

GRADE 3 • WORKBOOK

Grade 3 Reading & Writing

Stories, informational passages and writing prompts.

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20 pages • syllabus • answer key included



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Grade 3 Reading & Writing



Longer passages, closer reading skills and three types of writing prompts: narrative, opinion and informative.

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

Mei's Lantern	The Water Cycle
The Two Lanterns	Who Lives Here?
The Fox and the Fishing Net	Fact or Opinion?
Level 4: The Lost Puppy	Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5
The Market Day	Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5
The Empty Playground	Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

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Syllabus: what is inside

	Welcome and how to use this book	p. 1
	How the workbook works and what your child will learn	
1	Stories and fables	p. 3–6
	Mei's Lantern · The Two Lanterns · The Fox and the Fishing Net · Level 4: The Lost Puppy	
2	Reading skills	p. 7–10
	The Market Day · The Empty Playground · The Water Cycle · Who Lives Here?	
3	Informational text	p. 11
	Fact or Opinion?	
4	Writing prompts	p. 12–20
	Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 · Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 · Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5	
	Answer key	p. 21
	Answers for every sheet in the book	



Mei's Lantern

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

Mei's Lantern

An original story

Mei had worked for a week on her paper lantern. It was shaped like a fish, with scales of silver paper and a tail that curled like a wave.

On the evening of the festival, she carried it carefully down the street. But a gust of wind snatched it from her hands and sent it tumbling into the gutter. The tail was torn clean off.

Mei stared in dismay. Her grandfather picked up the lantern and studied it. "Don't throw it away," he said gently. "Let's see what it can become."

Together they cut a new tail from gold paper and made it flutter on a thin wire. When they lit the candle inside, the golden tail glowed and danced with every step Mei took.

Other children gathered around. "Where did you get such a wonderful fish?" they asked. Mei grinned. "It had a little accident," she said, "and became even better."

1 What was Mei's lantern shaped like? ☐ A a bird ☐ B a fish ☐ C a star

2 What caused the lantern to be damaged?

3 How did Mei's grandfather help?

4 Which word best describes Mei's feelings in paragraph two?

☐ A proud ☐ B dismayed ☐ C bored

5 What is the main message of the story? ☐ A Festivals are noisy

☐ B Mistakes can lead to something better ☐ C Always carry lanterns carefully



The Two Lanterns

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

The Two Lanterns

A fable

In a village at the edge of a forest, two lanterns hung at the gate. The first was made of gleaming brass and burned with a flame so bright it dazzled travellers.

The second was a plain paper lantern that gave only a soft, steady light. "You're hardly worth lighting," sneered the brass lantern.

But by midnight, the brass flame had burned through its oil and gone dark. The paper lantern, which used its oil carefully, was still glowing at dawn.

A weary traveller found his way home by its gentle light. Looking up, he said, "The one that lasts is the one that serves."

1 What was the brass lantern like?

2 Why did the paper lantern last until dawn?

3 Which word best describes the brass lantern? ☐ A boastful ☐ B gentle

☐ C patient

4 What did the traveller do? ☐ A Followed the paper lantern's light home

☐ B Bought the brass lantern ☐ C Slept at the gate

5 What is the moral? ☐ A Steady and reliable beats flashy ☐ B Brass is better than paper

☐ C Keep lanterns dark



The Fox and the Fishing Net

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

The Fox and the Fishing Net

A fable

A fox saw fishermen leave their nets on the shore. “Free fish!” he thought, and he crept closer.

A heron warned him: “That net is not yours. Fishermen will be back soon.” The fox sneered. “Mind your own business.”

He pulled a fish from the net — and his paw caught in the cords. The more he struggled, the more tangled he became.

The fishermen found him there at dawn. Though they let him go, the fox limped home with a sore leg and a lesson he never forgot.

1 What did the fox want? ☐ A the heron's nest ☐ B free fish ☐ C a boat

2 What did the heron say?

3 Why did the fox get tangled?

4 Which trait describes the fox? ☐ A greedy ☐ B shy ☐ C generous

5 What is the moral? ☐ A Take what is not yours and you may pay

☐ B Herons give good gifts ☐ C Fish are free

**Level 4: The Lost Puppy**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the story, then answer the questions.

Level 4: The Lost Puppy*Level 4*

On Saturday morning, Leo noticed that the garden gate was open and his puppy, Pepper, had disappeared.

“Pepper!” he called, running down the lane. He asked the baker, the postman and the girl who sold flowers. No one had seen a small brown puppy.

Leo was about to give up when he heard a tiny bark from behind the bakery. There, curled up beside a warm vent, was Pepper, nibbling a stale crust.

Leo scooped up the puppy and hugged him tightly. “Never run off again,” he said, though he was grinning. The baker handed him a bun. “For the search party,” she smiled.

1 What did Leo notice on Saturday morning? ☐ A The gate was open

☐ B It was raining ☐ C The baker was closed

2 Name two people Leo asked.

3 Where did Leo find Pepper? ☐ A in the park ☐ B behind the bakery

☐ C at home

4 Why was Pepper sitting by the vent?

5 How did Leo feel at the end? ☐ A relieved ☐ B bored ☐ C afraid



The Market Day

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

The Market Day

The market was

bustling

with people. Sellers shouted, children ran between the stalls and carts rolled over the stones.

Mina wanted a

ripe

peach. She pressed it gently; it was soft and sweet-smelling, so she knew it was ready to eat.

The baker was

generous

. He gave every child a free bun and never asked for a coin.

- 1 What does **bustling** mean? ☐ A empty and quiet ☐ B busy and noisy
☐ C dark and cold
- 2 What does **ripe** mean? ☐ A ready to eat ☐ B very small ☐ C made of wood
- 3 What clue in the passage told you what **generous** means?

-
- 4 Which word could replace **bustling** ? ☐ A lively ☐ B silent ☐ C sleepy

- 5 Write your own sentence using **ripe** .
-



The Empty Playground

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

The Empty Playground

On Saturday afternoon, the playground was empty. The swings hung still and a single scooter lay on its side near the gate. Dark clouds were gathering over the rooftops, and a low rumble rolled across the sky.

A boy ran past with his hood up, clutching a soccer ball under his jacket. "Hurry!" he shouted back to someone unseen.

1 Why was the playground empty? ☐ A A storm was coming ☐ B It was too hot
☐ C It was night

2 What clue shows the weather was changing?

3 Why did the boy hide the ball under his jacket?

4 What will probably happen next? ☐ A It will rain
☐ B The playground will fill with children ☐ C It will snow

5 Why do you think the scooter was left behind?



The Water Cycle

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

The Water Cycle

Water never stops moving. The sun heats oceans, rivers and lakes, and the water turns into an invisible gas called water vapour. This is called evaporation.

High in the sky, the vapour cools and turns back into tiny drops that form clouds. This is called condensation.

When the drops grow heavy, they fall as rain, snow or hail. This is precipitation. The water runs into streams and rivers and flows back to the sea, and the cycle starts again.

1 What is the main idea? ☐ A Water moves in a continuous cycle

☐ B Clouds are made of ice ☐ C Snow is cold

2 What is evaporation?

3 What forms clouds?

4 Which is NOT a form of precipitation? ☐ A rain ☐ B hail ☐ C vapour

5 Why is it called a cycle?



Who Lives Here?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Who Lives Here?

Outside the cottage were muddy boots, a spade and a basket of ripe tomatoes. A watering can sat by the door, and a straw hat hung on a hook. Rows of green plants stretched across the garden behind the house.

1 Who probably lives here? ☐ A A gardener ☐ B A pilot ☐ C A teacher

2 List two clues.

3 What season might it be? ☐ A Summer or autumn (harvest) ☐ B Deep winter

☐ C Spring snow

4 What are the tomatoes evidence of?

5 What might the person do next?

 Fact or Opinion?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Fact or Opinion?

A fact can be proved. An opinion tells what someone thinks or feels. Words like best, worst, boring and beautiful often show opinions.

1 “Dogs are the best pets.” ☐ A fact ☐ B opinion

2 “A spider has eight legs.” ☐ A fact ☐ B opinion

3 “Mathematics is boring.” ☐ A fact ☐ B opinion

4 “The Pacific is the largest ocean.” ☐ A fact ☐ B opinion

5 “Pizza tastes better than rice.” ☐ A fact ☐ B opinion



Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Write about a day when something surprising happened.

A mysterious box arrives at your door. Tell what happens next.



Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Describe a time you were very brave.

Write a story that begins: 'The lights went out and...'



Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

You find a door in a tree. Where does it lead?

Tell the story of your best day ever.



Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

What is the best pet to have? Give three reasons.

Should children have homework? Explain your opinion.



Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Which season is best? Why?

Is it better to read a book or watch a film? Say why.



Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Should schools have longer breaks? Give reasons.

What is the best sport to play? Convince your reader.



Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Explain how to make your favourite sandwich.

Write facts about an animal you know well.



Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Describe how a plant grows from a seed.

Explain how to brush your teeth properly.



Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

Plan your ideas, then write on the lines.

Tell what you know about your country or city.

Write about a famous person you admire and why.

Ch. 1 · Mei's Lantern

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1. B – a fish | 3. He helped her make a new gold tail. | 5. B – Mistakes can lead to something better |
| 2. A gust of wind snatched it and it fell into the gutter. | 4. B – dismayed | |

Ch. 1 · The Two Lanterns

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Very bright but it burned out. | 2. It used its oil carefully. | 4. A – Followed the paper lantern's light home | 5. A – Steady and reliable beats flashy |
| | 3. A – boastful | | |

Ch. 1 · The Fox and the Fishing Net

- | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. B – free fish | 2. That the net was not his and the fishermen would return. | 3. His paw caught in the cords when he took the fish. | 5. A – Take what is not yours and you may pay |
| | | 4. A – greedy | |

Ch. 1 · Level 4: The Lost Puppy

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. A – The gate was open | 2. The baker, the postman or the flower girl. | 3. B – behind the bakery | 5. A – relieved |
| | | 4. It was warm. | |

Ch. 2 · The Market Day

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. B – busy and noisy | 3. He gave free buns and never asked for money. | 4. A – lively |
| 2. A – ready to eat | | 5. Answers will vary. |

Ch. 2 · The Empty Playground

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A – A storm was coming | 2. Dark clouds and a rumble in the sky. | 3. To keep it dry. | 5. Someone left in a hurry. |
| | | 4. A – It will rain | |

Ch. 2 · The Water Cycle

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1. A – Water moves in a continuous cycle | 2. Water turning into vapour when heated by the sun. | 3. Vapour cooling into tiny drops (condensation). | 5. Because the process repeats and returns to the start. |
| | | 4. C – vapour | |

Ch. 2 · Who Lives Here?

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. A – A gardener | 3. A – Summer or autumn (harvest) | 4. The gardener's crop / harvest. | 5. Water the plants, pick more vegetables, etc. |
| 2. Spade, boots, watering can, tomatoes, hat. | | | |

Ch. 3 · Fact or Opinion?

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. B – opinion | 3. B – opinion | 5. B – opinion |
| 2. A – fact | 4. A – fact | |

Ch. 4 · Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet A

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Answers will vary — see the checklist. | 2. Answers will vary — see the checklist. |
|---|---|

Ch. 4 · Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet B

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Answers will vary — see the checklist. | 2. Answers will vary — see the checklist. |
|---|---|

Ch. 4 · Narrative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet C

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.

Ch. 4 · Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet A

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.

Ch. 4 · Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet B

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.

Ch. 4 · Opinion Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet C

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.

Ch. 4 · Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet A

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.

Ch. 4 · Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet B

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.

Ch. 4 · Informative Writing Prompts: Grades 3–5 – Sheet C

1. Answers will vary — see the checklist.
2. Answers will vary — see the checklist.