13 SHEETS

GROUNDHOG DAY READING PASSAGES

GRADES 2-4

4 Passages + Questions | Highlight the Proof

My name _____ Date _____

Read. Then highlight the proof.

3 Groundhog Day

Longer passage

[1]Every year on February 2, people celebrate Groundhog Day. [2]They wait for a groundhog to come out of its burrow. [3]People like to guess what the groundhog will do before the big morning. [4]An old story says the groundhog can tell us about the weather. [5]If the day is sunny and the groundhog sees its shadow, the story says there will be six more weeks of winter. [6]The groundhog goes back inside its burrow. [7]If the day is cloudy and the groundhog does not see its shadow, the story says spring will come early. [8]Many families watch the news that morning to find out what the groundhog did. [9]Many towns and zoos hold their own Groundhog Day events. [10]Some classrooms celebrate with stories, crafts, and games. [11]Groundhog Day is a fun tradition, and the idea is very old. [12]It came to the United States with settlers from Europe long ago.

Highlight it! Find the sentence that tells what happens when the groundhog does not see its shadow.

Sentence number 7

My name _____ Date _____

Answer the questions. Look back in the passage.

3 Groundhog Day

1. On what date is Groundhog Day?
   - (●) a. February 2
   - ( ) b. March 2
   - ( ) c. January 2
2. What does the old story say if the groundhog sees its shadow?
   - ( ) a. Spring will come early.
   - (●) b. There will be six more weeks of winter.
   - ( ) c. It will rain all day.
3. What kind of day is it when the groundhog does not see its shadow? Write the answer.

   A cloudy day
4. What does the word tradition me
   - ( ) a. a kind of weather
   - ( ) b. a pla
5. How did the Groundhog Day idea co the answer.

   With settlers from Europe



Terms of Use

Please read before you print your first page.

One classroom license

- This file is for one classroom: one teacher, one group of students.
- Please do not share it, post it online, or sell it.
- Extra licenses for a team or a school are available on the product page.

This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line, type, and Save As.
- The name and date on every student page, the answer lines, the tally boxes, the tracker and every notes area are type-in fields. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- Highlighting is done on paper: print the passage page and highlight or underline, or type the sentence number on the line.
- It works offline: no account, no subscription, no internet needed.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the passages stay big enough to read. Pages print in color or in black and white.

Student work

A filled-in tracker carries a student's name. Keep it in the data folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page first. Every question is read, and a fix ships as a free update.

© Bright Path Sped. For single-classroom use by the original purchaser.

PREVIEW

Passages at a Glance

4 passages, 2 shorter and 2 longer, all on groundhogs and the Groundhog Day custom.

All four passages

#	Passage	Level	Lines	Words	Pages
1	What Is a Groundhog?	Shorter passage	8	90	6, 7
2	A Groundhog's Winter Sleep	Shorter passage	9	98	8, 9
3	Groundhog Day	Longer passage	12	149	10, 11
4	Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania	Longer passage	12	130	12, 13

"Lines" is the number of numbered sentences and "Words" the number of words, for a reading-rate check if you want one.

A routine that fits twenty minutes

- Teach the six words on the Word Match page.
- Read the passage aloud together, then once alone.
- Highlight the proof sentence for the prompt on the passage page.
- Turn the page and answer the five questions. Go back to the text for any answer.
- Check with the key. Color a box on the tracker.

Say it this way

- "Put your finger on the sentence that tells you."
- "What number is that sentence? Say it, then write it."
- "Read the question again. Which choice matches the text?"

Ways to adjust a page

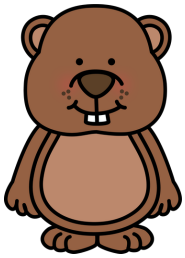
- Read the passage aloud first, then have the child read it back.
- Let the child say an answer while you write it, or point to the sentence that proves it.
- Cover the later questions and do one at a time.
- For more of a challenge, ask for the proof sentence number on every question: the key lists it.
- Use the Ask 10 People page before reading the Groundhog Day passage, then check the guess against the text.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____ Date _____

Match each word to its meaning. Write the letter.



Groundhog Words

1	burrow		A a dark shape made when something blocks the sun
2	hibernation		B a hole or tunnel an animal digs to live in
3	rodent		C something people do year after year
4	shadow		D a big party with music, food, and games
5	tradition		E a long sleep through the cold winter
6	festival		F an animal whose front teeth never stop growing

+ Pick one word. Use it in a sentence.

_____

_____

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____ Date _____

Answer the questions. Look back in the passage.

1 What Is a Groundhog?



1. What does a groundhog eat?

- ○ a. fish
- ○ b. plants
- ○ c. bones

2. Which animal family is a groundhog in?

- ○ a. the squirrel family
- ○ b. the bear family
- ○ c. the cat family

3. What is another name for a groundhog? Write the answer.

_____

_____

4. Why does a groundhog chew all day?

- ○ a. to make a burrow
- ○ b. to learn to whistle
- ○ c. to keep its front teeth short

5. Where does a groundhog live? Write the answer.

_____

_____

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Answer the questions. Look back in the passage.



2 A Groundhog's Winter Sleep

1. What does a groundhog do in the fall?

- ○ a. It eats a lot of food.
- ○ b. It flies south.
- ○ c. It builds a nest in a tree.

2. What is the long winter sleep called? Write the answer.

_____

_____

3. Where does the groundhog sleep?

- ○ a. in a tree
- ○ b. in a pond
- ○ c. in its burrow

4. What does the groundhog live on while it sleeps? Write the answer.

_____

_____

5. What happens to the groundhog's heartbeat during hibernation?

- ○ a. It gets faster.
- ○ b. It beats slowly.
- ○ c. It gets louder.

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Answer the questions. Look back in the passage.

3 Groundhog Day



1. On what date is Groundhog Day?

- ○ a. February 2
- ○ b. March 2
- ○ c. January 2

2. What does the old story say if the groundhog sees its shadow?

- ○ a. Spring will come early.
- ○ b. There will be six more weeks of winter.
- ○ c. It will rain all day.

3. What kind of day is it when the groundhog does not see its shadow? Write the answer.

_____

_____

4. What does the word tradition mean in this passage?

- ○ a. a kind of weather
- ○ b. a place to sleep
- ○ c. something people do year after year

5. How did the Groundhog Day idea come to the United States? Write the answer.

_____

_____

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Answer the questions. Look back in the passage.

4 Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania



1. In which state is Punxsutawney?

- ○ a. Texas
- ○ b. Ohio
- ○ c. Pennsylvania

2. What is the groundhog's name? Write the answer.

_____

_____

3. Why do people wear warm coats, hats, and gloves?

- ○ a. Because it is cold.
- ○ b. Because it is a rule.
- ○ c. Because it is raining.

4. How long ago was the first Groundhog Day party in this town? Write the answer.

_____

_____

5. What is at the town's festival?

- ○ a. a boat race
- ○ b. music, food, and games
- ○ c. a fireworks show

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Read each card. Write an X in the right box.

Fact Sorter

#	What it says	 Animal fact	 Groundhog Day idea
1	A groundhog digs a burrow in the ground.		
2	People celebrate on February 2.		
3	A groundhog eats grass, clover, and dandelions.		
4	A shadow means six more weeks of winter, says the old story.		
5	A groundhog goes to sleep for the winter.		
6	Many visitors come to Punxsutawney.		
7	A groundhog's front teeth never stop growing.		
8	On a cloudy day, the story says spring will come early.		

+ Pick one card. Tell how you know.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Write about it. Use a fact you read.



It is February 2. You are a groundhog. What do you do?

Draw it here

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Passages 3-4

Accept any answer that says the same thing, spoken or written. "Proof sentence" is the number of the sentence on the passage page that holds the answer.

Passage 3: Groundhog Day (pages 10-11)

Q	Kind	Answer	Proof sentence
1	Multiple choice	a. February 2	1
2	Multiple choice	b. There will be six more weeks of winter.	5
3	Short answer	A cloudy day	7
4	Multiple choice	c. something people do year after year	1
5	Short answer	With settlers from Europe	12
+	Highlight	If the day is cloudy and the groundhog does not see its shadow, the story says spring will come early.	7

Passage 4: Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania (pages 12-13)

Q	Kind	Answer	Proof sentence
1	Multiple choice	c. Pennsylvania	1
2	Short answer	Phil	2
3	Multiple choice	a. Because it is cold.	7
4	Short answer	More than one hundred years ago	3
5	Multiple choice	b. music, food, and games	11
+	Highlight	A group of people in tall black hats takes care of the event.	8

PREVIEW

Reading Tracker

Write the date, then 1 for each question answered right (0 if not yet), then the total of 5. Write 1 under "Proof found" if the child highlighted the right sentence. A blank row means not tried yet, never wrong. The empty rows are for reading a passage again.

Student _____ Teacher _____ School year _____

Passage	Date	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Of 5	Proof found	Notes
1 What Is a Groundhog?									
2 A Groundhog's Winter Sleep									
3 Groundhog Day									
4 Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania									

PREVIEW

What I notice

_____

_____

_____

_____

Next step

_____

_____

_____

_____

Maya's Tracker (Invented Student)

Maya R. is an invented student; nothing on this page describes a real child. The blank tracker is on page 21.

Passage	Date	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Of 5	Proof found	Notes
1 What Is a Groundhog?	1/26	1	1	1	1	0	4	1	–
2 A Groundhog's Winter Sleep	1/27	1	1	1	0	1	4	1	–
3 Groundhog Day	1/28	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	Read it aloud first
4 Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania	1/29	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

How to read it

Maya R. has done **4 of 4** passages. Points are the 1s in a row: **14 of 20** possible, or **70.0 percent**. She found the proof sentence on **3 of 4** passages. Every number is a sum of the table.

The family note this tracker would produce

"This week Maya read 4 Groundhog Day passages and answered 14 of 20 questions right. At home, please read the family page together and ask where in the text the answer is."

PREVIEW

Reading at Home

Send this page home with a child, or hand it to a family at a conference.

Student _____ Week of _____

How to help at home, in three steps

- Read the text below together, pointing to each word.
- Let your child read it again alone. Help with a word by saying the sounds slowly, then the word.
- Ask the questions out loud. If the answer is not clear, find the sentence together. Stop while it is still going well.

A text to practice: the first six sentences of What Is a Groundhog?

A groundhog is a furry animal with short legs and strong claws. It is a rodent, and it is in the same animal family as squirrels. Some people call it a woodchuck. A groundhog eats plants, like grass, clover, and dandelions. It also eats fruit and garden vegetables. Its front teeth never stop growing, so it chews all day to keep them short.



Try saying

- "What is a groundhog? What does it eat?"
- "Where does it say that? Put your finger on it."
- "What do you think a groundhog does on February 2? Ask three people at home what they think."

Note from the teacher

Note from home

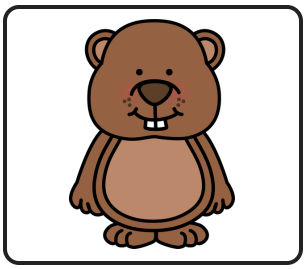
PREVIEW

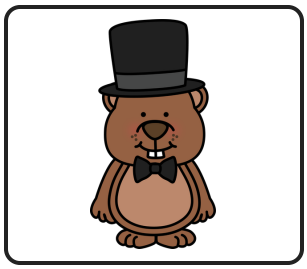
Binder Cover and Spine

The cover and spine label for the folder that holds the student's passages.

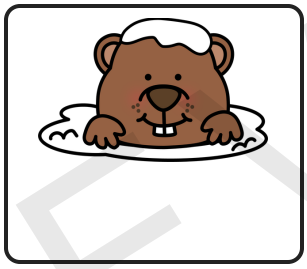
GROUNDHOG DAY READING PASSAGES

4 passages and questions









Student name

Teacher

School year

Groundhog Day Reading Passages

PREVIEW

Print the cover on card stock or paper and slide it into the binder front; fold the spine label around the edge.