Name:

Shining Lights to Guide the Way

A lighthouse is a tall tower that stands near the edge of the sea. Its most important job is to help ships stay safe as they travel, especially at night or when it is hard to see. The light at the top shines far above the water, warning ships about rocks, shallow water, or other dangers that might be below the waves.

Lighthouses often stand all alone, miles from the city or even a small town. The bright light flashes or spins, so sailors know exactly where the land begins and the sea ends. Without lighthouses, ships might crash and people could get hurt.

Today, there are fewer lighthouse keepers, but the idea of shining a light to keep others safe will always be important.

Student Name: **Date:**

Shining Lights to Guide the Way

A lighthouse is a tall tower that stands near the (10)

edge of the sea. Its most important job is to help (21)

ships stay safe as they travel, especially at (29)

night or when it is hard to see. The light at the (41)

top shines far above the water, warning ships (49)

about rocks, shallow water, or other dangers that (57)

might be below the waves. (62)

Lighthouses often stand all alone, miles from the (70)

city or even a small town. The bright light (79)

flashes or spins, so sailors know exactly where (87)

the land begins and the sea ends. Without (95)

lighthouses, ships might crash and people could (102)

get hurt. (104)

Today, there are fewer lighthouse keepers, but the (112)

idea of shining a light to keep others safe will (122)

always be important. (125)

Comprehension Questions:

Literal Question:
What is the main job of a lighthouse?

Answer:
To help ships stay safe by warning them of danger.

Student Answer:

_____ **Correct**   _____ **Incorrect**

Inferential Question:
Why might sailors feel safer near a lighthouse?

Answer:
They know the light helps them avoid danger.

Student Answer:

_____ **Correct**   _____ **Incorrect**

Vocabulary Question:
What does 'below' mean in the passage?

Answer:
Under the water or waves.

Student Answer:

_____ **Correct**   _____ **Incorrect**

Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL P   **Grade Level:** 3   **Word Count:** 125

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

Notes:

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
Expression and Volume	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression
Phrasing	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing
Smoothness	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident
Pace	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
First	0 – 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	**Fourth**	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
Second	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	**Fifth**	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
Third	50 – 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	**Sixth**	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

* Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

Fluency Builder: Shining Lights to Guide the Way

Passage Details

Grade Level: 3

Reading Level: F&P GRL P

Word Count: 125

High-Frequency Words

above, always, below, city, idea

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 time when you helped keep someone safe."

    "Why do you think lighthouses are built near the sea?"

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!)