



Words and their Meanings



Circle the word that has the same meaning.

1. a number of birds of one kind feeding, resting, or traveling together

alone

feather

beak

flock

2. close or join securely

loose

release

fasten

detach

3. having a long distance from side to side; wide

narrow

little

broad

small

4. moved forward on the hands and knees

crawl

slither

rush

walk

5. a broad blade or scoop attached to a long handle

pail

hammer

pliers

shovel

6. a fruit related to the peach and cherry that usually has smooth purple or red-dish skin, sweet juicy flesh, and a stony pit

plum

banana

apple

orange

7. highly pleasant to the taste

edible

delicious

bland

dull

8. the state of being ill

healthy

fit

sickness

happiness

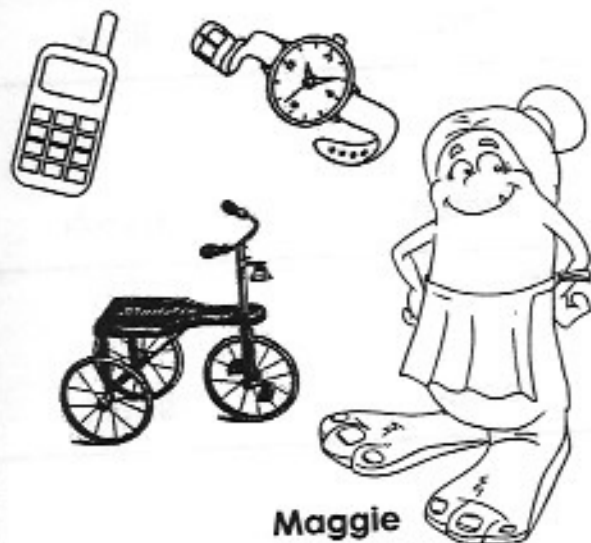
Compare monsters!

(US English version)

My name is _____

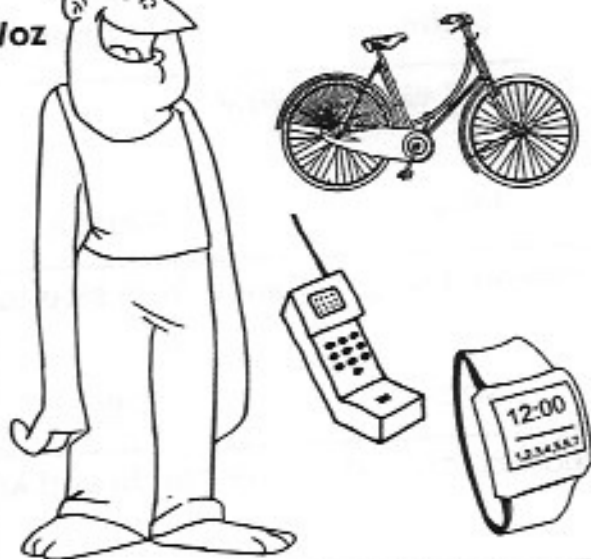
Look at the monsters and their things. On the next page write sentences comparing them.

Maggie's things:

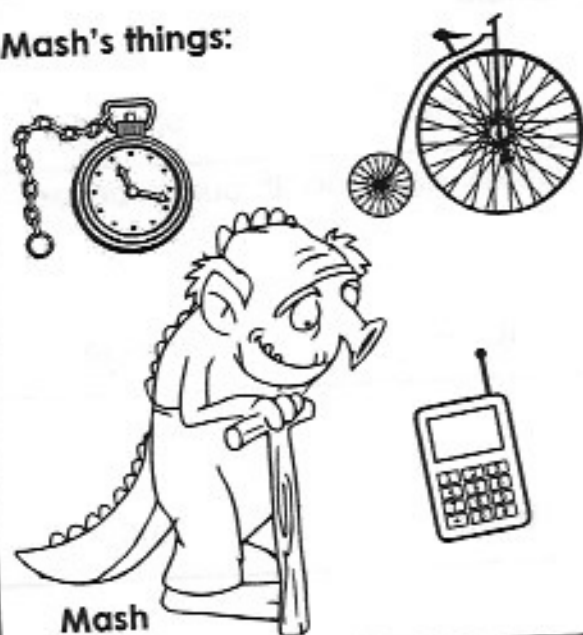


Woz

Woz's things:



Mash's things:



Nipnip's things:



short old long big tall young expensive
beautiful fast slow heavy new good bad

The Life Cycle of a Tulip



Planting Time

Tulip bulbs are planted deep in moist soil. Being planted deep underground in the moist soil will help the bulbs to develop. The bulbs are planted during the months of September and October.



Making Roots

The roots make their appearance on the bottom of the bulb. As they make themselves established the roots begin to take nourishment out of the dirt. This happens during the month of November.



Cooling Phase

During the months of December and January the bulbs will be in a rest period. For the bulbs to bloom in spring they need a few weeks rest.



Growing Period

The first change the bulbs make is when the starch in them turns to sugar. When this happens the flowers and leaves little by little start to push up and out of the bulb during February and March.



Blooming Time

Finally when April and May arrive, the tulips are in bloom. The only way the tulip receives nourishment is from the roots. Only the brown skin of the bulb remains. All of the flower's energy has gone to the bloom. Blooming tulip flowers show that spring is here!



Important Words

nourishment: the food or other substances necessary for growth, health, and good condition
starch: white substance occurring widely in plant tissue as a carbohydrate store

The Life Cycle of a Tulip

Comprehension Questions

Directions: Answer each question in a complete sentence. Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

1. What is the main idea of the text?

2. Which heading helps you understand when the tulip bulb needs to rest? Why?

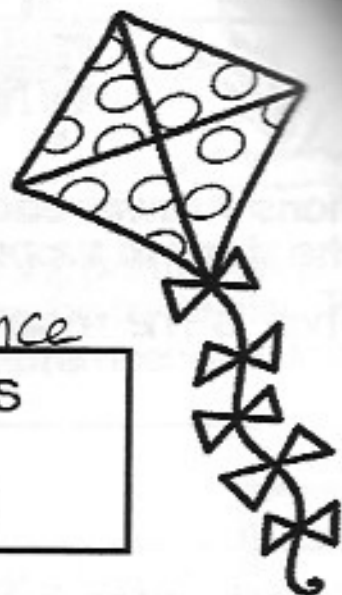
3. Why are words in bold print in an informational text? What are the words in bold print in this text?

4. How do the illustrations help you understand the text better?

5. What is the most interesting stage of the life cycle of a tulip? Why?

Name: _____

Soaring Suffixes



Directions: Using the suffixes in the box complete the word in each sentence by adding the correct suffix to the end of the words.

each word can be used more than once

-ful	-able	-less
-ment	-ness	

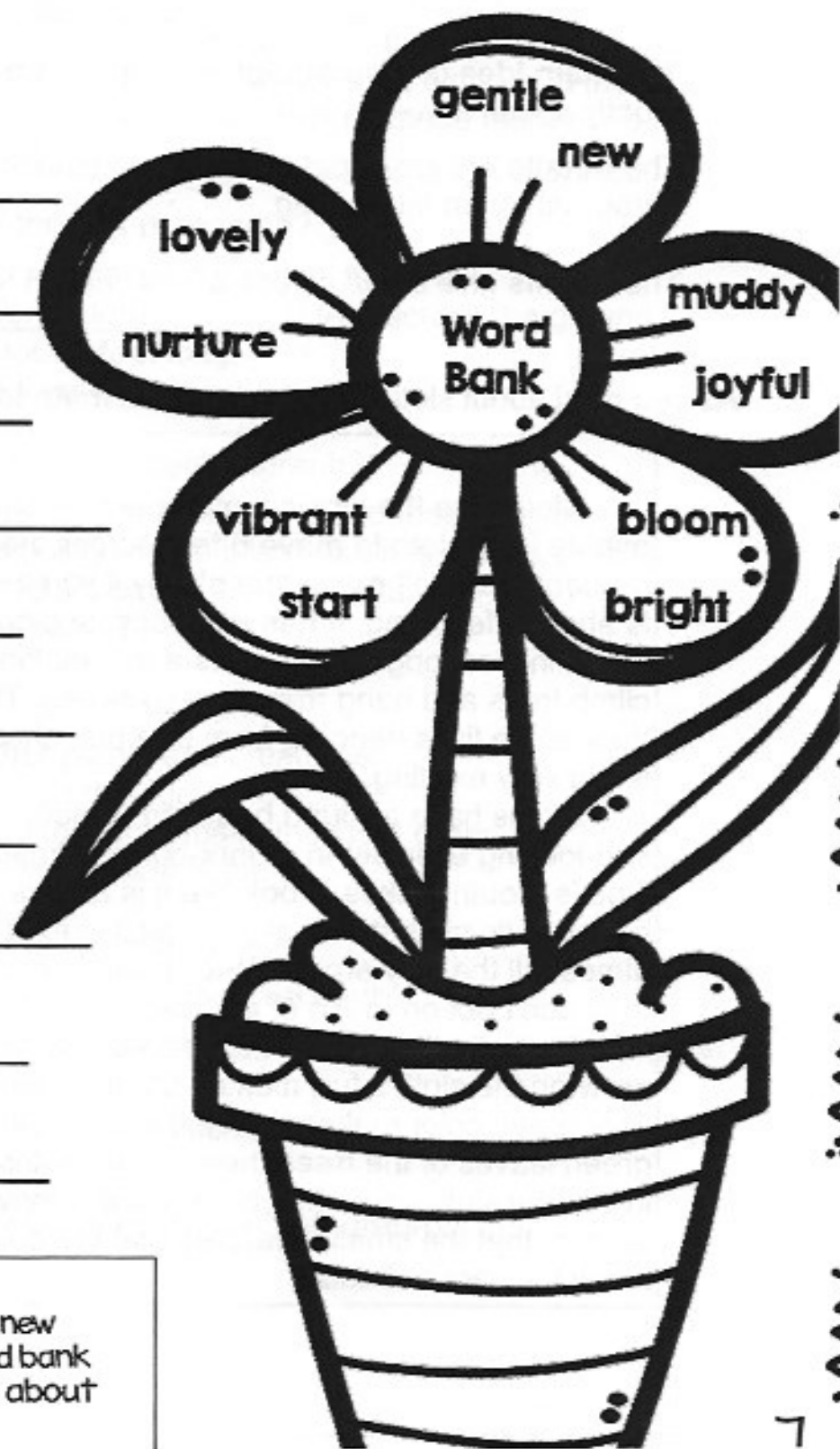
1. It was a wonder ful spring afternoon as the kites flew in the sky.
2. All of the children were filled with excite _____ as they watched their kites fly.
3. All of a sudden the wind stopped and caused the kites to become power _____.
4. The children felt very help _____ because they did not know what to do.
5. Then the wind started to become very power _____ and lifted the kites right off the ground.
6. Everyone was cheer _____ again as they watched the kites soar.
7. The bright _____ of the sun was hard to look up at the kites in the sky.
8. However the children did not care because of all of the enjoy _____ they were having with their kites.
9. The children learned how dur _____ their kites were from the great _____ of the wind.
10. When the children were done flying their kites they sat down in the comfort _____ shade to take a much needed rest _____.

me: _____

Spring Synonyms

Directions: For each word, find a synonym on the Word Bank Flower. Write the synonym on the line. Then color the picture.

1. beautiful _____
2. blossom _____
3. dirty _____
4. cheerful _____
5. soft _____
6. garden _____
7. begin _____
8. colorful _____
9. grow _____
10. sunny _____



Challenge Box:

On the back of this paper or on a new paper, pick 5 words from the word bank and write them each in a sentence about Spring!



Main idea

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

The **main idea** of a paragraph is what the whole paragraph is *mostly about*.

The **details** are *small pieces of information* that make the paragraph more interesting.

The **details** give *small pieces of information* about the **main idea**.

As you read about sloths, think about the **main idea** of each paragraph.

Sloths

Sloths are the slowest mammals on earth. It takes a full minute for a sloth to move 6 feet across the ground. You probably couldn't move that slowly if you tried! The sloth's body is about 2 feet long. It has long legs, and curved claws that are 3 to 4 inches long. Their claws and their long legs help them climb trees and hang from tree branches. They spend almost their entire lives hanging from tree branches. The life of a sloth is not very exciting.

Sloths have a round head, small ears, a stubby tail, and sad-looking eyes set in a dark-colored "mask." The shape of a sloth's mouth makes it look like it is always smiling. It has extra bones in its neck that make it possible for it to turn its head almost all the way around. Sloths are very cute to look at, but they don't put on much of a show.

Sloths are home to other plants and creatures. Tiny plants grow on the sloth's fur, making the animals appear to be green. This green color makes the sloths almost invisible against the green leaves of the trees they live in. Moths and insects also live in the sloth's fur. Maybe the sloths move so little and so seldom that the small creatures that live on them don't even know they are animals.

Giant sloths the size of elephants once lived in many places on earth, including North America. Today, sloths can be found in the tropical forests of Central and South America. They eat leaves and berries. A sloth can stick its tongue out 12 inches. Maybe they developed this skill so they wouldn't have to move to reach the tasty leaves and berries around their resting spot. Their main enemies are jaguars, eagles, and snakes. Many tropical forests are disappearing, along with the sloths that live there. It would be a sad thing if these fascinating little animals became extinct.

1. What is the main idea of the first paragraph?
 - A. Sloths are the slowest mammals on earth.
 - B. It takes a full minute for a sloth to move 6 feet across the ground.
 - C. The sloth's body is about 2 feet long.
 - D. The life of a sloth is not very exciting.

2. What is the main idea of the second paragraph?
 - A. Sloths have a round head, small ears, and sad-looking eyes.
 - B. The shape of a sloth's mouth make it look like it is always smiling.
 - C. A sloth can turn its head almost all the way around.
 - D. Sloths are very cute to look at.

3. What is the main idea of the third paragraph?
 - A. Sloths are home to other plants and creatures.
 - B. Tiny plants grow on the sloth's fur.
 - C. The plants that grow on the sloth make the sloth green.
 - D. Moths and insects live in the sloth's fur.

4. What is the main idea of the last paragraph?
 - A. Sloths the size of elephants once lived on earth.
 - B. Today, sloths live in the tropical forests of Central and South America.
 - C. A sloth can stick its tongue out 12 inches.
 - D. It would be sad if sloths became extinct.

5. What is one interesting *detail* from the last paragraph?

Marty at the Library

Read the story below:

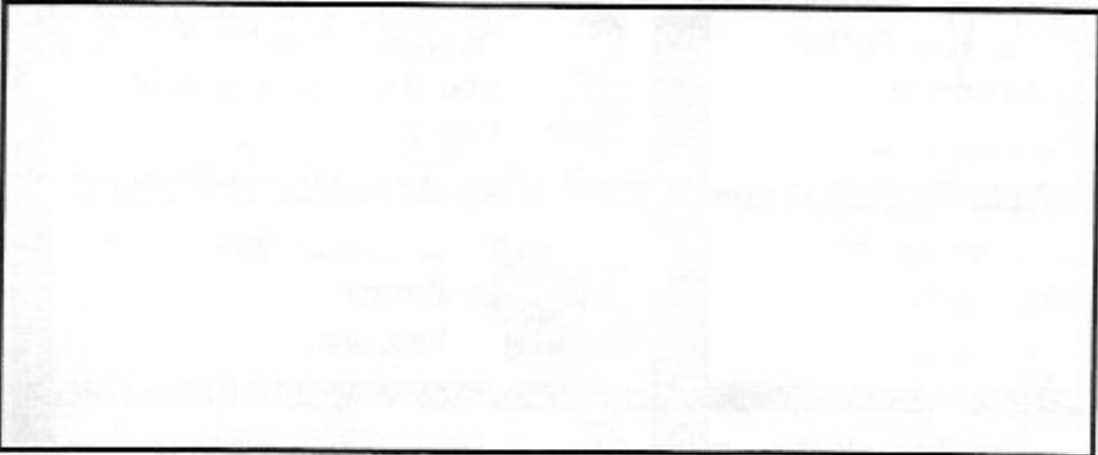
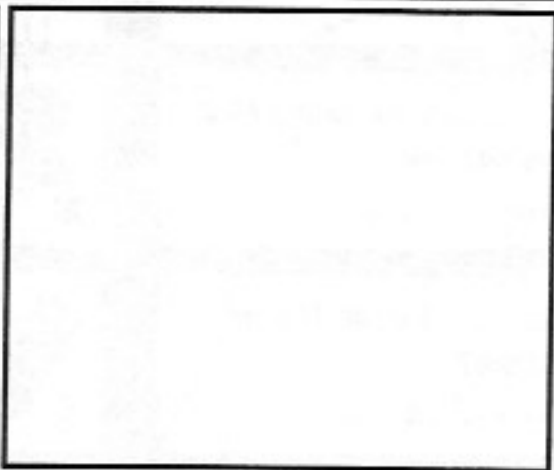
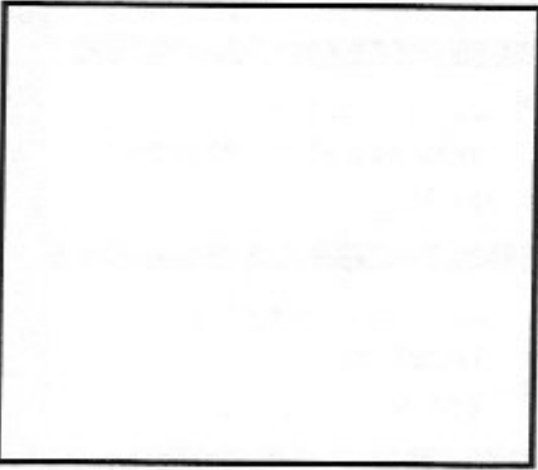
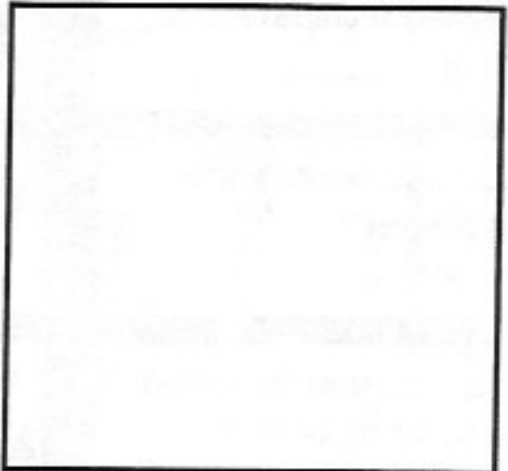
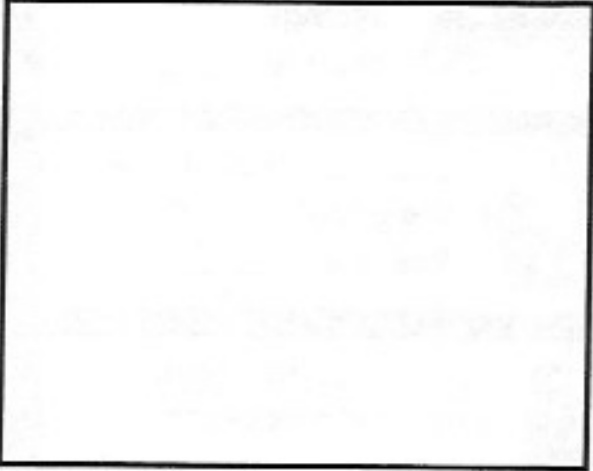
Written by Jackie Macky • Illustrated by J. Ross





Use **all** of the words and sentences in this **word bank** to create your own story about a student asking for help in the library.

Key Words		
authors	librarian	organized
fiction	library	section
information	nonfiction	titles
Sentence Frames		
How can I _____?		
How do I _____?		
Where can I _____?		
Where do I _____?		



Do or Does?



_____ your brother
play the trumpet?
No, he _____



_____ you like
cycling?
Yes, we _____



_____ Susan know
the answer?
Yes, she _____



_____ your parents
like pizza?
Yes, they _____



_____ your grandma
read a lot of books?
Yes, she _____



_____ they have
eggs for breakfast?
No, they _____



_____ your uncle sing
in the shower?
Yes, he _____



_____ you
understand the exercise?
No, I _____



_____ Peter travel
by plane?
No, he _____



_____ we play
together?
Yes, we _____



_____ your father
go to bed early?
No, he _____



_____ you brush
your teeth every day?
Yes, I _____



_____ you go to
school by bus?
No, I _____



_____ you live in a
farm?
Yes, we _____



_____ they watch
TV in the evenings?
Yes, they _____

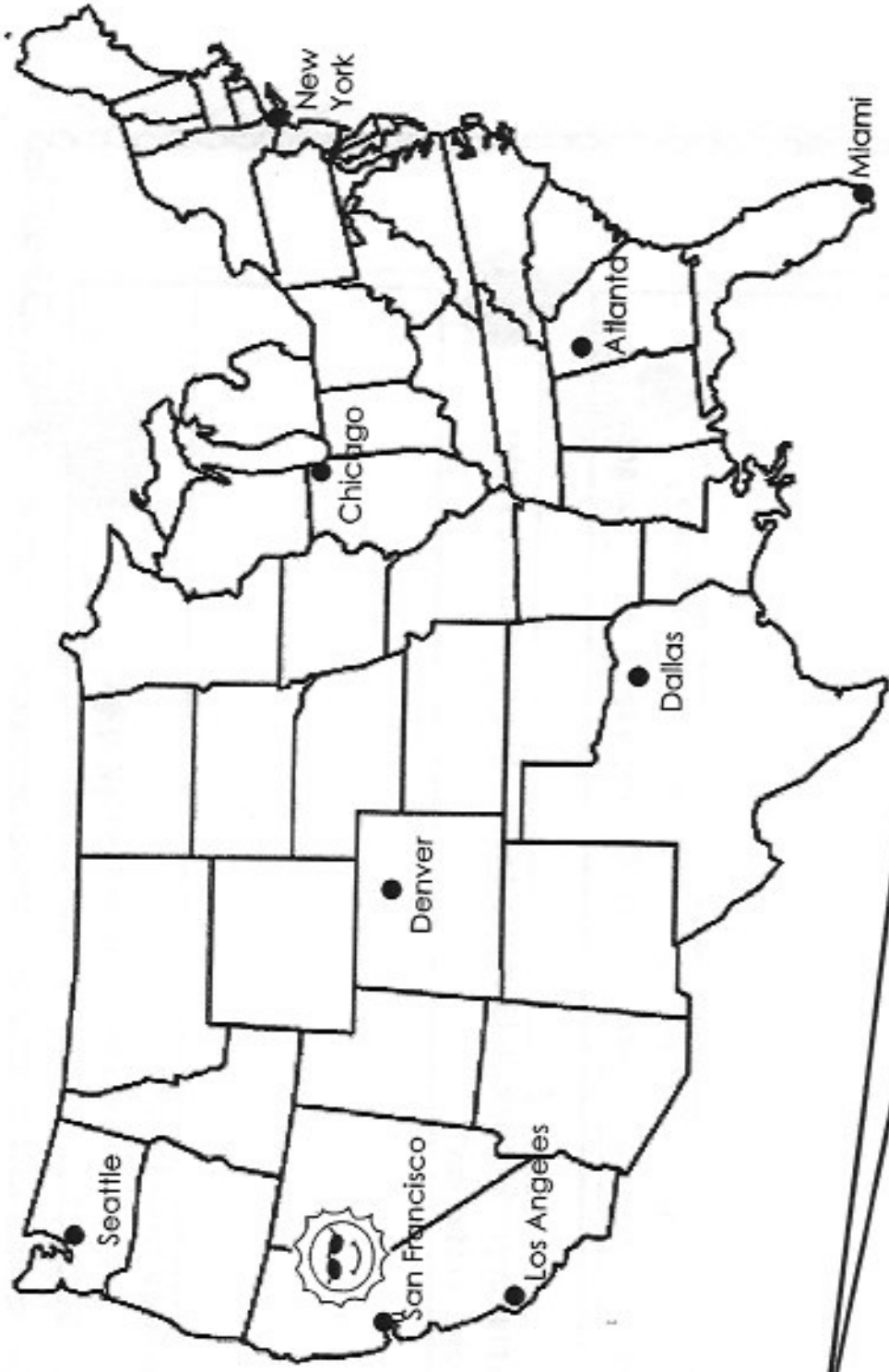


_____ you love
your dad?
Yes, I _____

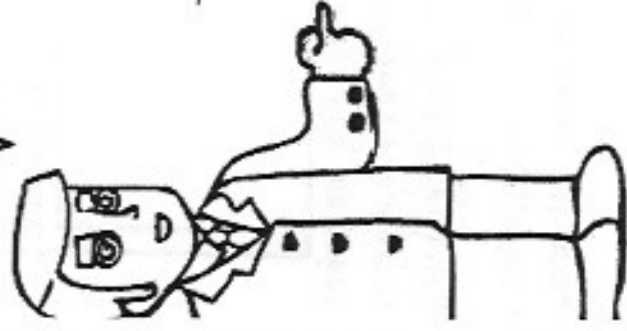
Weather Forecast

My name is _____

Draw the weather signs on the map. San Francisco is already been done.



Hello,
Welcome
to the
weather
forecast!



San Francisco will be **sunny** and hot. **Chicago** will be **windy**. **Dallas**, **Atlanta** and **Miami** will be **rainy**. **New York** will be cold and **snowy**. **Denver** and **Los Angeles** will be **cloudy**. Finally, **Seattle** will be **sunny**, **windy** and **rainy**! Goodbye!

Directions: Solve each word problem by showing your work in the box and writing in equation and your answer on the lines below.

Dan read 6 pages of his book on Monday. He read 15 pages on Tuesday. He read some more pages on Wednesday. Dan has now read 27 pages of his book. How many pages did he read on Wednesday?



Equation: _____

Answer: _____ pages

Jada picked some apples yesterday. She picked 13 apples today. She now has 29 apples. How many apples did Jada pick yesterday?



Equation: _____

Answer: _____ apples

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Solve each word problem by showing your work in the box and writing an equation and your answer on the lines below.



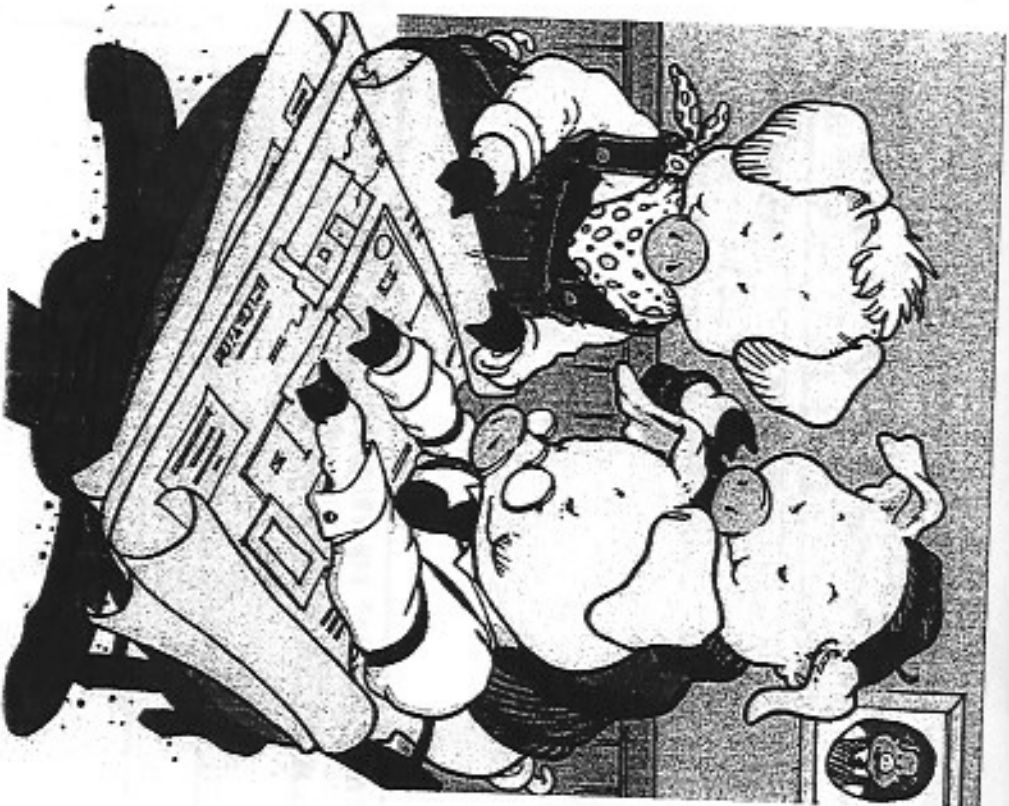
John has \$37. He went to the store and spent some money on games. John now has \$15. How much money did John spend?

Equation: _____	Answer: _____
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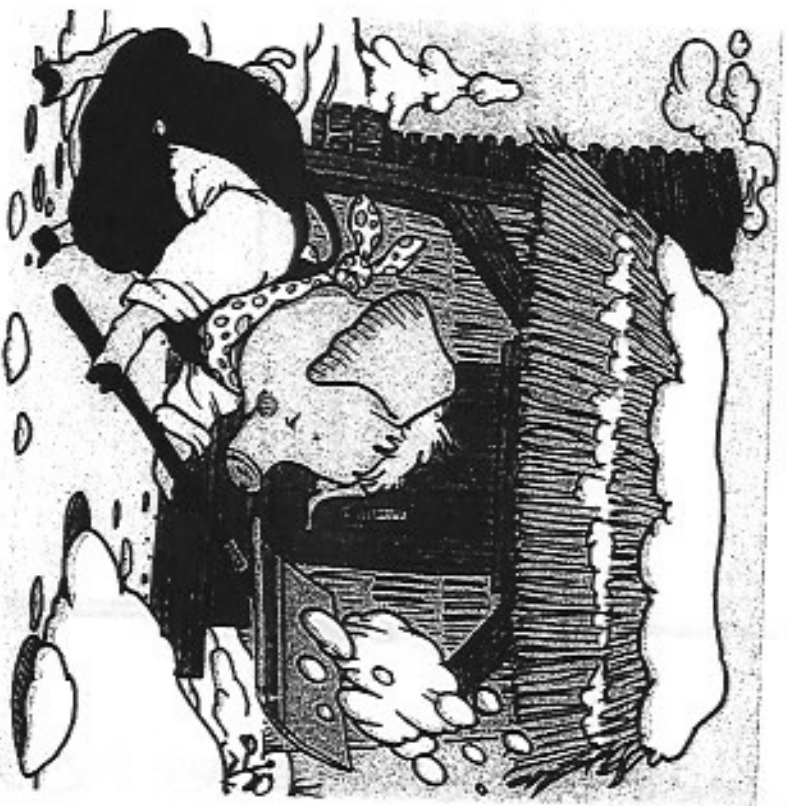
Jeremy had some marbles. He gave 16 of them to Joshua. Jeremy now has 26 marbles. How many marbles did Jeremy have before he gave some to Joshua?

Equation: _____	Answer: _____ marbles
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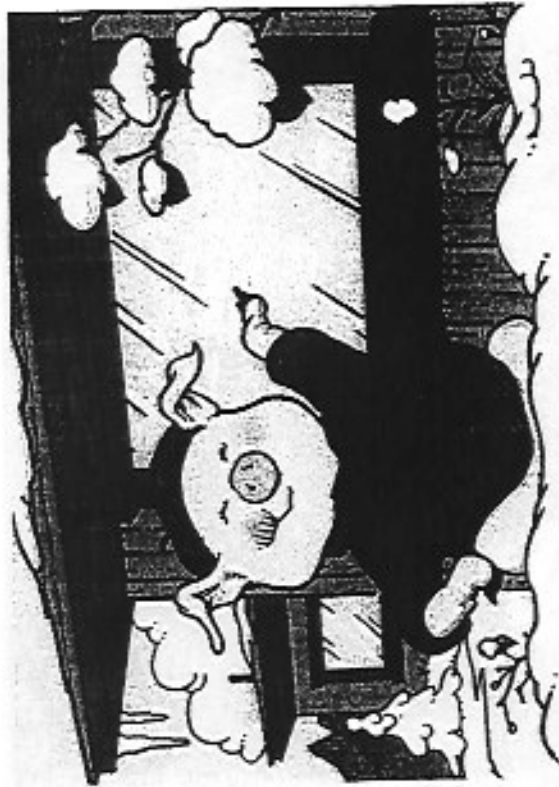


Once upon a time in a quiet country village, there lived three little pigs. They were the luckiest swine in the country. They had just **inherited** enough money from their grandfather to build three new houses.

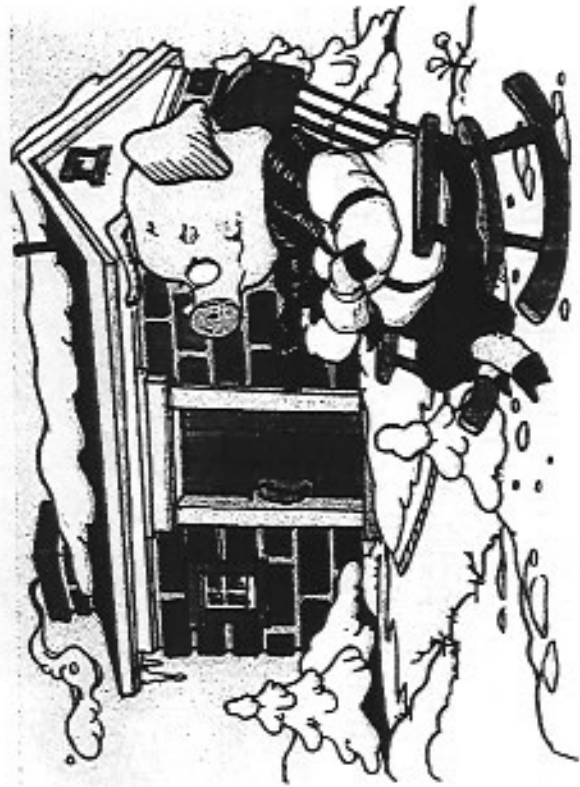
The first little pig wanted a warm and cozy house that would help him to relax. He built his house out of straw, the warmest and most familiar material he knew.



The second little pig loved to shock the neighbors. He picked sticks for materials and built a **modern** house like Frank Lloyd Wright.



The third little pig, who planned for any imagined disaster, built a **sturdy** house of bricks and mortar.



Not far off in the cold, damp forest lived a poor old wolf. He lived in a rotten, hollow log and searched the forest for whatever food he could find. He had no money—not a single cent—to build a house or plant a garden. Unlike most wolves, he was a **vegetarian**.

When winter arrived, it was extremely bitter and harsh. The wolf ate so little that he became weak and caught a terrible cold. Soon he was constantly sniffing and sneezing. He sneezed so hard that he blew dried leaves off the forest's trees.

The sickly wolf left the forest in search of food and shelter. He sniffled and sneezed as he traveled down the road.

Achoo! Achoo!

With each sneeze, the snow whirled into a white cloud around his frostbitten ears.



After walking for several hours, the old wolf came upon the quaint village where the three pigs lived. Being so very cold and so very hungry, he hurried to the nearest house as fast as his stiff body could carry him.

He knocked on the straw door. He hoped that whoever lived there would take pity on him and let him come inside.

Before the timid little pig could reach the door, the wolf began to sneeze and sneeze.





The wolf followed the pig to the stick house, **desperate** after destroying his first chance at food and shelter.

"Please, oh please, give me something to eat and a warm place to rest," he pleaded.

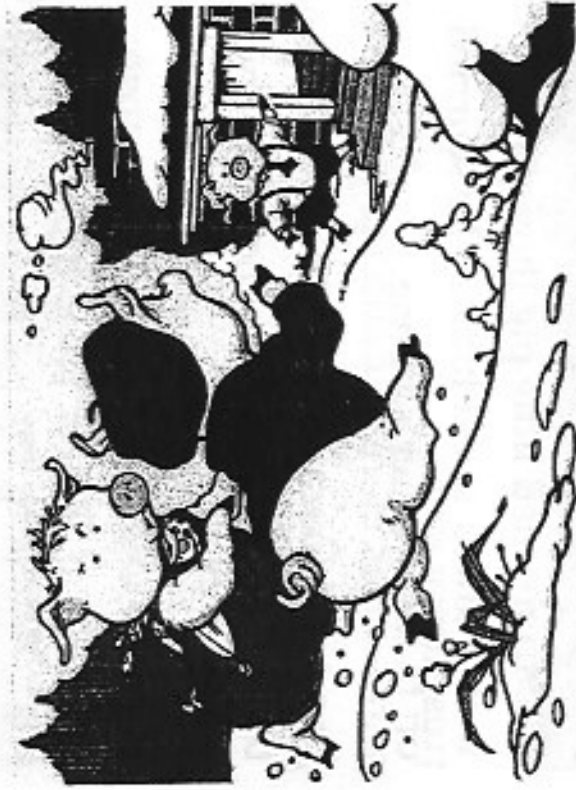
The two pigs remained hidden under the bed, fearing for their lives. Once again the old wolf began to sneeze and sneeze.

Achoo! Achoo!

To the wolf's surprise, he sneezed so hard that he blew the straw house apart. The frightened little pig thought the wolf wanted to eat him, so he scurried off to his brother's house.

In a trembling voice, the pig warned his brother about the wolf who had blown down his house. They quickly locked the door and hid under a bed.





His sneezing shook the house of sticks. Three more sneezes and the house fell down. The two panicked pigs ran off over the hill to their brother's house of bricks.

Their brother was sure the wolf couldn't destroy his house. To be on the safe side, the pigs locked the doors and windows and hid in the safest room.

When the two brothers had calmed down a bit, the three pigs sat down to a game of cards.

The wolf again came begging for food and shelter. He was **delirious**. The weather and the illness had **sapped** his strength.

One last time, the wolf began to sneeze and sneeze. The brick house stood strong, but the wolf teetered until a final sneeze made him collapse in the drifting snow.

The wolf lay there **unconscious**. After much time passed, a weasel pulling a sled found the wolf nearly frozen.





The weasel, being kind and concerned, struggled to pull the old wolf onto his sled.



The weasel finally managed to load up the wolf and tugged the sled to his house at the edge of the village. He helped the sick creature into bed, where he nursed the wolf back to health with vegetable broth.

When spring came, the healthy wolf explained his terrible **ordeal** to the three pig brothers. The pigs were ashamed that they hadn't realized what was happening.

The wolf didn't blame them for misunderstanding. To make up for blowing down the two houses, the wolf helped the little pigs rebuild.

Then all of the villagers joined together to build the wolf a new house. The wolf's new neighbors also helped him plant a garden full of fresh vegetables.

From that day on, the old wolf was never cold or hungry again, and he never sneezed another sneeze.



Glossary

delirious (<i>adj.</i>)	having confused thoughts and speech, usually as a result of a high fever (p. 12)
desperate (<i>adj.</i>)	having lost hope; suffering extreme need (p. 10)
frostbitten (<i>adj.</i>)	injured from exposure to freezing cold (p. 7)
inherited (<i>v.</i>)	received upon the death of someone (p. 3)
modern (<i>adj.</i>)	with characteristics of the current time (p. 4)
ordeal (<i>n.</i>)	a hard or difficult experience (p. 14)
quaint (<i>adj.</i>)	looking old-fashioned (p. 8)
sapped (<i>v.</i>)	slowly weakened (p. 12)
sturdy (<i>adj.</i>)	firmly built; strong (p. 5)
unconscious (<i>adj.</i>)	not aware; not mentally awake (p. 12)
vegetarian (<i>n.</i>)	someone who eats only plant products and no meat (p. 6)

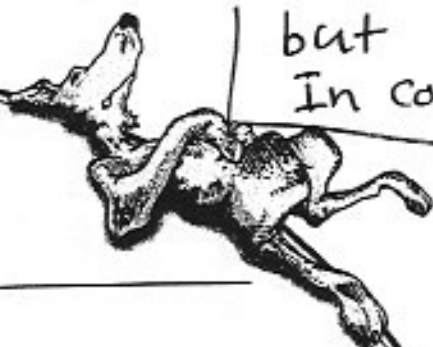
Name _____

Instructions: Compare the story of *The Three Little Pigs* with *Three Little Pigs: The Wolf's Story*. Where the circles overlap, list how the stories are alike. Where the circles are separate, list how they are different.

alike similar
both

but different
In contrast

Different



Alike

Different



Three Little Pigs: The Wolf's Story • Level 1

Skill: Compare and Contrast



Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Write the major elements for your story in the boxes below.

Characters:

Setting:

Problem:

Events:

Solution:



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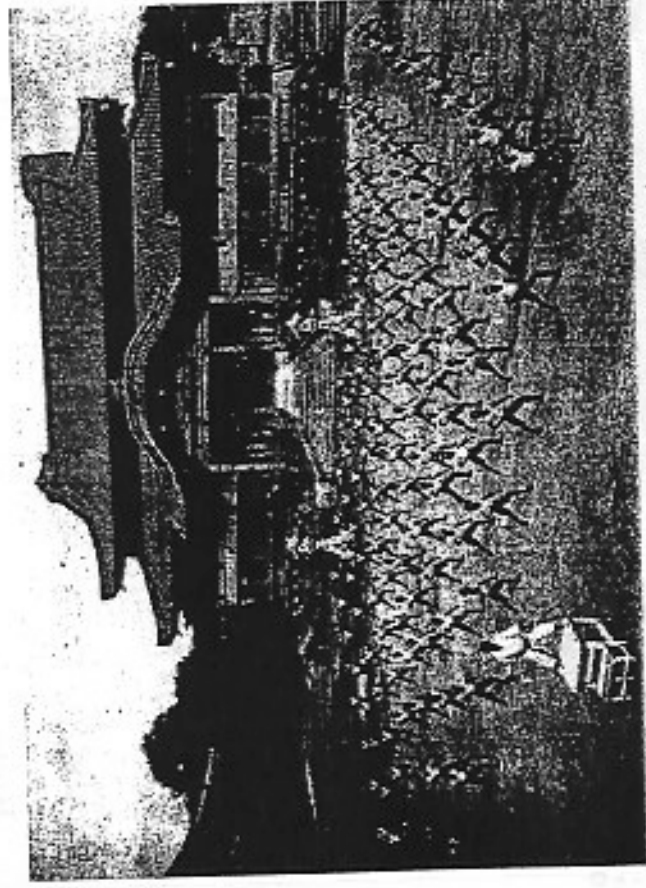
Someone who practices karate is called a *karateka*.

What Is Karate?

Amazing strength and lightning-quick speed. **Discipline** and respect. These are some of the many things people gain while practicing the art of **karate**.

Karate is a **martial art** in which people who practice it use only their hands and feet. There are no weapons in karate. In fact, the word *karate* is Japanese for “empty hand.”

Nobody knows for certain how karate was invented. However, many believe it happened in the 1600s on a tiny island between China and Japan. The two nations often fought over the island. When a Japanese clan took over the island, the people who lived there were no longer allowed to have weapons. They invented karate as a way to defend themselves. Karate is now one of the most popular martial arts in the world.



Men practice karate in 1938 on the island where it may have been invented. Today, the island is a part of Japan.

The Gym

Karate students train at a **dojo**, or gym. When they first enter a dojo, they must bow their heads as a sign of respect. In a karate dojo, the teacher is called a **sensei**. The sensei is an expert who has a great deal of knowledge to pass on to his or her students. Karate students learn to respect their sensei, their classmates, and the rules of the dojo.



A sensei helps students practice their moves in a dojo.

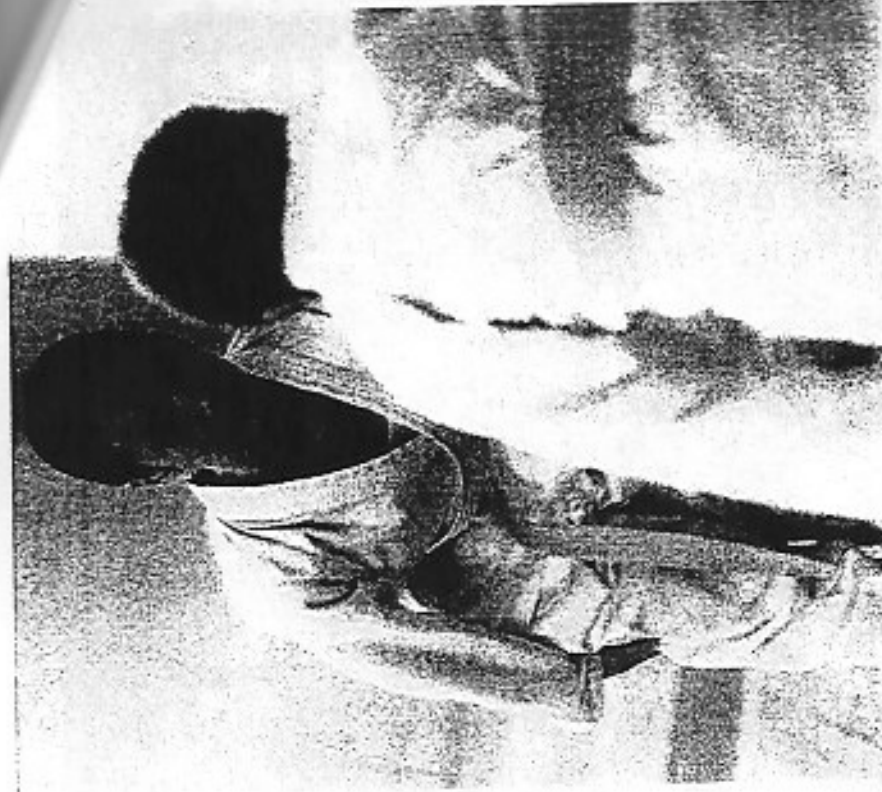


Students move up to new belts when their sensei thinks they are ready.

Belts

Before training begins, students must wear the right clothes. In karate, everyone wears a special robe, or *gi*. Students also wear a colored belt around the waist of their *gis*.

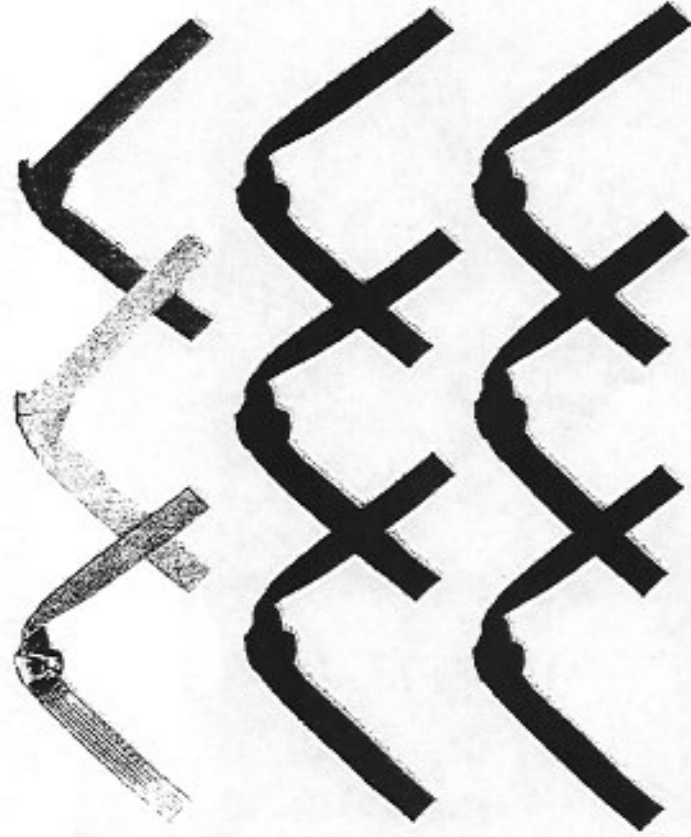
As karate students continue to train, they move up in standing to different colored belts. Earning a new belt, however, isn't just about learning new moves.



Karate is much more than just a physical sport. Students are encouraged to develop their minds and spirits as well as their bodies.

Students learn discipline, respect, and **patience** while practicing karate. They can use these skills in other areas of their lives, too. The good habits students learn are just as important as the moves they practice. When a sensei sees students practicing good habits, they may just earn a new belt.

Students earn new colored belts in a certain order. One story that has been passed down tells the meaning of each color through the growth of a plant. The different colors of the karate belts represent the colors of the Sun, plant, and sky. A student grows much like a young plant. A karate student will mature and gain more knowledge as time passes.



Beginners start with a white belt. Next they earn yellow, then orange. They advance through each color until they earn the black belt.

Learning Karate

Whoever sets out to learn karate has a long and exciting journey ahead. Karate students have to train with great discipline. In order to master karate, students move through three main steps: *kihon*, *kata*, and *kumite*.



Word Wise

Kihon means "basics," *kata* means "form," and *kumite* means "meeting of hands."

Kihon

Kihon is the basic set of moves that all karate beginners must learn first. In kihon, students learn to breathe correctly and develop a strong



In kihon, students learn one move at a time.

posture. They also learn to do kicks, punches, stances, blocks, and thrusts. The most important thing they will learn is patience. Before moving on to the next step, students practice these moves over and over until they are perfect.

There Is a Proper Way to Breathe?

In karate, breathing from your stomach rather than your chest makes you most effective. The human body is weak while breathing in, so while performing a move, be sure to exhale and let out a big shout, or *kiai*. A forceful exhale makes your body stronger and the move more effective.

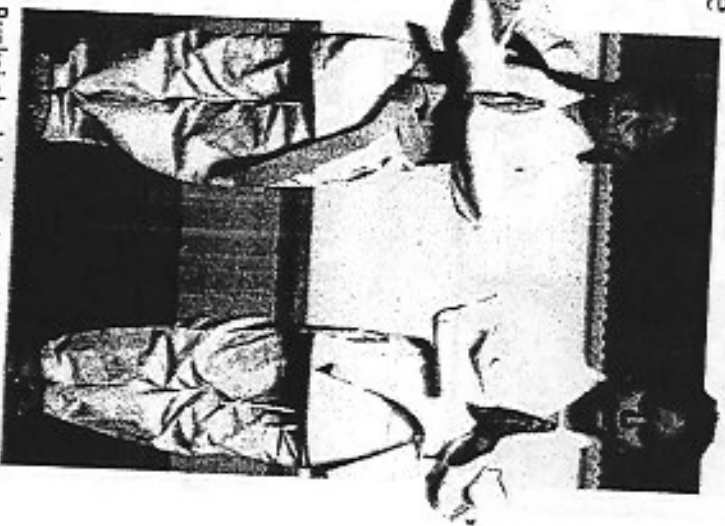


There are many different katas for students to learn.

Kata

After learning kihon, students can move on to kata. A kata takes the moves from kihon and puts them into a routine. Students must imagine that they are fighting off attackers and use the moves of the kata to defend themselves. A kata is often a combination of punches, kicks, blocks, turns, and stances. In this step, they also practice their flow from one move to the next.

Many students are also asked to practice *bunkai* while learning kata. With *bunkai*, students break down the moves from a kata to understand why each move is useful. This teaches them to be focused. Instead of simply doing the moves, students are asked to slow down and think about them.



Bunkai also helps students learn to predict an opponent's moves.

We're Just Dancing!

Performing a kata looks a lot like performing a dance routine. For this reason, the people from the island near Japan were able to practice karate without anyone knowing. They claimed that their karate routines weren't for self-defense. Instead, they insisted that they were just doing some harmless dancing!



Kumite is practiced as a sport and as self-defense training.

Kumite

After perfecting kata through hard work and discipline, students reach *kumite*. In the final step, they apply everything they have learned. Students pair up and practice moves on an opponent. *Kumite* is the closest they get to a real fight.

Conclusion

For centuries, students and adults around the world have learned discipline, respect, and **self-improvement** through karate. They work hard to make progress and earn new belts. People may find that the skills they learn stay with them long after leaving the dojo. Some karate students may become karate masters, but they all have a lot of fun trying to get there.



Many people who practice karate say that it is a lifelong journey of improvement. There is always something new to learn.

Glossary

defend (<i>v.</i>)	to protect oneself from harm or attack (p. 5)
discipline (<i>n.</i>)	the ability to continue working toward a difficult goal (p. 4)
dojo (<i>n.</i>)	a school for training in Japanese martial arts (p. 6)
self-improvement (<i>n.</i>)	the act of doing better than before (p. 15)
karate (<i>n.</i>)	a method of self-defense in which the hands and feet are used to strike an opponent (p. 4)
martial art (<i>n.</i>)	one of several sports in which students practice fighting and self-defense (p. 4)
patience (<i>n.</i>)	the ability to wait or deal with challenges without getting upset (p. 8)
respect (<i>n.</i>)	an understanding that someone or something should be treated with honor or in a careful manner (p. 4)
sensei (<i>n.</i>)	a teacher or leader, often of Japanese martial arts (p. 6)

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. How were the people who created karate able to practice without anyone knowing?
 - (A) They told people they were dancing.
 - (B) They practiced in the woods where no one could see them.
 - (C) They practiced only at night.
 - (D) They practiced in secret clubs.

2. Which of the following sentences states a fact?
 - (A) Karate is the best form of exercise.
 - (B) Shouting makes you breathe out very hard.
 - (C) Everyone who learns karate wants to be a master.
 - (D) The teacher is the wisest person in the room.

3. Why did the author write *Karate*?
 - (A) to inform the reader that karate should be learned only by adults
 - (B) to entertain the reader with stories of famous karate masters
 - (C) to persuade the reader that karate is challenging and not for everybody
 - (D) to inform the reader that karate is a fun way to build good habits

4. What happens during the first step of learning karate?
 - (A) Students learn to slow down and think about each move before they do it.
 - (B) Students use a combination of punches, kicks, blocks, and stances.
 - (C) Students pretend to fight off attackers and learn to defend themselves.
 - (D) Students learn to breathe correctly and develop a strong posture.

Name _____ Date _____

5. What is the effect of students practicing hard and improving their habits?
- Ⓐ They are given a trophy.
 - Ⓑ They are given a new belt.
 - Ⓒ They are given a new robe.
 - Ⓓ They are allowed to teach the class.
6. What is this book mostly about?
- Ⓐ the history of karate
 - Ⓑ the three main steps to learn karate
 - Ⓒ what karate is and how it helps people
 - Ⓓ why karate is popular throughout the world
7. Which of the following sentences states an opinion?
- Ⓐ Students learn to respect their teacher, their classmates, and the rules of the classroom.
 - Ⓑ Some students hope to become karate masters, and everyone has a lot of fun trying to get there.
 - Ⓒ Students have to wear the right clothes before they start to train.
 - Ⓓ In karate, there is a special way to breathe so that students can do their best.
8. A school for training in karate is called _____.
- Ⓐ a kata
 - Ⓑ a sensei
 - Ⓒ a dojo
 - Ⓓ a kihon

Name _____ Date _____

9. What happens in the last step of learning karate?
- (A) Students learn to control their breath.
 - (B) Students practice their moves in a routine.
 - (C) Students pair up and practice moves on an opponent.
 - (D) Students learn to slow down and think about each move.

10. To be **disciplined** means _____.

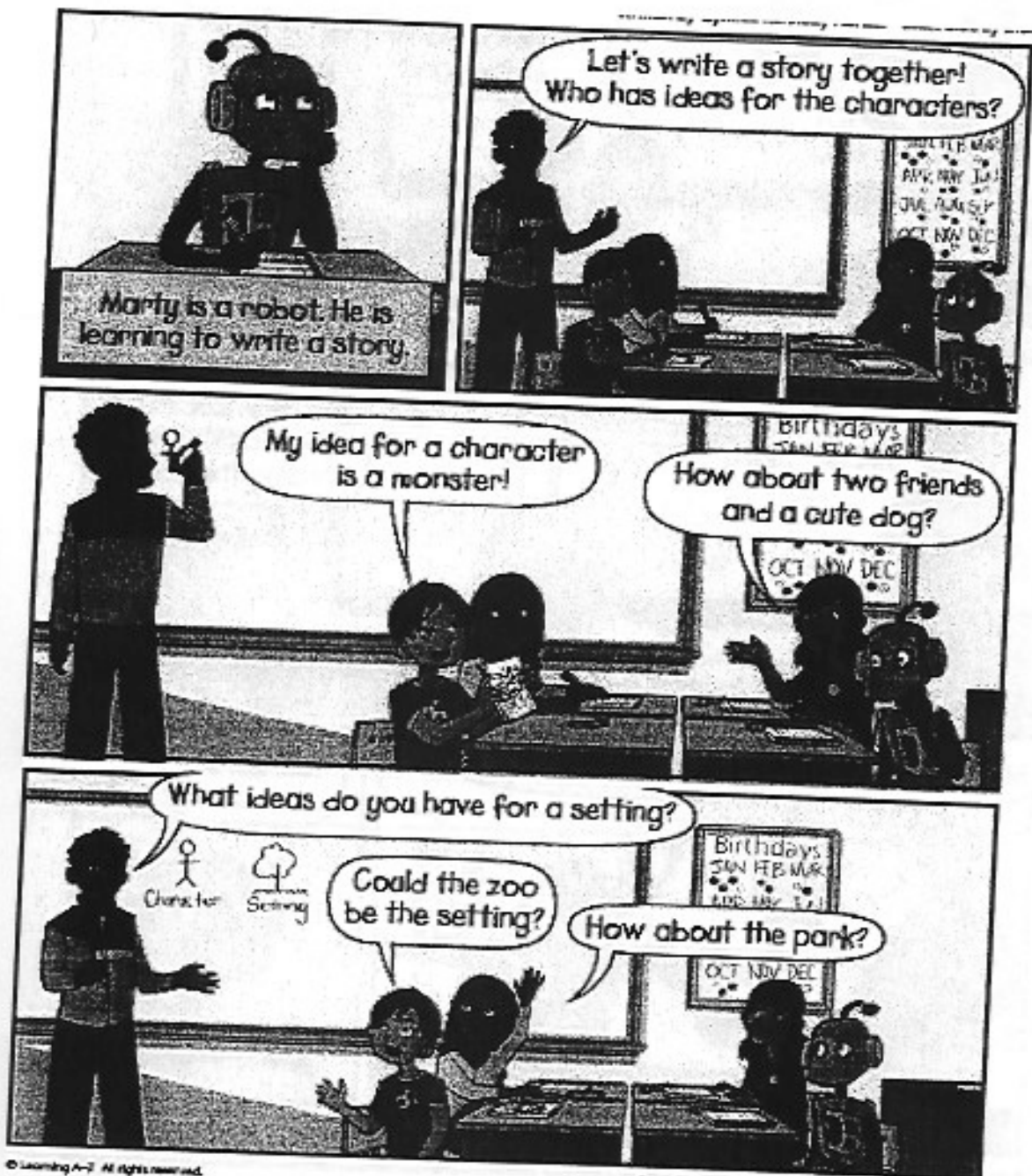
- (A) to be able to continue working toward a difficult goal
- (B) to protect oneself from harm or attack
- (C) to learn something very quickly
- (D) to know a lot about something

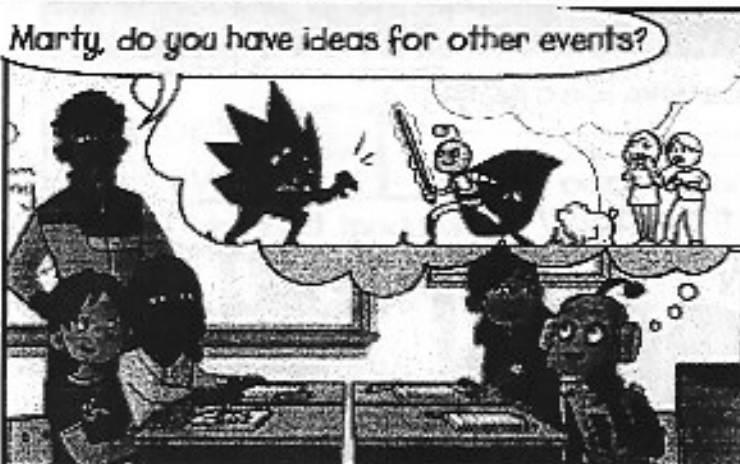
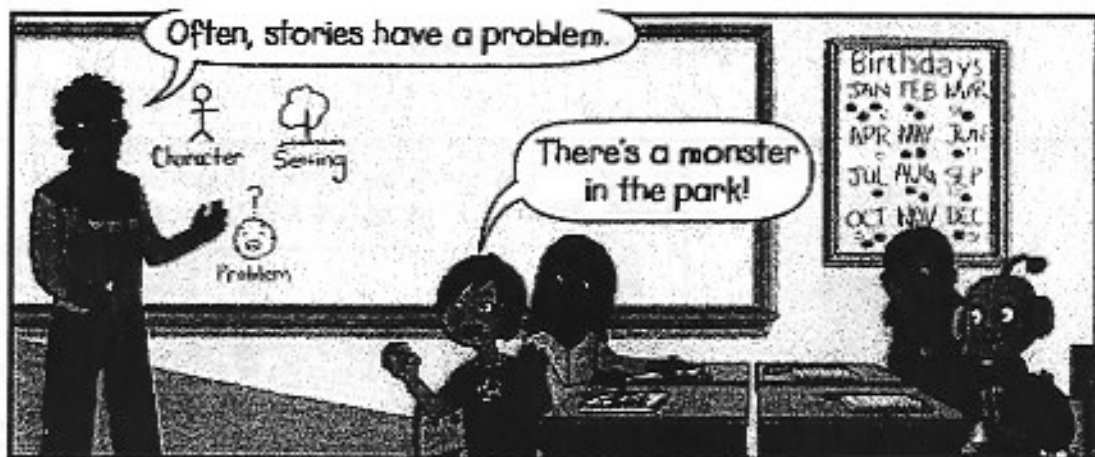
11. **Extended Response:** In what ways does karate help people improve their habits?

Write 3-4 sentences

Marty Writes a Story

Read the story below:





Use **all** of the words in this **word bank** to create your own story about students who want to write a book together.

Key Words		
characters	let's	setting
events	plot	story
idea	problem	write

Use all of the words in the word bank to write a story about a boy who is very brave.
