

Winter Break Packet

Language Arts/Reading

2011-2012

The student activities in this packet are designed to reinforce major reading and writing concepts and skills and the questions at the end of the passages are correlated to specific Sunshine State Standards benchmarks. The activities are differentiated by grade level K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12. It is also hoped that these activities will encourage family interaction over the winter break. Please note that elementary-level activities will require greater parent/family supervision or assistance. Should you need additional information about the 2011-2012 Winter Break Activity Packet please contact the Division of Language Arts/Reading at 305 995-3120 or 305-995-3122.

Please note that students should also use online activities for reading from **Beyond the Bell** found at <http://myportal.dadeschools.net/student/>. The online activities are provided as a resource to parents and students.



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The Ants and the Grasshopper

Adapted from Aesop's Fables

One summer day, a grasshopper met some ants.

They were carrying food to their storerooms under the ground.

"Good day", said the grasshopper. "It is a fine day, is it not?"

The ants did not stop to talk. They went right on working, with not a minute lost.

The grasshopper watched for a while. Then it said, "Why do you work so hard on a fine day like this? Now it is time to sit in the sun and rest."

"No", said the ants. "Now is the time to work. When winter comes, food will be hard to find. It is best to plan when times are good for the times that might be bad."

The grasshopper laughed at the ants and went on its way.

Months went by. The days grew cold. The ground was covered with snow.

Under the ground, the ants were warm and happy. They had all the food they needed.

But the grasshopper, above, was thin and hungry. Shaking with cold, it thought of the busy ants. "I should not have laughed at them," it said. "The ants were right. It is best to plan when times are good for the times that might be bad."

It is best to prepare for the days of necessity.

The Ants and the Grasshopper

Read the fable *The Ants and the Grasshopper*. Then read the following multiple choice questions. Circle the BEST answer to each question.

1) Another good title for this fable would be:

- a. Ants Like to Work in the Summer
- b. All Work and No Play
- c. The Grasshopper Learns a Lesson
- d. Summer Days and Winter Days

2) What problem did the Grasshopper face?

- a. Once winter arrived, the Grasshopper had no food to eat.
- b. During the summer the Ants did not want to play with the Grasshopper.
- c. Once winter arrived, the Ants did not speak to the Grasshopper.
- d. During the summer, the Grasshopper laughed at the Ants.

3) What might have happened if the grasshopper would have followed the ants' example?

- a. The Grasshopper would have been cold and hungry during winter.
- b. The Grasshopper would have been tired of working during summer.
- c. The Grasshopper would have been warm and full during winter.
- d. The Grasshopper would have been bored during summer.

Using details from the fable, answer the following questions.

1) **How are the Ants DIFFERENT from the Grasshopper?**

2) **What lesson did the Grasshopper learn?**

Vocabulary Work

Complete the following vocabulary maps:

Definition		Synonym
	storeroom	
Sentence		Picture

Definition		Synonym
	plan	
Sentence		Picture

Writing

The Ants and the Grasshopper

Planning ahead is a smart thing to do. The Ants prepared for the winter by gathering and storing food during the summer. Why is it important to prepare for the future?

[illegible]

WORD WORK

Circle the correct way to divide the word into syllables.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | an-oth-er | an-o-the-r | a-nothe-r | ano-ther |
| 2. | Gras-shop-per | Grass-hop-per | Gras-hopp-er | Gra-s-hopp-er |
| 3. | me-mb-er | mem-ber | member | mem-ber |
| 4. | han-d | ha-nd | hand | h-and |
| 5. | win-t-er | Win-ter | w-in-ter | wint-er |
| 6. | se-lect | se-l-ect | se-lect | s-el-ect |
| 7. | shoulder | sh-ould-er | shou-lder | shoul-der |
| 8. | honesty | hone-st-y | hon-es-ty | h-o-ne-st-y |
| 9. | d-uring | dur-ing | during | dur-ing |
| 10. | pre-pa-re | pre-par-e | prep-are | Pre-pare |
| 11. | lazy | la-zy | laz-y | l-azy |
| 12. | sto-re-ro-om | store-room | st-ore-room | stor-e-ro-om |
| 13. | sum-mer | summ-er | summer | Su-mmer |
| 14. | w-ee-k | week | we-ek | w-eek |
| 15. | ne-ce-ssity | ne-ce-ssi-ty | nec-es-si-ty | ne-ces-si-ty |
| 16. | per-son | pe-rson | person | per-s-on |
| 17. | prom-ise | pro-mise | promi-se | promise |
| 18. | pl-ayground | play-ground | playground | play-ground |
| 19. | for-get | forget | for-get | forg-et |
| 20. | gu-ess | guess | gue-ss | g-ues-s |

Fill in the blanks to make up your own similes.

1. as dry as _____	2. _____ as a kite
3. as rough _____	4. _____ as a rainbow
5. _____ as a bear	6. as eerie as _____
7. _____ as a flower	8. as cool as _____
9. as wild as _____	10. as _____ as _____
11. as nosey as _____	12. _____ as a tree
13. _____ as a pigsty	14. _____ as a house
15. as fresh as _____	16. as _____ as _____
17. as pretty as _____	18. _____ as an inchworm
19. as _____ as _____	20. _____ as a rail
21. as fragile as _____	22. _____ as an ape
23. as still as _____	24. _____ as a lion
25. as healthy as _____	26. as loud _____
27. _____ as a fruitcake	28. as _____ as _____
29. _____ as a monkey	30. as hungry as _____

Study the relationship between the first set of words. Pick the word that completes the second pair with this same relationship.

1. ice skate : slide :: wheel : _____
<input type="radio"/> A float <input type="radio"/> B roll <input type="radio"/> C jump <input type="radio"/> D fly
2. car : highway :: airplane : _____
<input type="radio"/> A sky <input type="radio"/> B travel <input type="radio"/> C water <input type="radio"/> D bus
3. snow : soft :: ice : _____
<input type="radio"/> A clear <input type="radio"/> B wet <input type="radio"/> C hard <input type="radio"/> D cold
4. ice skating : pond :: skiing : _____
<input type="radio"/> A ocean <input type="radio"/> B airplane <input type="radio"/> C mountain <input type="radio"/> D backyard
5. fire truck : red lights :: police car : _____
<input type="radio"/> A blue lights <input type="radio"/> B green lights <input type="radio"/> C orange lights <input type="radio"/> D yellow lights
6. mud : brown :: snow : _____
<input type="radio"/> A blue <input type="radio"/> B black <input type="radio"/> C white <input type="radio"/> D yellow
7. Rudolph : reindeer :: Frosty : _____
<input type="radio"/> A Christmas tree <input type="radio"/> B snowman <input type="radio"/> C jingle bells <input type="radio"/> D snowflake
8. July : summer :: December : _____
<input type="radio"/> A fall <input type="radio"/> B Christmas <input type="radio"/> C winter <input type="radio"/> D spring
9. bell : ring :: horn : _____
<input type="radio"/> A car <input type="radio"/> B necklace <input type="radio"/> C sing <input type="radio"/> D honk
10. taxi : yellow :: fire truck : _____
<input type="radio"/> A white <input type="radio"/> B red <input type="radio"/> C black <input type="radio"/> D green
11. summer : air conditioner :: winter : _____
<input type="radio"/> A coat <input type="radio"/> B open windows <input type="radio"/> C heater <input type="radio"/> D freeze
12. hot : sweat :: cold : _____
<input type="radio"/> A fever <input type="radio"/> B hiccup <input type="radio"/> C shiver <input type="radio"/> D itch

Identify the metaphor used in the sentence.

1. Bella's words of encouragement were music to my ears.

2. Joshua's brother is a rug rat.

3. Sam is a pig for eating so much for dessert!

4. Jill's mind is a rainbow of ideas.

5. The street was a blanket of snow when we woke up this morning.

6. My pillow was a cloud after the long day.

Technology Links:

Scholastic:

<http://www.scholastic.com/kids/stacks/index.asp>

Voyager:

<http://www.tickettoread.com/>

Time for Kids:

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/kids/hh/writeideas>

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/kids/news>

Kids Fables:

<http://www.kidsfables.com/>

<http://www.funfablesforkids.com/>

Animal Facts:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Animals/CreatureFeature>

<http://www.kidzone.ws/>

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Federal and State Laws

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment and educational programs/activities and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by law:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender.

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended - prohibits gender discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against the disabled.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to “eligible” employees for certain family and medical reasons.

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

Florida Educational Equity Act (FEEA) - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, marital status, or handicap against a student or employee.

Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 - secures for all individuals within the state freedom from discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status.

Veterans are provided re-employment rights in accordance with P.L. 93-508 (Federal Law) and Section 295.07 (Florida Statutes), which stipulates categorical preferences for employment.