

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

## Why Do Leaves Fall in Autumn?

Autumn is a season that comes after summer and before winter. During autumn, the air gets cooler, and the days become shorter. Many trees begin to change the color of their leaves. The leaves turn red, yellow, or orange because the trees are getting ready for winter.

In autumn, trees do not need as many leaves. They let their leaves fall to the ground. This is a normal change that happens every year in many places around the world, even in America. The fallen leaves can help the ground by making the soil better for new plants.

When you see leaves falling, it does not mean someone took them away. It means the tree is following its natural cycle. Autumn is a time of great change in nature!



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

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

### Why Do Leaves Fall in Autumn?

Autumn is a season that comes after summer and (9)

before winter. During autumn, the air gets cooler, (17)

and the days become shorter. Many trees begin to (26)

change the color of their leaves. The leaves turn (35)

red, yellow, or orange because the trees are (43)

getting ready for winter. (47)

In autumn, trees do not need as many leaves. They (57)

let their leaves fall to the ground. This is a (67)

normal change that happens every year in many (75)

places around the world, even in America. The (83)

fallen leaves can help the ground by making the (92)

soil better for new plants. (97)

When you see leaves falling, it does not mean (106)

someone took them away. It means the tree is (115)

following its natural cycle. Autumn is a time of (124)

great change in nature! (128)

### Comprehension Questions:

#### Literal Question:

When do leaves usually fall from trees?

#### Answer:

In autumn.

#### Student Answer:

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

#### Inferential Question:

Why might trees not need as many leaves in autumn?

#### Answer:

Because they are getting ready for winter.

#### Student Answer:

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

#### Vocabulary Question:

What does the word 'cycle' mean in the passage?

#### Answer:

A pattern that happens over and over.

#### Student Answer:

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

### Notes:

### Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL K Grade Level: 2 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: Why Do Leaves Fall in Autumn?

### Passage Details

Grade Level: 2

Reading Level: F&P GRL K

Word Count: 128

### High-Frequency Words

after, air, America, change, does

### 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 what you see during autumn in your neighborhood."  
"Why do you think trees change in different seasons?"

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!)