

Third Grade
MSTEP Homework Packet # 2

Sent home on 3-5-20

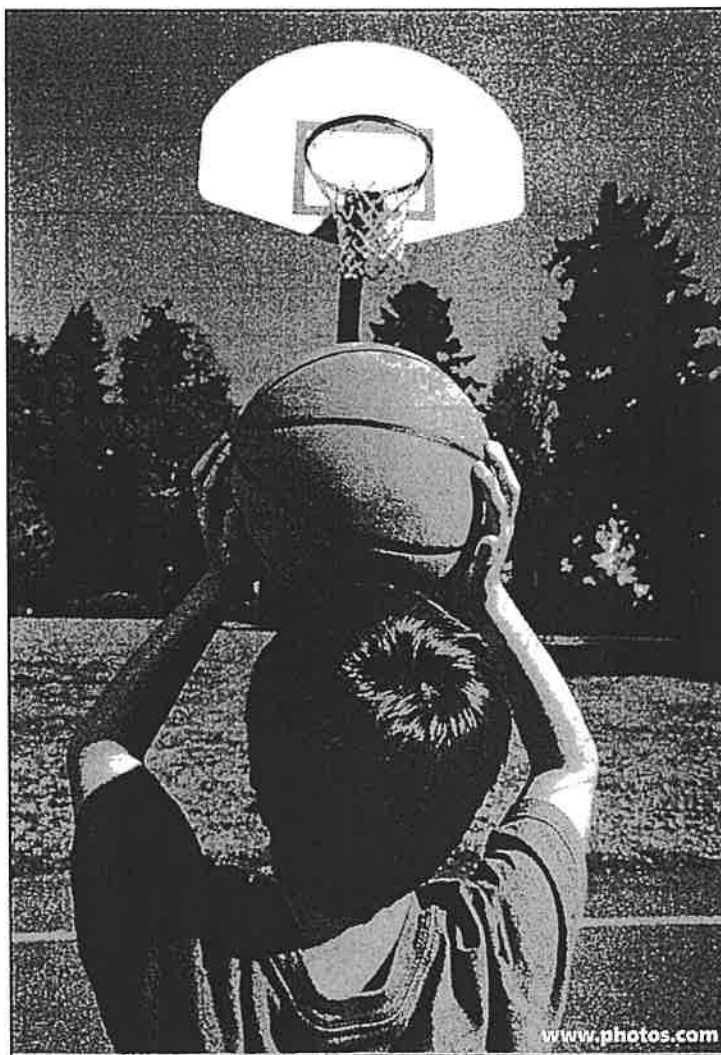
Return by 3-12-20

Student's Name

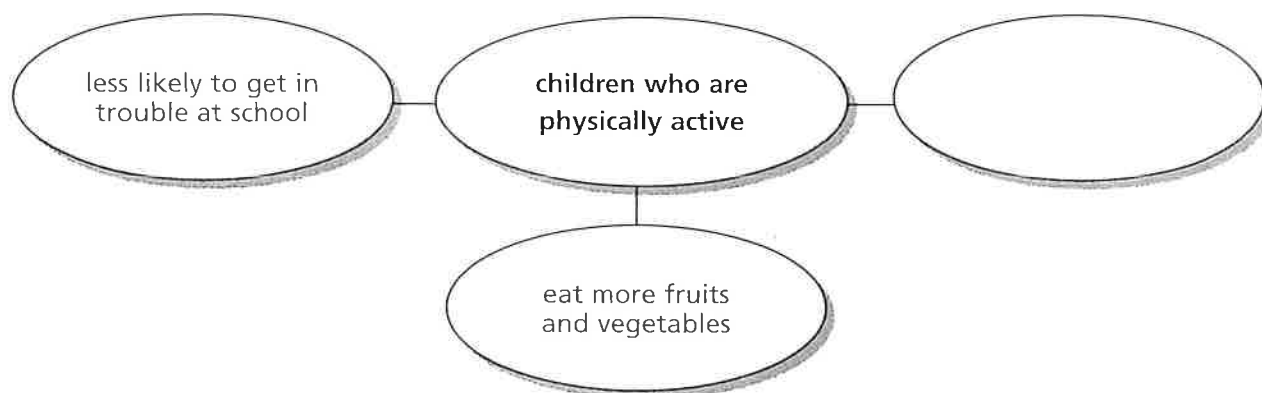
Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

Pass the Test!

- 1 How could dribbling a basketball have anything to do with schoolwork? Actually, when our bodies are active, our brains become active as well. People who study kids have made some interesting discoveries. They have found that when kids exercise, their brains work better. It's true! Physical activity helps blood flow to our brain. It also helps cell growth.
- 2 Did you know that students who exercise every day do better on tests? When a student's body is active, the brain makes decisions more quickly and remembers better. Kids who are physically active enjoy school more and tend to like themselves more. The physical activity allows them to relax.
- 3 All that comes from being physically active? Yes, and there is more. Researchers studied kids who are physically active and those who are not. They discovered that active kids are less likely to get in trouble at school. They also found out that active kids are more likely to have other healthy habits. They eat more fruits and vegetables. They watch less television. They wear their seat belts. They are even less likely to smoke when they get older. Wow!
- 4 To stay healthy, experts say kids should exercise at least 60 minutes every day. Every physical activity counts—walking, riding a bike, playing basketball, swimming. There are too many physical activities to count! So just choose a few and get busy. Your body *and* your brain will be glad you did.



- 17 What is the main idea of the passage?
- A When kids exercise, their brains work better.
 - B Physical activity helps cell growth.
 - C People who study kids have made interesting discoveries.
 - D Riding a bike is an example of physical activity.
- 18 Which question does paragraph 2 answer?
- A What does basketball have to do with schoolwork?
 - B How much should a kid exercise each day?
 - C How does physical activity make the brain work better?
 - D Is watching television a healthy habit?
- 19 This web shows details about children who are physically active.



Which BEST completes the web?

- A more likely to watch television
 - B less likely to smoke when older
 - C less likely to wear seat belt
 - D less likely to enjoy school
- 20 Read this dictionary entry for the word school.

school (skool) 1. *n.* Place for teaching children. 2. *n.* College.
3. *v.* To teach or train someone. 4. *n.* Large group of the same type of fish.

Which meaning of the word school is used in paragraph 2?

- A definition 1
- B definition 2
- C definition 3
- D definition 4

- 21 Read the book's table of contents.

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Which chapter begins on page 10?

- A "How We Used to Live"
 - B "How We Live Today"
 - C "Why Run?"
 - D "Pass the Test!"
- 22 Based upon the context of the passage, explain the meaning of the word *physical*. Then use *physical* in a new sentence. (3 points)

Directions: Read both passages. Then answer the questions that follow.

Chapter One
**The Complete Book
of Birds**



The monk parakeet, a popular pet in the United States, comes originally from South America. It is the only kind of parrot that does not nest in a cavity, or hole. Instead, monk parakeets build a structure of sticks. It can hold one nest or many that have individual rooms or chambers. The birds usually construct these outdoor houses—or repair their old ones—in the spring. They live in them year-round. Some of the nests are enormous and may weigh over 2000 pounds!

THE DAILY NEWS

Monk Parakeets Set Up House

By Cody Johnson
DAILY STAFF WRITER

In a neighborhood on the south side of Chicago lives a colony of monk parakeets. These birds have lived in the area since about 1980, when about a dozen of them probably escaped from their owner. Now the colony has expanded to 250 birds and has 40 nests. Monk parakeets are the

only parakeets that live in groups rather than individual nests.

How do the birds survive in the frigid winters in Chicago? They cluster in their nests. Citizens in the area make sure the birds are fed. In the summer they feed on grasses and fruit growing on trees.

- 23 Which passage gives the best information about how monk parakeets survive outdoors in the winter? Use information from the article to support your answer. (3 points)

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. A small, faint mark is present near the top center of the page.

- 24 Both articles are mainly about—
- A a nest in Chicago.
 - B monk parakeets.
 - C what parakeets eat.
 - D what nests are made of.
- 25 “Monk Parakeets Set Up House” gives more information about—
- A a colony of monk parakeets in Chicago.
 - B where monk parakeets come from.
 - C why the birds make good pets.
 - D when the birds make their nests.
- 26 “The Complete Book of Birds” gives more information about—
- A what color monk parakeets are.
 - B when some pet birds escaped.
 - C why citizens feed the birds.
 - D the size and weight of nests.

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

Johnny Appleseed

Close your eyes. Picture rows and rows of apple trees. That's what John Chapman did. However, he didn't just picture the trees. He set out to make this idea come true. Chapman spent almost 50 years planting apple trees in the American wilderness. Because of his work, he was called Johnny Appleseed.

In the early 1800s, many people were moving westward. By law, each family had to plant 50 apple trees on their new land. The idea was to make sure they would have food.

Chapman saw a way to help the settlers. He was good at growing plants. He decided to go ahead of the settlers. He planned to plant apple trees.

Chapman was careful about where he planted these trees. He was careful about how he planted them too. He didn't just scatter seeds wherever he went. He spent forever looking for a place with good soil. When he found the right spot, he cleared the land. When the soil was ready, he planted the seeds. Before he left, he built a fence to protect the trees.

When people arrived, they didn't have to plant a single apple tree. Chapman had done all the work for them! Soon stories about him began to spread. One story told about how he saved a wolf from a trap. The wolf became his friend. It traveled with him for a while.

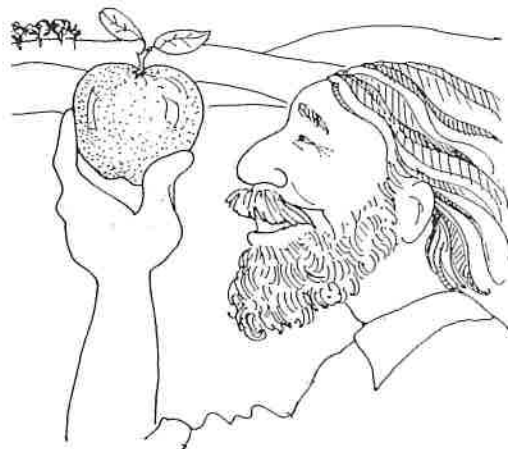
In his travels, Chapman worked alone. His life was simple. He walked barefoot through the wilderness. All he carried was a bag of apple seeds and his camping gear. He lived in simple shelters. Sometimes he

made a hut out of tree bark. Other times he slept on a bed of leaves or on the ground near a small fire.

Chapman mostly lived alone. Even so, he had many friends. Aside from the settlers, he made friends with many Native American tribes. He learned their languages and their customs. They grew to trust him. Sometimes they even let him join their meetings. When a conflict happened between settlers and Native Americans, Chapman often was able to help.

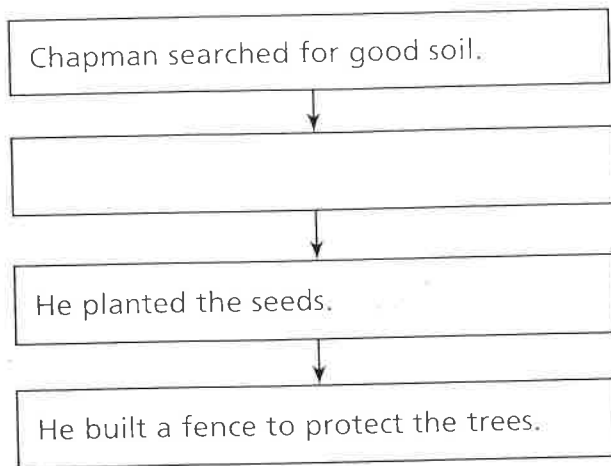
As he traveled from place to place, Chapman sold apple seeds and trees to many people. He let them pay in different ways. Some paid with money. Others paid with used clothes or food or with the promise to pay later. What was most important to Chapman was that they planted the trees.

During his lifetime, he planted apple trees in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana. Today, many of his apple trees still bear fruit! John Chapman is truly an American hero.



Tryout Test: Part 2

- 27 Read the chart below. It shows the steps John Chapman followed to plant an apple orchard.



- Which of these belongs in the empty box?
- A He built a shelter.
 - B He collected money.
 - C He scattered the seeds.
 - D He cleared the land.
- 28 What happened as a result of Chapman learning the languages and customs of the Native Americans?
- A The Native Americans helped him plant apple trees.
 - B The Native Americans left the settlers alone.
 - C Chapman went to live with a Native American tribe.
 - D Chapman was able to help solve conflicts between Native Americans and the settlers.
- 29 Which of the following sentences from the text BEST describes the author's point of view about Chapman?
- A *Chapman spent almost 50 years planting apple trees in the American wilderness.*
 - B *He was good at growing plants.*
 - C *One story told about how he saved a wolf from a trap.*
 - D *John Chapman is truly an American hero.*

Directions: Look at this page from an informational book on Redwood National Park. Answer the questions that follow.

Redwood Forest



Ferns

The most common ferns in the redwood forests are the bracken fern, lady fern, western sword fern, and five-fingered fern. Driving and walking the paths of the redwoods, visitors will spot many of these plants.

Five-fingered ferns were important to the Yuroks. The black stems were stripped off and used to make patterns on baskets.

All ferns depend on water to reproduce. The plants produce very small seeds called *spores*. These spores blow easily from one location to the next. Once they land in water, they begin to sprout.

Giant Horsetails

Giant horsetails live among the ferns. These plants have been around for millions of years. Giant horsetails have groups of pointy leaves growing on tall stems. These plants like to grow in wet areas and need water to reproduce.

Plants You Can Eat

The redwood parks are home to several plants that are safe for humans to eat. However, visitors should never eat a plant unless they are sure it is edible.

Raspberry, thimbleberry, salmonberry, and blackberry bushes all grow alongside the roads. These berries need a lot of sunlight to thrive.

Black and red huckleberry plants are found deep within the forest. These berries need a drier environment and less sunlight.

Wild strawberries grow on the grasslands near Bald Hills Road. One plant used by the American Indians was the hazelnut tree. The Indians ate the nuts and used the wood to make baskets.

Wild Strawberry



30 What is the purpose of the captions in the pictures?

- A to tell about plants
- B to describe the photos
- C to tell about giant horsetails
- D to describe edible plants

31 Study the following sentence.

These plants like to grow in wet areas and need water to reproduce.

The prefix *re-* in the word produce means—

- A against.
- B above.
- C again.
- D stop.

32 Study the following sentence.

The Redwood parks are home to several plants that are safe for humans to eat. However, visitors should never eat a plant unless they are sure it is edible.

Based upon the context, the word edible means—

- A not safe to eat.
- B not safe to drink.
- C safe to eat.
- D a dangerous plant.

Take a break. Then go on to Part 3.