Maze
Administration Directions and Scoring Keys

Level 6 | Progress Monitoring

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**Maze**
**L6 / Progress Monitoring**

**Directions:** Make sure you have reviewed the scoring rules in the Acadience Reading K–6 Assessment Manual and have them available. Say these specific directions to the students:

1. Before handing out the worksheets, say *I am going to give you a worksheet. When you get your worksheet, please write your name at the top and put your pencil down.* Hand out the Maze student worksheets. Make sure each student has the appropriate worksheet.

   When all of the students are ready, say *You are going to read a story with some missing words. For each missing word there will be a box with three words. Circle the word that makes the most sense in the story. Look at Practice 1.*

   *Listen. After playing in the dirt, Sam went home, summer, was (pause) to wash her hands. You should circle the word “home” because “home” makes the most sense in the story. Listen. After playing in the dirt, Sam went home to wash her hands.*

   *Now it is your turn. Read Practice 2 silently. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense in the story. When you are done, put your pencil down.*

   Allow up to 30 seconds for students to complete the example and put their pencils down. If necessary, after 30 seconds say *Put your pencil down.*

2. As soon as all students have their pencils down, say *Listen. On her way home, she chair, sleep, saw (pause) an ice cream truck. You should have circled “saw” because “saw” makes the most sense in the story. Listen. On her way home, she saw an ice cream truck.*

   *When I say “begin,” turn the page over and start reading the story silently. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense in the story. Ready? Begin.*

   Start your stopwatch after you say “begin.”

3. Monitor students to ensure they are reading and circling the words. Use the reminders as needed.

4. At the end of 3 minutes, stop your stopwatch and say *Stop. Put your pencil down.* Collect all of the Maze worksheet packets.

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Timing</strong></th>
<th>3 minutes. Start your stopwatch after you say “begin.”</th>
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<td><strong>Reminders</strong></td>
<td>If the student starts reading the passage out loud, say <em>Remember to read the story silently.</em> (Repeat as often as needed.)</td>
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<td>If the student is not working on the task, say <em>Remember to circle the word in each box that makes the most sense in the story.</em> (Repeat as often as needed.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>If the student asks you to provide a word for them or, in general, for help with the task, say <em>Just do your best.</em> (Repeat as often as needed.)</td>
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Taking Great Nature Photographs

Many people love looking at a beautiful landscape or at waves crashing into rocks on a wind-swept beach. They may want to capture a bit of it on camera in order to share it with others. Because the subject is so beautiful, they think, “This is sure to be a wonderful photograph!”

However, taking a good nature photograph can be tricky. If you're not careful, a majestic mountain may look like a distant pebble. Crashing waves can easily become a gray blur, with the seagulls above them appearing as tiny specks in a washed-out sky. The vibrant colors of real life may not be easy to capture in the photo. It is also easy to have all of your subjects come out too small. By following a few simple suggestions, you can learn to take photographs that capture the true beauty of nature.

The first thing to consider is what type of camera you have available. Some cameras are more suited to taking certain kinds of pictures than others. When shooting landscapes,
professional photographers use special camera lenses that can capture more far-off details than an ordinary camera. In a sense, they can “grab” more of the scene than a narrow lens can. Some digital cameras have a special setting for shooting landscapes that can help achieve the same effect.

Cameras with this setting are best at shooting sweeping landscapes. Luckily, you don't need a special camera to take a good nature photograph! It just depends on what you want to take a picture of. If you have an ordinary camera, one strategy is to concentrate on capturing smaller scenes and details. Rather than the whole forest, focus on an especially beautiful tree. Don't take a picture of the whole lake; instead, focus on some interesting reeds by the shore. You may be surprised at how effective and interesting a photo can be when it focuses on a small detail.

It is important to consider the position of the objects in the photo. Making sure the background is uncluttered keeps the attention on the main subject. Also, placing the subject
center often creates a more interesting photo than if it is right in the middle of the frame.

The right light can make or break a photograph. Shooting at mid-day when the sun is high in the sky can lead to photos that look lifeless and washed out. It can also create harsh shadows that will ruin a photograph. Many professional nature photographers shoot only early in the morning or late in the afternoon, shortly before sunset. Colors look warmer and richer when the sun is low in the sky.

Finally, remember that a great nature photograph may be as close as the backyard or a neighborhood park. Look for interesting colors and details, such as a snail crawling up a tree trunk or autumn leaves in a puddle. Even a weed growing in the crack in the sidewalk can make a beautiful photo. By paying attention to the suggestions above, anyone can take a great nature photograph.
The Pharmacist

Pharmacists are experts in the science of medicine. They know about the kinds of drugs that are used to treat all types of illnesses. They are also familiar with laws that regulate their use. Because pharmacists know how medications can be used to heal certain illnesses, they help people get well and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

People must go to college for many years to become pharmacists. They have to study math, as well as sciences such as chemistry and biology. Like doctors and other workers in the field of health care, they learn about how the human body works. They need to know what medicines are used for a variety of things, such as broken bones or the flu.

Each day, pharmacists give people the medicines that doctors advise them to take. In some cases, they will need to discuss a patient's medicine with the doctor who ordered it. An important aspect of a pharmacist's job is working with people. The pharmacist gives the customers the items they have ordered. They also explain how much of each drug should...
be taken. People who come into the pharmacy need to know how many times each day and at what
time of day they should take their medicine. Pharmacists then let people know about any side
effects that the drug may cause, such as aches and pains, fatigue, or runny nose. They also
tell people to call their doctor if they have more serious side effects. Patients can put
themselves at risk if the doctor's orders are not followed exactly. One of the most important jobs
of a pharmacist is to make sure that patients taking more than one drug don't have adverse
effects due to the interaction of medications.

Another job of the pharmacist is to order and store medicines. Drugs are shipped from the
companies where they are made. Pharmacists must keep careful records of which drugs they have in stock and which are sold out. It is also their job to ensure that all of the drugs they give out are safe and pure.

Most pharmacists work in drugstores. Other pharmacists work in hospitals or nursing
homes. There, they keep records of patient information for the doctors and nurses. They may also tell the medical staff about new drugs that are going to be available soon.

More and more pharmacists are working in new positions not traditionally occupied by pharmacists. Some work in sales or conduct research for groups that make medicines. Others work for health insurance companies to work out plans to cover the cost of certain drugs or to analyze the costs and benefits of medications. Even though these pharmacists do not give out drugs based on a doctor’s order, they still have to know how the human body works. People who work in sales for drug companies often give information to doctors and other pharmacists about new drugs that are coming on the market. Other positions include working for colleges, the government, the military, or for professional pharmacy associations.

Most pharmacists say that they enjoy helping people in their efforts to stay healthy and happy. Contributing to a healthy community is one of the best parts of their job.
The Appalachian Trail

Twisting and turning from Maine to Georgia, the Appalachian Trail is among the longest footpaths in the United States. It crosses fourteen states as it winds its way through deep forests, across streams, and over craggy mountains. People come from all over to hike it. However, few of them walk the trail from beginning to end. That’s hardly a surprise, because the entire trail measures more than two thousand miles long. Hiking the complete trail would take about five million footsteps! Still, to see even a tiny portion of it is to experience some of the most beautiful landscape in the United States.

The trail began as one man's proposal in 1921. Benton McKaye pictured the trail as a ribbon connecting several mountaintop camps where people could relax and enjoy nature. His vision included hotels, inns, study centers, and villages where people could work together farming the land, making crafts, and taking care of the forest.

At the time, there were several hiking clubs whose members owned and looked after...
hundreds of miles of hiking trails. These clubs were all in favor of the idea. However, it wasn't until 1930 that work actually began on the trail. Once it started, it progressed quickly.

Hiking club members, working without payment, did almost all the construction, clearing bushes and trees and marking the pathway. Although the inns, study centers, and villages were never constructed, the trail was completed on August 14, 1937. Today, nearly all the trail is on public lands that are protected so people will be able to enjoy them for years to come.

Every year, more than three million people hike along at least a piece of the Appalachian Trail. Most hike for just a few days, but a few each year hike the entire length of the long trail. That can take months of traveling, so these hikers must make careful plans beforehand.

Most begin in March or April at the southern end of the trail. A few start in the middle, hike to one end of the trail, then return to their starting point by vehicle and hike to the other end. The trail itself has campgrounds and shelters but no stores where food and other supplies can be
purchased. Hikers must purchase these in towns that are dotted along the trail. Sometimes the towns are as much as three days apart. For some hikers, reaching a town is a welcome relief. Towns provide them the opportunity to stay in a hotel or eat at a restaurant if hikers are weary of the challenging life of the trail. Other hikers will simply pass through, but all must decide what supplies will be needed for the next segment of the journey.

Despite the challenges, people greatly enjoy hiking the trail. They come for the fun of hiking the craggy green mountains of the eastern United States. They enjoy the opportunity to ramble through heavy forests that are crisscrossed by streams. They delight in seeing the animals that inhabit the wilderness along the trail. No matter how much or how little time each hiker spends on the trail, all of them come away with a sense of wonder.
City of Rocks

Picture in your mind a large, busy city. Do you see clusters of office buildings of different shapes and heights, forming columns of steel and glass rising above busy streets?

Now imagine the same shapes, but a little smaller and made only of stone. Some of the structures are low to the ground, and others are towering columns. The rocks form arches, and there are passages that look like streets and alleys. This strange city is in the middle of a high desert. Instead of busy traffic, the only sound you hear is the whispering of the wind between the columns of rock. Unlike other cities, this one was made by nature, not by humans.

This place exists in the southwestern desert of New Mexico, near a town named Deming. It is the City of Rocks State Park. Visitors of all ages come to climb the rocks and walk among them, imagining that they see familiar objects in the fantastic rock shapes. Sometimes they see the outlines of people or animals. Many of the rock formations have been named for the
shapes they resemble.

Geologists estimate that volcanoes erupted thirty-three million years ago, spewing out fiery pieces of rock and ash. This rock and ash settled and formed a layer of hard lava, which cracked and splintered as the lava cooled. Over millions of years, blasts of sand and rain driven by strong winds, as well as heat and cold, eroded the softer spaces between the hard columns of stone. It took all of this time and weather to bring into being the rock city as it looks today.

The rocks vary in height and width. Some reach fifty feet, and others are close to the ground. On average, the columns of rock are fifteen to thirty feet high, with varying widths. Archaeologists have found evidence of settlements from the Mimbres Nation, who lived in the area hundreds of years ago. Holes in some of the rocks show that they had been used to grind seeds, nuts and grains. Later, members of the Apache Nation settled in the region, followed by the
Spanish who arrived five hundred years ago.

In the mid-eighteenth hundreds, explorer John Bartlett passed through the region. He didn't see the City of Rocks. Instead, he saw some stone pillars close by that he called the “GIants of the Mimbres.”

Also at about this time, the amazing scenery, as well as the hot springs, began attracting visitors who were traveling west by stagecoach. A hotel was built for travelers who wanted to pause in the middle of their journey to bathe in the spring waters and visit the mysterious rock city.

It was only recently that the region has been designated a state park. At this park visitors can spend the day or camp overnight. Camping areas are nestled among trees and stone walls with picnic tables and fireplaces in peaceful, private spots. A garden that is maintained by the park service displays many types of cacti.
The City of Rocks is a great park to visit with friends and family. Tourists of all ages can scramble over the boulders in a kind of geological playground set against an enchanting desert and big blue sky.
The Boy Who Made a Difference

John Benson Junior, or “Benny,” was a boy from Alaska. When Benny was a young boy, he left home and began attending a mission school. Here, he would be given one of the most incredible opportunities of his life.

At this time, Alaska was still a territory. It was not yet one of the states of the U.S. Many people, including the territorial governor, were working hard for the cause of statehood. The governor had been to Washington, D.C., where he had seen all of the flags of the forty-eight states. He felt strongly that Alaska needed its own flag. When he returned home, he persuaded a group of army veterans to organize a flag-designing contest for children who were in grades seven to twelve. Contest rules were circulated to schools throughout the territory and news of the competition soon arrived at the school Benny attended. He was in seventh grade at the time that he decided to enter the contest.

Benny's design was a simple one that showed stars on a blue background. It featured
seven small stars in the **shape** of the Big Dipper and one large **star** that represented the North Star. Benny explained that the **blue** field represented the Alaska sky and the **color** of a favorite flower, the forget-me-not. The North Star **referred** to the future of Alaska, which would be the northernmost state in the Union when it was finally admitted. The Big Dipper, or Great Bear, as the **Alaskan natives** called it, symbolized strength.

Benny's design was **one** of ten sent from his school for the **final judging**. Considering he was only in **seventh grade**, he was also one of the **youngest** students to enter the contest. After reviewing all the entries, the judges voted to **use** Benny's design. Overnight, Benny became a **celebrity** for the people of Alaska. He **received** a gold watch that showed his flag emblem and a scholarship to use after **high school**. Years later, Benny's description of his **design** became part of the Alaska state **song**.

After graduating from high school, Benny **returned** to his hometown to work with...
his father. Later on, he decided to use his scholarship money to learn to become a diesel mechanic at a school in Seattle. He spent most of the rest of his life working as an airplane mechanic in Alaska.

Benny Benson was not forgotten and for the rest of his life he was admired as an unofficial goodwill ambassador for Alaska. He was the first Alaskan native to join the Elks Club, and many streets and schools were named for him. He was an Alaskan who brought honor and respect to his people.

Even after Benny died he continued to be honored, including in 2002 when an exhibition celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the flag was held. The state's governor reminded citizens of the importance of listening to the ideas of young people, because, as Benny Benson showed, even a young boy can make a difference.
Penguins at the Mall

One day in early February, Esteban's little sister Ana watched a movie about penguins in school.

At dinnertime that night, she couldn't stop chattering about it. She decided penguins were her favorite animal and drew lots of pictures of them to display in her room.

Esteban wanted to do something special for Ana for her birthday in March, and he knew there was a colony of penguins living in their province of Alberta. These penguins lived together at the famous West Edmonton Mall, an enormous nearby shopping center. Esteban's parents agreed he could take Ana there to see the penguins, and Esteban's father recalled overhearing that a baby penguin had hatched there recently and that there had been a contest to name it. Ana was excited, and brainstormed with Esteban about what the winning name might have been.

A few weeks later, Ana and Esteban headed on down to the West Edmonton Mall. Ana had never been there before, so Esteban showed her some of the sights the huge shopping center.
had to offer. The size of forty-eight city blocks, the mall was the largest in North America and one of the biggest on the entire planet. It had its own fancy hotel, amusement park, and even water park all contained within it. Esteban and Ana didn't have time to see all those things, but they did stop by a life-size model of the Santa Maria, one of Christopher Columbus's ships. They also attended a sea lion show, where the trainers talked about the animals while they performed. Esteban found himself fascinated by the creatures, and was surprised by how friendly they were. Ana giggled at meeting one of them afterwards.

Finally, it was time for Esteban and Ana to visit the sea life caverns, where the penguins lived. They stopped by the caverns' invertebrate touch pool first, where an attendant showed them how to gently handle the underwater animals and plants without hurting them. Esteban pointed out a starfish to Ana that was latched onto a rock, and they both felt its cold, bumpy skin. But Ana couldn't be distracted for long, even by a starfish. She tugged on Esteban's sleeve,
and, **smiling**, he walked with her into the **next** room. There were the penguins!

Ana **was** enchanted. She ran around, following first one penguin and then another, getting as **close** as she could to the exhibit **walls**. Esteban had to admit that the **penguins** were cute. Penguins were preening, chasing after **fish**, and jabbering with each other. They **seemed** to be in their own world.

“**Esteban, look** at that one!”

Esteban turned and **saw** the penguin Ana was indicating, which was a **little** smaller than the others, and had a **white** eyebrow over each eye. A guide **saw** where he was looking.

“That’s one of our **younger** penguins,” said the guide. “It was the **tenth** penguin born here, and we held a **contest** to name it.”

“My dad told me about that,” Esteban. “So, what did you name it?”

“**Dayo**,” said the **guide**. “It means, joy arrives.”
Esteban looked over at Ana, who was cooing and giggling at the penguin. He smiled. “I think that was a perfect choice,” he said.
Jockey's Ridge State Park

It's a hot, sunny day and a surfer is on her board, descending a gentle slope. Suddenly, the board wobbles to the left, and the surfer is tossed off the surfboard. She tumbles a few times, then she gets up and retrieves her board. This surfer doesn't have a drop of water on her, though, because she isn't surfing in the ocean. She's surfing the sand dunes at Jockey's Ridge State Park, in North Carolina.

Jockey's Ridge is the highest sand dune park in the eastern United States. It is part of a set of low islands that separate the mainland from the powerful waves of the Atlantic Ocean. The park has three very different areas. The first is the dune area itself, which is often called “The Living Dune” because it is always changing with the shifting winds. The dunes area is very harsh, not only because of the winds and the shifting sands but also because of the high heat during the summer months. The temperature of the sands can reach one hundred thirty degrees, making it impossible for plants and animals to make their homes here.
The areas around the **dunes**, however, have a variety of plants and **animals**. At the base of the dunes, **protected** from the winds and heat, some **grasses** can grow, and water accumulates. This area features several types of trees and **bushes**, including live oaks and red cedars. **Effects** of wind and salty air from the **sea** stunt the growth of the trees, **causing** them to look like bushes.

Animals **such** as foxes, raccoons, and deer make their **homes** in this area.

The area where the Roanoke River **empties** into the sea has cattails, saw **grass**, and other plants. It is a **habitat** for waterfowl and several kinds of **fish**. Pelicans and osprey, once almost **extinct**, **live** in abundance here. They share the **waters** with herons, sandpipers, and snowy **egrets**.

If you're hiking the park in the **early** morning, you might be lucky enough to **see** tracks made by lizards, mice, or the **hognose** snake, which is a harmless reptile that **leaves** a distinctive S-shaped track in the **sand**.
The amount of sand in the dunes at Jockey's Ridge State Park would fill six million dump trucks. The sand, which is mostly from quartz rock, has been finely ground by millions of years of wind and water. The dunes do not blow away because the wind changes directions, blowing the sands back and forth.

Lightning often strikes the sand during violent storms that blow in from the ocean. The storms cause hollow tubes called fulgurites to form in the sand. Visitors can see examples of fulgurites at the park headquarters.

The park is open year round during the daytime only. There are picnic shelters, but no overnight camping facilities. Information panels along park walkways describe the various animals and plants found in the area. Visitors are cautioned to wear shoes during the hot summer months, since the sand temperature can be much hotter than the air temperature.

Jockey's Ridge State Park is an exciting place to visit, especially for sand surfers. So grab
your board and come along. The surf is always up at Jockey's Ridge.
Stargazer

When we look up into the starry sky, we can see countless specks of light. Some of those specks form shapes we can recognize, such as the Big Dipper. Is there a larger pattern to the stars? Do the points of light relate to one another in special ways? Astronomers have been trying to answer these questions for many years.

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, astronomers began to use very large telescopes to study the sky. These had huge mirrors that could gather very small bits of light. For many years, the world's largest telescope was based on Mount Wilson in the U.S. It had a one-hundred-inch mirror. When the telescope was put to use in 1919, a scientist named Edwin Hubble went to work at Mount Wilson. Using this telescope, he became the best-known astronomer of the twentieth century.

Hubble had not always been an astronomer. Indeed, when he was in high school, he was not an outstanding student. He was better known as an athlete who once held
the high-jump record in Illinois, where he grew up. At the University of Chicago, Hubble studied math and astronomy and he also played on the school's basketball team.

After college, Hubble won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University in England. There he studied law and he even became a lawyer for a short time, but it did not suit him. After serving in the army in World War I, Hubble stopped practicing law and returned to the study of astronomy.

Many astronomers of Hubble's day depended on complex mathematical calculations and theories for their conclusions about the universe. Hubble, though, relied on large numbers of observations and measurements made using the large telescope at Mount Wilson. His theories fit the facts and as a result, his conclusions were very powerful.

Hubble discovered that our galaxy, the Milky Way, is not the only galaxy in the universe. He also observed that all the stars and planets in the universe, in our galaxy and others, were not
standing still but **instead** were moving away from each other at **great** speed. In addition, they all **suggested** that the universe had originated **single** place. Because all the stars and **planets** in the universe were behaving like **bits** of dirt after an explosion, the **theory** was called “the big bang” theory.

Hubble, who **died** in 1953, made many more discoveries during his **long** career. Many of the ways of **measuring** things in astronomy today are the **result** of his work, but he realized that **there** were limits to what we can **observe** from the Earth's surface, even with **much** larger telescopes. This is because the Earth's **atmosphere** tends to get in the way, like **looking** through foggy glasses. A way to **observe** from outside Earth's atmosphere had to **be** developed. When the world's largest and **most** accurate telescope was launched into orbit around the Earth in 1990, **outside the atmosphere**, scientists had no trouble coming up with a **name**. They called it the Hubble Space Telescope.
Born to Win

All parents have great dreams for their children and some go to great lengths to support and train their children from a very early age. That is exactly what Mike Agassi did with his son Andre. When Andre was just an infant his father would hang tennis balls over his crib. He gave him miniature tennis rackets as toys and a full-sized racket for his second birthday. During Andre's early school years, his father helped him hit three thousand tennis shots every day. Later, when Andre was a teenager, his father sent him to a special tennis school. Mike's ambition for and support of his son paid off and Andre Agassi became one of the world's greatest tennis stars. He was the fifth male player to win the Grand Slam, which includes all four of the major tennis titles in the world. He has won dozens of other tennis tournaments and earned millions of dollars. Andre was no doubt influenced by his father's ambition, but he was also probably influenced by his father's athletic ability. Before immigrating to the United States
and **settling** in Nevada, Mike competed as a **boxer** for his native country of Iran in the Olympic Games.

**Even** with these advantages, Andre's path to **greatness** was not always easy. He became a **professional** tennis player at the age of **sixteen** and won a million dollars by the time he was eighteen, but an injured **wrist** interrupted his career. Then, there was the problem of his public image. Andre was **one** of the first players to have **rock**-star length hair, wear an earring, and compete in colorful clothes, as opposed to the **traditional** white clothing worn by tennis players. On the **court**, Andre was bold and sometimes a bit of a brat, and off the **court**, he appeared reckless. His marriage to **movie** star Brooke Shields lasted only a few months, and his tennis game all but **disappeared**.

Instead of being defeated by these **events**, Andre rededicated himself to tennis. He **began** a rigorous conditioning program, and stopped **eating** so many cheeseburgers. He
shaved his **balding** head. He began to win again and **presented** himself to the world in a different way. He was more gracious and **thoughtful**. His focus was not only on **himself** and his tennis career, but also on **giving** back to others, especially children with **special** needs. He founded the Andre Agassi Charitable Foundation, which **funds** a school and homes for children in **need** in the Las Vegas community.

Andre became **known** as an extraordinary friend. When the **child** of a friend was in the **hospital**, Andre showed up at three in the **morning** to sit by her bed so her **father** could get some sleep. When the **little** girl complained of feeling hot, Andre **left** and returned with a **window air conditioner** he had bought and installed it at her **bedside**. This sort of kindness has not **gone** unnoticed. Among his many honors, Andre was **named** “Most Caring Athlete” of 2001.

Andre and his **wife**, who is also a tennis champion, **have** two children of their own. Who **knows**? Perhaps their two children were born to **win**, too.
So You Want to Be a Pilot

Choosing a career is an exciting part of being young. A popular option that many young people dream of is being a pilot. When planning a career as a pilot, it's good to start by deciding which kind of pilot you would like to be.

If you think about it, what pilots really do is carry different kinds of cargo from place to place. This cargo may be anything from people to letters and packages. Pilots who work for the airlines carry passengers to and from airports in many cities around the world. Airlines fly to numerous destinations all over the world and you may even have an airport in your city.

Cargo pilots work for companies that transport supplies and products. Their cargo may be anything from electronic equipment to fresh seafood. When you order a book from the Internet, the book may be shipped to you on a plane. As you might imagine, delivering goods on time is an important part of this job.

Some pilots fly military aircraft. These pilots carry both supplies and troops to military
bases around the world. Some planes used by the military can carry very heavy objects like land vehicles or even helicopters.

Many large companies use their own planes to transport their executives to meetings all over the world. Pilots who work for these companies must have a lot of flying experience to be hired, and they are usually paid well. Many pilots who work for large companies say that getting to spend time in other countries is the best part of their job.

An interest in science is a plus when you begin your flight training. Pilots must understand topics such as air pressure, which allows planes to stay in the air, and how weather conditions affect air currents. To guide their planes, pilots need to be able to use computers and other electronic equipment. For example, they need to know how to read all the displays on the instrument panel in the cockpit.

You should plan to get a college degree before you apply for a job as a pilot.
colleges have programs that specialize in flight training. These programs include courses in science and math. Students who attend schools with flight programs can actually learn what it's like to fly a plane. First, they practice virtual flights using a simulator until eventually they are ready to start practice flying with an instructor before taking a plane out independently. In addition to their education, pilots also must be in top physical condition. If you are thinking of being a pilot someday, it's a good idea to start eating a good diet and having an exercise program you can stick to. Before being hired, pilots have to obtain a certificate from a doctor stating that they are in good shape, or fit to fly. This certificate must be renewed on a regular basis. Therefore, maintaining your good health will also be important.

Being a pilot is an exciting and challenging career. Whether you transport passengers or cargo, you will certainly have an adventurous job!
A Famous Architect

When he was a young boy, Frank Lincoln Wright wanted to be an architect. He had pictures of famous buildings hung all over the walls of his room. When he was a child, his mother gave him glue, paper, and cardboard and encouraged him to explore shapes and forms. She also gave him blocks to help him learn about three-dimensional space.

He later changed his middle name to Lloyd, in honor of his mother, the person responsible for his early interests. When he was fifteen, before he even finished high school, Wright entered a university to begin his formal studies. Later he moved to Chicago, where he worked as a draftsman in several architectural firms. He soon became the chief assistant to the most famous architect of the day, Louis Sullivan.

Wright learned a great deal about architecture from working with Sullivan. Sullivan believed that the architecture of America should be based on American needs and ideas instead of European traditions. After a few years, Wright set up his own firm, and later practiced from
his home. By this time, Wright was developing his own unique style of architecture. It was this style that would eventually make him a famous architect still remembered today.

Wright's style differed from the traditional style of the time. He often used blocks of concrete in the design of his structures. Rather than building boxes with stairs in the middle, Wright designed houses with low, sheltering rooflines, open inside spaces, and a central fireplace. He thought that these houses fit better on the open prairies of the American west. With Wright's designs, the style that would become known as the Prairie School of Architecture was born.

Over his long career, Wright designed over one thousand houses and buildings, about half of which were completed. His most famous home sits in a beautiful, wooded spot. The design makes the home appear as though a stream is flowing out from under it. Wright was especially proud of a hotel he designed in Japan. Very strong concrete was used in the beautiful, open hotel to keep it from collapsing if there were an earthquake. When a big
shook the land, the Imperial Hotel **withstood** the quake. Wright's designs were not **only** attractive, but sturdy and safe.

In **addition** to being an architect, Wright was a **fine** self-promoter. He made himself into a **star** by writing books and giving lectures **whenever** he was not designing buildings. He **created** a foundation and workshop where young, **aspiring** architects could study with him. Wright's **first** workshop was on land owned by his **uncle** in the Midwest, but as he **grew** older, he tired of the cold **winters** and established a second campus in the **southwest**.

By the time of his death, Frank Lloyd Wright had **become** a great architect. He has been **recognized** around the world for his unique **style** and modern designs. He came a **long** way from glue and paper and **cardboard**. He had given the United States a **new**, American form of architecture and inspired a **generation** of architects.
Mayor Mom

Today in school, we're having a discussion about local government. Our teacher is explaining that our city has a government that makes and enforces laws. It also hears and decides some court cases. Mr. Billings goes on to say that people living in cities depend on municipal, or city, governments for numerous necessary services. This includes police protection, fire protection, and garbage collection. I am beginning to squirm a little in my chair, because I know what's coming next. Some of my classmates are looking at me as Mr. Billings talks about the mayor. That's because the mayor of our city is also my mom. I'm not embarrassed, because I know my mother has a very important job, but I am a little self-conscious. Mr. Billings says that as the elected leader of our city's government, the mayor appoints people to enforce the laws and can also veto laws passed by the city council. In our city, the mayor leads the weekly city council meetings. She prepares the agenda for each
meeting and enforces time limits for discussions during the meeting. The mayor helps solve problems and makes this city a good place for us to live, Mr. Billings summarizes. Then he asks, “Who can tell about a specific contribution our mayor has made to improve this community?”

My friend Victor raises his hand. “The mayor helped my neighborhood get access to a vacant lot and turn it into a garden,” he says. He explains that his neighbors thought the empty lot was ugly. It was full of garbage, yard debris and overgrown weeds. The neighbors started a petition in which they asked the mayor to allow them to lease the lot for a reasonable price. They wanted to clear the lot of waste and debris and create a vegetable and flower garden that all their neighbors could share. The mayor fought diligently to allow the neighborhood to rent the lot. She finally convinced the city council to agree with this plan.

My mother had told me this story before. I am really pleased to hear Victor describe it so that everyone could hear about her efforts. After Victor's story, Mr. Billings
turns to me and asks me to give some more information about the mayor. I decide I should share something since I know her pretty well. I'm proud of my mom's achievements, so it isn't hard to think of something to say. I think back to all the projects my mother has talked about during dinnertime since she became mayor.

I say that the mayor is always thinking of ways to make this a better city. She encouraged council members to approve a levy to improve public transportation so that it's easier to use the county bus system. She also took advantage of one of our town's favorite pastimes, jogging, and coordinated an annual half-marathon to benefit local charities. When I think about all of the things my mom has done as mayor, I don't have to be self-conscious, just proud.
Digging for Facts

Imagine that you and some friends are helping to plant a garden. Your shovel slices deep into the ground and brings up another heaping mound of dirt. But this time, you spy something unusual in the dirt. You carefully dump the dirt onto the ground and pick up the object, turning it over in your hand. The object has a particular shape to it, with a pattern on the sides and a sharp point. It's an arrowhead, you realize. You've found an object that was created many years ago.

If you put the arrowhead in your pocket and take it home, not bothering to ask questions about it, you're simply a finder of objects. If, on the other hand, you begin to wonder who might have made the arrowhead and what it might have been used for, you're starting to think like an archaeologist.

Archaeology is the study of ancient people and their relationship to their environment, or the world around them. Archaeologists are scientists who try to answer questions
about ancient people lived. They use clues to find out who the people were, where they originally came from, and what challenges they faced. Their work is especially important when no written records were left behind by those ancient people. Even when written records are available, though, they don’t always tell us enough. Archaeologists can help fill in the blanks by studying objects left behind long after the people are gone. These objects may include tools, cooking utensils, weapons, and the remains of buildings and houses.

Most archaeologists prepare for their work by getting a college degree. They usually begin with classes, but eventually help out at “digs.” These are places where objects are dug up, in much the same way you dug up your imaginary arrowhead.

The digging is done very slowly and carefully, so as not to destroy any objects. Some items are very delicate, having been in the ground for hundreds or even thousands of years. Archaeologists keep detailed notes about the objects and about exactly where they were found and
what things were nearby.

Found objects that are easily moved, such as tools or weapons, are called artifacts.

Objects that are not so easily moved, such as the walls of a house or a pool for water, are called features. Still other objects that are naturally occurring, like seeds and animal bones, are called ecofacts. Archaeologists carefully examine all these clues to try to create a complete picture of how ancient people lived.

Archaeologists often work with other types of scientists. They use high-tech methods such as x-rays, special chemical tests, and computers. Sometimes they know exactly where to look for objects because there have been other digs close by. Other times they use written records and maps. Occasionally a dig site is spotted from the air or even from space by satellites that take detailed pictures of Earth. But archaeologists still depend on luck, too. Sometimes an action as simple as sticking a shovel or a spade into the earth and finding
something interesting leads to the discovery of a large dig site.
Overcoming Fear

Many people do not like to speak in public. For one boy, trying to avoid public speaking became a habit. He disliked public speaking so much that he refused to do so, even when he had to for school. Who was the boy? His name was Daniel Webster and he went on to become a lawyer and political leader. He was also an admired public speaker.

Daniel Webster was born in New Hampshire in the late seventeen hundreds. His parents were farmers who worked very hard. Webster was one of nine children, but illness in his childhood meant he was unable to work on the farm with his siblings. Instead, his parents hired many tutors to help teach their son and they sent him to one of the best schools in the country. They wanted to give their son the best possible education. Later, Webster went to college in New Hampshire. He joined a group in college that made him practice speaking in front of other people. Through these experiences, he mastered his fear of public speaking and was so successful that soon after his college graduation, officials in his college town invited him
Webster studied **law** and completed a legal apprenticeship. Before he was **able** to **finish**, though, he took a **job** as a schoolmaster to help support his **brother's educational pursuits**. Eventually he returned to his **legal** training. Soon, he set up a legal **practice** near the **town** he grew up in and **also** became involved in politics. His reputation as a **skilled lawyer** and a public speaker began to **spread** and he was even elected to the U.S. House of Representatives **because** of his opposition to the War of 1812. The **war** was between Britain and the United States, **over regulations** that had hurt the shipping trade in New England. After serving **two terms** in Congress, Webster moved to Boston. He **achieved national fame** as a lawyer and **public speaker** and also successfully represented Dartmouth College in a **case** before the U.S. Supreme Court. He also **served** in Congress once again, this time as a **representative** from Boston. Only a few years **later**, he was elected to the U.S. Senate.
Over the next few years, Webster made three attempts to gain the office of President. He was never successful in becoming a nominee; however, President William Henry Harrison appointed Webster as Secretary of State. Four years later, he served again in the Senate, and then returned as Secretary of State. While still serving in the Senate, Webster was credited with having prevented Southern states from seceding from the Union over the issue of slavery. Webster opposed slavery, but feared the breakup of the Union over the issue. He is remembered for his strong defense of the nation over states' rights. In 1957, over a hundred years after his death, he was even named as one of the five most outstanding Senate members in U.S. history.

The next time you don't want to speak in front of others, think of Daniel Webster and know that it is a very common problem that can be overcome.
The Mayo Clinic

You've probably heard the saying, “Every cloud has a silver lining.” It means that difficult situations often result in changes for the good. It is hard to believe that a disaster such as a tornado could have a silver lining. Yet that's exactly what happened after a tornado struck the rural town of Rochester, Minnesota.

Many townspeople were injured by this powerful tornado. Even worse, the town did not have a hospital. The injured citizens had to be treated in temporary shelters. To prevent this from happening in the future, a group of nuns decided to build a hospital in the town. They hired William Mayo, a doctor who had helped the tornado victims, to direct the project. Soon the people of the town could go to an organized hospital whenever they needed care.

The doctors on staff at the new hospital were Dr. Mayo and his two sons, William and Charles. A few years after the hospital opened, the elder Dr. Mayo retired. He left the hospital's operation in the hands of his children. Today, the Mayo Clinic is considered one of...
the best hospitals in the world. The foundation of the clinic is a saying by the elder Dr. Mayo, “No one is big enough to be independent of others.” This philosophy of teamwork and cooperation is a large part of the success of the Mayo Clinic.

Throughout their lives, brothers Charles and William were very different from each other. Charles loved practical jokes and was very social, whereas William was quiet and reserved. As adolescents, their lives were similar to many other teens of their day. They went to school in the mornings and helped out with chores on the family farm later in the day.

The boys’ parents valued learning and taught their sons about science. Their mother set up a telescope on the roof so she could teach them about the stars. She also helped them learn the names of all the plant and tree species on the farm. From their father, they learned about chemistry and anatomy. The boys also learned Latin at a special school and read classic literature from the family’s library.
As they grew up, the brothers became known for their kindness, and they earned the respect of the people in their town. During the first years that the Mayo Clinic was in operation, the brothers stressed to the staff the importance of working as a team. Over time, the hospital became known for its sharing of ideas among its doctors. Today, it has a branch for training new doctors and a library for both doctors and patients.

Charles and William continued their work for the Mayo Clinic until their deaths. At the end of their lives, the hospital had changed from one small building with about forty beds to a large complex of buildings that treated tens of thousands of patients each year. From tragedy to success, the Mayo Clinic goes to show that there is, in fact, a silver lining behind every cloud.
China's Great Wall

Over two thousand years ago, the emperor of China wanted to find a way to make the borders of his country more secure. He decided to build a giant wall, which would keep out invaders. The wall would go on to take millions of people and several centuries to build. Today, over two millennia later, much of the wall still stands. It stretches almost four thousand miles, longer than the distance from California to New York. While it no longer retains its original function as a barrier, the Great Wall of China remains a popular site for visitors who want to see and experience a piece of an ancient world.

China's winding wall is no mere fence, as it is full of passes and watchtowers. Fires would be lit from the wall to warn of oncoming attackers. While the width and height of the wall vary greatly at different points along its path, on average it measures from fifteen to thirty feet wide and around twenty-five feet tall. The shape and size of the wall have varied through the centuries. Before the emperor decided to build one great wall, walls of different

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lengths and directions were scattered across China. In building the wall, these sections were connected and expanded until at one point, the wall was large enough that it took one million soldiers to guard it.

If you followed the wall across China, you would visit all the varied landscapes the country has to offer. The wall stretches from deserts to hills, from grasslands to mountains. The wall itself is formed from a wide range of the various building materials available in China, from ones as simple as mud and reeds to bricks that continue to stand centuries later. Many of the materials used to make the wall came from locally available sources, as the uneven terrain made it difficult to get building supplies to the appropriate sites.

Different building materials required different methods. The walls made out of mud stood around six inches thick and had several different layers. They often had a wooden frame that was packed with the earth. These walls broke down quickly and needed frequent repairs to keep
standing. The sturdier walls were usually a mix of stone or brick. After baking in kilns, the bricks would often have to be transported to the building site with the help of animals and ropes.

As the emperors built up the wall, it became not only a useful tool for defense, but also a monument to their strength. The towers provided increased security and added to China's image as a powerful empire. As the wall grew and changed through the years, sections added later were more decorated and imposing than the earlier sections.

The wall is now considered to be one of the human-made wonders of the world. Visitors to the wall can see the results of centuries of care, sweat, and ambition. Today, the wall no longer meant to keep visitors out of China. To many of the millions of people who make the trip to China each year, the wall is what brings them in.
Through the Castle

Jeremiah was excited to be miniature golfing with his grandmother. They arrived at the front office, rented clubs and balls, and headed over to the course. Jeremiah was amazed when he saw it.

Scattered everywhere throughout the course were small sculptures and buildings, including a windmill, with blades that were actually rotating. Near another hole, there was a statue of an acrobat performing a flip, and still elsewhere was what resembled a tiny stream with a small bridge arching over it. It was like being in a shrunken fantasy world, and Jeremiah couldn't wait to get started.

On the grass by the first hole was a castle, constructed so that the ball was prevented from going around it. Inspecting the castle, Jeremiah saw three doorways going through it. Unless he hit the ball directly through one of the doorways, he wouldn't be able to get past the building and into the hole. Jeremiah decided to aim for the middle doorway. He placed the ball...
on the **green** to prepare his first shot.

When Jeremiah **took** a swing, the ball zoomed forward, **much** faster than he had intended. It **struck** the side of the castle, bounced **back** the way it had come, and **halted** farther back than where it had **begun**. Jeremiah laughed as he realized this wasn't going to be as simple as he had **envisioned**. He decided to hit the ball **much** more softly until he had gotten the **hang** of it.

After several attempts, Jeremiah **managed** to get the ball to stop **right** in front of one of the **castle** doors. He peered through it and **took** a swing, and the ball rolled **gently** through the door. As Jeremiah hovered **anxiously**, the ball plopped in. “Nice shot, Jeremiah,” his **grandmother** complimented him.

On his grandmother's turn, she **stared** at the course, thinking hard. Then she **aimed** sideways at the wall! Jeremiah was **astonished** as the ball bounced off two **walls** and traveled straight.
through the castle doors and into the hole. “How did you do that, Grandma?” he asked.

“It's all about angles, Jeremiah,” she said cheerfully. “The ball will bounce off the wall at the same angle it struck it.” She drew a diagram on the back of her scorecard to demonstrate. “If you know what direction you want the ball to be traveling when it arrives at the door, you can calculate where to hit it.” She explained some more until Jeremiah thought that he understood what to do.

They jogged over to the next hole, which had a small maze barring the way. Jeremiah and his grandmother looked it over eagerly, discussing what they thought would be the most successful strategy. Jeremiah's grandmother went first, and her attempt hit the first barrier before halting, barely gone six inches. They both laughed, and Jeremiah's grandmother prepared to try again. Jeremiah decided that even when they didn't succeed, miniature golfing was fun. He watched his grandmother putt, eager for his own opportunity to locate the perfect angle.
It was summer, and Gloria and Andres were excited about summer vacation. A family tradition was to spend the first month of the summer vacation traveling. Almost as soon as the final school bell had rung, Dad would attach the pop-up trailer to the bumper of the family van, the kids would fill the trailer with camping gear, Mom would pack snacks for the road, and off they would all go, on a new adventure.

Gloria, Andres, and their parents had chosen several national and state parks to visit during their trip this summer. They were going to see rivers, mountains, prairies, grasslands, and forests. Part of the fun would be to see anticipated sights. Possibly the best part of the trip, though, would be the unplanned sights and adventures. Something unexpected always occurred on these trips.

The family's first destination was Palisades State Park, near Garretson, South Dakota. Before they arrived at the park, Andres asked what a palisade was. Gloria searched for the definition in...
a dictionary the family always kept in the car and proudly explained that a palisade was a line of lofty cliffs. Andres smiled at his sister, who always seemed to be a step ahead of him.

Gloria's definition was a perfect description of the scenery the family witnessed when they arrived at the park. A deep gorge, formed over many years by a rushing stream, cut through a flat prairie. The whole family was awed by the massive, vertical walls of the cliffs.

Once the family's campsite was in order, Andres and Gloria took off to explore the area a short distance from the site. After only a minute or two, Gloria spotted a bright red stone on the ground, which she picked up and stuck in her pocket.

The next morning, the park ranger stopped by the family's campsite to welcome them to the park. He informed them about the park's many features and activities. Gloria showed the ranger the stone she had found, and he responded that she had found something very unique. The stone was pipestone, which he said Native Americans consider sacred and have used for centuries.
to make peace pipes.

The **ranger** explained that according to Native American **legend**, in ancient times the Great **Spirit** came to visit the Native people. The Spirit came in the **form** of a large bird and told **all** the Indian nations that this unique **red** stone was a symbol of the Native **people**. The Spirit told the Indians that the **stone** belonged to all of their people and that **no** weapon could be made from it.

The **ranger** explained that the legend had been **passed** down for many generations. The **commandments** regarding the stone are honored to this **day**. When he left, **Gloria** knew what she **wanted** to do. She returned to the **location** where she had found the stone and **placed** it on the ground. It pleased her to **think** that the family had already had their **first** unexpected adventure, and the trip had **only** just begun.
The Competition

As soon as the car was parked, Felicia bounced out, scurried to the trunk to grab her suitcase, and then hurried inside the airport. Her dad followed behind her. Waiting inside the airport were her three teammates and coach. They were all getting ready to fly to a national math competition, for which they had been preparing all year.

Felicia's math teacher had invited her to join the team back in November. Felicia had always enjoyed math, and thought working together with her classmates and going to competitions would be fun. So, every Saturday, Felicia and her team gathered to practice. In January, they won their district competition, and a month later they won the state meet. Now Felicia and her teammates were on their way to represent their state at the national competition. Felicia couldn't wait.

On the airplane, Felicia tried to take a nap, but found she was too excited to get to sleep. Instead, she unpacked some of the materials her coach had given her to work on. She had
a packet of problems from previous national level competitions and worked through them. Finally, she just watched the scenery out the window as the plane approached for a landing.

The team arrived at their hotel. Swarming all over the lobby and hallways were kids from all over the country. Everyone was friendly and eager to meet other math competitors. By the time she got to her room, Felicia had met teams from all over the country. The competition hadn't even begun, and Felicia was already feeling exhilarated.

The team met for one final practice that night. The competition in the morning would consist of an individual round and a team round. Felicia and her teammates all aspired to do well in the individual round, but it was in the team round that they hoped to excel. They knew each others’ particular strengths and how to work together to solve the tougher problems. They were confident that the months of practice would pay off.

Their practice session went well, so Felicia and her teammates headed off to get some...
they would be refreshed for the next day. In the morning, they quizzed each other over breakfast on the facts and formulas they would need to use during the competition. Felicia tried to remain calm. It would be her job during the team round to write down the final answer, and she needed to remain focused if she didn't want to make a mistake.

Felicia's team filed with all the other competitors into the great ballroom where the competition would be held. They found their assigned seats and made sure they had enough pencils and scratch paper. Finally, the director of the competition walked onto the stage and to the microphone. He gave a brief speech of welcome and outlined the schedule for the day. Then he signaled the staff to hand out the tests. Felicia took a deep breath. The national math competition was about to begin.
Boiling Springs State Park

Visitors to the state of Oklahoma have their pick of things to do. First of all, the state has many interesting historic sites to visit. In addition, there are mountains, lakes, and streams that are part of scenic recreation areas. For more than fifty years, the state has developed parks around these lakes and streams. Fishing, boating, and waterskiing are just some of the outdoor activities on hand for visitors to the state parks and recreation areas.

There are fifty-two state parks and recreation areas in Oklahoma. One favorite is Boiling Springs State Park. The park is in the northwest corner of the state and was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the nineteen-thirties. The CCC, as it was known, was created by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. His idea was to give work to people during a time when jobs were hard to find and to protect the nation's natural resources at the same time. Millions of acres of federal and state lands were improved through the work of the CCC.

Boiling Springs Park has several natural springs, but the springs don't actually contain...
hot, boiling water. The strong, churning flow of water below the surface of the sandy-bottomed springs just makes the water look as if it is boiling.

The springs are not the only natural attraction in the park. On a hike through Boiling Springs Park, you'll see a small but very beautiful lake. You'll hike in the midst of walnut, oak, and elm groves full of lovely, old trees. If you're alert, you might see a deer or even a rabbit. If you are very quiet and take your time, you might also spot a wild turkey or skunk.

Bobcats, beavers, and badgers live in the area as well. The springs and abundant wildlife attracted early Plains Indians to this region.

The park campgrounds contain fifty campsites along with several shaded tent sites. For visitors who prefer more modern accommodations, there are several small cabins available for rent, each with a fireplace, television, dishes, cookware, and linens. For large groups of visitors, the park has ten bunkhouses and a common building where meals can be cooked and eaten.
Throughout the park there are many picnic tables. There are three open-sided buildings that can be rented for family reunions, company picnics, and other large events. There is even a swimming pool, a snack bar and a public golf course very close to the park.

After a picnic and before a swim in the pool, you can hike or bike on one of the park's three scenic hiking trails. These include a nature trail that offers visitors a chance to see many kinds of plants and animals native to the park.

It's not likely you'll soon forget a visit to this state park. If you want to be sure that you'll remember the adventure, the park has a gift shop where you can buy t-shirts, caps, and other souvenirs of your stay in Boiling Springs.

According to the state motto, “Oklahoma's okay.” Boiling Springs State Park is more than okay, though. It is historic and scenic, and it is full of interesting things to see and do.