



**Third Grade Assessment Practice Homework for April 17<sup>th</sup>-April 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Return on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**

	<b>Homework Assignment</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Parent Signature/Comments</b>
<b>Monday</b>	*Read "Davy Crockett" and Do the 8 comprehension questions. Answer the questions in complete sentences.	<b>Guyot: Music Wesley: Tech Warneck: Media 9:30-10:20</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	*Read "The Three Branches" and Do the 8 comprehension questions. Answer the questions in complete sentences.	<b>Guyot: Gym Wesley: Art Warneck: Music 9:30-10:20</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	*Read "People Helping People" and Do the 8 comprehension questions. Answer the questions in complete sentences.	<b>Guyot: Tech Wesley: Media Warneck: Gym 9:30-10:20</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	*Vocabulary-Write the definition for the 10 vocabulary words (Set 2).	<b>Guyot: Art Wesley: Music Warneck: Tech 9:30-10:20</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	*Phonics-Do Review Vowel Sounds Worksheet (p. 69 & 70).	<b>Guyot: Media Wesley: Gym Warneck: Art 9:30-10:20</b>	

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Parents/Guardians, please sign indicating that you have checked/reviewed  
the homework with your child. Thank You!*





# Unit 4 Mini-Lesson

## Tall Tales

### What is a tall tale?

A tall tale is a type of folktale, passed down through generations mainly by oral retelling. Tall tales are imaginative and funny and have exaggerated elements. For example, a dog isn't just big, he is bigger than a city bus! This is called hyperbole. Tall tales have a hero who can be a real person or a fictitious one. The hero is often bigger, stronger, more skillful, and more courageous than an ordinary person.

### What is the purpose of a tall tale?

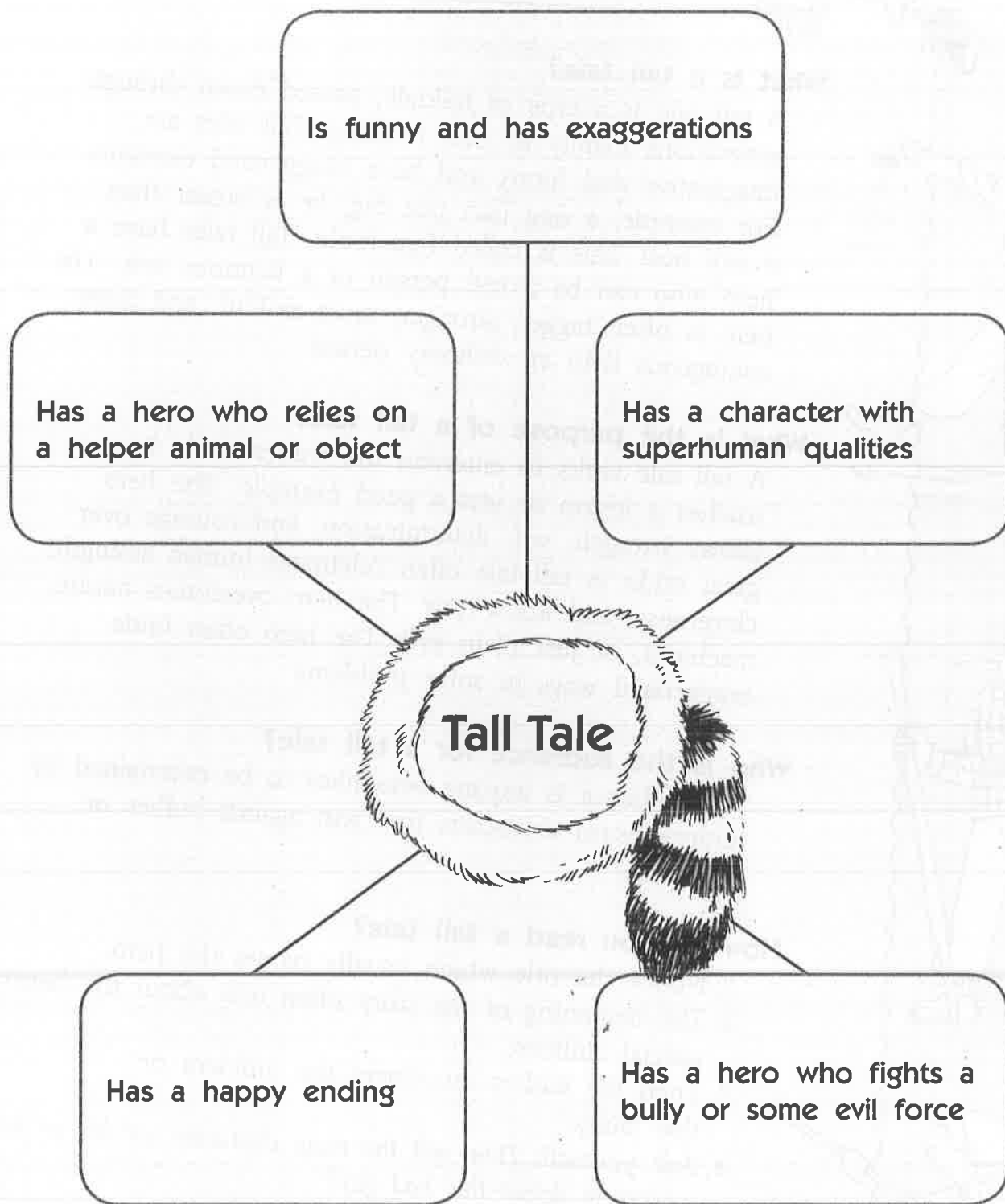
A tall tale seeks to entertain the reader while it teaches a lesson or sets a good example. The hero shows strength, wit, determination, and courage over great odds. A tall tale often celebrates human strength, cleverness, and know-how. The hero overcomes nature, machines, or just plain evil. The hero often finds exaggerated ways to solve problems.

### Who is the audience for a tall tale?

The audience is anyone who likes to be entertained by funny, absurd characters that win against bullies or evil forces.

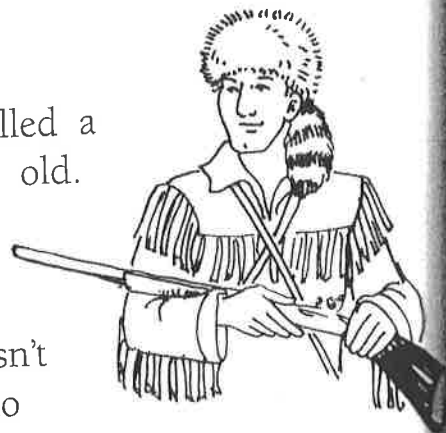
### How do you read a tall tale?

1. Notice the title, which usually names the hero.
2. The beginning of the story often tells about the hero's special abilities.
3. Then the author introduces the problem or the "bully."
4. Ask yourself: How will the main character use his or her powers to defeat this bad guy?



## Davy Crockett

This is the story of Davy Crockett, who killed a bear with his hands when he was three years old.



Davy was the best hunter in the North, South, East, and West. But one winter the snow piled as high as a mountain. There wasn't much food and he did not want his family to waste away to skin and bones. So he set off in his raccoon-skin cap with his best friend, Betsy. Betsy was his rifle. It was snowing so heavily that Davy was in a sea of white. "You can't stop me!" shouted Davy to the icy winds. He climbed the mountain higher, looking for fresh meat. Betsy stopped suddenly and whispered that she heard a bear. Within seconds Davy had turned, aimed, and he shot a bear that was bigger than a cave!

Davy put the bear on his back and started to walk home. But then Davy and Betsy were startled at the sight of two icy cold fingers wrapped around the sun's throat. Davy scolded the ice.

The ice replied, "The sun melts us away every spring. We won't be victims again! The sun will be our prisoner!"

Davy had a dilemma. He had enough food for his family, but he couldn't leave. If the ice took over the sun, everyone would freeze and die. An idea popped into his head! Davy threw the bear onto the icy fingers and beat it with his bare hands. Before long hot oil oozed from the bearskin, which started to melt the ice. Now Davy could gently push the sun away from the icy grip.

The snow and ice disappeared. The sun thanked Davy and Betsy for saving spring. It warmed them the whole journey home. When Davy reached his family that evening, they enjoyed a tasty supper and an exciting story!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use what you read in the passage to answer the questions.

1. Who are the characters in the tall tale?

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2. Who is the hero?

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3. What is the main character's first problem?

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4. What was the main character's second problem?

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5. What sentence tells you who the bullies are in the story?

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6. What is this story mainly about?

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7. How does the story end?

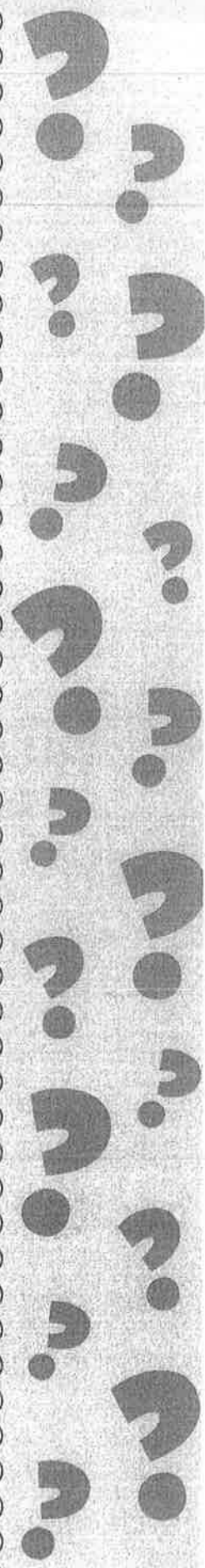
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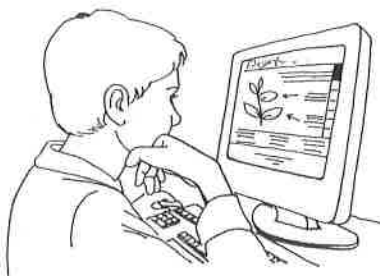
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8. Give an example of exaggeration in this tale.

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## Overview II: Introduction to Informational Texts

### What Is It?

#### What is informational text?

Nonfiction text is an important tool for learning. Informational text informs, or teaches about different topics. Factual text increases our knowledge of the world.

### Examples

#### What are some examples of informational text?

- Textbooks
- Encyclopedia Entries
- Reference Books
- Magazine Articles
- Brochures and Pamphlets
- Online Reference Articles

### Purpose

#### What is the purpose of informational text?

Informational text helps us learn information and helps us explore different thoughts and issues. It also helps prepare the brain for more difficult information and for real-life reading as an adult.

### Audience

#### Who is the audience for informational text?

Informational text serves to educate the reader on a topic. Some readers prefer reading nonfiction to fiction. They would rather get information they can use or that makes them smarter than read imagined stories.

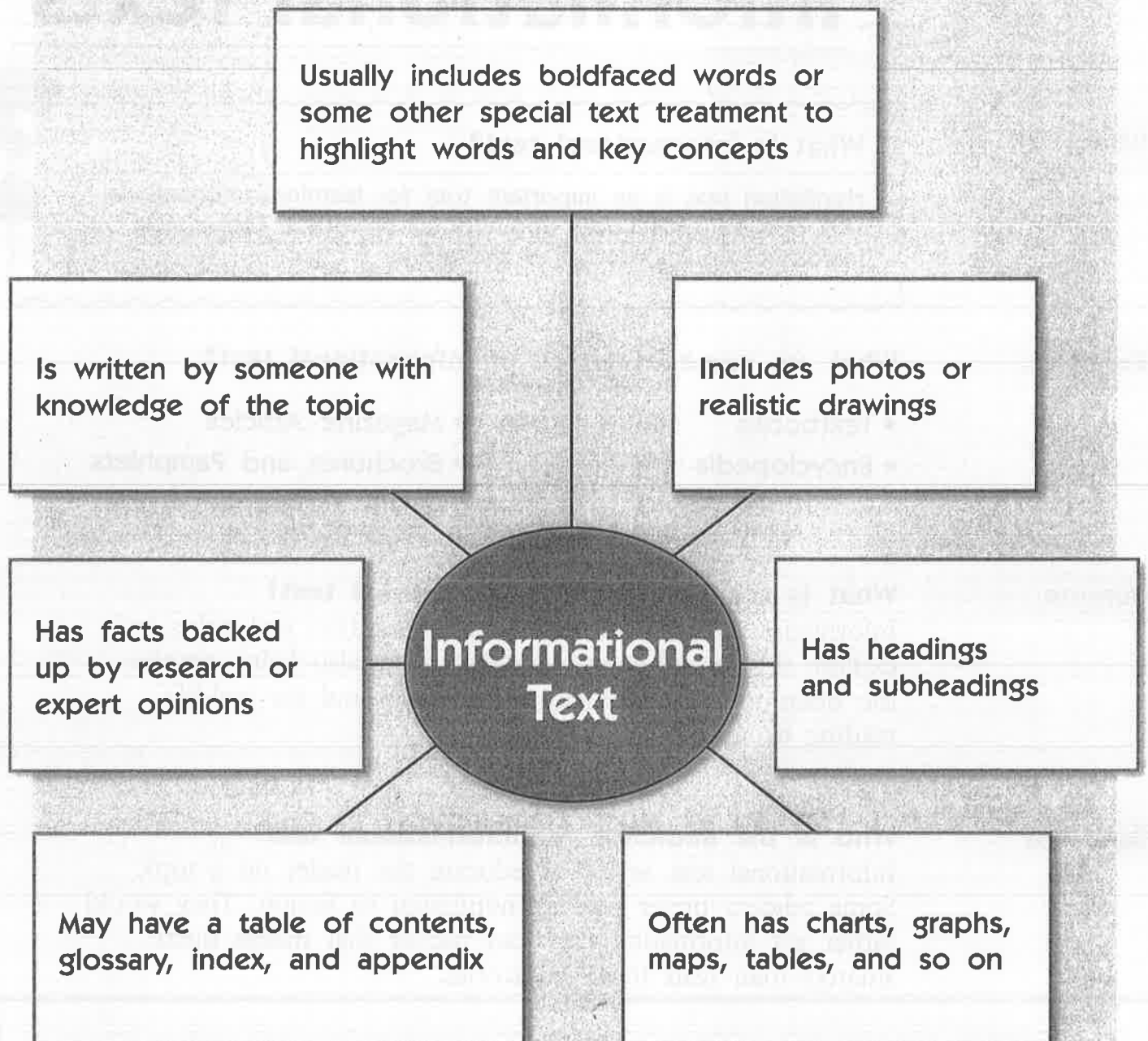
### How to Use It

#### How do you read an informational text?

1. Think about what you already know about the topic.
2. Think about what you would like to know.
3. Look for words you do not know.
4. After reading, ask yourself what you learned.



**What are some common features of an informational text?**





## The Three Branches

In the United States of America, one national government takes care of the whole country. The heart of that government is based in Washington, D.C. There are also state governments for each state, and local governments for each city and town. In this passage you will learn about the national government and about what it means to be a citizen.

The U.S. government is called a **democracy**. In a democracy, the people decide what the government can and can't do. The people are called **citizens**. A citizen is born in the country or chooses to become a member of the country and passes a test. Citizens make sure that governments work to protect people's rights, or freedoms. All adult citizens of the United States have the right to vote, although it was not always that way.

The national government has three branches, or parts. Each branch has different jobs. The **executive branch** makes sure that laws are followed. The president is the head of the executive branch.

The **legislative branch** makes laws. Congress runs this branch. Congress is made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Every state elects people to serve in Congress. These people speak for the citizens of the state. There are 100 senators and 435 representatives in Congress.

The **judicial branch** makes sure that laws are fair to all people. The United States Supreme Court is the head of the judicial branch. Nine people called justices decide if laws obey the United States Constitution. The U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use what you read in the passage to answer the questions.

**1.** Where is the heart of the U.S. government?

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**2.** How many senators are in Congress?

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**3.** How many representatives are in Congress?

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**4.** How are the three branches of government different?

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**5.** Which branch of government includes the president?

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**6.** What is this passage mostly about?

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**7.** What type of art is on this page? What is the purpose of this art?

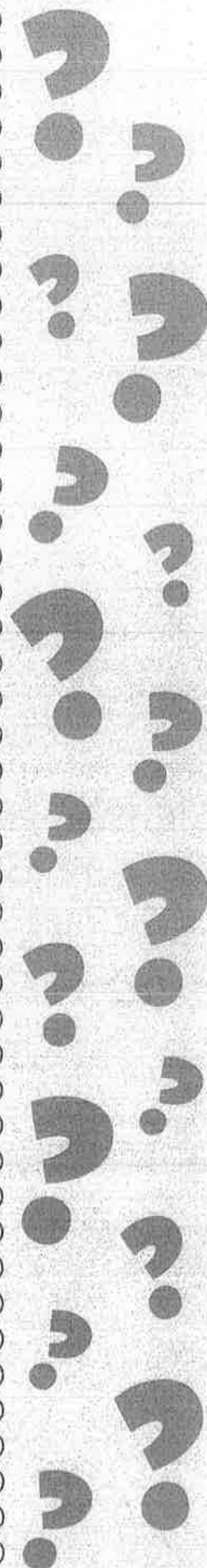
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**8.** What words are boldfaced in the passage? Why are they boldfaced?

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## People Helping People

People around the world face difficult problems. Earthquakes shake and rattle the land. Hurricanes cause wind and water damage. Tornadoes sweep away homes and buildings. There are wars being waged. Places exist where children don't have enough to eat. And there are places where people can't get medicine when they are sick. Some children may not have schools or even a safe shelter.

But there's good news, because there are groups attempting to aid these people. Around the world communities are helping communities, and people volunteer to help others. One such group is the International Committee of the Red Cross. Most people call it the Red Cross. The Red Cross helps anyone who is hurt, hungry, or homeless. If there is a war, they help people on both sides.

In January 2010, there was a horrible earthquake in Haiti. Many people lost their homes and had nowhere to live. The Red Cross gave emergency relief. They built shelters, provided food and clean drinking water, and gave medical services. They brought milk for babies.

In March 2011, a devastating earthquake hit Japan. It was one of the largest earthquakes in history. The earthquake also caused a huge wave, called a tsunami. After the disaster, more than 400,000 people were living in shelters. Millions were without safe drinking water. The Red Cross provided shelter, food, drinking water, medical supplies, and more.

The United States has the American Red Cross, and Canada has the Canadian Red Cross. Millions of dollars were sent to the Japanese people. They even sent millions more by text message. We see good people doing good deeds that give us all hope.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use what you read in the passage to answer the questions.

1. When did Haiti have a horrible earthquake?

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2. When did Japan have a terrible earthquake?

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3. Which helping groups are mentioned in the passage?

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4. What do the helping groups do?

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5. What is an example of a good deed?

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6. What does the Red Cross do?

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7. What countries in the passage have their own Red Cross?

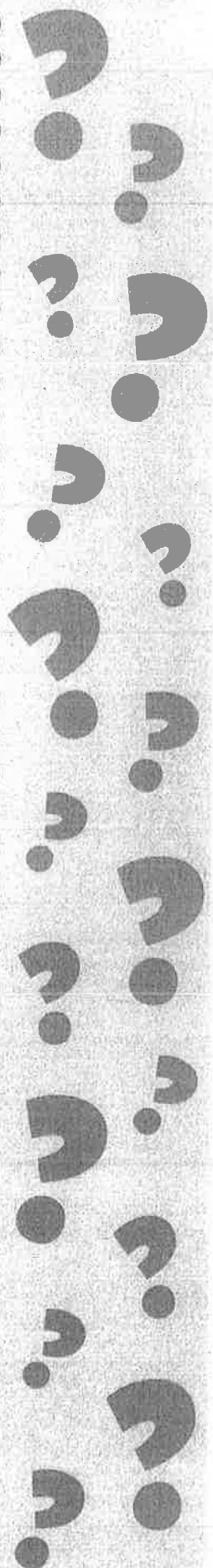
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8. Give one reason why communities should help one another.

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## **M-STEP Vocabulary Words**

### **Set 2**

\*Write the definition of the following M-STEP vocabulary words. Then, review and practice reading and saying their definition with someone at home.

1. Verb

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2. Convince

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3. Source

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4. Describe

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5. Details

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6. Dialogue

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7. Dictionary

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8. Draft

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9. Edit

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10. Encyclopedia

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**Review** Vowel Sounds

Read the paragraphs below. Each of the words in bold has a long vowel sound. Listen to the vowel sound and write each word in bold beside the correct heading.

The **sea** horse is a type of fish, but it probably looks different from any fish you've ever **seen**. Its head is shaped like a horse's head, which is how the sea horse got its name. Some people think the sea horse looks like a chess **piece** called a **knight**. Its body is covered with bony plates and small spines. The tip of its tail curls and can be used for clinging to plants.

Sea horses live in warm water. They are **weak** swimmers, so they don't usually go into **deep** water. Unlike most animals, the male is in charge of the eggs. He **keeps** them in his pouch until they are ready to hatch. Sea horses are also different from other fish because they swim **upright**.

Sea dragons are a member of the same family as sea horses. Sea dragons have long fins that flow around them. Some people think these fins look like **leaves**. The flowing fins help them hide in **fields** of seaweed that **sway** back and forth with the waves.

Project Sea Horse is one group that **feels** sea horses **need** to be protected. They are often caught in the **wild** by fishermen. Sometimes, they are used in making medicine. Sometimes, they are sold as pets. Project Sea Horse wants to **teach** the world about these interesting creatures. They hope the sea horses will **stay** around for a long time to come.

long **e** as in *pea*: \_\_\_\_\_

long **e** as in *beep*: \_\_\_\_\_

long **e** as in *chief*: \_\_\_\_\_

long **i** as in *night*: \_\_\_\_\_

long **i** as in *child*: \_\_\_\_\_

long **a** as in *day*: \_\_\_\_\_



**Lesson 1.22** Vowel Sounds (oo, ew)

- The letters **oo** can make the sound you hear in *boot* and *bloom*. They also make the sound you hear in *good* and *book*.
- The letters **ew** can make the sound you hear in *flew* and *news*.

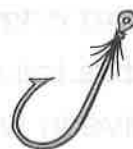
Look at the pictures below. Write the word that names each picture on the first line. On the second line, write a rhyming word.



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\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read the paragraphs below. Circle the word from each pair that best completes the sentences.

You may not know who A. A. Milne is, but there is a (wood, good) chance you have read some of his (books, scoops). A (few, chew) of them have even been made into (spools, cartoons). Milne wrote the Winnie the (Pooh, Hood) books that children around the world know and love. He wrote the stories for his young son, Christopher. The characters in the books are based on Christopher's toys. Pooh was one of Christopher's stuffed bears. Kanga was a mother (moose, kangaroo), and Roo was her baby. Another character was a (moon, gloomy) donkey named *Eeyore*.

In most of the stories, Christopher Robin and his (goose, crew) of animal friends have adventures. Of course, the real Christopher Robin (few, grew) up over time. The Pooh stories end when the human boy goes to (school, mood) and becomes (new, too) old to play with his stuffed friends all day. No one (knew, noon) what a big hit A. A. Milne's nursery stories would be.