

Name:

Date:

FOURTH GRADE-READING (READ4_2CRANALYSIS)

"Book" Bookends

by Linda Douglas

1. Fill two small boxes with unpopped popcorn, pebbles, dried beans, or sand in plastic bags.
2. Tape the lids shut.
3. Decorate the boxes with paper and markers to make them look like books lined up on a shelf. Write your favorite book titles along the book "bindings."
4. Use the box bookends to hold your books upright on a shelf.

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1. Which of these comes LAST in making the bookends?
 - A. tape the lids shut
 - B. write book titles
 - C. fill boxes with beans
 - D. decorate the boxes
-
2. Which of these would NOT be a good material to fill the boxes?
 - A. pieces of paper
 - B. small marbles
 - C. uncooked rice
 - D. dried peas
-
3. You should fill up the boxes to add
 - A. color
 - B. softness
 - C. weight
 - D. decoration
-
4. Which of these is a compound word?
 - A. unpopped
 - B. decorate
 - C. favorite
 - D. bookends

The Extraordinary Cat:

A Chinese Tale

by Pleasant De Spain

Once there was a Chinese mandarin who had a cat that he treasured above all other animals. He loved the cat so much and thought that it was so extraordinary that he named it Sky.

One day soon after, an advisor to the court spoke to the mandarin and explained, "There is something much more powerful than the sky, and that is the cloud. The cloud can darken and even hide the sky from view."

"Quite right," agreed the mandarin. "From this day forth my beautiful cat shall be called Cloud."

Two weeks later the mandarin's wife said, "Dear husband, I don't think that Cloud is a proper name for your cat. There is something stronger than the cloud, and that is the wind that blows the cloud about."

"Indeed! From now on my superior cat will be called Wind. Here Wind! Here Wind! Nice little Wind."

During the next month the mandarin's brother came for a visit and agreed that the cat was the most extraordinary animal he had ever seen. "But," he said, "Wind is not a suitable name for this superb creature. The wind is servant to that which it cannot penetrate. . . such as a wall. The wall is stronger than the wind."

"I hadn't thought of that," replied the mandarin, "and you are to be congratulated, brother, for being so observant. From now on, my dearest cat, the most wonderful cat on earth, will be called Wall."

The very next day the royal gardener heard the mandarin call his cat, "Wall," and said, "But sire, you are forgetting that a mouse is able to chew a hole in a wall. The mouse is the strongest."

"How clever of you," said the mandarin. "From this day forth my lovely cat will be called Mouse. Come here Mouse!"

But just then the mandarin's son skipped into the garden to play, and when he heard his father call the cat "Mouse," he started to laugh and laugh!

"What causes you to laugh, my son?" asked the mandarin.

"Father" replied the boy, "everyone knows that there is something stronger than the mouse and that's the cat who catches him!"

The mandarin smiled and then began to laugh with his son. "Of course! How foolish I've been. From now on my extraordinary animal will be called by the name it most deserves, and that is Cat!"

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5. Which of these shows that the mandarin thinks that his cat is extraordinary?
- A. The mandarin makes the cat an advisor.
 - B. The mandarin thinks of the cat like a son.
 - C. The mandarin gives the cat special names.
 - D. The mandarin builds the cat its own garden.
-
6. The advisor to the court thinks that the cat's name should be changed to something more
- A. gentle
 - B. powerful
 - C. beautiful
 - D. playful
-
7. Who tells the mandarin he could change the cat's name to "Mouse"?
- A. the son
 - B. the brother
 - C. the gardener
 - D. the wife
-
8. Another good title for this passage could be
- A. The Wise Ruler
 - B. So Many Cats at the Court
 - C. The Wind and the Clouds
 - D. The Cat with Many Names
-
9. The author writes that the mandarin "had a cat that he treasured above all animals." What does the word *treasured* mean in this sentence?
- A. carried around
 - B. put up for sale
 - C. thought highly of
 - D. played a lot with
-
-

Jekyll Island

Along the southeast coast of Georgia is a strip of islands called "The Golden Isles." Miles of beaches offer swimming and shell collecting for visitors. Each island is an unusual combination of wildlife and beautiful scenery, but one has a particularly interesting history as well: Jekyll Island.

Jekyll Island is the farthest south of the Golden Isles, and many different groups of people have lived here. Remains of Native American settlements from as early as 2500 BC have been found on the island. It was later settled by the French, followed by the Spanish in 1566. Next, the English took control of the island and by 1736 had established a settlement there.

A major part of Jekyll's modern history began in 1886, when fifty of the wealthiest and most socially important leaders of America purchased the island. Families such as the Vanderbilts, Morgans, Rockefellers, and Astors built summer cottages as retreats from the pressures of their business and social lives. The families shared meals and other activities together at The Jekyll Island Club. It is said that when all the club members gathered here in the early part of the twentieth century, they controlled one-sixth of the world's wealth. No uninvited guests were permitted on the island.

Over time, younger family members began to look for more exciting places to relax, and Jekyll gradually lost its popularity among the rich and famous. The last residents left in 1942. The island was fairly deserted for years and the buildings crumbled. Finally in 1947, the state of Georgia bought the island and turned it into a state park. A causeway was built so that the general public could visit the beautiful beaches. Many of the summer cottages were rebuilt so that the public could view them.

Today, Jekyll Island is a pleasant vacation spot for families. Development has been strictly controlled so that both the natural surroundings and the history of the island remains protected. The sun-kissed beaches of Jekyll Island show why it is truly a "Golden Isle."

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10. Why is Jekyll Island called a "Golden Isle"?
- A. because wealthy families lived there
 - B. because of its sunny beaches
 - C. because the French found gold there
 - D. because it is owned by the state of Georgia
-

11. The author's purpose in writing this passage is to
- A. tell the history of Jekyll Island
 - B. persuade a person to move to Jekyll Island
 - C. explain the activities of the Jekyll Island Club
 - D. describe the way the island looks
-
12. Who mostly visits Jekyll Island today?
- A. the Jekyll Island Club
 - B. socially important leaders
 - C. families on vacation
 - D. wealthy business people
-
13. How are the families who visited Jekyll Island in 1900 like modern day visitors?
- A. They settled the island.
 - B. They are in the Jekyll Island Club.
 - C. They were mostly French and English.
 - D. They went there to relax.

Dear Principal Smith,

I am so proud of what we just learned in school that I thought you should know about it. After doing a unit on New England, in which we learned about how the

To finish our nutrition unit, our teacher planned something that everyone was excited about! We had a nutrition luncheon. The class was divided into the five

Who would have thought that foods that were healthy for you could taste so good? Now, instead of bringing in jellybeans and other candy for a treat, students We all had such a fun time learning in this unit. Maybe next April, the whole school could celebrate in the same way.

We all had such a fun time learning in this unit. Maybe next April, the whole school could celebrate in the same way.

Sincerely,

Sam Vail

-
14. Why did the children have a nutrition luncheon?
- A. to learn how to cook
 - B. to eat like the Pilgrims
 - C. to taste foods from the five food groups
 - D. to give a party for Sam
-
15. What kind of passage is this?
- A. report
 - B. story
 - C. poem
 - D. letter
-
16. Sam probably wrote this passage to
- A. encourage the principal to have the entire school celebrate nutrition month next year
 - B. invite the principal to a picnic where only healthy food is served
 - C. ask the principal for his favorite fruit recipes
 - D. tell the principal about what his class learned about the Pilgrims' food
-
17. Which of the following words from the passage has a suffix that means *more*?
- A. celebration
 - B. learned
 - C. healthier
 - D. everything

Right in Your Own Backyard

I have become very interested in taking care of the environment. This happened because of my neighbor, Mr. Edwards. But he is not your typical neighbor. You will not see Mr. Edwards working in his backyard. He works in everyone's backyard, which is Planet Earth!

He has spent many years working for environmental causes. But he never brags about the valuable work he does. Mr. Edwards believes it is people's duty to protect their home, Planet Earth. "Earth is one big backyard. We have to start in our own backyards and work

outward," Mr. Edwards always says. Mr. Edwards has turned his words into action. First, he was named tree commissioner for our town. As commissioner, he oversees the planting of trees and teaches people about their environmental benefits. "If I can encourage one person to plant a tree, then I have done my job. Just think of how wonderful it would be if each person planted a tree," Mr. Edwards says. He has encouraged several citizens to plant more trees. In fact, our town has won the *Tree City USA Award* for the past nine years because of Mr. Edwards's work.

Just last year, Mr. Edwards adopted a highway. Throughout the year, he and his friends clean up the litter along his highway. One afternoon, when I was out in my own yard, Mr. Edwards stopped by. He asked me if I wanted to join his highway clean-up group. It is hard work, but also a lot of fun. We wear bright orange safety vests so people can see us on the roadside. We use sticks to pick up the litter, and the town comes and picks up our bags at the end of the day. One of my friends asked me why I clean up the highway when people keep littering anyway. My answer surprised us both.

"Earth is one big backyard. We have to start in our own backyards and work outwards," I proudly replied. We both laughed. I sounded just like Mr. Edwards. "May I join the highway clean-up group?" my friend then asked. "Sure!" I exclaimed with a smile.

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18. This passage is an example of
- A. a letter
 - B. a story
 - C. a drama
 - D. a folk tale
-
19. According to the passage, the author
- A. helps Mr. Edwards plant trees
 - B. helps clean up litter along Mr. Edwards's highway
 - C. works in Mr. Edwards's backyard
 - D. adopted a highway
-
20. What would be another good title for this passage?
- A. How to Adopt a Highway
 - B. The Planet Earth
 - C. It's Everyone's Backyard
 - D. My Neighbor, the Tree Commissioner
-
21. When the author says, "I sounded just like Mr. Edwards," what does she mean?
- A. Mr. Edwards tells people what to say.
 - B. She learned from Mr. Edwards.
 - C. Mr. Edwards is a very smart man.

D. Her voice sounded like Mr. Edwards's.

22. Why do the highway workers wear orange vests?
- A. so they can be seen easily by drivers
 - B. because that is the city color
 - C. so all of the workers have matching outfits
 - D. so people know that they are working
-

Frogs of Loon and Luma

Once upon a time there were two frogs. One lived far away in the land of Loon. The

"I have never been to Luma," said the Loon frog. "I wonder what it is like there? Surely

"My life is so boring," said the Luma frog. "I think I'd like to see what it is like in Loon.

By chance, both frogs chose the same day to start their exploration of their new worlds.

The two met at the top of a pass in the great mountains that separated the countries from

"Where are you from and where are you going?" croaked the Loon frog.

"Well, I'm from Luma and I'm making a special journey to Loon to see how wonderful it

"What a coincidence! I'm from Loon myself. I too am on a journey, but I want to see the

"If only we were taller," replied the Luma frog, "we might be able to see each place

So the two frogs agreed to stand on their hind legs and balance each other with their

front legs. The Loon frog faced Luma and the Luma frog faced Loon. When they looked over each others shoulders, they didn't realize that in this position their bulgy eyes would see behind them instead of in front.

"How strange!" said the Luma frog. "Loon isn't very special. It's exactly like where I just came from."

"Yes, it's amazing," said the Loon frog. "I thought it would be different and it's not. It's really not worth the bother to go on."

"Since everything everywhere must be just the same," replied the other. "I guess home is the best place for me."

So they both returned home and lived happily ever after for each believed that Loon and Luma were just as similar as the two lily pads in their own two ponds.

-
23. The frogs wanted to see each other's home because
- A. they wanted to visit each other
 - B. they thought life there would be more exciting
 - C. they wanted to prove that they lived in a better place
 - D. they thought it would be just the same as where they lived
-
24. The author most likely wrote this passage
- A. to entertain people
 - B. to give information about frogs
 - C. to persuade people to visit different lands
 - D. to describe Loon and Luma
-
25. "They didn't realize that in this position their bulgy eyes would see behind them instead of in front." In this sentence *realize* means almost the same as
- A. declare
 - B. discuss
 - C. comprehend
 - D. claim

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(Answer Key)

1. write book titles
2. pieces of paper

3. weight
4. bookends
5. The mandarin gives the cat special names.
6. powerful
7. the gardener
8. The Cat with Many Names
9. thought highly of
10. because of its sunny beaches
11. tell the history of Jekyll Island
12. families on vacation
13. They went there to relax.
14. to taste foods from the five food groups
15. letter
16. encourage the principal to have the entire school celebrate nutrition month next year

17. healthier
18. a story
19. helps clean up litter along Mr. Edwards's highway
20. It's Everyone's Backyard
21. She learned from Mr. Edwards.
22. so they can be seen easily by drivers
23. they thought life there would be more exciting
24. to entertain people
25. comprehend