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Introduction

Each book in the Power Practice™ series contains over 100 ready-to-use activity pages to provide students with skill practice. The fun activities can be used to supplement and enhance what you are teaching in your classroom. Give an activity page to students as independent class work, or send the pages home as homework to reinforce skills taught in class. An answer key is provided for quick reference.

The practical and creative activities in the reading skills books provide the perfect practice with over 20 reading skills. Each book is divided into sections covering these various skills.

Reading Skills 5–6 provides activities that will directly assist students in practicing and reinforcing skills such as

- inferences
- drawing conclusions
- context clues
- sequencing
- predicting
- making connections
- figurative language
- main idea
- summarizing
- cause and effect
- point of view

Use these ready-to-go activities to “recharge” skill review and give students the power to succeed!

Unfinished Words

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

An **idiom** is a form of figurative language where the meaning of the phrase cannot be inferred from the meanings of the words that make it up.

Example: She has a heart of gold.

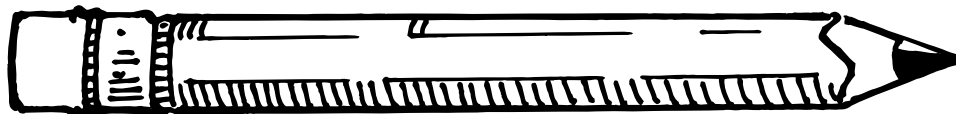
Her heart is not literally made of gold. This idiom is a more colorful way of saying that she is kind.

Complete each sentence by choosing the best idiom from the list below.

hit the sack
raining cats and dogs
blow your top
fit like a glove
up to something

sleep on it
in hot water
brush up on
on the ball

- 1 Her mom said, "It's getting late. It's time for you to _____."
- 2 If you get into trouble, then you know you're _____.
- 3 The man told the shoe salesman that the new boots _____.
- 4 Before going to France, she decided to _____ her French so she could speak to the people and understand them.
- 5 Sometimes when people can't decide what to do, they _____ and decide in the morning.
- 6 Her little brother had mud on his face and hands. She knew he was _____ when he was out in the garden.
- 7 The storm was so bad that it was _____.
- 8 Have you ever gotten so upset that you thought you would _____?
- 9 Wow! She figured that out so fast! That girl is really _____.



Puzzling Proverbs

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

A **proverb** is a short saying that has been around for a long time. Proverbs are a form of figurative language that makes sentences sound more colorful and interesting. Like idioms, they cannot be interpreted literally.

Example: An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

That doesn't literally mean that you will avoid doctors by eating apples daily. It's a colorful way of saying that eating fresh fruit is a healthy choice.

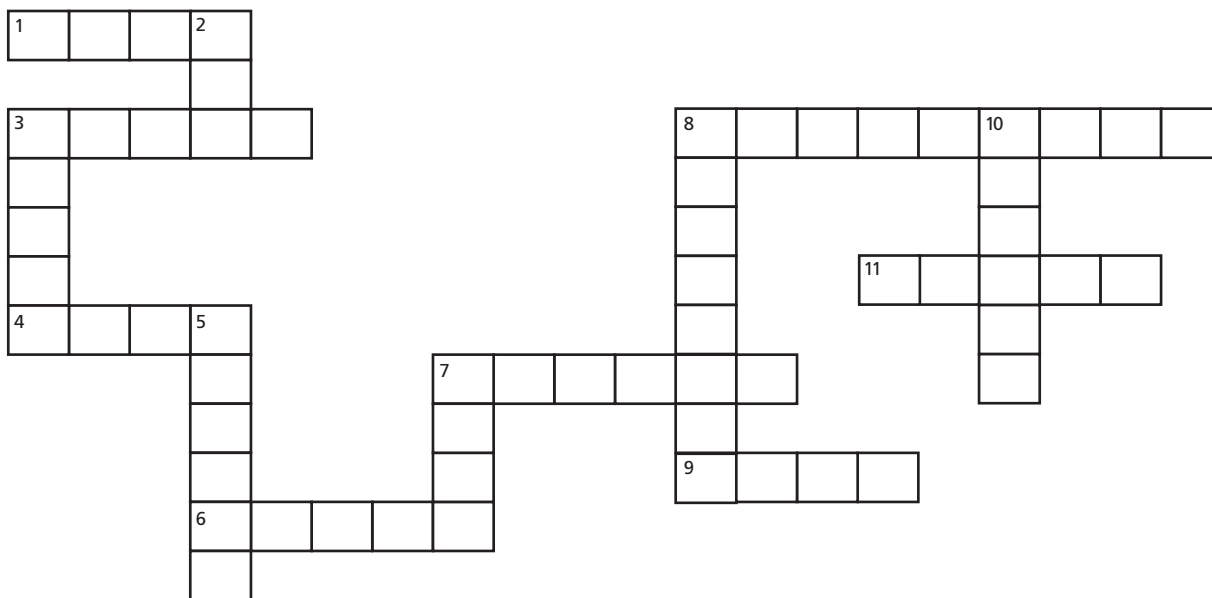
Fill in the crossword puzzle by completing the proverbs.

Across

1. No _____ is good news.
3. A rolling _____ gathers no moss.
4. All work and no play makes Jack a _____ boy.
6. The _____ bird catches the worm.
7. A fool and his money are soon _____.
8. _____ killed the cat.
9. Beauty is only _____ deep.
11. Don't judge a book by its _____.

Down

2. Like father, like _____.
3. A penny _____ is a penny earned.
5. Actions speak _____ than words.
7. While the cat's away, the mice will _____.
8. Beggars can't be _____.
10. Every cloud has a _____ lining.



Sensational Similes

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

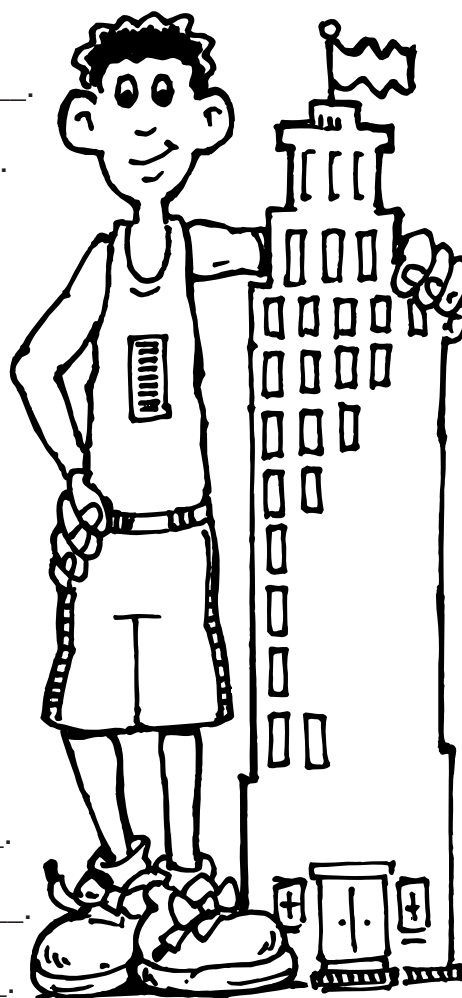
A **simile** is a form of figurative language that uses the words *like* or *as* to compare people, events, or objects.

Example: Her face was as red as an apple when she found out her son didn't turn in his report on time.

That's a figurative way of saying she was very angry.

Use your own words to complete each simile.

- 1 Her voice was as loud as a _____.
- 2 That basketball player is as tall as a _____.
- 3 His little sister was as annoying as a _____.
- 4 His dry legs felt like _____.
- 5 The sky is as colorful as a _____.
- 6 She was slow like _____.
- 7 She has cheeks like _____.
- 8 The cave was as dark as a _____.
- 9 The work was as hard as _____.
- 10 My new sports car is as fast as a _____.
- 11 He ate like a _____.
- 12 That pizza was as spicy as a _____.
- 13 His shoes were as smelly as a _____.
- 14 The clouds were fluffy like _____.
- 15 Sometimes she thought her mom was as stubborn as a _____.
- 16 The floor was slippery like _____.



What Are You Talking About?

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Personification is used in books when the author wants to give human characteristics to animals or objects. You've read it many times in animal fantasies and traditional fiction.

Example: "The aged mouse simply smiled in appreciation for the kind words he had heard." Mice don't really smile, so that's a human characteristic the author is trying to apply to the mouse character.

Underline the use of personification in each sentence. Then explain its true meaning on the line.

1 The whale sang with glee when he was released into the open sea.

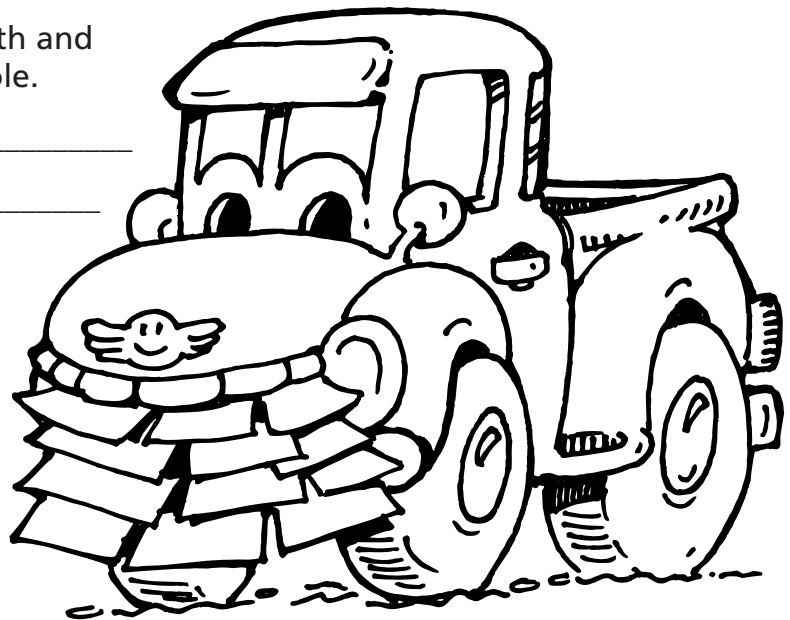
2 Her homework was calling her name.

3 The water danced around the boat in the storm.

4 The glasses were begging to be worn.

5 She was awakened from a deep sleep when the night wind knocked on her window.

6 The trash truck opened its mouth and swallowed the newspapers whole.



You've Got to Be Kidding!

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Hyperbole is an expression of exaggeration that authors use to make characters or situations much bigger or smaller than they really are.

Underline the use of hyperbole in each sentence. Then explain its true meaning on the line.

1 Robert cried a river of tears when he watched that movie.

2 I've told you a million times not to exaggerate!

3 Dawn was so tired that she could sleep for a year!

4 She said, "These boxes weigh a ton!"

5 It'll take her all day just to find her desk.

6 She wears so much makeup that you can't tell where her face begins or ends!

7 The town where I grew up is so isolated that even insects won't live there!

8 Her daughter said, " I think of you a thousand times a day!"

9 Our library is so old, that the books have Roman numerals for page numbers!

10 By the time I finish this garden, I'll be a hundred years old!

In the News

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

A **simile** uses the words *like* or *as* to compare people, events, or objects.

Personification is used when the author wants to give human characteristics to animals or objects.

Hyperbole is an expression of exaggeration to make characters or situations much bigger or smaller than they really are.

Read the newspaper article below. Look for the three types of figurative language. When you find an example, underline it and label it according to the following key: **H** = hyperbole, **S** = simile, **P** = personification.

IN THE NEWS

The Streak Is Over

Can you believe it? The Whales were at it again this weekend! We thought the losing streak would go on forever!

Luckily, the Weaver Whales came through with flying colors. They were off to a running start early in the first quarter with Charlesworth leading the game in three point shooting. They were as organized as a teacher's desk! They had the other team spinning in their shoes as if they didn't know what hit them. Arias was as powerful as a lion, while Olson was as sly as a fox. Before anyone knew it, they were tossing that ball right through the hoop. The hoop was even cheering on the team the way it swayed back and forth.

By half time, the Whales were 15 points ahead of their most difficult opponents—the Lee Leopards. However, the Whales proved that

they were too hot to handle in the third quarter. In fact, the coach of the Leopards got pretty steamed up. You could hear his yelling all the way to Japan!

Hankin was particularly impressive when he ran as quick as lightning across the court and planted the ball straight into the basket. What a dunk! If it were a doughnut, the coffee would have spilled everywhere! You could almost hear the ball begging for a rest.

The Whales were leading the way right to the last buzzer. The writing was on the wall. Their three-game losing streak was finally over! They were ready to resume their place at the top. Once again, the Weaver Whales were making waves. This time without the storm. It looks like sunny days are here again!