

GRADE 2 • WORKBOOK

Grade 2 Reading Comprehension

Stories, fables and the core comprehension skills.

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NO SIGN-UP



100% FREE PDF

13 pages • syllabus • answer key included



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Grade 2 Reading Comprehension



Twelve passages with questions: stories from around the world, fables with a moral and short factual texts.

How to use this workbook

Work through the chapters in order, or jump to the skill your child needs most.
Each skill has three different sheets (A, B and C) so you can practise, review and test.
Do one or two sheets a day. Short, regular practice works better than long sessions.
Check answers using the answer key at the back of the book, then talk about any mistakes.
Print the pages you need on A4 or Letter paper; scale to fit if your printer asks.

What your child will learn

Nina and the Night Market	Honeybees
Kofi's Big Drum	Clues
The Mango Tree Race	Cats and Dogs
The Crow Who Shared	The Missing Boot
The Ant and the Dewdrop	Real or Pretend?
The Tortoise and the Monsoon	

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Nina and the Night Market

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

Nina and the Night Market

An original story

Every Friday, Nina helped her aunt sell sweet rice cakes at the night market. Lanterns hung from every stall, and the air smelled of roasted nuts and jasmine tea.

Nina was shy. She always stood behind the table and let her aunt talk to the customers.

One night, a crowd of tourists arrived and the stall was soon busy. Her aunt dropped a tray, and the cakes rolled across the stones.

Nina took a deep breath. "Rice cakes!" she called. "Warm rice cakes, soft and sweet!" A line formed at once. By the time her aunt had picked up the tray, the table was nearly empty.

"Where did that voice come from?" asked her aunt, smiling. Nina shrugged. "I think it was hiding behind the lanterns."

1 What did Nina and her aunt sell? ☐ A roasted nuts ☐ B rice cakes

☐ C jasmine tea

2 How does the story describe Nina at the start? ☐ A shy ☐ B bossy

☐ C tired

3 What happened to the tray?

4 What did Nina do next, and what was the result?

5 What does "it was hiding behind the lanterns" mean?

☐ A Nina had been lost ☐ B Nina's courage had been waiting inside her

☐ C The lanterns were noisy



Kofi's Big Drum

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

Kofi's Big Drum

An original story

Kofi loved his drum more than anything. He played it in the morning, at noon and at night.

“Kofi, please!” groaned his mother. “The goats can't sleep, the baby is crying and I can't hear myself think!”

Kofi put his drum away. The house was quiet, but he felt sad.

A week later, the village festival began. The dancers were ready, but the festival drummer was ill. No one could keep the beat.

Kofi ran home for his drum. When he began to play, the dancers moved as one. The whole village clapped along, and even the goats seemed to dance.

That night his mother whispered, “I think the village needed a loud drum after all.”

1 Why did Kofi's mother complain? ☐ A The drum was broken

☐ B The drum was too loud ☐ C Kofi played badly

2 How did Kofi feel when he put his drum away? ☐ A happy ☐ B sad

☐ C angry

3 Why could the festival not start at first?

4 What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?

5 What is the best lesson from the story? ☐ A Never play music at home

☐ B A talent can be useful at the right moment ☐ C Goats like music



The Mango Tree Race

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

The Mango Tree Race

An original story

Raj, Sana and Ahmed stood under the old mango tree. High above them hung one perfectly ripe mango.

"I'll get it first," said Raj, the fastest runner. He leapt for the lowest branch but slipped and landed on the grass.

"Let me try," said Sana, who was the best climber. She scrambled up the trunk, but the branch with the mango was too thin for her weight.

Ahmed, the smallest, did not run or climb. He fetched a long bamboo pole from the shed. "Sana, hold the pole," he said. "Raj, lift me."

With Raj lifting him and Sana steadying the pole, Ahmed tapped the mango. It dropped into Raj's waiting hands.

They cut it into three equal pieces and ate it in the shade. "Best mango ever," sighed Raj. The others agreed.

1 Who was the fastest runner? ☐ A Raj ☐ B Sana ☐ C Ahmed

2 Why could Sana not reach the mango?

3 What did Ahmed use to help?

4 How did the cousins finally get the mango? ☐ A Raj climbed the tree

☐ B They worked together ☐ C It fell by itself

5 Which lesson fits the story best? ☐ A The fastest always wins

☐ B Working together solves problems ☐ C Mangoes grow only in summer



The Crow Who Shared

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

The Crow Who Shared

A fable

In a dry summer, a crow found a fig tree still heavy with fruit. "This is my secret," he thought, and he ate every fig he could reach.

Soon he had eaten so much that he could not fly. He hopped from branch to branch, feeling sleepy and lonely.

The sparrows passed by, hungry and thin. At last the crow called out, "Come and eat! There is plenty!" The birds feasted and sang.

In the next dry season, when the crow's own branch was bare, the sparrows brought him seeds from far-off fields.

1 What did the crow find? ☐ A a fig tree ☐ B a lake ☐ C a nest

2 Why could the crow not fly?

3 What did the crow do at last?

4 How did the sparrows repay him?

5 What is the moral? ☐ A Eat quickly ☐ B Kindness comes back to you

☐ C Keep secrets



The Ant and the Dewdrop

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

The Ant and the Dewdrop

A fable

It had not rained for weeks. The flower in the meadow drooped, its petals dry.

A tiny ant saw a dewdrop on a leaf. She rolled it carefully in her arms. It shook, it wobbled, but she held on.

Other insects laughed. "One drop won't help!" they said. The ant kept walking.

At last she reached the flower and let the drop fall at its roots. The flower lifted its head just a little. That evening, the clouds rolled in, and the rain began.

1 Who carried the dewdrop? ☐ A an ant ☐ B a bee ☐ C a beetle

2 Why did the other insects laugh?

3 What happened when the ant reached the flower?

4 Which word describes the ant? ☐ A determined ☐ B lazy ☐ C scared

5 What is the moral? ☐ A Little efforts matter ☐ B Flowers are fragile

☐ C Ants are strong



The Tortoise and the Monsoon

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

The Tortoise and the Monsoon

A fable

Before the rains, the hare laughed at the tortoise. "While you drag stones to your burrow, I'll be eating clover!" he said.

The tortoise said nothing. Day after day she patched her burrow with mud and stacked stones against the door.

When the monsoon struck, rain poured in sheets. The hare's burrow flooded, and he had to flee in the dark.

He knocked on the tortoise's door, shivering. She let him in. "Slow work," she said, "keeps the water out."

1 What did the hare do before the rains? ☐ A worked hard

☐ B laughed at the tortoise ☐ C built a boat

2 What did the tortoise do to her burrow?

3 What happened to the hare's burrow?

4 Why did the tortoise stay dry?

5 What is the moral? ☐ A Slow people win races ☐ B Preparing early protects you later

☐ C Never laugh at hares

★ Honeybees

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Honeybees

Honeybees do important work. They fly from flower to flower to collect a sweet liquid called nectar. As they do, pollen sticks to their legs.

When a bee visits the next flower, some pollen rubs off. This helps the flower make seeds and fruit. Without bees, we would have far fewer apples, almonds and berries.

Back at the hive, bees turn nectar into honey, which feeds the whole colony through the winter.

- 1 What is the main idea? ☐ A Bees do important work for flowers and for us
☐ B Bees live in hives ☐ C Honey is sweet

- 2 What do bees collect from flowers?

- 3 How does pollen help flowers?

- 4 What does the colony eat in winter? ☐ A honey ☐ B pollen ☐ C fruit

- 5 Name one food that bees help to grow.

★ Clues

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Clues

Mia walked into the kitchen. The windows were steamy, and the air smelled of cinnamon and warm apples. A tray sat cooling on the counter and her dad was wearing an apron covered in flour.

1 What was Dad probably doing? ☐ A Baking ☐ B Painting ☐ C Sleeping

2 Which clue tells you the kitchen was warm?

3 What was probably on the tray? ☐ A a cold salad ☐ B an apple pie or baked treat

☐ C a book

4 What can you infer from the flour on the apron?

5 How do you think Mia felt? Explain.

★ Cats and Dogs

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Cats and Dogs

Cats and dogs are both popular pets. They both have fur, four legs and a tail, and both need food, water and love.

But they are different, too. Dogs like to go for walks and play fetch. Cats like to climb and sleep in sunny spots.

Dogs bark to talk to us. Cats purr and meow.

1 How are cats and dogs alike? ☐ A Both have fur and a tail ☐ B Both bark
☐ C Both purr

2 Which pet likes to play fetch? ☐ A cat ☐ B dog ☐ C both

3 Which pet purrs? ☐ A dog ☐ B cat ☐ C neither

4 Write one way dogs and cats are different.

5 Which word signals a difference?

★ The Missing Boot

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

The Missing Boot

One snowy morning, Jin could not find his left boot. He looked under the bed, behind the door and inside the cupboard.

His little sister Lan giggled. She pointed to the dog, who was fast asleep in the hallway — curled around the boot like a pillow.

Jin gently slid the boot out, and the dog just rolled over. Jin and Lan walked to school through the snow, laughing.

1 Who are the characters?

2 What is the setting? ☐ A A snowy morning at home ☐ B A summer beach
☐ C A school

3 What is the problem? ☐ A Jin lost a boot ☐ B Lan was ill ☐ C The dog ran away

4 How was the problem solved?

5 How did Jin feel at the end? ☐ A happy ☐ B sad ☐ C worried



Real or Pretend?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Real or Pretend?

Read each sentence and decide: could it be real (nonfiction) or is it pretend (fiction)?

1 “The dragon sneezed and burned the castle.” ☐ A fiction ☐ B nonfiction

2 “A frog begins life as an egg.” ☐ A fiction ☐ B nonfiction

3 “The cat put on a hat and drove a bus.” ☐ A fiction ☐ B nonfiction

4 “Mount Everest is the tallest mountain on Earth.” ☐ A fiction

☐ B nonfiction

5 “The moon told the stars a secret.” ☐ A fiction ☐ B nonfiction

Ch. 1 · Nina and the Night Market

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| 1. B – rice cakes | 3. Her aunt dropped it and the cakes rolled across the stones. | 4. She called out to the customers; a line formed and the cakes sold. | 5. B – Nina's courage had been waiting inside her |
| 2. A – shy | | | |

Ch. 1 · Kofi's Big Drum

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1. B – The drum was too loud | 3. The festival drummer was ill and no one could keep the beat. | 4. Kofi's drum was too loud at home; it was just right for the festival. | 5. B – A talent can be useful at the right moment |
| 2. B – sad | | | |

Ch. 1 · The Mango Tree Race

- | | | | |
|------------|--|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. A – Raj | 2. The branch was too thin for her weight. | 3. A long bamboo pole. | 5. B – Working together solves problems |
| | | 4. B – They worked together | |

Ch. 2 · The Crow Who Shared

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. A – a fig tree | 3. He invited the other birds to eat. | 4. They brought him seeds. | 5. B – Kindness comes back to you |
| 2. He had eaten too many figs. | | | |

Ch. 2 · The Ant and the Dewdrop

- | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| 1. A – an ant | 3. She let the drop fall at its roots and the flower lifted its head. | 4. A – determined |
| 2. They thought one drop would not help. | | 5. A – Little efforts matter |

Ch. 2 · The Tortoise and the Monsoon

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. B – laughed at the tortoise | 3. It flooded. | 5. B – Preparing early protects you later |
| 2. She patched it with mud and stacked stones. | 4. She had prepared in advance. | |

Ch. 3 · Honeybees

- | | | | |
|--|------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. A – Bees do important work for flowers and for us | 2. Nectar. | 3. It helps them make seeds and fruit. | 4. A – honey |
| | | | 5. Apples, almonds or berries. |

Ch. 3 · Clues

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1. A – Baking | 3. B – an apple pie or baked treat | 4. He had been baking. | 5. Happy / hungry — the smell was nice. |
| 2. The windows were steamy. | | | |

Ch. 3 · Cats and Dogs

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. A – Both have fur and a tail | 3. B – cat | 4. Dogs bark; cats meow (or similar). | 5. But. |
| 2. B – dog | | | |

Ch. 3 · The Missing Boot

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| 1. Jin, Lan and the dog. | 3. A – Jin lost a boot | 5. A – happy |
| 2. A – A snowy morning at home | 4. Lan showed Jin the dog sleeping around the boot. | |

Ch. 4 · Real or Pretend?

1. A – fiction

2. B – nonfiction

3. A – fiction

4. B – nonfiction

5. A – fiction