

Name: _____

Life Without Modern Machines

Long ago, Pioneer families living in rural areas did not have electricity or cars. They had to become very good at doing things themselves. People made most of their food from scratch. They grew vegetables, hunted wild animals, and fished in rivers. When winter came, they stored food to last through the cold months.

Everything took a lot of time and hard work. Chores started early each morning. People would chop wood for fires, milk cows, and carry water from a well. Each family member had a job to help the whole group. Many tools and clothes were handmade. These skills helped families survive and feel proud of their work.

Pioneer life was different from today, but people worked together to have the best life they could.



Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Life Without Modern Machines

Long ago, Pioneer families living in rural areas (8)

did not have electricity or cars. They had to (17)

become very good at doing things themselves. (24)

People made most of their food from scratch. They (33)

grew vegetables, hunted wild animals, and fished (40)

in rivers. When winter came, they stored food to (49)

last through the cold months. (54)

Everything took a lot of time and hard work. (63)

Chores started early each morning. People would (70)

chop wood for fires, milk cows, and carry water (79)

from a well. Each family member had a job to help (90)

the whole group. Many tools and clothes were (98)

handmade. These skills helped families survive and (105)

feel proud of their work. (110)

Pioneer life was different from today, but people (118)

worked together to have the best life they could. (127)

Comprehension Questions:

Literal Question:

How did families get their food in pioneer times?

Answer:

They grew, hunted, and fished for food.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Inferential Question:

Why did every family member have a job to do?

Answer:

Because everyone needed to help for the family to survive.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Vocabulary Question:

What does 'rural' mean in this passage?

Answer:

It means countryside or not near a city.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL Q Grade Level: 4 Word Count: 127

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: Life Without Modern Machines

Passage Details

Grade Level: 4

Reading Level: F&P GRL Q

Word Count: 127

High-Frequency Words

area, become, best, cold, wood

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:
"How would your life change without electricity or cars?"
"What skill would you want to learn if you lived long ago?"

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!)