

Fiction



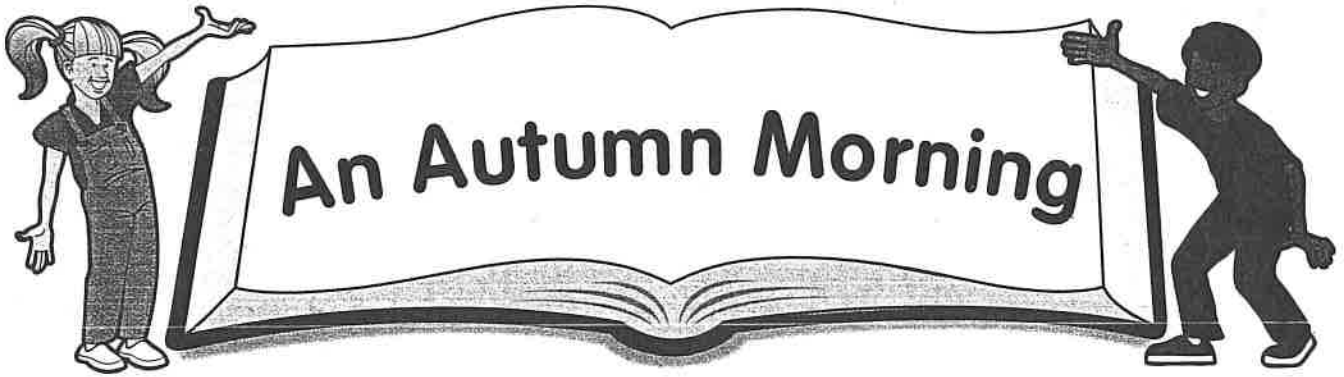
I walk to school. Some days, I	7
take the bus. I like walking best.	14
I can see many things. I see	21
flowers. I see homes. I see people.	28
I see dogs. I can smell things, too.	36
I smell flowers. I smell the air. I	44
smell cut grass. I can even hear	51
things. I hear buses. I hear cars. I	59
hear children talking. I hear	64
laughing. It is a good time of day!	72



Jen is six. She plays with balls. 7
Jen kicks a ball. She runs after it. 15
She kicks it again. Jen throws the 22
ball. Her mom catches it. Her mom 29
throws it back to her. Jen catches 36
the ball. 38

Jen also likes to draw. She draws 45
houses. She draws cats. She draws 51
balls. Jen draws many pictures. She 57
draws one for her dad. It is of her 66
family. The family is at home. They 73
are playing with a ball. Jen's father 80
likes the picture. 83

Fiction



It is morning. I hear birds sing. 7
I see the sun shine. I put on my 16
coat. I put on my boots. It is time 25
to go for a walk. 30

The air is cool. The sky is blue. 38
I feed the birds. I hum a song. I 47
hop on the grass. I pick up red and 56
orange leaves. I pick up gray and 63
black rocks. I pick up brown sticks. 70

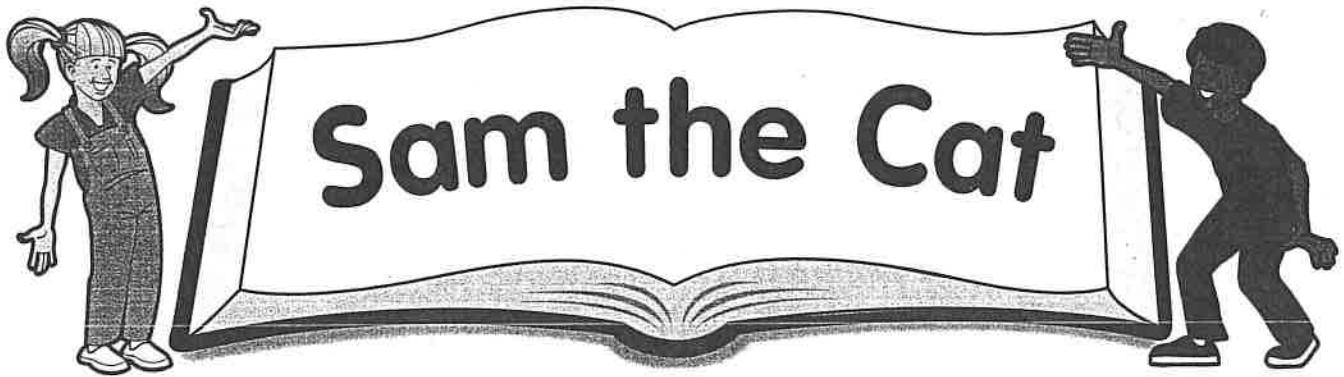
I smell eggs cooking. It is time to 78
go home. It is time for breakfast. 85

Poem



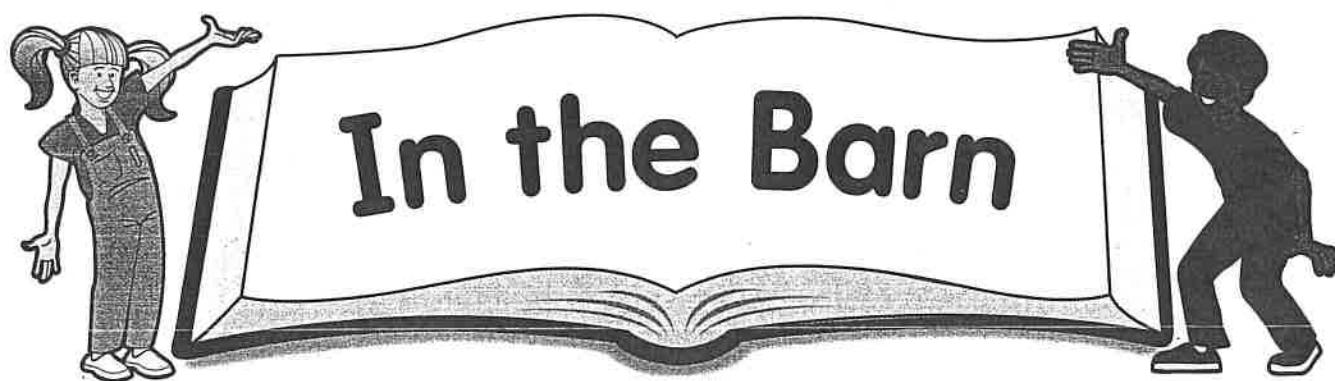
Red bird, red bird, in the tree,	7
Can you tell me what you see?	14
Can you see the hot sun?	20
Can you see the cat run?	26
Can you see the dog play?	32
Can you see the sky is gray?	39
Can you see the yellow ball?	45
Can you see the tree so tall?	52
Can you see a flower that is blue?	60
Can you see a red one, too?	67
Red bird, red bird, in the tree,	74
I see you. Can you see me?	81

Fiction



Sam is a cat. He is big. He is fat. 10
His fur is orange. His eyes are 17
green. Sam likes to sit on the chair. 25
He likes to sleep in the sun. He likes 34
to hide under the bed. Sam can run 42
and jump. 44

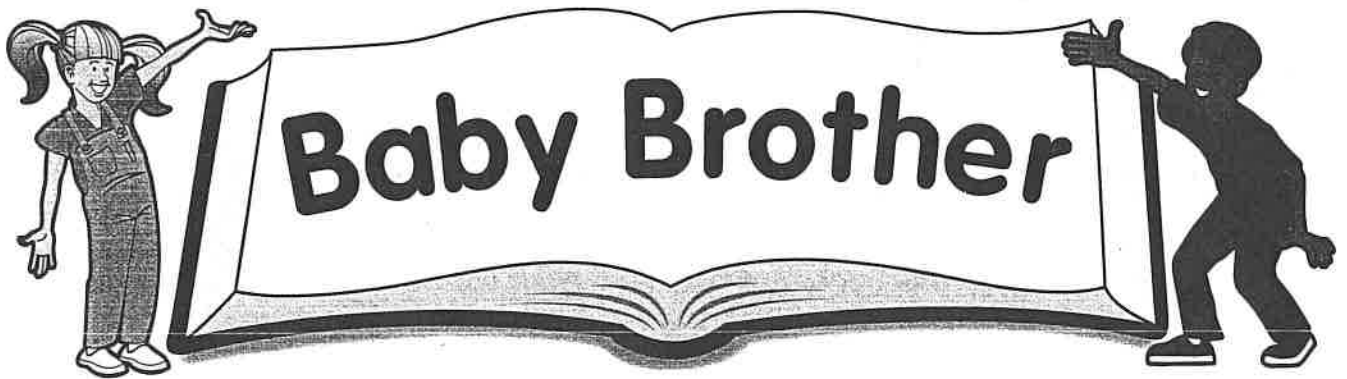
Sam sees a bird. He tries to catch 52
it. He runs fast. He jumps high. 59
The bird flies away. Sam does not 66
catch the bird. He is too slow. The 74
bird is too fast. 78



The farm has a barn. Who is in	8
the barn? There is a pig in the barn.	17
The pig likes to eat. The pig likes to	26
play in the mud. There is a horse in	35
the barn. You can ride the horse.	42
There is a cat in the barn. You can	51
play with the cat. There is a sheep	59
in the barn. You can pet the sheep.	67
It is soft. It is fun in the barn!	76



There are many kinds of hats.	6
Some hats are fun. A clown hat is	14
fun. A party hat is also fun. Some	22
hats are for work. A policeman's hat	29
is for work. A farmer's hat is for	37
work, too. Some hats keep us	43
warm. They cover our heads when	49
it is cold. Other hats keep us cool.	57
They keep the sun off of our heads.	65
Some hats keep us safe. Hard hats	72
protect our heads from getting hurt.	78
What kinds of hats do you like?	85



One day, my baby brother came home. He was little. He cried all the time. He had to have my parents help him. He could not do things I could do. I was tired of hearing him cry.

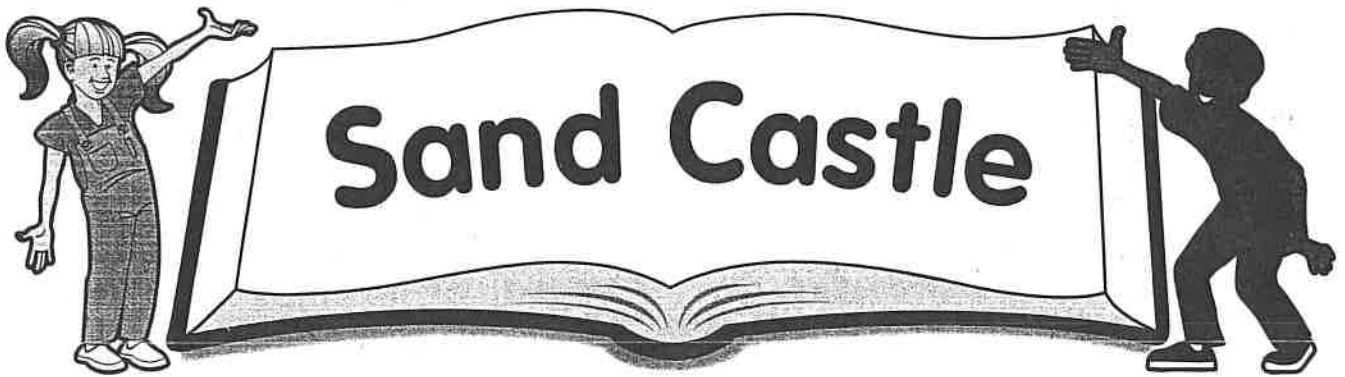
Then one day, he smiled at me. I let him hold my finger. I made a funny face. He laughed! I was glad he did not cry. Now my brother is four. We can play. I let him use my toys. He lets me use his toys, too. I love my brother!



Roy has a toy train. He has train	8
tracks. He puts his train on the tracks.	16
Roy builds a town with blocks. The	23
town is by the train tracks. Roy puts	31
toys on the train. He pushes the	38
train. Roy stops the train at each	45
house. He leaves a toy. He makes	52
train sounds. He goes around and	58
around the track. Roy loves his train.	65
Someday, he wants to drive a real	72
train. He would like to take toys on	80
his real train.	83

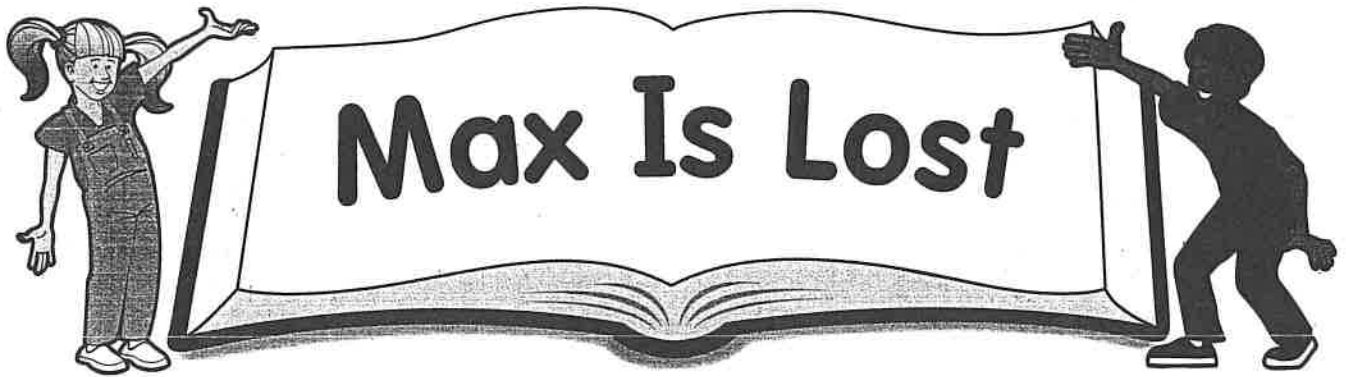


What do I do after school? First, I 8
 do my work from school. I also help 16
 with dinner. I like to make beans. We 24
 eat at the big table. We clean up 32
 and put away food. Then, we read 39
 some books. I like to read to my 47
 dad. He reads to me, too. Next, my 55
 sister and I brush our teeth. I wash 63
 my face. I put on a light by my bed. 73
 I read a little more before I go to 82
 sleep. 83



It was a summer day. Ben and
his family went to the beach. They
put down blankets. The sand was
hot! Ben made a big sand castle.
His baby sister smiled. She liked the
castle.

Next, Ben got in the water. He
was so wet! His dad took a picture.
When they got back to the sand, the
castle was gone. Where could it be?
The water had washed it away. Ben
looked sad. He had worked so
hard. Then his dad helped him.
They made a new castle!



Pam has a cat. His name is Max. 8
He has a red tag. The tag has his 17
name on it. Pam likes to pet Max. 25
He sits in her lap. 30

One day, Pam cannot find Max. 36
He is not under the bed. He is not 45
on the chair. He is not in the yard. 54
Pam looks and looks. Max is lost. 61

Then Pam gets a call. It is a 69
woman. She found Max. She saw 75
his tag and called Pam. The woman 82
brings Max home. Pam is happy. 88



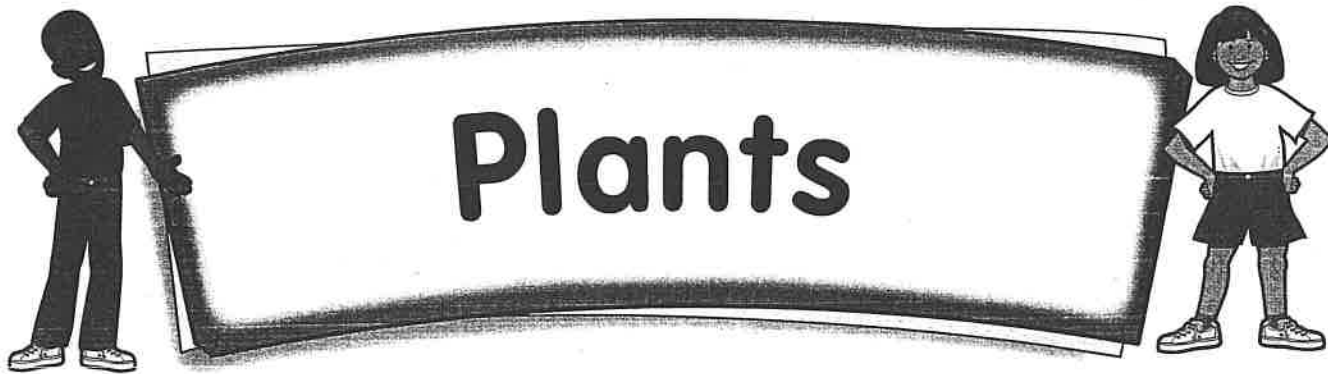
Last week, Pam learned to tell time. She was so happy! She asked her dad if she could get a watch. Her dad took her to the store.

Pam looked at all the colors and sizes. There was a red watch with a round face. There was a blue watch with blue hands. Pam found the one she liked best of all. She liked the green and yellow watch. It had a round face and silver hands. Her dad got the watch for her. They took it home. Now Pam can tell time all the time!



Bob had not been in an airplane 7
before. He sat in his seat. He 14
looked out the window. He listened 20
to the captain talking. His voice was 27
deep. The captain said that they 33
were preparing to take off. Bob held 40
on to his seat. 44

Bob looked at his mother, who 50
was sitting next to him. He felt 57
scared! His mother smiled and held 63
his hand. She did not look scared. 70
The airplane moved. Bob closed his 76
eyes. Then, he felt the airplane lift 83
off the ground. He opened his eyes 90
and smiled. He was flying! 95



Do you have any plants? You can see plants at the park and in the yard. You can also see them in water. We can see plants in a pond or a lake. We can even see them in the ocean.

Plants that live on land need air. They grow in the ground. Some of them grow in pots. Some of them need a lot of sun. Others need only a little.

Water plants get what they need from the water. Some of them sit on top of the water. Others live way down deep. What plants are near your home?



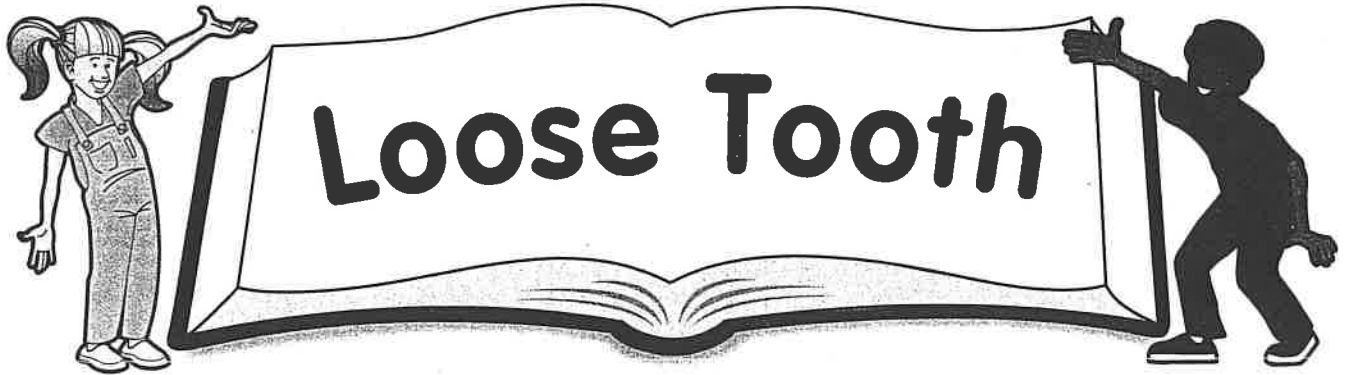
Brothers and Sisters



I have a very special friend,	6
And he is my big brother!	12
He helps me climb a tree.	18
He lifts me up so I can see.	26
He likes to tickle me.	31
I really love my brother!	36

I have another special friend,	41
And this one is my sister!	47
She helps me tie my shoes.	53
She hugs me when I am blue.	60
She knows just what to do.	66
I really love my sister!	71

Mother says soon I will have	77
A new baby brother!	81
I will read my books to him.	88
I will help him learn to swim.	95
I will be his special friend.	101
I know that I will really love my brother!	110



Once I had a loose tooth. It 7
wiggled in my mouth. I could move 14
it with my tongue. When I talked, the 22
tooth got in the way. It made me 30
sound funny. I liked my loose tooth. 37
I did not want it to fall out. It did. 47

One day, I wiggled it too hard. My 55
tooth came loose. It popped out of 62
my mouth. I held the tooth in my 70
hand. I showed it to Mom and Dad. 78
They said to put it under my pillow. 86

The next morning, I found a dollar 93
under my pillow. My tooth was gone. 100
I hope I get another loose tooth 107
soon. 108



It was time for the race. Jason would run three miles. He had trained for months. He ran every day. Now race day was here.

Jason ate his breakfast. He drank some water. He drove to the race with his parents. Then he went to the start line. The whistle blew, and Jason ran past his parents. The people cheered. He followed the path. The road was very long. It seemed like the race would never end!

Jason ran over the finish line. His parents were there. They hugged Jason. His friends were there, too. The judge took out a medal. He put it around Jason's neck!

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I really like to paint. I use red, 8
yellow, and blue. I mix up the colors 16
to make new colors. Red and yellow 23
make orange. Yellow and blue make 29
green. Red and blue make purple. I 36
make all the colors of the rainbow. 43

I paint a lot of other things, too. I 52
like to paint pictures of my mom's 59
roses in the garden. I paint red and 67
yellow roses. They have long, green 73
stems. 74

I like to paint pictures of my dog 82
the best. I give him brown fur. I 90
paint big, brown eyes. I paint a 97
black nose. I even paint a red collar. 105
It is so much fun to paint! 112



There are many fun things to do at a fair. You can go on the rides.	7
Some rides are slow, but some go very fast. You can also play games.	16
If you win the game, you will get a prize. Sometimes the prize is a fish or a toy.	23
There are also a lot of animals to see at the fair. There are cows and horses. There are goats, sheep, and pigs, too. Sometimes the biggest animal will win a prize.	30
If you want to eat, there is food at the fair. There are many kinds of food. You can eat popcorn, hot dogs, or even ice cream. The fair is fun!	39
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I like to bake. It is fun to bake 9
with Mom. First, I get a big bowl. 17
Mom cracks the eggs and puts them 24
in. I mix them up with my spoon. 32

Next, Mom gets the flour and puts 39
it in a cup. I pour it in the bowl. I 50
mix it with the eggs. Then, Mom 58
gets the sugar. I pour it in the bowl 67
and mix it up. I mix and mix. 74

When the batter is ready, we pour 81
it in a pan. We turn on the oven and 91
put it in. It smells good. Soon, it is 100
ready. We take it out. We made a 108
cake! 109



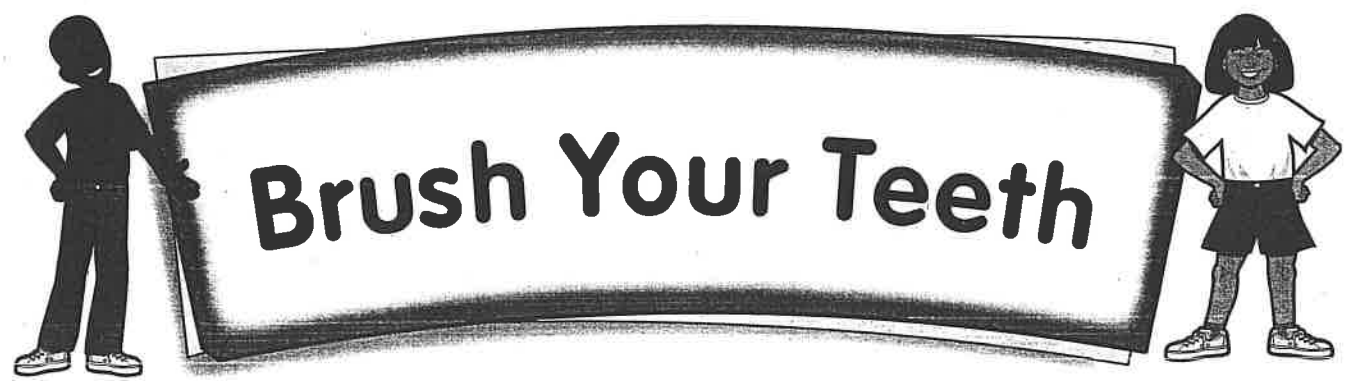
- Having a pet can be fun, but it is also hard work. 12
- You must give your pet healthy food and clean water 22
every day. It will need a nice place to sleep. You 33
must clean up after it, too. 39
- It is important to spend time with your pet. Pets 49
need lots of love. If you have a pet dog, you must 61
take it for walks. You should also take your pet to the 73
vet, or pet doctor. 77
- The vet can tell you if your pet is healthy or if it 90
will need special care. If your pet gets sick, the vet 101
can help you take care of it. Pets are hard work, but 113
they make very special friends. 118



What Can You Do?



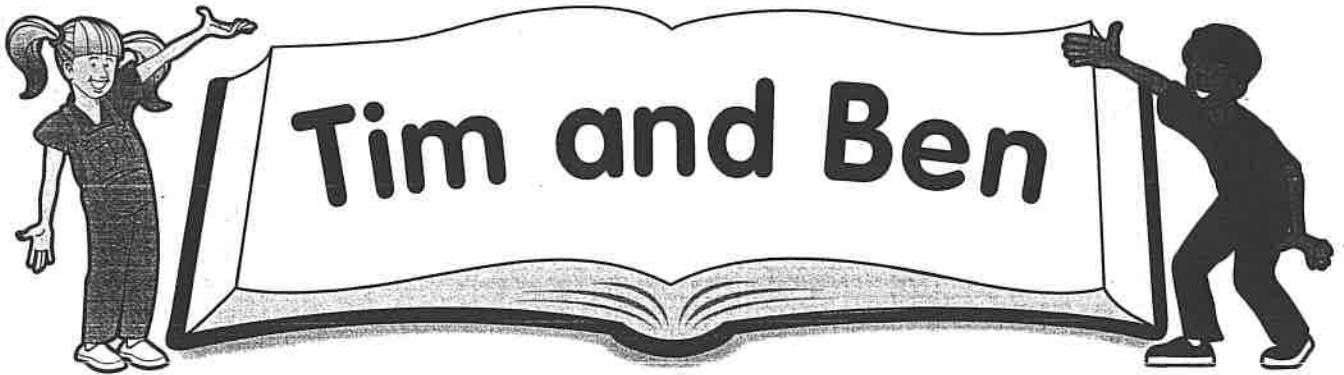
Can you jump through water from a hose?	8
Can you walk on your tiptoes?	14
Can you skip across the grass?	20
Can you run back really fast?	26
Each day you learn something new.	32
There's so much that you can do!	39
Can you say the sound of each letter?	47
Can you button your own sweater?	53
Can you blow out all the candles on a cake?	63
Can you float on your back in a lake?	72
Each day you learn something new.	78
There's so much that you can do!	85
Can you skate uphill or ride a bike?	93
Can you camp or take a hike?	100
Can you climb up a big tree?	107
Can you sled or even ski?	113
Each day you learn something new.	119
There's so much that you can do!	126



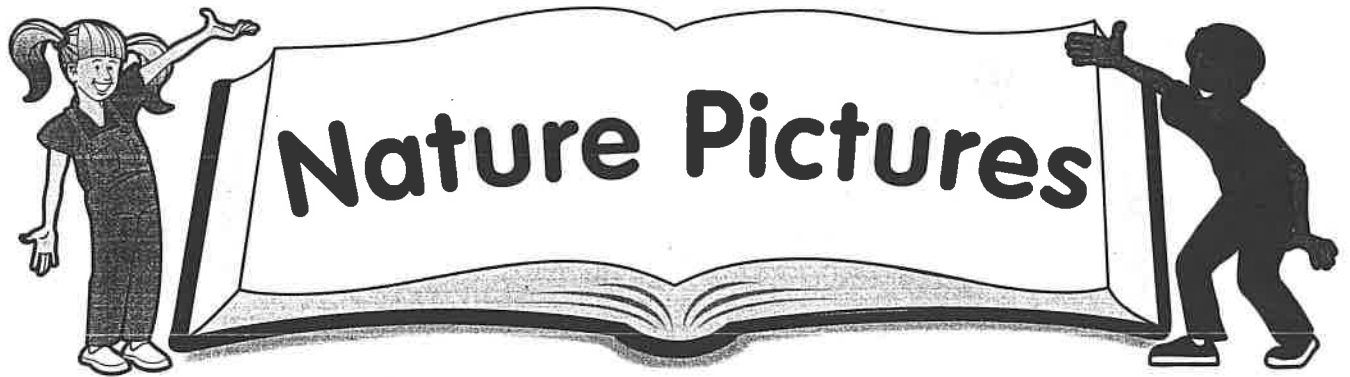
When do you brush your teeth? Most people	8
brush twice a day. Some people brush right after	17
they eat. It is important to care for your teeth. That	28
way, you keep your teeth strong.	34
Sometimes, you go to the dentist. The dentist	42
helps you take care of your teeth, too. Dentists clean	52
teeth in a special way. They help you if you have a	64
tooth that is hurting. They can also tell you the best	75
way to brush. They can even tell you which foods	85
are good for your teeth. Most people go to the	95
dentist one or two times a year. When was the last	106
time you went to the dentist?	112



Trees come in all shapes, sizes, and colors.	8
Some trees have flat leaves that change colors.	16
They fall off the trees when fall comes. Other trees have leaves like needles. These leaves stay green during fall and winter.	26
Oak and elm trees change colors. They make food in their leaves in the spring and summer, which makes the leaves green. In the fall, the weather gets cold, and the leaves stop making food. The green color disappears, and the leaves turn red, orange, and yellow.	34
Other types of trees keep their green leaves in cold weather. Pine trees stay green all year. The needles fall off the tree a little at a time. New needles grow quickly. Pine trees also have cones.	38
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Tim and Ben went to the movies. They bought	9
tickets. They bought popcorn and drinks. Then Tim	17
and Ben went to find their seats. They sat in the first	29
row. When the movie started, the lights went out. It	39
was dark. The music started. It was loud.	47
Tim and Ben watched the movie. It was a	56
cartoon about a trip to the moon. The people in	66
the movie flew in rockets. They had a race to see	77
who could get to the moon first. One team used	87
tricks to stop the other team. The team that did	97
not play tricks won the race.	103
After the movie, Tim and Ben raced home. They	112
pretended that they were going to the moon.	120



Max sat very still. He watched the leaves in the tree. They moved with the wind. He listened carefully. Max could hear baby birds chirping. He could see their nest. He hoped the mother bird would return soon.

The baby birds chirped louder. Max took his camera out. He saw the mother bird fly by. She had a worm for the babies. The baby birds peeked out of the nest. Click! Max took their picture. He watched the mother bird feed the babies. He took more pictures.

Then it was time for Max to go to school. His class was learning about birds. Next week, he would share his pictures with his teacher.

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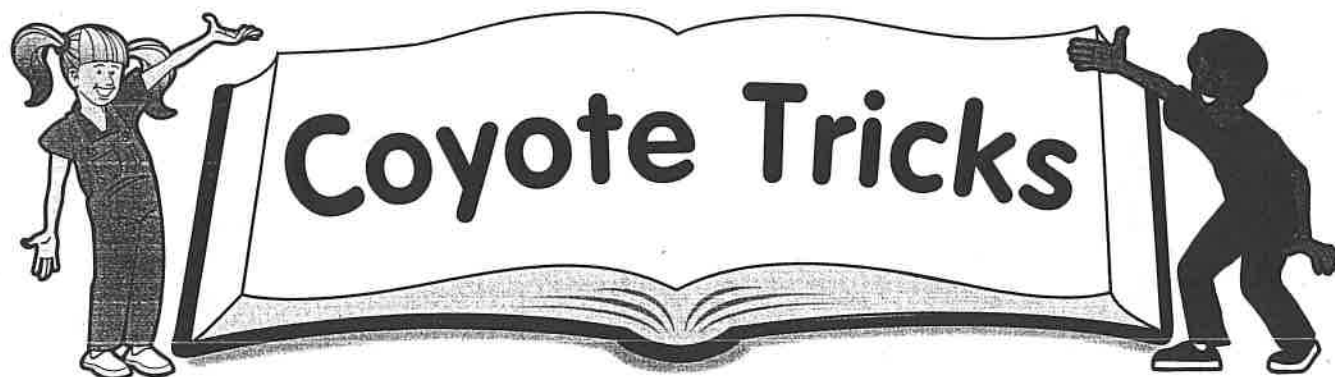
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Coyote liked to play tricks. He chased chickens	8
into the field. He chased pigs into the river. He	18
chased cows into the meadow.	23
The farmers said that they must get rid of	32
Coyote. Coyote heard the farmers. He didn't want to	41
be sent away. He came up with a plan.	50
Coyote rolled around in some honey. It stuck to	59
his fur. Then he rolled in dirt and leaves. He ran	70
past the farmers. The farmers thought he was a	79
monster. They chased him to the river.	86
Coyote dove in and splashed around. The	93
farmers watched and laughed. "It's just Coyote,"	100
they said. "See how he makes us laugh. We cannot	110
send him away." After that, Coyote never chased	118
the farm animals again.	122

Fiction



Last night, it snowed. It looks like a thick, white blanket has covered the world. The ground, trees, and rooftops are covered with the powdery snow. My sister and I race to put on our coats, scarves, mittens, and hats.

We run outside and lie on our backs in the snow. We move our arms and legs like we're doing jumping jacks. When we stand up, we can see the shapes that our bodies made. The shapes look like angels in the snow. We use rocks and sticks to make faces on our angels.

Next, we ride our sleds down the hills. The cold wind blows through our hair. Our noses turn cold and red. After a while, Dad calls us back inside. He has cups of hot chocolate waiting for us. What a perfect winter day!

Fiction



Nancy climbs the ladder very carefully. She	7
stands at the top of the ladder and looks down at all	19
the people in the pool. Her friends are there, waving	29
to her. They have all gone off the diving board	39
before. Nancy has never done it. She bites her lip.	49
She walks slowly to the end of the diving board. The	60
water seems so far away!	65
Her friends are calling for her to do a flip into the	77
air. They cheer and smile. Nancy laughs. She knows	86
she will not do a flip, but she thinks this time she will	99
finally have the courage to jump into the pool. Can	109
she do it? Nancy takes a deep breath. She bounces	119
once, then takes a leap! Splash!	125

Fiction



My brother and I just got out of school. It is	11
finally summer! We are going to the ocean. I bring	21
along my favorite beach toys and swimming gear.	29
My brother packs our towels. We will have so much	39
fun!	40
When we get there, it is bright and sunny. We run	51
into the water right away! My brother splashes me a	61
little. I laugh and splash back at him.	69
For lunch, we eat peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.	78
After lunch, we look for shells. I find a shell with a crab	91
in it! The crab crawls out of the shell, so I put the shell	105
in my bag. I leave the crab alone. He is happy on the	118
beach. My brother and I have a great time. I hope we	130
go back to the ocean next year!	137



A desert is a place that is very dry. It has few plants because there is so little rain. Sometimes a desert will go years without getting any rain at all. Most deserts get very hot during the day and very cold at night.

Few animals can live in the desert. The ones that do live in holes in the ground. These keep them cool during the day and warm at night. Camels can live in the desert, too. That's because they can go for days without drinking water. They get water from the fat in their humps.

Many animals that live in the desert only come out at night, when it is cool. Living in the desert is very difficult. The animals that live there have adapted quite well.

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Nonfiction



Community helpers have jobs that help other people.	7
Some community helpers keep our neighborhoods safe.	13
Police officers keep us safe by making sure that people follow all the laws and do not harm others.	21
Firefighters help us by putting out fires and saving people who are in danger.	31
Doctors and nurses also keep us safe. They tell us how to stay healthy.	40
They help people get well when they are sick or hurt.	49
Other community helpers make our lives better or teach us things.	60
People who carry mail bring letters and boxes to our homes.	70
People in trash trucks keep our streets clean. They take trash away, so it does not pile up.	73
Teachers help people learn new things, such as reading.	80
Community helpers have very important jobs, and they help many people.	89
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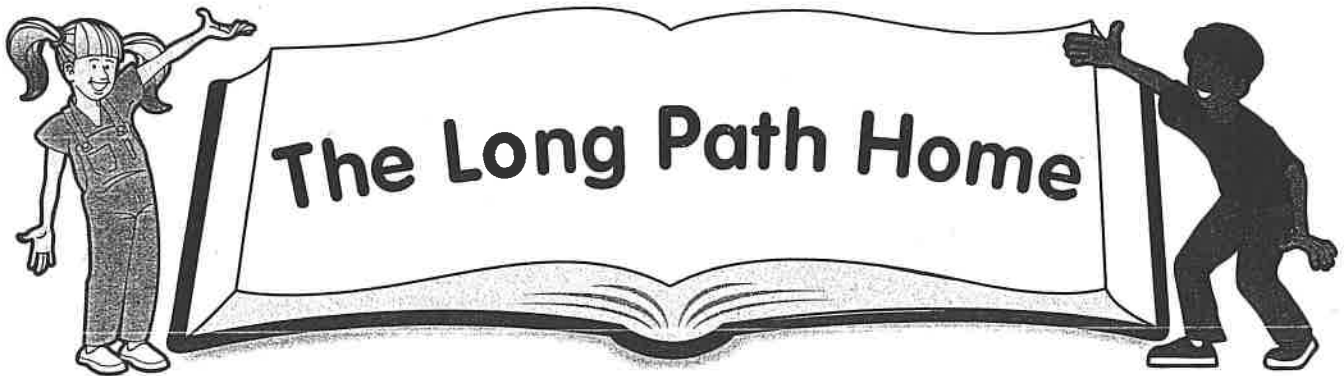
Children in the past had many chores to do.	9
They helped to do almost everything. School was closed during the spring and fall. That way, kids could help work on their family farms. Some milked cows, while others planted seeds. Everyone helped out at harvesttime.	17 26 35 42 45
Girls did many of the same chores that women did. They cared for vegetable gardens and helped to prepare and cook the food. Girls also helped make clothes for the family. They even made candles and soap.	54 63 72 81 82
Boys had different types of chores. They carried water from the well to the house. Boys also hunted small animals like rabbits because rabbits ate the garden. Boys had to help clean out the barn and take care of the animals, too. Most kids were busy from morning until night finishing their chores.	90 100 108 118 128 135



The tiger is the biggest member of the cat family.	10
A tiger can grow to be about 10 feet long. It is very strong and powerful. A tiger has a loud roar that can be heard from far away. Most people think of tigers as orange with black stripes. There are also white tigers with black stripes.	23 34 44 53 57
Tigers live in grasslands and forests. When they get frightened, tigers can climb trees to get away.	65 74
Tigers prefer to hunt at night. They hunt lots of animals, like deer and pigs.	84 89
Tigers do not live in families like lions. They live alone. They like to swim and rest when they are not hunting. Tigers used to live all over Asia, but today there are only a few tigers in protected places.	99 110 120 129



Eve was worried. She did not know anyone at her new school. "Don't be shy," said her mother.	9
"You'll make lots of friends!"	18
All morning, Eve sat quietly in class. At recess, no one asked her to play. She put her hands into her pockets. "What's this?" she thought, pulling out a note. It said, "Keep this a secret! A girl wearing pink wants to be your friend."	23
Eve looked around. A few girls were wearing pink. Which one had put the note into her pocket? Maybe it was the girl who was playing jacks. Eve walked over to her.	32
"Hi," she said. "I'm Eve."	43
"I'm Ann," replied the girl. "Do you want to play jacks?"	52
As they played, Eve learned that she and Ann liked the same things. Eve thought that Ann had written the note. Gathering her courage, she asked, "Would you like to be my friend?" Ann grinned and nodded.	62
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Last summer, Elmo disappeared. Elmo is my tabby cat. We had just moved to a different city. As soon as we moved, Elmo started acting strangely! He raced from room to room and stared out the window. Elmo seemed to feel as out of place in our new neighborhood as I did.

Then one day, Elmo was gone. My whole family was worried. We posted signs with Elmo's picture. We even went door to door looking for him. I felt so lonely without him. When my dad brought home a new kitten, I wasn't even interested.

Several days later, we got an amazing phone call. It was a friend from our old neighborhood. Elmo was there! He was hungry, but fine! We all jumped in the car to pick him up. I tried to understand why Elmo left. Then, I realized he had felt as homesick as I did.



Rain is water that falls from the sky. It starts off 11
as water on the ground or in the ocean. The sun 22
shines on the water. This makes the water warm. 31
Some of the warm water turns into vapor. This water 41
vapor is an invisible gas. As it gets warm, it rises into 53
the air. When it gets high in the air, it starts to cool 66
down. The vapor turns into tiny water droplets. 74

Millions of these droplets come together to form 82
clouds. Inside the clouds, the droplets combine into 90
bigger drops. When they get too heavy, they fall back 100
down to Earth. This is rain. The rain falls on the 111
ground and into the ocean. After this, the whole cycle 121
starts over again. 124

Rain is important because it gives water to plants 133
and animals all over the world. Without the rain, the 143
world would be a dry and lifeless place. 151



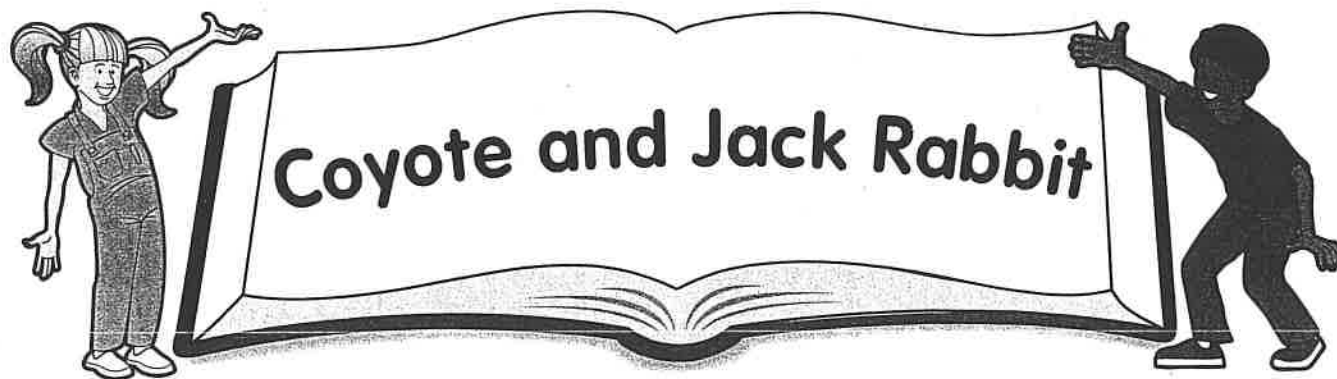
Elephants are the largest land animals on Earth.	8
They have long noses called trunks. They use their	17
trunks for many things. They touch with them and	26
use them to make sounds. Elephants use their	34
trunks to reach food in high places. This helps them	44
reach leaves and branches that other animals	51
cannot get. Elephants also suck water into their	59
trunks and spray it on their backs. This helps them	69
cool down and keep clean.	74
Elephants have big ears. They can keep cool by	83
flapping their ears. This cools off the blood inside.	92
The blood goes through the elephant's body and	100
keeps it from getting too hot. Elephants also have	109
long front teeth called tusks. Tusks are used to	118
gather food.	120
There are two kinds of elephants. One kind lives	129
in Africa. The other kind lives in India. They are very	140
similar. African elephants have larger ears than	147
Indian elephants.	149

Fiction



Dear Don,	2
How is your summer going? I have been at	11
soccer camp for two weeks now. You should see	20
this place! We have huge, rocky mountains and tall	29
pine trees all around us. We have soccer practice	38
every morning and afternoon. I am learning a lot of	48
new drills. I will show them to you when I get	59
home. I am getting better every day! After practice,	68
we do whatever we want for the rest of the day.	79
There is a big lake nearby. We fish and swim there.	90
There are also hiking trails and tennis courts.	98
The best part about camp is the people. I have	108
met some really nice friends here. The coaches are	117
great! They are strict, but very fun and helpful. The	127
worst part is the food. Well, I better go. Practice	137
starts soon. I will see you in a week!	146
Your friend,	148
Jane	149

Fiction



One day, Jack Rabbit saw Coyote sitting by a cactus. Coyote called out, "Help me! I'm trapped!"	9
Jack came closer. Coyote's tail was snagged in the cactus spines.	17
"Please help me!" Coyote begged. "I will do anything you ask!"	26
"If I help you, you must promise to return the favor someday," said Jack. Coyote eagerly agreed.	28
"Good!" said Jack. "I know you are tricky. I must find a witness first."	36
"Do not leave me! You can trust me," wailed Coyote. Jack was not convinced.	39
Finally, Coyote said, "That red rock can be our witness!"	49
Jack agreed and began to untangle Coyote's tail. As Jack worked, Coyote thought, "What a fool he is!"	56
A little while later, when Jack was resting and watching the clouds, Coyote pounced on him. "Now I've got my dinner!" he said with a grin.	65
"What about your promise?" cried Jack. Coyote just laughed.	70
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Julia and Samantha went to a music festival with their parents. The festival was in a big park near their house. They brought a large blanket and a picnic lunch. They found the perfect spot on the grass, right under a tree. Then they spread out the blanket and sat down to listen to the live music.

When the first band started to play, they clapped along with the crowd. Julia and Samantha jumped off the blanket. They danced to the music while their mom and dad ate lunch. Several more bands played after that one. Julia and Samantha danced to every song.

As the last band began to perform, Julia fell asleep on the edge of the blanket. Samantha kept dancing until the last song was over! Then their dad picked up Julia and carried her to the car. They all went home, feeling tired but happy.



Camping in the Trees



Climb the ladder through the tree,	6
Over the branches and the leaves.	12
Pass the bird's nest—you're almost there.	19
Our secret house in the air!	25
Knock three times upon the door.	31
Then stomp two times upon the floor.	38
When you enter, grab a chair.	44
Our secret house in the air!	50
Shiny coins in a see-through jar,	57
A telescope for watching stars,	62
Comic books and teddy bears...	67
Our secret house in the air!	73
Pass the cookies on a plate.	79
Tonight we will stay up late.	85
Let's tell some jokes and stories to scare.	93
Our secret house in the air!	99
Flashlight shadows on the wall...	104
How hard can you bounce a ball?	111
Play a game of truth-or-dare.	118
Our secret house in the air!	124
It's our special you-and-me place,	131
A quiet, just-for-us space,	137
Where dreams are whispered and giggles are shared.	145
Our secret house in the air!	151



A stream is a body of running water. Rivers and brooks	11
are two kinds of streams. Streams are formed when it rains	22
or snows. When there is more water than the ground or	33
plants can absorb, it runs off. When enough of this water	44
comes together, it becomes a stream.	50
Many plants and animals live in or near streams. At the	61
start of the stream, insects and fish lay their eggs. When	72
the new fish are born, they swim down the stream to the sea.	85
A stream flows downhill. When it reaches level ground, the	95
water slows down. This allows more animals to live there.	105
Bugs like mosquitoes, flies, and beetles live near streams.	114
Fish and other animals like clams, frogs, and turtles live there,	125
too. Even birds come to the stream. They eat the bugs and	137
fish that live there.	141
A stream is a place where all the plants and animals	152
live together to make a healthy habitat.	159



Last night, Megan forgot to set her alarm clock. She 10
 slept until almost eight o'clock in the morning! When Megan 20
 finally woke up, she jumped out of bed, threw on some 31
 clean clothes, and grabbed her backpack. She ran 39
 downstairs as fast as she could. On her way down, she 50
 tripped on her shoelace. She fell down, landing in a heap on 62
 the floor. Quickly, she dusted herself off and ran out the door. 74

As she neared the bus stop, Megan saw the door was 85
 already closing! She waved her arms frantically. "Wait for 94
 me!" she yelled. The bus was already too far away. It pulled 106
 away from the curb, with Megan still racing ahead. 115

Breathing heavily, Megan dropped to the curb and put 124
 her head in her lap. Just then, a car pulled up in front of her. 139
 "Need a ride?" It was Megan's mom! Megan figured she 149
 would never forget to set her alarm again! 157



Can you believe it? The mascot for our school, Baldwin Elementary, is an anteater! Whoever heard of an anteater representing a school? Most schools have normal animals, like bears or eagles, for mascots. Not us. It is sort of embarrassing to go to football games and watch a big, ugly anteater jumping around on the field. At least that is how we used to feel before Tony moved to town.	10 19 27 39 50 61 70
Tony had been the mascot at his old school and wanted to be the mascot at his new school, too. We did not know what to think until we realized that Tony made that big, ugly anteater costume come alive! Tony did not just jump around on the football field. He also did cartwheels, backflips, and somersaults. Best of all, Tony could dance any other mascot right off the field. He is the best mascot ever. So now, when the anteater comes running out on the field, we all stand and cheer!	81 94 106 116 126 135 147 158 162



Native Americans lived in many different kinds of homes.	9
The kinds of homes they lived in depended on where and how they lived. Some native tribes moved around a lot.	20
These tribes lived in tepees made of buffalo skins and hides.	30
The tribes followed buffalo herds as they moved across the plains. They needed homes that they could set up and take down at any time.	41
Other tribes built their homes near a stream or an ocean. They did not need to move around to find their food.	51
The Northwest tribes built large homes out of cedar trees.	62
Woodlands tribes built log houses out of evergreen trees.	66
In the Southwest, there were few trees. Tribes there used packed mud, or adobe, to make huts. In the Southeast, tribes made round shelters called wigwams. They were made from the branches of small trees. These shelters protected them from cold weather and rain.	76
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It is possible to fly without an engine. Hot air balloons do it, and so do gliders. Until Paul MacCready came along, no one had flown a plane using only human power.	12 23 32
As a boy, Paul liked to build toy planes. When he grew up, he heard about a big contest. To win, he had to build a real plane. The plane had to fly 22 miles over water without an engine. The plane he built was very light. It had one wing that was 100 feet wide. For power, the plane had a propeller. Paul used bicycle pedals to make the propeller spin.	44 58 70 83 94 104
A bicycle racer named Bryan Allen agreed to be the pilot. He sat below the wing and turned the pedals. The plane flew close to the waves. Paul followed it in a boat. Finally, the plane landed safely. The flight was a success. Paul won the contest.	115 127 139 150 151



Missy stood outside the movie theater, waiting for her	9
friend, Janet. Missy and Janet had agreed to meet in front of	21
the theater at two o'clock in the afternoon. They were going	32
to see a new movie about a young girl who rode horses.	44
Missy looked at her watch for the fifth time and sighed,	55
wondering how much longer it would be before Janet arrived.	65
Janet was often late, and Missy was often early. Missy had	76
been waiting on the steps for twenty minutes already, and	86
she was getting tired of standing there. She sat down on the	98
steps and rested her head on her knees.	106
Just then, Missy heard someone calling her name. She	115
looked up. Janet was running toward her, looking out of	125
breath. As Janet ran up the steps, she said, "Sorry I'm late!"	137
She held out her hand to help Missy up off the step. "That's	150
okay," said Missy. "Let's go inside."	156

Fiction

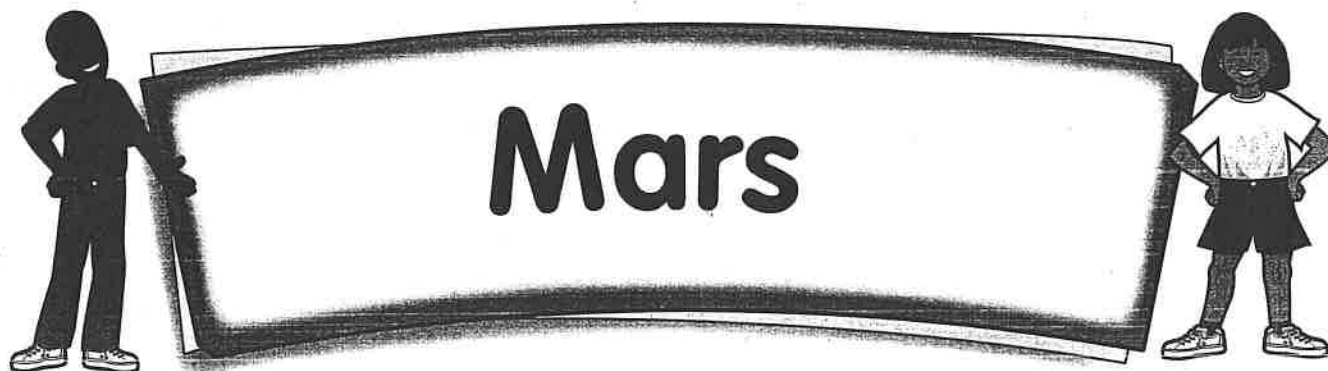


A blanket of snow covered the neighborhood. Winter 8
 was Alicia's favorite season. After the first snow, it was a 19
 family tradition to make a snowman in the front yard. Alicia's 30
 family decorated it with a sign that said "Welcome, Winter!" 40
 The words were spelled out in tiny, colorful lights. 49

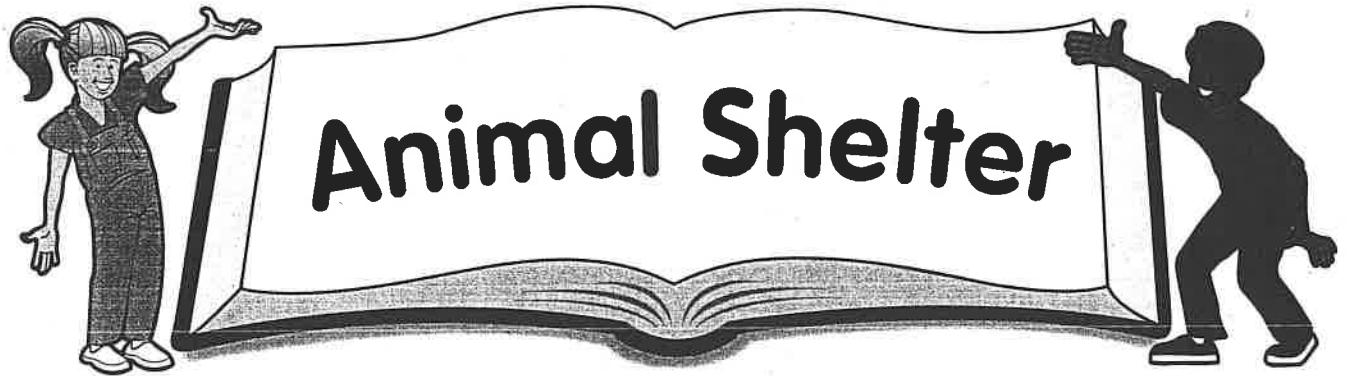
"Ta-dah!" Alicia said as her mom turned on the sign for 60
 the first time. Alicia liked the way the lights twinkled. 70

The next evening, Alicia was surprised to see that many 80
 of the lightbulbs were missing. It happened again the next 90
 day! "Who is taking the bulbs?" Alicia wondered. 98

Alicia decided to set up her video camera to find out. 109
 The next morning, she watched the video. It was a squirrel 120
 taking the bulbs and hiding them in the hollow of a tree! 132
 Alicia took some walnuts over to the tree and took out the 144
 bulbs. "I think the squirrel will like these better!" she said, 155
 placing the walnuts in the tree. 161

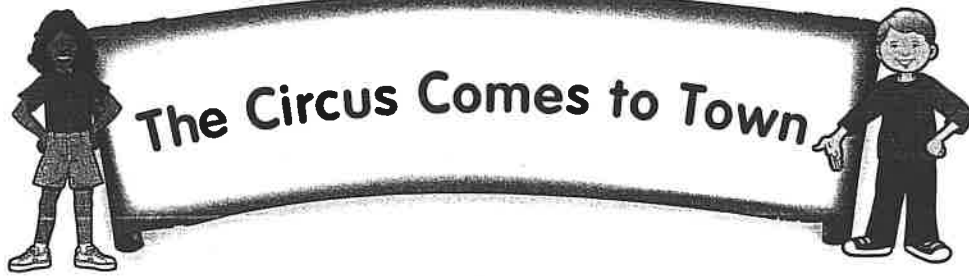


Mars is sometimes called the "red planet." This is	9
because the surface of Mars appears to be red or orange to	21
the naked eye. On the surface, scientists have seen craters,	31
dry riverbeds, polar ice caps, and inactive volcanoes. These	40
sightings have led many people to believe that there is life on	52
Mars.	53
However, scientists don't believe that there are any	61
people on Mars. In fact, they don't think any life exists on	73
Mars at all. Water must be present for life to exist, and	85
there isn't any water. Recently, however, missions to Mars	94
have resulted in exciting findings. Scientists think that salt	103
water may have flowed on Mars' surface a long time ago.	114
That water may have supported some kind of life. There is	125
no real evidence yet that shows any type of life on Mars.	137
Hopefully, scientists will keep exploring the red planet.	145
Maybe they will discover something even as small as a	155
germ. Who knows? Maybe Martians lived there after all.	164



Rebecca adores animals! She was very excited when	8
she found out her class would be visiting an animal shelter.	19
Rebecca wanted to learn as much as possible before her	29
visit, so she checked out several books from the library.	39
Rebecca learned that animal shelters take care of abandoned	48
animals and find them loving homes.	54
The day of the visit finally arrived. Rebecca listened	63
carefully to the workers as they spoke about the shelter. She	74
looked at all the adorable pets that needed homes. More	84
than anything, Rebecca wanted to help. After her visit,	93
Rebecca went home and asked her parents if she could	103
adopt one of the pets.	108
Rebecca returned to the shelter with her mom and dad a	119
few days later. They observed the dogs for a while, and one	131
dog wagged his tail back and forth when Rebecca pet his	142
head. She decided that was definitely the pet she wanted.	152
She and her family adopted the dog and took him home.	163

Poem



Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls	6
Have you heard the news?	11
The most amazing, absolutely hair-raising,	17
Positively fire-blazing show on Earth has come to town!	27
The ringmaster calls to begin the show.	34
Beneath the great Big Top,	39
Elephants parade to and fro,	44
Chased by clowns with mops.	49
Horses prance around the ring	54
In costumes of green and gold.	60
Upon their backs, girls twirl and spring.	67
It is a sight to behold!	73
The lion tamer takes the stage	79
With his wildcats.	82
He lets them loose from their cage	89
And has them lie down flat.	95
Tightrope walkers in the air	100
Leap and spin up high.	105
Could it be a double dare?	111
I know I wouldn't try!	116
Silly clowns drive along	120
In a tiny little car.	125
They urge the crowd to sing a song	133
And play with fake guitars.	138
Acrobats fly with ease	142
High above the ground,	146
Swinging from the trapeze.	150
I'll bet they don't look down.	156
The strong man is the final act.	163
He lifts 600 pounds.	167
I hope his bones have not cracked,	174
But I heard a crunching sound!	180

Fiction



The baseball season had come to an end. We had our 11
 baseball banquet at the Pizza Palace. They have the best 21
 pizza in the world! The owners gave us tons of pizza and 33
 soda with free refills. The cheese pizza was the best. We 44
 stuffed ourselves until we could not eat anymore! 52

Then, the coach handed out trophies to the whole team. 62
 The trophies were nice, but not very big. Each trophy had a 74
 statue of a boy with a baseball bat and ball. They also had 87
 our names engraved at the bottom. Sam got the award for 98
 Most Valuable Player. He got a framed picture of the whole 109
 team. Next year, I will strive to be the Most Valuable Player! 121

Finally, the coach gave a speech. He thanked us for all 132
 our hard work and dedication. He was so funny! He told us 144
 that if we ran around the bases as fast as we ate pizza, we 158
 would have won every game! 163



Nathan was very nervous! He was about to perform in a piano recital. He had performed in recitals before, but this recital was different. He was the youngest of all the performers, and there were over two thousand people in the audience. He hoped he would be able to find his parents in the crowd. Seeing them always made Nathan relax.

Nathan peeked out from behind the curtain on the stage. He saw his mom and dad sitting in the front row. He smiled with relief. Nathan took a deep breath and walked out onto the stage. He sat down at the piano and began to play.

Nathan's performance was flawless. He played a fast and lively tune first. He glanced at the audience and saw people tapping their feet along to the beat. Then he played a slow, moving song. The audience sat very still. When Nathan was done playing, everyone clapped and cheered, especially his mom and dad!

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Imagine that you have a big bowl of hot popcorn. Now	11
imagine pouring milk and sugar over it and eating it like	22
cereal. That's the way the early American settlers ate it.	32
Popcorn has been a favorite snack food in our country for a	44
long time, but it goes back even further than that.	54
Scientists believe that people first grew the kind of corn	64
used to make popcorn in Central America thousands of years	74
ago. In the 1950s, tiny ears of popcorn were found in New	86
Mexico. They were more than 5,000 years old. The Indians	96
of South America used to throw whole ears of corn into the	108
fire, then try to catch the kernels as they popped. The North	120
American Indians who gave popcorn to the Pilgrims warmed	129
it up in pots. Some people believe that popcorn was even	140
served at the first Thanksgiving.	145
Today, popcorn is one of the most popular snacks in the	156
world. Americans alone eat more than a billion pounds every	166
year.	167



Did you know that animals can talk to each other? They	11
don't use words like people do, but they can still send	22
messages. Many animals use sounds to communicate. A	30
grasshopper, for example, rubs its legs against its wings to	40
make a chirping sound. This sound lets other grasshoppers	49
know that it is ready to mate. An angry animal might growl	61
or roar to tell others to stay away. Animals that live in groups	74
use sounds to help each other.	80
Animals also use behaviors to communicate. Some	87
animals lick each other as a sign of friendship. Wolves will	98
lick the leader of their pack to show their loyalty. Many birds	110
perform dances when they are looking for mates. Male birds	120
will stretch their wings, show off their feathers, and jump into	131
the air to attract females. To show affection, some animals,	141
like monkeys, will clean each other's fur.	148
As you can see, animals have many ways to	157
communicate without using words. How many ways can	165
people communicate?	167



Fog is a cloud that forms near the ground. It is formed just like the clouds in the sky. Water vapor rises into the air, but does not keep going up into the sky. It stays near the ground instead. Fog can be very dangerous. It makes travel difficult. Fog makes it hard to see in front of you. That is why airports will close down when there is too much fog. A plane cannot take off if the pilot cannot see.

It is also hard to drive a car in the fog because you cannot see cars in front of you very well. When it is very foggy, there are lots of car crashes. Ships at sea can also get lost in the fog. The *Titanic* was a giant ship that sank in 1912 because it ran into an iceberg, which the captain could not see through the thick fog.

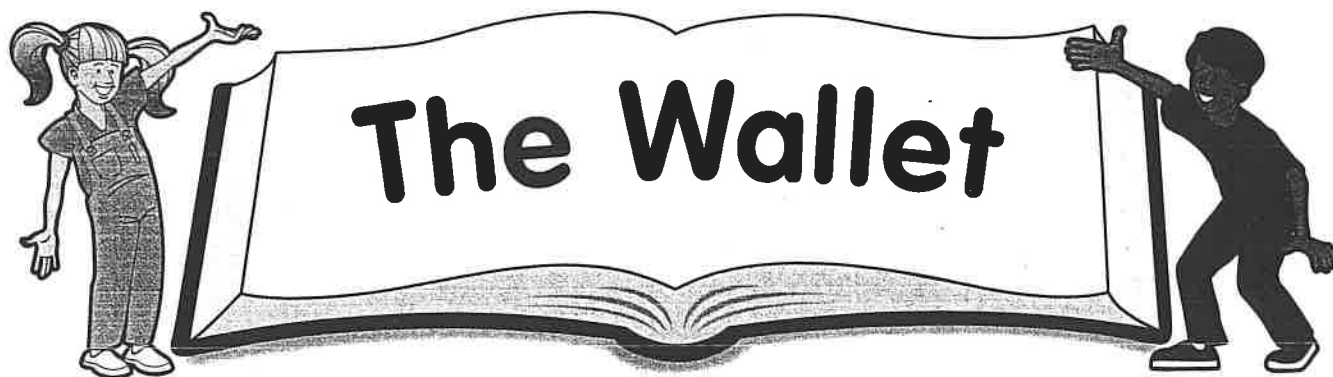
When you are traveling in the fog, be very careful. Slow down and pay attention to where you are going.



The wagon wheels clattered over the dusty plains.	8
Emma wiped the sweat from her forehead and wished that	18
there was shade to rest under. It had been three days since	30
she had even seen a tree. She knew there would be no	42
wood for a fire again tonight.	48
The trail guide shouted back to the rest of the wagon	59
train. Emma was relieved that it was finally time to stop and	71
set up camp. She watched her father drive their wagon into	82
the circle that would keep them safe during the night. Then it	94
was time to get to work. Emma helped her mother shake the	106
dust out of the blankets and quilts. Then she and her brother	118
milked the cows and fetched water from the nearby stream.	128
Buffalo chips were gathered and used to start the campfire.	138
After supper, Emma lay on her blanket under the stars.	148
She picked the farthest star she could find in the sky and	160
named it "Pacific." That's where they were headed, to the	170
Pacific Ocean, and she couldn't wait to get there.	179



Tina tied her hair into a ponytail and put on her costume and ballet slippers. As she stood in front of the mirror and practiced spinning on her toes to prepare for her performance, she began to feel waves of nervousness. Her mom called to her to tell her that it was time to go.	11 22 33 42 55
Tina and her mom drove to the ballet studio. Tina had butterflies in her stomach. What if she forgot the steps to her dance? What if something happened to the music? When Tina arrived at the studio, she saw that her friends were just as nervous and excited as she was. Tina and her friends helped each other practice.	66 78 88 100 110 114
When it was time for the recital to begin, Tina took a deep breath. She and her friends waited excitedly behind the curtain for the music to start. Finally, they danced onto the stage, remembering to concentrate on every step. They spun, jumped, twirled, and dipped. The audience clapped and cheered. When the dance was over, Tina and her friends bowed. Tina's mom took them all out for ice cream to celebrate.	126 136 147 156 164 174 185 186



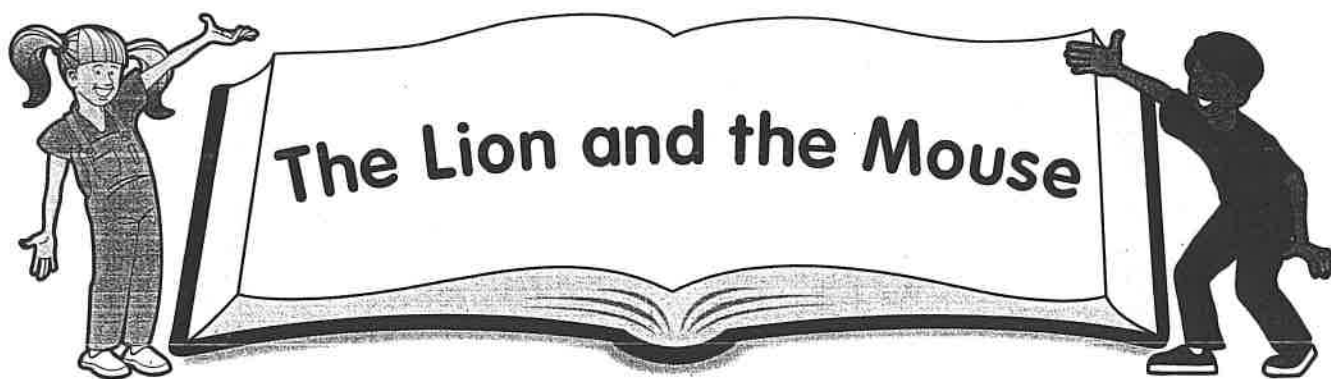
Rob was so excited! On his way home from school, he	11
had found a wallet on the sidewalk with a crisp fifty-dollar bill	24
tucked inside. He had never seen that much money before!	34
Rob thought of all the different ways he could spend the	45
money. Maybe he could purchase a shiny remote-control	54
truck. Or, maybe he would buy the new video game he had	66
seen in his computer magazine. His dad would probably	75
suggest that he put the money in the bank. There were so	87
many things he could do, he just couldn't decide!	96
As he walked along, Rob suddenly saw that the wallet	106
had a driver's license in it with someone's name and address.	117
He thought about how upset that person must feel about	127
losing the money and the wallet. Rob wanted to be a good	139
citizen, so he decided to return the wallet and the money.	150
That afternoon, his dad helped him return the wallet to	160
its proper owner. The owner was thrilled and grateful to have	171
his wallet returned to him with everything inside it!	180



Mountains are a fascinating part of the Earth's landscape. However, the mountains on Earth have not always been the amazing wonders that they are today. Long ago, the surfaces of mountains were flat.	8 17 28 33
Mountains are formed from the movement of the Earth's layers as they shift over time. These layers are affected by forces that cause them to tilt, shift, lift up, or even collide with one another. As a result, one of four different kinds of mountains can form: volcanic, folded, fault-block, and dome. The process of forming mountains is very slow. In fact, the Earth's plates are shifting all the time, and people rarely feel the movements at all. However, the force of the movement is strong enough to have created some of our largest mountain ranges.	42 53 66 77 86 97 108 119 129 130
The air is much cooler in the mountains. Many mountains get a lot of snow in the winter. People often go to the mountains to ski or to sled. In the summer, many people like to hike or climb the mountains.	140 154 168 171



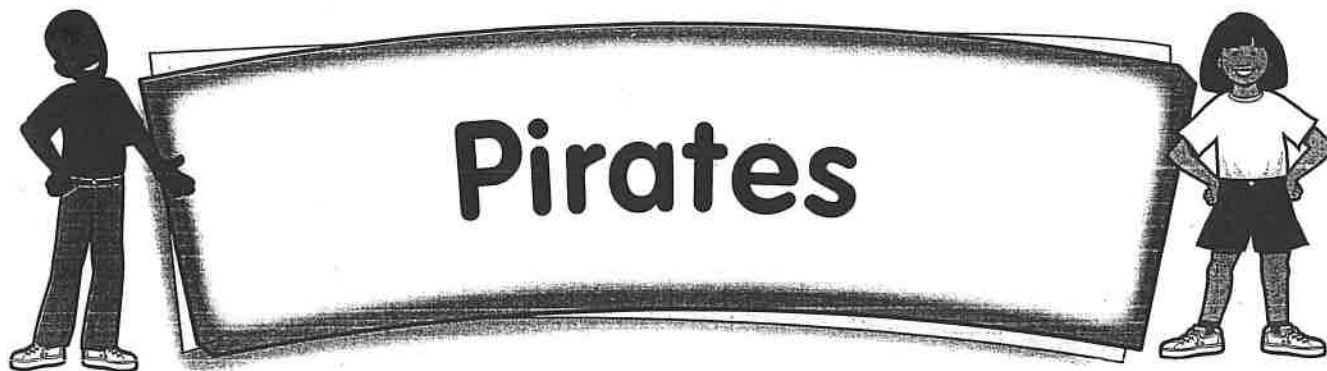
In what seemed like an instant, the wind changed direction and picked up speed. A gust of air lifted the spinning wind into a tall vortex. A tornado formed on the horizon. Swirling and spinning, the tornado moved across the open field toward our town.	9 20 31 40 45
Newscasters warned people to stay inside their homes, in the basement. My family and I played cards, trying to take our minds off the disaster headed our way. Still, even as we laughed and enjoyed our card game, we all knew the tornado was getting closer and closer. My dad kept the radio on, so we would know how far away the tornado was.	53 65 77 87 98 109
Moments later, the tornado ripped through our neighborhood. Four homes were completely destroyed. Broken glass, pieces of wood, and other objects covered the roads. A thunderstorm followed with heavy wind and rain. After the storm ended, people came out of their homes to look at the damage. Incredibly, no one was hurt. Our home looked as though nothing had happened! Still, the tornado left a big mess.	116 122 132 141 152 163 172 176



A lion was suddenly awakened from sleep by a mouse 10
running over his face. He got up angrily with a disgusted look 22
on his face. He caught the mouse and was about to kill him 35
when the mouse pleaded with him in a tiny voice, "If you 47
would only let me go, I would be sure to repay your kind act." 61
The lion laughed and thought for a moment. He then 71
decided to let the mouse go. 77

It happened soon after this that the lion was captured by 88
some hunters who tied him to the ground with strong ropes. 99
The mouse, hearing the lion's roar, came and gnawed off the 110
ropes with his teeth. Setting the lion free, he exclaimed, 120
"You laughed at the idea that I would ever be able to help you, 134
never thinking that you would get something in return for your 145
favor. Now you know that even a little mouse can help a big 158
lion." 159

The moral of the story is this: No act of kindness, no 171
matter how small, is ever wasted. 177



Ships, treasures, and battles were all a part of life for pirates hundreds of years ago. Pirates sailed along trade routes. They attacked ships and ports and stole the goods that they could use.

Pirates decided together which ships to attack. They only chose ships that they thought they could defeat easily. They fired warning shots at the ship. Then as they sailed closer to the ship, the pirates threw iron balls at it to damage it. When the pirates got close enough, they jumped on board. Then they threatened the victims with guns and swords. The pirates looted the ship. They took everything of value—food, clothes, jewels, coins, sails, and tools. When they were finished, the pirates returned to their own ship. They sailed away quickly and divided the goods equally among themselves.

By the 1700s, laws against pirates became stricter. Many pirates were captured. Some were put to death. Others were let go if they promised to give up being pirates. Though some pirates continued to rob ships, most piracy had ended.



Seasons



Fall is the sound of crunchy leaves	7
And the smell of cinnamon toast.	13
It's the warmth of long woolen sleeves	20
And the taste of hot pot roast.	27
Fall is fresh pumpkin pie	32
Served with sweet ice cream,	37
A flaming sunset in the sky,	43
A bonfire in a dream.	48
Winter is hot peppermint tea	53
And lacy Valentine hearts.	57
It whispers like the deep blue sea.	64
It tastes of poached pear tarts.	70
Winter is a flake of snow	76
That lands upon your glove,	81
A candle's flame all aglow,	86
A home that's filled with love.	92
Spring is the world washed clean with rain.	100
It smells of fresh-cut grass.	106
It is a lady who entertains.	112
It is shiny, fresh-polished brass.	118
Spring is an orchard bursting in bloom,	125
The song of a bright blue jay.	132
It is how a bride looks at her groom	141
On her wedding day.	145
Summer is a firecracker that bursts	151
Upon the quiet dawn.	155
It is lemonade that soothes your thirst.	162
It is a sprinkler on the lawn.	169
Summer is joy that's been released	175
Like wind beneath a kite.	180
It is a checkered picnic feast.	186
It is a flock of birds in flight.	194