



# Decodable Passages

## All First Grade

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## Bag of Hats and Caps

Illustrate the story here:

Jax has a big bag. The bag has hats and caps in it. Six hats and ten caps fit in the bag.

“Can I have a hat?” asks Gab. “Yes, you can have a hat,” said Jax. “Can I have a cap?” asks Kat. “Yes, you can have a cap,” said Jax. Gab and Kat are glad to have the hat and cap.

## Let's Plan a Trip

Illustrate the story here:

Sam plans a trip to camp. Sam asks Dan to plan the trip with him. Dan said, "Yes! Let's plan a trip! What do we have to do?" "We have to get the van and the tents," said Sam. "I can get the van if you can get the tents," said Dan.

Dan gets the van. Sam gets the tents. The men are glad to be on a trip to camp.

## Vlad the Crab

Illustrate the story here:

Vlad is a crab. Vlad the crab ran on the sand. A crab trap was in the sand. Vlad did not see the trap. Vlad ran in to the trap. "Help!" said Vlad.

Dax the crab sees Vlad. "I can help you!" said Dax. Dax acts fast. He grabs Vlad. Dax and Vlad ran from the trap. The crabs are glad.

## **Gil and His Pig**

Illustrate the story here:

Gil has a big pig. His pig is in its big pen. A mud pit is in the pen. The pig can swim in the mud pit. The pig can dig in the mud pit. The pig has a lot of fun in the mud pit. Gil grins at his pig. The pig grins at Gil.

## Trip to the Pond

Illustrate the story here:

Tim and his six dogs are on a trip to the pond. The dogs do flips in the mud and spin in the sand.

Next, Tim and his six dogs jump in the pond for a swim. Tim said, "I see a disk." The dogs swim to get the disk.

Tim and his dogs are wet. Drip! Drip! Drip! "The trip to the pond was fun," said Tim. "Yip, Yip," said the six dogs.

## It's Hot!

Illustrate the story here:

Mom and Dad went for a jog. Mom and Dad got hot. Is the fan on? The fan is not on. The fan is in the box.

Mom set the fan on top of the box. Dad taps the fan on. The fan is on. It's not hot!

## **Lost**

Illustrate the story here:

Dom is lost. He went to look at a frog and lost his mom. He can not spot his mom.

Is Mom at the camp? No. Mom is not at the camp. Is Mom in the sandbox? No. Mom is not in the sandbox.

Dom stops at the pond. He can see his mom! He runs to his mom. Dom and his mom look at frogs in the pond.

## **Cub and Pup**

Illustrate the story here:

Cub and Pup are buds. Cub and Pup have lots of fun. Cub runs in the sun. Pup digs in the mud.

Cub and Pup are hot and wet. The fun must stop. Cub and Pup must get in the tub. The buds have fun in the suds. The fun did not stop!

## Gus the Pup

Illustrate the story here:

Gus the pup was in the mud. He dug in the mud and got a bug. Gus ran to the rug with his bug. Mom sees Gus on the rug. "No Gus! No bugs on the rug!" Mom jumps up to stop Gus, but he is fast.

Gus runs to the mud. Mom grabs Gus and dumps him in the tub. Mom scrubs Gus. Gus looks glum. Mom pets Gus. Gus is not glum.

## The Pet Hen

Illustrate the story here:

Dex has a pet hen. The hen is big and red. Dex let his hen run. But the hen ran into a pig pen.

The hen has a big welt. Dex must tend to his red hen. He gets the hen in its bed. “You must rest,” Dex said.

## Fred and the Tent

Illustrate the story here:

Fred is at camp. He must set up his tent. Oh no! The tent has a rip in it. Fred must mend the tent. What can help Fred mend the tent? A kit can help him mend the tent. Fred mends and tests the tent. It is set up!

## The Fox and the Red Hen

Illustrate the story here:

The fox can not get up. He is in a pit. The red hen looks at the fox. "Oh no! You are in the pit." "Yes, I am in the pit. Can you help me?" asks the fox. "Yes, I can help, but do not jump on me!" said the red hen.

The red hen helps the fox. The fox did not jump on the red hen. The red hen and the fox are glad the fox is not in the pit.

## The Frog and the Slug

Illustrate the story here:

Glen is a frog with black spots. Glen is in the pond. The pond has pads. Glen can jump from pad to pad. He can flip and flop on the pads in the pond.

Glen sees a slug in the pond. The slug is on a pad. "Do you have legs to jump?" Glen asks the slug. "I do not have legs. I can not jump." said the slug. Glen lets the slug get on his back. Look! Glen and the slug can jump from pad to pad!

## A Craft for Mom

Illustrate the story here:

Brent and Clint must get Mom a gift. The kids went to Gram's Craft Stand.

Brent helps Clint cut ten red dots. Next, Clint helps Brent stamp six red spots. The gift Brent and Clint craft is a crest. The kids set the crest in a box.

The crest Brent and Clint craft is grand. "Yes!" said Mom, "This is the best gift. You are the best kids."

## Buzz Sells Milk

Illustrate the story here:

Buzz has a fun job. His job is to sell jugs of milk at the mill. Buzz runs up a tall grass hill to get the milk. He huffs and puffs at the top of the hill. Buzz fills six glass jugs with milk. Not a drop spills.

Next, Buzz runs the milk jugs to the mill. Buzz sees Tiff, Will, and Russ at the mill. “Do you want milk?” asks Buzz. “Yes!” yell the pals. The pals get the jugs. The boss gets the bill. Buzz did a swell job.

## Let's Golf

Illustrate the story here:

Ross and his mom went to the mall. Ross got golf clubs and golf balls. The golf balls are small. The man from the mall said Ross can hit the balls in the hall.

Ross taps the ball with the club. The ball rolls up the hall and hits the tall wall. "Look at me!" Ross calls to Mom from the hall. He did not want to stop but Mom said he had to go. It was fun to hit golf balls in the mall!

## The Mud Track

Illustrate the story here:



Mack and Rick are at the mud track. The pals see lots of trucks. The big truck gets stuck in the mud. The small truck goes fast on the track. Mack and Rick clap.

Mack goes to the snack stand to grab a pack of gum. At the snack stand, he sees his pals, Beck and Nick. Rick sees the pack at the snack stand and yells, “Get back, quick!”.

The pals run back to the track. A truck ran into a stack of bricks! The pack yells and jumps. “The mud track is the best,” says Mack.

## The Ship

Illustrate the story here:

Look at the ship. Trish and Josh jump on the ship deck. Trish has a net to get fish. Josh has a bag to get shells.

Trish jumps off the ship with the net. She swims to get fish. Josh jumps off the ship with his bag. He swims to get shells.

Trish and Josh get back on the ship. “Look at the fish in my net,” said Trish. “Look at the shells in my bag,” said Josh. We had fun on the ship.

## This and That

Illustrate the story here:

Jack and Finn want to go to the pond. Finn picks this red hat. Jack picks that black hat. Finn picks this big bag. Jack picks that small bag.

Finn and Jack jog to Liz. Liz will go with them to the pond. Finn, Jack, and Liz jump off the rocks and splash in the pond. Finn, Jack, and Liz had a ball at the pond.

## Thump! Thump! Thud!

Illustrate the story here:

Thad and Cath go on a jog at camp. They have six paths to pick from. They pick the fifth path.

Thump! Thump! Thud! “What was that?” asks Cath. Thad looks and sees a big rock on the path. “This rock fell from that hill. That was the thud,” says Thad. “We were in luck that we did not get hit!” says Cath. “Let’s go on the sixth path back to camp,” says Thad.

Thad and Cath jog back to camp. At camp they grab a wet cloth to wash off. “That was a fun jog,” said Thad.

## Chips and Dip

Illustrate the story here:

Chuck and Rich are at lunch. Chuck has chips in his lunchbox but no dip. Rich has dip in his lunchbox but no chips. Chuck looks at Rich. Rich looks at Chuck. What can they do?

Chuck dumps his chips on a dish. “Rich, do you want chips?” Chuck asks. “Yes I do!” said Rich. Rich slid his dip next to the dish. “Chuck, do you want dip?” Rich asks. “Yes I do!” said Chuck. They chill and chat and munch on chips and dip. Yum! Yum! Yum!

## Snacks for the Pets

Illustrate the story here:

Beth has a lot of pets. She has ten small chicks and six big sloths. She grabs a big bag of snacks and drags it to the pet pens.

The ten small chicks run to Beth. “Do you chicks want a snack?” Beth asks. “Cluck, cluck, cluck,” go the chicks. The chicks peck at their snacks. Beth looks up in the tree at the sloths. “Do you sloths want a snack?” The sloths nod. Beth hands the sloths their dish of snacks. Munch, munch, munch go the sloths.

Beth grabs the last snack in the bag. “I will have this snack,” Beth says. Beth sits on the grass and snacks with the pets.

## On a Whim

Illustrate the story here:

Phil and Whit went on a walk. On a whim, they went to see Steph. She could whip them up a snack. She was a whiz with a whisk.

“Which snack do you want to munch on?” said Steph. Whit would want a big snack, but Phil would want a small snack. “Let me have a whack at this dish,” said Steph. She whips up a dish to munch on.

Phil and Whit got a whiff of the dish. “Yum!” said Whit. The pals were glad they went to see Steph on a whim!

## King and Ash Sing

Illustrate the story here:

King and Ash are best pals. To have fun, King and Ash sing songs. King brings Ash a book of songs. “Which song should we sing?” asks King. “Let’s pick a quick song and then a long song,” said Ash. King and Ash sing their songs.

King’s mom just got back from the shop. “Will you sing me a song?” she asks. “Yes!” yell Ash and King. They grab the book of songs. “We have to pick the best song for your mom,” said Ash. King looks in the book. He sees the best song. “This is it,” he says. King and Ash sing. King’s mom claps and says, “I am so glad you sang that song.”

## Stink in the Bank

Illustrate the story here:

Hank has a job at the bank. When Hank gets to the bank, he sniffs a bad smell. “What is that smell?” Hank thinks. “Is it a skunk?” He sniffs his desk. “No, it’s not my desk.” He checks the fish tank. “No, this is not what stinks.” He walks to the back of the bank. When he gets to the back, he sees the small trash bin.

“Oh no!” Hank yells, “I left all the trash in the bin.” Hank sniffs the trash. “Yuck!” he yells, “that’s what stinks!” Hank brings the trash to the big bin and slams the lid shut. Hank is glad he got rid of the stink.

## The Ship Dock

Illustrate the story here:

Quin goes to the dock with Jax. They sit on the dock and look at the ships. Jax looks up and sees a big clock. "What is that clock for?" he asks. Quin says, "There is a bell in the clock. When the bell rings, the ships can go to the dock."

Quin and Jax look for ships that could go to the dock. "I think that tall black ship will go to the dock," said Quin. "I think this big pink ship will go to the dock," said Jax.

The bell rings. Ding dong. Ding dong. Which ship will go to the dock? The tall black ship goes past the dock. The big pink ship goes past the dock. "Look!" said Quin. Jax sees a small red ship. The small red ship stops at the dock. "We should have said the red ship!"

## Cave in the Maze

Illustrate the story here:

Dale and Jade went into a maze to win a game. The maze was long and full of snakes. Dale said to Jade, "I can not go on." "Yes, you can. You are brave!" said Jade. Dale and Jade walk and walk.

At last, they made a left and got to the end of the maze. Then they see six small caves. "Let's go into the last cave," said Jade. In the back of the cave, they see a gate! The gate is shut. How will they pass?

Dale shakes the gate. Jade kicks the gate. The gate is still shut. "Look! The gate has a lock," yells Jade. Dale twists the lock. Pop! The gate swings in. Dale and Jade win the game!

## Kites for Sale

Illustrate the story here:

Mike can ride his bike quite well. Mike likes to ride his bike to sell kites. Mike takes nine kites and a bit of twine. He strings the kites to his bike with the twine. As he rides, the kites go up, up, up. You can see the kites for miles.

Mike stops by a red gate and lets the kites wave. “Kites for sale!” he yells. Kids run to his bike. Mike sells his kites for a dime. “Thank you, Mike!” yell the kids as they take their kites.

## The Drive Home

Illustrate the story here:

Hope and Dad went to the lake for a swim. They swam and swam. "It's time to go home, Hope," Dad yelled. As Dad drove home, Hope could see smoke! "Dad there is smoke!" yells Hope. "It is next to the phone shop."

They drove fast to the phone shop. When they got to the front of the shop they froze. The shop was on fire! Dad calls 911. "Yes, send the fire trucks!" Dad tells the man on the line. While Dad is on the phone, Hope sees a man run out of the shop. He is safe. The fire trucks came just in time to get rid of the flames. Hope and Dad save the shop!

## Five Mile Hike

Illustrate the story here:

Chan rides his skates to the lake. When Chan gets to the lake, he looks for his pal Eve. He sees Eve on the black dock. “Want to hike?” asks Eve. “Yep!” Chan says. “OK. Grab these snacks for us to have on the hike,” says Eve.

Eve and Chan hike for a long time. “This is a long hike!” says Chan. “Yes. It is five miles” says Eve. Eve and Chan talk as they walk. Eve tells Chan when they are close to the top. “Here we are! The top of the hill!” Eve yells. Eve and Chan can see for miles. “Thank you for this grand hike,” says Chan with a wide smile.

## June's Flute

Illustrate the story here:

June has a flute. June likes to use the flute to make tunes. There is one tune June likes best. She likes the song Sand Dunes. June has a pal, Luke. Luke has no flute, but Luke likes to sing.

Once, June and Luke made tunes at lunch for their pals. The last song they did was Sand Dunes. June was on the flute and Luke sang. They did a fine job!

## A Cake for Tess

Illustrate the story here:

Niles and Blake want to bake a cake for Tess. Tess is their big sis. She will be a bride, so they want to bake a white cake. Niles and Blake mix the cake while Dad gets one pan. The mix goes, Drip! Drip! into the pan.

They ask Dad for help with the stove. The cake bakes for a long time. Next the cake goes on a glass plate. “The cake looks so cute. I want to take a bite!” says Niles. “We can not take a bite. This cake is for Tess!” says Blake.

## The Mice Can Race

Illustrate the story here:

“What is the price for the box of white mice?” Grace asks. The man at the pet shop tells Grace they cost five bucks. “I have five bucks! I would like to take these mice,” says Grace. The man hands the box of mice to Grace.

Grace takes the mice home. Grace makes a track for the white mice. She wants them to race. Grace will place the mice on the track. When Grace says “GO!” the mice race. They run the track twice. “These mice are so fast!” says Grace.

## Pete's Pet Snake

Illustrate the story here:

Pete got a pet snake. Pete gave the snake a name. "You are Steve," Pete said to the snake. Steve has a huge glass cage. Pete has to lock the cage, so Steve is safe.

Steve likes his cage. He can hide next to the rocks. He can rest in the sunshine or the shade. At his age, Steve's skin sheds and his scales change. This looks a bit strange, but Pete likes Steve all the same.

## June's Bike Shop

Illustrate the story here:

June sells bikes. She will give you such a nice price you will not think twice. Steve and Grace come to June's shop to get bikes.

"I love this red one, it looks fast," said Steve. "I love this blue one, it looks fun," said Grace.

"Can you give us a good price," asks Grace. "Done and done," said June. Steve and Grace smile and ride off with their bikes.

## Two Foxes

Illustrate the story here:

Alex lives in a home close to the lake. Two foxes live in a den next to him. Alex likes to see the foxes in the bushes by their den. Alex is nice to the foxes. When Alex goes for walks, he brings boxes of snacks for the foxes.

Alex loves when the foxes munch on the snacks. The foxes like Alex so much, they give him kisses. Alex wishes he could see the foxes all the time. But they like to spend lots of time in their den.

## Will the Whale

Illustrate the story here:

Once upon a time there was a whale named Will. Will lived with many whales in a pod. Will loved his pod. The pod splashed and jumped in the waves. The pod drifted from place to place.

One time, Will and his pod of whales ended up in a cove. The cove was filled with fish and shrimp. The fish swam in the waves. The shrimp drifted with the tide. Will and his pod of whales flicked their fins to splash the fish. The fish flicked their fins back at the whales.

The whales and the fish did not splash any of the shrimp. And the shrimp did not splash any of the whales or the fish. The whales and the fish had fun while the shrimp just drifted.

## We Love Camp

Illustrate the story here:

Going to camp is so much fun. We all get to spend time doing things we love. Chance is fishing at the pond. Ming and Beth are boxing in the ring. Sage is resting in the tent.

Jace and Tess are acting on the stage. Len is looking for bugs in the grass. We will be sad when camp ends. We love spending time at camp!

## Jo's Friend Russ

Illustrate the story here:

Jo has a best friend named Russ. Russ and Jo go on bike rides in the fall. In the spring, they swim in the lake. At the lake, Jo brings snacks and Russ brings drinks.

They also love acting, singing, and telling jokes. Russ likes spending time with Jo and Jo likes spending time with Russ. Russ and Jo will be friends for a long time.

## Mo and the Sandbox

Illustrate the story here:

Mo was at home with his grandmom. Mo sat in his sandbox while grandmom swept the tile. When grandmom was done with the tile she yelled to Mo, “bath time!”

Mo did not want to take a bath. He still wanted to sit in his sandbox. “Mo, you must get in the bathtub because you are full of sand,” said grandmom. “OK, fine,” said Mo. He picked up his stuff from the sandbox and got in the bathtub.

When Mo was done with his bath he sat with grandmom. “Can I tell you something, grandmom? The bath was not so bad. It got rid of all the sand just like you said.” Grandmom gave Mo a big hug and a kiss.

## The Rocket Contest

Illustrate the story here:

Denzel and Edwin dash to the rocket contest. The man at the gate says “Get your tickets, get your tickets! You do not want to miss the big rocket contest. Which rocket will be the fastest and win the prize basket?”

Denzel and Edwin get to the contest just in time. They grab their blankets and look for a nice spot to sit. They are all set to see the rockets go! They see the blue rocket take off, then red, then pink, then white. They go up, up, up, so fast. Which is the fastest? The blue rocket wins!

## Music Class

Illustrate the story here:

Music class is the best because we get to sing. It is no secret that I love to sing. If you sing well, you get to have a solo.

When I have a solo in music class, I pretend I am on a huge stage. It is silent for a moment, then I begin. I sing and sing like time is frozen. At the end, my friends clap for me. That is a nice bonus.

## Catching Fish

Illustrate the story here:

Kate and Mitch wanted to do something fun. Kate hatched a thrilling plan. She snatched a bucket and some poles from the hutch. “Let’s go!” Kate yelled. Kate and Mitch went to the lake beyond the ditch.

“Let’s catch some fish,” Kate calls out. Mitch catches a fish! They pitch it in the bucket. “Nice catch! Let’s get this fish back home,” said Kate. At home, Kate and Mitch toss the fish into their pond. “This fish can be our pet!” said Kate.

## The Lodge

Illustrate the story here:

Calvin has a lodge at the edge of the glen. The lodge has a fridge and a TV. To get to the lodge, you must go on a bridge then pass the ridge by the lake. You can see many animals move from place to place by the lake.

Calvin loves the lodge. He pledges he will not move from it because his children come to visit him there. Calvin and his children have lots of fun at the lodge. They make music and sing songs by the fire. Sometimes they even jump into the lake and swim with the animals. The lodge is a hidden gem.

## The Gold Rush

Illustrate the story here:

Long ago, bold men and women drove west to find gold. They left their old lives behind in hopes of being rich. These were wild times. Mines exploded with gold that could be sold for lots of cash.

Some folks got rich, but most did not find any gold. The men and women who did not find gold went back to their old homes. There they told the tale of their tragic time in the Wild West gold rush.

## Plane Race

Illustrate the story here:

Tyrell and Franklin love planes. They love to see them fly in the sky. Once, Tyrell and Franklin went to see four planes race. There was a red plane, a white plane, a pink plane, and a black plane. “I bet the red plane will win!” said Tyrell. “I think the white one will win!” said Franklin.

Tyrell and Franklin spy the planes as they fly by in the sky. In the end, the black plane made it to the finish line. “Oh well! The red and white planes can try to win next time,” said Tyrell.

## Lily's Puppy

Illustrate the story here:

Lily had been wishing for a puppy for a long time. She wanted a silly puppy to run and jump with. But her mommy said Lily could not have one because she was only seven. Lily begged her mommy and daddy. She said, "I am not a baby. It would make me so happy to have a puppy."

Lily's mommy and daddy talked for a long time. They said, "We do think you will try your best. We will let you have a puppy." Lily was so happy. She went to the pet shop and picked a tiny puppy. She named him Cody. Cody is the best puppy for this family.

## Maple Fudge

Illustrate the story here:

Uncle Billy wanted to take Able to the candy shop. They drove to a lot and jumped on a shuttle to the shop. When they walked into the candy shop, they smelled the fudge on the table. Able wanted a sample of the maple fudge. He hoped it would not be a hassle for the woman behind the table.

“Can I have a sample?” asked Able. “Yes, you can! Which would you like to sample?” said the woman. Able, with a giggle, asked for the maple fudge. “You picked the best one to sample!” said the woman.

Able nibbled on the fudge. “This is so yummy!” he said while licking his lips. Uncle Billy got a little bag of fudge for Able to take back home.

## A Trip to the Jungle

Illustrate the story here:



Salma and Felix are going on a trip to the jungle. They packed their duffle bags and got on a plane to Brazil. Once in Brazil, they rode a shuttle to the jungle. In the jungle, they saw an anaconda in the grass. They also saw a sloth dangle from a vine.

At the end of their trip, they even got to see a puma! Pumas like to hide, so not many people get to see them in the wild. Salma and Felix were thrilled. “I am so happy we got to see these animals,” said Salma. “Me too!” said Felix.

## The Garden

Illustrate the story here:

Omar loves to be in his garden on his farm. While it is still dark, he drags his old cart across the yard to the barn. He fills the cart with plants for the garden. When he gets to the garden, he looks at the plants one by one. Then he finds them all the best place to live. He finds big spaces for the large plants. He finds shade for the plants that do not like the harsh sun. He gives them all just what they want and makes them look so pretty.

When Omar is done, he brings the cart back to the barn. Then he sits on his deck and looks at his garden with pride.

## Marvel at the Shore

Illustrate the story here:

Cory and his horse, North, traveled to the shore. Cory held on to North's mane as North galloped across the sand. They arrived at the shore before anyone else. There had been a storm at sunset, so this morning the shore was a marvel.

There were hundreds of starfish along the shoreline. The starfish got pulled to the shore in the storm. They were so pretty, but if they were left on the shore they would dry up. Cory jumped off North's back. He picked up starfish one by one and placed them back where they came from. Cory was happy he could transport the starfish back home.

## My Sister's Fern

Illustrate the story here:

My sister adores plants. She wants to be a farmer or a gardener when she gets older. She has a number of plants at home, but the plant she loves the most is a fern. She has five different kinds of ferns in her backyard.

When the ferns are on the verge of wilting, she uses her mister to get them wet. After that, they perk back up. If it is too hot, she gives the ferns some shade on the porch. My sister thinks there is nothing more pretty than a fern!

## A Turtle can Surf!

Illustrate the story here:

Irma the turtle loved to surf. Her mother, Shirly, was the first girl surfer in their turtle village, and Irma wanted to be just like her. Every morning Irma would rush to the shoreline.

When she was surfing, Irma would do flips and turns. She would twirl like a twister. All the other animals were shocked that a girl turtle could surf so well! Irma would just yell, "A girl can do anything!" just like her mother told her.

Irma would surf until sunset. When the sun was no longer in the sky, she would skip back home. Once she was home, she would curl up in her turtle bed and relax.

## The Worst Pet Ever

Illustrate the story here:

Morgan has wanted a pet for a long time. One morning, there was a small box on the table with her name on it. Inside the box, there was a bunch of dirt. Under the dirt was her new pet, a worm!

Morgan was sad. She thinks a worm is the worst pet in the world. She wanted a dog or cat or even a hamster, not a squirmly worm! What were her mom and dad thinking? This pet will not work. She started to cry.

Just then, mom and dad came in and said, “We got you! It was a joke! We are going to the pet shop!” Morgan was so happy. She wiped her face and gave mom and dad a hug. She was going to get the best pet ever!

## Fishing at the Port

Illustrate the story here:

Travis and his father wanted to go fishing at the port. They drove to the tackle store to pick up some items. They had to get some fishing line and a jar of worms.

Travis found the jar of worms under a large rack of fishing poles. His father found the fishing line. He picked the extra sturdy line so they could catch big fish. They gave the clerk a credit card for their items.

Travis and his father left the tackle store, got in the car, and drove north to the water. This would be their third trip to the port. Last time, they went home with five fish. This time, they hope to catch more.

## Sunday Fun

Illustrate the story here:

On Sundays, Gail visits her brother at his farm. Gail loves to go to the farm because there is so much to do. She starts the day in the garden. If it did not rain, she sprays the plants with water.

Then, Gail and her brother walk on the trail from the garden to the pond. As they walk, Gail hunts for snail shells. When she finds shells, she tucks them in her pocket. She will paint them when she gets home.

At the pond, her brother likes to fish. He strings bait onto his fishing pole and waits for a bite. While they wait, Gail plays in the mud and clay.

At the end of the day, they walk back up the trail to go home. As they walk, they see the sun set and the day fade away.

## Deep in the Green Forest

Illustrate the story here:

Once upon a time, there was a fox who lived in a valley. She spent her days deep in the green forest. Each day, she would wake up from her sleep and greet the forest animals. She would say hello to the animals in the trees above her. She would also say hello to the animals who rested by the stream.

One morning, the peace of the forest was broken by a horrid scream! The fox looked up to see where the scream came from. She saw a fallen tree. She peeked in and came upon a monkey. The monkey was stuck in the fallen tree. “Can you please help me get free?” pleaded the monkey. “I will try my best,” the fox said.

The fox pushed very hard and in the end the monkey was freed! “Thank you so much,” the monkey said as he leaped into another tree. As the fox walked back to the valley, she beamed with pride for helping the monkey.

## A Trip to the Coast

Illustrate the story here:

Harvey owns a big yellow boat. Every summer, he takes the boat on a trip to the coast. This time, he wants to bring his friends, Layla and Joe, with him. There is just one problem, Layla can not swim! Layla must be able to swim if she wants to go on the boat.

Layla started swim lessons to grow her skills. She even got a swim coach to teach her. She started slow, but Joe helped her get better. After four weeks of lessons, Layla could swim! Now she could paddle, kick, and float all by herself.

Layla showed Harvey her skills. Harvey was thrilled! The next day, Harvey and Layla and Joe set sail to the coast.

## The Right Job

Illustrate Illustrate the story here:

Curt is a pilot. This means he must fly planes for work. He sports a white shirt and a necktie when he is on the plane. He has been flying for a long time. Sometimes Curt must fly at night when there is no light in the sky.

At night, everyone on the plane is asleep and it is silent. This is peaceful, but sometimes it gets boring. Curt prefers to fly in the daylight. This is when he can see the land below and talk to people.

Curt also likes seeing the sights in the places he goes. He delights in exploring the parks, theaters, and stores wherever his flights take him. But what he likes best is being high up in the sky. Being a pilot is the right job for Curt!

## Brooklyn's Reading Nook

Illustrate the story here:

Brooklyn got a new book. For weeks, Brooklyn had been looking for this book in every bookshop. She put it at the top of her list because she was confident that this story would be a good one. Brooklyn loved her reading time on the weekends.

Each Saturday, she was able to sit in her reading nook and dive into a good book. Last weekend, she finished a story of a famed football star. This weekend she would be starting Little Red Riding Hood. But this story is not the classic she remembers from her childhood.

In that book, Little Red Riding Hood is a small child. This modern story is a twisted tale. Little Red Riding Hood is a grown-up when she goes for a walk in the woods. Brooklyn could not wait to pull on her cozy hooded blanket and curl up in her nook with her book.

## The Groom is Late!

Illustrate the story here:

The flustered groom rushed into the church. He was very late. Not only was he late, but he had not even finished dressing. He was still pulling on his boots. He ran to his best man and said, "I slept in! My alarm did not go off!"

"Keep your cool! Better late than never," said the best man. The groom smoothed his shirt as best as he could and finished pulling on his boots. "All set!" said the groom. "Time to see my bride." Just then, booming music started to play, and the church doors swung open.

The bride was so graceful as she entered the room, she seemed to be floating. As she reached the groom, she whispered, "Better late than never." The groom blushed and said, "my alarm did not go off!" With a smile, the bride took her groom's hand and said, "Next time I will put the alarm on for you."

## Cruise Ship Trip

Illustrate the story here:

Drew and Marley were thrilled as they walked onto their first cruise ship. They had been packing for this trip for months. Their suitcases were so full they almost did not close. When they got to their cabin, they looked out their window and saw the vast blue sea. It was very pretty!

They left their suitcases in the cabin and went to grab a bite to eat by the pool. Yes, the new cruise ship had a pool! How cool! Drew drank apple juice while Marley chewed on some fruit. They watched the crew greeting everyone as they came onto the ship.

“This is going to be a fantastic trip!” said Marley. “Yes, I think when we get back on Tuesday, I will feel relaxed and renewed!” Drew said as the ship’s horn blew. Honk! Honk! “And off we go!” Marley squealed. It was a dream come true.

## Trip to the Zoo

Illustrate the story here:

Audrey and Willow could not wait to see all the animals at the zoo. As they reached the entrance, Audrey paused and asked, "did you bring the tickets?" "Yes! I have them right here," said Willow.

The first display they visited was full of birds. "Look at that pretty macaw! Its wings are like a rainbow," exclaimed Audrey. "I see the macaw," responded Willow, "but look at this hawk! It caught a fish in its claws." Willow could have spent hours at the bird display, but Audrey said she wanted to see more animals.

The next display contained a lion sleeping on a large lawn. The lion woke up for five minutes, but then yawned and fell back asleep. "He seems to have day and night mixed up," snickered Audrey. "Well, it's not his fault. If I had to hunt for my food, I would want a nap too," Willow commented. Audrey smirked and said, "That reminds me, I am hungry. Can we go hunt for some food at the snack stand?"

## Surprise on the Track

Illustrate the story here:

“Ready, set, go!” yelled the track coach. The first race of the fourth-grade track meet had begun. Heather had been waiting for this track meet for months. She was ready to win.

At first, Heather took the lead. But, as she sprinted to the finish line, she saw some other fourth graders catching up to her. She did not want to give up her lead. She worked on keeping her breath steady as she ran and leaped over the hurdles.

Heather was almost to the finish line when, all of a sudden, she saw something white wander onto the track. “A swan!” yelled a child in the stands. A swan wandered onto the track from the swamp up the road. The swan began to waddle to the finish line. Heather crossed the finish line at the same exact time as the swan. “So, who won the race?” asked the class. “It’s a tie! Heather and the swan both won!” exclaimed the track coach.

## The Right Choice

Illustrate the story here:

In February, Boyd and James had a choice to make. Their mother said they could get a new pet, but they had to agree on which pet to get. As the boys entered the pet store, their mother's voice rang in their heads. "Boys, you need to pick a pet that is cute, sweet, and spirited."

The boys looked at all the choices of pets. Boyd saw a small kitten. "This kitten is cute," said Boyd. James pointed to a spunky puppy. "This puppy looks sweet," said James.

Crash! Just then, the boys heard a big noise. They turned to see a bin of dog toys spilled on the floor. Right in the middle of this mess was a tiny yellow bird. The bird must have gotten free from its cage and flew into the bin.

When the yellow bird saw the boys, she joined them and sat in Boyd's hands. "I think we have our new pet," Boyd said. "Yes, she is cute, sweet, and spirited," said James. "And she made the choice for us!"

## Summer at the Farmhouse

Illustrate the story here:

Joey is staying with his grandmother for the summer. His grandmother owns a farmhouse close to town. Joey likes to help his grandmother around the farm. However, he most enjoys watching the animals who live outdoors.

On Monday, he saw a brown owl hunting a small mouse. The mouse found its way back underground just before the owl swooped down. On Wednesday, he walked down to the stream south of the farm. This stream is full of trout and Joey likes to watch them swim. Then on Friday, he went to the meadow where the cows graze. He picked some wildflowers for his grandmother. Joey hopes to return to his grandmother's farmhouse each summer.

## Birdwatching

Illustrate the story here:

With her notebook in hand, Cassie walked into the forest ready to study some birds. She loved birdwatching, and she had a knack for finding birds in new places. As she walked, she wrote down the names of the different birds she saw. She would even sketch a drawing of each bird in her notebook.

About one hour into her hike, Cassie knelt to rest and eat a snack. As she ate, large crumbs fell to the ground. Snap! Cassie heard a noise very close to her. When she turned around, she saw a small brown bird pecking at her leftover crumbs. It was a wren! Cassie had never seen a wren in real life, but she knows about them from reading her books.

Cassie knows that wrens have short wings and hold their tails upright. Wrens are also known for singing loud, complex songs. This little wren seemed to love Cassie's snack. When all the crumbs were gone, the wren lifted its wings. Cassie watched it fly away into the forest. Cassie was so thrilled with her wren sighting that she sang a long tune all the way home.

## Trip to the Baseball Park

Illustrate the story here:

The boys and girls of Miss Brown's third grade class are jumping up and down with delight when the buses pull up in front of them. All the third grade classes are going on a trip to see a baseball game today. After the teachers check who is present, the students and teachers make their way onto the buses and sit down. As they drive to the baseball park, the students look out the windows and sing silly songs.

Once inside the park, they look at the numbers on the benches to find their seats. The game starts a few minutes later. The students cheer as they watch the home team score the first points. The home team makes some impressive runs, passes, and pitches. As the game is about to end, the classes scream with joy. They see themselves on the big screen! On the ride back home, the students and teachers talk about the thrilling events of the day. They all agree they should take a trip to the baseball park again soon.

## Growth Spurt

Illustrate the story here:

Akeem woke up one morning feeling quite strange. His arms stretched longer than they ever have before. When he stood up, he hit his head on a shelf! He felt like he had a brand new body.

When Akeem got dressed, none of his clothes fit. His arms were longer than his shirt sleeves. His shoes were smaller than his feet. Even his longest pants were now too short. What was he going to do?

Akeem walked into the kitchen with his too big body in his too small outfit. "Wow," grandma exclaimed, "you had a growth spurt! You got taller overnight! Now you may be the tallest kid in your class!"

Akeem's big brother got up from the table and stood next to him. The top of Akeem's head only reached his brother's elbows. "Well, you're still shorter than me," he said with a grin.

## Rollercoaster

Illustrate the story here:

When Kenzer and Sidney got to the front of the line, they finally saw the cars rushing past them. Up close, they seemed a lot faster. As the kids sat in their seats, they double checked that their seatbelts were firmly locked in. Then, they breathed deeply and closed their eyes.

The rollercoaster inched up the tracks so slowly it hardly felt like they were moving. When it got to the top, Kenzer timidly peered over the edge. Just when it felt like they got stuck, the car fell quickly. Instantly, they screamed loudly.

Kenzer's belly was doing backflips. Sidney's curls were blowing in the wind. Their arms and legs were flailing in the sky. Then, just as quickly as the ride started, it was finished. They sat silently for a moment, hardly understanding what just happened.

As Kenzer and Sidney took off their seatbelts, they looked at each other and yelled, "that was awesome!" Then they got back in line to take another ride on the roller coaster.

## Unlucky

Illustrate the story here:

Something very unlucky happened to Lee last week. As he was walking into his classroom, he did not see the puddle on the floor. He slid and fell in front of his entire class. That's not even the worst part! Lee was holding a jar of marbles with the lid unscrewed. When he fell, the marbles flew everywhere.

Lee laid on the floor, covered his face, and wanted to cry. But then, all of a sudden, his best friend, Jayvon, sat down next to him. Jayvon uncovered Lee's face and helped him up. "Don't worry," Jayvon said, "people fall all the time." At first, Lee felt uneasy. When he looked around at his classmates, nobody made fun of him for falling.

Instead, Lee's classmates began picking up all the marbles that spilled. Some of them even told him about times when mistakes like this happened to them. It turns out, it is not that unusual to slip and fall. "I am thankful to have such nice friends," Lee said.

## The Busy Day

Illustrate the story here:

When Edwin got home from work, he dropped his bag on the floor and plopped on the couch. "What a busy day I had," he sighed. "I am exhausted." Edwin's roommate walked in. "What made your day so busy?" he asked. Edwin explained.

"It started this morning when I dropped off some letters at the post office. The line was so long that I ended up running late for work. Then, at work, I had so many meetings. It felt like they were never going to end. I planned to come home for lunch, but I was so busy I skipped that trip. I grabbed a sandwich and a drink from the diner on the corner. As I was jogging back to the office, I tripped and dropped my drink. But I was too busy to go back and get a new one. When my day was finally over, I hopped in my car and drove home."

"What are you planning to do this evening?" Edwin's roommate asked. "Nothing!" Edwin responded, "I will be sitting right here on this couch, resting."

## The Hottest Day

Illustrate the story here:

One August day, Tyler went outside to play tag with his friends. The sun was high in the sky. It felt like the hottest day of the year. As Tyler was running around, his face got redder and redder and he felt hotter and hotter. "It's too hot outside to play tag," Tyler called to his friends, "let's go swimming instead."

Tyler and his friends hopped on their bikes and rode to the pool. At the pool, they had a contest to see who could make the biggest splash in the water. Tyler made a pretty big splash, but his friends made bigger ones.

The friends had lots of fun at the pool. The saddest part of the day was when they had to stop playing and go back home.

## The Baker

Illustrate the story here:

Rashawn is a world class baker. He has been baking since he was a little boy. Every day you can find him dancing around the kitchen while making yummy treats. He also loves trading tips with other bakers about how to make their dishes even better.

One day, Rashawn's friend, Payton, came over to visit. Payton was hoping to taste some of Rashawn's newest treats. "You're right on time!" Rashawn called. "I was just taking a fresh pie out of the oven." He cut two slices of pie and handed the larger slice to Payton. "I am sure you're going to love it," Rashawn said smiling.

"Yuck!" Payton yelled as she tasted the pie. "What do you mean, yuck?" asked Rashawn, his smile fading, "You don't like it?" "Just joking!" Payton said with a grin. "This is the best pie I have ever tasted!" "Oh good," Rashawn sighed as he sliced the rest of the pie up. "But next time, it would be nicer to say you liked it from the start."

## Puppies

Illustrate the story here:

Violet loves helping animals. Her favorite animals to look after are puppies. Violet thinks puppies are the best because they are so cute and cuddly. The way they run around and play always makes her laugh. But looking after puppies isn't always easy.

Puppies need a lot of help. The tiniest puppies need to be fed constantly. It seems like their little bellies are never full. When a puppy cries, Violet tries her best to find out what they need. When the puppies need a bath, Violet scrubs them clean then dries them off. When the puppies are sleepy, Violet lays them on the fluffiest blankets for a nap.

When the puppies need to go potty, Violet hurries to get them outside before they make a mess. Most of the time, the puppies just want their tummies rubbed, which Violet is perfectly happy to do for them.