

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

# The Magic of the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree

Every year, people from all over visit New York City to see a huge Christmas tree. This tree stands high above the crowds at Rockefeller Center. Workers select a tall tree from the country. Then, they carefully cut it down and carry it into the city.

The tree is decorated with thousands of bright lights. Families and friends gather together to watch the tree light up at night. The glow can be seen from far away and often makes people smile.

The Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree is an important holiday tradition. It brings people close, reminding everyone of the joy that comes from being together. For many, seeing this tree is a special way to start the season.



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

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

### The Magic of the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree

Every year, people from all over visit New York (9)

City to see a huge Christmas tree. This tree (18)

stands high above the crowds at Rockefeller (25)

Center. Workers select a tall tree from the (33)

country. Then, they carefully cut it down and (41)

carry it into the city. (46)

The tree is decorated with thousands of bright (54)

lights. Families and friends gather together to (61)

watch the tree light up at night. The glow can be (72)

seen from far away and often makes people smile. (81)

The Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree is an (88)

important holiday tradition. It brings people (94)

close, reminding everyone of the joy that comes (102)

from being together. For many, seeing this tree is (111)

a special way to start the season. (118)

### Comprehension Questions:

#### Literal Question:

Where is the famous tree set up each year?

#### Answer:

At Rockefeller Center in New York City.

#### Student Answer:

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

#### Inferential Question:

Why do you think people enjoy gathering by the tree?

#### Answer:

It helps them feel happy and celebrate together.

#### Student Answer:

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

#### Vocabulary Question:

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

#### Answer:

A special event repeated every year.

#### Student Answer:

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

### Notes:

### Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL N      Grade Level: 3      Word Count: 118

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: The Magic of the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree

### Passage Details

Grade Level: 3

Reading Level: F&P GRL N

Word Count: 118

### High-Frequency Words

above, carry, city, country, 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 holiday tradition your family enjoys."  
"Why might lights on a tree make people feel excited?"

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!)