



# acadience® reading k-6

## Student Materials

### Grade 1 | Benchmark Assessment

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## A Jump Rope Contest

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► It was the day of the jump rope contest. Kim and Anna were going to compete. Kim was going to do a new trick. Anna was going to help. The two girls watched as younger children took a turn in the contest. The young children jumped and skipped rope in a circle. They were just beginning to learn fancy tricks.

Five boys went next. They used two ropes to do tricks. All the boys jumped over the ropes at the same time. Their feet moved quickly and in a steady beat. The boys did tricks with kicks and spins. The ropes never stopped turning.

“We’re next,” said Anna.

Kim hoped that she would not miss her new trick. Anna was sure that she and Kim would do well.

First, Kim turned the rope and Anna jumped. Anna did some spins and kicks. Soon it was Kim’s turn to do the tricks. She passed the rope to Anna.

It was time for Kim to do her new trick. She jumped up and did a split in the air. Then she pulled her feet together and touched the ground. Kim hopped back up. She was proud that she had done the trick.

The girls were done, and they left the floor. “We did it!” Kim shouted. “I think we can win this contest.”

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## Go Fish

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► It was a cold, snowy day. Abby had invited two friends over to play the card game Go Fish. Abby's little brother, Tim, had never played and wanted to learn.

"I'll explain during this game," said Abby.

Abby showed Tim the cards in her hand, which had different numbers on them. Abby explained that she needed to get all four cards with the same numbers.

Abby's friend Jen asked Abby if she had any tens. None of Abby's cards had tens on them. She replied "Go fish," which meant Jen had to draw a card from the deck.

Now it was Abby's turn to ask someone for a type of card. Abby had a card with a three on it, so she asked her friend Tess for threes. Tess had one three, so she had to give it to Abby. Abby also had a five, so next she asked Jen for fives. "Go fish, Abby," said Jen.

Soon, the game was almost over. Abby told Tim he could play for her on her next turn. He drew a card. It was a ten! He knew one of Abby's friends had tens, but which one? He frowned. Then he remembered.

"Jen, do you have any tens?" he asked. Smiling, Jen gave Tim three tens! Tim now had all four tens. The game was soon complete. Everyone was surprised that Tim and Abby had won!

Tim was confident he could play the next game of Go Fish without help.

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## A Busy Bee

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► The sun is rising, telling the bees it's time to get busy. The worker bees leave the hive. They are looking for nectar, a sweet liquid, and pollen, a yellow dust. The bees use these things to make food and honey.

One bee finds a garden and climbs inside a flower. It drinks the nectar. The nectar is stored in a sack in the bee's body. As it walks around, pollen sticks to its legs.

When the nectar sack is full, the bee flies back to the hive. The other workers greet the bee. To tell where the nectar and pollen came from, the worker does a dance. The way the bee moves tells where the garden is. The other bees rush off to get more nectar and pollen.

The worker bee climbs over many other bees. Most of them are worker bees, too. One bee is bigger than any other. It is the queen. Her job is to lay eggs. A third kind of bee, the drone, does not have a stinger. Its job is to mate with the queen.

The worker gives the nectar and pollen to another worker bee. This bee has the job of making food. Once the bee has delivered its load, it flies out again. In all, this worker bee will make about ten trips each day. It might fly as far as six miles away. Now that's a busy bee!

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## The Cocoa Stand

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► Mark and his brother Sam wanted to go to the movies, but they needed money. In the summer they sold cool drinks, but it was very cold outside.

“I have an idea,” said Sam. “We can make hot cocoa, because on such a cold day, everyone will want some cocoa to warm them up.”

Mark loved hot cocoa, but he could not make it. Sam was fifteen, so he could make cocoa, but what could Mark do?

“You can help, too!” said Sam. “I will work the stove, but you can help mix it together.”

Sam told Mark what they needed to make cocoa. While Sam heated the milk, Mark mixed the cocoa and sugar in a bowl. He added a small amount of vanilla and a tiny bit of salt, and then Sam brought over the hot milk and carefully poured it in. Mark got out a big thermos and Sam poured the hot cocoa into it. Then they put on their warm clothes. They also got out chairs and a card table. Sam made a sign that said “Hot Cocoa for Sale!” and Mark drew a picture of a cup of hot cocoa. They went outside to sell their drink.

Their neighbor, Ms. Martin, came by. “I’ll buy a cup,” she said. Sam gave her a cup and she tasted it. “This is really good,” she said. “It’s the perfect drink for a cold day. Who made such good cocoa?”

“We both did!” the brothers said.

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## Parts of a Tree

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► Trees are very tall plants. They come in different shapes and sizes. Yet all trees have the same parts.

The leaves are the green parts of the tree. Some leaves are big and flat. Others look like thin needles. No matter their size or shape, leaves take in air and sunlight. Trees need air and light to live and grow.

The hardest, tallest part of the tree is the trunk. The trunk holds up the tree. The bark is the part of the trunk that we see. Tiny tubes inside the trunk move water and nutrients throughout the tree. The bark protects the tubes from animals that visit the tree and from hot and cold weather.

We cannot see the roots of the tree. The roots grow deep into the dirt. They keep the tree from falling over. Roots also have little tubes inside. They take in water and nutrients from the dirt and move them up into the trunk. These things make the tree strong and healthy.

Seeds are another tree part. They may form in flowers, cones, or nuts. They fall on the ground and start to grow. It will take many years, but a tiny seed will one day grow into a tall tree.

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## Going to Market

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► Four baskets were filled with fish. Now it was time to take them to the market. Ken helped his father load the baskets onto the family's boat. Ken's family lived on a large island off the coast of Africa. They used the boat to sail to market.

Ken jumped into the boat. His father pushed the old wood boat off the sand and into the clear blue water. After climbing in, Ken's father lifted the big triangle sail. The wind filled the cloth, pushing the boat out to sea. The trip would take about an hour, so Ken sat down in the front of the boat. There were often interesting plants and animals to see along the way. He did not want to miss any of them.

Ken's father kept the boat close to the land. Ken could see clean white beaches lined with coconut trees. A big sea turtle came up for air near the boat. It went back under when the boat got closer. Before long, Ken saw some dolphins. They raced beside the boat for several minutes. Looking back at the coast, Ken saw some monkeys. They were leaping from tree to tree.

The trip seemed too short. Ken's father turned the boat to the shore and let the sail down. Ken heard the wood scrape on the sand. Now it was time to take the fish to the market. Ken hoped they would sell all their fish quickly. He wanted to sail in the boat again.

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