

Amazing Facts

REM 1114A

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



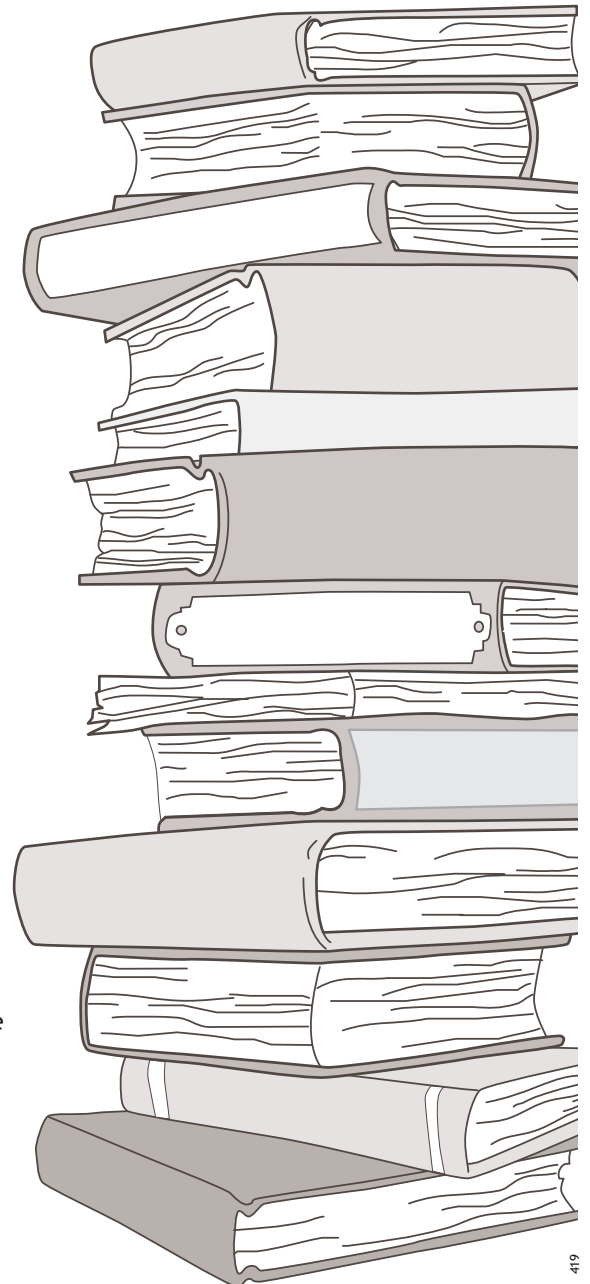
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Introduction

Reluctant readers of all ages and those reading below grade level are sure to have fun while they improve their reading skills with Remedia Publications' *Famous People, Places & Events*. Eighty-eight high-interest, short stories are followed by specific reading comprehension questions. These questions are in the form of multiple choice, fill-in, and true or false. Each of these questions is designed to reinforce a specific reading skill. This book focuses on the following skills:

Main Idea	Making an Inference	Locating the Answer	Word Analysis
Finding a Fact	Detecting Sequence	Vocabulary	

In addition, each story has an extended writing activity, which in some cases involves a small amount of research.

To assist a variety of students and situations, this book is arranged sequentially according to the difficulty of each story's reading level. The first 30 stories have a reading level of 2.0 – 2.5. The next 30 stories have a reading level of 2.5 – 3.5. The final 28 stories range between 3.5 – 4.5. These reading levels have been carefully achieved through the use of controlled vocabulary, simple sentence structure, and appropriate illustrations.

All stories in this set are reproducible and can be used effectively for both group and individual instruction. Let Remedia Publications help your students have fun while learning the basics of reading comprehension.

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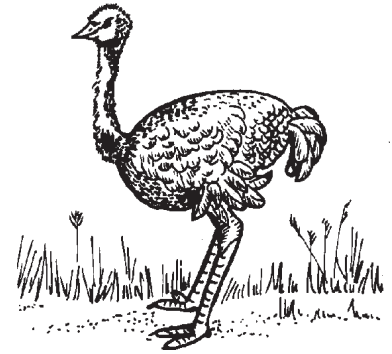
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Name _____

FOR THE BIRDS

Look! Up in the sky! It is a flock of geese. They are flying at 29,000 feet! That is very, very high. Jets cruise at 33,000 feet. Jets have to watch out for flocks of geese. Geese are the birds that probably fly the highest. Most birds fly at 3,000 feet.

How fast do birds fly? The average speed of a flying bird is 50 miles an hour. This is very fast. A horse can run 50 miles an hour for a very short time. Of course the bird has the wind to help it fly fast. Ducks can fly even faster than 50 miles per hour. They fly at 70 miles per hour. The fastest bird of all is the golden eagle. It flies at 180 miles an hour!



Not all birds fly. At one time, all birds did fly. That was a long time ago in history. Time went on. Some birds liked it down on the ground. They ate well. They grew bigger. Their legs got stronger. Soon the birds were too heavy to fly. The ostrich is one of these birds. It grew very big. An ostrich weighs 350 pounds. Birds that cannot fly away from trouble run away from it. The ostrich can run very fast. It can run 50 miles an hour. Some other birds that cannot fly are the rhea, the emu, and the penguin.

The average bird eats half its weight in food every day. Suppose that you weigh 80 pounds. If you ate half your weight in food, you would eat 40 pounds of food a day. You soon would be broke! Birds, however, do not have to pay for food. They look for it in the ground, in the air, and in the water.

Write the letter of the correct answer on each line.

A. 50 m.p.h. **B. light** **C. birds**

1. This story is mainly about _____.
2. The speed of the ostrich is _____.
3. Birds must be very _____ to fly.

Number the events below in the order they happened.

4. _____ A. Not all birds can fly.
_____ B. All birds could fly.
_____ C. Some birds grew big and heavy.

Fill in the blank with the correct word from the list.

band **pack** **flock** **bunch** **swarm**

5. A "group" of geese is a _____.

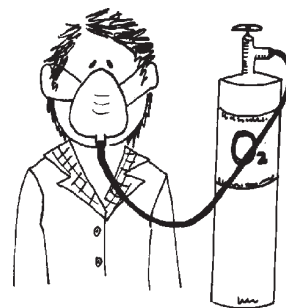
Name _____

NO TASTE, NO SMELL, NO SEE

You cannot see it, taste it, or smell it. Yet it is all around you. Without it, you could not live for five minutes! It is oxygen, and it is an invisible gas. Oxygen makes up one-half of all the Earth. It makes up 21% of the air we breathe.

Oxygen is always mixing with things. This mixing is called oxidation. Sometimes this is good; sometimes this is bad. When paint dries and when metal rusts, oxidation has taken place. When you eat food, oxidation takes place. The oxygen in your blood mixes with the food to make heat. This heat keeps your body warm. When something burns, oxidation is taking place. The oxygen mixes with the thing that is burning to make fire. If you lit a match to a newspaper in a room that did not have oxygen, nothing would happen. It takes oxygen to make things burn—oxygen plus a very high temperature. Sometimes oxygen and heat make things burn very quickly. That is what happens in a car's engine. The oxygen mixes with the fuel. It causes a small explosion. The power from the explosion drives the car forward.

Oxygen has many important uses. Liquid oxygen is used in space ships. It is mixed with the fuel so that it will burn. This makes a very powerful fuel. Oxygen is used in medicine, too. Sometimes patients have trouble breathing. They are put into a plastic "tent." This is called an "oxygen tent." There is more oxygen here than in the air. This makes it easier for patients to breathe.



Fill in each blank with the correct word from the list.

gases 21 liquid 42 solid 50 everywhere

1. The main idea of the story is that oxygen is _____.
2. _____ oxygen is used in space ships.
3. The air is _____ % of oxygen.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

4. An oxygen tent **(a)** covers an oxygen tank, **(b)** makes it easier for people to breathe, **(c)** is very large.
5. Oxidation is **(a)** a rocket ship, **(b)** the mixing of oxygen with other things, **(c)** an invisible gas.

Fill in the blank.

6. Write the number of the paragraph that tells about some important uses of oxygen. _____

Name _____

A WEED IS A WEED?

A rose is a member of the rose family. The apple and the peach are also members of the rose family. The morning glory is a flower. It belongs to the morning glory family. The sweet potato is a food. It belongs to the morning glory family, too! Weeds do not belong to any one family of plants. Weeds belong to all families of plants.



How can this be? Weeds are plants that people have not found a use for yet. People decided some plants were for food. People grow peaches and apples to eat. They grow tomatoes and sweet potatoes to eat. People decided some plants were pretty to look at. A rose is a pretty flower. Weeds are not to eat, and they are not pretty. Weeds are left out!

What is a weed in one place might not be a weed someplace else. You might think that dandelions are weeds. These yellow flowers pop up in people's lawns, but people do not want to grow dandelions. They want to grow grass. Americans think that dandelions are weeds. In Europe people grow dandelions to eat. They eat the leaves in salads. They steam the leaves and eat them like spinach. In Europe, a dandelion is not a weed. It is a food.

A potato plant is not a weed, is it? In the garden it is not a weed, but if it sprouted in the middle of your lawn, it would be a weed. Weeds are plants that grow where people do not want them to grow.

Write T if the sentence is true. Write F if it is false.

- _____ 1. The main idea of the story is that a potato plant is a weed.
_____ 2. People in Europe eat parts of the dandelion plant.

Number the events below in the order they happened.

3. _____ A. Farmer Jones says, "Look at that weed!"
_____ B. A petunia plant comes up in the middle of the corn.
_____ C. Farmer Jones plants corn seeds in his field.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

4. A weed is a plant that **(a)** grows in a garden, **(b)** has roots that people eat, **(c)** grows where it is not wanted.

Fill in the blanks.

5. Plural means more than one. Write the plural of each word.
tomato _____ potato _____