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\*These two pages can be used with activities in this book or with any outside story or book students read.

## **Student Reading Log and Assessment**

Student's name:						
Title of Book	С	Check one box				
The book I liked best was:	Easy	Just right	Hard			
Assessment of Student Reading Log						
Student is reading above level expected.  Keep up the great work!		6				
Student is reading at level expected.  Good job!						
Student is reading below level expected. He/she needs to work harder.						
Suggestions for books student might enjoy are: _						

Name:	Date:
Belling the Cat	
Long ago a group of mice lived in the same house with a very constantly in danger.	y watchful cat. The mice were
One day they held a meeting to discuss what to do about the the problem, but none had any ideas about what to do.	cat. Many mice talked about
Finally, one of the smallest mice spoke up. "We all agree that too easily. If we could hear her coming, we would have time to ruput a bell around the cat's neck. Then we will always know when	un to safety. I think we should
The other mice cheered. They congratulated the smallest more	use on his marvelous idea.
Then the oldest mouse spoke. "Belling the cat is indeed a grado it?"	and idea, but who will
Not one mouse spoke.	
1. What is the moral of this fable?	
Cats are sneaky.	
Proposing a plan is easier than putting it into action.	
Warning bells are good protection for mice.	
2. What do you think the mice did next?	
3. Imagine you are one of the mice. Propose another solution.	
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Name:	 Date:	

## **A Letter from Plimoth Plantation**

Plimoth Plantation August 6, 1627

Dear Constance,

In the seven years since we left England, I have never regretted that decision, but life has not been easy for us here in the New World.

Our village has a tall wooden stockade around it to protect us from wolves and unfriendly Indians. Beyond the fence are fields of cabbages and other vegetables. There was not enough food the first winter and many people were sick and hungry. We did better after an Indian named Squanto showed us new crops to plant and how to grow them. We eat many foods you never heard of, like corn and potatoes. They are delicious.

The first two years we were here, we did not have a house of our own. First the men built a storehouse to keep the things we brought on the Mayflower. Then they built a meeting house for worship. However, we had to use that building for a hospital the first winter because so many people were ill. Almost half the people died.

Our house is made of logs. All the men worked together to build it and thatch the roof. They carried bundles of straw to the steep roof and laid them in overlapping rows. Then they chinked the cracks between the logs to keep out the wind and cold. Jacob and I helped mix mud with straw to do the chinking.

Our house has two rooms and a dirt floor. We eat and sleep in the main room. We have a large fireplace to keep us warm in winter. My brother Jacob keeps the log bin filled. Can you believe he's eight years old already? He helps Father cut trees and chop logs. They also hunt funny looking birds called turkeys, plus rabbits and other small animals. Mother and I cook over the fire and roast meat on the spit.

