



Table of Contents

- 1 Reading Comprehension Skills
- 2 Bloom's Taxonomy
- 3 Assessment of Skills Based on Bloom's Taxonomy
- 4 Using Student Assessments
- 5 Individual Activity Assessment
- 6 Story Frame
- 7 Story Map
- 8 Story Frame/Story Map Assessment
- 9 Student Reading Comprehension Skills Assessment
- 10 Student Reading Log and Assessment
- 11 Not Enough Time?
- 12 Camouflage Clothing: Based on Millions of Years of Research
- 13 Picture This
- 14 What Might Happen Next?
- 15 Log Cabins
- 16 The Taj Mahal
- 18 Spring in Wisconsin
- 19 My Old Kentucky Home
- 20 Island of Mystery
- 22 The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere
- 23 Paul Revere's Ride
- 24 A Declaration of War—and of Independence
- 25 Never Too Old to Enjoy Fireworks
- 26 Apple Picking
- 28 Poor Richard's Almanack
- 29 A Stinky Family
- 30 Ginseng, The Elixir of Life
- 32 St. Nicholas
- 33 Where Did Santa Claus Come From?
- 34 Jabberwocky
- 36 An Unusual Pet
- 39 Character Traits*
- 40 Analyzing Changes in a Character*
- 41 Answer Key

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

Not Enough Time?

Is your life too busy? Do you feel you have too many demands on your time and not enough time to do what you really want to do?

Do you sometimes say, I'd like to . . . learn to play the piano . . . volunteer to help . . . participate in more church activities . . . read more books . . . join the soccer team . . . stop and visit a friend . . . but I don't have enough time.

Think about what you do with your time. Do you spend three hours a day in front of the television? If you gave up one hour a day, you'd have an extra seven hours a week to do something else.

Do you stay in bed extra late on Saturday mornings? What if you got up an hour or two earlier?

Do you spend several hours at the video arcade or playing computer games every week? Would some of that time be better spent doing something else?

Do you belong to several clubs? Play several sports? Would you be better off dropping one of these activities and doing something else you'd enjoy more?



You cannot control all of your time. Some hours of every day must be set aside for school, homework, chores, and other responsibilities. But you can control what you do with the rest of your time.

Take a look at how you spend your time. What changes could you make to give yourself more time to do what you'd like to do?

Time is precious. Once it's gone, you can never get it back. It's time to take control of your time.

1. What is the author's purpose?

_____ to entertain _____ to inform _____ to persuade

2. What is the main idea of this article?

3. What suggestions does the author make to give yourself more control over your time?

4. What would you most like to do if you had more time? _____

Camouflage Clothing: Based on Millions of Years of Research

You may think camouflage clothing is a rather recent invention, but it's not. For millions of years animals have used camouflage to blend into their natural environment to conceal themselves from predators or prey.

A tiger is almost impossible to see when it stalks silently through long brown grass. The coloration of many types of moths allows them to blend in with the background vegetation making them nearly invisible. Some reptiles, fish, and amphibians have the ability to change colors to match various backgrounds.

Another type of camouflage is mimicry used by animals or insects to imitate the coloration of another animal or insect which is poisonous or one that is a dangerous predator.

People have learned from the animals. During the Revolutionary War, they realized that the red coats traditionally worn by British soldiers made good targets. American troops wore buckskin which was not as visible among the forests where much of the fighting took place. Military use of camouflage techniques has extended to equipment and even buildings.



The next time you see someone wearing camouflage clothing, remember that it is based on millions of years of testing and research by members of the animal kingdom.

1. Which animals use camouflage?
A. Predators B. Prey C. Predators and prey
2. Which animal is named in the article as an example of a predator that uses camouflage?

3. In what war mentioned in the article did people discover the advantage of camouflage clothing?

4. What is mimicry? _____

5. The main idea of this article is
A. Animals use camouflage.
B. People wear camouflage clothing.
C. People have learned about the advantages of camouflage from animals.
6. Underline the cause and circle the effect.

British soldiers made good targets because they wore red coats.

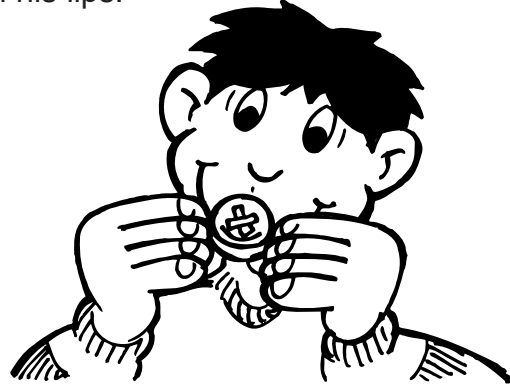
Picture This

Idioms are phrases that say one thing, but mean something entirely different. If taken literally, the phrase actually doesn't make much sense.

Example: Idiom: The librarian told Aaron to button his lips.

Actual meaning: be quiet

Literal meaning:



Write the actual meaning of each idiom.

1. Jeremy was a barrel of laughs at the party.

2. Mia had butterflies in her stomach before the test.

3. Rachel was all thumbs when she tried to learn to knit.

4. Jordan thinks he's the top banana.

5. Shannon had to cool his heels while he waited for the election results.

6. When Josh's mother heard about the accident, she came unglued.

7. Write another idiom and explain what it actually means. Then draw a picture to represent the literal meaning. Refer to the example for "button his lips."

Idiom: _____

Actual meaning: _____

Literal meaning: