

Improving Reading Fluency & Comprehension

Grades 2-3

REM 173A

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



©2003

Copyright by Remedia Publications, Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

The purchase of this unit entitles the individual teacher to reproduce copies for classroom use. The reproduction of any part for an entire school or school system is strictly prohibited.

To find Remedia products in a store near you, visit:
<http://www.rempub.com/stores>

REMEDIA PUBLICATIONS, INC.
15887 N. 76TH STREET • SUITE 120 • SCOTTSDALE, AZ • 85260



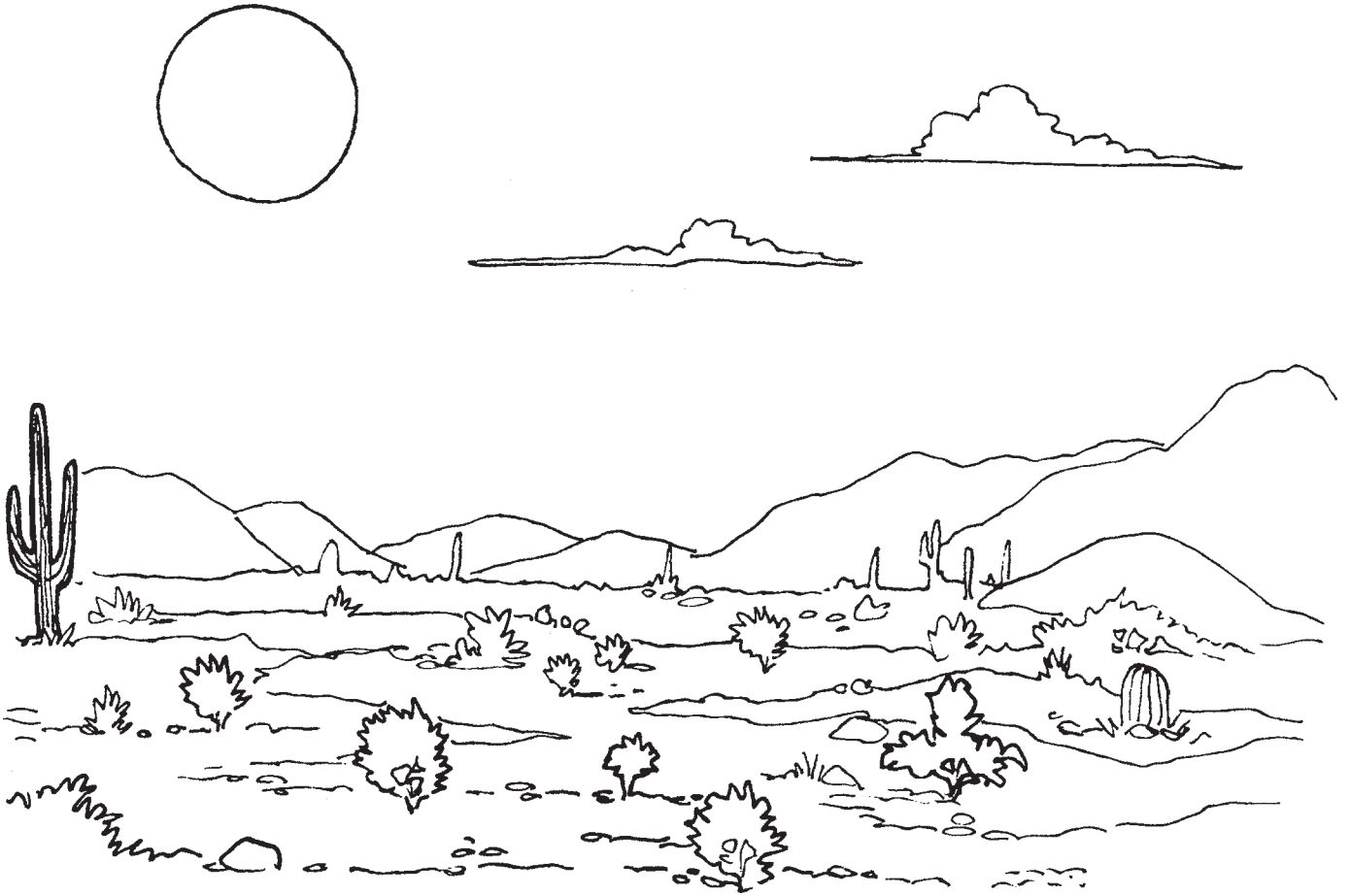
INTRODUCTION

This book was designed to improve students' skills in the areas of recognizing details and main ideas, locating information, using context clues, following directions, drawing conclusions, and writing sentences. The strong picture-text correspondence is sure to enhance comprehension.

The activities featured in this book utilize the direct approach fluency formula: *read and re-read decodable words in connected text*. Research shows that repeated readings turn slow, choppy readers into faster, smoother, more fluent readers. By doing the five follow-up activities that accompany each short paragraph, students will read the same paragraph a minimum of four times:

1. Read the paragraph when first presented with it.
2. Look back at the paragraph to respond to the follow-up exercises.
3. Complete the cloze reading activity involving the paragraph.
4. Follow the direction to "Re-read your completed paragraph to make sure it makes sense."

Additional practice might include challenging students to read aloud so they can hear the correct pronunciation of each word. The stories also make excellent take-home activities.



A desert is a place where very little rain falls. The air is dry. The ground is dry. It is a land of rocks and sand. The sun beats down. The days are hot. At night, it can be very cold. A desert is not a good place for most plants and animals to live.

Choose the sentence that is true.

- Ⓐ A desert is hot and dry.
- Ⓑ It rains a lot in the desert.
- Ⓒ A desert is a good place for most animals and plants to live.

Name _____

1. Complete the paragraph with words from the box.

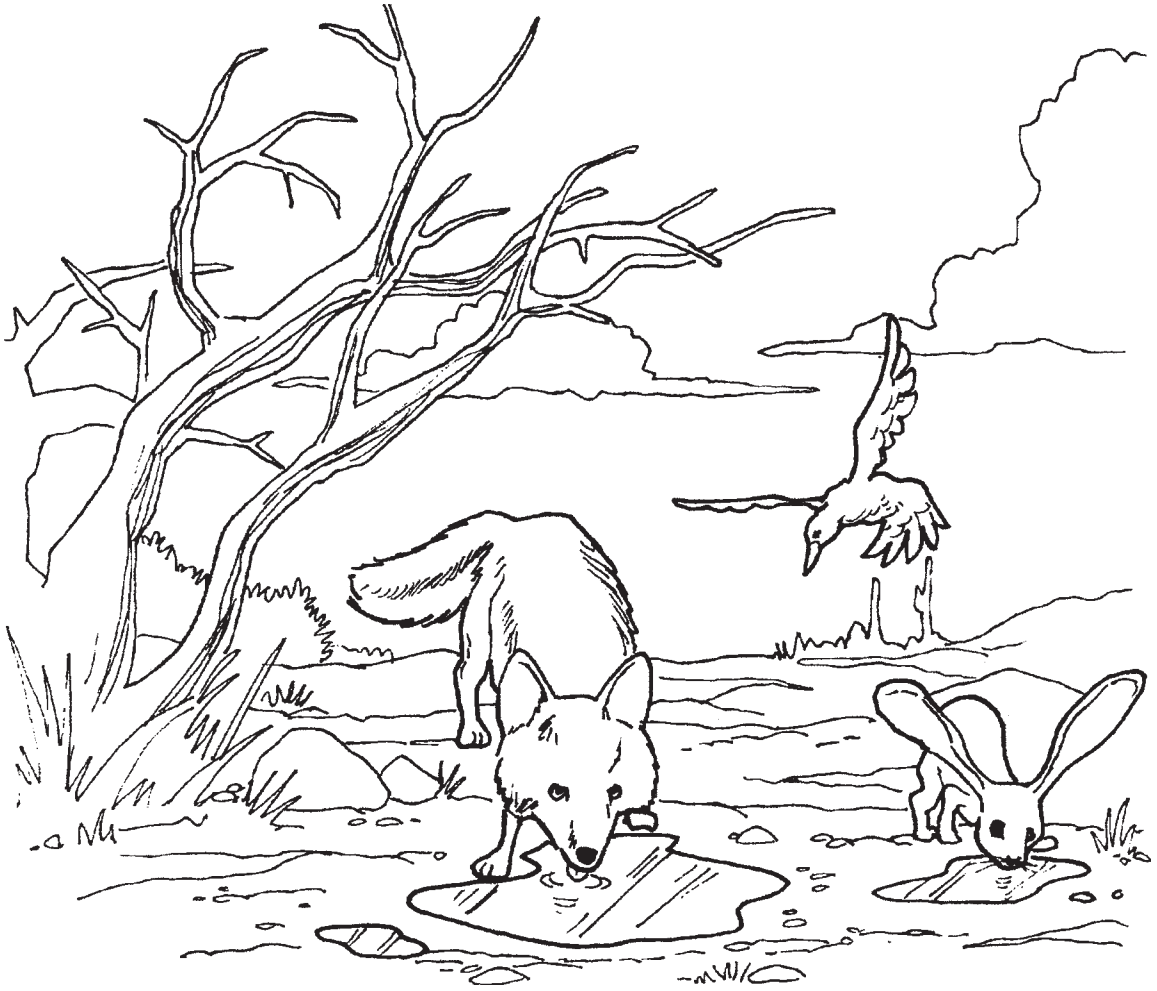
desert	plants	ground
rocks	rain	beats

A desert is a place where very little _____ falls. The air is dry. The _____ is dry. It is a land of _____ and sand. The sun _____ down. The days are hot. At night, it can be very cold. A _____ is not a good place for most _____ and animals to live.

2. Re-read your completed paragraph to make sure it makes sense.

3. Would you see a fish in the desert? Why or why not?

4. Pick a word from the box. Write a sentence for that word.



Only special kinds of plants and animals can live in a desert. They have ways to get water from the soil. They have ways to store water inside of them. When it does rain in a desert, all the living things soak up as much water as they can hold.

Choose the sentence that tells what the story is mostly about.

- Ⓐ Desert animals wait a long time to get a drink.
- Ⓑ Desert plants do not need any water.
- Ⓒ Desert plants and animals have ways to get and store water.

Name _____

1. Complete the paragraph with words from the box.

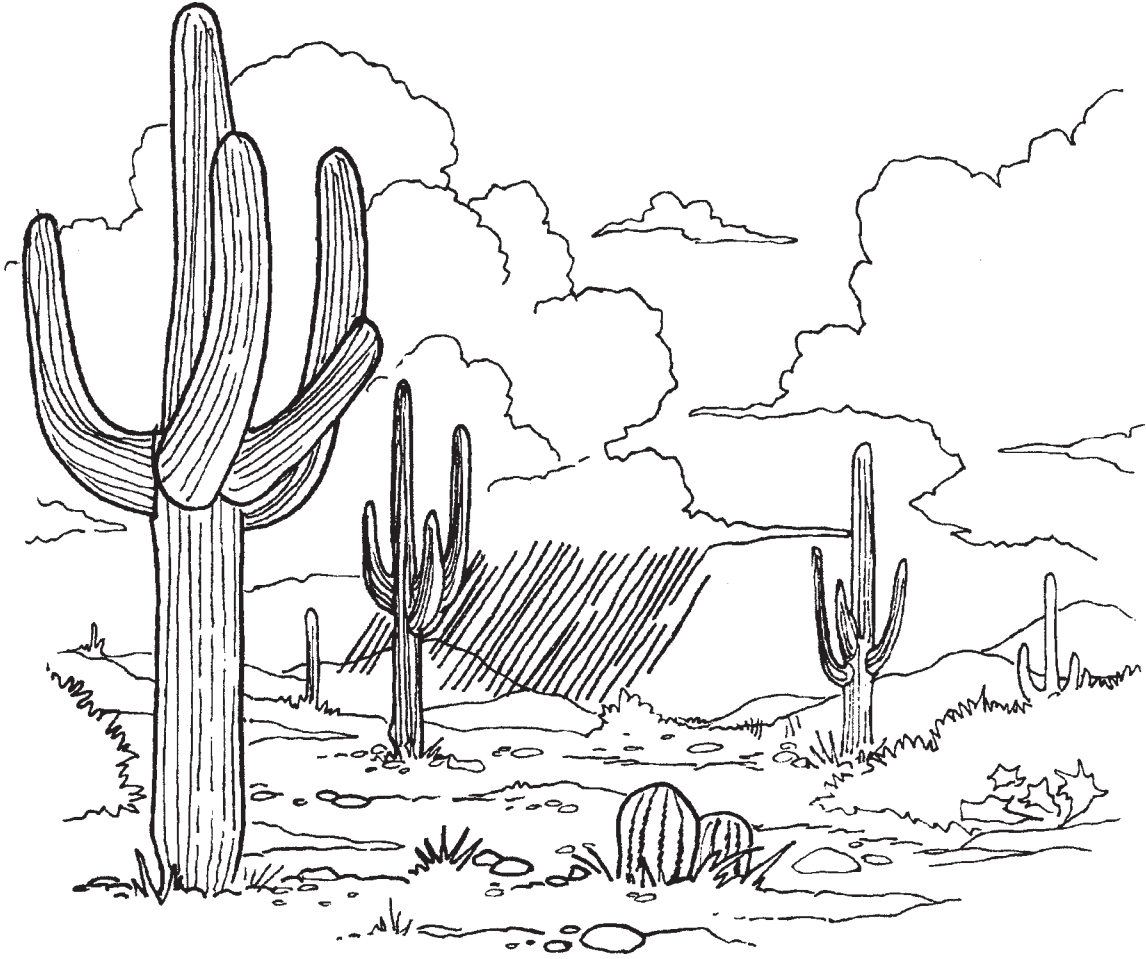
does	soil	store
live	special	soak

Only _____ kinds of plants and animals can _____ in a desert. They have ways to get water from the _____. They have ways to _____ water inside of them. When it _____ rain in a desert, all the living things _____ up as much water as they can hold.

2. Re-read your completed paragraph to make sure it makes sense.

3. Name an animal that could not live in a desert.

4. Pick a word from the box. Write a sentence for that word.



A cactus plant can live in the desert. Its roots do not go deep into the ground. They spread close to the surface. When rain comes, water sinks quickly to the roots. The roots soak up the water. The water goes into all parts of the cactus.

Choose the sentence that is true.

- Ⓐ It probably rains a lot in the desert.
- Ⓑ Cactus roots close to the surface soak up rain water.
- Ⓒ The roots of a cactus go deep into the ground.

Name _____

1. Complete the paragraph with words from the box.

cactus	spread	deep
roots	parts	quickly

A _____ plant can live in the desert. Its roots do not go _____ into the ground. They _____ close to the surface. When rain comes, water sinks _____ to the roots. The _____ soak up the water. The water goes into all _____ of the cactus.

2. Re-read your completed paragraph to make sure it makes sense.

3. Which word in the story means “very fast”?

4. Pick a word from the box. Write a sentence for that word.

