

Thoughtful Listening

GRADES 3-4

REM 147A

AUTHOR: Ruth Snow
STORY ILLUSTRATOR: Mark Billington

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM



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INTRODUCTION

Thoughtful Listening is designed to teach listening skills and to provide practice in remembering and thinking about facts. The teacher reads a short story. The students listen and then do an independent activity page which features memory exercises, vocabulary development, and thinking skills.

TEACHER DIRECTION

There are 30 different short stories in *Thoughtful Listening*. The stories start below and continue on the next seven pages. Activity pages for each story follow and are labeled to coincide with each story.

The teacher reads the story aloud. The story may be read twice to assist students in remembering details. The activity page is to be done independently. The activity page may be self-corrected and discussed in class to provide feedback and reinforcement.

STORY #1 — MAIL CARRIERS

People who carry mail to homes and businesses used to be called mailmen. Now they are called mail carriers because women, as well as men, carry the mail. They must sort letters and put them in order before leaving the post office. They sort them by ZIP codes. A ZIP code is a number code that stands for a particular part of your city or neighborhood. After the mail is sorted, mail carriers walk, ride bicycles, or drive their route to deliver the mail. They may also pick up letters from mailboxes along the way. They take this new mail to the post office when their deliveries are completed.

STORY #2 - HOW ANIMALS PROTECT THEMSELVES

Many animals have special body parts to protect themselves from their enemies. The porcupine has needlelike spines on its body. An attacking animal quickly runs away when it is pierced by these painful needles. The turtle protects itself by simply crawling into its hard shell. Several animals, like deer, have sharp hooves for fighting and can use the hooves to run away quickly. Birds can escape by flying. Tusks and a very thick skin protect the elephant. Do you know what desert animal shakes its tail to scare away its enemies?

STORY #3 - CHINESE RESTAURANT

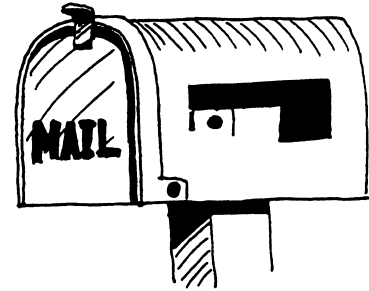
Susan likes to go out to eat. One of her favorite places to eat is The Golden Dragon where she can order Chinese food. She likes to start her meal with steaming, hot soup. Next she is given a plate with three things on it. The plate has sweet-and-sour pork, chow mein, and fried rice. A platter is placed in the middle of the table. It is piled high with crispy shrimp. A small bowl of hot, spicy mustard is brought to the table. The mustard is good on the shrimp. After eating her meal, a small sweet dessert is brought to Susan. It is called a fortune cookie.

Mail Carriers

MAIN IDEA: Put a check mark (✓) beside the best answer.

This story was mostly about

1. _____ ZIP codes
2. _____ putting stamps on letters
3. _____ what mail carriers do



RECALLING THE FACTS: Circle the correct word and then write it on the line.

1. People who carry mail used to be called _____

mailmen
milkmen
ZIP codes
2. They must sort _____ and put them in order.

stamps
papers
letters
3. A ZIP code stands for a part of your _____

post office
school
city

REMEMBERING DETAILS:

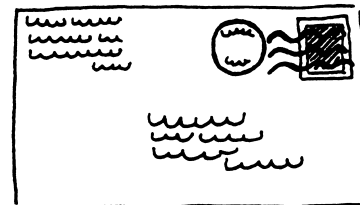
1. Tell two ways that a mail carrier may travel along the route.

2. By what code is the mail sorted? _____
3. What does the mail carrier do with new mail that is picked up along the route?

WORKING WITH WORDS: Draw a line between the words that mean almost the same thing.

mail
sort
route
deliver

path
letter
group
carry



SEARCH AND RESEARCH: Write the correct ZIP code for each city or town below. To find the answers, use the ZIP Code Directory in your library. Some ZIP codes can be found in the phone book.

1. Payson, Arizona _____
2. Ottawa, Illinois _____
3. Caribou, Maine _____
4. Bigfoot, Texas _____

How Animals Protect Themselves

MAIN IDEA: Put a check mark (✓) beside the best answer.

The story was mostly about

1. _____ how animals protect themselves
2. _____ why animals need to protect themselves
3. _____ animals of the forest



RECALLING THE FACTS: Write the correct word on the line.

tusks

hooves

needles

birds

turtles

skin

flying

1. The porcupine has _____ to protect itself.
2. _____ protect themselves by hiding in their shell.
3. _____ escape by _____.
4. Deer have sharp _____ for running away.
5. _____ and thick _____ protect the elephant.

THINKING ABOUT THE FACTS:

1. What animal scares enemies by shaking its tail? _____
2. How do horns help some animals protect themselves? _____

3. How do ears help some animals protect themselves? _____

JUST FOR FUN: What is it? Fill in the spaces on the puzzle with the name of the animal.

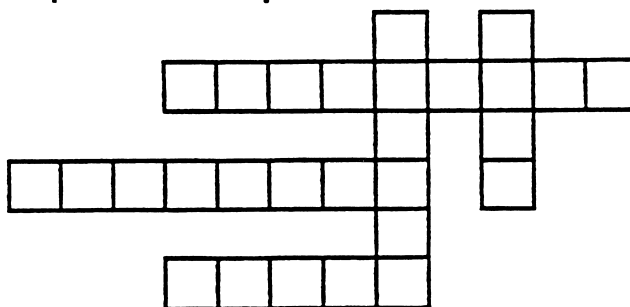
an animal with a shell

an animal with sharp needles

an animal that flies

an animal with tusks

an animal with rattles



Chinese Restaurant

MAIN IDEA: Put a check mark (✓) by the best answer.

This story was mostly about

1. _____ the Chinese food that Susan eats
2. _____ chicken and rice
3. _____ how to eat mustard



REMEMBERING THE FACTS: Fill in the blanks to complete each word.

1. S ____ s ____ n likes to eat out at the G ____ ld ____ n Dr ____ g ____ n.
2. Ch ____ n ____ se ____ ood is what she likes to eat.
3. Hot, spicy m ____ star ____ is what she likes on her shr ____ mp.
4. For dessert, Susan eats a ____ ortune c ____ ____ kie.

RECALLING DETAIL: Circle the foods that Susan ate at the Golden Dragon.

hamburger

chow mein

cheese and crackers

shrimp

fried rice

sweet-and-sour pork

mustard

macaroni

fortune cookie

WORDS THAT DESCRIBE: Draw a line from the food to the word which describes it.

mustard

crispy

shrimp

sweet and sour

pork

fried

rice

steaming hot

soup

hot, spicy

ON YOUR OWN: Write three foods that you like to order in a restaurant.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

JUST FOR FUN: To find what fortune was inside the cookie, cross out every other letter. Write the fortune on the lines below.

Y ~~X~~ O L U G W E I Q L X L A H K A N V M E F M P A C N Z Y R F W R O I L E H N G D L S

