Third Grade Spring Break
Reading Blitz
Star Reader Packet

Name: _______________________

Columbus City Schools 2014
Compiled by: B. Augustine, C. Giles, K. Jones, C. Pena, S. Pubal
Third Grade Spring Break Reading Blitz

Parent Information

This packet is designed to help your 3rd grade child practice for the spring reading Ohio Achievement Assessment (OAA). This packet should be completed over your child’s Spring Break and returned to school on Tuesday, April 22, 2014.

Your child should complete the four day packet and the reading log. The choice board offers extra activities that are OPTIONAL for your child to complete. We greatly appreciate your support in helping your child to be the best reader they can be! Have a BLAST!
Puppies and Their Parents
Puppies and Their Parents

What makes a dog a dog? Dogs can look and sound very different from each other. German Shepherds are big and weigh as much as 80 pounds. That’s more than a six-year-old human! On the other hand, a Chihuahua is tiny and can fit in a purse. Dogs also have different types of fur. Chihuahuas have short hair but collies have long hair. Poodles have curly hair. Some dogs are brown and some are black. Some dogs howl and some others bark. But they are all dogs. They have four legs, fur and a tail. Many of them do not like cats.

Puppies are usually like their parents. Chihuahuas have small puppies and German Shepherds have bigger puppies. This is because puppies inherit many traits from their parents. Puppies often have the same color or type of fur as their parents. They often grow to be the same size as their parents. But they are not exactly the same. This is why you can tell apart puppies who are brothers and sisters, even when they look similar to each other.

There are several places you can go to choose a dog. Some people go to the animal shelter. At the animal shelter, you will find many types of dogs. All of the puppies at the animal shelter need a home and it’s an excellent place to pick out your new dog. But sometimes people want a specific type of dog. They might want a German Shepherd with a loud bark or a Chihuahua with a lot of energy. If you know exactly what type of dog you want, you can go to a
special person called a dog breeder. Dog breeders raise puppies that have specific traits. Different types of dogs - like German Shepherds, poodles and golden retrievers - are called "breeds." Dog breeders start by finding dogs that have the traits that they want, because they know that their puppies will have some of the same traits.

In the past, dog breeders wanted dogs that were useful to humans. At that time most dogs weren't pets. Instead, they had jobs that they had to do. Hound dogs helped people hunt for food in the forests. Sheep dogs helped shepherds herd flocks of sheep and protected the sheep from foxes or other dangerous animals. Dog breeders chose dogs that were smart, fast and strong. Those were the dogs that were the most helpful. But now most dogs are pets. They don't have to help humans hunt. Instead, they sit by the fire and are good company for their owners.

Today dog breeders choose traits that make dogs enjoyable to be around. Puppies from the dog breeder are more expensive than those from the animal shelter. Some of the puppies cost hundreds of dollars. Different breeds can cost different amounts. If a dog is especially smart, really fast or very pretty, her puppies can be even more expensive. That's because the puppies might inherit the mother's speed or intelligence.

In the United States, the most popular breeds of dogs are Labrador Retrievers, German Shepherds and Beagles. In England, the most popular dog breeds are Labrador Retrievers and Cocker Spaniels. In Italy, many people have German Shepherds. There are so many types of dogs that everyone can find the perfect pet.
Directions: Use the selection to answer questions 1-6.

1. What does this passage describe?
   - O A. a day in the life of a Labrador Retriever
   - O B. the items needed to raise a Cocker Spaniel
   - O C. different breeds of dogs and what they are like

2. Name three different dogs breeds mentioned in the passage. Using the text, name one characteristic of each breed.

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<th>Breed</th>
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3. What is this passage mostly about?
   - O A. differences between German Shepherds living in Italy and German Shepherds living in the United States
   - O B. dogs and the traits that make them similar to or different than each other
   - O C. the reasons people would rather own a cat than a dog
4. Read the following sentence from the selection.

"Puppies are usually like their parents."

What evidence from the passage supports this statement?

- A. German Shepherds weigh as much as 80 pounds. 80 pounds is more than a six year old human weighs.
- B. Some people get dogs from animal shelters. Other people get dogs from dog breeders.
- C. A Chihuahua is tiny and can fit in a purse. Chihuahuas have small puppies.

5. The following sentences are from the reading selection.

"Puppies are usually like their parents. Chihuahuas have small puppies and German Shepherds have bigger puppies. This is because puppies inherit many traits from their parents."

What does the word traits mean?

- A. physical features or qualities
- B. pets that are popular in England
- C. different types of dogs
6. Imagine a friend of yours wants to get a dog. Based on the information in the passage, what advice would you give your friend about choosing a dog?

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DAY TWO
Third Grade Spring Break
Reading Blitz
Poetry

Time for Fiesta
Spring is here. It is almost summer.
Time for a party, time for fiesta!
Enjoy the warm breeze. Enjoy
family and friends.

Prepare the flowers, fun and food.
It is time for fiesta!
Sarah helps make the paper flowers.
Carefully, we choose colors - red, yellow, pink and blue.
We fold the tissue paper back and forth. A ribbon is tied
around the center. The folds are carefully opened.
Fluff, puff, crinkle, straighten - the paper flowers are ready!

Tia Rosa arrives with cartons of eggs - cascarones!
For weeks my aunt has gathered empty egg shells and
filled them with bits of paper.

Now the shells are painted brightly.
Now they are ready!
We will crack them on our heads and laugh!
Watch the tiny paper filling as it flies through the air and lands in our hair!

Finally, our guests begin to arrive - My sweet grandma, abuela, our neighbors and friends, my cousins, aunts and uncles. We giggle and cheer as we greet each other: "Put a paper flower in your hair! Crack a cascarone! Let the fiesta begin!"
Directions: Use the selection to answer questions 1-7

1. What does the speaker do to prepare for the fiesta?
   - A. She helps with the food.
   - B. She puts a ribbon in her hair.
   - C. She makes the paper flower.

2. In the poem, the speaker says that Tia Rosa arrives with the "cascarones".
   What are cascarones?
   - A. flowers made with colored paper
   - B. egg shells filled with bits of paper
   - C. special fiesta snacks

3. Which words mean the same?
   - A. fold, make
   - B. laugh, giggle
   - C. gathered, filled
4. Using details from the text, describe the setting of the poem.

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5. What is the first thing the speaker does in "Time for Fiesta?"

○ A. She fills the eggs.
○ B. She paints the eggs.
○ C. She makes the flowers.

6. Which statement best describes the main idea of the poem?

○ A. Getting ready for a party
○ B. Cooking with family
○ C. Enjoying the summertime
7. At the end of "Time for Fiesta", the party is ready to begin. What happens that best shows it is time to begin?

- A. the food is ready
- B. the flowers are made
- C. the guests are arriving

8. Using the chart below, list the steps in making paper flowers.

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DAY THREE
Third Grade Spring Break
Reading Blitz

Fiction Text

The Tornado Drill
The alarm went off again. Jonas knew what to do this time. They all had to go out in the hall, sit next to each other, and curl up into a ball. This was in case there was a tornado. Jonas hadn't understood how in the world going into the hall and curling up into a ball would help you if you got hit by a tornado. Then his teacher had told him that they went into the hall to be away from windows that might break during a tornado. Curling up was in case something fell on you. That's why they put their hands over their necks, to protect it in case something sharp fell.

Molly had just joined the class, and sat next to Jonas. When the alarm went off, Molly hid under her desk. Jonas had to tell her to get out from under there and follow the class in the hall.

It turned out to be a drill, just like last time. After a few minutes, all the students went back into their classroom and sat back down at their desks. After school, Jonas teased Molly about hiding under her desk when the alarm went off. "Scaredy cat!" he said. Molly laughed at him. "I wasn't scared," she replied. Molly explained. She had moved to Oklahoma from California last week. In school in California, when the alarm went off it was an earthquake drill, not a tornado drill. During the earthquake drill, you were supposed to hide under your desk.
Kanisha overheard them. She told them she had just visited her cousins in Florida, and there they had hurricane drills instead of tornado or earthquake drills. One time the weather forecaster on the morning news had said that school was closed completely that day because there was probably going to be a hurricane.

Jonas had cousins in Minnesota. They told him that they had had three days in a row with no school because it wouldn't stop snowing. There had even been hail that had broken the windshield of their car. But they had known about it from the weather forecaster the day before.

"That's why earthquakes are way scarier than tornados or hurricanes or snowstorms," Molly said. "The weather forecaster can probably tell you if a tornado or hurricane will come. With earthquakes you never know."
1. What do students do during a tornado drill?
   - A. go into the basement
   - B. go into the hall and curl up into a ball
   - C. hide under their desks

2. What is the setting of this story?
   - A. a classroom in Oklahoma
   - B. a classroom in California
   - C. a classroom in Florida

3. Read the following sentences from the selection. "Molly had just joined the class, and sat next to Jonas. When the alarm went off, Molly hid under her desk. Jonas had to tell her to get out from under there and follow the class in the hall."

Based on the evidence above, what conclusion can be made?
   - A. Jonas did not know what to do in a tornado drill.
   - B. Molly was hiding from Jonas because she felt shy.
   - C. Molly did not know it was a tornado drill at first.
4. Why did Molly hide under her desk during the tornado drill instead of going into the hall like Jonas?

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5. Read the following sentences from the selection. "Jonas had cousins in Minnesota. They told him that they had had three days in a row with no school because it wouldn't stop snowing. There had even been hail that had broken the windshield of their car. But they had known about it from the weather forecaster the day before."

As used in the passage, what does the word "forecaster" mean?

○ A. someone who gives people instructions for drills

○ B. someone who makes predictions of the future

○ C. someone who is an expert on snow
6. Based on the story, what conclusion can be made about emergency drills?

- A. Emergency drills are different depending on the different weather.
- B. All emergency drills are the same.
- C. Emergency drills are different depending on the different countries.

7. Why is it important to know what kind of weather is coming into your area?

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Writing

What did you do on a day during your Spring Break?

Fill in the web with details about your day on Spring Break. Then use your web to write a story about your day.

What I played:

What I ate:

Something I watched on TV:

My day on Spring Break

Something unusual or exciting that happened:

Who I played with:

A place I went to visit:
A Drawing of My Day

Columbus City Schools 2014

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Third Grade Spring Break
Reading Blitz
Choice Board

Your mission: After completing the Star Reader Packet, complete as many of these fun activities as you can!

Your challenge: How many boxes can you complete??

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make an acrostic poem with the word spring.</th>
<th>Find a spot in your house you have never read before and read a book in that spot. (under the table)</th>
<th>Write ten interesting interview questions and interview someone that you know (a parent, brother/sister, friend). Record their answers.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Read out loud to an adult using different voices to make it sound interesting. (zombie voice, baby voice, or like an announcer)</td>
<td>Explain in writing how to do something. Be sure you include all the steps needed to complete the task. (brushing your teeth, making a sandwich)</td>
<td>Create a comic strip. Come up with fascinating characters and a problem/solution that they will face in the comic. Include drawings and speech bubbles!</td>
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<td>Read to a younger brother/sister, or stuffed animal</td>
<td>Read a book that you find enjoyable. After reading the book, create an artistic poster in which you draw details from the story, such as the characters and setting.</td>
<td>Visit your local Columbus Library and check out a book to read on spring break. Get a library card if you don't already have one.</td>
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