

## Grade 5 Fluency Readers

This document contains the scripts from all of the fluency documents used in Grade 5. Included are Retell Readers, *You Tell the Time*; Elapsed Time Readers, *Ready, Set, Go*; Fluency Readers, *Rock 'n' Read*; and Speed Drills, *Let's Race*.

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smre\_ip\_00655: “Home Sweet Aquarium” and “Aztec Adventures”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00655
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00719: “Home Sweet Aquarium” smre_ip_00725: “Aztec Adventures”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

	<b>Home Sweet Aquarium</b> Written by Lisa Bankert
page	
1	If you are looking for that perfect new place to call home, check out the Monterey Bay Aquarium, which is located on the coast of sunny California. It boasts an aquatic setting known for its physical beauty and bay views and offers days filled with fun and exciting activities. If all this sounds inviting, this aquarium may be the ideal home for you. The only catch is you have to be a marine animal.
2	If you happen to be a shark or a jellyfish, you are in luck because these days, they are the star residents of the aquarium. People from around the world are fascinated by the elegant jellyfish, pulsing and gliding in their underwater gallery. People are also captivated by the remarkable leopard sharks that reside with stingrays in the famous Kelp Forest exhibit.
3	Other inhabitants of the aquarium include invertebrates, reptiles, and plant species that are more common, but still popular with visitors. Shrimp, eel, squid, and sea horses are just some of the hundreds of well-known species that will undoubtedly catch your eye.
4	Many seabirds live there too. Can you guess which birds draw some of the biggest crowds? Here is a hint: They are black and white with feathers, beaks, and wings; they love to swim, splash, and dive. That's right—penguins. One characteristic that makes these penguins so popular is their social charm. They have been raised in captivity so, unlike wild penguins, they like to interact with humans.
5	Humans are not the only visitors to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. More than 30 species of marine mammals often can be seen flipping, flying, or swimming by for a visit. They include seals, whales, sea lions, and dolphins. None of these marine mammals live in the aquarium, but they like to spend time in its coastal waters where they rest, feed, molt, and breed.
6	Of the vast cast of characters residing at the aquarium, there is only one species of marine mammal that lives there permanently—sea otters. These extraordinary aquarium residents were rescued as abandoned pups. They cannot survive in the wild, so the aquarium provides a safe home for them. They can live and act in captivity just as they would in the wild, but they are free from outside dangers.

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Aztec Adventures</b>  Written by Wendi Silvano  Illustrated by Charlie Bink</p>
1	<p>Benita, Maria, Jared, and Julio were in the library, intensely researching information about the Aztecs for their reports. Jared broke the thick silence when he said, "I can't believe we're studying in the library on a Saturday!"</p> <p>"Look at this," Maria said as she set a dusty, antique book on the table. Grateful for a distraction from their reports, Benita, Jared, and Julio congregated around her. "It's full of illustrations of the ancient Aztecs. Unfortunately, I can't decipher any of the words."</p>
2	<p>"I think it looks like some kind of cryptogram," speculated Jared. Maria continued to leaf through the pages and found a yellowed slip of paper with the word key scrawled above a simple map.</p> <p>"Hey, that looks like a map of the library basement," Julio said. They grabbed the book and hurriedly crowded into the elevator.</p>
3	<p>In an instant, blinding sunlight poured through the parting doors. When their eyes adjusted, they stood in stunned awe, realizing they were no longer in the library. They were now gazing out over an immense valley. The four friends trod carefully out of the elevator, but it quickly disappeared behind them.</p> <p>"Um, guys . . ." squeaked Benita as she gestured toward a group of strangely dressed men who were shouting in their direction.</p>
4	<p>"Warriors," gulped Jared. "I think this is where we run."</p> <p>"Run? Where? We don't even know where we are," Julio replied frantically.</p> <p>"Everyone calm down!" shouted Maria as she pointed to an illustration in the book. "It appears as though we're in ancient Mexico, and those are the Aztecs."</p> <p>"What?" Benita, Jared, and Julio gasped in unison.</p> <p>Maria continued excitedly, "Those aren't warriors. They're athletes, and the book says they're playing a game called <i>tlachtli</i>, which is like a combination of soccer and basketball."</p>
5	<p>"This is all very interesting," said Benita, "but how are we going to get home?" Benita's question was met with a confused hush.</p> <p>"I'm starving," said Julio, attempting to lighten the mood. "I wonder where I can get a burger."</p> <p>"Good luck finding one. The book says that the Aztecs mostly ate vegetables," Maria said, and Julio and Jared both scrunched up their faces in revulsion.</p> <p>"Seriously, Maria," Jared pleaded, "you've got to get your nose out of that book and help us find a way home."</p>
6	<p>Maria took out the map and closed the book. "Hey, it doesn't show the library anymore."</p> <p>"Great, now we'll never get home!" Julio cried.</p> <p>"Wait!" Maria said as she examined the map and then peered around at the foreign scenery. "It shows a pyramid just like that one over there."</p> <p>They darted toward the pyramid so they could investigate. Benita discovered a small button on one of the bricks and said, "Hey, I wonder what this does." Jared hesitantly reached out, pushed it, and poof, the elevator reappeared. Relieved, the four friends entered it for the ride back home.</p>
7	<p>When the doors opened into the library, Maria rushed to the shelves and selected another book.</p> <p>"Look, here's a book about ancient Rome," she said, her eyes twinkling. "And there's a map inside."</p> <p>Benita, Jared, and Julio glanced nervously at each other, and then Jared snatched the book from Maria's hands. As he placed it back on the shelf, he said, "I think I'd rather stay in the library for awhile—even if it is Saturday."</p>

smre\_ip\_00567: “A Day with Teresa” and “The History of the Olympics”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00567
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00638: “A Day with Teresa” smre_ip_00630: “The History of the Olympics”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

page	<b>A Day with Teresa</b> Written by Tianna Tagami
1	<p>Teresa Tedone is an actress who has appeared on stage and on the silver screen. Many young ladies would like to trade places with her, and though we can't offer the impossible, we can share with you a day in the life of this busy actress.</p> <p>Teresa's day begins at exactly 5:00 A.M. "I'm always awake early so I have time to work out and read before my day gets too hectic; this quiet time is essential for my sanity."</p>
2	<p>At 5:15, Teresa begins her morning run, and 45 minutes later, she feels re-energized and equipped to face the day. "Most people think I run to stay fit. That's part of it, but I also run to stimulate my mind. I use this time to concentrate on my goals and prepare for the day."</p> <p>After Teresa cleans up, she spends 30 minutes reading. "I read books that encourage me to meet and exceed my potential; they prevent me from feeling bogged down by the demands of my career."</p>
3	<p>After a healthy breakfast, Teresa is off to work on her latest stage project. Her day at the theater commences with a meeting to discuss the day's rehearsal schedule.</p> <p>This will be a dress rehearsal, which means Teresa needs to be in full costume. So, the actress races off to makeup and wardrobe. "I love my job," says Ms. Tedone. "Today, I will be transformed into the mother of a peculiar but enchanting family. For this role they aged me 20 years. The magic of makeup and wardrobe transform my exterior; however, it's my job to internalize the character."</p>
4	<p>Sometimes this process of internalization is very difficult for Teresa. She recalls, "During rehearsal of <i>You Can't Take It With You</i>, I couldn't connect with my character at all. She was so different from me—frivolous and unfocused—that the process of characterization was very difficult at first. But during the course of the play, I began to understand her and eventually I completely connected with her."</p>
5	<p>During rehearsal, Teresa regularly has free time while other actors are rehearsing their scenes. "I use this opportunity to correspond with friends and family," she said. When asked about writing to her fans, Teresa blushed and admitted, "I wish I had more time to write to them because they send such marvelous letters and it lifts me up and encourages me. I just don't have the time to reply to all my mail."</p>
6	<p>Teresa keeps her schedule open in the evenings because she never knows how late she will be at the theater; a typical day can last anywhere from 6 hours to 15 hours. This grueling schedule takes its toll on Teresa's usually healthy eating habits. "Today, I didn't have time to eat anything but an apple all day. By the time we're finished rehearsing or performing, I'm so hungry, but I often don't have the time or energy to cook anything substantial, so I eat a lot of salads or fruit for supper," she said.</p>
7	<p>Many people think they would like to trade places with Teresa, but after spending a busy day with her, this reporter is glad to be just a reporter.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The History of the Olympics</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson</p>
1	<p>Nothing brings the people of the world together like the Olympic Games. For 17 days every two years, countries put aside their differences to enjoy the challenge of sport. People love the Olympic Games because they celebrate peaceful competition. This spirit of peace and fair play has been a part of the Olympics since its beginning long ago.</p>
2	<p>The ancient Olympic Games were created by the early Greeks as a way to honor their god Zeus. The Olympics received their name from the city of Olympia, where they were held every four years.</p>
3	<p>In Greek mythology, Zeus was the king of the gods. His strong son Heracles built the city of Olympia. He planted an olive tree to honor his father. As a way to remember Heracles' gift to his father, the Greeks crowned their Olympic winners with a wreath made of olive leaves. This olive wreath was the only prize awarded to Olympic champions. The Greeks prized athletic ability and competition above material recognition.</p>
4	<p>The first Olympic Games took place in 766 B.C.E. They started with only a footrace. Years later, boxing and other sports were added. Thousands of people came to watch these exciting games and to visit the holy places of Zeus. Oftentimes, the cities of Greece were at war with one another. However, during the games they almost always agreed to put aside their weapons and to compete peacefully.</p>
5	<p>In 146 B.C.E., the Romans conquered Greece. Romans did not feel the same way about athletics as the Greeks did. They felt that to compete in public was shameful. They also did not worship the same gods. So, the Olympics declined in popularity and were finally stopped altogether in 400 C.E.</p>
6	<p>In the mid-nineteenth century, the ruins of Olympia were uncovered by German archaeologists. Interest in reviving the Olympics started to circulate. A Frenchman named Baron Pierre de Coubertin thought that reviving the Olympics would be a great way to bring the youth of the world together to compete in sports instead of fighting in war. His country, France, had just suffered defeat in a terrible war with Russia. Coubertin made a proposal for an Olympic revival at an international sports conference in 1894. The delegates at that conference decided to form an International Olympic Committee. This decision led to the first modern Olympics, held in Athens, Greece, in 1896.</p>
7	<p>Today the Olympic Games are held in different countries every two years, alternating between the winter and summer games. Even in times of war, countries put down their arms to compete peacefully. The Olympic torch is always lit near the place where Olympia once stood. It is then carried from city to city until it reaches the site of the next Olympic Games. While the gods are no longer a part of the games, the Olympics are still a time to celebrate peace and the challenge of sport.</p>

smre\_ip\_00612: “Jody Hansen: Awesome Animator” and “The Mystery of the Blue Light”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00612
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00636: “Jody Hansen: Awesome Animator” smre_ip_00590: “The Mystery of the Blue Light”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

page	<b>Jody Hanson: Awesome Animator</b> Written by Jennifer Durkin
1	<p>Have you wondered how Ferret and his Gang got onto your computer screen? They are the creations of an animation team at Pearson Digital Learning. One of the key people involved with bringing Ferret and his friends to life is Jody Hansen. Jody is Pearson Digital Learning's senior animator and creative lead.</p> <p>"I can't remember not drawing," Jody said with a smile. He remembers beginning with crayons, filling up drawing books, and doodling throughout his school career. "It was just nonstop drawing."</p>
2	<p>Jody said he had an influential high school art teacher. "He helped open up my imagination," Jody remembered. The teacher was supportive and flexible, and he spent time helping Jody develop his talent. "My teacher gave me a lot of one-on-one time and taught me the basics."</p>
3	<p>After four years in the Navy, Jody used the GI Bill to pay for tuition at an art institute in Seattle, Washington. "I knew I wanted a job that had anything to do with art." After graduating, Jody accepted a job with Jet City Studios and worked on Disney's Daily Blast. Next, Jody worked as a self-employed contractor and had clients all over the country. Jody joined Pearson Digital Learning in 2001 after deciding he wanted to travel less.</p>
4	<p>In his current position, Jody spends a lot of time drawing pictures. It is part of his responsibility to create ideas for characters, story lines, and themes. He also is responsible for assuring that the on-screen images look and flow appropriately. With another smile on his face, Jody explained, "I also want to keep things fun to keep the students motivated."</p>
5	<p>When Jody and his team create a new character or story, they must do a lot of brainstorming and refining. A brainstorm session can take up to 14 hours! The team first sketches ideas on scratch paper. Then, they select the best ideas from the session. Next, designers and managers approve these ideas. Jody's team takes the approved ideas and turns them into rough images on screen. Finally, the refining begins. The team works relentlessly to assure the animated characters move correctly, bounce appropriately, and really look like they are alive.</p>
6	<p>Jody loves observing while students interact with his creations. "It is an awesome feeling to watch the students in front of the computer respond positively to something I created. That's my audience!" Jody always keeps in mind that he still really does have clients all over the country.</p>
7	<p>Jody's advice for students interested in a career in animation is, "Draw all the time. The more you draw, the better you'll be. You need to practice being observant, remembering the details and really watching how things move." Jody said that animation just takes practice like anything else.</p> <p>So the next time Ferret or one of his friends bring a smile to your face, thank Jody and his team for all of their hard work.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Mystery of the Blue Light</b>  Written by Wendi Silvano  Illustrated by Tom Columbus</p>
1	<p>"We're on a new case," said Andrew, as he climbed into the clubhouse.  "Terrific!" said Marina. "What kind of case is it?"  "An unusual bluish light keeps appearing on Mrs. Hunt's porch several times every night. She knows that we're the world's two greatest detectives, so she called and asked if we could investigate. I told her we'd be straight over."  "Let's get going then," said Marina.</p>
2	<p>Mrs. Hunt explained that the strange light appeared four nights ago. It quivered about midway between her porch and her roof for 15 to 20 seconds at a time, and then it disappeared. She had tried to figure out what was causing it, but was unable to locate the source.  "Don't worry," said Marina. "I suspect there might be a simple answer."</p>
3	<p>The two detectives agreed to meet on Mrs. Hunt's front porch at dusk. The old boards of the steps creaked as they climbed up, and Andrew thought he saw some movement underneath the planks as the shadows of the trees cast an unsettling darkness over the porch. Marina and Andrew sat and waited silently in the cool night air.</p>
4	<p>Moments later, a bright headlight rounded the corner at the end of the narrow street.  "Wow, that's really bright," said Marina. "I have to shut my eyes."  "Don't!" exclaimed Andrew. "There's the light!"  Marina gasped as the bluish light shimmered in midair to the side of Mrs. Hunt's front window. It vanished after a few seconds, only to reappear two minutes later. It glittered and waved as it seemed to dance to some unheard melody.</p>
5	<p>"This will be easy," said Marina. "We'll have this case solved in no time if we just wait and observe the light."  Andrew disagreed. "I think we need to do some more investigating to look for clues."  "That's unnecessary," Marina replied. "I have a feeling that if we're patient and watch the lights, we'll soon discover our answer."  "A feeling isn't evidence," said Andrew, as he walked out to the front sidewalk. "We need more information." He checked Mrs. Hunt's yard for clues and then headed across the street to look at the porch from a different angle.  "I'm staying here!" called Marina. "We'll see who solves this mystery first."</p>
6	<p>Suddenly, a motorcycle rounded the corner and came roaring down the darkened road, startling both Andrew and Marina. They each turned and saw the light appear on the porch, shimmer a few times, and then vanish.  Andrew raced back and cried, "I've solved it! I know what's causing the light!"  "Me too," said Marina. "There's a blue glass wind chime hanging on the porch next door and when the lights from a car or motorcycle hit the chime, it casts a bluish glow onto Mrs. Hunt's porch."  "Exactly," said Andrew. "It appears to shake and dance because the chime sways in the wind."</p>
7	<p>Andrew looked at Marina and smiled. "I guess we did see who would solve this mystery first . . . both of us."  Marina smiled back and replied, "That's because we're the world's two greatest detectives."  "Agreed." said Andrew.</p>

smre\_ip\_00568: "Thunderbird's Scar" and "Sailing Shoes"

LO ID #	smre_ip_00568
Template	Fluency (Rock 'n' Read)
Passage Titles	smre_itr_02344: "Thunderbird's Scar" smre_ip_00726: "Sailing Shoes"
Objective	104 - Read with expression

	<b>Thunderbird's Scar</b> Written by Wendi Silvano Illustrated by Rory Hensley and Rich McMahon
page	
1	<p>Tatoosh watched the enormous red cedar tree topple to the ground. He could barely contain his excitement. He had practiced for months with his tools made from stone and shells, and now he was good enough that Teacher said he could work on a real totem pole.</p> <p>Tatoosh happily helped strip the trunk of its branches and bark. He watched as others floated it down the river to the village and dragged it to the place where the carving would begin</p>
2	<p>"What shall I do first?" he asked Teacher the next morning.</p> <p>"You begin working on the thunderbird's left wing, and I will do the right one," said Teacher.</p> <p>Tatoosh almost jumped with delight. What a compliment it was to be trusted to work on the top crest for the pole. Thunderbird was going to be the principal character in the story the pole would illustrate. It was a powerful bird that caused lightning and thunder, which represented leadership and strength.</p> <p>Tatoosh shaved and chiseled the soft wood as the warm sun beat down upon them both. He stopped often to watch his Teacher work on a particular section so he could see exactly how to do his side.</p>
3	<p>"I will go and search for the minerals, the clay, and the fish oil to mix the paints," said Teacher after several hours of work. "You keep working on your carving."</p> <p>Tatoosh carefully carved half-circles along the outstretched wing. Suddenly a hawk swooped down in his mission to catch a field mouse for lunch. Startled, Tatoosh jerked forward. His sharpened stone scraped across the width of the wing. A deep cut marred the surface for several inches.</p> <p>His heart fell into the pit of his stomach. What would he tell Teacher when he returned?</p> <p>Teacher saw Tatoosh sitting by the totem pole; his face buried in his hands. He approached quietly and looked at his apprentice questioningly.</p>
4	<p>"I am so sorry. . ." cried Tatoosh, explaining what had happened. He looked into Teacher's eyes, expecting to see a look of scolding. Instead he saw a grin make its way across Teacher's face.</p> <p>"Why are you smiling?" asked Tatoosh in disbelief. "I have ruined the thunderbird's wing!"</p>
5	<p>"Let me tell you a secret I have kept for many years," said Teacher. He sat down next to Tatoosh and leaned over to whisper in his ear. "I, too, left just such a cut on my first totem pole. What do you say we make an equal one on the wing on my side and paint them both red? Then the entire tribe will believe it to be a battle scar instead of an error."</p> <p>Tatoosh smiled and gave Teacher a hug. "I hope one day to be as wise and kind as you," he said.</p> <p>Teacher laughed out loud. "Before you call me kind, remember that I made it your job to mix all the paints and smooth another section for the next crest."</p> <p>Tatoosh chuckled and shook his head as he turned away and began to mix the paints.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sailing Shoes</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Written by Rene Holden &amp; Barbara Davis-Pyles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Illustrated by Tom Columbus</p>
1	<p>A group of tiny Astroleans gathered before Captain Sierra Star-Unit on Sunday evening in preparation for their delivery trip the next day. The captain noticed that most wore the proper Astrolean uniform, but some were not sporting the soft, leather-soled shoes required by safety guidelines. Captain Star-Unit disapproved, but she was in a hurry. Her tiny ship, the Dream Chaser, was scheduled to deliver a single cargo to the Gyrodots across the Mistolee River.</p>
2	<p>Unfortunately, Captain Star-Unit had some bad news for her sailing crew. The cargo boxes were missing from the underground storage beneath the old forest. The captain's distress was twofold because her people had worked hard to create the delicate metal gears for the Gyrodots. In addition, the Astroleans planned to trade the gears for wood to build a school and hospital for their growing community. Now all the gears had disappeared, and Captain Star-Unit had to find them before they grew rusted and useless. The gears needed to be cleaned and oiled daily.</p>
3	<p>Captain Star-Unit cleared her throat and addressed her waiting crew.</p> <p>"I have sad news. The entire cargo seems to have vanished. An investigation is under way. Let's hope whoever took the gears still has them all, and we can recover them in time for delivery."</p>
4	<p>The captain dismissed her crew and then sat for a moment to think. She had to find the missing cargo before the gears rusted. Her mind drifted back to the crew meeting the day before. As usual, she had begun by taking roll call. Three of her crew members were missing. "This is odd," she had thought. "My crew is known for being on time." She called out, "Aven, Squeb, Meeka!" Everyone began to look worried. The three then burst into the room and took their places quickly. They were muddy and looked nervous. "This is very strange, indeed," the captain had thought, but she had so much business to cover and so little time that she simply continued with the meeting.</p>
5	<p>"Yes, it was strange," Captain Star-Unit thought again as she sat forward and looked down at her shoes. Her eyes grew wide, "That's it!"</p> <p>She called for her assistant captain.</p> <p>"Viddon, bring Aven, Squeb, and Meeka to me at once," she said. Viddon bowed and rushed away. Within minutes, he returned with three elves who looked nervous.</p>
6	<p>Each elf wore an Astrolean jumpsuit, including the shiny symbol of the Astrolean badge. The captain wasted no time, however, in studying their shoes once again. She pointed out to the anxious elves that they were out of uniform. They wore hard-soled shoes.</p>
7	<p>Captain Star-Unit looked at the elves and said, "I notice tonight that you are wearing shoes for walking on the land, which seems strange considering we were supposed to set sail tomorrow. Then my first captain told me that we found footprints from hard-soled shoes near the storage area. Now tell me where my cargo is hidden, and I will see that you get a fair trial."</p> <p>The three nervous elves revealed the truth in time for Captain Star-Unit to recover the cargo and deliver it to its destination.</p>

smre\_ip\_00658: “Women Who Changed the World” and “Sharks: Built to Last!”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00658
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00640: “Women Who Changed the World” smre_ip_00686: “Sharks: Built to Last!”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

page	<b>Women Who Changed the World</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson
1	<p>Agnes Bojaxhiu was born on August 26, 1910, in a country that is now called Macedonia. Her parents were Catholic, and as a young girl, Agnes looked for ways that she could take part in her church.</p> <p>When she was 18, she decided to join a convent in India. Upon taking her vows as a nun, she took the name Sister Teresa. She then began teaching at St. Mary's High School in Calcutta.</p>
2	<p>During her years as a teacher, Sister Teresa witnessed the misery and poverty of people living outside the convent walls. She did what she could to help them, but still wanted to do more. Twenty years later, she was able to open the doors to her own convent—one that would serve everyone in need. As its leader, she became known as Mother Teresa.</p>
3	<p>Mother Teresa served people who were dying or were ignored by others. She did not care how people looked; she just wanted to provide help and support for everyone in need. A picture of kindness and love, Mother Teresa did not concern herself with her own health or comfort.</p>
4	<p>In 1979, Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize for her work. When she received her award, she explained that she chose a life with little comforts for herself. Her work was done “in the name of the hungry, the naked, the homeless, of the crippled, of the blind, of the lepers, of all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared-for throughout society.” Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997, at the age of 87.</p>
5	<p>Eleanor Roosevelt was another woman who provided a voice to people who did not have one. She was born in New York City on October 11, 1884. Her parents died when she was young, so she was raised by her grandmother. She was a shy child, and when she was 15 she went to England to study. By the time she finished her studies, she had become a stronger woman.</p>
6	<p>Soon after her return, Eleanor met and married Franklin Delano Roosevelt. When he became president, Eleanor stepped into life as the first lady, a step that changed many people's lives.</p> <p>Eleanor was the first president's wife to hold her own meetings with the press; however, her invitations were only sent to women of the press. This helped to create more jobs for women because it sent a strong message: more women were needed to hold jobs previously held mostly by men.</p>
7	<p>Eleanor quickly became known as a speaker, a writer, and a politician who worked hard to make a difference for the equal rights of African Americans and women.</p> <p>When her husband died, Eleanor thought her voice in politics was gone, but she was wrong. She became a delegate for the United Nations. She did not stop working for change until her health grew weak; she died in 1962.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sharks: Built to Last!</b> Written by Barbara Davis-Pyles</p>
1	<p><b>Sharks</b></p> <p>They have strange names like lollipop, cookie cutter, scoophead, and pink goblin. They have even been called <i>living fossils</i> because they have been around for 400 million years. They are sharks, and they are one of Earth’s most interesting creatures.</p> <p>Sharks are certainly built to last. Unlike other fish, they are not built with bones. Sharks are made of cartilage. Cartilage is a material that is hard like bone but bendable. If you grab your nose or ears and wiggle them back and forth, you are feeling cartilage.</p> <p>Cartilage is much lighter than bone, so it helps sharks float. Sharks do not have a swim bladder to keep them from sinking. Instead, they are equipped with an extra large liver filled with oil, which is lighter than water. Even so, most sharks will sink if they do not keep moving.</p>
2	<p><b>Location</b></p> <p>Sharks are found in every ocean of the world. They live in waters from the cold Arctic to the warm tropics. Some live at the bottom of very deep seas. Others like shallow water along the coast. One kind of shark found in India lives only in freshwater rivers.</p> <p><b>Different Kinds of Sharks</b></p> <p>You may not know that there are actually 375 different kinds of sharks. They come in all sizes, colors, and shapes. They range from the giant whale shark (40 feet, or 12 meters) to the tiny, spined pygmy shark (6 inches, or 16 centimeters). Great white sharks may be the most famous members of the shark family.</p>
3	<p><b>Meat Eaters</b></p> <p>All sharks are carnivores, or meat eaters. Their diet depends on what type of shark they are. Great whites dine on seals and sea turtles, while mako sharks eat tuna. Hammerheads eat stingrays. Huge whale sharks live on krill, plankton, and small fish. The biggest sharks actually eat the smallest prey.</p> <p>As meat eaters, sharks are built for hunting. They even have a sixth sense to help them find prey. Sharks have electro-receptors around their noses. These receptors are used to sense the vibrations that every living creature gives off. The vibrations help sharks find prey even in the darkest of water. Once they have found their next meal, sharks use their terrific speed to catch it.</p> <p>Sharks have rounded bodies that taper on each end. This allows them to move very fast while using the least amount of energy. In fact, mako sharks can swim up to 30 miles, or 48 km, an hour.</p>
4	<p>During an attack, a shark is able to open its mouth especially wide because its jaw is actually joined very loosely. In one bite, it can take a large chunk of flesh out of larger prey or swallow smaller prey whole. Its many rows of teeth are made for tearing, but sometimes a shark’s teeth break off. This is not a problem for sharks because they have rows of other teeth that move up to fill the empty space.</p>
5	<p><b>Enemies</b></p> <p>Sharks are such terrific hunters that they have few natural enemies. In fact, a shark’s worst enemy is a bigger shark; however, humans are fast becoming the biggest threat to their survival. The shark-fishing industry kills more than 20 million sharks a year.</p>

smre\_ip\_00657: “Bridges: A Way to Keep Your Feet Dry” and “A Home in Space”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00657
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00635: “Bridges: A Way to Keep Your Feet Dry” smre_ip_00593: “A Home in Space”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

page	<b>Bridges: A Great Way to Keep Your Feet Dry</b> Written by Barbara Davis-Pyles
1	What if you could win a lifetime supply of ice cream? What’s the catch, you ask. In order to win, you have to cross a stream. And you have to cross the stream without getting your feet wet. You might think to build a bridge, but what kind of bridge would you build?
2	If it is a small stream, you might want to use a board to build a beam bridge. A beam bridge was the first type of bridge ever built and is simply a log or beam laid flat across a span. The log needed to be strong in order to hold up its own weight, as well as the weight of traffic, without bending. Today’s beam bridges use steel rods and concrete, and to keep them from bending under the weight of traffic, they are usually not more than 250 feet long.
3	What if you had to cross a wider stream? You could use a longer board, but—whoa! As you make your way across, your board starts to bend. In fact, it bends so much you are afraid you might end up going for a swim. My friend, there is ice cream on the line here, and you need a better bridge. You might want to consider an arch.
4	An arch bridge is a beam bridge bent like a rainbow with both ends anchored at the bottom of the stream or riverbank. In order to cross your wider stream, you could bend a board into an arch and anchor it with some help from a friend on the opposite side. Then attach a flat board across the top of your arch and anchor that at each end. Now your bridge will not bend in the middle—guaranteed. In fact, you could take your whole family across your arch bridge at once. That is because an arch bridge is the strongest type of bridge.
5	The Romans knew this when they perfected arch bridges more than 2,000 years ago. Their bridges could hold thousands of soldiers at one time because they built them out of stone and their newly invented concrete. In fact, the Roman arch bridges were so strong and well-built that some of the original arch bridges are still in use today. Modern arch bridges are made of concrete and steel and can stretch over spans of 800 feet.
6	Now, what if you had to cross a wide river? Then you might want to build a suspension bridge. Picture the Golden Gate Bridge of San Francisco and you have the idea. Suspension bridges get their name because the bridge deck actually hangs or “suspends” from large cables. The cables are held up by tall towers and anchored at each riverbank. These bridges were first built in the 1800s and can span up to 7,000 feet!
7	To build your suspension bridge, first, build a couple of towers in the river, then . . . but wait! That will make your feet wet. So, I guess if you have to cross a wide river to win the ice cream, you had better use a boat.

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A Home in Space</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson</p>
1	<p><b>A Home in Space</b> Space Station People Ready</p> <p>HOUSTON, April 2 – The dreams of 16 nations have come together in one place. That place is not here on Earth. It is far away in outer space. The International Space Station is the result of years of work and planning. Named <i>Zvezda</i>, the space station is a floating home and a laboratory for the astronauts who serve there.</p> <p>Three astronauts make up the international space crew. They will remain on the station for many months at a time. One of the first things they must do when they arrive at <i>Zvezda</i> is to settle into their new home. This home has many of the same things as a house on Earth. Yet, everything here is designed to save space and make life without gravity possible.</p>
2	<p>The astronauts share two small bedrooms. They also share a common area, a kitchen, and a bathroom. The bedrooms are the size of a small closet in a home on Earth. On the station, sleeping bags are attached to the walls to keep them from floating. That means packing a bed away every morning to keep the room clean for everyone's use.</p> <p>The kitchen has a small refrigerator and an oven. Astronauts eat the same foods in space as they would on Earth. But, like the special sleeping bags, space food is also made for life without gravity. Some foods, like oranges, can be eaten in their regular form, but if an astronaut sprinkles salt on food, the salt will float away. Eating without gravity means many foods are in liquid form and come in special packages.</p> <p>After settling into the living space, the crew of the space station can begin their real mission. <i>Zvezda</i> is the effort of many nations that have joined together to learn about space and about Earth in a new way.</p>
3	<p>The International Space Station was once only a dream. But now it is real, and people can live in outer space. These astronauts and the countries that sent them hope to find better ways for people to live—both here on Earth and in space.</p>

smre\_ip\_00611: “A World of Opportunity in the Medical Field” and “The Mystery Ship”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00611
Template	Fluency (Rock ‘n’ Read)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00637: “A World of Opportunity in the Medical Field” smre_ip_00588: “The Mystery Ship”
Objective	104 - Read with expression

<b>A World of Opportunity in the Medical Field</b>	
Written by Barbara Davis-Pyles	
page	
1	What is a typical day like in the medical field? That depends on the kind of work you do and whether your patients are human or animal.
2	<p>Family doctors treat patients of all ages. Healthy people come in for checkups, and sick people come in for healing. Good doctors spend time listening because they need to focus on the patients’ symptoms to figure out what is wrong. Sometimes tests help determine the problem, and then doctors can provide treatment to help make patients well.</p> <p>Dentists spend most of each day looking for trouble inside the mouths of patients. They also fill cavities and sometimes pull out problem teeth. But the most important thing dentists do is encourage people to take good care of their teeth. Good care can prevent many problems later in life.</p>
3	Birth center nurses concentrate on keeping their patients comfortable during a difficult time. Sometimes the nurse needs to draw blood or put a new mother-to-be on a heart monitor. After a baby is born, the nurse takes part in teaching the new mother how to care for her child.
4	Physical therapists often work with patients who have been injured in accidents or sports. The goal is to get the patient back to doing the things they used to do. A physical therapist teaches patients special exercises to help heal their injuries. A therapist also works closely with each patient’s doctor; together, they review the patient’s problem and then create a solution.
5	Veterinarians treat animals. Most animals go to the veterinarian’s office for routine exams and vaccinations. The doctor checks for lumps, bumps, and clean teeth. Veterinarians also perform surgeries to spay or neuter, remove tumors, or fix injuries.
6	Equine therapists also work with animals, but a particular kind of animal. These therapists use massage and stretching to help horses heal from injuries. An equine therapist needs to study the medical histories of the horses they will be working with. During the examination, the therapist checks the horse’s gait, posture, and hooves, and then they massage and stretch the sore muscles. Afterward, the therapist talks to the horse’s owner about the necessary treatment plan.
7	Do any of these professions pique your interest? Would you like to work with animals or humans? Would you like to focus on delivering babies, help people care for their teeth, or take care of people after an injury? These are just a few professions to consider. There is a world of possibility in the medical field waiting for interested caregivers.

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Mystery Ship</b>  Written by Wendi Silvano  Illustrated by Tom Bonifeld</p>
1	<p>“Sarah!” called Ben. “Come look at the sonar, quick! I think we might have found something interesting underneath our ship!”</p> <p>Sarah climbed into the cabin of the ship where she found Ben, Captain Arnold, and Professor Bonner hunched over the sonar screen.</p> <p>“Could it be one of our whales?” she asked the professor.</p> <p>Professor Bonner turned and replied, “No, it’s much too large to be a whale; however, I wouldn’t be surprised if what we have here is a shipwreck.”</p> <p>“A shipwreck!” Sarah shouted excitedly. “That would be so cool!”</p>
2	<p>“Turn the engine off, Captain,” said Professor Bonner. “I suppose we should investigate this exciting discovery.”</p> <p>Ben called the others to come to the cabin, so they could observe while Professor Bonner submerged the undersea camera into the water. They all crowded as close to the screen as they possibly could and stood absolutely silent as they watched the camera descend deep into the sea.</p>
3	<p>The camera headed straight down, but midway it caught on something. After a bit of trouble, the cable came loose, and the camera continued its downward journey. Ben, Sarah, and the rest of their group cheered as they saw a grayish form appear on the monitor.</p> <p>At first it was difficult to determine what they were looking at, but then the hull came clearly into view.</p> <p>“Professor Bonner was right!” shouted Ben. “It is a wrecked ship.”</p>
4	<p>“I wonder when the ship sank,” said Lin. “Do you think you can tell us, Professor?”</p> <p>The professor smiled and replied, “Why don’t you all help me figure it out. Let’s take this camera on a little tour of the ship and see what clues we can find. Maybe we can determine what period in history it is from. I know you’ll all be great under water detectives.”</p> <p>“All right!” cheered the crowd.</p>
5	<p>The camera made its way slowly through the midsection of the wreckage. The professor stopped it whenever something interesting came into view that might indicate a time frame. The first items they came across were a brass helmet and a breastplate.</p> <p>“There must have been soldiers on this ship,” said Ben. “Perhaps the ship sank during a time of war.”</p> <p>“Yes, perhaps,” replied the professor. “But the question is which war?”</p> <p>“Let’s look for more clues,” suggested Lin.</p>
6	<p>The camera moved forward until it stopped at a pile of artifacts. Professor Bonner zoomed in on the contents.</p> <p>“Look at that strange metal stick. I think it’s called an aglet,” said Ben, as he pointed to the monitor. “I saw one when we studied the colonial period. They used aglets to thread the laces on their shirts, just like we use the little plastic ends on our shoelaces.”</p>
7	<p>“So this ship must have sunk during the Revolutionary War!” exclaimed Lin.</p> <p>“Correct!” said Professor Bonner. “I knew you’d be great detectives! You’ve solved the mystery of the sunken ship.”</p>

smre\_ip\_00656: “Thunderstorms” and “Wesley’s Weekend”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00656
Template	Fluency (Rock ‘n’ Read)
Passage Titles	smre_itr_02346: “Thunderstorms” smre_ip_00679: “Wesley’s Weekend”
Objective	104 - Read with expression

<b>Thunderstorms</b> Written by Wendi Silvano	
page	
1	<p>When the Greeks saw lightning flash brilliantly through the sky, they said Zeus was angry and had thrown his thunderbolt. The Vikings thought lightning appeared when Thor threw down his great hammer. Some American Indian peoples believed that lightning was caused by the flapping of the wings of a thunderbird. Almost every ancient culture had an explanation for thunderstorms.</p> <p>Today, scientists who study weather can tell us exactly what is going on during a thunderstorm. We no longer use myths to explain such events. In fact, now we can even predict when and where they will happen.</p>
2	<p>At any moment in a day, there are about 1,800 thunderstorms happening around the world. The storms can take place anywhere, but they most commonly develop in tropical areas. That is where the conditions are best suited to create them. Thunderstorms form when warm, humid air evaporates and rises. As the air rises, it cools. Water vapor condenses, or changes back into a liquid state. Inside vast, dark clouds called thunderheads, these droplets of water grow larger and larger. Soon, they become too heavy and fall as raindrops.</p>
3	<p>Thunderstorms always produce lightning and thunder. Inside a thunderhead, powerful winds push water droplets. Ice crystals rub against each other. This rubbing causes an electrical charge to build up quickly. When it is strong enough, it will jump. Electrical charges move from areas of a positive charge to areas of a negative charge. This might be within a cloud, from cloud to cloud, or from cloud to ground.</p> <p>A lightning bolt heats the air to about 54,000 degrees Fahrenheit (30,000 degrees Celsius). That is nearly six times as hot as the surface of the sun! The heated air molecules expand rapidly and explode. This creates a loud crack of thunder. The loud boom is commonly followed by a low rumbling.</p>
4	<p><b>Lightning and Thunder</b></p> <p>Although lightning and thunder actually happen at the same time, you hear thunder several seconds after you see lightning. This happens because light travels almost a million times faster than sound! The noise of thunder takes five seconds to go a mile.</p> <p>When you see a lightning strike, it is easy to figure out how far away it is. You simply count the number of seconds that pass before you hear the thunder. Divide that number by five and you have your answer.</p> <p>Thunderstorms are the most common type of severe weather system. Only occasionally are there hurricanes, tornadoes, blizzards, or ice storms. Every day, however, countless people witness the wild weather of a thunderstorm.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wesley's Weekend</b>  Written by Rene Holden  Illustrated by Gary Ham</p>
1	<p>Wesley hated Mondays, because on Mondays all the kids talked about their activities over the weekend. His classmate Mallory was in ballet and did recitals for the school, as did Latoya and Berta. Greg and Scott played for the school baseball team, while David, Carlos, and Andrew starred on the basketball team. Wesley, however, only played golf with his grandfather.</p>
2	<p>Whenever Wesley's classmates asked him what he had done during the weekend, Wesley would look down and mumble about playing golf with his grandfather. Sometimes David would laugh or tease Wesley about the "golf thing." Wesley felt like he did not fit in when everyone else had a big game to play or a recital. Wesley liked to play golf, but he knew no one thought golf was similar to their activities.</p>
3	<p>That Sunday, Wesley rode home from the golf course with Grandpa. Wesley sat silently in his seat looking very sad, even though he had played well and enjoyed the day.</p> <p>"What's wrong, Wesley?" his grandfather asked.</p> <p>"I'm afraid I don't fit in, since I don't play sports, Grandpa," Wesley said gloomily.</p> <p>"Golf is a sport, Wesley," replied Grandpa.</p> <p>"Not a regular sport, and that's why I don't fit in," Wesley sighed.</p>
4	<p>Grandpa nodded and said very little for a few miles. Then he asked, "Wesley, doesn't Carlos play basketball tonight? You feel like going?"</p> <p>Wesley nodded.</p> <p>The game that night was exciting, and Wesley and Grandpa cheered loudly. Carlos seemed to have fun playing the game, but he did not sink a single basket. After the game, Carlos sprinted up to Wesley.</p> <p>"Hi, Wesley! That sure was fun, even though we lost," Carlos said, as he continued on to the locker.</p>
5	<p>Grandpa commented later, "Wesley, you made a birdie today. Getting the golf ball in that hole in one under par is very impressive! Your total score decreased too. You're turning into a good golfer."</p> <p>"Really? I didn't notice how much I've improved in the last few months. Guess I've been busy feeling sorry for myself," Wesley exclaimed.</p> <p>"Listen, sports are all about having fun, getting exercise, and enjoying the experience. We did all that this weekend playing golf," Grandpa said.</p>
6	<p>"We definitely did all of that this weekend," Wesley agreed.</p> <p>The next day at school, Wesley ran to his classroom, excited to talk about his weekend with his classmates. He saw Carlos, David, and Andrew.</p> <p>"Hi, Carlos, great game," Wesley said.</p> <p>"Thanks Wesley," Carlos responded. "What did you do this weekend, other than watch our game?"</p> <p>"I played golf with my grandfather," Wesley said proudly.</p>
7	<p>"Cool, how did you do?" Carlos asked.</p> <p>"Well, I made a birdie, which is difficult to do," Wesley said. "But it's a really fun game to play."</p> <p>"It seems like it would be. I want to try playing golf sometime. My aunt can take me next weekend," David said excitedly.</p> <p>"Awesome, maybe we'll see you there," Wesley said, feeling that Mondays might not be so terrible after all.</p>

smre\_ip\_00613: “In the Name of Discovery” and “Alternative Fuels”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00613
Template	Fluency (Rock ‘n’ Read)
Passage Titles	SMRE_IP_00585: “In the Name of Discovery” SMRE_IP_00721: “Alternative Fuels”
Objective	104 - Read with expression

page	<b>In the Name of Discovery</b> Written by Teresa Tedone
1	As far back as the 1400s, the world was a place full of unknowns. Charts and maps showed just a portion of the landmasses that really existed. Some men believed these maps were accurate, but others felt there was much more to discover. These men were curious enough to set out and explore the uncharted oceans. They were willing to take chances in order to travel to new lands and discover new things.
2	The explorers’ desire to sail into the unknown was stronger than their fear. One such explorer was Christopher Columbus. He realized that ships traveled long and dangerous journeys to trade silk and spices in the Indies. Columbus was certain that he could find a better route. But before he could set sail and prove his theory, he needed someone to invest in his exploration. Columbus needed wealthy sponsors to provide him with ships, crew, and supplies.
3	Columbus took his plan to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, but they doubted a better route could be found. It took Columbus seven years to convince the king and queen to give him a chance. Finally, they agreed to supply Columbus with all he needed for his journey. On August 3, 1492, the Niña, Pinta, and Santa María set sail. Columbus was sure he would find a better route to the east coast of Asia and bring wealth and glory to Spain.
4	On October 12, Columbus landed in San Salvador. He believed he was in the East Indies, though he was actually in the Caribbean. Over the next 12 years, Columbus traveled back and forth between Spain and various islands in the Caribbean. He became a wealthy man because of the gold he and his men had found during their journeys. He died convinced he had found a better trade route along the east coast of Asia.
5	Ferdinand Magellan, like Columbus, wanted to bring glory to Spain. He believed that a passage existed across South America to the Pacific Ocean. His goal was to find a better route to the Spice Islands. On August 10, Magellan set sail with five ships and a crew of about 270 men. During his voyage, Magellan faced many hardships, such as violent storms and rough seas. On August 24, almost two years after they began, he found his passage. It allowed him to sail from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. This area is known today as the Strait of Magellan.
6	Magellan eventually reached the Philippines. There, Magellan died in the Battle of Mactan. Only one of his ships and 18 men returned to Spain. While Magellan didn’t survive to complete the entire voyage, he will always be known as the first to circle the globe and to navigate the strait in South America connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
7	Columbus and Magellan are just two examples of the many brave men who explored new areas of the world. This period is known as the Age of Discovery, or the Age of Exploration. It began in the early fifteenth century and continued into the early seventeenth century. During this time, European ships traveled around the world, facing many hardships to search for new trade routes.

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Alternative Fuels</b> Written by Lisa Bankert</p>
1	<p>When Mom says eating healthful foods keeps your body going, she is right. Like everything that operates or moves, your body needs fuel, and food is your body's fuel of choice.</p> <p>Do you think it is odd to say food is fuel? Then consider this: most of the fuel we use to power our cars, factories, and homes comes from the earth, just as our food does.</p>
2	<p>If you think that is hard to swallow, wait until you hear where on Earth this fuel comes from. Plants and animals buried millions of years ago left behind natural organic matter. Their carbon-rich remains form the solid, gas, and liquid energy sources we call fossil fuels.</p> <p>Coal, natural gas, and oil are the most common fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are nonrenewable energy sources. This means they won't last forever.</p>
3	<p>Because we use them daily, it is important to find other energy sources before our fossil fuels are completely depleted. Geologists are already working to uncover new ways to power our homes, our industries, and our lives. They are examining renewable fuel sources such as wood, wind, and solar energy.</p>
4	<p>Primitive people used wood for cooking, making tools, and heating their caves. Wood was the fuel of choice for many years. Then came the discovery of coal—a natural fuel source found in the earth. Coal provided more heat than wood and soon led to large-scale coal mining. As people came to rely more and more on coal, oil, and gas for fuel, supplies began to decrease. Today as we continue to deplete fossil fuel sources, geologists look for new ways to use an old energy source—wood.</p>
5	<p>Wood is a renewable resource because it comes directly from plants, but using wood for fuel is not always practical. In order to increase the use of wood fuel, we must first find better ways to grow the plants cheaply and quickly.</p> <p>Wind power is another source of renewable energy. Windmills have been used for years, especially in international locations such as Europe and Australia, and they are still used in some rural towns.</p> <p>Windmills grind grain and pump water, but windmill use is limited these days because wind is unpredictable. Without steady winds to keep them going, windmills cannot operate.</p>
6	<p>Another renewable energy source is sunlight. Solar cells are used to turn sunlight into electricity, but the cells only absorb a limited amount of light. Keeping electricity running on cloudy days requires energy storage devices, such as batteries, which are costly and need regular changing.</p> <p>Unlike coal and oil, sunlight cannot be hauled by trucks to other locations. Therefore, solar energy works best for heating homes, offices, and swimming pools that are located in sunny areas.</p>
7	<p>Each fuel comes with its own challenges. But the search for alternative fuels is not yet complete. Fueled by a growing need for renewable energy sources, geologists continue to hunt for new sources every day.</p>

## smre\_ip\_00701: “Storm Chasing” and “Mesopotamia: Home of the Sumerians”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00701
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_itr_02345: “Storm Chasing” smre_itr_02356: “Mesopotamia: Home of the Sumerians”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

	<b>Storm Chasing</b> Written by Chris Downey
page	
1	<p>People started chasing storms for fun in the early 1950s. Roger Jensen, a native of North Dakota, was one of the first people to follow storms for fun. He was also the first to photograph what he saw. Scientist Neil Ward, a respected tornado researcher, was another pioneer of storm chasing. Ward was one of the first storm chasers to apply his observations to science. He was able to forecast weather changes based on information he recorded while chasing storms.</p>
2	<p>At one time, only weather scientists chased storms. Now, all kinds of people are doing it. This means there are many more chaser convergences than ever before. A chaser convergence occurs when several chasers meet in a safe place on a chase day.</p> <p>Another group, similar to a chaser convergence, is a chase crowd. It is a large group of chasers who stop on open roads to watch a storm. These crowds gather in places that are not safe from storms. This makes storm chasing even more dangerous.</p> <p>Storm chasing is becoming widespread. It is so popular that storm tour groups have formed to cash in on its popularity. These groups charge people to chase storms with a tornado expert. Most tour groups operate in a safe, professional manner. However, some are reckless. This makes many people question whether they should be allowed.</p>
3	<p>Obviously, it is important that storm-chasing tour groups be led by responsible people who know the dangers involved. Not surprisingly, people who study storms, such as meteorologists, generally make the best storm chasers. They know more about what a storm is likely to do. For this reason, they are able to chase storms with greater safety and efficiency. For instance, many meteorologists can position themselves to catch a storm that is forming. They do not need to drive through bad weather to reach a storm in progress.</p>
4	<p><b>Storm Chaser's Challenges</b></p> <p>Smart storm chasers know how to reduce their risk of getting hurt. They plan their chase ahead of time by using maps and weather reports. Smart storm chasers also make sure that the car or truck they use is in good condition. They drive carefully and stay alert. They avoid slick or flooded areas. At the first sign of lightning or strong winds, they seek shelter and get out of danger.</p> <p>Storm chasers face many challenges. They must deal with unpredictable weather, crowded roads, and the growing number of fellow chasers. Still, many storm chasers feel that the rewards outweigh the risks. The lucky ones are able to get as close to a storm as any human has ever been. Their bravery, in combination with modern technology, gives us a better understanding of how dangerous storms work.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mesopotamia: Home of the Sumerians</b> Written by Erin Lassiter</p>
1	<p>Mesopotamia is the name given to a crescent-shaped section of land in the Middle East, where the first civilizations are thought to have started. <b>Mesopotamia</b> means "the land between rivers" in Greek. It was located between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in an area which is now part of the country of Iraq.</p> <p>This river valley produced soil that was good for farming. Enough crops could be grown to feed many people, not just the farmers. The rivers provided fresh water. They also served as a route of travel from one place to another. In time, small villages in the area grew into more complex societies called civilizations.</p>
2	<p>The first known instance of a civilization in Mesopotamia is that of Sumer. Sumer developed because more and more people began to settle in small farming villages in the area. As the population increased, the towns needed organization to keep daily life running smoothly.</p> <p>The people formed cities with governments, leaders, rules, and different kinds of jobs. Because farmers could grow enough crops to feed lots of people, not everyone had to farm land anymore. Sumerians could become builders, traders, merchants, craftsmen, government members, artists, and even writers.</p>
3	<p>Living in a complex society allowed the people to think about ways to make daily living more practical. Sumerians are famous for their inventions. They invented faster and easier ways to do many things. They invented the plow to dig up rows of dirt in fields. They used irrigation to water large areas of land. Sumerians invented the wagon wheel to move supplies and the sailboat to travel on water. They also invented a system of math based on the number 60. Perhaps their most famous invention was their system of writing. It is the reason we know so much about the presence of the Sumerians. They wrote everything down!</p>
4	<p><b>A written record of Sumerian history</b></p> <p>The Sumerians invented a writing system called cuneiform. It was made up of marks cut into damp clay with the sharp end of a reed, a type of plant that grows along riverbanks. The marks made by the Sumerians were wedge-shaped symbols.</p> <p>Prior to the invention of these marks, people used pictures to document events. Cuneiform, like other Sumerian inventions, was a faster and easier way to make records of daily life. It allowed people to write down everything from business activities to lists of property. Because of this, Sumerians left a detailed account of their civilization. They successfully carved the story of their existence into the course of history.</p>

smre\_ip\_00703: “The King's Servant” and “A Visit from Barnuba”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00703
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00728: “The King's Servant” smre_ip_00727: “A Visit from Barnuba”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

	<b>The King’s Servant</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson Illustrated by Ryan Enzweiler
page	
1	<p>King Arthur and his entourage of knights had just returned to Camelot from a long and exhausting ride, and Terrence was helping his grandfather groom and care for their horses. Terrence thought, “I love my grandfather, but I am embarrassed to tell people that he cleans up after horses, and this is not the life I want for myself.”</p> <p>Grandfather noticed the heavy silence that had fallen between them. “Perhaps,” he said, “it is time I share my story.”</p>
2	<p>“Many years ago, our good king grew ill and died, leaving the land without a ruler. There was no heir to the throne, so the people fought among themselves. Without the wisdom of a great leader, England fell into a dark age. The nobles decided to have a great tournament in my village to determine who would be king. I was filled with excitement. The greatest knights from all over the land arrived to participate in jousting and archery contests.”</p> <p>At the mention of jousting and archery, Terrence forgot about the embarrassment of grooming the horses and listened intently to his grandfather.</p>
3	<p>Grandfather continued. “I wanted to watch the contest, but one of our horses had fallen ill, and my father insisted that I stay to care for him. I was disappointed but obeyed my father. While the men were in the country competing for the crown, the most amazing thing occurred. In the middle of the town square, there appeared an enormous stone and rising from its center was the most beautiful sword I had ever seen. Words carved into the stone said that whoever was able to pull the sword from the stone would be king. Perhaps I had not missed the real excitement after all.”</p>
4	<p>“Just as I was about to try my hand at removing the sword, a child who was no older than I came running into the square. ‘My master has lost his sword! Where can I find another?’ the child asked. Just then, his eyes fell upon the sword in the stone. With one easy motion, the youth pulled the sword out. Then he turned to me. ‘Why are you not at the joust? It’s great fun!’ My voice quivered as I told him about our ill horse. I had never spoken to a king before and though I was sure he had no knowledge of the sword’s meaning, I knew I was looking at England’s next ruler. When the nobles returned from the tournament, I bore witness to the boy’s feat. At last, we had a new king.”</p>
5	<p>“King Arthur grew up and so did I. He was the wisest and most generous king the world had ever seen. One day I was summoned to his court. He required someone to care for his horses, and he remembered me and that I had remained behind to care for my father’s horse during the tournament. He said he would be honored if I would care for his horses the way I had cared for my father’s horses.”</p>
6	<p>Terrence smiled and gave his grandfather a hug. He knew that his grandfather was not merely a horse keeper, but a man who did a very important job for a kind and wise king. Terrence looked forward to the day when King Arthur would summon him, and he would take up this great honor.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A Visit from Barnuba</b>  Written by Rene Holden  Illustrated by Tom Columbus</p>
1	<p>Lanaya could scarcely express her happiness over what was about to happen. After months of experiments with her dimension machine, she had finally achieved success. Her friend Barnuba could now step through the machine. The two girls had been communicating by computer and agreed to now meet in Lanaya’s room so they could learn more about their different dimensions.</p>
2	<p>“I hope you are ready to enjoy a wonderful new dimension. This is my room. My mom says it looks as if a tornado hit it,” said Lanaya.</p> <p>Barnuba looked around the messy room and saw no signs of threatening weather. She knew that tornadoes were very powerful storms, so she worried about one barreling through the room again.</p> <p>“Are you all right then, Lanaya? You and your home seem to have survived the tornado. When did it happen?” asked Barnuba.</p>
3	<p>“Oh, that’s just an exaggerated expression to explain the mess in my bedroom. Anyway, what’s up with you?” Lanaya asked.</p> <p>Barnuba braced herself and grabbed frantically for Lanaya’s hand. “What’s wrong?” asked Lanaya. Barnuba explained that the word up in her dimension caused things to float off the ground, so they were extremely careful about uttering it.</p>
4	<p>“Wow! That would be a problem here in my dimension because we use the word up all the time,” explained Lanaya. “I never realized until you mentioned it, but we say ‘sit up; hurry up.’ The list goes on and on, so I’ll be careful about what I say while you are visiting and trying to understand our language. Let me go hop in the shower, and we can then continue our experiment down the street with my friends. They all expressed an interest in meeting you, and we’ll be able to get a jump on the day if we leave by 11 A.M.”</p>
5	<p>Barnuba looked totally confused with what Lanaya had just said. She stood with a bewildered look on her face and watched as her friend headed for the shower. Barnuba wondered why there was so much hopping and jumping going on. As soon as Lanaya returned, Barnuba looked at her carefully and asked if she felt tired after hopping in the shower.</p>
6	<p>It was now Lanaya’s turn to look bewildered, and she made the statement, “No, I’m not tired at all.” Then she asked Barnuba if she was ready to roll and headed for the front door of the house. Barnuba expected Lanaya to do forward rolls down the hall and out to the street but since that did not occur, Barnuba decided to listen quietly and learn while Lanaya and her friends spoke. The day with Lanaya’s companions went smoothly, and everyone made an effort to say exactly what they meant.</p>
7	<p>Barnuba felt she was really starting to comprehend until a little after twilight that evening. When Lanaya said, “Let’s hit the hay and catch some z’s,” Barnuba knew the time to go home had arrived.</p>

smre\_ip\_00566: “Underwater Treasure” and “Time to Turn It Off!”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00566
Template	Retell (You Tell the Tale)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00592: “Underwater Treasure” smre_ip_00685: “Time to Turn It Off!”
Objective	104 - Read with expression

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Underwater Treasure</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson</p>
1	<p><b>Underwater Treasure</b> <b>A Beautiful World</b></p> <p>SYDNEY, March 14 – A coral reef is a beautiful world that lies just below the water's surface. Many tiny animals called polyps join together to form the coral reefs. The reefs make a home for other sea life too.</p> <p>Schools of fish dart in and out of the caves and tunnels that have been built by the coral. Sea anemones flow back and forth with the tide. Eels poke their heads out of deep holes in the reef. Sea rays rest in waving sea grass. Everything is alive and beautiful. Because the ocean's reefs are made of living creatures, special care must be taken if they are to remain beautiful.</p> <p>People love to swim and dive around the reefs. Coral can be easily destroyed, however. This is because so many people enter this delicate environment. Standing on coral or kicking into it while swimming is one of the main causes of dead coral. The best rule for swimmers is to remember to look but not touch.</p>
2	<p>Boating is another threat to this environment. Motors and anchors can damage the living coral as well. The locations of the reefs are marked on maps to keep boats away from coral. Boat captains are trained to know where the beds lie, and everyone must be careful to drop anchor in the sand rather than on the living coral. Some reefs that are most often used by visitors have buoys that hold the boats in place. This is one more way to help save the reefs.</p> <p>After tourists have seen the beautiful reefs, they sometimes want to buy a piece of jewelry, or a gift, that is made from coral. But laws protect the coral reefs. People are not allowed to pick up coral or to sell it. Therefore, it is best to leave the coral souvenirs behind.</p>
3	<p>The world's reefs are an amazing treasure. They are home to some of the world's most beautiful plants and animals. It took thousands of years for the coral beds to grow. Yet they can be destroyed in minutes. Caring for these beautiful reefs is not hard. By respecting them, the reefs will remain beautiful for thousands of years to come.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Time To Turn It Off!</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson</p>
1	<p><b>Time To Turn It Off!</b> <b>Childhood Obesity Linked to Television Watching</b></p> <p>WITCHITA, July 14 – By the time typical children of today reach the age of 70, many years of their lives will have been spent in front of a television set. That is a great deal of time. They could have spent those hours and years going for walks or playing ball. Unfortunately, watching a lot of television raises a person’s chances of developing poor health.</p> <p>Children who watch too much television are more likely to be obese. They are also less likely to eat fruits and vegetables. And interestingly, they are also more likely to hurt themselves. Children must cut down on the amount of television they watch before it is too late.</p> <p>When the parents of these children were young, very few children were obese. Today a growing number of children are obese. As those numbers have risen, so has the number of children who suffer from poor health. Heart disease and problems with blood sugar are closely connected to weight. Children who spend hours sitting in a soft chair are not getting the exercise they need to stay fit.</p>
2	<p>Eating the right foods is one way people can get and stay fit. Fruits and vegetables are good foods that people need to stay healthy. Studies show that people who watch many hours of television actually eat fewer fruits and vegetables than those who do not spend time in front of the television. They also show that people who choose to watch television are more likely to eat sweet foods. This explains all the extra pounds that go along with hours of TV watching.</p> <p>It would seem that a child who plays football would be more likely to break an arm than a child who watches television. But that is not the case. A child who watches four or more hours of television a day is much more likely to get hurt than the one who does not. The reason for this is that television is not realistic. It shows cartoon characters and actors who do things that are not safe. They never get hurt. Children watch action heroes and then think they can do those things too. However, real life does not work in the same way. This is why some children end up with an injury.</p>
3	<p>If people want to be healthy, they are going to need to keep moving. Spending hours and hours every day in an activity that does not require any movement is dangerous. We all need to push the OFF button and find something to do. Try taking a walk, going for a swim, or just throwing a ball and letting the dog bring it back. Turning off the television is a good place to start.</p>

smre\_ip\_00700: “Changing Clothes” and “The Missing Signet Ring”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00700
Template	Fluency (Rock ‘n’ Read)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00595: “Changing Clothes” smre_ip_00589: “The Missing Signet Ring”
Objective	104 - Read with expression

<b>Changing Clothes</b>	
Written by Sue Motter Johnson	
page	
1	Wearing a pair of jeans and a T-shirt is acceptable in many public schools today, but that was not always the case. If we take a look back 50 or 60 years, it is clear that vast changes have occurred in the way students dress for school.
2	Before the 1950s, it was considered inappropriate to wear jeans and T-shirts to school. Boys wore long pants and button shirts with collars. A high school boy could not have a beard or mustache, and the collar of his shirt was the test for the length of his hair. If his hair touched the collar of his shirt, then it was too long. Girls always wore dresses, and the length was measured to make sure it was appropriate too. If the hem of a girl’s dress failed to touch the ground when she knelt down on her knees, then her skirt was too short. Students who did not follow the dress code were sent home to change clothes.
3	The ‘50s were known for rock and roll, and with this new style of music came a new style of fashion. The dress pants and collared shirts were gone; instead, boys wore cuffed jeans and T-shirts. Without the collar test, they also started wearing their hair longer. Girls wore sweaters and poodle skirts, and soon they started wearing pants to school too. Teachers checked to make sure the girl’s pants touched the ground if she moved or bent. The girl was sent home if the pants did not touch the floor.
4	The ‘60s brought even more change. Two hairstyles were popular for both boys and girls: long and straight or short and bushy. High school boys began growing beards and mustaches. The length of girls’ skirts also changed, and by the end of the ‘60s, the miniskirt was famous. By that time, the floor test was no longer used. Instead, the length of the skirt had to reach the girl’s fingers with her arms by her side, or the skirt was considered too short.
5	Schools still have rules for correct dress, but as the years progress, school fashions will continue to change. What was once forbidden is now acceptable. Today you may be wearing jeans and a T-shirt, but that may change in the future too.

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Missing Signet Ring</b>  Written by Wendi Silvano  Illustrated by Robert Reed</p>
1	<p>The signet ring was Charles and Ada's favorite thing from their grandfather's collection of colonial artifacts. It had belonged to their ancestor William Winthrop. Whenever William wrote a letter to his bride, Elizabeth, he pressed his signet ring into the wax seal.</p> <p>Charles and Ada loved to sit on Grandpa's bed and listen to the stories he told about the ring. It was Grandpa's most treasured keepsake, and he always made them feel like they had actually known William Winthrop.</p>
2	<p>Grandfather gently placed the heavy, wooden box on the bed, midway between Charles and Ada. He always made the same statement as he lifted the lid, "This box contains history."</p> <p>Grandfather's wrinkled fingers carefully lifted out the pieces one by one and spread them on the blanket as he told each particular story.</p> <p>But this evening something was wrong; the signet ring was missing! Grandpa searched frantically on top of the blanket and underneath the bed.</p>
3	<p>"Who would have taken it?" cried Grandpa, as he began to shake. Ada could almost see tears welling in his eyes. "We have to find the ring!"</p> <p>"That's exactly what we are going to do!" replied Charles.</p> <p>"Grandpa," said Ada, "did you notice anything strange when you got the box down?"</p> <p>"Actually," said Grandpa, "I did notice that it was sticking out on the shelf, not back where I usually put it."</p>
4	<p>"Let me see the box," said Ada.</p> <p>Grandpa handed the box to Ada, and she examined it carefully. "Hey, look at this. There's flour on the right side, underneath the handle."</p> <p>"That's unusual," said Charles. "I think maybe we have a ring thief among us. But who would find it necessary to take the ring . . . and why?"</p>
5	<p>Grandpa was getting more frantic by the minute. He checked the closet floor and underneath the dresser. "It has to be here," he wailed.</p> <p>"We've got to hurry," whispered Charles. "Grandpa is getting too upset."</p> <p>"Here's an unlikely clue," said Ada. "There's flour on the doorknob too."</p> <p>"We have to follow the clues wherever they take us," said Charles. "I'm confident that they are leading us into the kitchen."</p>
6	<p>Charles and Ada hurried into the kitchen as quickly as they could go. There was no one there, but they found an interesting clue on the counter. There were several dozen freshly-baked muffins cooling on a rack. They examined the muffins and discovered that on top of each one was a symbol exactly like the signet ring.</p> <p>Just then Grandma came into the kitchen, wiping the signet ring on her apron. "All clean and dry!" she said.</p>
7	<p>Charles looked at her curiously. "Why did you use the ring to mark the muffins?"</p> <p>"Because today is William and Elizabeth Winthrop's wedding anniversary," said Grandma. "I thought special muffins were in order."</p> <p>The three of them took the ring and carefully placed it back into the wooden box. Then they joined a smiling Grandpa in the kitchen for anniversary muffins and milk.</p>

smre\_ip\_00565: "The Telephone: From Codes to Calls" and "Finding Freedom"

LO ID #	smre_ip_00565
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_itr_02349: "The Telephone: From Codes to Calls" smre_ip_00586: "Finding Freedom"
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

	<b>The Telephone: From Codes to Calls</b> Written by Barbara Davis-Pyles
1	<p>Back in the year 1800, if you wanted to talk to a friend across town, you had to yell very loudly. By 1844, calling your friend would have been a little easier with the telegraph. The telegraph used Morse code. Morse code was made up of short and long sounds that could be decoded into words. It was like a tiresome form of texting, but it was revolutionary. It inspired many nineteenth century inventors to dream of a day when the human voice could be sent hundreds, maybe even thousands, of miles!</p>
2	<p>One such inventor was Antonio Meucci. Antonio loved to experiment with electricity. In 1849, he was using electric shocks to treat medical problems. One day, while working with a patient who was in another room, he heard the patient's voice come out of the copper wire that ran between them. It is hard to imagine who actually received the biggest shock, the patient or Antonio!</p> <p>Following that fateful day, Antonio Meucci left his medical experiments behind. Instead, he set out to invent the "talking telegraph." He struggled for years to achieve his goal. Finally, he was able to set up a home telephone system for his ill wife. In 1860, he demonstrated his new device. He was seeking financial help to get it patented, but sadly, no one invested in his dream.</p>
3	<p><b>Antonio Meucci and Elisha Gray</b></p> <p>Antonio Meucci went back to his lab determined to make his talking telegraph even better. In 1871, he was still unable to come up with the \$250 (a lot of money in those days) to file a patent. He filed a patent caveat instead. A patent caveat cost only \$10 and would not allow anyone else to patent the same idea for a full year. He renewed the patent caveat in 1872 and 1873, but not thereafter.</p> <p>Meanwhile, another inventor named Elisha Gray was experimenting with electrical communication too. In 1867, he received a patent for his improvements in the telegraph. However, like Meucci, he really wanted to find a way to send out the human voice, not Morse code. In 1876, Elisha Gray filed a patent caveat that described a device "for transmitting vocal sounds telegraphically." He was two hours too late.</p>
4	<p>Just two hours before Elisha Gray filed his patent caveat, another inventor paid the \$250 required to file a full patent for the telephone. That inventor was Alexander Graham Bell. The rest, as they say, is history. Or is it?</p> <p>On June 11, 2002, the United States House of Representatives recognized Antonio Meucci as the true inventor of the telephone. However, Alexander Graham Bell is still widely known as the first person to patent the telephone. As for Elisha Gray, he founded the Western Electric Company. This company became the first manufacturer of all those newly patented telephones. So, the next time you call a friend across town, you actually have three people to thank that your throat is not sore from yelling.</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Finding Freedom</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson and Teresa Tedone</p>
1	<p>In the 1600s, a ship called the Mayflower sailed across the Atlantic Ocean from Plymouth, England, for America. On the ship was a group of people known as the Pilgrims. They took this dangerous journey because they did not agree with the rules set down by the king of England and wanted a separation of church and state. They landed near Cape Cod, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1620.</p> <p>The Pilgrims soon realized that this new land could not support them, so a small group sailed across the bay on December 21 to find a better location. The others followed six days later. They called this area New Plymouth, and it became their first settlement.</p>
2	<p>The Pilgrims soon realized that this new land could not support them, so a small group sailed across the bay on December 21 to find a better location. The others followed six days later. They called this area New Plymouth, and it became their first settlement.</p>
3	<p>It was nearly impossible to find or grow food and to build homes because of the weather. As winter wore on, things grew worse. A fire burned most of their remaining supplies, and the people were cold and hungry.</p> <p>By the end of winter, almost half of the settlers were dead from starvation and disease, including their leader John Carver. Finally the weather grew warmer, and the men could begin building houses. While the men were building, the women were making soap and candles from animal fat. Their new life was beginning to take shape.</p>
4	<p>That spring, they received a visit from a Native American named Squanto. He was kind and showed the settlers how to plant crops and prepare fish traps. Squanto and his people promised to help the settlers, and together they agreed to live peacefully. That fall, the settlers harvested their first crop of vegetables. In thanks, they invited the Native Americans to join them for a feast that became the first Thanksgiving celebration.</p>
5	<p>In 1630, the Puritans arrived from England. Like the Pilgrims, they also wanted a place to practice their faith, but they did not believe in a separation of church and state. The king of England gave them land north of Plymouth. John Winthrop was the leader and later became the first governor of this place called the Massachusetts Bay Colony. More than 500 people had arrived at the colony by the end of the year.</p>
6	<p>Roger Williams also sailed to the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He became associate pastor of the Salem church. He respected the Native Americans and believed they should be dealt with equally and fairly. He also believed that any land settled by the Europeans should be bought from the Native Americans.</p> <p>Williams's beliefs differed from the views of the leadership so he was taken to trial where the courts banished him from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He and a few followers lived through the winter with the Native Americans. In the spring, Williams bought land from the chiefs and named it Providence.</p>
7	<p>By 1640, many new towns developed up and down the Atlantic Coast. As many as 20,000 people lived in eastern North America. The settlers faced many difficulties, but they were away from many of the king's rules and were able to have more control over their own lives.</p>

smre\_ip\_00702: “One Person Really Can Change the World” and “Jason’s Impossible Tasks”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00702
Template	Elapsed (Ready, Set, Read!)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00639: “One Person Really Can Change the World” smre_ip_00631: “Jason’s Impossible Tasks”
Objective	111 - Read 115 words per minute (105 at the beginning of the year; 125 at the end of the year) from familiar text

<b>One Person Really Can Change the World</b>	
Written by Barbara Davis-Pyles	
page	
1	Can one person actually change the world? Mohandas Gandhi and Nelson Mandela are two individuals who did just that. Even though many obstacles stood in their way, both men changed the world around them.
2	Mohandas Gandhi was born in India in 1869. As was the Indian tradition, his parents arranged a marriage for him at the age of 13. After marriage, he finished school, studied law in England, and then worked in South Africa. While there, Gandhi saw that Indians were mistreated and did not have the same rights as white people. He set out to teach peaceful ways to solve problems and participated in peaceful protests against the government of South Africa.
3	Gandhi returned to India to stand up for the rights of the Indian people and India’s independence from England. Once again, he taught his peaceful ways to the people. They began to call him <i>Mahatma</i> , meaning “great soul.” Through his work, India finally achieved independence in 1947.
4	Nelson Mandela is another person who was concerned with the rights of his people. He was born in 1918 in a small South African village. His father named him Rolihlahla, meaning “troublemaker.” He was later given the name “Nelson” by his first teacher.  At that time, South Africa was ruled by white people, many of whom thought that black Africans did not deserve equal rights. Mandela was angered by this unfairness, and as he grew up, he became very active in the equal rights movement. In fact, he became so active that he was kicked out of college in 1940 for being part of a protest. He then had to finish his college degree by mail.
5	After college, Mandela went to law school and then opened a law office. One day in 1960, white police officers killed 69 black protesters, and Mandela decided that fighting back was the only solution. In 1964, the South African government found him guilty of sabotage and sentenced him to life in prison. While in prison, Mandela continued to work for the rights of black people, and over the years, people around the world took up his cause. They asked for his release from jail and for equal rights for black Africans.
6	After being released from prison in 1990, Mandela continued to focus on securing equal rights for black Africans. He and F.W. de Klerk, the president who released him, received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. In 1994, Nelson Mandela was elected president of South Africa.
7	Both Gandhi and Mandela made a difference by freeing their people. You can make a difference too. In fact, you can change the world!

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jason's Impossible Tasks</b>  Written by Barbara Davis-Pyles  Illustrated by Gary Ham</p>
1	<p>My name is Jason, and I gained my fame long ago when I captured the Golden Fleece. You see, when I was a baby, my evil uncle stole my father's kingdom. My father feared for my safety, so he sent me away to hide in the mountains. Many years later, I returned to take the throne that was rightfully mine. My uncle agreed to give me the kingdom on one condition; I had to bring him the fleece of the golden ram. Now this was thought to be an impossible task. You see, the fleece was far away in the land of Colchis and was guarded by a giant serpent. My uncle laughed when I said I would do it.</p>
2	<p>First, I had a great ship built and named it Argo. Many brave men came to help me as the news of my task spread. The sons of the gods came as well, including the mighty Hercules. They all became my crew, and I called them the Argonauts. Without their help, I would not have survived my journey.</p>
3	<p>We set sail on the dangerous Black Sea. As we traveled, we had to stop at many islands for fresh food and water. On every island we were attacked by horrible people and monsters, but we still continued on.</p>
4	<p>Finally, we arrived in the land of Colchis. The king there did not want me to take the Golden Fleece. He told me that I could have it only if I performed two impossible tasks. First, I had to yoke his fire-breathing bulls and plow a large field. Then I had to sow the field with dragon's teeth. Luckily for me, the king's daughter, Medea, decided to help me. She told me how to yoke the bulls and warned me that the dragon's teeth would sprout into soldiers.</p>
5	<p>Finally, we arrived in the land of Colchis. The king there did not want me to take the Golden Fleece. He told me that I could have it only if I performed two impossible tasks. First, I had to yoke his fire-breathing bulls and plow a large field. Then I had to sow the field with dragon's teeth. Luckily for me, the king's daughter, Medea, decided to help me. She told me how to yoke the bulls and warned me that the dragon's teeth would sprout into soldiers.</p>
6	<p>With Medea's help, I was able to complete both impossible tasks and fight off the soldiers. Afterward, she took me to the Golden Fleece. There, she sang a song, and the serpent guard fell asleep long enough for me to grab the fleece. The king was furious, and I barely escaped with my life.</p>
7	<p>When I returned to my kingdom, my uncle was very upset about my success. But that is another story, and many years have passed since then. Today, I sail the seas in my great ship and long for the days when I was young and brave enough to capture the Golden Fleece.</p>

smre\_ip\_00610: “Letter to the President” and “Chantal's Plan”

LO ID #	smre_ip_00610
Template	Fluency (Rock ‘n’ Read)
Passage Titles	smre_ip_00587: “Letter to the President” smre_ip_00724: “Chantal's Plan”
Objective	104 - Read with expression

	<b>Letter to the President</b> Written by Sue Motter Johnson Illustrated by Robert Reed
page	
1	<p>June 10, 1862</p> <p>Dear Mr. President,</p> <p>When the war began last year, we thought everything would change right away. But that is not really how it happened—at least not in our house. For my family, it took awhile.</p>
2	<p>I have two brothers. William is 20 and, as the oldest, you can always depend on him to do what people expect. He is always trying to help someone else, and he sure kept a watchful eye on me too. Thomas is two years younger and has a mind of his own. When he gets an idea in his head, there is no changing his mind—at least that's how Mama tells it.</p>
3	<p>Well, that's kind of where our troubles started. When talk of the war came to our town, those two couldn't agree about which side was right. Most of the people in our neck of the woods agreed with the North, and William was right there with them. He could explain every reason why the North was right, but Thomas could not.</p> <p>Mama finally said, “There will be no talk of war at my table. People out there can fight all they want, but in my house, we will be united.”</p>
4	<p>Well, that worked until the men in our town started going away, and then Mama's words couldn't keep the peace any longer. The day came when William left. Mama cried, and I was sad too. “Be strong, little brother. Help take care of Mama and wait for me. I'll be back when this is done.” Then he was gone.</p>
5	<p>Just Thomas, Mama, and I were left, until late one night when Thomas slipped out of the house. He took his supplies, and Mama and I both knew what he had done. He was going to fight for the South, and it was too late for us to try to stop him. Well, then Mama really cried her heart out, and for days there wasn't much that I could do to help. Now I think she's pretty much cried out because don't see how she could have more tears left in her.</p>
6	<p>People say I'm not old enough to understand all the facts of this war, and maybe they're right. But still, there is one thing that I do know for sure and that is I don't like having two brothers fighting on different sides. I keep thinking about my mama telling them, “We will be united.” I'm sure you are doing everything you can to end all this trouble, but I certainly would appreciate it if you could find some way to make this country one again.</p> <p>Most kindly yours,</p> <p>George Sakkett</p>

page	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chantal's Plan</b>  Written by Sue Motter Johnson  Illustrated by Jody Hansen</p>
1	<p>Chantal could not wait until she was old enough to start babysitting on her own. She was already making lists of games she could play with the children and thinking of other things they could do to pass the time. Most of all, she was looking forward to reading poems to the children because she loved to read poems. She had a collection of her favorites that she planned to read, and each time she came across a new favorite, she copied it into a notebook she called "Chantal's Book of Poems." Chantal would then read the newest poems to her little brother to test them and see whether or not other children would love them as much as she did.</p>
2	<p>When Chantal picked up her notebook, Zach would come running toward her and curl up beside his big sister. He would wait with wide eyes to hear her latest collections.</p> <p>"Listen to this haiku—a type of poem that is traditionally about nature. This one is about a season. Let's see if you can guess which season."</p>
3	<p style="padding-left: 40px;">Tadpole swims quickly  Until its tail wiggles loose  And a frog hops out.</p> <p>"I know," said Zach. "Frogs change in the spring—it's about spring. Please, read some more."</p>
4	<p>"This next poem is a little different; it's called a cinquain. Cinquains have many rules. They should begin with two syllables and end with one word. Also, cinquains can be about any topic, like nature or friendship, but they always have to have five lines. Let's see if you like this one."</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Rain falls  Fresh from the sky.  Cool drops bounce on my tongue.  I splash through the puddles of mud.  Springtime.</p> <p>"I want to jump in mud puddles," said Zach. "May we do that the next time it rains?"</p>
5	<p>"It could be quite awhile before the ground gets muddy again," giggled Chantal. "Do you know what season it is now? I have the perfect poem that might help you figure it out."</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Winter.  Icy and cold  Drops of cool water freeze.  Icicles hang from the rooftop.  Snow falls.</p>
6	<p>"I enjoyed those, but don't you have anything funny?" asked Zach with a grin.</p> <p>"Well," thought Chantal, "maybe we should try a limerick. I have one right here."</p> <p>Chantal flipped over a few pages in her notebook and started to read again, while Zach tapped his toe to the rhythm of the poem.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">There was an Old Man with a beard,  Who said, "It is just as I feared!  Two Owls and a Hen,  Four Larks and a Wren  Have all built their nests in my beard!"</p>
7	<p>Zach snickered, but his laugh did not last long. He yawned an enormous yawn and looked at his sister with sleepy eyes. "Thank you," he said, as he wrapped his arms around her, gave her a big hug, and ran off to bed.</p> <p>Chantal smiled happily to herself. She knew that she had a great plan, and someday she would be a terrific babysitter.</p>

SMRE\_IP\_00781: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
Sing a melody.	Wear black socks.	What's the weight?
exactly one minute	a single wish	Spread it out.
couldn't stop	Push yourself.	inside the triangle
Join the club.	a long statement	flowing water
dollars and cents	caught a fish	Break the silence.
at the bottom	a sticky situation	Process it.
Remain seated.	Rub your back.	in good company
at your fingertips	Control yourself.	a western state
You're it.	supposed to stop	actually afraid
Pick a president.	received the packet	soldier's backpack
a happy surprise	Flush the engine.	shrugged his shoulders
Iron your slacks.	flash of light	the state capital
at least	Practice writing.	the wrong answer
in the valley	period of time	Serve apricot jam.
got in trouble	Observe the planets.	back in history
climbed inside	drawing paper	a beautiful cape
wrote back	Express it proudly.	all settled in
Shout it out!	a straight line	The clock is ahead.
continued wishing	a strange sound	is the opposite of

SMRE\_IP\_00782: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
is under attack	Gain weight.	a plump hen
birth of a baby	a cute duckling	a polite comment
Cautious means careful.	a horrible smell	Repair the truck.
damage to the car	seldom, or hardly ever	a rough road
a dull pencil	a particular one	a sour lemon
Defend against the attack.	Lose weight.	a thin branch
She didn't want to argue.	the ugly duckling	a rude remark
Don't be careless.	a pleasant smell	Destroy it.
Improve your grades.	often, or almost all the time	smooth tile
a sharp pencil	That's the general idea.	a sweet dessert
argue loudly	a gloomy day	Polish the floor.
What is the cause?	fired from the job	is very common
Give a command.	Mix it together.	rise high
I doubt you will.	Don't panic.	a single man
Forgive me.	permit or allow to pass	a sturdy ladder
calmly agreed to leave	a cheerful day	a dull floor
What is the effect?	hired for the job	rare, or hardly ever
Obey the command.	Separate the pile.	sink low
I trust you.	Always stay calm.	a married man
Don't blame me.	refuse to work	a weak net

SMRE\_IP\_00783: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
a graceful leap	absent from school	a wealthy banker
Diamonds are beautiful.	a public library	full of fury
A fact is true.	a large profit	Score a goal.
moved backward	a simple problem	Please concentrate.
a male puppy	received the trophy	Insist on it.
an awkward landing	present at school	a white whale
Paper is cheap.	a private party	raging mad
fiction story	a sad loss	What a surprise!
went forward	a complex problem	Park the vehicle.
feel embarrassed	They were defeated.	to be cautious
captured the prize	prevent from happening	to aim high
Destroy the paper.	What's the problem?	What an outrage!
system failed	regret and sadness	I am astonished!
solid as a rock	a single penny	Drive the automobile.
pleasure and happiness	It is true.	good content
released the dog	encourage to help	Set a goal.
Create artwork.	What's the solution?	What's the purpose?
It was a success.	Let's rejoice!	need to focus
Water is liquid.	The word is plural.	to change clothes
pain and hurt	It is false.	Be very careful.

SMRE\_IP\_00784: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
Don't be frightened.	a sprained shoulder	next door neighbor
a lighter color	Train the puppy.	an exciting sleigh ride
Brighten the room.	a long chain	I'm weighing myself.
Tighten the screw.	a clogged drain	afraid of saying
the frightful poem	whole grain rice	in the daytime
That was frightening.	a stained shirt	in the neighborhood
a bright light	railroad train	Weigh the fruit.
a bright color	chain on the gate	paying the bills
tightened the lid	down the drain	laying down
See the sights.	a famous painter	played a game
They were fighting.	the training team	eight more pounds
Lighten the load.	strained knee	Measure the weight.
a nightlight	bike chain	prepared dinner
lightened the paint	Practice your kicks.	remained silent
a cold night	the painted wall	up the driveway
Call the firefighter.	a huge train	eighth place
a brighter day	trained soldiers	friendly neighbors
a tight fit	the human brain	replaying the song
a frightened crowd	remained at home	many desert plants
might have moved	engine repair business	in many ways

SMRE\_IP\_00785: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
a graceful dancer	She was absent.	begin a friendship
a diamond ring	a public restroom	a plump pig
That's a fact.	a small profit	Aim for the goal.
to walk backward	That was simple.	Concentrate on your work.
a male dog	a great triumph	an altered dress
an awkward moment	They were present.	initiate a friendship
a huge rock	a private talk	a stout pig
a fictional story	a huge loss	an astonished look
run forward	a complex problem	Drive the automobile.
a female lion	We were defeated.	a cautious look
Capture the flag.	Prevent forest fires.	Rework the problem.
destroyed the room	a difficult problem	What an outrage!
power failure	have no regrets	a surprise party
solid as a rock	a single flower	Park the vehicle.
was a pleasure	It is true.	Be wary.
a new release	Encourage your friends.	Change the problem.
create art	Find another solution.	What's the purpose?
It is a success.	Let's rejoice!	Try to focus.
Pour the milk.	the plural word	change your mind
is in pain	That is false.	a careful step

SMRE\_IP\_00786: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
a beautiful painting	sailing to Spain	They might meet.
You're the captain.	unchained the fence	a temperature difference
inside the train	gray skies	Understand the directions.
saw bright colors	a frightful night	Explain the difference.
Describe the scene.	a natural wonder	Please say thank you.
Remain very quiet.	suddenly appeared	a slight angle
Copy the design.	a delayed flight	a broken promise
the main paragraph	Never fight!	Everything is possible.
a frightened village	a winter holiday	finished the race
a faint whisper	a stray animal	It stayed sunny.
Fight the crowd.	very poor lighting	developed the film
noisy instruments	They gained respect.	within your reach
raised many children	in a haystack	a stained deck
rainy weather	discovered the trail	played a tune
a delayed train	Exercise your legs.	a tiny fraction
Compare the weight.	Claim your ticket.	draining the pool
paying the bills		Play the instruments.
one million dollars		Everyone laughed.
layers of dirt		the right way
Weigh the amount.		Please stay away.

SMRE\_IP\_00787: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
a graceful leap	absent from school	wealth of knowledge
mining for diamonds	a public speech	feel how soft
Hear the facts.	Make a profit.	Reach your goal.
reach backward	a simple sentence	really concentrate
a male gorilla	triumph on the ice	altered the hem
an awkward landing	present and accounted for	poor knowledge of
Rocks are cheap.	a private screening	feeling the softness
Read more fiction.	a steep loss	a surprise party
going forward	a complex idea	seated in the vehicle
a female sea lion	defeat on the ice	Lead with authority.
Capture the flag.	prevent diseases	Aim high.
destroyed old paintings	Solve the problem.	That's an outrage!
a power failure	Hear his voice.	Pete was astonished.
a solid wall	a single rose	an automobile seat
my pleasure	is not true	Carefully lead.
Release the hounds.	encourage each other	Hit the target.
created new art	Seek a solution.	teaching with purpose
a great success	Rejoice at the win.	really focus
Drink a lot of liquids.	plural words	a change ahead
pain in the neck	is really false	Eat wheat bread.

SMRE\_IP\_00788: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
smelly old socks	kind old king	on the swing
an older sister	Sing a song.	a golden crown
hold the duckling	a wild colt	Be bold.
a brave soldier	lend gold	holding the bag
the golden sun	Hold the phone.	Find your robe.
an old fisherman	wild horses	Cling to it.
the oldest child	bang and clang	flung the rope
the coldest winter	Stand behind her.	a kind king
Fold the clothes.	sung most songs	swinging door
the coldest day	They sang sweetly.	finding happiness
sang old songs	Find more gold.	holding on tight
sold a painting	the boldest color	rang the bell
old pine trees	the oldest building	clung to it
told a story	the kindest children	a queen bee
sold old things	Use your mind.	the wildest colt
finding the gold	sang a song	told you so
a cold night	a mild summer	singing songs
green mold	Find our song.	Ring the chime.
told some jokes	Find your earring.	heard the clang
sold wild flowers	Always be kind.	the kindest prince
		moldy cheese
		an orange rind
		Bang the drums.
		find both

SMRE\_IP\_00789: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
little brown ant	an army of ants	ants at the picnic
due for a checkup	wet with dew	drops of dew
reads all afternoon	reeds of grass	reads to my brother
whether or not	whether to stay	terrible weather
a flowing creek	the winding creek	The floor creaked.
my aunt Susan	my favorite aunt	aunt and uncle
beat of the drums	Beat their score.	Follow the beat.
tall reeds	enjoys reading	reeds in the pond
cloudy weather	warm weather	whether you should
The door creaks.	hear a creak	a beautiful creek
Do you mind?	The book is due.	What do you think?
Beat the eggs.	music beats	Beets are healthy.
fined for parking	pay a fine	a fine movie
Close the window.	colorful clothes	Close your eyes.
by the classroom	Buy potatoes.	Buy a poster.
dew on the grass	Do you think so?	It was due yesterday.
bright red beets	salad with beets	beat my best time
Find your keys.	find a quarter	finding a treasure
Wear clean clothes.	Close it tight.	fabulous clothes
Buy lunch.	Stand by me.	by the fountain

SMRE\_IP\_00790: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
the principle idea	a kind principal	principles and rules
It seems perfect.	seams in the pants	seam in my shirt
My elbow healed.	sore heels	heels of the shoes
scraps of paper	scrapes the edge	extra scraps
musical concert	a loud concert	concrete block
Here comes the principal.	a principle law	the principal's rules
Rip the seams.	seems secure	seems likely
heels of my feet	The sore will heal.	injury heals
scrapes the plate	scraps of food	scraped her ankle
hard as concrete	concrete sidewalk	I enjoy concerts.
piece of cake	peace and quiet	good study habits
sturdy and strong	Study for the test.	is not sturdy enough
mountain's peak	peeks around the corner	reach the peak
sweat in the heat	smelling sweet flowers	sweats in the summer
waste of time	around your waist	Do not waste it.
peaceful day	piece of paper	a sturdy ladder
have to study	a sturdy desk	did not study enough
peeked through the hole	peak of the day	peeking at the baby
sweet apples	sweating in the sun	eating sweet fruit
belt for your waist	waste of paper	waist of the pants

SMRE\_IP\_00791: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
joyous celebration	thought about it	thoughtful gift
tough day	the roughest day	enough laughter
no roughness	enough for today	a special thought
How thoughtful!	fought over it	a cautious mother
bought more	Describe your thoughts.	caught a fish
suspicious noise	although it may	tough enough
coughed all night	That's a tougher one.	feeling adventurous
have had enough	a tough problem	Read it thoroughly.
This is delicious.	every thought	one daughter
He was furious.	a vicious animal	fought over it
mountainous roads	though it is	although it is possible
Is it obvious?	the toughest challenge	a delicious meal
sought the answers	is not obvious	brought enough
silly and ridiculous	bought new clothes	brought more
brought it to me	too tough	fought the battle
tremendous work	It is rougher.	Walk cautiously.
Be very cautious.	had enough	a rougher road
though it is	although you are	delicious dessert
ought to be	are enough	bought dinner
brave and courageous	can't get enough	How thoughtless!

SMRE\_IP\_00792: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
saw the sunset	abandoned house	I agree.
a sharp claw	against the wall	the final chapter
a tiny paw	Use caution.	They look alike.
against the law	a vital detail	the original location
a sprawling field	truck is hauling	the central lane
new sewing project	many relatives	not practical
screw in a lightbulb	a nice career	Eat breakfast.
chewing gum	a familiar place	a dangerous street
a large stalk	ability to do it	full of astonishment
a drinking straw	the central hallway	our great nation
draws conclusions	peace and harmony	did not appear
dew on the grass	the local library	the first president
chewed the food	a national park	visiting relatives
salty water	the final page	a second chance
sewing the dress	gravel and dirt	another method
drew a picture	aside from that	several more
a nice view	easy remedy	a sprawling city
renewed the book	although it is	a wide canyon
an awesome story	rocket launch	a good mother
a green awning	brutal weather	your opinion

SMRE\_IP\_00793: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
a bimonthly paycheck	at the Pentagon	auditioned for the play
She had triplets.	Transport the president.	That volcano erupted.
a tricolor shirt	Write the prescription.	a secret mission
through the telescope	Ride the monorail.	carry the object
joined the spectators	heard a symphony	in captivity
a strong superhero	a spectacular drawing	attract the crowd
around the triangle	breaking news report	Don't distract him.
a megahit movie	the inscription said	the flexible gymnast
a cordless telephone	Run a triathlon.	manicured lawn
Wear your spectacles.	The audience cheered.	a capital letter
along the superhighway	a spectrum of colors	disrupt the class
Scientists use microscopes.	Support yourself.	Submit your homework.
provide photographs	description of you	a good reflex
study biology	Read the trilogy.	prescribe medicine
a strange prospect	in the auditorium	a local restaurant
He seemed superhuman.	in your portfolio	interrupt the speaker
carried the tripod	export supplies	Finish the project.
interesting television	a monopoly	permitted to go
background in geology	learning phonics	the capitol building
questioned the inspector	Listen to the audiotape.	in locomotion

SMRE\_IP\_00794: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
You finally arrived.	out in the cold	caught her eye
not paying attention	Lend a hand.	take off
caught his eye	Give me a break.	fall behind
feet on the ground	Keep your nose clean.	catch a cold
got wind of it	Call it a day.	lost his shirt
all thumbs	raining cats and dogs	break a leg
back against the wall	in the same boat	Think it over.
a deep sleep	Get in touch.	made it big
head in the clouds	in a blue moon	banking on it
Fly a kite.	playing with fire	jump through hoops
costs an arm and a leg	See the light.	Let go of it.
my better half	in the trash	across the board
Drop me a line.	running ragged	missed the boat
flew the coop	spilled the beans	having a ball
Go away.	lost his mind	heart of gold
work against the clock	up in the air	never mind
beating around the bush	foot in his mouth	big deal
down in the dumps	You bet!	crossed the line
fill his shoes	stop on a dime	in hot water
a good egg	passed away	Cut it out!

SMRE\_IP\_00795: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
on the way	made it big	foot in mouth
big deal	beside herself	lost his shirt
cross out	never mind	It cost an arm and a leg.
hand in	heart of gold	dream up
early bird catches the worm	hole in the wall	on the edge
be in the way	playing with fire	a screw loose
Get better.	a bone to pick	in the doghouse
Knock it off!	tired out	found a bug
Let go of it.	up in the air	give my right arm
bury the hatchet	See the light.	in the bag
Fill it out.	lost his mind	in hot water
catch on	bumped into him	The box is light.
made me sick	Try it on.	spilled the beans
fooling around	hit the books	face the music
He's a stand-up guy.	Give me a break!	on the right track
do over	put our heads together	cold feet
at once	turn over a new leaf	turned his back
got sick	wear out	Knock it off!
makes sense	let your hair down	hit the ceiling
Hold your tongue.	raining cats and dogs	It's all down hill.

SMRE\_IP\_00796: LET'S RACE

SCO1	SCO2	SCO3
Stir the mixture.	Have a conversation.	a mature man
Nurture the child.	a wonderful invention	good decision
a lost treasure	a small abrasion	pure sugar
unsure of it	dancing dolls	another conversation
an ant invasion	very tense	a doctor's prescription
a bathroom fixture	Take action.	our culture
a sea creature	has concentration	Are you sure?
Measure the distance.	a large population	Find a cure.
Ensure their safety.	on the fence	his invention
new information	prancing horse	a new session
pretty as a picture	pretty stationery	on vacation
full-length feature	a magazine subscription	not a failure
with great pleasure	your reflection	see the future
an adventure	an ambulance	heard an explosion
a necessary operation	at a glance	on occasion
in the future	under construction	pass inspection
a medical seizure	a sad reaction	our future
gave a lecture	Use caution.	more chances
a fraction	Take a chance.	an ear infection
a terrible explosion	tunnel vision	an invitation