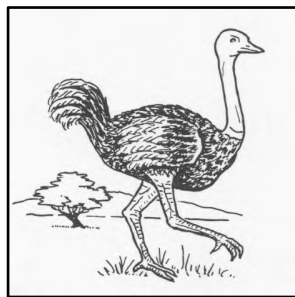
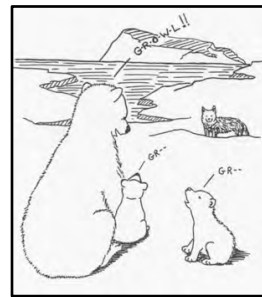
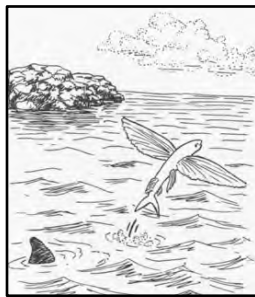
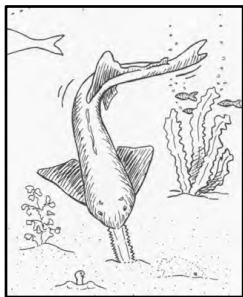


Building Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level C: R-Vowel and Other-Vowel Patterns, Blends, and High-Frequency Words

-ar (far), aw (paw), -ook (book), OO (soon), ou (out), -oy (boy)

Thomas G. Gunning, Ed. D.



Galvin Publishing
Buildingliteracy.org

Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level C: R-Vowel and Other-Vowel Patterns, Blends, and High-Frequency Words

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

Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections C contains 29 fictional and informational text specifically designed to provide practice with *r*-vowel and other- vowel patterns (*aw- paw, OO-moon, oo-book, ow-cow, oy-toy*). Because most of the selections are informational, they are also designed to build background knowledge.

Accelerating Foundational Literacy: Decodable Reading Selections Level C is part of a three books series. *Level A* focuses on short-vowel patterns. *Level B* is designed to reinforce long-vowel patterns.

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 no charge for users of *Closing the Literacy Gap* at Buildingliteracy.org. Download from the *Reserved Resources* tab.

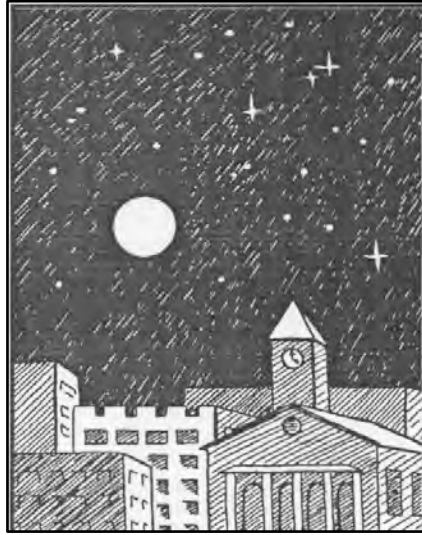
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Level C: R-Vowel and Other-Vowel Patterns

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Stars



Look up at the sky on a clear night. What do you see? You see a sky full of bright stars.

Stars are very hot. That is why they shine. Most stars are far, far away. But one star is closer than all the others. It is close enough to light up our home, the Earth. Do you know what the name of that star is? If you said, "the sun," you are right. The sun is a star.

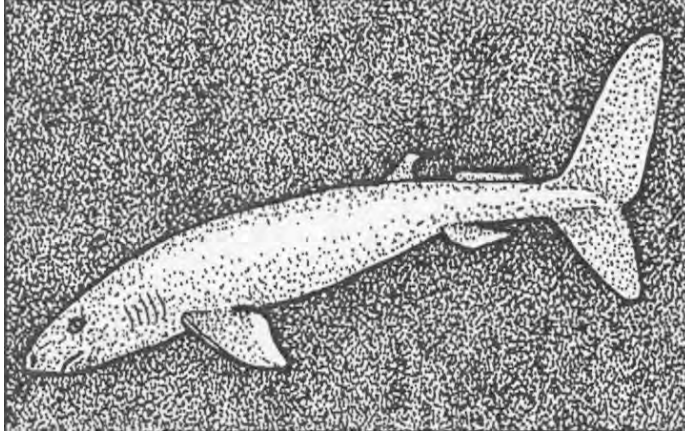
The sun keeps us warm. And it gives us light. Other stars are so far away that they cannot keep us warm or light up the Earth.

Stars shine all night and all day. But we cannot see other stars during the day. We can only see the sun. The sun's light is so bright that we cannot see the tiny lights made by the other stars. We can only see the other stars when the sun goes down.

The sun is a _____. Stars _____ because they are very hot. Stars are _____ away. The sun is close to the earth and keeps us _____. The sun's light is so _____ that it keeps us from seeing the other stars during the day.

-ar Pattern

Sharks



Sharks come in just about all sizes. The whale shark is a very large shark. It is the biggest shark of all. It is 60 feet (18 meters) long. That is almost as long as two school buses. The whale shark does not go after boats, people, or even other fish. The largest shark eats tiny sea plants.

The great white shark is smaller than the whale shark. But it is still a large shark. A great white shark can be about 30 feet (9 meters) long. The great white shark will eat just about anything it can get its teeth into. It eats other fish. And it eats whales. It even eats people.

The smallest shark has the longest name. The tsuranagakobitosame (sue-rah-nah-gah-koh-bee-toe-sah-may) is just three or four inches (8 or 10 centimeters) long. It could fit in your hand. The drawing shows how small it is. The tiny tsuranagakobitosame lives deep beneath the sea. It is very dark beneath the sea. But with its body, the tsuranagakobitosame can make its own light. With its light, the tsuranagakobitosame can find food. It also uses its light to find a mate.

Sharks come in many _____. The largest shark is the _____ shark. The great _____ shark will eat just about anything. The _____ shark is a shark by the name of tsuranagakobitosame. This shark lives deep beneath the _____.

-ark Pattern

Smart Animals



Chimps are smart animals. Chimps use sticks and rocks to help them get food. A chimp will put a stick into a hill where ants live. Ants run onto the stick. They want to bite the animal that is poking a stick into their home. The chimp pulls the stick out fast and licks it clean. It eats the ants before they start biting its hand or arm.

To open nuts, the chimp uses rocks. It puts a nut on one rock. Then it hits it hard with another rock. That is the smart way to open nuts.

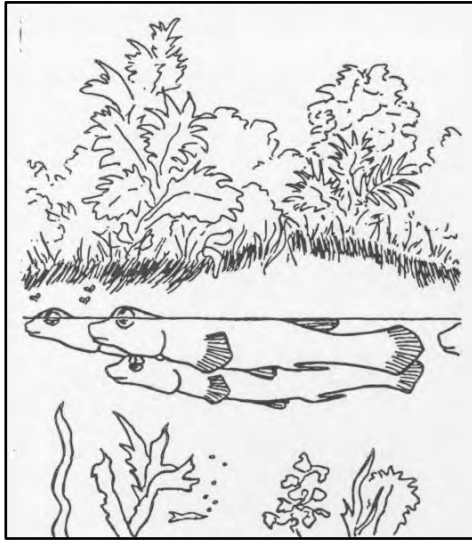
Chimps also use sticks to keep themselves safe. If a chimp sees a snake that seems dead, it pokes it with a stick just to make sure. If the snake starts to move, the chimp can climb a tree before the snake can bite it.

Chimps are _____ animals. Chimps use _____ to get ants.

Chimps poke their sticks into _____ hills. The chimp pulls the stick out and _____ it clean. To open nuts, chimps use _____.

-arm, -art, -eat Patterns

The Four-Eyed Fish



One fish can see above the water. And it can see below the water. "What is so great about that?" you ask. With just one pair of eyes, the four-eyed fish can look above and below the water at the same time.

A small, dark line runs across each of the fish's two eyes. The part of the eye that is above the water is called the "air eye." The air eye can see while it is out of the water. The part that is below the water is known as the "water eye." The water eye can see while it is in the water.

As it swims around, the four-eyed fish keeps the top half of its eyes above the water and the bottom half of its eyes below the water. That way it can look for food on top or under the water at the same time. It can also look for enemies that might be in or out of the water.

The four-eyed _____ can see above and below the water. A small, dark _____ runs across the fish's eyes. The four-eyed fish sees above the water with its _____ eyes. It sees below the water with its _____ eyes. Its eyes are good for spotting _____ and enemies.

-air, -are, -ere, -ear Patterns

A New Game



Many years ago in 1891, James Naismith (NAY-smith) was trying to think of a new game. He wanted a game that could be played when it was cold out. There were lots of games that could be played out of doors. But Naismith wanted one that could be played indoors. He wanted a game that would be fast and fun to play. It had to be more fun than other indoor games.

At last, Naismith had a plan for a game. The game would be played in the gym. A box would be nailed into the wall at each end of the gym. The box would be nailed high above the floor. That way the players would have to throw the ball up into the box. There would be two teams. The team that got the ball into the box the most times would win.

There were no boxes around, so peach baskets were used. The players ran up and down the gym floor. But the poor players only got the ball in the basket one time. Even so, they had fun. A new game was born.

The game came to be called basketball. As time, more and more people played the game. Today basketball is one of our best-liked games.

Naismith was thinking up a new _____. The game was to be played _____. Two _____ were nailed into the wall. Players tried to throw the _____ into the baskets. The game was called _____.

-or, -ore, -oor, -ore, -our Patterns

The Number One Crop



Of all the crops grown on farms, what is the number one crop? Which crop is grown by more farmers in the US than any other crop? Can you guess? Corn is number one. More corn is grown on US farms than wheat, rice, beans, or any other crop.

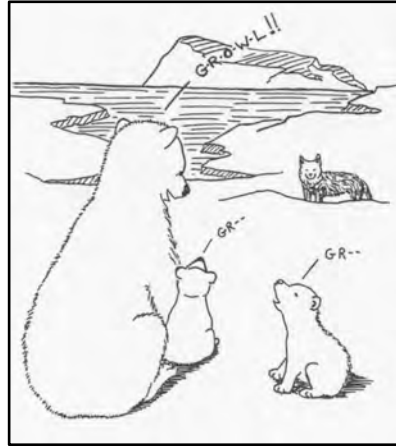
Corn is eaten in a number of ways. It is eaten on the cob. It is eaten after being cut off the cob. It can be made into corn meal and cornstarch. Corn meal can be used to make corn bread, cakes, and pancakes. Cornstarch is used to make pudding and ice cream. Corn is also used to make corn flakes. Corn is even used in the making of soda and candy,

Corn is not just for eating. Corn is used to make gasoline and plastic cups. Corn is even used to make crayons, paint, cardboard, and paste.

The number one crop is _____. Corn is grown by more _____ than any other crop. Corn can be _____ on the cob. Corn can be eaten after being cut _____ the cob. Corn is used to make ice _____.

-orn, -(w)ar, -(w)arn Patterns

Polar Bears



Polar bear cubs live in a very cold place. They live where there is lots of snow and ice. Their thick white fur keeps them warm.

Life is hard in the land of snow and ice. Animals have to be smart to stay safe there.

Polar bear cubs learn by watching their mother. Then they do what she does. When the mother polar bear spots a fox or wolf, she growls. She hopes her growl will scare the fox or wolf away. The cubs growl, too. They growl just the same way their mother does.

Before she takes a trip, the mother polar bear sniffs the air. Polar bears have a keen sense of smell. A polar bear can tell if there are any mean animals around just by smelling the air.

When the cubs see their mother sniffing the air, they lift their heads and sniff, too. Every animal has its own smell or scent. The cubs learn to use their noses to tell which animals are around.

Polar bears live in the land of ice and _____. Polar bear cubs _____ by watching their mother. Before setting out on a trip, the mother polar bear _____ the air. Every animal has its own smell or _____. By sniffing the air, the mother polar bear can tell which _____ are around.

--ir, -ur, -urse, -er Patterns

Green Turtles



Green turtles are very big. A green turtle is bigger than you are. Green turtles live in the sea. But they lay their eggs on land. How do they learn to find land from way out at sea? No one knows. But a green turtle swims mile after mile to find just the right sandy beach on which to lay her eggs.

When she gets to the beach, the green turtle digs a small hole. She lays her eggs there and covers them with sand. This helps keep the eggs safe from birds and the burning sun. After laying her eggs, the green turtle turns, crawls back to the sea, and swims away.

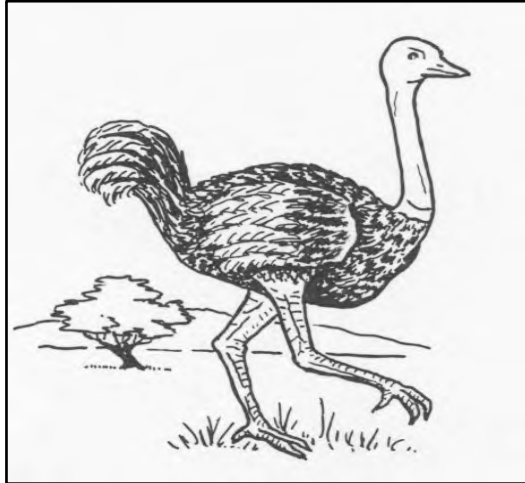
When they hatch from their shells, the baby turtles also crawl down to the water. Then they, too, swim away.

How do baby green turtles know that they should crawl to the sea? How do they learn to swim? No one can say. Green turtles just seem to know what to do.

Green turtles live in the _____. The mother green turtle swims to a sandy _____. Then she crawls up the beach and digs a _____. She lays her _____ in the hole. When the eggs hatch, the baby turtles crawl to the sea and _____ away.

-ird, (-irty) -eard, -ord, (-orld), -erd Patterns

The Biggest Bird in the World



What is the biggest bird in the world? The biggest bird in the world is the ostrich. A grown ostrich can be nine feet tall. That is much taller than a grown man. An ostrich can weigh three hundred pounds or more. Ostriches have sharp eyesight. The ostrich has big eyes. In fact an ostrich's eyes are bigger than that of all other land animals.

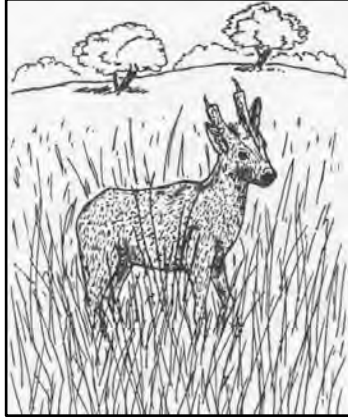
Even though it is the biggest bird in the world, an ostrich cannot fly. Its wings are too little. But an ostrich can run. It can run twice as fast as a man. An ostrich can run away from most predators. But if a predator catches up with it, an ostrich can fight. It has sharp nails on its toes. A kick with these sharp nails can kill a lion or other predator.

Ostriches live in herds. But the herds are not large. The herds have twelve or so ostriches in them. Ostriches live a long time. Ostriches can live for 70 years or more.

The ostrich is the biggest bird in the _____. Ostriches have _____ eyesight. Ostriches live in _____. An ostrich can live for 70 years or _____. An ostrich can run _____ as fast as a man.

-ird, (-irty) -eard, -ord, (-orld), -erd Patterns

Barking Deer and Barking Frogs



"Woof! Woof!" Is that a dog that you hear barking? Most likely it is. But if you are living in India or China, it might be a deer. One kind of deer has a cry that sounds like a dog barking.

The barking deer is small. It is only one to two feet (31 to 62 centimeters) high. That means that it would only come up to your knees or your belt. Even so, most animals stay away from the barking deer.

The barking deer has two sharp, pointy teeth that stick out of the sides of its mouth. They look like small tusks. With these teeth, the barking deer fights off other animals that come too near.

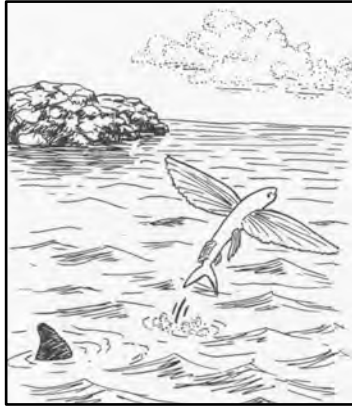
Does a deer that barks sound funny to you? There is also a frog that makes a barking sound. Barking frogs are very loud. You can hear their barks even if you are a mile away. Barking frogs live in trees most of the year. Barking frogs bark in spring when they are looking for mates. Loud barking helps barking frogs and mother frogs find each other.

Barking deer bark like _____. Barking deer have teeth that stick out of the _____ of their mouths, Barking deer are only one or two feet _____. Barking frogs bark when it is _____ time.

Barking frogs bark to find _____.

-ear, -eer Patterns

Fish that Fly



You know that all fish can swim. But did you know that some fish can sail through the air? These fish are called flying fish. They don't fly the way a bird does. They use their fins to sail through the air. Fins are flat body parts. They help fish move through the water. The fins of a flying fish stick out from its sides like wings. A flying fish jets through the water and throws itself into the air. By spreading its fins, the flying fish sails through the air. It looks like some sort of strange bird.

A flying fish is small. The biggest flying fish are only about 18 inches (46 centimeters) long. Some can fly for 100 yards (91 meters) before falling back into the sea. That is as long as a football field.

Why do flying fish sail through the air? It is how they get away from bigger fish that might eat them. Bigger fish can swim faster than flying fish. But just as a bigger fish is about to catch up with a flying fish, the flying fish takes off and sails out of danger.

A flying fish's side _____ look like wings. When it sails through the air, the flying fish looks like a strange _____. Flying fish sail through the air to get away from bigger _____. When a bigger fish is about to _____ it, a flying fish takes off. Some flying fish can "fly" as far as a _____ field.

--all Pattern

Fish that Walk



Now you know that some fish can sail through the air. But did you know that another kind of fish can walk?

There is a fish called the *walking catfish*. If the lake where it is living dries up, this fish walks to another lake. It moves across the ground by pushing itself with its tail and crawling on its fins. The walking catfish is able to "walk" on land because it can breathe out of water.

Walking catfish can walk about a mile (nearly two kilometers) in a night. They can also jump high. They can jump two feet (62 centimeters) in the air. Some people who saw walking catfish wanted to find out more about them and so put them in tanks of water. The sides of the tanks were high, but that did not stop the walking catfish. Some of them got away by jumping out of their fish tanks. Maybe walking catfish should be called "jumping catfish."

The walking catfish can _____ on land. It pushes itself with its _____. And it crawls on its _____. The walking catfish can also _____ about two feet. The walking catfish can walk about a _____ in a night.

-aw, -alk Patterns

Puppy Tails



Just about each year, a new puppy is brought to Bob's home. The puppy does not cost any money. And the puppy is not Bob's to keep. Bob only has the puppy for a year, and then he must give it up. Why is that?

Bob is in a club. The club is called "Puppy Tails." The boys and girls in Puppy Tails raise dogs for Seeing Eye. Seeing Eye trains dogs for blind people. But a puppy cannot be taught how to be a Seeing Eye dog until it is about 14 months old. That is where Puppy Tails comes in. Boys and girls raise the puppies until they are old enough to be taught by Seeing Eye.

The puppies need lots of love and care. If they are going to be Seeing Eye dogs, they ought to like people. Bob gives his puppies lots of pats so they will see that people can be kind.

The puppies also have to be used to going places where there are lots of people. Bob takes his puppies to stores and shops near his home. He makes sure his puppies do not get lost.

Bob feels sad when the year is up, and he has to give his puppy back to Seeing Eye. He will miss his pup. But in a way Bob feels happy, too. He knows that his pup will help someone in need.

Bob gets a new puppy just about each _____. Bob helps raise puppies for Seeing _____. Seeing Eye dogs help the _____. Puppies need lots of love and _____. Bob takes his puppies to stores near his _____.

-aught, -ought, -ost Patterns

The Aye Aye



Do not pet an aye aye (To say aye aye, say, "I, I"). That would be the wrong thing to do. It might bite you. And its bite is bad.

The aye aye is a small animal. But it has very big eyes and very big ears. Its big eyes help it to see when there is just a little light. With its big ears, it can hear bugs moving around under the bark of a tree. And that is when it uses its teeth.

The aye aye's teeth are like steel. They are long, and they are strong. With them, the aye aye can bite right through the tree's bark. The aye aye then eats the bugs that it finds.

The aye aye also uses its paws to get bugs. Its paws are like hands. One finger on each paw is very long. It uses its long fingers to pull out bugs that have dug tunnels in the tree. The aye aye hunts for food at night. By dawn, it is tired and ready for sleep.

The aye aye is a small _____. It has very _____ eyes and big ears. The aye aye can _____ insects moving around under the bark of a tree. With its _____, the aye aye can bite through the bark of a tree. The aye aye uses its long _____ to dig insects out of tunnels.

-ong, -awn Patterns

The Moon



At one time it was said that the moon was made of green cheese. That was kind of a joke. The moon is mostly made up of gray rock.

How do we know what the moon is made of? Not too long ago, spaceships took men to the moon. The men took pictures of the moon. They also picked up some rocks and brought them back to earth. Will men or women go back to the moon? Maybe someday and maybe it will be someday soon.

No one lives on the moon. The moon has no air or water. But it does get sunlight. By noon, the sun will have made the moon very hot. But at night the moon is colder than any spot on earth.

The moon seems very bright to us. It looks brighter than any star. But the moon has no light of its own. The sun lights up the moon. What we see is the sun's light bouncing off the moon.

The moon also looks very big to us. It looks bigger than the sun. But the sun is many times bigger than the moon. The moon looks bigger because it is closer. A fast-moving spaceship could get to the moon in three days. A spaceship would take three years to get to the sun. The sun is far, far away.

The moon is mostly made up of gray _____. The moon has no air or _____. At night it is very _____ on the moon. The moon gets its light from the _____. It would take a fast-moving space- ship about _____ days to get to the moon.

-oo, -oon, -une Patterns

Shrews



Shrews might just be the hardest-working animals of all. Their hearts beat so fast and they dig and run so much that they need lots of food.

Shrews look like mice but have pointed noses. They eat mostly insects and worms. They chew up insects and worms with their sharp teeth. The pile of insects and worms that a shrew eats each day can be bigger than the shrew is.

Can you picture eating a pile of food each day that is bigger than you are? For its size, the shrew might eat more food than any other animal.

Some shrews are big. The Goliath (guh-LIE-uth) shrew is bigger than a rat. But the pygmy shrew is the smallest mammal in the world. A pygmy shrew is just about as long as your little finger. It only weighs as much as a dime. And that is not a new-born pygmy (PIG-me) shrew. That is a grownup one.

Shrews look like _____. Shrews need lots of _____. Shrews eat mostly insects and _____. The smallest shrew is the size of your little _____. It only weighs as much as a _____.

-ew, -ue Patterns

The Best-Liked Fruit



Which fruit do you like best? The best-liked fruit is the banana. Each of us eats about 20 pounds of bananas a year.

Bananas grow on very tall plants. A banana plant may grow to be 25 feet (8 meters) tall. That is as tall as the tallest giraffe.

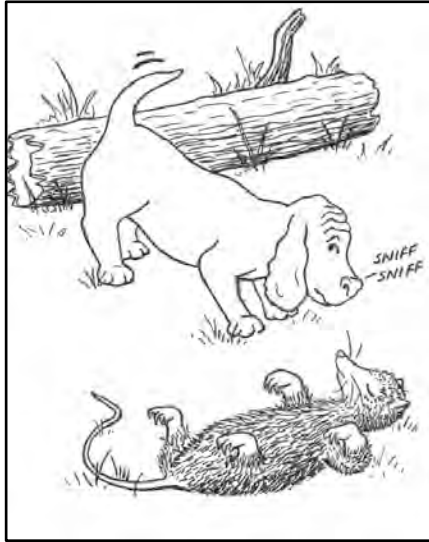
Banana plants grow very fast. A banana plant can shoot up to its full size in just a year's time.

As many as 300 bananas grow on just one banana plant. The bananas are so heavy that they make the whole plant bend or droop. The banana plant dies after the bananas are fully grown. But new plants grow from shoots that sprout out of the banana plant's roots.

Bananas are picked when they are green. Green bananas are not ripe and do not taste good. As bananas ripen, their skins turn yellow, and their insides become sweeter. Because of its sweet taste, the banana has become one of the best-liked fruits in the world.

Bananas are one of the best-liked _____. Bananas grow on very tall _____. A banana plant may shoot up to its full size in just a _____. Bananas are picked when their skin is _____ in color. As bananas grow ripe, the skin turns _____. -oot, -uit, -ute Patterns

Playing Possum



Animals have tricks for fooling predators. Some animals play dead when they are attacked. If a dog or other animal attacks it, a possum will fall down. The possum lies on its side with its eyes closed tight. Its heartbeat is slowed down. It lies very still. The dog may bark at the possum or even grab the possum with its teeth. But the possum does not move. It seems to be dead. When the dog leaves, the possum rolls over and runs away. The possum has fooled the dog. Playing dead is a cool trick. Playing dead is the possum's tool for staying alive. Sometimes people "play possum." If someone says that you are "playing possum," that means that you are fooling him or her in some way.

Possoms fool predators by seeming to be _____.

The possum's _____ slows down. When the predator leaves the possum, runs _____. Playing dead is the possum's tool for staying _____.

_____.

-ool, -ule Patterns

One-Room Schools



In the old days, many schools had just one room. The teacher would get to school early and sweep the room with a broom she had made.

The one-room school had little boys and girls who were 6 or 7 and were just learning to read and write. And it had big boys and girls who were as old as 12 or 13. They would soon go off to high school or work.

All the boys and girls had to do what they were told. And they had to work hard. If the boys and girls fooled instead of doing their schoolwork, they had to sit on a tall stool in the corner of the room.

Teachers were not paid much money in the old days. In some places they were given food or hens and pigs instead of money. But the teachers were given a place to live. The moms and dads of the children they taught set aside a room in their homes for the teacher. The teacher spent a few weeks in one home and then moved onto the next home.

In the old days many _____ had just one room. One _____ taught all the boys and girls. Boys and girls who fooled instead of working had to sit on a tall _____. In some places teachers were given food or farm animals instead of _____. The teacher lived in the _____ of the students she taught.

-oom; -oup Patterns

The Upside-Down Animal



One animal spends much of its time upside down. If you ever see a sloth, you know that you are looking at a strange animal. The sloth has claws that look like hooks. With its hooklike claws, a sloth can hang upside down on a tree branch.

The sloth sleeps during the day. By locking its claws around a tree branch, it can sleep hanging upside down. At night the sloth hunts for food. It eats leaves and twigs.

Even when it moves, the sloth is upside down. It crawls along tree branches by moving its claws hand over hand.

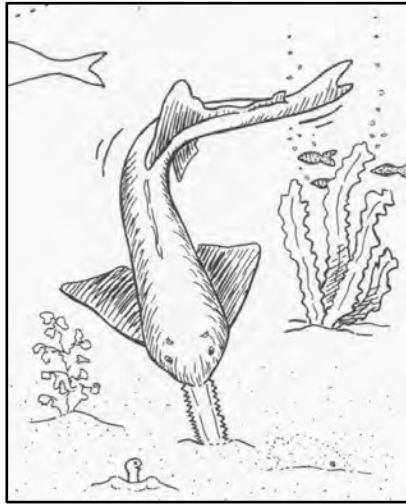
A sloth may spend its whole life in one tree. It cannot stand up, so it has a hard time moving on the ground. If it wanted to get to another tree, it would get there by moving along the branches from one tree to the next. If it could not get there that way, it would have to pull itself along the ground.

Sloths are hard to see in a tree. Tiny green plants grow in a sloth's hair, so it looks like a tree branch. And it moves so slowly it seems to be part of the tree. Looking and acting like it is part of a tree helps keep the sloth hidden from its enemies.

Sloths spend most of their time in a _____. Sloths have claws that are like _____. With its claws, a sloth can hang upside _____. Sloths eat twigs and tree _____. Sloths are hard to see because tiny green _____ grow in their hair.

-ook Pattern

The Fish that Has a Saw



What does the sawfish use to get its food? Can you guess? If you said, "a saw," you are right.

This saw is not a real one. It is not the kind of saw that you could use to cut wood. The sawfish's saw is a long, noselike body part called a *snout*. Along both sides of the snout are rows of teeth. These teeth look like the teeth of a saw.

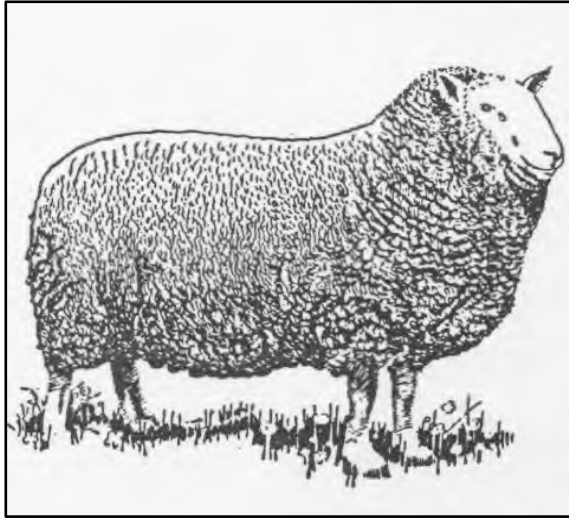
The saw of a sawfish can be six feet long. Six feet would be just about how tall a man is. And that would be a very long saw.

The sawfish uses its saw to cut up other fish that are swimming nearby. Then it eats the fish. It also uses its saw to dig up sea animals that are trying to hide in the sand at the bottom of the sea. The sawfish's saw is a good way to get food.

The sawfish's saw is part of a long noselike body part called a _____ . Along both sides of the snout are rows of _____ . The sawfish's saw is a good way to get _____ . The sawfish can cut up _____ . And it can _____ up sea animals that hide in the sand.

-ood, -ould Patterns

Wool



Do you know where wool comes from? Most wool comes from sheep. By the spring, sheep have a bushy coat of wool. Each spring the fleece, which is the sheep's wool, is cut off. The wool from one sheep can be made into seven winter coats.

Sheep are not the only animals who give wool. We also get wool from camels and goats. Camels do not have to be sheared. Each spring their fur drops off in large chunks. It looks like it has been pulled off, but it falls off by itself. The wool made from a camel's fur is soft and fine.

Goats give milk and can even be trained to pull small carts. Some goats are also raised for their wool. The angora (an-Gor-uh) goat is covered with a curly coat of wool. Its wool is used to make fine suits. Another goat, the cashmere (KASH-meer), has a woolen coat that is used to make very soft sweaters and coats.

Most _____ comes from sheep. Sheep are sheared each _____. The fur of a _____ falls off in large chunks. The angora _____ grows a thick, curly coat of wool. Wool from the cashmere goat is used to make very soft sweaters and _____.

-ool, -ull, -ush Patterns

Worms Make Silk



Did you know that worms make silk? At one time silkworms that made silk lived in the wild. But now most silk is made by worms that live on farms.

Here is how the silk is made. In summer, moths lay hundreds of eggs. The eggs are put in a cold place until spring. Then the eggs are taken out of the cold place and put in a warm place. After three weeks or so, the eggs hatch into baby silkworms.

Now the farmers feed the silkworms leaves. The silkworms eat lots of leaves. After they are grown, the silkworms spin a silk cocoon. They spin their cocoons for about three days. The cocoon is made of silk. Now the cocoons are gathered, soaked, and cleaned, and sent to be made into silk thread and silk cloth. And that is how silk is made.

Worms make _____. Moths lay _____. After the eggs hatch, farmers feed the silkworms _____. The silkworms spin _____.

The cocoons are made into silk thread and silk _____ -ow Pattern

Clowns



Clowns look funny. Most clowns have big shoes. Their shoes may be so big that you could put two feet in one shoe. Their pants and shirts may also be way too big for them. And a clown king may wear a crown that is so big it covers his ears.

Clowns do funny tricks. They make out they are throwing pails of water at each other. But all that comes out are bits of paper. They may also drive tiny cars. It looks funny to see a very tall clown climb out of a very small car.

It is not easy to be a clown. Clowns spend many hours painting their faces and trying out their tricks.

Being a clown is hard work. But it is fun, too. It is fun to make boys and girls and moms and dads laugh.

Most clowns wear very _____ shoes. Clowns do funny _____.
A tall clown may ride in a very _____ car. Even though it is fun, being
a _____ is hard work. Clowns spend many hours trying out tricks
and painting their _____.

-own (town) Pattern

Owls



From high up in a tree, a barn owl spots a brown rat. Now, without a sound, it darts down to the ground and swoops up the rat.

Owls are born hunters. How do owls hunt in the dark? Their eyes are made in such a way that they let in a lot of light. An owl can spot a mouse, rat, or other animal on the darkest of nights. Owls also have good ears. They can pick up the softest of sounds.

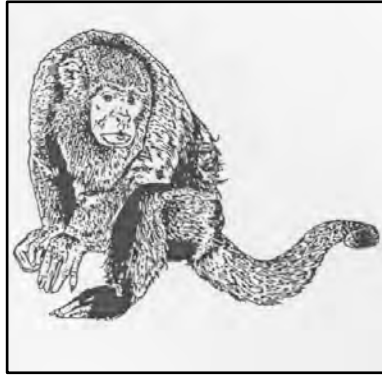
Even the owl's feathers help it to hunt. Its feathers are soft and fluffy. They soak up sound as the owl dives down. The mouse or rat on the ground won't hear the owl coming.

Farmers like owls. Owls kill mice, rats, rabbits, and other animals that eat the farmer's crops.

Owls can see well at _____. Owls can also hear the softest of _____. An owl's feathers are soft and _____. Owls hunt mice, rabbits, and other small _____. Owls kill animals that eat farmers' _____.

-ound Pattern

Animal Sounds



Some animals make strange sounds. Cows moo. Crows caw. And owls hoot. Some animals can even say words. Crows and parrots can be taught to say *hi*, *good-by*, and other words. They sound like they're talking. But they do not really know what they are saying.

One of the loudest animals is the howler monkey. Male howler monkeys have a large bone in their throats. With this bone, they can howl and roar very loudly. Howler monkeys can be heard two or three miles (more than three or nearly five kilometers) away.

Howlers live in the tops of trees and eat mostly leaves. They move very slowly. In the early morning hours, just after the sun rises, the howler monkeys howl and roar. When a troop of monkeys howl, they are telling other troops of monkeys to stay away. The howlers are saying, "These trees are ours. Keep out of our spot."

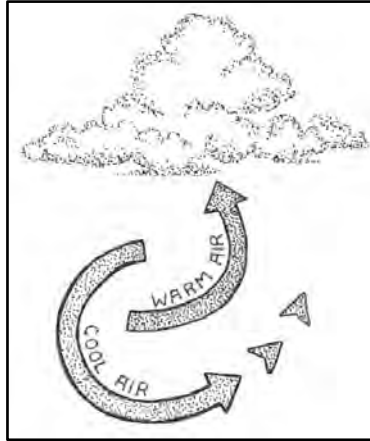
If the troop moves to another tree, they howl once more. They want to let the other troops know that they have moved on. By howling loudly, each troop sets aside a feeding place.

Howler monkeys can be heard two or even three _____ away.

Howler monkeys live in _____. They eat mostly _____, They howl each day just after the sun _____. By howling, each troop sets aside a _____ place.

-oud, owd Patterns

Clouds



Clouds look soft. They look like giant fluffy pillows. But clouds are made up of tiny drops of water or ice. Clouds are formed when warm, wet air rises and cools. As the air cools, tiny drops of water form. If it is very cold, tiny bits of ice form. These tiny bits of water or ice become clouds.

Clouds are also formed when warm and cool air meet. High above the ground, warm air coming from the south may meet cool air coming from the north. The cool air moves under the warm air. This makes the warm air rise. As it rises, the warm air becomes cooler. Drops of water or ice form. And a cloud is made.

Jets also make clouds. A jet's engine shoots out warm, wet air. The warm, wet air cools and forms tiny drops of water and ice. If you look up, you may be able to see long white clouds forming as a jet shoots across the sky.

People can also make clouds. Warm air coming out of your mouth on a very cold morning makes a little cloud.

You may have been in a cloud and did not know it. Have you ever been out in a fog? Fog is a cloud that is close to the ground.

Clouds are made up of tiny drops of _____ or ice. Clouds are formed when warm, wet _____ rises. When warm air rises, it _____. If it is very cold, tiny bits of _____ form. Clouds are also formed when warm, wet air shoots out of the engine of a _____. -out, -outh, -our, -ouse Patterns

The Eagle and the Mongooses



It looked like an easy meal. Swooping down, an eagle grabbed a banded mongoose in its claws and flew into a tree. Boy, oh, boy! It picked up the mongoose just like it was a toy.

Banded mongooses are furry animals with long tails. They are small, but they help each other in time of danger.

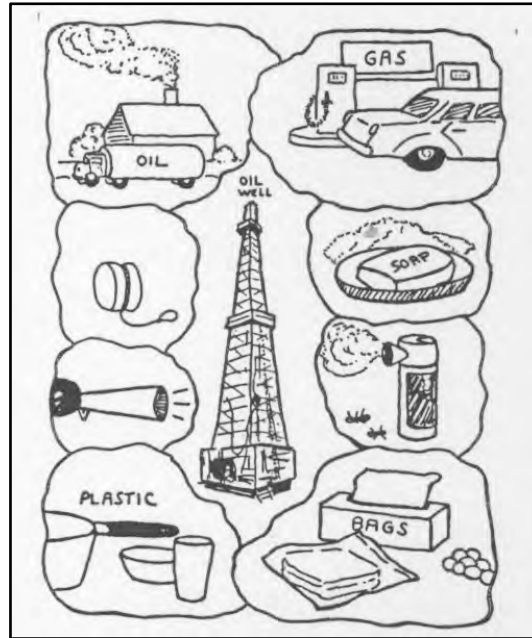
Seeing one of the band in danger, the leader of the pack ran to the tree. With its sharp claws, it began climbing. The rest of the band joined in. They climbed the tree, too. Climbing to the spot where the eagle sat, the leader leaped at the eagle. Surprised, the eagle let go of the mongoose. The mongoose fell safely to the ground.

The eagle wisely flew away. It was no match for the mongooses who had come after it.

Banded mongooses help each other in time of _____. A banded _____ was picked up by an eagle. The eagle flew to a _____. The other mongooses _____ up the tree. The leader _____ at the eagle, and the eagle dropped the mongoose.

-oy, -oin Patterns

The Magic of Oil



Oil is used to make gas for cars and trucks. Oil is used to heat homes and schools when it is cold. But did you know that oil is used to make many of the things that you use every day?

The plastic handles on pans used to boil water are made of oil. In fact, oil is used in the making of just about all plastics. Plastic horns that make a lot of noise are made of oil. Plastic yo-yos that come in your choice of colors are also made of oil. Oil is used to make phones and plastic car parts and plastic cups.

Oil is even used to make soap and bug killers. And it is used to make the little plastic bags that keep food from spoiling.

Oil is made into _____ for cars and trucks. Oil is used to _____ homes and schools. Oil is used to make _____ handles and toys. Oil is even used to make soap and bug _____. Oil is used to make little plastic bags that keep _____ from spoiling,

-oil, -oice, -oise Patterns

Answer Key

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. star, shine, far, warm, bright | 16. mice, food, worms, finger, dime |
| 2. sizes, whale, white, smallest, sea (ocean) | 17. fruits, plants, year's, green, yellow |
| 3. smart, sticks, ant, licks, rocks | 18. dead, heartbeat, away, alive, fool |
| 4. fish, line, air, water, food | 19. schools, teacher, stool, money, homes |
| 5. game, indoors, baskets, ball, basketball | 20. tree, hands, down, leaves, plants |
| 6. corn, farmers, eaten, off, cream | 21. snout, teeth, food, fish, dig |
| 7. snow, learn, sniffs, scent, animals | 22. wool, spring, camel, goat, coats |
| 8. sea, beach, hole, eggs, swim | 23. silk, eggs, leaves, cocoons, cloth |
| 9. world, sharp, herds, more, twice | 24. big, tricks, small, clown, faces |
| 10. dogs, sides, high (tall), spring, mates | 25. night, sounds, fluffy, animals, crops |
| 11. fins, bird, fish, catch (eat), football | 26. miles, trees, leaves, rises, feeding |
| 12. walk, tail, fins, jump, mile | 27. water, air, cools, ice, jet |
| 13. year, Eye, blind, care, home | 28. danger, mongoose, tree, climbed, leaped |
| 14. animal, big, hear, teeth, finger | 29. parts, heat, plastic, bug, food |
| 15. rocks, water, cold, sun, three | |

Answers 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 on the key, ask them to explain their answers. Accept any answers that seem reasonable.