

READ THE PASSAGE

Think about the way Henry and Lauren behave and what it reminds you of.

Game Day

The rain continued to pour throughout the gloomy Saturday afternoon. Lauren and Henry were dressed in their dark blue uniforms. Lauren's uniform had more dirt stains than Henry's did because she loved stealing bases and sliding into home. She was the best base stealer on the team.

Lauren pounded her fist into her glove as she watched the rain fall in steady sheets. Every couple of minutes, she would sigh loudly, which caused the window to fog up. Henry was reading a comic book and eating an apple and some crackers. He kicked off his shoes and grabbed a pillow from the couch.

"Aren't you worried?" Lauren asked him. "What if it doesn't stop raining?"

"I hope it rains all day," Henry said. "I'm having a great time, and besides, we can play next week. This is the final issue of *Captain Smoke*."

The telephone rang. Henry and Lauren nervously looked at each other. Their mother answered it. "Hello, Coach Donna," she said. After a short pause, she said, "Okay, I'll let them know. We'll see you next week."

STRATEGY PRACTICE

Describe a time when you could not do something you wanted to do because of the weather.

SKILL PRACTICE

Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

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|---|---|
| <p>1. Where does the story take place?</p> <p>Ⓐ at a library</p> <p>Ⓑ at a ballpark</p> <p>Ⓒ at a restaurant</p> <p>Ⓓ at Lauren and Henry's house</p> | <p>3. How do you think Henry feels about baseball?</p> <p>Ⓐ He wants to play every game.</p> <p>Ⓑ He never likes playing.</p> <p>Ⓒ He likes baseball more than reading.</p> <p>Ⓓ He enjoys reading more than baseball.</p> |
| <p>2. Which one best describes Lauren?</p> <p>Ⓐ concerned</p> <p>Ⓑ happy</p> <p>Ⓒ calm</p> <p>Ⓓ angry</p> | <p>4. How can you tell that Lauren enjoys playing baseball more than Henry?</p> <p>Ⓐ She pounds her fist into her glove.</p> <p>Ⓑ She seems more worried about the rain than Henry does.</p> <p>Ⓒ She does not eat an apple and crackers.</p> <p>Ⓓ She looks at Henry when the phone rings.</p> |

READ THE PASSAGE As you read, think about how Galileo acted differently from other people.**Galileo's Wild Idea**

When Galileo (GAL-ih-LAY-oh) was a boy in Italy in 1574, he studied science. As he grew older, Galileo became interested in studying the stars. At that time, most people believed the sun moved around Earth. Galileo wanted to prove that Earth moved around the sun.

Galileo got his idea after he read a book and learned more about stars. Galileo studied Jupiter with a telescope. The telescope helped Galileo find some of Jupiter's many moons. He saw that the moons moved around Jupiter. Now he knew that some things in the solar system did *not* move around Earth!

Galileo wanted to tell everyone about his idea, but he had a problem. Some of Italy's rulers did not like the idea that Earth was not the center of the universe. They called Galileo a troublemaker and threatened to kill him if he did not say that his ideas were wrong. Galileo agreed, and instead of being killed, he spent the rest of his life in prison. However, Galileo was right! Today we know that the planets move around the sun.

STRATEGY PRACTICE How do you think Galileo felt when he was forced to say that his ideas were wrong?

SKILL PRACTICE Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. Where did Galileo live?
 - Ⓐ Italy
 - Ⓑ Spain
 - Ⓒ the United States
 - Ⓓ Great Britain
2. Which one best describes Galileo?
 - Ⓐ He was not intelligent.
 - Ⓑ He was very powerful.
 - Ⓒ He was interested in laws.
 - Ⓓ He was curious about science.
3. Which one best describes Italy's rulers?
 - Ⓐ They wanted Galileo to succeed.
 - Ⓑ They wanted everyone to learn about science.
 - Ⓒ They wanted to punish Galileo for his ideas.
 - Ⓓ They wanted Galileo to leave Italy.
4. What is a theme of the passage?
 - Ⓐ All people appreciate science and learning.
 - Ⓑ Sometimes unfair things happen to people.
 - Ⓒ It is always best to agree with others.
 - Ⓓ What others believe is more important than what you believe.

READ THE PASSAGE As you read, think about the things that people do at a community garden.**Growing a Community**

Every Saturday morning, people come to work in the community garden. Some people grow their own vegetables. Other people grow flowers. One person even made a goldfish pond! The garden is a busy place, especially on sunny days.

A few years ago, the garden didn't exist. There was just a run-down parking lot in the spot. Most people said it was only good for growing weeds and collecting trash. But the people in the community saw that the space could be used to make a garden.

Now the community garden has 50 plots. Each plot is used by a different person or family. Even some of the local stores have a plot. They grow produce that they sell to people in the community. The fruits and vegetables are fresh, tasty, and healthful.

Sometimes, special events take place in the garden, such as music concerts or gardening classes. Other times, schools bring students to the garden to learn about plants and insects. The garden offers much more to the community than just a place to dig in the dirt.

STRATEGY PRACTICE Describe a public place where you enjoy spending time.

SKILL PRACTICE Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Which of these would be a good location for a community garden?</p> <p>Ⓐ a new playground</p> <p>Ⓑ a park that is no longer being used</p> <p>Ⓒ a school's baseball field</p> <p>Ⓓ a busy parking garage</p> | <p>3. Which of these would probably <i>not</i> be found in a community garden?</p> <p>Ⓐ people playing soccer</p> <p>Ⓑ people growing melons</p> <p>Ⓒ people looking for insects</p> <p>Ⓓ people pulling weeds</p> |
| <p>2. What do you think people meant when they said the old lot was "only good for growing weeds and collecting trash"?</p> <p>Ⓐ All parking lots are dirty.</p> <p>Ⓑ The lot was where people should put their trash.</p> <p>Ⓒ The lot was not taken care of.</p> <p>Ⓓ No one wanted a garden.</p> | <p>4. What is a theme of the passage?</p> <p>Ⓐ People should be friendly to their neighbors.</p> <p>Ⓑ The only way to succeed is through hard work.</p> <p>Ⓒ The best things in life are free.</p> <p>Ⓓ Almost anything can be turned into something useful.</p> |

READ THE PASSAGE As you read, think about how Kate behaves and whether you know anyone like her.**Kate's Vacation**

When Kate came back to school after the winter holiday, she told everyone in her class about the snowman she had built. "It was 15 feet tall. It was so huge that I needed a ladder to put the hat on top of its head," Kate said.

During lunch, Kate told everyone what a great snowboarder she was. "I was going faster than anyone else on the hill," Kate said. "I think I set a world record."

During recess, Kate explained to everyone how she had built an igloo from the snow. "It had five rooms," Kate said. "We almost moved into the igloo because it was twice as big as our house."

Just then, it began to snow. All the kids cheered as big white flakes drifted down from the sky. Sarah, who had listened to Kate's stories all day, smiled. She said to Kate, "Now you can make us a giant snowman and an igloo! And we can watch you set a new record on your snowboard!"

Kate's face turned bright red. She quietly went back inside and didn't say anything else about her winter vacation.

STRATEGY PRACTICE What would you have said to Kate to help her change her behavior?**SKILL PRACTICE** Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. What is a message of the passage?
☐ (A) People are always jealous of each other.
☐ (B) There is no reason to tell stories to impress others.
☐ (C) You should not discuss your vacation with others.
☐ (D) It is important to be a good storyteller.
2. Why do you think Kate's face turned bright red at the end?
☐ (A) She was embarrassed by Sarah's words.
☐ (B) The falling snow made her cold.
☐ (C) She was tired from talking all day.
☐ (D) She remembered something embarrassing that she did on vacation.
3. Which of these best describes Kate?
☐ (A) She is quiet and thoughtful.
☐ (B) She is happy and helpful.
☐ (C) She is honest and friendly.
☐ (D) She is imaginative and boastful.
4. What lesson do you think Kate learned?
☐ (A) People respect you if you tell stories.
☐ (B) Vacations are best spent with family.
☐ (C) Few people are trustworthy friends.
☐ (D) It is best to talk about something you have actually done.

READ THE PASSAGE Think about what it might be like to be a scientist who studies hurricanes.**Hurricane Plane**

You might know that wind vanes tell you which way the wind is blowing and that thermometers tell you how hot or cold it is outside. But did you know that airplanes can be used to study hurricanes?

On November 1, 2007, an aircraft flew through a dangerous hurricane. People on the ground controlled the plane, so nobody was inside it. However, it was full of equipment used to take pictures and record data as the plane passed through the storm.

While large planes can safely fly over a hurricane, looking at a hurricane from above doesn't tell scientists everything they want to know. This is because most hurricanes get their energy from warm water in the ocean. Scientists wanted to learn more about what happens where that warm ocean water meets the air in a hurricane. So, they sent in the small remote-controlled plane. The plane studied how clouds form and measured the temperature of the air and water. It also recorded many images of the storm.

Scientists are still studying the information they collected using the plane. Many hope it will help them better understand how hurricanes form and move so that people can be better prepared when a hurricane comes.

STRATEGY PRACTICE Describe a type of weather you would like to study.**SKILL PRACTICE** Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. When did scientists use the hurricane plane?
 - (A) in spring
 - (B) during summer
 - (C) in fall
 - (D) during winter
2. What is one lesson from the passage?
 - (A) Safety is more important than knowledge.
 - (B) Hurricanes are more important than airplanes.
 - (C) Equipment is more important than scientists.
 - (D) Airplanes are more important than thermometers.
3. Why did scientists need a plane that could fly through a hurricane?
 - (A) They were afraid to fly above the hurricane.
 - (B) They wanted to be closer to where the air meets the water.
 - (C) The hurricane was in their way.
 - (D) They did not have a plane that could fly higher than a hurricane.
4. How do you think the scientists felt when the plane flew through the hurricane?
 - (A) disappointed
 - (B) angry
 - (C) silly
 - (D) proud