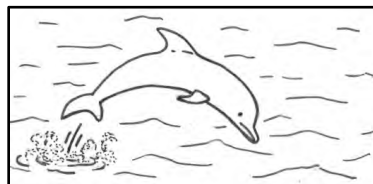
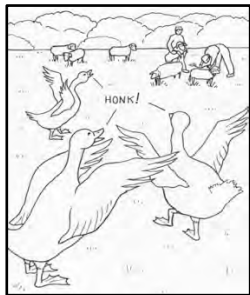


Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections
Level B: Long-Vowel Patterns, Blends, and High-Frequency Words

Thomas G. Gunning, Ed. D.



Using *Building Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level B: Long-Vowel Patterns, Blends, and High-Frequency Words*

Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level B, which is a reserved version of *Building Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level B*, is designed to complement the professional book, *Closing the Literacy Gap*. *Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level B* is limited to users of *Closing the Literacy Gap*.

Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections B contains 41 fictional and informational text specifically designed to provide practice with key long-vowel patterns and skills. Because most of the selections are informational, they are also designed to build background knowledge.

Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections B is part of a three-book series. *Book A* focuses on short-vowel patterns. *Book C* is designed to reinforce *r*-vowel and other-vowel patterns (*aw- paw, OO- moon, oo-book, ow-cow, oy-toy*). The books may be used to supplement your core or intervention program or they may be used as part of the intervention program *Accelerating Foundational Literacy*, which is described in *Closing the Literacy Gap*. Key elements of the program are contained in *Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Resource Manual*. The *Resource Manual* contains teaching suggestions for each of the selections contained in *Books A, B, and C* along with assessment, instruction, and practice activities. *The Resource Manual* and *Books A, B, and C* are available at Buildingliteracy.org at no charge for users of *Closing the Literacy Gap*. Download from the *Reserved Resources* tab.

Credits: p. 7: Wales News Service; p. 15: iStock; p. 17: iStock; p. 22: Kim Cooper, Best Friends Dog Training; p. 38: US National Parks Service; drawings: Norma Kable

Contents

Unit 1	Long-a Patterns
Lesson 1: ake Pattern.....	1
Lesson 2: ame Pattern.....	2
Lesson 3: ate, ait Patterns.....	3
Lesson 4: ay Pattern.....	4
Lesson 5: ate, ait Patterns	5
Lesson 6: ave Pattern	6
Lesson 7: ade, aid Patterns.....	7
Lesson 8: ace Pattern.....	8
Lesson 9: age Pattern	9
Lesson 10: ale, ail Patterns.....	10
Lesson 11: ane, ain Patterns.....	11

Unit 2	Long-i Patterns
Lesson 12: ie Pattern.....	12
Lesson 13: igh, ight Patterns.....	13
Lesson 14: ike Pattern.....	14
Lesson 15: ice Pattern.....	15
Lesson 16: ime, yme Patterns.....	16
Lesson 17: ide Pattern.....	17
Lesson 18: ine, ign Patterns.....	18
Lesson 19: iile, ife Patterns	19
Lesson 20: ite Pattern.....	20
Lesson 21: ite Pattern.....	21
Lesson 22: ild, ind Patterns	22
Lesson 23: y Pattern.....	23

Unit 3	Long-e Patterns
Lesson 24: e, ee, ea, ey Patterns.....	24
Lesson 25: eep, eap Patterns.....	25
Lesson 26: een, ean Patterns.....	26
Lesson 27: eet, eat Patterns.....	27

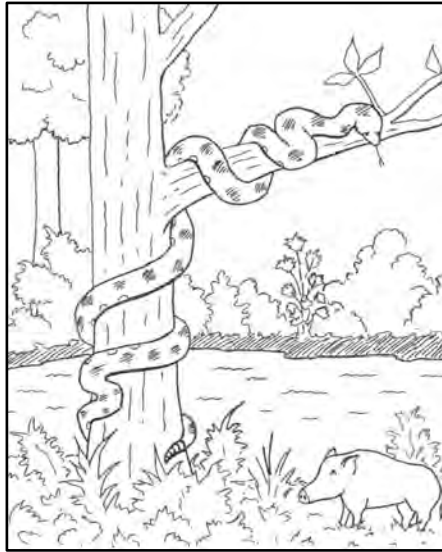
Lesson 28: eal, eel Pattern	28
Lesson 29: ead, eed Patterns.....	29
Lesson 30: eam Pattern.....	30
Lesson 31: ie Patterns.....	31

Unit 4	Long-o Patterns
Lesson 32: o, ole, oll Patterns.....	32
Lesson 33: ow Pattern	33
Lesson 34: ow Pattern	34
Lesson 35: old Pattern	35
Lesson 36: oak, oke Patterns	36
Lesson 37: one, ose Patterns	37
Lesson 38: oat, ote Patterns.....	38
Lesson 39: obe, ope Patterns	39
Lesson 40: oad Pattern.....	40

Unit 5	Long-u Patterns
Lesson 41: ule, use, uge, ute, ew Patterns	41

Answer Key.....	42
-----------------	----

A Big Snake



Snakes can be big. Snakes can be little. The smallest snake is just 5 inches long. The biggest snake is 30 feet long. How long is that? That is almost as long as a school bus. The name of the biggest snake is the anaconda (an-uh-KON-duh).

Anacondas are green and have black patches on their backs and bellies. During the day anacondas take a rest. They can take a rest in a tree. At night they look for animals to eat. Anacondas eat rats, birds, fish, and other little animals. But an anaconda is so big that it can eat a pig.

An anaconda can have a lot of babies. One anaconda can have 75 babies. Baby anacondas may be two or three feet long. The biggest snake has big babies.

The biggest _____ is 30 feet long. Anacondas are green and have black _____ on their backs. Anacondas look for food at _____. An anaconda has a _____ of babies. Baby anacondas are two or three feet _____.

Names for Groups of Animals



This is a game. See if you can tell the names of groups of animals. What name do you give to a group of dogs? What do you think? The name for a group of dogs is a *pack* if the dogs are not tame. If the dogs are puppies, the name for a group is a *litter*. A group of kittens has the same name as a group of puppies. The name for a group of kittens is a *litter*. But kittens can have the group name of *kindle*.

Can you guess the name for a group of kangaroos? Do not act ashamed if you cannot. The name for a group of kangaroos is a *mob*. Snakes have three group names. A group of snakes can be called a *nest*, a *pit*, or a *den*. Can you guess what the group name for sloths is? This is a hint. It is the name of a place where you rest. The group name for sloths is a *bed*. Clams have the same group name. The name for a group of clams is a *bed*.

If they are flying, the name for a group of ducks is a *flock*. If they are swimming, the name for a group of ducks is a *raft*. Can you guess the name for a group of jellyfish? The name for a group of jellyfish is a *smack*. Jellyfish do not smack, but they can sting. Skunks have the best group name. The name for a group of skunks is a *stench*. That name fits. *Stench* means “a bad smell.”

The group name for clams is a _____ . The group name for ducks that are swimming is a _____ . The group name for ducks that are flying is a _____ . The group name for jellyfish is a _____ . The group name for skunks is a _____ .

Cake for Jane



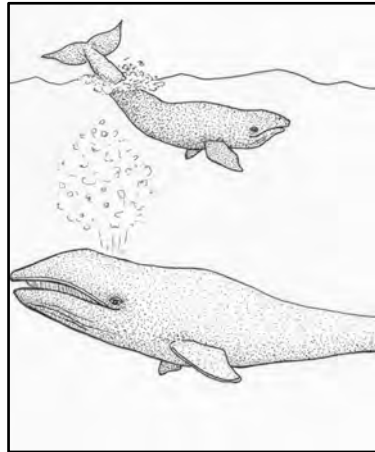
Jane ran home. She did not want to be late. Her dad had baked a cake. "I hate to be late when we are having cake," Jane said. "Dad bakes the best cakes I ever ate."

Jane opens the gate and runs into the kitchen. A lot of kids are in the kitchen. They came when they smelled the cake baking. Jane sees a plate. It is the cake plate. But there is no cake on the plate. All that is on the plate are little bits of cake. Jane feels sad. "The kids ate all the cake!" she yells. "I hate it when they do that! I hate it! I hate it!"

"Do not be sad," Jane's dad says. I made two cakes. The kids ate one. But here is the other cake that I baked. Have some cake, Jane."

Jane ran _____. Her dad was baking a _____. She did not want to be _____. The kids _____ the cake. But Jane's dad had baked _____ cakes.

Gray Whales



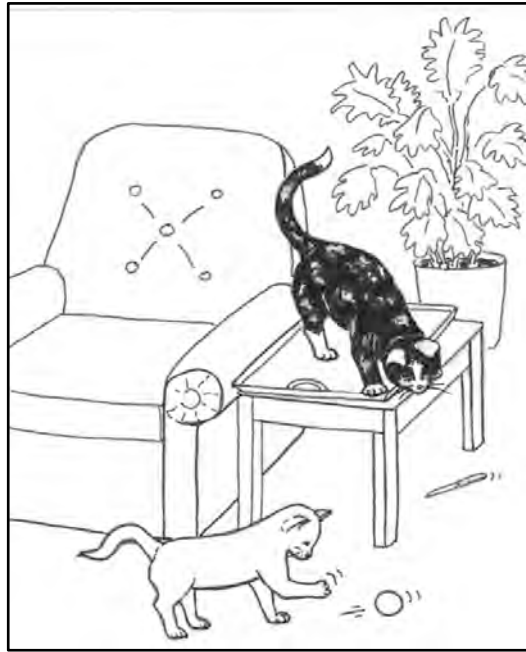
Gray whales get much of their food from mud. Gray whales are big whales. But they eat little animals. The animals that gray whales eat live in the mud at the bottom of the sea. The gray whale scrapes along the bottom of the sea and drinks up the mud. The gray whale strains out the little sea animals and eats them. The gray whale eats lots and lots of little sea animals. The gray whale gains a lot of weight when it eats a lot of food. But the gray whale can go days without food.

Gray whales take long trips. Gray whales swim night and day. Gray whales swim by moving their tails up and down.

Gray whales are big. Baby gray whales weigh as much as a car. By the time they are eight, gray whales weigh as much as a school bus or even two school buses.

Gray whales eat lots of little animals that live in the _____ at the bottom of the sea. The gray _____ drinks up mud. When it eats a lot, the gray whales gains a lot of _____. Gray whales take long _____. A gray whale swims by moving its _____ up and down.

Why Cats Play



A gray cat runs after a ball and bats it. A black cat with white spots hops up onto a tray. A pen is on the tray. The cat bats the pen off the tray. The gray cat and the black cat are playing. Cats like to play. They like to run and jump. They like to play with string. They like to bat at balls and pens.

Why do cats play? They play for the fun of it. And they learn by playing. By running after a ball, a cat learns how to run after a rat that is running away. By batting at a pen, a cat learns how to bat a rat. Playing helps a cat get ready for catching rats.

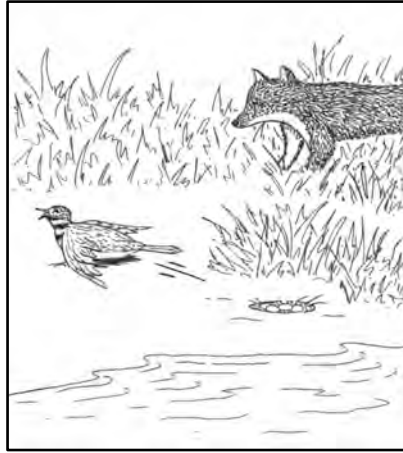
Cats like to _____. They like to _____ after a ball.

They like to _____ at a ball or pen. Playing helps cats

_____ to run after a rat. Playing helps cats learn how to

_____ a rat.

A Brave Bird



The killdeer is very brave. The killdeer is a bird that makes its nest in the grass. It hides its nest so that a fox or other animal will not see it. The killdeer does not want animals to get its babies.

To keep its babies safe, the killdeer plays a little game. If it sees a fox, the killdeer flies away from its nest. It lands on the ground where the fox can see it. The killdeer waves its wings so that the fox sees them. Then the killdeer makes out it has a bad wing. The killdeer drags one of its wings on the ground.

The fox likes to hunt a bird that has a bad wing. A bird with a bad wing cannot fly away. The fox can catch a bird that has a bad wing. The fox follows the killdeer. The killdeer gets the fox to go away from the nest. When the killdeer has led the fox away from the nest, the killdeer stops playing its game. It waves its good wing and its "bad" wing. Then it flies away. By playing its game, the brave killdeer has made the fox go away from the nest. The killdeer has saved its babies.

If a fox comes near, the killdeer plays a _____ to keep its nest safe. It makes out it has a bad _____. It gets the _____ to follow it. The killdeer leads the fox away from its _____. Then the killdeer _____ away.

The Cat that Aided an Old Dog



Terfel was afraid. Terfel is an old dog and cannot see well. He kept on bumping into things. So he stayed in his basket. Terfel spent much of the day in his basket. That way he was safe. But he was not happy. Staying in the basket was not fun. Then Ann, his owner, got a cat. She named the cat “Pudditat.” Pudditat did not much like other cats. But Pudditat liked Terfel.

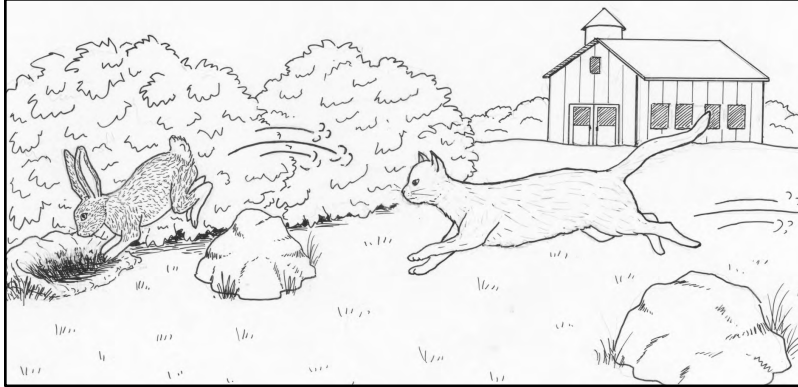
Pudditat came to Terfel’s aid. Pudditat got Terfel to follow her. Terfel cannot see well, but Terfel has a keen sense of smell. With his sense of smell, Terfel can follow Pudditat. With Pudditat’s aid, Terfel got to be brave and is not afraid now. Terfel still takes naps in his basket, but he doesn’t stay there all day. He goes places with his buddy Pudditat.

Terfel is an old _____. Terfel cannot _____ well. Terfel spent much of the day in his _____. Pudditat came to _____ aid.

Pudditat got Terfel to _____ her.

-ade, aid Patterns

Which One Will Win the Race?



If a sailfish and a whale have a race, which one will win? Whales are fast. A whale can swim faster than a man. But a sailfish is faster than a whale. The sailfish will win the race. The sailfish has a big fin on its back. The fin looks like a sail. With its big fin, the sailfish can sail through the air.

If a bat and a robin have a race, which one will win? Bats are not fast. A robin can fly faster than a bat.

If a cat and a snake have a race, which one will win? The cat will win. A snake is not fast. A cat is faster than a snake.

If a man and a fox have a race, which one will win? The man would not win. A fox is faster than a man.

If a man and a rabbit have a race, which one will win? The man will not win. Rabbits are fast. Rabbits have big back legs. With its long back legs, a rabbit can hop fast. Rabbits run by hopping. A rabbit can run much faster than a man. A rabbit can run faster than a fox or a cat.

If a sailfish and a _____ have a race, the sailfish will win. A robin is faster than a _____. A fox is _____ than a man. A rabbit can _____ faster than a man. Rabbits have big _____ legs -ace Pattern

Cheetahs



On this page you can see a cheetah. Cheetahs are fast animals. A cheetah can run as fast as a car. Any animal that gets in a race with a cheetah will not win. The cheetah is the fastest animal of all.

Cheetahs are big cats. They have black spots. Cheetahs look like leopards. Cheetahs have long legs. Their long legs help them run fast. Cheetahs are very thin. That helps them to run fast, too. And cheetahs have long tails. Long tails help cheetahs turn fast. Cheetahs are made for running fast.

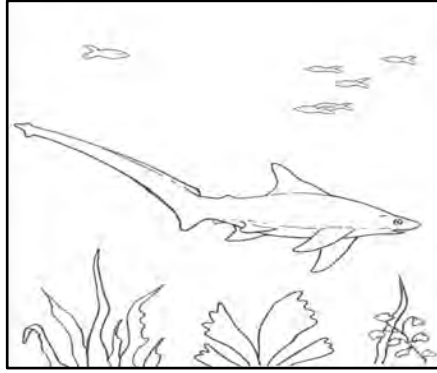
Cheetahs live in a hot place. Cheetahs live to an age of 10 to 12. Cheetahs like to run. They do not like to be in cages.

Cheetahs can run _____. An animal that gets in a _____ with a cheetah will not win. Cheetahs have long _____.

Cheetahs live to an _____ of 10-12.

Cheetahs do not like to be in _____.

The Longest Tail

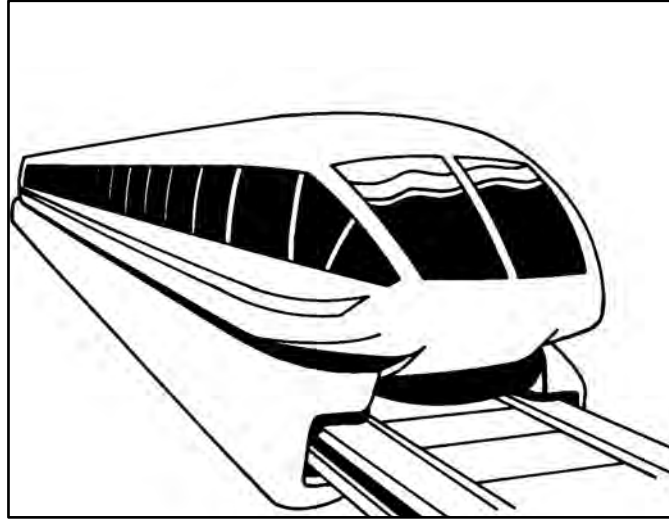


Which animal has the longest tail? Whales have the biggest tails. Some whale tails are so big that they look like sails. But the thresher shark has one of the longest tails of any animal. More than half the thresher shark's body is taken up by its long tail. A thresher shark that is 12 feet long has a tail that is 6 feet long.

Why does the thresher shark have such a long tail? With the help of its long tail, the thresher shark can swim very fast. The thresher shark also gets food with its tail. By whipping its tail back and forth, it can keep small fish from swimming away. Then it eats the fish.

The thresher shark has one of the longest _____. More than half the thresher shark's _____ is taken up by its long tail. The tail helps the thresher shark _____ through the water. The thresher also gets food with its tail. The thresher shark whips its tail _____ and forth. The thresher shark eats small _____.

The Train that Flies



There is a train that flies. It does not fly high in the sky like a plane. It flies just about a half an inch above its rails.

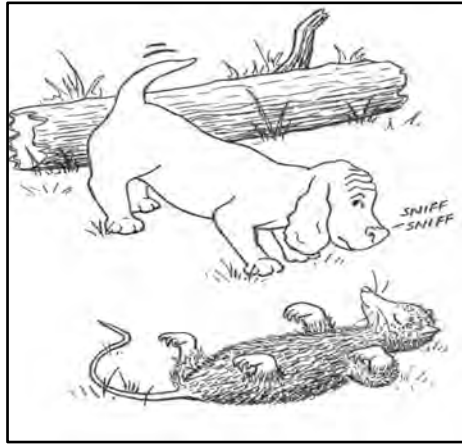
The flying train is a maglev. A maglev train is run by very big magnets. Some of the magnets lift the train up off the rails. Other magnets pull the train.

The maglev train has no wheels. The maglev does not clack or clank. All you hear is a swish as it flies by. The maglev is very fast. It is the fastest train of all. When you are zipping above the rails in a maglev train, you feel like you are in a plane that is flying very low.

The train in the picture is called a _____. It is run by _____.

The maglev train has no _____. The maglev train flies above the _____. The maglev train is the _____ train of all. -ane, -ain Patterns

Possums



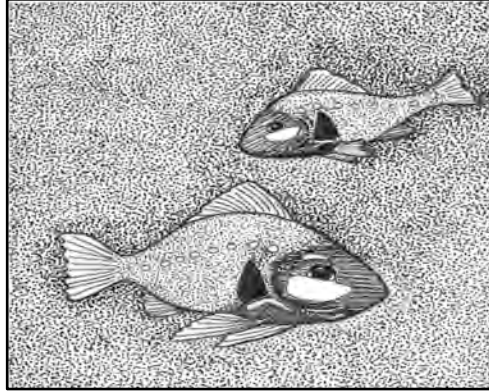
Possoms have very long tails. With their long tails, they can hang in a tree.

Possoms have a trick to help them stay safe. If a dog or other big animal gets after it, a possum may hiss. But then it plays its trick. It falls to the ground. And it lies very, very still. If you see the possum do this, you might say, "Did the possum just die?"

The dog might sniff at the possum, but the possum just lies there. The dog might even bark at the possum, but the possum lies very still. But when the dog goes away, the possum gets up. Then it runs away. It has played a trick on the dog. Playing dead is the possum's way of staying safe.

Possoms play a _____ to stay safe. If a dog or other big animal chases it, the _____ falls down. Then it will _____ very, very still. The dog will _____ at it or bark at it, but the possum will not get up. At last the dog will go _____.

Fish that Have Lights



Deep under the sea it is as black as night. How do fish see when it is as black as night? Some fish have lights. Right under its eyes, the flashlight fish has two body parts that light up. The flashlight fish is quite a sight. The flashlight fish also has body parts that are like eyelids. It can turn off its lights by shutting its eyelids.

How bright is the flashlight fish's light? Some people had a flashlight fish in a tank of water. At night they could sit by the tank and read by the light of the flashlight fish.

Flashlight fish use their lights to get food. By shining their lights, they can see little sea animals. Flashlight fish also use their lights to find each other and to stay safe. If the flashlight fish sees a fish that might eat it, it turns off its lights by shutting its eyelids. Then it swims away.

Flashlight fish have bright _____. These bright lights are right under the flashlight fish's _____. The flashlight fish uses its _____ to shut off its lights. It uses its _____ lights to get food. By shining their lights, flashlight fish can see little sea_____.

What Do You Like?



What do you like? Do you like to ride a bike? You can ride by yourself or ride with other kids. Do you like to take a hike? You might take a hike if you do not have a bike.

Do you like to jump? You might like jump rope. You can jump rope by yourself or with other kids.

Can you hop? You might like hopscotch. Hopscotch has ten blocks. You toss a little rock or stick into a block and hop to get it or kick it and then hop back. Then you toss the little rock or stick into the next block and the next and the next.

If you like to kick, you might like kickball. Kickball is a lot like baseball. Instead of hitting the ball with a bat, you kick a big rubber ball.

If you like to run, then tag might be the game for you. In tag the player who is it must tag another player, who then becomes it.

Or you might just play a game of catch. In a game of catch, players toss a ball back and forth.

If you like to ride, you can ride a _____. If you like to jump, you can play jump _____. If you like to _____, you can play hopscotch. Hopscotch has ten _____. If you like to _____ you can play tag.

Cats and Mice



"Squeak! Squeak!" Two mice are squeaking. One is telling the other that he has found rice to eat. We do not hear the mice squeaking. The sounds they make are so high that our ears cannot pick them up. But mice better not squeak when a cat is near. Cats can hear better than we can. They can hear the squeak of a mouse and other sounds that we cannot hear.

If you watch a cat's ears, you will see that they move. By moving their ears, cats can pick up sounds better than we can. Cats have a better sense of smell than we do. Cats are hunters. They hunt mice, birds, and other small animals. Their fine senses of hearing and smell help them find mice and birds.

Mice have a fine sense of smell, too. Their sense of smell helps them to tell when cats are near. Before they go out of their homes, they sniff the air to see if it's safe to go out.

Mice can make sounds that are so _____ that we cannot hear them. Cats can hear the squeaks that _____ make. Cats hear and _____ better than we do. Mice also have a good _____ of smell. Mice sniff the _____ to see if it is safe to go out.

-ice Pattern

Dimes that Are Worth More Than Ten Cents



Dimes are thin. They are thinner than a penny. Dimes are light. Dimes are lighter than a penny. Why are dimes so thin and so light? At one time, dimes were made mostly of silver. Dimes were thin so they would have just a little bit of silver. Dimes were made so that they did not have more than ten cents worth of silver in them. But the price of silver went up. Then dimes had more than ten cents worth of silver. So in 1965 dimes were no longer made with silver.

Look at your dimes. See if they were made a long time ago. See if your dimes were made before 1965. The silver in the dimes made before 1965 is worth more than ten cents. Dimes made before 1965 are worth more than a dime. These dimes have more than \$1 worth of silver in them.

Dimes are thinner than a _____. Before 1965 dimes were made mostly of _____. Dimes were thin so that they would have just a _____ bit of silver. Dimes made before 1965 are _____ more than ten cents. Dimes made before 1965 have _____ than \$1 worth of silver.

-ime, -yme Patterns

Bats



Some bats are big. And some are not. The bamboo bat is no bigger than a dime. But a bat by the name of the flying fox is five feet wide from wing to wing.

Most bats eat insects. And some bats eat fish. They pick up the fish with their feet. But the flying fox eats fruit.

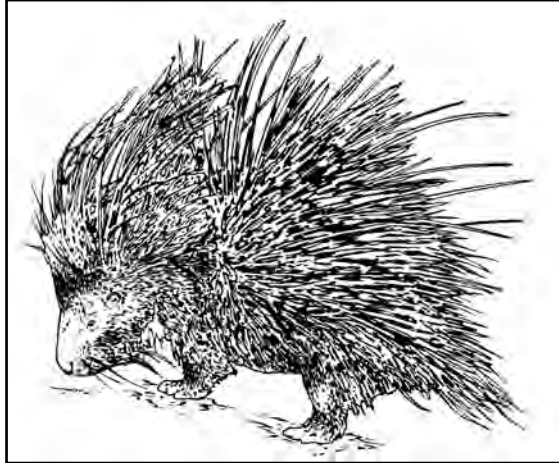
Bats seem to hide. We may not see bats very much. Most bats like to live in caves or other dark places. Some bats live in trees. Flying foxes hang upside down in trees.

Some people do not like bats. To them, bats seem like flying rats. But bats help us. Bats eat many, many insects. If there were no bats, there would be a lot more insects around.

Bats help us, but it is best to stay away from bats. The bite of a bat can make you very sick. If a bat ever bites you, you should tell your mom or dad right away.

Most bats eat _____. Some bats eat _____ that swim in lakes. Flying foxes eat _____. Flying foxes hang _____ down in trees. Bats help us by _____ lots of insects.

Porcupines



Do not pet a porcupine. A porcupine has long, stiff hairs. The stiff hairs have sharp ends like the needles of a pine tree. The porcupine's sharp hairs are called quills. When everything seems fine and no bad animals are around, the porcupine's quills lie flat. But if an animal comes after it, the porcupine raises its back. This makes the quills stand up. They look like long lines of needles.

If a dog or other animal tries to bite the porcupine, the porcupine hits the animal with its tail. The sharp quills dig into the animal. One dog got nine quills in its lips. After that, it stayed away from porcupines. Quills help keep a porcupine safe. Quills help porcupines live a long time.

The _____ has sharp, stiff hairs. These stiff hairs are called _____. The quills help keep the porcupine _____ from other animals. If an animal comes _____ the porcupine, it will turn its back. The porcupine will _____ the animal with its quills.

-ine, -ign Patterns

Smile



There is a song that says, 'When you're smiling, the whole world smiles with you.' In a way, that line of the song is true. When we see someone smiling, we smile. And when we smile we feel happy.

We look better when we smile. And we also feel better inside while we are smiling. Life might seem to be a bit brighter. A smile can make a sad face into a happy face.

Smiling is good for us. It helps us to put our worries aside for a while. Life brings us sad things at times. If we are feeling sad, a smile can help us feel better.

When we see someone smiling, we _____. When we smile, we _____ happy. We _____ better when we smile. A smile can make a sad _____ into a happy face. If we are feeling _____, a smile can help us feel better.

Skunks



Some skunks have two white stripes that run down their backs. They are called “striped skunks.” Other skunks have white spots. They are called “spotted skunks.” There are more striped skunks than spotted skunks. Striped skunks are also bigger than spotted skunks.

Striped skunks and spotted skunks come out at night to hunt for food. Skunks that are out in the daytime might be sick. Stay away from sick skunks. They might bite you and make you sick.

Skunks can spray. Spraying is the skunk’s way of staying safe. A skunk’s spray has a bad smell. If a dog frightens a skunk, the skunk will stamp its feet. The skunk does not want the dog to bite it. Then it will stand on its back legs and spit at the dog. If the dog will not run away, the skunk sprays it. The spray has quite a bad smell. The spray’s bad smell sticks to the dog. The spray stings, too. The dog might whine. The dog will run away as fast as it can. The smell can last quite a long time. The dog will smell bad for a while.

Striped skunks have two _____ stripes that run down their back.

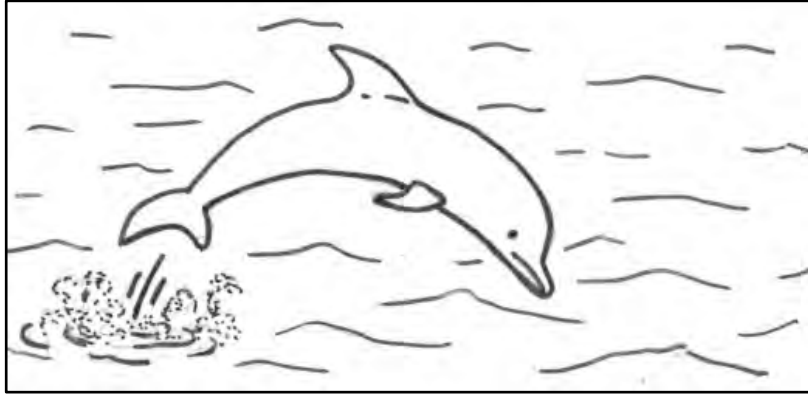
Striped skunks are bigger than _____ skunks. Skunks come out at _____.

Skunks will _____ a dog if the dog will not run away.

The spray has a bad _____.

-ite Pattern

The Fine Fin



Tim went for a swim. Tim was having a fine time. But then Tim spotted a fin. The fin was big. Tim was not fine. The fin made Tim afraid. Tim was a bit afraid that a shark would bite him. Tim yelled for help.

Sid heard Tim's yell for help. Sid was painting his boat. He was not quite finished, but he quit painting. Sid sailed to Tim's side just in time. The fin was right behind Tim. "I will help you!" Sid yelled to Tim. "Climb over the side of my boat. Do not waste time, Tim!"

Just then the fin jumped. It was not a shark. It was a dolphin (DAW-fin). The fin was fine. It was a dolphin's fin, not a shark's fin. Sid laughed and Tim laughed. Sid and Tim laughed for a long time.

Tim went for a _____. Tim saw a fin and yelled for _____.

Sid was painting his boat, but Sid helped _____. The fin was not a shark's _____. The fin was a _____ fin. -ite Pattern

Search Dog



A child is lost in the wild. No one can find him. Dogs are called in to help find the child. Dogs can search better than we can. Dogs have quite a fine sense of smell. They have a much better sense of smell than we have. Dogs can pick up the scent of the missing child by sniffing the ground or by sniffing the air. Then the dogs follow the scent for miles. They follow the scent up hills and down hills. They follow it through thick bushes. Dogs do not seem to mind cold nights or hot days. They just follow the scent. They follow the scent until they find the lost child.

Dogs have a fine sense of _____. Dogs pick up the _____ of the missing child from the ground or from the _____. Dogs _____ the scent for miles. Dogs follow the scent until they find the lost _____.

The Flying Snake



You are in the rain forest. At times there is so much rain in the rain forest that there are no dry spots. And the trees may be so big that you cannot see the sky. You look up. You cry out, "Oh my! I see a snake!" It is a golden tree snake. The snake is high up in a tree. You ask, "Can that snake get back to the ground?"

The golden tree snake can "fly." It does not fly in the same way that a bird flies. It does not have wings. The golden tree snake makes its body flat. Then it glides to a low tree branch. And then it glides to the ground.

Why do golden tree snakes fly? They eat bats, birds, and rats. If a golden tree snake is in a tree and it spots a rat, then it can fly down to the ground and get the rat.

Golden tree snakes are found in _____ forests. The golden tree _____ can glide. It can glide to a low _____ branch. Then it can _____ to the ground. Golden tree snakes eats birds, bats, and _____.

Chickadees



"Chick-a-dee! Chick-a-dee! Chick-a-dee!" That is what the chickadee sings. But it does not sing just for the fun of it. Singing is the chickadee's way of telling the other chickadees to watch out. It has spotted a bird that is hunting for chickadees to eat. If the hunting bird is little, the chickadee will add more dees to the song. It might sing, "Chick-a-dee-dee-dee-dee!" When it sees danger, a chickadee might just call, "See! See!" When chickadees hear this call, they might freeze. By staying very still, they will be harder to spot.

Male chickadees call out, "Fee bee! Fee bee!" This call tells other birds that this is a male chickadee's home. "Fee bee!" tells them to stay away. If a bird does not fly away, but comes to the chickadee's tree or nest, the chickadee might call out, "Chee-bee-chee! Chee-bee-chee!" This is telling the bird to fly away.

You can tell a chickadee by its song. But you can also tell a black-capped chickadee by the way it looks. The black-capped chickadee looks like it has a black cap on its head. And it has white cheeks.

You can tell a _____ by its song. When a chickadee sings, "Chick-a-dee!" it is telling other chickadees to _____ out. When a chickadee sings, "See! See!" it is telling other chickadees to stay very _____. When a chickadee sings, "Fee bee!" it is telling other _____ to stay away. When a chickadee sings, "Chee-bee-chee!" it is telling other birds to fly _____.

-e, -ee, -ea, -ey Patterns

Sleep



Beep! Beep! You are in a deep sleep. A car beeps. It wakes you up. But it does not wake up your cat or your dog. Cats and dogs do not sleep the way we do. Some sounds that are little will wake them up. But some big sounds that wake us up will not wake up a cat or dog.

Unless it is turned way up, a TV will not wake up a cat or dog. And the beep-beep of a car may not wake them up. But a cat may get right up if you open a can of its food.

A dog may wake up if a dog way down the street barks, or if someone tries to get into your home. Dogs and cats can tell when they need to wake up.

The beep-beep of a _____ may not wake up your cat or dog. The sound of another _____ barking may wake up your dog. A dog may wake up if someone tries to get into your _____. A cat may wake up if you get a _____ of its food. Dogs and cats seem to know when they need to _____ up.

The Sea



Have you seen the sea? The sea can be blue. It can be blue like the sky on a sunny day. The sea can be green. It can be green like the leaves on a tree. And the sea can be gray. It can be gray like a rainy day.

What makes the sea green, gray, or blue? The sun makes the sea look green or blue. The sea looks blue when it is deep and the sun is shining. But when it is not deep, the sea may look green. The sea may also look green when it is warm.

Look at the sky. Is it gray? Look at the sea. Is it gray? The sea looks gray when the sky is gray. If it is sunny, the sea will stay blue or green.

The _____ can be blue, green, or gray. The sun makes the sea look blue or _____. The sea is blue when it is sunny and the sea is _____. The sea may look green when it is sunny and the sea is not deep, or it is _____. The sea is gray when the _____ is gray.

Tasting with Feet



We taste with our tongues. Our tongues have little bumps called taste buds on them. With our taste buds, we can tell if a food is sweet. We can tell what kind of meat we are eating. And we can tell if the food tastes good or bad. We can tell if it tastes good to eat.

A butterfly's taste buds are on its feet. It can taste food by standing on it. Butterflies do not have any teeth. They don't eat food. They drink it. Butterflies like the sweet juices that flowers make. When the butterfly's feet taste the sweet juice of a flower, it sips and sips.

Our tongues have taste _____ on them. A butterfly's taste buds are on its _____. A butterfly can _____ food by standing on it.

A butterfly does not have any _____. Butterflies sip juices from _____.

Spider Webs



Spiders eat flies, bees, and other insects. To catch insects for a meal, spiders spin webs. Some webs have four sides like a box. But some are round like a wheel.

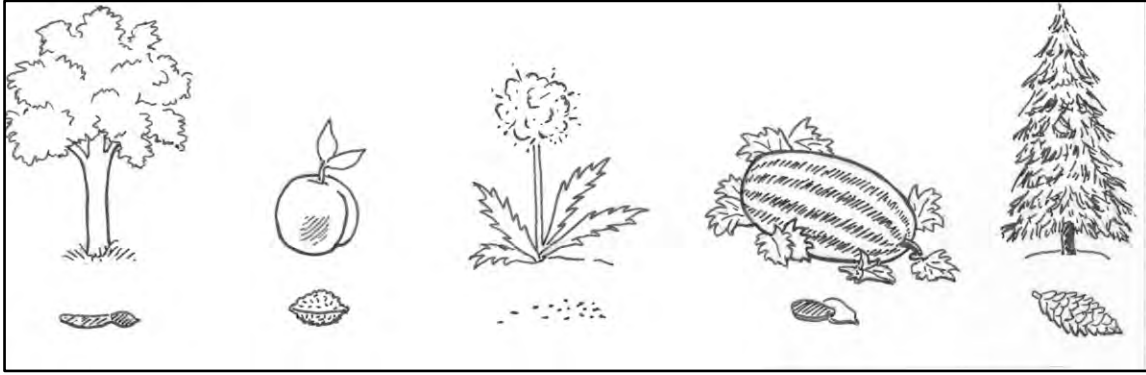
Some webs are small. Others are big. Some webs are so big that they catch bats and birds.

Spiders that spin webs cannot see very well. How can a spider tell when it has trapped an insect in its web? Spiders can feel with their feet. If an insect gets in the web, the lines of the web shake. By feeling the shaking web with its feet, the spider can tell in which part of the web the insect is trapped. Then it runs to get its meal before the insect gets away, or a bird or bat steals it.

To catch bugs, spiders spin _____. Spiders that spin webs cannot _____ very well. Spiders can _____ with their feet. When an insect is trapped in the web, the lines of the web _____. By feeling the shaking web, the _____ can tell in which part of the web the insect is trapped.

-eal, -eel Patterns

Seeds

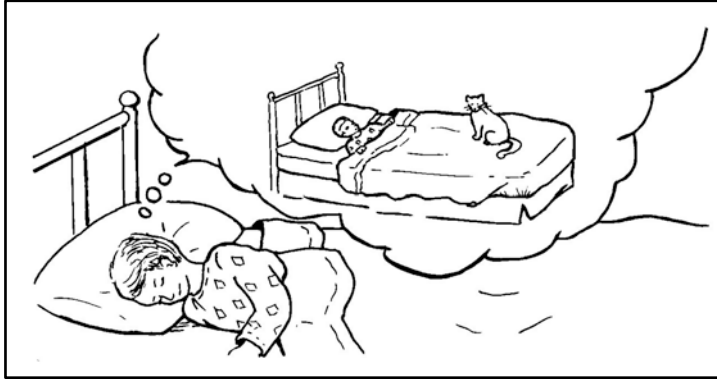


Trees and other plants grow from seeds. The biggest tree was just a little seed at one time. Most seeds are little. But some seeds are big. A seed from one kind of tree is as big as a basketball.

Some seeds are green. Some seeds are gray. And some seeds are red or another color. Some seeds look like beads. But others may look like insects. That tricks birds that feed on seeds. Birds that eat seeds do not eat insects, so they will not eat the seeds that look like bugs. Some seeds look like stones. That keeps birds and rats from eating them.

Trees and other _____ grow from seeds. Seeds can be little, or they can be _____. Some _____ look like insects. That keeps birds that feed on seeds from _____ them. Rats and birds do not to eat seeds that look like _____.

Dreamers

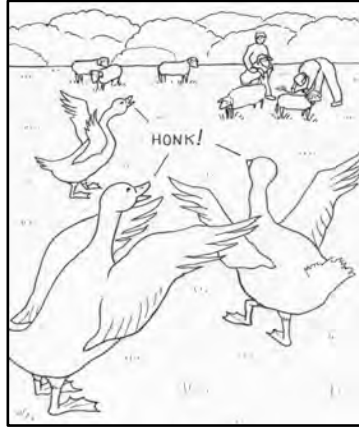


We are dreamers. As we sleep at night, we may have five or six dreams or more. Some dreams may be about things we did that day. Other dreams seem to reach back into our past. We may even dream about things that happened to us as a child. We may dream about the time a big dog ate our ice cream. Some of our dreams take us to strange places. Some of our dreams are happy or funny. Others may be sad. Some dreams may frighten us. We may dream that we are being chased by a cheetah. The dream may seem real. We may even scream. Even so, dreaming is good for us. Dreaming is the mind's way of resting itself.

We may have five or six _____ at night. Dreams may reach back into our _____. Dreams may take us to strange _____. A frightening dream may make us _____. But dreaming is the mind's way of _____ itself.

-eam Pattern

Guard Geese



One day, when it was freezing out, a jeep full of thieves came to rob a sheep farm. The thieves left their jeep by a stream. They got out of their jeep and were creeping along the field. It was very quiet and peaceful. The peace and quiet were brief. The farmer's geese began to honk. The farmer had been sleeping. Now he was wide awake.

The farmer had a lot of geese. Geese lay eggs. Their eggs taste like chicken eggs, but they are bigger. And geese eat weeds. Each day in the spring and summer, the geese ate weeds in the farmer's field. Keeping geese did not take much money. Geese are cheap to feed. They eat mostly insects, weeds, and weed seeds. For geese, insects and weeds make a good meal.

Now these geese were helping keep the sheep safe. The geese were honking and running at the thieves. The thieves jumped back into the jeep. Geese can be mean if thieves try to steal from a farmer who takes care of them. They honk and hiss and bite.

The farmer has a lot of _____. Geese eat insects, weeds, and weed _____. Guard geese helped keep the _____ safe. Geese chased the _____. The thieves jumped into the _____.

-ie Patterns

Moles



Are there a whole lot of long bumps in your yard? If so, there may be a mole at work. Moles are small animals. They have thick coats, little eyes, and big hands. Their big hands have long, sharp nails. They use their sharp nails to dig long holes under the ground. These long underground holes are called tunnels.

Moles dig very fast. In a day's time, they can dig a tunnel that is as long as a football field. That takes a whole lot of digging.

Why do moles build tunnels? They like to eat. One mole was put in a box and given as much as it wanted to eat. In just one day, the mole ate more than 100 insects and more than 10 worms. Moles get their food by digging. As they dig, they eat any insects or worms that they run into. Some people do not like moles. They think moles are bad for their grass. But by eating insects, moles help us.

You might never see a mole. They like to go into their tunnels and stay there. They feel safe there. And also that is where their food is.

Moles have thick _____. With their sharp nails, moles _____ holes under the ground. The long holes are called _____. Moles dig very _____. As they dig, moles eat insects and _____.

Why Do Puppies Chase Their Tails?



It looks so funny to see a puppy run after its tail. It runs slow. And then it runs faster and faster and faster. Round and round it goes.

Do you know why puppies chase their tails? Puppies grow up in a litter. In a litter, there may be three or more puppies. The puppies in the litter play a lot. They roll around and run after each other. They have a lot of fun. Then one day a puppy is taken from its litter. It goes to its new home. It is given a place to sleep and lots to eat. But it has no one to play with. So it plays with its tail by running after it.

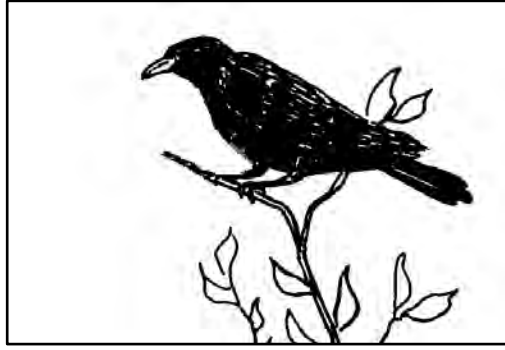
If your puppy has no other puppies to play with, you can help by playing with it. Run around with the puppy. Get it a ball to play with. But don't get it a sponge ball. It might bite off bits of the sponge ball and try to eat them. That might make it sick. You can also throw your puppy a stick and have it bring it back to you. Chasing a stick is a lot more fun for a puppy than chasing its tail.

Puppies grow up in a _____. When they are with others, puppies play a _____. When it has no one to play with, a puppy might chase its own _____, You can help by playing with the _____.

You can get it a ball to _____ with and run after.

-ow Pattern

Crows



Crows are clever birds. One crow was seen dropping seeds on the road. Why did the crow do that? It could not open the seeds, so it dropped them on the road and waited for a car to run over the seeds. Then it could eat the smashed seeds. One crow was trying to get food that it could not reach with its beak. The crow picked up a piece of wire and poked at the food. The wire went into the food, but the food fell off the wire. The crow did not give up. With her bill and feet, she bent the end of the wire into a hook. With the wire hook, she picked up the food.

Crows eat insects, seeds, eggs, corn, and other crops. They will even eat mice, moles, and other little animals. They will eat animals that have been run over on the road. If you throw food away, crows will eat that. One crow was seen eating a piece of pizza that had been thrown away.

Crows make their homes high in trees. But at times they will make a home on the top of a telephone pole.

One crow dropped seeds on the _____ so cars would smash them. One crow used a _____ to make a hook. Crows make their homes high in trees and on the tops of telephone _____. Crows like to eat moles and other small _____. Crows eat food that has been _____ away.

-ow Pattern

Best Animal Dad



Who is the best dad in the animal world? It might be the emperor (EM-per-er) penguin. Emperor penguins live in the South Pole. The South Pole is the coldest place in the world. It is a land of snow and ice.

The mother emperor penguin lays one egg. And then she goes down to the sea and swims away in the cold water. The father penguin keeps the egg warm while the mother is away. He holds the egg between his feet and his belly. His belly has folds of fat that keep the egg warm.

Cold winds blow and snow falls. But the father penguin does not go away. He does not even go off to get food. To help keep warm, the father penguins all stand close to each other.

The weeks pass. The father penguin grows thinner and thinner. After about twelve weeks, the mother penguin comes back. She has food for the baby penguin. The baby came out of its shell while she was away. With the mother back, the father penguin goes for a swim. For the first time in weeks, he eats. But he does not stay long. He catches some fish for the penguin chick and the mother penguin. Then he takes them back to the nest. A father emperor penguin takes good care of his family.

Emperor penguins live at the South _____. The father emperor penguin holds the penguin egg between its belly and its _____. The mother penguin goes to the _____ to eat. She comes back after about 12 _____. Then the father goes for a swim and brings back _____ for the penguin chick and the mother.

-old Pattern

Oak Trees



Oak trees grow very tall. They may grow to be 150 feet high. Oak trees also grow a long time. In many places, oaks are the oldest trees. In the old days, wood from oak trees was used to make ships. The wood from an oak tree is hard. Even if soaked with water, it lasts a long time. Wood from oak trees is used to make floors, chairs, and tables.

Oak trees also help feed some animals. Acorns grow on oak trees. Acorns are small nuts. Squirrels and other small animals eat acorns. Acorns are also fed to pigs. Acorns hold the seeds from which new oak trees grow. After falling to the ground, acorns split open so the seeds inside can start growing.

Oak trees grow to be very_____. Oak trees also grow a long _____ . The wood from an oak tree is _____and lasts a long time. The nuts that grow on oak trees are called _____.

After falling to the ground, acorns split open and the seeds inside start _____.

Star-Nosed Mole



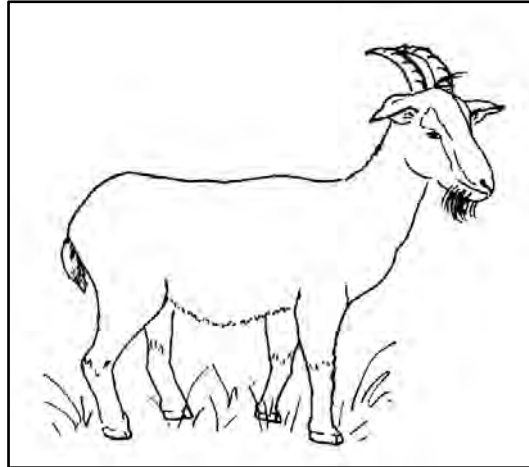
The star-nosed mole has a strange nose. Its nose looks like a star. The star-nose mole's nose is not just for smelling and breathing. The star-nosed mole uses its nose to feel for food. On the tip of its nose are 22 little "fingers." The fingers do not have bones in them. With those 'fingers,' the star-nosed mole can tell if what it touches is something it can eat. If it is food, the start-nosed quickly snatches it up. In fact, the star-nosed mole is faster at grabbing food than any other animal.

The star-nosed mole has tiny eyes. It can hardly see with its tiny eyes. The star-nosed mole is just about blind. Its nose takes the place of eyes.

The star-nosed mole uses its nose to feel for _____. On the tip of its nose are 22 little _____. The fingers can tell if what it touches is something it can _____. The star-nosed _____ grabs food faster than any other animal. The star-nosed mole has tiny _____.

--one, -ose Patterns

Renting Goats



Do you have high weeds on your place? Do not feel bad. There is an easy way to get rid of weeds. Get a goat. Goats can eat a load of weeds. Goats will eat just about any kind of weed. They even eat weeds that would make other animals sick. And if you don't have a goat and do not want to buy one, you can rent one. If you live on a farm that has lots of land, you can rent a lot of goats. One farmer who rented goats to eat the weeds on his place wrote a note telling what the goats did. In the note he told how the goats ate the weeds in his field. The farmer was happy that he had rented the goats.

Goats eat _____. Goats eat weeds that make other _____ sick.

You do not have to buy a _____. You can _____ a goat.

A farmer wrote a _____ and told how goats ate the weeds on his farm.

--oat, -ote Patterns

Rob's Magic Robe



One day Rob got a gift. It was the kind of robe that a king might have. Then he saw a note in the gift box. The note said that the robe was magic. All you had to do was to tell the robe where you wanted to go, and the robe would take you there. Rob put the magic robe on. With the robe, he could run up steep slopes and fly high in the sky.

Rob had lived all his life on the farm. He had hoped that he could take trips. Now that he had the robe, he could go anywhere he wanted. But he could not make up his mind where to go. So he went to his globe and gave it a spin. He shut his eyes and put his finger on the globe. When the globe stopped spinning, Rob's finger was on Wales. "Take me to Wales," Rob said to the robe. And the robe did. The next night Rob spun the globe again. This time his finger landed on Iceland. "Take me to Iceland," Rob told the robe. And the robe did. It was cold in Iceland. Rob was glad he had his robe.

Night after night the robe took Rob to another place. Then one night Rob put the globe away and said to the magic robe, "Take me home." Rob had seen the whole world. He had been around the globe. But the place he liked best was his farm. That was his home.

Rob had a magic _____. The robe can take him _____. Rob went to Wales and _____. Iceland was _____. After seeing the world, Rob told the robe to take him _____.

-obe, -ope Patterns

Road Runner



The sun was hot, so Joe took off his coat. He had just fed his goats. Then Joe saw something funny coming up the road. It was a road runner.

The road runner is a strange bird. It cannot fly well. But it can run very fast. And it seems to like to run down roads. That is why it is called a road runner.

Road runners are good hunters. They eat mice, rats, snakes, and loads of insects.

Road runners are also good dads. A road runner dad sits on the mother road runner's eggs at night. When the eggs hatch, the road runner dad goes out and catches lots of mice and insects for the babies.

Road runner dads also keep their nests safe. If a snake comes around, the road runner will peck at its head with its long bill. It will keep on pecking until it kills the snake, or the snake goes away.

The road runner is a strange _____. It can not _____ very well.

But it can _____ fast. Road runners seem to like to run down

_____. Road runners eat rats, insects, mice, and _____.

Mules



Which one is better, a mule or a horse? A lot of people say a mule is better. For one thing, mules are smarter. If a horse gets stuck in a wire fence, it pulls and tugs, even if that makes the wire cut into its legs. A mule will just stand there until someone gets it out of the wire. That way it does not cut its legs. Mules also know when to stop eating. When a mule is full, it will eat no more. A horse may eat so much that it makes itself sick.

Mules can walk better than horses. Mules do not trip or fall, even when going up or coming down high hills.

Mules are not huge animals. They are not as big as horses. But mules can do more work than horses. Mules have been used to carry heavy packs on their backs. They can carry those packs a long ways. But do not put too much on a mule's back. If it has too many packs, the mule will stand still until you take a few of the packs off its back. Or it might shake its back so that some of the packs fall off.

A horse is bigger than a _____. But a mule can do more _____.

Mules can _____ heavy packs. Mules are good at going up and down _____. A mule will _____ until it is full and then stop.

-ule, -use, -uge, -ute, -ew Patterns

Answer Key

1. snake, spots, night, lot, long	22. smell, scent, air, follow, child
2. bed, raft, flock, smack, stench	23. rain, snake, tree, glide, rats
3. home, cake, late, ate, two	24. chickadee, watch, still, birds, away
4. mud, whale, weight, trips, tail	25. car, dog, house, can, wake
5. play, run, bat, learn, catch	26. sea, green, deep, warm, sky
6. game, wing, fox, nest, flies	27. buds, feet, taste, teeth, flowers
7. dog, see, basket, Terfel's, follow	28. webs, see, feel, shake, spider
8. whale, bat, faster, run, back	29. plants, big, seeds, eating, stones
9. fast, race, tails, age, cages	30. dreams, past, places, scream, resting
10. tails, body, swim, back, fish	31. geese, seeds, sheep, thieves, jeep
11. maglev, magnets, wheels, rails, fastest	32. fur, dig, tunnels, fast, worms
12. trick, possum, lie, sniff, away	33. litter, lot, tail, puppy, play
13. lights, eyes, eyelids, bright, animals	34. road, wire, poles, animals, thrown
14. bike, rope, hop, blocks, run	35. Pole, feet, sea, weeks, fish (food)
15. high, mice, smell, smell, air	36. old, time, hard, acorns, growing
16. penny, silver, little, worth, more	37. food, fingers, eat, mole, eyes
17. insects, fish, fruit, upside, eating	38. weeds, animals, goat, rent, note
18. porcupine, quills, safe, after, hit	39. robe, places, Iceland, cold, home
19. smile, feel, look, face, sad	40. bird, fly, run, roads, snakes
20. white, spotted, night, spray, smell	41. mule, work, carry, hills, eat
21. swim, help, Tim, fin, dolphin's	

Answers listed above use the same words as those used in the selections. However, students might use synonyms or other words. If students respond with words that are not in the key, ask them to explain their answers. Accept any answers that seem reasonable.