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For the Student

Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies (CARS Series) is a reading program that gives you practice with 12 reading strategies.

In *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies, Book C*, you will complete 15 reading tests. Each test contains a reading passage and questions about the passage. After you read each passage, you will answer 12 questions. Each question helps you practise a particular reading strategy.

Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies, Book C, will help you get the most from your reading. You will understand what important information to look for as you read. You will also learn to judge your own work and set reading goals. By the time you finish working with this book, you will be a better reader.

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Read this fable about a bird and a caterpillar. Then answer questions about the fable. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

One autumn day, a bird went to look for a juicy caterpillar to eat. She found one resting on an oak leaf. The bird got ready to take a big bite.

“If you eat me, you will not have a friend,” said the caterpillar.

“I do not need a friend,” said the bird. “I need a meal.”

“But a friend would help you if you ever got in trouble,” said the caterpillar.

The bird did not have any friends. She did not know if she even needed a friend. But she decided to let the caterpillar go, just in case.

Winter was long and harsh. There was very little food. The bird was often hungry. “I could use a friend now,” she said.

When spring arrived, the bird was too weak to look for food. One day a beautiful butterfly flew by the bird’s nest. The butterfly could see that the bird was not well.

“What do you want?” asked the curious bird.

“I have come to help you,” said the butterfly. “I am your friend.”

“But I have no friends,” said the bird. “Only a caterpillar that seems to have forgotten all about me.”

“No, he hasn’t,” said the butterfly. “I was once that caterpillar crawling about. Now I have wings and am a butterfly. I am still your friend.”

“How can you help me?” asked the bird.

“I can fly about and find some food. Then I can bring it to your nest. I will help you until you are well again.”

“You have saved the day!” said the bird.

“That is what friends are for,” said the butterfly. Then he flew away to find some food.



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| <p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. The fable tells mainly about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ how a bird helps a caterpillar. Ⓑ why friends are good to have. Ⓒ what birds like to eat. Ⓓ how caterpillars change into butterflies. | <p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. The bird was weak because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ she did not have any food. Ⓑ she did not eat the caterpillar. Ⓒ she did not have a friend. Ⓓ she could not fly. |
| <p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Where did the bird find the caterpillar?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ in a garden Ⓑ on a tree Ⓒ on an oak leaf Ⓓ near a nest | <p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. How are the bird and the butterfly alike?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ They both live in nests. Ⓑ They both have wings. Ⓒ They both need a friend. Ⓓ They are both hungry. |
| <p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. Which of these happened first?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The bird thought that it might be good to have a friend. Ⓑ Spring arrived. Ⓒ The butterfly flew by the bird's nest. Ⓓ The caterpillar asked the bird to let him go. | <p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. What will probably happen the next time the bird finds a caterpillar?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ She will eat it. Ⓑ She will help it find food. Ⓒ She will ask to be its friend. Ⓓ She will help it become a butterfly. |

Benchmark I

Read this folktale from Africa. Then answer questions about the folktale. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

The Hungry Spider

Spider was always hungry. He was also the most greedy animal in the jungle. The animals in the jungle knew that when it was mealtime, Spider had many tricks. And for Spider, it was always mealtime.

One day, Turtle left his home in the pond and went on a long journey. He finally arrived at Spider's house. They had never met each other before. Spider reluctantly invited Turtle to stay for dinner. Spider liked strangers because they had interesting stories to tell. But he hated feeding them because they ate food that he wanted for himself.

"Turtle," said Spider, "you must be tired after your long trip. Go down to the river and refresh yourself. I'll prepare our dinner while you are gone."

Turtle followed the trail to the water's edge and scrambled in. It was good to cool down and feel clean again. He crawled out of the river and hurried back to Spider's house. Delicious odours filled the air. It was time to eat!

Turtle saw the food on the table. "Thank you for inviting me to dinner."

"You are most welcome," said Spider with a frown. "But in this part of the jungle, we do not sit at the table with muddy feet."

Turtle looked at his feet. Indeed, they were muddy. He was most embarrassed. He walked back to the river to wash them off. He dried them on the grass and hurried back to Spider. But he was too late. Spider had eaten all the food. Turtle was disappointed, but, being polite, he held his tongue. He slept hungry that night and left for home in the morning even hungrier.

Several months later, Spider went on a long journey. He arrived at Turtle's house and asked if he could spend the night.

"Of course," said Turtle. "I remember how good you were to me."

"I'm famished!" exclaimed Spider. "Could we eat right away?"

"I will dive to the bottom of the pond and prepare a feast," said Turtle.

"Wait here. I'll call you when all is ready." Turtle gathered his best-

tasting food and set it on a long table at the bottom of the pond. Then he swam to the surface and said, "Please join me, Spider. Dinner is served."

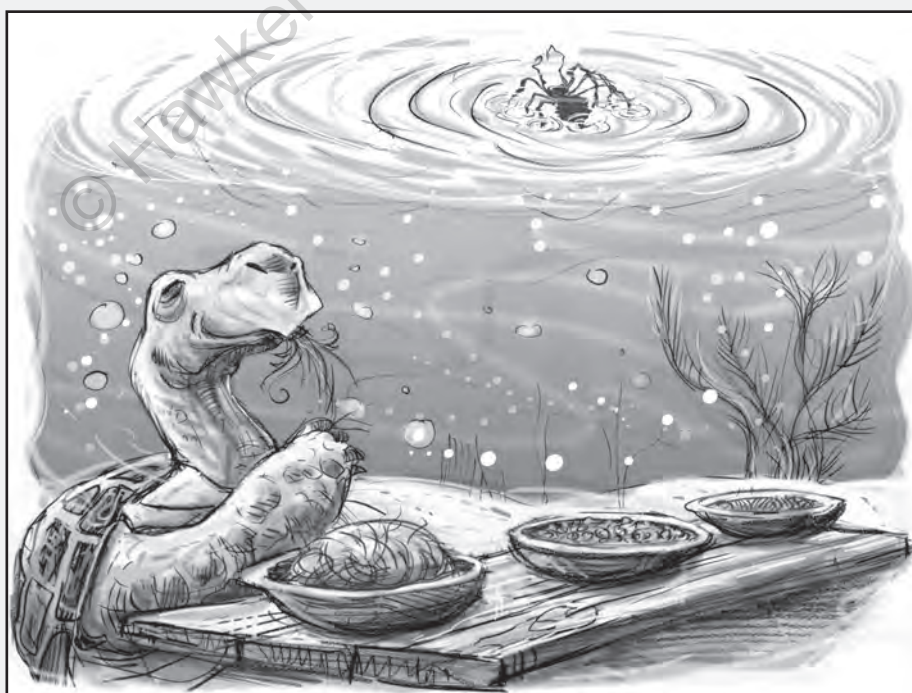
Spider leapt into the water and tried to dive down. But he weighed so little. He could not stay under the water, let alone swim to the bottom. Turtle had already started to eat. Spider kicked and jerked and splashed with all of his strength. Still, he stayed at the surface.

Turtle swam to the surface and said, "Spider, come down and enjoy the meal."

Spider ran back to shore and picked up several heavy pebbles. He stuffed them into his coat pocket to weigh himself down. Spider hopped back into the pond and sank quickly to the bottom. The food was half gone, but what was left looked delicious. He started to take a big bite when Turtle said, "Spider, in this part of the jungle, we do not eat with our coats on."

Spider did not want to be impolite. So he slipped out of his coat and reached for another morsel of food. But before he could grab hold of it, he bobbed to the surface like a cork! Spider watched Turtle on the bottom of the pond eating the rest of the food.

It is said that one kindness deserves another.



Finding Main Idea

1. What is the folktale mostly about?
- (A) a spider who does not know how to swim
 - (B) a spider and a turtle who become unlikely friends
 - (C) a spider who is treated the same way he treated a turtle
 - (D) a spider who is unfriendly toward a turtle

Recognising Cause and Effect

4. Spider put pebbles into his coat pocket because he wanted to
- (A) learn to swim.
 - (B) hide them from Turtle.
 - (C) weigh himself down.
 - (D) bob in the water.

Recalling Facts and Details

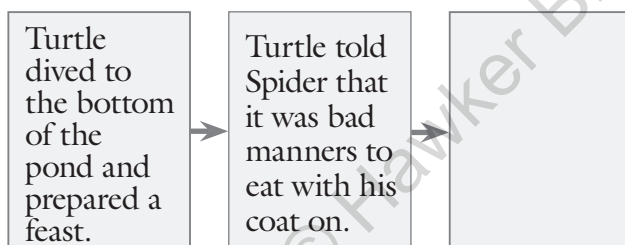
2. Where does the folktale take place?
- (A) in the forest
 - (B) in the jungle
 - (C) in a meadow
 - (D) in the country

Comparing and Contrasting

5. When Spider bobbed in the water, he looked like a
- (A) fish.
 - (B) cork.
 - (C) pebble.
 - (D) top.

Understanding Sequence

3. The boxes show some things that happened in the folktale.



What belongs in the empty box?

- (A) Spider stuffed heavy pebbles into his coat pocket.
- (B) Spider tried to dive down to the bottom of the pond.
- (C) Spider watched Turtle eat the rest of the food.
- (D) Spider asked Turtle if they could eat right away.

Making Predictions

6. Predict what would have happened if Spider had shared his dinner with Turtle.
- (A) Turtle would not have left the following morning.
 - (B) Turtle would have asked Spider to visit him.
 - (C) Turtle would not have let Spider stay with him later.
 - (D) Turtle would have shared his dinner with Spider.

Read this folktale from Puerto Rico. Then answer questions about the folktale. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Long ago there lived an old woman and an old man. They lived high on a hill in a straw hut. Together they shared a vegetable garden. They grew lettuce, tomatoes, radishes, peppers, pumpkins and corn. They spent hours talking about their garden. Every morning, the old man would go to the window and look out at the garden. Then he would say to his wife, "Maria, look at my lettuce. There is nothing in the garden like it."



Then Maria would run to the window and say, "Ramón, look at my corn and my radishes. Such beautiful colours! They are fit for a king."

One morning, when Ramón went to the window, he saw an animal eating his lettuce. He called to his wife. "There is a billy goat eating our vegetables!"

Ramón ran outside. "Please, Señor Billy Goat, do not eat up our garden," he said. "You are young and strong. You can find food somewhere else. But we are old and frail." The billy goat ran after Ramón with horns set. Ramón ran inside the hut just in time. Suddenly, something stung Ramón's ear. It was a little black ant.

"I have come to help you," said the ant.

"How can you help us?" asked Maria. "You are so small."

"I can make Señor Billy Goat go away. All I want in return is a sack of sugar for my family." Maria and Ramón agreed.

The ant went out to the garden. She climbed up the goat's leg and bit him on the ear. "Ouch!" cried the goat. Next, the ant crawled up and down the goat's back, stinging all the way. The goat thought he was covered with ants. He rolled around on the ground to shake them off. He forgot that he was on a hill. Soon the goat rolled far away.

Ramón and Maria thanked the little ant and gave her two sacks of sugar. And they never saw the billy goat again.