

Daily Reading Activities

SPRING
March - April - May

REM 1125C

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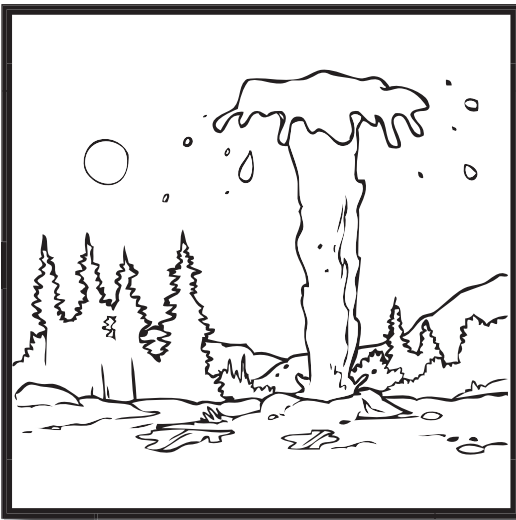
Introduction & Table of Contents

This book features high-interest, “on this date in history” stories for the months of **March**, **April**, and **May**. There is an historical nonfiction short story for each day of each month. The stories were written at an approximate reading level of grades 3-4. In some cases, proper names of people, places, and events, as well as other necessary descriptive vocabulary, may drive the reading level up a bit. The interest level is aimed at students in grades 5 and up who may not be reading at grade level.

The topics chosen are not necessarily the most important thing to have happened on a particular date. The variety of people, places, and events highlighted in each story were chosen to appeal to a wide range of interests. Students will learn interesting historical facts while improving their reading and comprehension skills.

Each story is followed by 8 skill-specific comprehension questions. Question formats include multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and writing complete sentences. Skills focus on: main idea, facts, locating the answer, vocabulary, sequence, comparison, cause and effect, fact or opinion, conclusion, and inference.

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March 1

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

National parks are large areas of scenic land owned by the United States government. The land is protected. This means that it cannot be used for anything except as a park which visitors can enjoy.

There are 53 national parks in the United States. On March 1, 1872, Yellowstone was established as the first U.S. National Park. It is the largest of all the parks. It is mainly in northwestern Wyoming and slightly overlaps into Montana and Idaho. It is about 62 miles long and 54 miles wide.

There are more geysers in Yellowstone than in all the rest of the world. Old Faithful is a famous geyser in the park. It got its name because it regularly shoots up hot water and steam about every 67 minutes.

There are pools of bubbling mud at Yellowstone. They are caused by steam below the ground surface. The steam pushes up on the mud, causing it to boil or bubble. Minerals in the mud make the pools different shades of orange, brown, and yellow.

A large, deep canyon contains a waterfall that is 300 feet high. There are fossil forests with petrified tree trunks. Mountains, rivers, and lakes cover parts of the park.

Yellowstone is a great wild animal refuge. Protected herds of elk, moose, deer, antelope, and buffalo live there. Bears are there, as well as many kinds of birds.

Millions of people visit Yellowstone National Park every year to hike, camp, and enjoy the unusual sights. Because it is a national park, it will always remain a natural scenic wonderland.

Main Idea

1. This story mainly tells
 - Ⓐ about Old Faithful.
 - Ⓑ about the names of different national parks.
 - Ⓒ about the landmarks and wildlife in Yellowstone.

Facts

2. What three states is Yellowstone found in?

3. What makes the mud different colors?

4. Name the famous geyser in Yellowstone.

Locating the Answer

5. Write the sentence that tells what national parks are.

Vocabulary

6. What does the word **refuge** mean?
 - Ⓐ “a place that is warm”
 - Ⓑ “a place that gives life”
 - Ⓒ “a place that gives shelter”

Cause and Effect

7. What causes pools of bubbling mud to form?
 - Ⓐ Rain that mixes with hot dirt.
 - Ⓑ Steam under the ground that pushes up on mud.
 - Ⓒ Water from Old Faithful that mixes with dirt.

Conclusion

8. From this story, you can tell that
 - Ⓐ Yellowstone National Park is a place full of life.
 - Ⓑ Yellowstone National Park will close soon.
 - Ⓒ Yellowstone National Park is a hard place to find.