	S	Q	J	F	E	H	A	S
J	H	D	A	E	R	C	T	L	W
S	W	B	U	R	P	T	X	F	E
Z	L	H	N	O	G	A	R	D	N
B	A	S	K	E	T	B	A	L	L

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

# MONEY MATTERS: What is a bank?

After working hard to earn money, people want to keep it safe. Banks do more than just hold people's money. They also lend money, and pay **interest** on money kept in savings accounts. Saving money pays!

Find where each missing word belongs.

BENCH

STEAL

ANGRY

MONEY

SITTING

Long ago, people took their treasures to the temple for safety. No one would \_\_\_\_\_ from a temple, for fear it would make the gods \_\_\_\_\_.

In Italy, bankers would take care of banking business \_\_\_\_\_ on benches. The word **bank** comes from the Italian word for \_\_\_\_\_, **banca**.

Jewelers and goldsmiths also acted as bankers, sharing their vaults with the community to keep \_\_\_\_\_ safe.

**Standards Link:** Economics: Students understand basic economic concepts.

Where do some kids keep their money? Replace the missing vowels to find out.

Mine is in a  
s\_ck  
in a  
dr\_w\_r!



In my  
r\_fr\_g\_r\_tor.  
It's c\_ld c\_sh!



My money is  
in a b\_x  
und\_r my  
b\_d.



I keep mine  
in my  
p\_gg\_  
b\_nk!



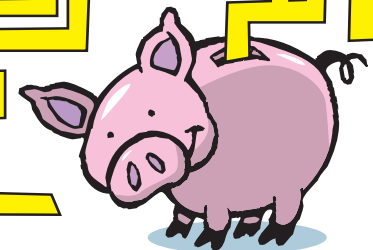
Put this coin in the piggy bank.

**Standards Link:** Spelling: Spell grade-appropriate words correctly.



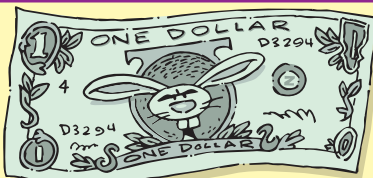
## How did the piggy bank get its name?

Long ago in England, people stored their money in jars made from a kind of clay called **pygg**. After a while, people called the jars **pyggy banks**. Someone finally started making them in the shape of a pig.



## Getting Your Money Out of a Bank

Suppose you are in a store and want to buy something, but your money is in the bank. No problem. Banks have some easy ways for you to get your money when you need it, such as **checks** and **ATM cards**.



## What's the difference between a fake dollar bill and an angry rabbit?

**ANSWER:** One is bad money and the other's a mad bunny.

# ANNIE CHRISTMAS

Paul Bunyan isn't the only giant in American legends. Old-timers along the Mississippi River tell of a giant of a woman—Annie Christmas. The stories say she worked on the river docks near the French Quarter in New Orleans and she was fearless—especially when it came to dealing with bullies who hung out on the docks.



When you see a blank line in the story below, a word is missing. Select one of the words in Annie's barrel for each blank until the story makes sense.

## Annie and the Red Dress

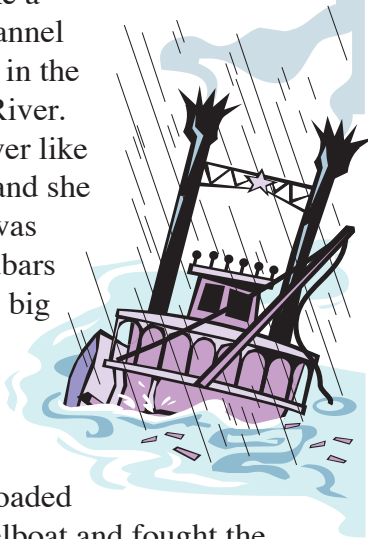
Occasionally, Annie liked to get all dressed up. Once, she put on a \_\_\_\_\_ satin dress and red feather plumes in her hair and took a trip on a \_\_\_\_\_ called the *Natchez Belle*.

The captain of that boat was as stubborn as he was mean. When the \_\_\_\_\_ turned bad, he decided to take a shortcut through a channel that cut across a bend in the \_\_\_\_\_ River.

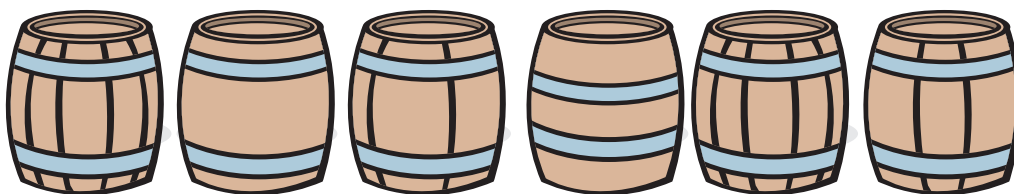
Annie knew the river like the back of her hand and she knew that the cutoff was full of snags and sandbars that could \_\_\_\_\_ the big paddle wheeler.

But the stubborn captain wouldn't listen. When the boat hit a sandbar, Annie loaded passengers on her keelboat and fought the current back to the main river. Behind her the *Natchez Belle* was broken up and \_\_\_\_\_ by the muddy, swirling river water.

The \_\_\_\_\_ hugged Annie, thanking her for saving their lives. They say Annie's face turned as red as her dress.



Help Annie find the two matching barrels.



Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

**VOCABULARY BUILDERS**

**Longshoreman** *n.* A dock worker who loads and unloads ships.  
**Keelboat** *n.* A narrow flat-bottomed river boat used to carry freight.

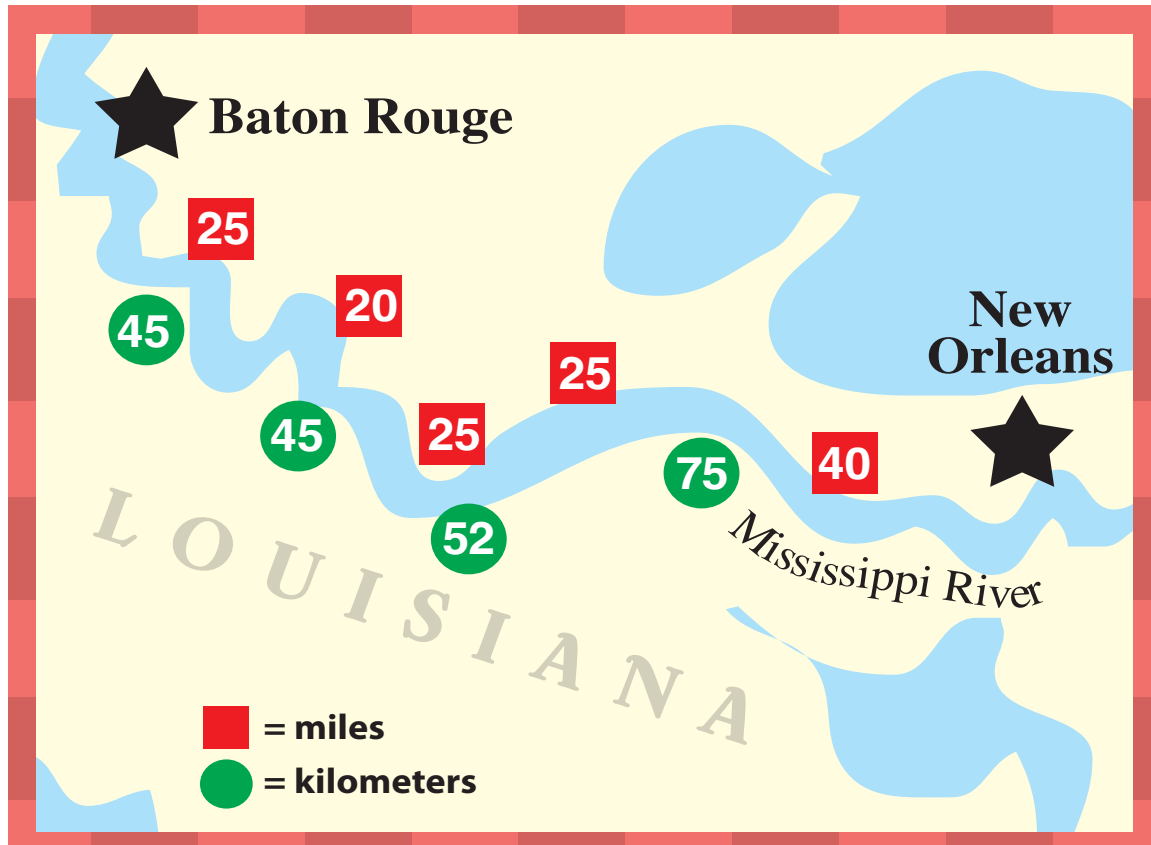
Standards Link: Literary Response: Students comprehend basic plots of folktales.

## Annie's Strength

For longshoremen along the Mississippi River, it was the highest compliment to be called "as strong as Annie Christmas." Legends say that Annie could carry a barrel of flour under each arm and another balanced on her head. Once she towed a keelboat from New Orleans to Baton Rouge and never got out of breath.

Use the map to calculate how many miles or kilometers she towed her keelboat.

**Standards Link:** History: Students understand various cultures drawing from folklore.



## Extra! Extra!

### Spin a Tale

Glue a newspaper photo onto a piece of paper. Then draw a picture of what might happen next. Pass the two pictures to a friend and have him/her draw a picture of what might happen after your picture.

**Standards Link:** Writing Applications: Students use pre-writing strategies to organize and focus narratives.

## Pearls of Wisdom

Because she worked on the docks, Annie wore men's clothing most of the time. But she always wore her pearls. She added one pearl every time she whipped a man in a fight. Add the numbers on each string of pearls below to learn more about the amazing Annie Christmas legend.

**Length (in feet) of Annie's pearl necklace:**

$$6 + 5 + 8 + 7 + 4 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

**Annie's weight (in pounds):**

$$75 + 25 + 25 + 25 + 25 + 75 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

**Annie's height (in inches):**

$$20 + 15 + 13 + 12 + 7 + 3 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

**Standards Link:** Number Sense: Students compute sums to 250.

## Double Double Word Search

ANNIE  
CHRISTMAS  
KEELBOAT  
LEGENDS  
RIVER  
FEARLESS  
DRESS  
PEARLS  
DOCKS  
TOWED  
STRING  
SINK  
TALE  
DRAW  
BEND

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

A	G	T	I	S	S	A	N	T	S
T	W	O	O	K	I	L	F	A	S
G	A	A	C	W	E	N	M	O	S
N	R	O	P	G	E	T	K	B	E
I	D	R	E	S	S	D	W	L	L
R	O	N	A	I	R	I	V	E	R
T	D	M	R	A	N	N	A	E	A
S	V	H	L	B	E	N	D	K	E
N	C	N	S	E	E	L	A	T	F

**Standards Link:** Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.



**Don't miss Scottville Bingo Night – Tuesday, May 5 & June 2, 6-7pm**

Drop in and play a round of Bingo with us! Ms. Ingrid leads the action as we have some family fun, complete with prizes for the winners! All MCDL Programs are FREE. Children under 8 must be supervised.

## TEEN EVENTS –

- Saturday, May 2—Prom Dress exchange in LUD 11am-2pm
- Tuesday, May 5—Cinco de Mayo party 3:30-5pm, both locations
- Monday, May 11—Teen Craft in SVL 3:30-5pm
- Monday, May 18—Nintendo Switch in SVL, 3:30-5pm
- Friday, May 22—Teen lunch and movie in LUD 12:30pm
- Wednesday, May 27—Teen Movie night in SVL, 5:30-7:30pm
- Every Monday—Anime Club in LUD 3:30pm
- Every Saturday—TableTop Games in LUD 11:30am-2:30pm

## Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays 10am in Ludington

Fridays 10am in Scottville

\*\* Starting June 2, Story time also meets on Tuesdays in Ludington! \*\*

Answer “If the Declaration of Independence could talk, what would it say?” in essay, poem, song, or art display. Ages 5th grade—adult. Get a form on our website or at either branch. Entries due May 22 with many prizes!



## 1-2-3 RHYME WITH ME!

Every Monday at 10am  
Children 0-3 and their caregiver are invited to come learn early literacy skills with songs, rhymes, and fun.

Creative Kids meets every Monday & Wednesday in Scottville, from 4-5:30pm and Tuesday in Ludington from 4-5pm. Join the fun!



## Lego Time!

Saturdays, 11am-2pm

Come and build with your friends! Thousands of Legos to choose from.

Our last secret word for the year is “Archeology”.

## SUMMER READING BEGINS JUNE 5!

Every age group is invited to sign up at the Scottville or Ludington library. Open all summer, sign up and finish your reading challenges any time, win prizes!



## Mason County District Library

217 E. Ludington Avenue, Ludington 231-843-8465 www.MCDLibrary.org 204 E. State Street, Scottville 231-757-2588

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