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LESSON 1

Read this story Kate wrote about a special zoo. Then answer questions about the story. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

I like going to the city zoo. Even though I can't go every day, I don't mind. I can go to my own zoo any time that I want. It's in my backyard. Yes, that's right. I'm not pulling your leg. I really do have my own zoo.

My zoo is full of many interesting animals. There are mice, sparrows and possums. There are also lots of insects. There are bees, ants, butterflies and daddy-long-legs. There are over 30 different kinds of animals in my backyard zoo.

Some days, I watch the sparrows. I love to watch them fly. I also like to watch them clean and straighten their feathers.



The best time to watch the sparrows is in the spring. First, the sparrows build their nests in the trees. Their nests are made of grass and straw and are shaped like cups. Then the sparrows lay eggs in the nests. After the eggs hatch, the baby sparrows learn to fly.

In the winter, the sparrows leave my backyard zoo because it is too cold for them. That's okay. I know they'll be back.

The city zoo is fun to visit. The city zoo has more animals than my backyard zoo. But the animals in my zoo are lucky because they don't have to live in cages. And my zoo is free!

Finding Main Idea

1. What is a good name for this story?
- Ⓐ 'The City Zoo'
 - Ⓑ 'My Backyard Zoo'
 - Ⓒ 'All About Sparrows'
 - Ⓓ 'How Birds Build Nests'

Recognising Cause and Effect

4. Why are the animals in Kate's backyard zoo lucky?
- Ⓐ They are never hungry.
 - Ⓑ They don't have to live in cages.
 - Ⓒ They don't live in the city.
 - Ⓓ They live with other animals.

Recalling Facts and Details

2. How many kinds of animals has Kate counted in her backyard?
- Ⓐ less than ten
 - Ⓑ about 13
 - Ⓒ more than 30
 - Ⓓ over 100

Comparing and Contrasting

5. What is one way the city zoo is different from Kate's zoo?
- Ⓐ The city zoo is not free.
 - Ⓑ There are fewer animals at the city zoo.
 - Ⓒ The city zoo is open only in spring.
 - Ⓓ There are no sparrows at the city zoo.

Understanding Sequence

3. The boxes tell some things about sparrows.



What belongs in the empty box?

- Ⓐ The sparrows fly away.
- Ⓑ The eggs hatch.
- Ⓒ The sparrows build their nests.
- Ⓓ The sparrows clean their feathers.

Making Predictions

6. What will probably happen next year when the weather gets warm?
- Ⓐ Kate will forget about her backyard zoo.
 - Ⓑ No animals will be found in the backyard zoo.
 - Ⓒ Sparrows will leave the backyard zoo.
 - Ⓓ Sparrows will return to the backyard zoo.

SELF-ASSESSMENT 1

Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Complete this page after you have completed Lessons 1–5.

1. You have completed Lessons 1–5. Explain how well you think you did.

2. Did any part of the reading passages or questions give you trouble? ____
If so, what kind of trouble did you have?

3. Complete this sentence: I could have done an even better job
on Lessons 1–5 if

4. What is your goal for Lessons 6–10?

5. How would you rate your work in Lessons 1–5? Circle your answer.

successful somewhat successful needs improvement