FREE PASSAGES GRADE 3

FLUENCY PROBES + SCORE SHEET

My name: _____

Read the story out loud.

Mia and the Lost Kite

On Saturday, Mia took her new red kite to the big fie
behind her school. The wind was strong, and the kite
out of her hands before she was ready. She had sa
money for a month to buy it.

She ran after it as fast as she could. The kite saile
the fence and landed in a tall tree. Mia stood still
her eyes filled with tears.

Then her neighbor, Mr. Reyes, walked over with
He gently lifted the string and brought the kite
"Thank you!" said Mia. This time, she held the s
both hands. They walked home together, and
whole way.

1 2

My name: _____

Read the story out loud.

A Frog's Life



A frog does not begin life as a frog. It starts as a tiny egg in a pond. Hundreds of eggs float together in a clump that looks like jelly.

After a few days, a tadpole hatches. A tadpole has a tail and gills, so it can breathe and swim under water. It eats tiny plants and grows bigger each week.

Soon back legs appear, and then front legs. The tail gets shorter and shorter. Lungs grow, so the young frog can climb out and breathe air.

At last the tail is gone. The frog hops onto land and eats insects. It can jump far with its strong back legs. In time, it will lay eggs of its own.

1 2 3

Free Fluency Passages Grade 3 · Passage 3 · Nonfiction

FREE

Bright Path Sped

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PREVIEW

How to Time It

The same six steps every time, so the number means the same thing from week to week.

Six steps

- **Put the student page in front of the student,** face up, with your scoring copy, pencil and timer ready. Say: "Please read this story out loud. Do your best reading."
- **Start the one-minute timer** as the student looks at the first word. Do not say the first word.
- **Mark each error with a short line** over the word on your scoring copy. A word skipped is an error.
- **At one minute,** say "Stop" and put a bracket after the last word read. If the student finishes sooner, stop the timer on the last word and write the seconds.
- **Find words read.** Look at the margin number at the end of the line before the bracket, then count the words in the last line up to the bracket and add them.
- **Fill in the WCPM box:** words read minus errors is words correct; words correct ÷ seconds × 60 is WCPM.

What counts as an error

- A word read wrong, a word skipped, or a word you told the student.
- A word the student fixes alone is correct.
- After ___ seconds on a word, tell it (your district's rule goes on the blank); it counts as an error.

If the student finishes early

Stop the timer on the last word, write the seconds in the box, and score the whole passage. The WCPM box divides by the seconds, so a quick reader is not under-counted.

A worked count (from Passage 1, paragraph 2)

The student stops after "fence and landed" in the second line of paragraph 2. The margin number just above is 56; three more words make 59 words read. With 4 errors that is 55 words correct in 60 seconds, so the WCPM is 55.

Notes from this session

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Read the story out loud.

Mia and the Lost Kite



On Saturday, Mia took her new red kite to the big field behind her school. The wind was strong, and the kite jumped out of her hands before she was ready. She had saved her money for a month to buy it.

She ran after it as fast as she could. The kite sailed over the fence and landed in a tall tree. Mia stood still, and her eyes filled with tears.

Then her neighbor, Mr. Reyes, walked over with a long pole. He gently lifted the string and brought the kite down. "Thank you!" said Mia. This time, she held the string with both hands. They walked home together, and Mia smiled the whole way.

PREVIEW

☆ 1 ☆ 2 ☆ 3

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name: _____

Read the story out loud.

A Frog's Life



A frog does not begin life as a frog. It starts as a tiny egg in a pond. Hundreds of eggs float together in a clump that looks like jelly.

After a few days, a tadpole hatches. A tadpole has a tail and gills, so it can breathe and swim under water. It eats tiny plants and grows bigger each week.

Soon back legs appear, and then front legs. The tail gets shorter and shorter. Lungs grow, so the young frog can climb out and breathe air.

At last the tail is gone. The frog hops onto land and eats insects. It can jump far with its strong back legs. In time, it will lay eggs of its own.

PREVIEW

☆ 1 ☆ 2 ☆ 3

Passage 1: Mia and the Lost Kite

Fiction · 116 words · 10 lines

Student _____ Date _____ Scored by _____

On Saturday, Mia took her new red kite to the big field behind her | 14

school. The wind was strong, and the kite jumped out of her hands | 27

before she was ready. She had saved her money for a month to buy it. | 42

She ran after it as fast as she could. The kite sailed over the | 56

fence and landed in a tall tree. Mia stood still, and her eyes | 69

filled with tears. | 72

Then her neighbor, Mr. Reyes, walked over with a long pole. He | 84

gently lifted the string and brought the kite down. "Thank you!" | 95

said Mia. This time, she held the string with both hands. They | 107

walked home together, and Mia smiled the whole way. | 116

The number in the margin is the total words read through the end of that line.

WCPM box: words read in one minute, minus the errors, scaled to 60 seconds

Words read	Errors	Words correct (read minus errors)
Seconds (60 unless the student finished early)	**WCPM (words correct ÷ seconds × 60)**	**Questions right (of 3)**

PREVIEW

Passage 3: A Frog's Life

Nonfiction · 119 words · 11 lines

Student _____ Date _____ Scored by _____

A frog does not begin life as a frog. It starts as a tiny egg in a	17
pond. Hundreds of eggs float together in a clump that looks like jelly.	30
After a few days, a tadpole hatches. A tadpole has a tail and gills,	44
so it can breathe and swim under water. It eats tiny plants and	57
grows bigger each week.	61
Soon back legs appear, and then front legs. The tail gets shorter	73
and shorter. Lungs grow, so the young frog can climb out and breathe	86
air.	87
At last the tail is gone. The frog hops onto land and eats insects.	101
It can jump far with its strong back legs. In time, it will lay eggs	116
of its own.	119

The number in the margin is the total words read through the end of that line.

WCPM box: words read in one minute, minus the errors, scaled to 60 seconds

Words read _____ Errors _____ Words correct (read minus errors) _____

Seconds (60 unless the student finished early) _____ WCPM (words correct ÷ seconds × 60) _____ Questions right (of 3) _____

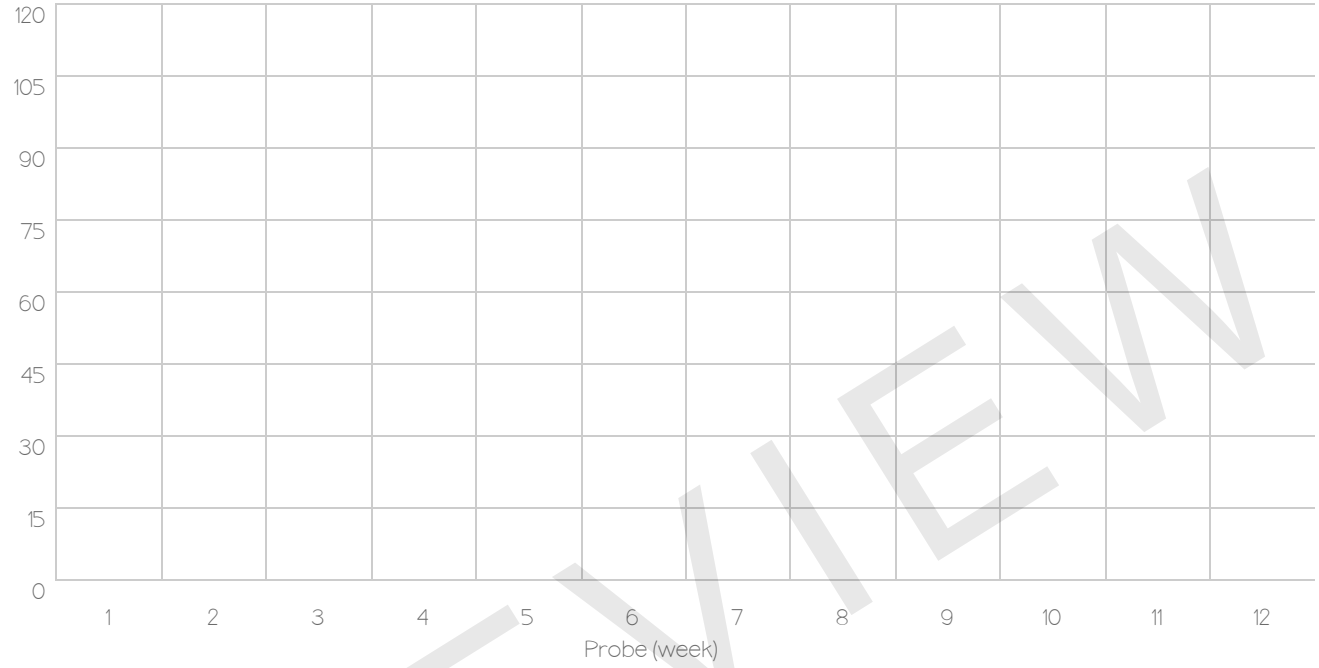
PREVIEW

Fluency Passages - Data Log and Graph

One row per timed read. Three points under the aim line is a decision: change the teaching and write what changed in the notes.

Student _____ Goal / aim (WCPM) _____ Goal date _____

Words correct per minute (WCPM) · draw the aim line from the baseline to the goal first, then plot each week



#	Date	Passage	Words read	Errors	Seconds	WCPM	Questions (of 3)

Decision notes: what changed and why

_____

_____

_____

PREVIEW