

# Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills™ 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

## DIBELS®

### *DIBELS® Oral Reading Fluency Progress Monitoring Second Grade Scoring Booklet*

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Available:

<http://dibels.uoregon.edu/>

Instructions:

This packet includes 2 parts: the second-grade scoring booklet and second-grade student materials. The scoring booklet is photocopied back to back and saddle stapled. The same booklet is used for each student for each progress monitoring assessment throughout the year. The second part is the reusable student materials. Make one copy for each person who is doing the progress monitoring testing. They can be laminated and comb bound for reuse.

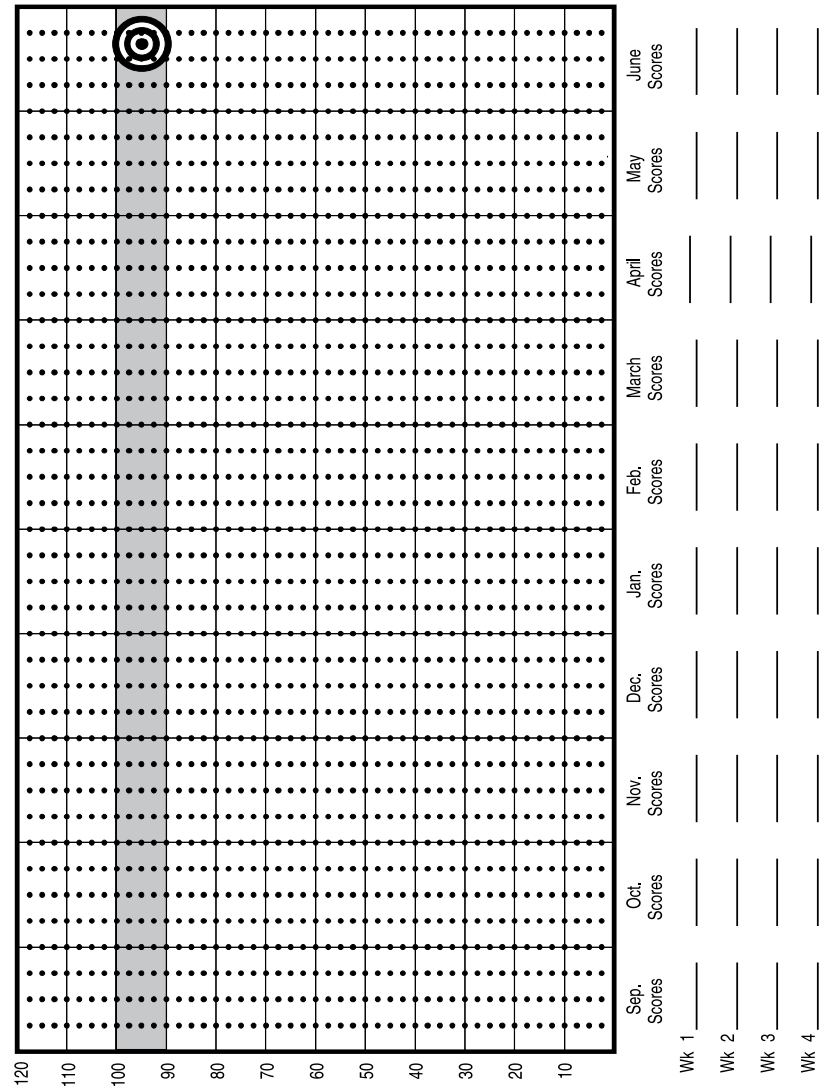
Good, R. H., & Kaminski, R. A., & Dill, S. (2007). DIBELS® Oral Reading Fluency. In R. H. Good & R. A. Kaminski (Eds.), *Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills* (6th ed.). Eugene, OR: Institute for the Development of Educational Achievement. Available: <http://dibels.uoregon.edu/>



# Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills™ 6th Ed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Second Grade Scoring Booklet Progress Monitoring Oral Reading Fluency

Revised 06/11/07

## DIBELS® Oral Reading Fluency

### Short Form Directions

Make sure you have reviewed the long form of the directions in the *DIBELS Administration and Scoring Guide* and have them available. Say these specific directions to the student:

***Please read this (point) out loud. If you get stuck, I will tell you the word so you can keep reading. When I say “Stop,” I may ask you to tell me about what you read, so do your best reading. Start here (point to the first word of the passage). Begin.***

Start your stopwatch when the student says the first word of the passage.

At the end of **1 minute**, place a bracket ( ] ) after the last word provided by the student, stop and reset the stopwatch, and say, **“Stop.”** (remove the passage)

If the student reads more than 10 words correct, proceed with the retell part. Say,

***Please tell me all about what you just read. Try to tell me everything you can. Begin.*** Start your stopwatch after you say “Begin.”

The first time the student does not say anything for 3 seconds, say, **“Try to tell me everything you can.”** This prompt can be used only once.

If the student does not say anything or gets off track for 5 seconds, circle the total number of words in the student’s retell and say, **“Stop.”**

At the end of **1 minute**, circle the total number of words in the student’s retell and say, **“Stop.”**

### Reminder

**Discontinue rule**—No words read correctly in the first row.

**Hesitation rule**—3 seconds—Tell the student the word. If

necessary, indicate for student to continue with next word.

Do not give passages #2 and #3 and do not administer retell if student reads fewer than 10 words correctly.

Notes:

## ORF Progress Monitoring 20

### My Friend Is From Korea

It all started last year. Our class decided to find a pen pal 13  
 from another country. I chose a girl my age from Korea. I wrote 26  
 to her and she wrote back! We found out we like a lot of the 41  
 same things. We both like our family. I told her all about my 54  
 little brother and how he makes me laugh. She told me about her 67  
 big sister who takes her on the bus to the movies. 78

We sent each other our picture and described where we live. 89  
 As we wrote more and more letters I learned about her and she 102  
 learned about me. We both like to eat, and dessert is our favorite 115  
 part. The food we eat is very different, though. Even the desserts 127  
 are different. Her favorite is Korean pear. My favorite is 137  
 strawberry ice cream. 140

My parents took me to the Asian Festival so I could sample 152  
 different Korean foods. I liked most of them. I liked the soups 164  
 with noodles in them the best. My friend said she tried some 176  
 American foods. She liked pizza but didn't like hot dogs. 186

We like to spend time learning about each other. My friend is 198  
 teaching me to count and to write my name. I am teaching her 211  
 the days of the week. I was surprised that her favorite song was 224  
 the same as my favorite song. I hope we are able to meet in 238  
 person someday. 240

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48		
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94		

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## ORF Progress Monitoring 1

### Riding the Bus to School

I ride a big yellow bus to school. I stand on the corner of our 15  
 street with my friends and we wait for the bus. My friend's 27  
 grandma waits with us. When it's raining, she holds an umbrella 38  
 to keep us dry. Sometimes when it's cold she brings us hot 50  
 chocolate. 51

I leave my house to walk to the bus stop after my parents go 65  
 to work. I watch the clock so I know when to leave. Sometimes 78  
 mom phones me from her office to remind me. Sometimes she 89  
 can't call, so I have to be sure to watch the time. 101

Our bus driver puts his flashing yellow lights on and then 112  
 stops right next to us. When he has stopped he turns the red 125  
 lights on so all the cars will stop. He makes sure we are all 139  
 sitting down before he starts to go. He watches out for us very 152  
 carefully. 153

My friends and I are the first ones to be picked up by the bus. 168  
 We like to sit right behind the bus driver and watch while he 181  
 picks up all the other kids. We know where everyone lives. By 193  
 the time we get to our school, the bus is almost full. Sometimes 206  
 the kids get noisy and the driver has to remind us to keep it 220  
 down. He says their noise makes it hard for him to concentrate 232  
 and drive safely. I am glad that our bus driver is so careful. 245

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48		
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94		

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### ORF Progress Monitoring 19

#### Riding the Elevator

15 Today I got to go as high as a tall, tall mountain, but I wasn't  
30 outside and I didn't climb a trail to get there. I was inside all the  
43 time because I was riding in an elevator that went up almost a  
56 mile high. I went with my mother to visit her friend. Her friend  
65 works in a building that is 44 stories tall.  
76 We took a taxi downtown to the building. We went inside  
88 and looked for the elevator. When we got on, there were four  
99 other people already on it. Everyone pushed a button for the  
110 floor they wanted. My mother pressed the button for the 44th  
111 floor.  
123 The elevator started going up. The other people all got off by  
135 the tenth floor and we were the only ones left. The elevator  
151 moved so fast I had to hold on to the bar. My mom held my hand  
155 and smiled at me.  
166 "Isn't this exciting?" she asked. I nodded but my tummy felt  
180 funny. It felt like I needed to eat lunch. My ears felt funny also.  
195 My mom said it was because we had gone up so high that the air  
204 pressure was different. Finally the elevator slowed and stopped.  
215 "We're here," said mom. While we were up so high we  
227 visited the observation deck. There was quite a view. It felt like  
241 we could see all the way to the next state. My mom's friend says  
252 when there is a storm it is really exciting to watch.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
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76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94						

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### ORF Progress Monitoring 2

#### Twins

11 Six years ago my family grew from two people to four  
25 people in one day. That was the day my sister and I were born.  
38 That was the day Mom and Dad had to start buying two of  
49 everything. My mom and dad say we were much more than  
62 twice the work of one baby. They also said we gave back more  
69 than twice as much love and fun.  
80 We look just alike because we are identical twins, but we  
94 don't act just the same. My sister likes peas and beans and I hate  
107 them. I like grape juice and she likes apple juice. She likes to  
118 read. I would rather climb a tree than read a book.  
131 Mom and Dad are the only ones who can tell us apart when  
145 we dress the same. They know the secret. I have a mole on my  
158 ear and my sister doesn't. We look so much alike that we can  
163 even fool Grandma and Grandpa.  
174 It's nice to be a twin sometimes. We always have someone  
185 our own age who will share our secrets. Sometimes we don't  
197 want to share everything. Sometimes it is nice to have my mom  
210 or my toys all to myself. Dad says we aren't really that much  
219 alike because no person is exactly like anyone else.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORF Progress Monitoring 18**

If I Had a Cat

If I had a cat, I'd name her Princess. I'd treat her just like a princess. She would wear a gold ribbon with a big bow around her neck. She'd sleep on a red velvet pillow. She'd eat out of a fancy dish just like that white cat on TV.

My cat Princess would have green eyes. Her eyes would be narrow slits most of the time. Her eyes would be as wide as marbles whenever she looked at me. She would like me the very best of all the people in the world.

I can't have a cat because I have allergies. When I touch a cat my nose starts itching. If I touch my face after touching a cat, my eyes swell up. Sometimes I have trouble breathing. My mom has to give me medicine when that happens. If I'm at school when I have trouble breathing I have to go to the office and see the nurse.

Our neighbor has a cat named Gray Kitty. Gray Kitty likes me. He always comes up and rubs my legs. Even if I don't touch him I might start itching. I feel bad that I have to run away from Gray Kitty, because he likes me.

One day our neighbor surprised me. She gave me a cat of my own! Not a real live cat, but a stuffed one. She has silky fur and big green eyes and a gold ribbon with a big bow around her neck. I named her Princess and I can hold her all I want.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48		
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72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94		

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORF Progress Monitoring 3**

Open House at My School

We had open house at my school last week. My whole family went: my mom, my grandma, and I. We sat together at my table in my room. It was a tight squeeze for my mom and grandma, but they made it. My class has second and third graders in it. Some of my friends were there and their families came, too. My best friend was there. His stepfather and mother sat with him at his table. They took up the whole table because his little brother came along. I waved at him.

My other friend and her big sister came, too. Their family had two classes to visit at the same time because her brother goes to my school, too. Her mom went to her brother's room, and her big sister came to her room.

I like my teacher a lot. Our room looked really nice. Our teacher had been saving all of our best penmanship and drawings. They were hung all over the walls. My grandmother could tell right away which ones were mine. She used to be an artist. She says I take after her.

My teacher told all the parents how important it is for them to make sure we do our homework. He said anytime they have questions about us they can talk to him. Afterwards he talked to my mom and me. He said what a good job I was doing and my mom gave me a big hug when we left.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48		
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94		

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORF Progress Monitoring 17**

**I Want to Be a Police Officer**

13 I decided I wanted to be a police officer the day two officers  
 26 came to our school. They brought a police dog that is a member  
 40 of their team. They told us all about their jobs and how the police  
 51 dog works with them. They said the police spend more time  
 62 helping people than anything else. They go wherever there is a  
 68 problem and they try to help.  
 80 The police dog is an important part of the team. A trained  
 90 dog can find missing people after smelling their clothes. He can  
 104 help find people who are lost in the woods and he can lead  
 116 them out. The officer said that police dogs work hard but they  
 122 like to play when they can.  
 135 We were allowed to play with the police dog when he was at  
 148 our school. We played hide the ball. We tried to find the best  
 161 place in the playground to hide the ball. The police dog tried to  
 177 find the ball using only his nose. He gave us a big wag of his tail  
 181 when he found it.  
 193 When a police dog is working, he is very serious and doesn't  
 204 play around. He listens carefully to the commands he is given  
 215 and he starts work right away. He doesn't care about playing  
 231 because he knows he has a job to do. I want to be a police officer  
 246 when I grow up so I can help people, too. Maybe I'll be able to  
 252 work with a police dog someday.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94						

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORF Progress Monitoring 4**

**Colors of the Rainbow**

12 I decided my favorite color is the rainbow. It has all the  
 25 colors in it: red, yellow, blue, green, and purple. They are all my  
 34 favorite colors. How could I ever choose just one?  
 46 Red makes me feel like smiling. I love red cards and shiny  
 59 red apples. My favorite type of candy is a red gum drop. My  
 74 favorite flower is a red rose. I'm happy when I get to see a red  
 75 sunset.  
 88 Blue makes me feel like taking a nap. My bed is fluffy blue  
 102 and white with clouds all over it. I love the blue sky and ocean.  
 112 Blue bubble gum is the best flavor of ice cream.  
 124 Yellow makes me feel like jumping rope. I love the sun in  
 137 summer and the full moon in the fall. Our meadow is full of  
 149 yellow flowers that dance in the breeze. Applesauce is one of my  
 160 favorite treats, and it is kind of yellow. Fuzzy yellow ducklings  
 176 always make me laugh.  
 188 Green makes me feel like climbing a tree. I love playing in  
 201 the grass and the fields. Green gummy bears and pears are my  
 203 special snacks. My favorite place to go is a park filled with trees  
 214 and grass.  
 225 Purple makes me feel like eating grapes. I use my purple  
 236 crayon so much it is almost gone. My favorite backpack is  
 243 purple, too. Whenever anyone asks me what my favorite color is,  
 I tell them it is a rainbow.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94						

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## ORF Progress Monitoring 16

### Going to the Movies at Home

I love going to the movies. My favorite place to go to a 13  
 movie is not at the theater, though. My family doesn't like to go 26  
 to the theater. Mom says we have to plan ahead so we don't miss 40  
 the first part of the movie. Dad says we have to hunt for a 54  
 parking place. My big brother says if we are late we have to take 68  
 the worst seats. My sister says it's too noisy. 77

The favorite place for my family to see movies is at home. 89  
 We don't have to find a parking place. We have the best seats in 103  
 the house, our big soft couch. We can even lie on the floor on 117  
 pillows if we want to. We don't even have to wear shoes. 129

We can watch a movie anytime we want. Even our dog, 140  
 Boots, can watch the movies with us. Sometimes I can invite my 152  
 friend or my cousin over. The popcorn is free at home and we 165  
 can have all the seconds we want. 172

Sometimes Mom and Dad let me pick out the movie with 183  
 their help. We go to the video store and rent it for the night or the 199  
 weekend. On special nights Mom and Dad let me rent two 210  
 movies. Dad makes the popcorn and we all get comfortable in 221  
 the family room. I love going to the movies. 230

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48		
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94		

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## ORF Progress Monitoring 5

### The Wind Has a Job to Do

I learned that the wind is important for more than flying kites 12  
 or making our wind chime make music. Without the wind, our 23  
 world wouldn't have any people, food, or animals. Wind moves 33  
 the heat from the sun all around the planet. Without the wind, 45  
 about half of the earth would be too hot for any living thing. 58  
 Most of the rest of the earth would be too cold. In fact, most of 73  
 our country would be under ice. 79

Wind is useful to all living things. It brings moisture up from 91  
 the oceans into the air. Then the wind blows the moisture 102  
 around. The moisture falls as rain, dew, or snow and ice. 113

Many plants and trees depend on the wind. The wind helps 124  
 them spread their seeds to new places. Wind also blows pollen 135  
 around so trees, grass, and grains can ripen. Without the wind, 146  
 farmers couldn't grow corn or wheat. Bees help the wind spread 157  
 pollen. Their job is to fly from blossom to blossom with pollen 169  
 on their feet and wings. 174

You can see for yourself how the wind spreads seeds. The 185  
 next time you see a yellow dandelion that has turned into a white 198  
 puffball, blow it. Or, if you find a maple tree seed with wings 211  
 that looks like a helicopter, throw it. You'll see all of the seeds 224  
 go flying and you will be helping the wind do its job. 236

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48		
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94		

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_



**ORF Progress Monitoring 15**

Going to a Play

12 I went to the play "The Princess and the Pea" with my

23 friends. The play was performed at the King Theater. Our seats

36 were in the front row. When the play was about to begin, the

47 lights were turned down low. When the curtain opened and the

61 stage lights came on, we could see a castle in the clouds on the

69 stage. Then people walked out on the stage.

80 Sitting in the front row was fun. We could see everything

93 that was happening on the stage. All the actors were so close to

106 us we could see the makeup on their faces. Even the men and

117 boys wore makeup. We could watch some of the people behind

130 the curtain as they moved the lights or prepared to go on stage.

142 At the end of the first act, about halfway through the play,

156 the actors took a break. The lights came on and we got up from

168 our seats. We walked out to the lobby to have punch and

178 cookies. When the lights were turned down again we hurried

190 back to our seats. When the curtain opened for the second act,

199 we saw the woods and gardens around the castle.

209 Everyone clapped when the play was over. The actors came

224 out on stage and bowed. I took my program up to the stage so the

238 actors could sign it. They asked if we liked the play. We said we

242 liked it very much.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_ ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
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76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94						

Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORF Progress Monitoring 6**

Writing My Life Story

12 Today our teacher said we would each write a story. She said

26 if we wanted we could draw pictures to go with it. I decided to

41 write my life story. I started with the night I was born. I drew a

55 picture of me as a tiny baby. I wrote about what my first words

62 were and how I liked to play.

73 When I was little I was always making tall towers. My

85 grandfather said he thought I would build hotels when I grew up.

95 I drew a picture of me playing with my blocks.

109 I also liked to ride my scooter and swing on the swings in the

123 park. I drew pictures of me on my scooter and a picture of my

136 dad pushing me on the swing. The next picture is of me licking

150 an ice cream cone and getting it all over me. I still love chocolate

152 ice cream.

165 Then I wrote about my first day at school. I wrote about how

179 I cried and cried because I didn't want my mother to leave me. I

194 made a drawing of me with a sad face. The last page is about my

206 last birthday party. I drew of picture of me blowing out the

218 candles on my birthday cake. There are six candles and I blew

221 them all out.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

ORF Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell: \_\_\_\_\_

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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## ORF Progress Monitoring 14

### I'm Adopted

My mother and father wanted me so much they adopted me. 11  
 They said there were already too many children without homes. 21  
 They wanted to make a family with a child who needed a home 34  
 so they started looking for a baby girl to adopt. 44

They said they didn't care what she looked like or what 55  
 country she came from. All they cared about was that she was 67  
 healthy and that she needed a family to love her. They searched 79  
 for just the right little girl who needed a home. Finally, they 91  
 found her. 93

It just so happened that I was that little girl. My mother and 106  
 father found me when I was three months old. They said when 118  
 they saw me it was love at first sight. They could tell I loved 132  
 them, too, so they took me home and made me their little girl. I 146  
 don't remember it ever being any different. 153

Last year we decided it would be nice to add a little brother 166  
 to our family. We looked and looked for a little boy who needed 179  
 a family. It took a long time for everything to be arranged, but 192  
 now I have a little brother. He isn't big enough to play with yet, 206  
 but he likes to be held and walked. I think he likes me already. 220  
 We are a pretty special family. 226

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## ORF Progress Monitoring 7

### I'm a Good Babysitter

When I turned twelve years old I got to babysit for the first 13  
 time. My aunt asked my parents if I could babysit my cousin. My 26  
 aunt and uncle wanted to go to the movies. They said they would 39  
 pay me! My cousin is two and still wears diapers. She knows me 52  
 pretty well because my mother and my aunt are sisters. We 63  
 spend a lot of weekends together and we live in the same town. 76

My parents talked it over and said yes. My uncle picked me 88  
 up after supper and took me to their house. My cousin was 100  
 waiting at the door. She was ready for bed and wearing her 112  
 slippers. My aunt told me when to change her and put her in bed. 126

My aunt said we could both have graham crackers and apple 137  
 juice for a snack and that my cousin loved bedtime stories. She 149  
 gave me her cell phone number in case I had a problem. Mom 162  
 called me about three times while I was babysitting. She said it 174  
 was to make sure I was doing okay. 182

My cousin didn't even cry when her mom and dad drove 193  
 away. I read her *Goodnight, Moon* and *Pat the Bunny*. I 204  
 washed her face and changed her. She didn't even cry when I put 217  
 her in bed. Once my aunt called to see if everything was all right. 231  
 I just watched TV until they came home. I think babysitting is 243  
 fun and I hope my aunt asks me again. 252

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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### ORF Progress Monitoring 13

#### Going to the Swimming Pool

12 On a hot summer day there's nothing I like better than going  
25 to the pool. Besides cooling off in the water, there are lots of  
40 things to do. I can swim laps or have races with my friends. I can  
55 do a cannonball when I jump in. I like to jump in with a big  
68 splash when my friends are not looking so I get them all wet.  
79 Sometimes I pretend I'm a giant whale, and sometimes we play  
83 games like water tag.  
96 There are water slides at the pool, too. One slide is very tall  
110 and crooked. It tosses you out in the water when you get to the  
123 bottom. The other slide is wide and you can go down it with  
125 your friends.  
139 I like the wave pool the best. My friends and I watch for the  
153 big waves to come our way. We body surf on top of the wave  
166 and let it move us across the pool. Sometimes my friend and I  
181 get on a raft and wait for the wave to push us. Sometimes we just  
187 float along when the waves come.  
200 You can have a great time if you just remember the rules: no  
212 running and no pushing anyone into the water. Mom has her own  
222 rule. She says we should always remember to wear our  
227 sunscreen to protect our skin.

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### ORF Progress Monitoring 8

#### Playing Shuffleboard With Grandpa

10 There is a shuffleboard court where my grandpa lives. Most  
21 of the men there play shuffleboard. Grandpa likes to play and  
34 sometimes he takes me with him. He says I can be his partner  
44 anytime. Grandpa is a very good player and often wins.  
53 Shuffleboard is played on a very smooth walk. Grandpa  
66 waxes the walk before a game. Each player uses a long stick to  
79 push disks down the walk. You try to get the disks into spaces  
90 marked with numbers. You can get seven, eight, or ten points.  
103 You can lose ten points if your disk lands in the wrong section.  
115 You have to be very careful about how you push the disks.  
125 Grandpa taught me how to play shuffleboard when I was  
139 five. He says the secret to playing well is to push the disk very  
153 smoothly. If you push too fast, the disk goes much too far. If you  
164 jerk the stick, it goes off the side of the court.  
175 Last week there was a special family day at my grandpa's  
185 place. There were contests and games for people to play.  
197 Grandpa said I could be his partner in shuffleboard. We got the  
210 most points of any of the other teams and won a blue ribbon.  
219 Grandpa says I'm the shuffleboard champ of all time.

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## ORF Progress Monitoring 12

### When Grandpa and I Garden

When I visit Grandpa he lets me help him in his garden. 12  
 Grandpa says I have a green thumb. I don't know why he says 25  
 that because my hands always get dark brown from the dirt. 36  
 We made a space in his garden just for me to grow things. 49  
 We pulled up the weeds and made the dirt smooth and flat. 61  
 Grandpa showed me how to use a hoe. He let me pick seeds to 75  
 plant. I like to eat radishes and carrots so I wanted to plant those. 89  
 I have one row of each. Grandpa likes strawberries so he grows 101  
 those. He said I could eat some anytime I want. 111  
 Together we planted four rows of corn and two rows of 122  
 beans. Grandpa also planted potatoes and squash. The plants are 132  
 starting to come up now. At first they were so tiny I could hardly 146  
 see them. When the days warmed up, the plants shot up like 158  
 weeds. Now the strawberries are turning red. 165  
 It's a lot of work having a garden. We have to keep it 178  
 watered and pull the weeds. We have to watch out for bugs and 191  
 slugs. All the work is worth it when the strawberries are ready to 204  
 pick. We have strawberry short cake for dessert with fresh ripe 215  
 strawberries from the garden! 219

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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## ORF Progress Monitoring 9

### I Want to Fly in Space

When I grow up I want to fly in space. I have my plan all 15  
 worked out. First I will go to college and then I am going to 29  
 learn how to fly planes. I will fly very fast planes that can go 43  
 faster than the speed of sound. When I can fly planes very well, I 57  
 will learn how to fly space ships. 64  
 I will get to wear a silvery space suit and live inside a space 78  
 ship. I will be inside the space ship when we blast into space. 91  
 When I am up in space, I will watch the sun and moon come up 106  
 every day. I will be so close to the stars that I can count them. 121  
 Maybe I will see other space ships and wave as they go by. I will 136  
 float around whenever I want. It will be just like flying. 147  
 I will get to put on my space suit and walk in space. When I 162  
 look down I will see the green and blue earth far below. I might 176  
 even be able to see where I live. I will be on TV to describe what 192  
 I see. The whole world will be watching and listening to me. 204  
 When we get to the moon, I will walk all across the surface. 217  
 It will be dusty and crunchy. I will pick up samples of moon 230  
 rocks to bring back. I want to drive all over the moon in a little 245  
 moon buggy. I will plant the flag on the moon. I might even see 259  
 some little green aliens running around. I can't wait to fly in 271  
 space. 272

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### ORF Progress Monitoring 11

#### We Celebrate Kwanzaa

8 One holiday celebrated by African Americans is Kwanzaa.  
17 Kwanzaa means a gathering time like Thanksgiving. It means  
29 not only the gathering of foods for the winter, but also the  
40 gathering of family. It began in Africa many years ago. The  
52 holiday reminds us of the way of life of the first African  
53 Americans.  
64 In America, houses are decorated in black, red, and green for  
75 Kwanzaa. Black stands for the color of the people. Red reminds  
87 us of our struggle. Green is for Africa and hope. Seven candles  
103 are on the table, one for each rule for how to live. An ear of corn  
115 for each child in the family is on the table. Everyone wears  
118 colorful African clothes.  
129 The party lasts for seven days, from the day after Christmas  
142 to New Year's day. We do not eat during the day. Every night  
155 we feast and light a new candle. For dinner we have chicken and  
166 catfish. We add greens, black-eyed peas and corn bread. For  
177 dessert we have sweet potato pie and carrot cake. After dinner  
182 we play music and dance.  
193 Kwanzaa is also a time for older family members to tell  
204 stories. We remember those who have lived before us. On the  
216 sixth night we give presents to each other. Kwanzaa is a very  
221 special time for our family.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

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Retell Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### ORF Progress Monitoring 10

#### The New Bookstore

13 Grandma said, "I want to take you and your sister to the new  
25 bookstore at the mall." She picked us up from school and drove  
38 us to the mall. The bookstore is huge. There are books on pets,  
48 gardens, hobbies, and travel. There are rows of magazines and  
57 papers. There are tapes, videos, greeting cards, and calendars.  
70 The new bookstore is so big it even has a place to get  
82 something to eat. We asked Grandma if we could have a snack.  
93 She said that we could have cookies and juice. Grandma had  
94 coffee.  
103 Grandma wanted to look at the cookbook section. She  
115 showed us where she would be. Then she took us to the  
126 children's corner. It was perfect for us. There were pillows and  
137 stuffed toys everywhere. The tables and chairs were all our size.  
151 There were more books than I had ever seen in one place. It was  
162 even bigger than the library. My sister started looking at picture  
169 books. I found books about magic tricks.  
181 Grandma found us and said she was almost ready to go. She  
195 said because we were so good we could each pick out a book to  
209 buy. My sister got *When You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. I got a  
214 book about secret magic tricks.

Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills™ 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

## DIBELS®

### *DIBELS® Oral Reading Fluency Progress Monitoring Second Grade Student Materials*

Edited By:

Roland H. Good III

Ruth A. Kaminski

*University of Oregon*

*Dynamic Measurement Group, Inc.*

Sheila Dill

*Dynamic Measurement Group, Inc*

Available:

<http://dibels.uoregon.edu/>

Instructions:

These are reusable student materials. Make one copy for each person who is doing the progress monitoring testing. They can be laminated and comb bound for reuse.

Good, R. H., & Kaminski, R. A. , & Dill, S. (2007). DIBELS® Oral Reading Fluency. In R. H. Good & R. A. Kaminski (Eds.), *Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills* (6th ed.). Eugene, OR: Institute for the Development of Educational Achievement. Available: <http://dibels.uoregon.edu/>

## Riding the Bus to School

I ride a big yellow bus to school. I stand on the corner of our street with my friends and we wait for the bus. My friend's grandma waits with us. When it's raining, she holds an umbrella to keep us dry. Sometimes when it's cold she brings us hot chocolate.

I leave my house to walk to the bus stop after my parents go to work. I watch the clock so I know when to leave. Sometimes mom phones me from her office to remind me. Sometimes she can't call, so I have to be sure to watch the time.

Our bus driver puts his flashing yellow lights on and then stops right next to us. When he has stopped he turns the red lights on so all the cars will stop. He makes sure we are all sitting down before he starts to go. He watches out for us very carefully.

My friends and I are the first ones to be picked up by the bus. We like to sit right behind the bus driver and watch while he picks up all the other kids. We know where everyone lives. By the time we get to our school, the bus is almost full. Sometimes the kids get noisy and the driver has to remind us to keep it down. He says their noise makes it hard for him to concentrate and drive safely. I am glad that our bus driver is so careful.

## Twins

Six years ago my family grew from two people to four people in one day. That was the day my sister and I were born. That was the day Mom and Dad had to start buying two of everything. My mom and dad say we were much more than twice the work of one baby. They also said we gave back more than twice as much love and fun.

We look just alike because we are identical twins, but we don't act just the same. My sister likes peas and beans and I hate them. I like grape juice and she likes apple juice. She likes to read. I would rather climb a tree than read a book.

Mom and Dad are the only ones who can tell us apart when we dress the same. They know the secret. I have a mole on my ear and my sister doesn't. We look so much alike that we can even fool Grandma and Grandpa.

It's nice to be a twin sometimes. We always have someone our own age who will share our secrets. Sometimes we don't want to share everything. Sometimes it is nice to have my mom or my toys all to myself. Dad says we aren't really that much alike because no person is exactly like anyone else.



## Open House at My School

We had open house at my school last week. My whole family went: my mom, my grandma, and I. We sat together at my table in my room. It was a tight squeeze for my mom and grandma, but they made it. My class has second and third graders in it. Some of my friends were there and their families came, too. My best friend was there. His stepfather and mother sat with him at his table. They took up the whole table because his little brother came along. I waved at him.

My other friend and her big sister came, too. Their family had two classes to visit at the same time because her brother goes to my school, too. Her mom went to her brother's room, and her big sister came to her room.

I like my teacher a lot. Our room looked really nice. Our teacher had been saving all of our best penmanship and drawings. They were hung all over the walls. My grandmother could tell right away which ones were mine. She used to be an artist. She says I take after her.

My teacher told all the parents how important it is for them to make sure we do our homework. He said anytime they have questions about us they can talk to him. Afterwards he talked to my mom and me. He said what a good job I was doing and my mom gave me a big hug when we left.

## Colors of the Rainbow

I decided my favorite color is the rainbow. It has all the colors in it: red, yellow, blue, green, and purple. They are all my favorite colors. How could I ever choose just one?

Red makes me feel like smiling. I love red cards and shiny red apples. My favorite type of candy is a red gum drop. My favorite flower is a red rose. I'm happy when I get to see a red sunset.

Blue makes me feel like taking a nap. My bed is fluffy blue and white with clouds all over it. I love the blue sky and ocean. Blue bubble gum is the best flavor of ice cream.

Yellow makes me feel like jumping rope. I love the sun in summer and the full moon in the fall. Our meadow is full of yellow flowers that dance in the breeze. Applesauce is one of my favorite treats, and it is kind of yellow. Fuzzy yellow ducklings always make me laugh.

Green makes me feel like climbing a tree. I love playing in the grass and the fields. Green gummy bears and pears are my special snacks. My favorite place to go is a park filled with trees and grass.

Purple makes me feel like eating grapes. I use my purple crayon so much it is almost gone. My favorite backpack is purple, too. Whenever anyone asks me what my favorite color is, I tell them it is a rainbow.

## The Wind Has a Job to Do

I learned that the wind is important for more than flying kites or making our wind chime make music. Without the wind, our world wouldn't have any people, food, or animals. Wind moves the heat from the sun all around the planet. Without the wind, about half of the earth would be too hot for any living thing. Most of the rest of the earth would be too cold. In fact, most of our country would be under ice.

Wind is useful to all living things. It brings moisture up from the oceans into the air. Then the wind blows the moisture around. The moisture falls as rain, dew, or snow and ice.

Many plants and trees depend on the wind. The wind helps them spread their seeds to new places. Wind also blows pollen around so trees, grass, and grains can ripen. Without the wind, farmers couldn't grow corn or wheat. Bees help the wind spread pollen. Their job is to fly from blossom to blossom with pollen on their feet and wings.

You can see for yourself how the wind spreads seeds. The next time you see a yellow dandelion that has turned into a white puffball, blow it. Or, if you find a maple tree seed with wings that looks like a helicopter, throw it. You'll see all of the seeds go flying and you will be helping the wind do its job.

## Writing My Life Story

Today our teacher said we would each write a story. She said if we wanted we could draw pictures to go with it. I decided to write my life story. I started with the night I was born. I drew a picture of me as a tiny baby. I wrote about what my first words were and how I liked to play.

When I was little I was always making tall towers. My grandfather said he thought I would build hotels when I grew up. I drew a picture of me playing with my blocks.

I also liked to ride my scooter and swing on the swings in the park. I drew pictures of me on my scooter and a picture of my dad pushing me on the swing. The next picture is of me licking an ice cream cone and getting it all over me. I still love chocolate ice cream.

Then I wrote about my first day at school. I wrote about how I cried and cried because I didn't want my mother to leave me. I made a drawing of me with a sad face. The last page is about my last birthday party. I drew of picture of me blowing out the candles on my birthday cake. There are six candles and I blew them all out.

## I'm a Good Babysitter

When I turned twelve years old I got to babysit for the first time. My aunt asked my parents if I could babysit my cousin. My aunt and uncle wanted to go to the movies. They said they would pay me! My cousin is two and still wears diapers. She knows me pretty well because my mother and my aunt are sisters. We spend a lot of weekends together and we live in the same town.

My parents talked it over and said yes. My uncle picked me up after supper and took me to their house. My cousin was waiting at the door. She was ready for bed and wearing her slippers. My aunt told me when to change her and put her in bed.

My aunt said we could both have graham crackers and apple juice for a snack and that my cousin loved bedtime stories. She gave me her cell phone number in case I had a problem. Mom called me about three times while I was babysitting. She said it was to make sure I was doing okay.

My cousin didn't even cry when her mom and dad drove away. I read her *Goodnight, Moon* and *Pat the Bunny*. I washed her face and changed her. She didn't even cry when I put her in bed. Once my aunt called to see if everything was all right. I just watched TV until they came home. I think babysitting is fun and I hope my aunt asks me again.

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Last week there was a special family day at my grandpa's place. There were contests and games for people to play. Grandpa said I could be his partner in shuffleboard. We got the most points of any of the other teams and won a blue ribbon. Grandpa says I'm the shuffleboard champ of all time.

## I Want to Fly in Space

When I grow up I want to fly in space. I have my plan all worked out. First I will go to college and then I am going to learn how to fly planes. I will fly very fast planes that can go faster than the speed of sound. When I can fly planes very well, I will learn how to fly space ships.

I will get to wear a silvery space suit and live inside a space ship. I will be inside the space ship when we blast into space. When I am up in space, I will watch the sun and moon come up every day. I will be so close to the stars that I can count them. Maybe I will see other space ships and wave as they go by. I will float around whenever I want. It will be just like flying.

I will get to put on my space suit and walk in space. When I look down I will see the green and blue earth far below. I might even be able to see where I live. I will be on TV to describe what I see. The whole world will be watching and listening to me.

When we get to the moon, I will walk all across the surface. It will be dusty and crunchy. I will pick up samples of moon rocks to bring back. I want to drive all over the moon in a little moon buggy. I will plant the flag on the moon. I might even see some little green aliens running around. I can't wait to fly in space.

## The New Bookstore

Grandma said, “I want to take you and your sister to the new bookstore at the mall.” She picked us up from school and drove us to the mall. The bookstore is huge. There are books on pets, gardens, hobbies, and travel. There are rows of magazines and papers. There are tapes, videos, greeting cards, and calendars.

The new bookstore is so big it even has a place to get something to eat. We asked Grandma if we could have a snack. She said that we could have cookies and juice. Grandma had coffee.

Grandma wanted to look at the cookbook section. She showed us where she would be. Then she took us to the children’s corner. It was perfect for us. There were pillows and stuffed toys everywhere. The tables and chairs were all our size. There were more books than I had ever seen in one place. It was even bigger than the library. My sister started looking at picture books. I found books about magic tricks.

Grandma found us and said she was almost ready to go. She said because we were so good we could each pick out a book to buy. My sister got *When You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. I got a book about secret magic tricks.



## We Celebrate Kwanzaa

One holiday celebrated by African Americans is Kwanzaa. Kwanzaa means a gathering time like Thanksgiving. It means not only the gathering of foods for the winter, but also the gathering of family. It began in Africa many years ago. The holiday reminds us of the way of life of the first African Americans.

In America, houses are decorated in black, red, and green for Kwanzaa. Black stands for the color of the people. Red reminds us of our struggle. Green is for Africa and hope. Seven candles are on the table, one for each rule for how to live. An ear of corn for each child in the family is on the table. Everyone wears colorful African clothes.

The party lasts for seven days, from the day after Christmas to New Years' day. We do not eat during the day. Every night we feast and light a new candle. For dinner we have chicken and catfish. We add greens, black-eyed peas and corn bread. For dessert we have sweet potato pie and carrot cake. After dinner we play music and dance.

Kwanzaa is also a time for older family members to tell stories. We remember those who have lived before us. On the sixth night we give presents to each other. Kwanzaa is a very special time for our family.

## When Grandpa and I Garden

When I visit Grandpa he lets me help him in his garden. Grandpa says I have a green thumb. I don't know why he says that because my hands always get dark brown from the dirt.

We made a space in his garden just for me to grow things. We pulled up the weeds and made the dirt smooth and flat. Grandpa showed me how to use a hoe. He let me pick seeds to plant. I like to eat radishes and carrots so I wanted to plant those. I have one row of each. Grandpa likes strawberries so he grows those. He said I could eat some anytime I want.

Together we planted four rows of corn and two rows of beans. Grandpa also planted potatoes and squash. The plants are starting to come up now. At first they were so tiny I could hardly see them. When the days warmed up, the plants shot up like weeds. Now the strawberries are turning red.

It's a lot of work having a garden. We have to keep it watered and pull the weeds. We have to watch out for bugs and slugs. All the work is worth it when the strawberries are ready to pick. We have strawberry short cake for dessert with fresh ripe strawberries from the garden!

## Going to the Swimming Pool

On a hot summer day there's nothing I like better than going to the pool. Besides cooling off in the water, there are lots of things to do. I can swim laps or have races with my friends. I can do a cannonball when I jump in. I like to jump in with a big splash when my friends are not looking so I get them all wet. Sometimes I pretend I'm a giant whale, and sometimes we play games like water tag.

There are water slides at the pool, too. One slide is very tall and crooked. It tosses you out in the water when you get to the bottom. The other slide is wide and you can go down it with your friends.

I like the wave pool the best. My friends and I watch for the big waves to come our way. We body surf on top of the wave and let it move us across the pool. Sometimes my friend and I get on a raft and wait for the wave to push us. Sometimes we just float along when the waves come.

You can have a great time if you just remember the rules: no running and no pushing anyone into the water. Mom has her own rule. She says we should always remember to wear our sunscreen to protect our skin.

## I'm Adopted

My mother and father wanted me so much they adopted me. They said there were already too many children without homes. They wanted to make a family with a child who needed a home so they started looking for a baby girl to adopt.

They said they didn't care what she looked like or what country she came from. All they cared about was that she was healthy and that she needed a family to love her. They searched for just the right little girl who needed a home. Finally, they found her.

It just so happened that I was that little girl. My mother and father found me when I was three months old. They said when they saw me it was love at first sight. They could tell I loved them, too, so they took me home and made me their little girl. I don't remember it ever being any different.

Last year we decided it would be nice to add a little brother to our family. We looked and looked for a little boy who needed a family. It took a long time for everything to be arranged, but now I have a little brother. He isn't big enough to play with yet, but he likes to be held and walked. I think he likes me already. We are a pretty special family.

## Going to a Play

I went to the play “The Princess and the Pea” with my friends. The play was performed at the King Theater. Our seats were in the front row. When the play was about to begin, the lights were turned down low. When the curtain opened and the stage lights came on, we could see a castle in the clouds on the stage. Then people walked out on the stage.

Sitting in the front row was fun. We could see everything that was happening on the stage. All the actors were so close to us we could see the makeup on their faces. Even the men and boys wore makeup. We could watch some of the people behind the curtain as they moved the lights or prepared to go on stage.

At the end of the first act, about halfway through the play, the actors took a break. The lights came on and we got up from our seats. We walked out to the lobby to have punch and cookies. When the lights were turned down again we hurried back to our seats. When the curtain opened for the second act, we saw the woods and gardens around the castle.

Everyone clapped when the play was over. The actors came out on stage and bowed. I took my program up to the stage so the actors could sign it. They asked if we liked the play. We said we liked it very much.

## Going to the Movies at Home

I love going to the movies. My favorite place to go to a movie is not at the theater, though. My family doesn't like to go to the theater. Mom says we have to plan ahead so we don't miss the first part of the movie. Dad says we have to hunt for a parking place. My big brother says if we are late we have to take the worst seats. My sister says it's too noisy.

The favorite place for my family to see movies is at home. We don't have to find a parking place. We have the best seats in the house, our big soft couch. We can even lie on the floor on pillows if we want to. We don't even have to wear shoes.

We can watch a movie anytime we want. Even our dog, Boots, can watch the movies with us. Sometimes I can invite my friend or my cousin over. The popcorn is free at home and we can have all the seconds we want.

Sometimes Mom and Dad let me pick out the movie with their help. We go to the video store and rent it for the night or the weekend. On special nights Mom and Dad let me rent two movies. Dad makes the popcorn and we all get comfortable in the family room. I love going to the movies.

## I Want to Be a Police Officer

I decided I wanted to be a police officer the day two officers came to our school. They brought a police dog that is a member of their team. They told us all about their jobs and how the police dog works with them. They said the police spend more time helping people than anything else. They go wherever there is a problem and they try to help.

The police dog is an important part of the team. A trained dog can find missing people after smelling their clothes. He can help find people who are lost in the woods and he can lead them out. The officer said that police dogs work hard but they like to play when they can.

We were allowed to play with the police dog when he was at our school. We played hide the ball. We tried to find the best place in the playground to hide the ball. The police dog tried to find the ball using only his nose. He gave us a big wag of his tail when he found it.

When a police dog is working, he is very serious and doesn't play around. He listens carefully to the commands he is given and he starts work right away. He doesn't care about playing because he knows he has a job to do. I want to be a police officer when I grow up so I can help people, too. Maybe I'll be able to work with a police dog someday.

## If I Had a Cat

If I had a cat, I'd name her Princess. I'd treat her just like a princess. She would wear a gold ribbon with a big bow around her neck. She'd sleep on a red velvet pillow. She'd eat out of a fancy dish just like that white cat on TV.

My cat Princess would have green eyes. Her eyes would be narrow slits most of the time. Her eyes would be as wide as marbles whenever she looked at me. She would like me the very best of all the people in the world.

I can't have a cat because I have allergies. When I touch a cat my nose starts itching. If I touch my face after touching a cat, my eyes swell up. Sometimes I have trouble breathing. My mom has to give me medicine when that happens. If I'm at school when I have trouble breathing I have to go to the office and see the nurse.

Our neighbor has a cat named Gray Kitty. Gray Kitty likes me. He always comes up and rubs my legs. Even if I don't touch him I might start itching. I feel bad that I have to run away from Gray Kitty, because he likes me.

One day our neighbor surprised me. She gave me a cat of my own! Not a real live cat, but a stuffed one. She has silky fur and big green eyes and a gold ribbon with a big bow around her neck. I named her Princess and I can hold her all I want.



## Riding the Elevator

Today I got to go as high as a tall, tall mountain, but I wasn't outside and I didn't climb a trail to get there. I was inside all the time because I was riding in an elevator that went up almost a mile high. I went with my mother to visit her friend. Her friend works in a building that is 44 stories tall.

We took a taxi downtown to the building. We went inside and looked for the elevator. When we got on, there were four other people already on it. Everyone pushed a button for the floor they wanted. My mother pressed the button for the 44th floor.

The elevator started going up. The other people all got off by the tenth floor and we were the only ones left. The elevator moved so fast I had to hold on to the bar. My mom held my hand and smiled at me.

"Isn't this exciting?" she asked. I nodded but my tummy felt funny. It felt like I needed to eat lunch. My ears felt funny also. My mom said it was because we had gone up so high that the air pressure was different. Finally the elevator slowed and stopped.

"We're here," said mom. While we were up so high we visited the observation deck. There was quite a view. It felt like we could see all the way to the next state. My mom's friend says when there is a storm it is really exciting to watch.

## My Friend Is From Korea

It all started last year. Our class decided to find a pen pal from another country. I chose a girl my age from Korea. I wrote to her and she wrote back! We found out we like a lot of the same things. We both like our family. I told her all about my little brother and how he makes me laugh. She told me about her big sister who takes her on the bus to the movies.

We sent each other our picture and described where we live. As we wrote more and more letters I learned about her and she learned about me. We both like to eat, and dessert is our favorite part. The food we eat is very different, though. Even the desserts are different. Her favorite is Korean pear. My favorite is strawberry ice cream.

My parents took me to the Asian Festival so I could sample different Korean foods. I liked most of them. I liked the soups with noodles in them the best. My friend said she tried some American foods. She liked pizza but didn't like hot dogs.

We like to spend time learning about each other. My friend is teaching me to count and to write my name. I am teaching her the days of the week. I was surprised that her favorite song was the same as my favorite song. I hope we are able to meet in person someday.