

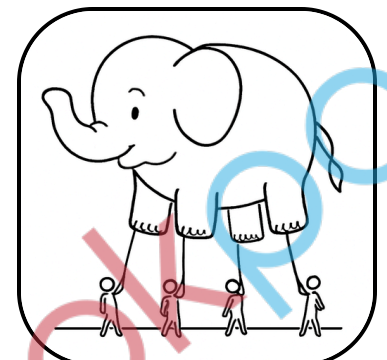
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Parade in the Sky: The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Every year, people in New York City gather to watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. It is a special event that began almost one hundred years ago. At first, the parade was a way for new Americans to feel welcome and celebrate together. Groups would walk along the city streets, carrying balloons and playing music.

The parade is famous for its giant balloons that float high above the crowds. These balloons often look like animals, cartoon faces, or other fun shapes. Bands, dancers, and colorful floats add excitement to the show. Many families watch the parade every year, either in person or on TV.

The Macy's Parade has become a tradition for people all across the country. It helps everyone feel close, even if they live far away.



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### A Parade in the Sky: The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Every year, people in New York City gather to (9)

watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. It is a (18)

special event that began almost one hundred years (26)

ago. At first, the parade was a way for new (36)

Americans to feel welcome and celebrate together. (43)

Groups would walk along the city streets, carrying (51)

balloons and playing music. (55)

The parade is famous for its giant balloons that (64)

float high above the crowds. These balloons often (72)

look like animals, cartoon faces, or other fun (80)

shapes. Bands, dancers, and colorful floats add (87)

excitement to the show. Many families watch the (95)

parade every year, either in person or on TV. (104)

The Macy's Parade has become a tradition for (112)

people all across the country. It helps everyone (120)

feel close, even if they live far away. (128)

### Comprehension Questions:

#### Literal Question:

What is one thing people see at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade?

#### Answer:

Giant balloons.

#### Student Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Correct \_\_\_\_\_ Incorrect

#### Inferential Question:

Why do you think families like to watch the parade every year?

#### Answer:

It is a fun and special tradition.

#### Student Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Correct \_\_\_\_\_ Incorrect

#### Vocabulary Question:

What does the word 'tradition' mean in this passage?

#### Answer:

A custom people enjoy doing each year.

#### Student Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Correct \_\_\_\_\_ Incorrect

### Notes:

### Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL N Grade Level: 3 Word Count: 128

Total Words Read: \_\_\_\_\_

Errors: \_\_\_\_\_

WCPM: (total words read — errors = WCPM) \_\_\_\_\_

WCPM: Below grade level At grade level Above grade level

Prosody: 1 2 3 4

Comprehension: \_\_\_\_\_ / 3 correct

# How to Administer the Fluency Passage Assessment

## Assess Oral Reading Fluency

- Give the student a copy of the passage. **Set a timer or stopwatch for 1 minute.**
- Ask the student to begin reading. As the student reads aloud, assess prosody and mark errors and self-corrections on the evaluation copy using the following guides.
- **Stop the student when one minute has passed.** Take note of the last word the student read.
- Score the passage on the evaluation copy according to the **Scoring Guide**. Use the following chart to compare grade level norms for words correctly read per minute.

Marking Conventions	
Attempted Word = Substitution Error	✓ = Accurate Word Reading
^ = Insertion Error	Attempted Word S/C = Self Correction
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
T = Intervention Error (telling student the word)	

Prosody Rubric	1	2	3	4
<b>Expression and Volume</b>	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression
<b>Phrasing</b>	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing
<b>Smoothness</b>	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident
<b>Pace</b>	too slow or too fast	uneven pace	generally appropriate pace	consistent, conversational pace

Grade Level Norms (WCPM) *							
Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring	Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
<b>First</b>	0 - 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	<b>Fourth</b>	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
<b>Second</b>	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	<b>Fifth</b>	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
<b>Third</b>	50 - 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	<b>Sixth</b>	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

\* Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

## Fluency Builder: A Parade in the Sky: The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

### Passage Details

Grade Level: 3

Reading Level: F&P GRL N

Word Count: 128

### High-Frequency Words

above, almost, city, close, together

### Suggestions for Use

Increase Exposure to High-Frequency Words

- Before reading, introduce the list of high-frequency words in the passage.
- Find the words in the passage. Highlight or underline the words.

Illustrate and Label Extension Activity

- Have students draw and label items mentioned in the passage.

Link to Writing or Discussion

- Encourage knowledge transfer and personal connection by asking:  
"Describe a celebration or parade you have seen or joined."  
"Why do you think parades are fun for families and friends?"

Use for Repeated Readings

Day 1: Teacher reads aloud, then echo read

Day 2: Partner reading

Day 3: One-minute fluency timing and WCPM tracking

Day 4: Performance reading (with expression!)