

Teacher's Guide



Dentist Bird: How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth

Background



Dentist Bird is based on *How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth*, a folktale from Liberia.

Liberia is a country in West Africa.

This folktale is about a sick crocodile who asks for help from the forest creatures around him. Most of them are too afraid to help, except for one brave and clever plover bird who uses her knowledge of making medicine to work out a deal with the crocodile!

Herodotus, the Greek traveler and historian, first wrote in the Fifth century BC that plover birds cleaned the teeth of the Nile River crocodile. The relationship between these two animals was widely held to be a classic example of animal symbiosis—where each provides benefits for the other.

It is probable that the legend of the crocodile and the plover bird was originally brought to Liberia in the 13th or 14th century AD by Islamic settlers.

This retelling is based on a picture book by Michael Richards with illustrations by Liberian artist, David Wolobah.

INTRODUCING THE APP

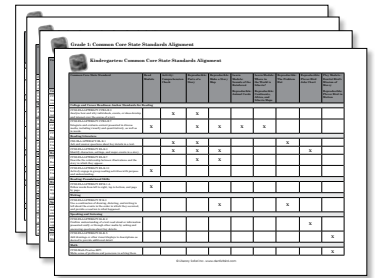
- **Read** an interactive picture book with embedded mini-games.
- **Play** the game *Dentist Bird's Mission of Mercy*. Take flight and overcome obstacles to deliver medicine to Crocodile!
- **Learn** by engaging in geography and science activities after reading the book.



STANDARDS

Dentist Bird supports the Common Core State Standards for Reading which recommend that K-5 texts come from “a broad range of cultures and periods and include children’s adventure stories, folktales, legends, fables, fantasy, realistic fiction, and myth.”

The activities in this guide support the 21st Century Learning Framework’s 4 C’s of education: Creativity, Critical Thinking, Communication, and Collaboration. They are also aligned to the Common Core State Standards for grades K-3.



Kindergarten - Grade 3 CCSS Alignment Charts

BEFORE READING

Preview Vocabulary

Create a word web of synonyms for these words from the story:

big (enormous, massive, gigantic)

bad (fearsome, unbearable, horrible)

You may also wish to share definitions of the following words that appear in the folktale:

- *companion* (friend)
- *curious* (the quality of wanting to know)
- *determined* (focused on or sure about)
- *immediate* (at once)
- *majestic* (grand, beautiful, or royal)
- *agreement* (deal)

READ THE STORY ⌚ 20 Mins

Have students read the interactive story *How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth* either in class or at home.





READ: Home Screen

At Home

Students can complete the “Read” section of the app as homework.

- *K-1: Listen and Read*

Turn on the  audio narration and  text features to support word recognition and reading skills.

- *Grades 2-3: Independent Reading*

Depending on students’ reading level, have them turn off the audio narration features and read to themselves.

In Class

Have students tap on the the “Read” button on the home screen. They can read alone, in pairs, or as a whole group.

- *Paired Reading*

Children take turns engaging with the interactive elements on each page and playing the mini-games on Screens 18-21.

- *Whole Group*

Project the story onto your interactive whiteboard and have children take turns interacting with each page.

AFTER READING

Review Key Ideas and Details







Check understanding of the text using the “Comprehension Check” handout. It includes sample answers for the following questions:

- Where does Crocodile live?
- Which forest creatures are worried about Crocodile?
- Why does wise Turtle offer to go find out what’s wrong with Crocodile?
- Why is Crocodile moaning?
- What reasons do the forest creatures give Turtle for not being able to help Crocodile?
- Why does Plover Bird want to help Crocodile?
- How does Plover Bird make the medicine?
- What deal do Plover Bird and Crocodile make? How does this help both of them?

Reproducible: Comprehension Check Answer Sheet

Screen Number	Question	Answer
Screen 1	Where does Crocodile live?	In a swampy area near a river.
Screen 2	Why does Crocodile moan?	Because he is very old and his teeth are hurting.
Screen 3	Why does Turtle offer to go find out what’s wrong with Crocodile?	Because Turtle is wise and wants to help.
Screen 4	Why does Plover Bird want to help Crocodile?	Because Plover Bird is kind and wants to help.
Screen 5	How does Plover Bird make the medicine?	By using herbs and other natural ingredients.
Screen 6	What deal do Plover Bird and Crocodile make?	Plover Bird will clean Crocodile’s teeth and Crocodile will give Plover Bird food.

Reproducible: Parts of a Story

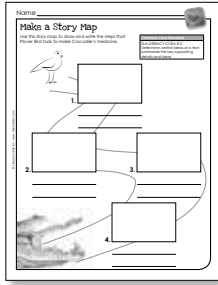
Beginning	Middle	End
		
		

Check Understanding

Have students make connections between the visual illustrations and story structure by identifying the beginning, middle, and end of the story using the “Parts of a Story” reproducible.

- *K-1:* Have students work in small groups to select, cut, and paste pictures in order, then match captions to the pictures.
- *Grades 2-3:* Have students work in small groups to complete the story map reproducible, working together to write detailed sentences that describe the scene in each image.

Reproducible:
Make a Story Map



Make a Story Map

Screens 18-21 of the “Read” section feature mini-games where students help Plover Bird collect the ingredients to make Crocodile’s medicine. These mini-games give readers game-based opportunities to recall specific plot details in this story.

- Using the Story Map reproducible, have students write or draw the specific steps Plover Bird took to make the medicine (*scrape tree bark with help of snail, collect red peppers, gather cotton seeds, collect ash*).
- Students can go back to Screens 18-21 to review this part of the story.



READ: Screen 10 shows all the forest animals gathered around discussing Crocodile.

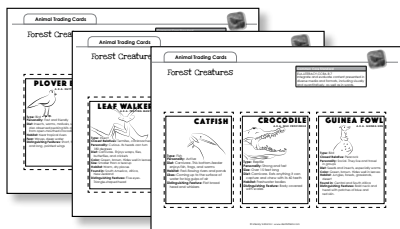
Make Real World Connections

Folktales are ideal teaching tools for starting conversations about morals and ethics, responsibility, and problem solving. Invite students to find similarities and differences between their social worlds and the characters in the story. Ask:

- Have you ever had a friend who was not behaving like his or her normal self, but you didn’t know why? How did it make you feel?
- The creatures of the forest don’t want to help Crocodile because they see him as someone who would hurt them. Is there a “Crocodile” in your life? Someone who you might be worried about but afraid to help?
- Why do you think Plover Bird wanted to help crocodile?
- What can Plover Bird teach us about helping others or being a good friend?
- What’s good about the deal that Plover Bird and Crocodile made? Have you ever made a deal with a friend?
- What is the moral or lesson from this story?



LEARN: Sounds of the Rainforest

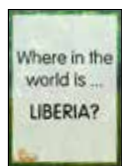


Reproducible:
Forest Creatures Trading Cards

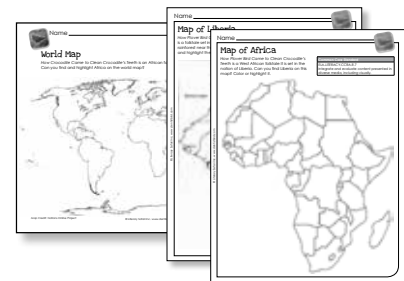
Science Connection: Learn about Animals and their Habitats

“Sounds of the Rainforest” is a matching game. Students match the sounds of the forest creatures (from the story) to reveal an animal “trading” card with fun facts. This activity checks understanding of the story and supports content-area learning about animals and their habitats.

- Project Screen 10 of the Read module on the interactive whiteboard and have students take turns tapping on each of the animals. They will hear the animal sounds for each creature as well as see their names on the screen. Talk about each animal and ask them what they know about these creatures.
- Check students recall of animal sounds by having them complete the “Sounds of the Rainforest” activity in the Learn module.
- Handout the reproducible “Forest Creatures.” It has animal trading cards that children can cut out and color.



LEARN: Where in the World is ... Liberia?



Reproducibles:
Continents, Africa, and Liberia Maps



PLAY: Dentist Bird's Mission of Mercy

Geography Connection: Learn about Setting

Though it is a fictional work, this folktale is set in a real place—the country of Liberia in West Africa. It offers an authentic opportunity to introduce children to a new part of the world.

- Have students complete the “Where in the World is ... Liberia?” activity in the Learn section. Students will interact with maps to learn about the continents, countries, and landmarks in the story.
- Hand out the map reproducibles and have children identify Africa, Liberia (and other West African countries), and the St. John River, where Crocodile lives.

ELA: Understanding Character

Plover Bird offers her knowledge of making medicine to the wise Turtle while the other creatures seem to think of themselves first. What does this show about her character and personality?

- Make a word web with Plover Bird in the middle and have students brainstorm words that describe Plover Bird’s character. These include *kind*, *brave*, *daring*, *curious*, *quick*, and *resourceful*.
- You could repeat this exercise for other main characters in the folktale, such as Crocodile and Turtle.

LEARN WITH GAMES

Dentist Bird’s Mission of Mercy is a narrative-inspired game. It challenges players to keep Plover Bird in flight, collect medicine, then feed it to Crocodile. During her journey through the rainforest, she encounters obstacles like monkeys throwing bananas, jungle vines, and a fast-moving river!

- *Small Group:* Have students work in pairs to take turns playing the game. The further they travel and the more medicine they are able to deliver to Crocodile, the more points they earn. Encourage them to help their partners if they are struggling, the way Plover Bird helped Crocodile.
- *Whole Group:* Pause gameplay at intervals to:
 - ▶ Discuss strategies for keeping Plover Bird in the air. What’s working? What’s not? (You might project the game onto the interactive whiteboard and have students take turns doing a show and tell.) In doing this, they are collaborating, communicating, and problem-solving, all skills that support the Common Core and the Framework for 21st Century Learning.
 - ▶ Have students physically act out the motion and movement of the game. What do they need to do to move Plover Bird and keep her in flight. What causes her to crash?
 - ▶ What changes need to be made in how the game is being played? Invite students to work together to figure it out, the way the forest animals came together to figure out what was wrong with Crocodile!

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Folktales offer multidisciplinary opportunities to extend learning. Here are some ideas for activities in different content areas.

Civic Responsibility

Plover Bird is the smallest of all the forest creatures, yet the kindest, the bravest and the most resourceful. She can serve as an example of positive qualities that children can show toward their classmates and in their community.

- Tell children that someone who is *resourceful* is able to deal well with new or difficult situations and to find solutions to problems. Ask: How is Plover Bird resourceful? (*Plover Bird is resourceful because she uses her knowledge of making medicine to not only help the crocodile, but to also help other plover birds.*)
- Share the classroom job description of Plover Bird with students and add the job of “Plover Bird” to your classroom’s daily or weekly jobs list.
- Every week, use the Plover Bird Job Chart to track and award rewards to students who demonstrate the most Plover-Bird like behavior in these categories: *Kind and Caring, Problem Solver, Good Manners, Peacemaker.*

Reproducibles: Plover Bird Classroom Job Description and Job Chart

Reproducible: The Problem Hut

Conflict Resolution: Identify Problems and Solutions

In Africa, stories were traditionally passed down orally. In Liberia, elders have long shared folktales with children in a palaver hut, a round structure with a thatched roof. It is a communal gathering spot in the village where elders and the village people come together to talk about common problems or settle conflicts. Palaver huts are also called peace huts. In Liberian English, *palava* is a verb. It means “to talk about or discuss.”

- Introduce children to the concept of a palaver hut. Then, have them sit in a circle for a “meeting” in a virtual palaver hut. In this seated format, you may:
 - ▶ Have children work together to identify solutions for some of the problems in this story. Some problem prompts you can give them: (a) Crocodile has a toothache. (b) Nobody wants to help Crocodile (c) Plover Bird likes to eat fish but is afraid of the water. They can use the “The Problem Hut” reproducible to write down the solutions they come up with.
 - ▶ Resolve a classroom conflict or settle a classroom dispute. For example, if the class as a whole can’t agree on something (where to go on a field trip) or two students need help with a disagreement (who gets a new crayon) they can use this format. You, the teacher, can play the role of the village elder and give each child an opportunity to respond to the problem and share their opinion of how to resolve it, steering the discussion to a solution.



READ: Screens 9 and 14 feature a traditional Liberian song.



READ: Screen 5 features the percussion sound of Leaf Walker's flexible neck turning

Music: Learn about Musical Instruments

The musical score for this app was composed by Steve Sandberg, an Emmy-award winning composer who has written music for the *Dora the Explorer*, *Go, Diego, Go!*, and *Dora and Friends* series. The music offers a valuable opportunity to discover the sounds and styles of a different country and culture.

- Instruments featured in the score include the mbira, also known as sanza or kalima, various pan-African sticks and shakers, the log drum, an electric guitar played in a West African style, and traditional vocals. Do a show and tell of the unique sounds that each instrument in the app makes. Have children pinpoint the sounds of the different instruments.
- Screens 9 and 14 also feature a traditional Liberian song. You might have children zoom in on the women and listen to the song and discuss the feeling that the song evokes. Then, you can play this video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SL2GfaMBIQk>) that shows Liberian women singing this song while cooking.

Music: Play the Drums

Drumming is a deep-rooted musical tradition of West Africa, including Liberia. The app offers a simple opportunity to play the drums.

- Revisit Screen 5 of the “Read” section. The background of the page has built-in drumming sounds.
- Have students create their own percussion compositions. Record their compositions and create a classroom playlist.

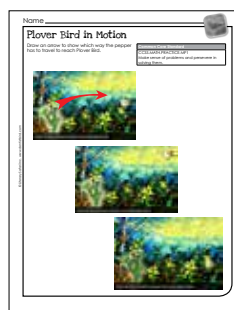
STEM: Math and Physics

On Screen 19, readers have to launch red peppers in the air toward Plover Bird. If the trajectory of the pepper—shown by the arrow—is accurate, the pepper reaches Plover Bird. This is an opportunity to get children thinking about the physics principal of projectile motion—the motion of an object thrown or projected into the air at an angle.

- Project the reproducible “Plover Bird in Motion” on your interactive whiteboard.
- Ask students to draw an arrow in the direction in which they have to launch the pepper in order for it to reach Plover Bird.
- Discuss as a group what that translates to in the game by bringing up Screen 19 and having children test out their theories and strategies for better aim.

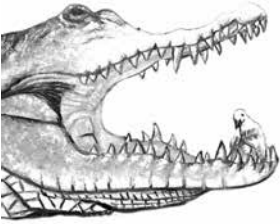


Reproducible: Plover Bird in Motion



Health: Taking Care of My Body

Because Crocodile does not clean out the food that gets stuck in his teeth, he has swollen gums and a toothache. This theme in the story opens up a teaching moment for focusing on the cause and effect relationship between self-care and dental hygiene.



- Show students the video “Open Wide” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tuP5fAJoeW4>) which shows a bird cleaning a Crocodile’s teeth. Ask why they think the app is called “Dentist Bird,” then have them role play or talk about the steps of cleaning Crocodile’s teeth and compare that to their own self-care.
- Ask students to think about the health of Crocodile’s teeth. What caused his pain? What were the effects of his toothache? What was the solution for the pain? Then, have them make connections to their own lives. Ask: What are the different ways people can take care of their teeth? What kinds of problems can you have if you don’t take care of your teeth?



READ: Screen 14 shows a natural toothbrush

Research Project: On Screen 14, Crocodile watches jealously as a woman cleans her teeth with a natural toothbrush. “How I wish I could hold a branch like that. Then I would be able to clean my own teeth,” he cries. In many parts of the world, a natural toothbrush is fashioned out of twigs or branches. These are also called chew sticks. Have children research and create a timeline of dental hygiene and different tools used around the world to clean teeth.

PAIRED READINGS

Pair *How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile’s Teeth* with one of these folktales from around the world for a deeper exploration of the themes of symbiosis, giving, teamwork, and resourcefulness.

The Lion and The Mouse

An Aesop fable in which an unlikely pair learn that kindness is never wasted. Jerry Pinkney’s wordless adaptation is set in the African Serengeti and invites children to engage in the art of narration.

Anansi the Spider Tales

Originating in Ghana, West Africa, Anansi is a wise and resourceful spider who, like Plover Bird, uses his cunning intelligence to prevail over larger animals. In Gerald McDermott’s Caldecott Honor Book, a spider threatened by Fish and Falcon is saved by the help of his sons.

The Little Red Hen

A folktale that teaches children a valuable lesson about teamwork. Adaptations and retellings abound.

The Enormous Turnip by Alexei Tolstoy

A Russian folktale where a family works together to pull a giant turnip out of the ground. Contemporary adaptation includes *The Enormous Carrot*, by Vladimir Vagin, where two rabbits enlist the help of some barnyard friends in their effort to pull a giant carrot out of the ground.

CREDITS: *Dentist Bird: How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile’s Teeth* is based on a retelling by Michael Richards with illustrations by David Wolobah. Music: Steve Sandberg. Voiceover Narration: Soneela Nankani. Educational Consultant: Alexis Tuckfelt. Production Designer: Faith Su. Developer: Jason Schroeder. Publisher: Literary Safari.



Dentist Bird: Interactive Guide

Every page of the “Read” section of this app has an interactive spot. Tap, drag, or swipe it to bring the characters, setting, and action of this Liberian folktale to life!



Drag the page curl in the bottom corner to turn a page.



Screen 1: Drag **Crocodile** and help him climb up to land.



Screen 2: Tap **Crocodile** to hear him moan.



Screen 3: Slide **Guinea Fowl** to hear his call and watch him walk!



Screen 4: Tap **Leopard** to hear his mighty roar. Tap again to get a closer look at his face.



Screen 5: Tap **Leaf Walker's** head to make it turn. Tap the **background** to play the drums!



Screen 6: Tap **Monkey** to watch him somersault!



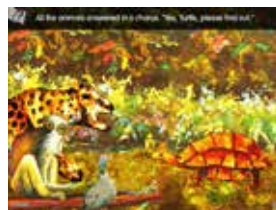
Screen 7: Touch **Snake** to listen to his fearsome hiss.



Screen 8: Drag **Catfish** up to help him emerge for a gulp of air.



Screen 9: Tap **Turtle's** shell to make her retreat. Tap the **swaying women** to hear a traditional Liberian song.



Screen 10: Tap each **forest creature** to read its name and listen to its unique sounds.



Screen 11: Tap **Crocodile** to look inside his mouth and see his diagnosis!



Screen 12: Tap the **dragonflies** to make them fly away. Tap **Crocodile** to hear his mighty moan!



Screen 13: Tap **Crocodile** and **Turtle** to advance the story.



Screen 14: Tap the **natural tooth brush** to help the village woman clean her teeth.



Screen 15: Tap **Leopard** to hear his opinion, then help him leave the forest clearing.



Screen 16: Move **Turtle** closer to **Leaf Walker** to watch him jump high!



Screen 17: Tap **Plover Bird** to hear her plan. Touch her to make her fly away.



Screen 18: Mini-game! Get points! Slide **Snail's sharp shell** against the tree trunk until it is white and clean. How fast can you do it?



Screen 19: Mini-game! Get points! Use your finger to reach back and aim **hot peppers** toward **Plover Bird**. How many can you collect?



Screen 20: Tap the **log** to start the fire for **Plover Bird**!



Screen 21: Mini-game! Get points! Move **Plover Bird** left and right to collect the falling cotton seeds.



Screen 22: Move **Plover Bird** closer to **Crocodile**. Then, tap on the screen to advance the dialogue.



Screen 23: Mini-game! Get points! Move **Plover Bird** near **Crocodile**. Then, fix **Crocodile's** toothache!



Screen 24: Touch the three **plover birds** to watch them hop and chirp!

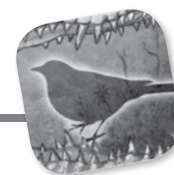


Tap on the "Achievements" button to view awards collected in mini-games.



Tap this button in the "Achievements" section to reset points for new users.

Comprehension Check Answer Sheet



Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.2

Determine central ideas of a text; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

Screen Number	Question
Screen 1	Q: Where does Crocodile live? A: "Deep inside the thick forest of Liberia," near the St. John River.
Screen 2	Q: Why was Crocodile moaning? A: Crocodile was in pain. He has a toothache.
Screens 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Q: Which forest creatures are worried about Crocodile? A: Guinea Fowl, Leopard, Leaf Walker, Monkey, and Catfish
Screen 9	Q: Why does wise Turtle offer to go find out what's wrong with Crocodile? A: Wise Turtle is a friend. She and Crocodile spend a lot of time together on the riverbank. Her shell is hard and strong. She feels she cannot be hurt by Crocodile and wants to know why he is unhappy.
Screen 11	Q: What does Leaf Walker see when he peeks into Crocodile's mouth? A: One tooth has a hole in it. The gums are red and sore.
Screens 15-16	Q: Why don't the creatures of the forest want to help Crocodile? A: The creatures of the forest don't trust Crocodile. They think that he will eat them even if they help him.
Screen 16	Q: Why was the Leaf Walker scared to help Crocodile? A: He thinks that if he goes inside Crocodile's mouth, he will trip on one of his many teeth and break a leg.
Screen 17	Q: What does Plover Bird tell Turtle? A: She tells Turtle that she knows how to make a medicine to help Crocodile. She has watched the village women make it.
Screens 18-21	Q: How does Plover Bird make the medicine? A: She collects tree bark, red peppers, cotton seeds, and ashes from a fire.
Screen 23	Q: What deal do Plover Bird and Crocodile make? How does this deal help both of them? A: Plover Bird likes fish but is scared to go in the river to catch it. She offers to fix Crocodile's toothache if he allows her to pick out the fish that gets stuck in this teeth. Crocodile promises that she and all plover birds can do this for the rest of time. This way, he will have healthy teeth and plover birds will get to eat fish!

Name _____



Parts of a Story

What happens in the beginning, middle, and end of *How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth*?

Cut and glue the pictures in the correct order. Then, match the sentences to the correct picture.

Optional: use the lines to write what the characters are saying in each picture.

Common Core Standard

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.5

Describe the overall structure of a story, including the beginning and the ending

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7

Describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear

Beginning

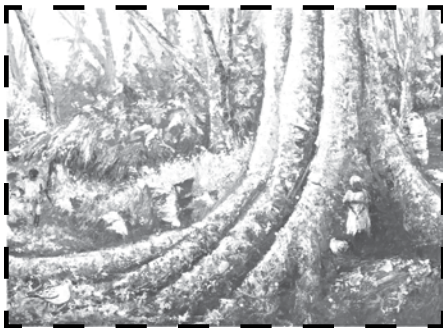
Middle

End

Paste Caption Here

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Crocodile tells Turtle he has a toothache. He asks for help.

Plover Bird prepares the medicine for Crocodile.

Plover Bird cleans Crocodile's teeth.

Name _____



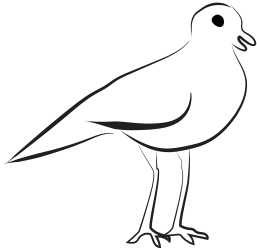
Make a Story Map

Use this story map to draw and write the steps that Plover Bird took to make Crocodile's medicine.

Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.2

Determine central ideas of a text; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

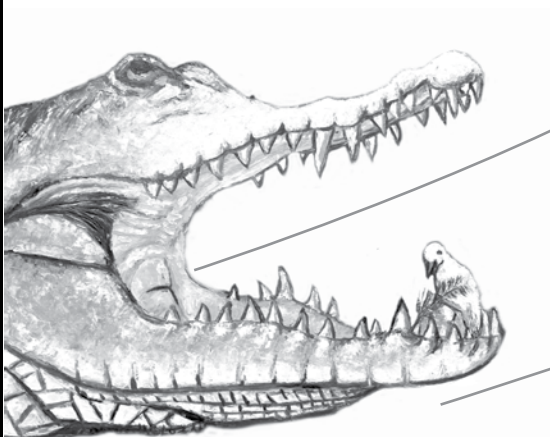


1.

2.

3.

4.



Animal Trading Cards

Forest Creatures

Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.



CATFISH



Type: Fish

Personality: Active

Diet: Carnivore. This bottom-feeder enjoys fish, frogs, and worms

Habitat: Fast-flowing rivers and ponds

Likes: Coming up to the surface of water for big gulps of air

Distinguishing Feature: Flat broad head and whiskers

CROCODILE

A.K.A. NILE CROCODILE



Type: Reptile

Personality: Strong and fast

Size: Over 15 feet long

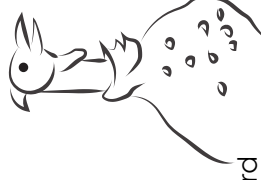
Diet: Carnivore. Eats anything it can capture and chew with its 60 teeth

Habitat: Freshwater bodies

Distinguishing Feature: Body covered with scales

GUINEA FOWL

A.K.A. GUINEA HEN



Type: Bird

Closest Relative: Peacock

Personality: Social. They live and travel in groups

Diet: Seeds and insects, especially worms

Color: Green, brown. Hides well in leaves

Habitat: Jungles, forests, grasslands, desert

Found in: Central and South Africa

Distinguishing Features: Bald neck and head with patches of blue and red skin.

Animal Trading Cards

Forest Creatures

Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.



LEAF WALKER

A.K.A. PRAYING MANTIS



Type: Insect

Closest Relatives: Termites, cockroaches

Personality: Curious. Its heads can turn 180 degrees

Diet: Carnivore. Enjoys wasps, flies, butterflies, and crickets

Color: Green, brown. Hides well in leaves

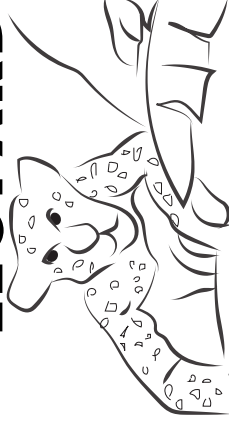
Size: Smaller than a teacup

Habitat: Warm, dry places

Found in: South America, Africa, New Zealand

Distinguishing Features: Five eyes. Triangle-shaped head

LEOPARD



Type: Mammal

Closest Relatives: Lions, tigers, jaguars, cats

Personality: Loner. Likes to live alone

Diet: Predators. Loves Antelope

Color: Mostly cream with gold spotted fur
Habitat: Dense jungle, rocky areas, riverine forests, tree tops

Found in: Africa, Asia

Distinguishing Features: A tail as long as its entire body helps it to balance and make sharp turns quickly

MONKEY

A.K.A. Colobus Monkey



Type: Mammal

Closest Relatives: Humans

Personality: Very sociable. Lives and travels in groups of as many as 50

Diet: Leaves, flowers, unripe fruits

Habitat: Humid forests

Found in: West Africa

Eaten by: Chimpanzees

Distinguishing Features: Has a stub instead of a thumb

Animal Trading Cards

Forest Creatures

Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.



PLOVER BIRD

A.K.A. EGYPTIAN PLOVER



Type: Bird

Personality: Fast and friendly

Diet: Insects, worms, mollusks, seeds.

Also observed pecking bits of meat from open-mouthed crocodiles!

Habitat: Near tropical rivers

Fear: Waves, deep water

Distinguishing Features: Short, thick neck and long, pointed wings

SNAKE

A.K.A. Belly Crawler, Common Boomslang, Tree Snake



Type: Reptile

Closest Relative: Lizard

Personality: Shy and secretive

Size: 5-6 feet long

Diet: Carnivore. Chameleons, lizards, frogs, birds, eggs

Habitat: Lives in trees

Distinguishing Feature: Egg-shaped head, poisonous venom

TURTLE

A.K.A. Tortoise, Side-Necked Turtle, Mud Turtle



Type: Reptile

Personality: Curious and careful

Size: Up to one foot long

Diet: Omnivore. Eats plants, small insects and water creatures

Habitat: Forest and wooded areas, near water

Distinguishing Feature: Lives in its bony shell for up to 150 years



Name _____

World Map

How Crocodile Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth is an African folktale.
Can you find and highlight Africa on the world map?

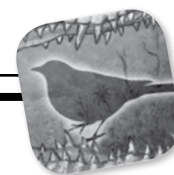
Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content
presented in diverse media,
including visually.



Name _____



Map of Africa

How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth is a West African folktale. It is set in the nation of Liberia. Can you find Liberia on this map? Color or highlight it.

Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media, including visually.



Name _____



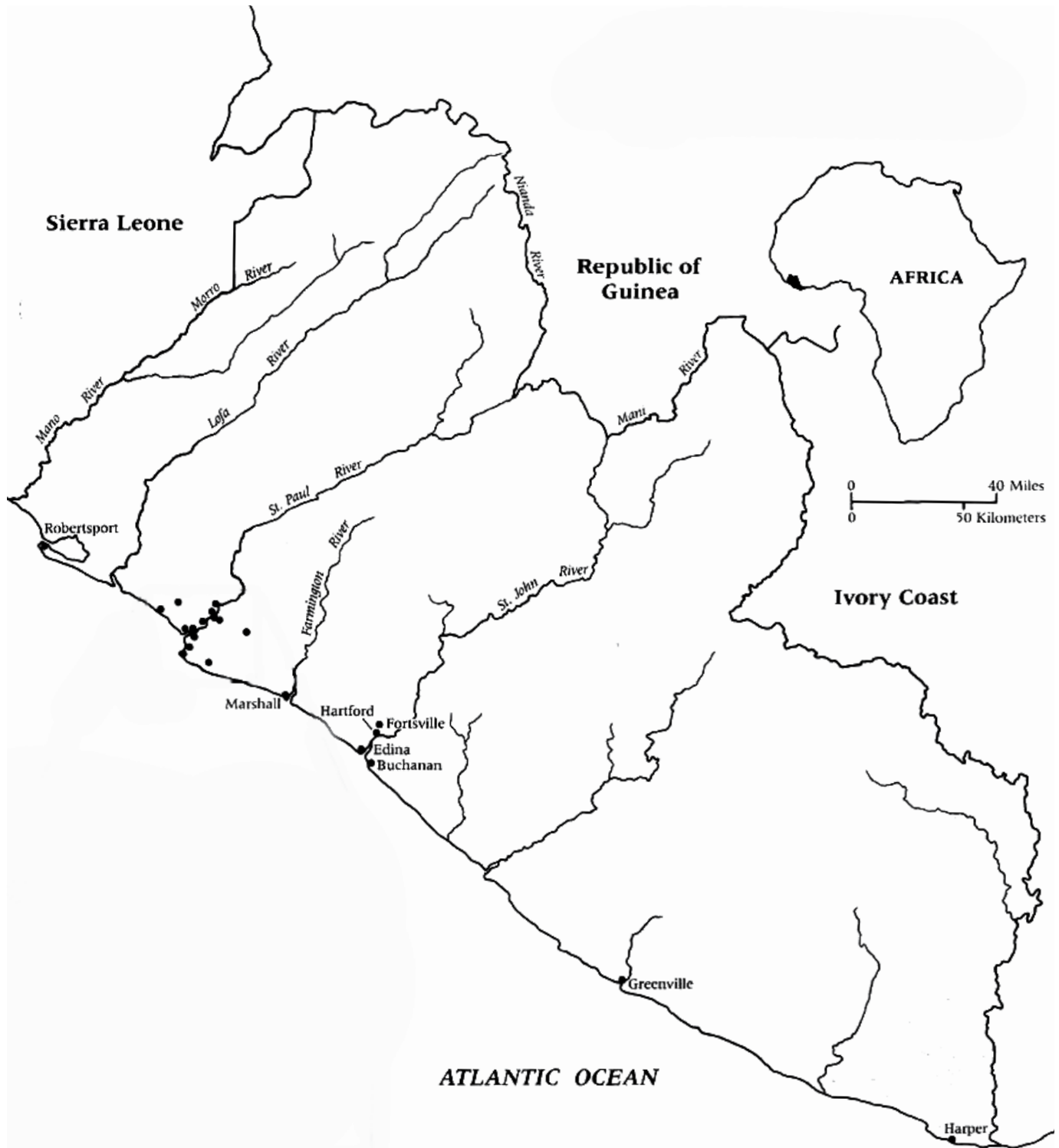
Map of Liberia

How Plover Bird Came to Clean Crocodile's Teeth is a folktale set in Liberia. It takes place in the rainforest near the St. John River. Can you find and highlight the St. John River?

Common Core Standard

ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media, including visually.





Be a Plover Bird

Act Kind and Caring

Offers to help classmates and teacher without being asked.

Be a Problem Solver

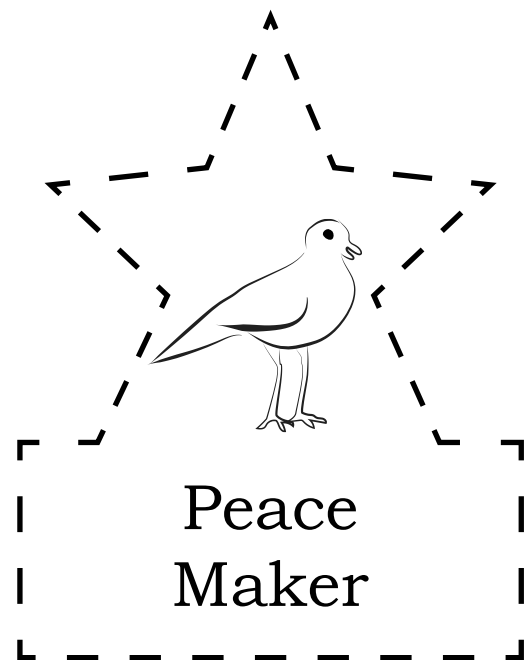
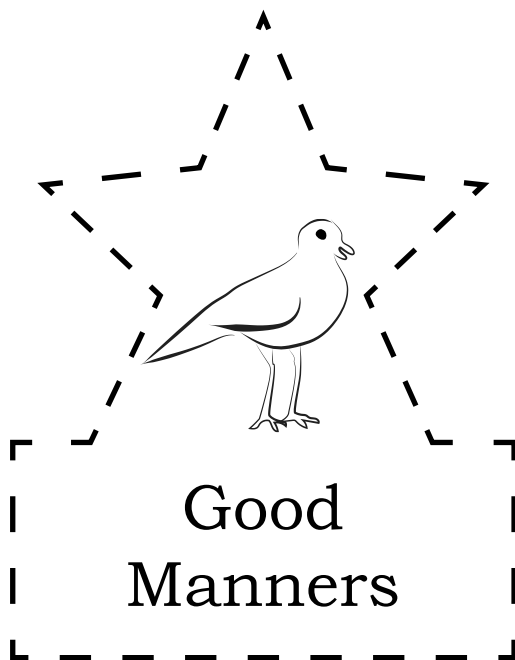
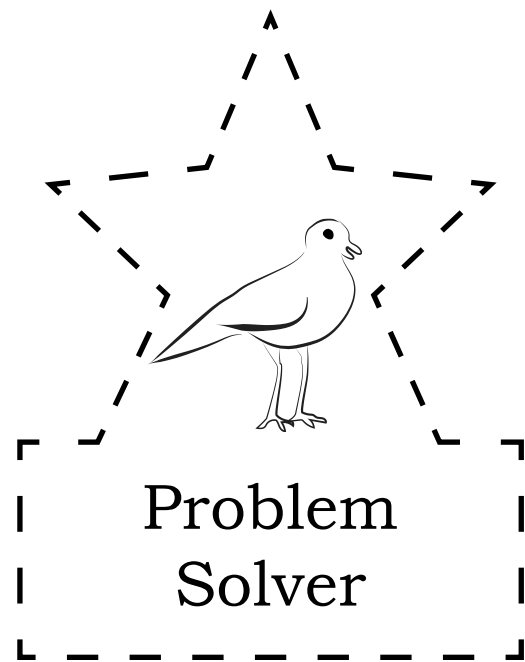
Tries to work things out in a way that makes everyone happy.

Show Good Manners

Uses please, thank you, can I help you, and sorry.

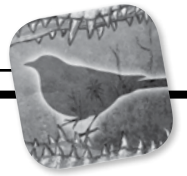
Make Peace, Not War

Looks for ways to be friendly and to share, even when it is difficult.



[illegible]

Name _____



The Problem Hut

In Liberia, people in villages have a special tradition. They sit inside a hut to talk about problems and to work them out. This hut is called a palaver or peace hut. Use the space on this palaver hut to write down a problem and some possible solutions.

Common Core Standard

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.3
Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

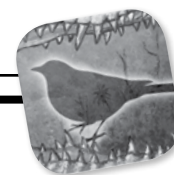
Problem:

Solution:

Solution:

Solution:

Name _____



Plover Bird in Motion

Draw an arrow to show which way the pepper has to travel to reach Plover Bird.

Common Core Standard

CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP1

Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.



Plover Bird then picked hot peppers from wild pepper plants.



Plover Bird then picked hot peppers from wild pepper plants.



Plover Bird then picked hot peppers from wild pepper plants.



Kindergarten: Common Core State Standards Alignment

Common Core State Standard	Read Module	Activity: Comprehension Check	Reproducible: Parts of a Story	Reproducible: Make a Story Map	Learn Module: Sounds of the Rainforest	Learn Module: Where in the World is Liberia?	Reproducible: The Problem Hut	Reproducible: Plover Bird Jobs Chart	Play Module : Dentist Bird's Mission of Mercy
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.3 Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.		X	X						
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.	X		X	X	X	X			Reproducible: Plover Bird in Motion
Reading Literature									
CSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.		X	X				X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3 Identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.		X	X	X				X	
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7 Describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear.			X	X					
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.10 Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.	X								
Reading: Foundational Skills									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.1.A Follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page.	X								
Writing									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.3 Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.				X			X		
Speaking and Listening									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.2 Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details.								X	
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.5 Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.									X
Math									
CCSS.Math.Practice.MP1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.									X



Grade 1: Common Core State Standards Alignment

Common Core State Standard	Read Module	Activity: Comprehension Check	Reproducible: Parts of a Story	Reproducible: Make a Story Map	Learn Module: Sounds of the Rainforest Reproducible: Animal Cards	Learn Module: Where in the World is Liberia? Reproducible: Continents, Africa, and Liberia Maps	Reproducible: The Problem Hut	Reproducible: Plover Bird Jobs Chart	Play Module : Dentist Bird's Mission of Mercy Reproducible: Plover Bird in Motion
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.3 Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.		X	X				X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
Reading Literature									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.		X	X	X	X	X	X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3 Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story.		X	X	X				X	
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.7 Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.			X	X	X	X	X		
Reading: Foundational Skills									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.4 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.	X								
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.4.C Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.	X								
Writing									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.3 Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened.			X	X			X		
Speaking and Listening									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.		X	X	X	X	X			
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5 Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.			X	X					
Math									
CCSS.Math.Practice.MP1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.									X



Grade 2: Common Core State Standards Alignment

Common Core State Standard	Read Module	Activity: Comprehension Check	Reproducible: Parts of a Story	Reproducible: Make a Story Map	Learn Module: Sounds of the Rainforest	Learn Module: Where in the World is Liberia?	Reproducible: The Problem Hut	Reproducible: Plover Bird Jobs Chart	Play Module : Dentist Bird's Mission of Mercy
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.3 Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.		X	X				X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
Reading Literature									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details.		X							
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.2 Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message.		X	X	X			X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.5 Describe the overall structure of a story, including the beginning and the end.			X						
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.6 Acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character.	X						X	X	
Reading: Foundational Skills									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.4 Read with sufficient fluency to support comprehension.	X								
Writing									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.			X	X			X		
Math									
CCSS.Math.Practice.MP1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.									X
Speaking and Listening									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1.A Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time).							X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.4 Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details			X	X					X
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.5 Add drawings or other visual displays to stories to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.			X	X					



Grade 3: Common Core State Standards Alignment

Common Core State Standard	Read Module	Activity: Comprehension Check	Reproducible: Parts of a Story	Reproducible: Make a Story Map	Learn Module: Sounds of the Rainforest	Learn Module: Where in the World is Liberia?	Reproducible: The Problem Hut	Reproducible: Plover Bird Jobs Chart	Play Module : Dentist Bird's Mission of Mercy
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CC.R.A.3 Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.		X	X				X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CC.R.A.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
Reading Literature									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text.		X	X	X			X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.2 Recount fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.		X	X	X			X		
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3 Describe characters in a story and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.		X		X			X	X	X
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.7 Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story.	X		X						
Reading: Foundational Skills									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.3.4 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.	X								
Math									
CCSS.Math.Practice.MP1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.									X
Speaking and Listening									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1.B Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).		X					X		X
Language									
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain-specific words and phrases.					X	X			