

BASIC NOT BORING

Years 5-6

**Real-Life Exercises to Sharpen Skills
Across the Curriculum**



**Imogene Forte &
Marjorie Frank**

HAWKER BROWNLOW
EDUCATION

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INTRODUCTION

Do basic skills have to be boring? Absolutely not! Mastery of basic skills provides the foundation for exciting learning opportunities for young children. Content relevant to their everyday life is fascinating stuff! Kids love learning about topics such as galaxies and glaciers, thunderstorms and time lines, continents and chemicals, tarantulas and tornadoes, poems and plateaus, elephants and encyclopedias, mixtures and mummies, antonyms and Antarctica and more. It is on acquired knowledge bases that they develop basic skills which enable them to ponder, process, grow and achieve school success.

Acquiring, polishing and using basic skills and content is a cause for celebration – not an exercise in drudgery. *Basic Not Boring Years 5–6* invites you to celebrate with students as you help them sharpen their abilities in the four major skills areas of English, maths, science, society and environment.

As you examine *Basic Not Boring Years 5–6*, you will see that it is filled with attractive age-appropriate student exercises. These pages are no ordinary worksheets! *Basic Not Boring Years 5–6* contains hundreds of inventive and inviting ready-to-use lessons based on a captivating theme that invites the student to join an adventure, solve a puzzle, pursue a mystery or tackle a problem. Additionally, each fittingly illustrated exercise provides diverse tools for reinforcement and extension of basic and higher-order thinking skills.

Basic Not Boring Years 5–6 contains the following components:

- **A clear, sequential list of skills for 12 different content areas**

Check lists of skills begin each content section. These lists correlate with the exercises, identifying page numbers where specific skills can be practised. Students can chart their progress by checking off each skill as it is mastered.

- **Nearly 300 pages of student exercises**

Each exercise page:

- ... addresses a specific basic skill or content area.
- ... presents tasks that grab the attention and curiosity of students.
- ... contains clear directions to the student.
- ... asks students to use, remember and practise a basic skill.
- ... challenges students to think creatively and analytically.
- ... requires students to apply the skill to real situations or content.
- ... takes students on learning adventures with a variety of delightful characters!

- **A ready-to-use assessment tool**

Four skills tests, one for each content area, are included in the appendix. The tests are presented in parts corresponding to the skills lists and topic divisions in the book. Designed to be used as pre- or post-tests, students can be given individual parts of these tests at separate times, if needed.

- **Complete answer keys**

Easy-to-use answer keys for all exercises and skills tests are provided in the appendix.

How to use this book:

The exercises contained in *Basic Not Boring Years 5–6* are to be used with adult assistance. In some cases, the student may need help reading some or all of the material. In other cases, the adult may serve as a guide to ensure the student understands the directions and questions or to assist the student in writing their answers.

Basic Not Boring Years 5–6 is designed to be used in many diverse ways. Its use will vary according to the needs of the students, the form of instruction and the structure of the learning environment.

The skills check lists may be used as:

- ... record-keeping tools to track individual skills mastery.
- ... planning guides for the teacher's instruction.
- ... progress reports to share with parents.
- ... a place for students to proudly check off accomplishments.

Each exercise page may be used as:

- ... a pre-test or check to see how well a student has mastered a skill.
- ... a tool around which the teacher may build a mini-skills based lesson.
- ... one of many resources or exercises for teaching a lesson or unit.
- ... a way to practice or polish a skill that has been taught.
- ... a review of a skill taught earlier.
- ... reinforcement of a single basic skill, skills cluster or content base.
- ... a preview to help the teacher identify instructional needs.
- ... an assessment for a skill that a student has practised.

The exercises are flexibly designed for presentation in many formats and settings. They are useful for individual instruction or independent work. They can also be used under the direction of the teacher with small groups or an entire class. Groups of exercises on related skills may make up the practice materials for a series of lessons or may be used as a unit enhancement.

The skills tests may be used as:

- ... pre-tests to gauge instructional or placement needs.
- ... information sources to help teachers adjust instruction.
- ... post-tests to review student mastery of skills and content areas.

Basic Not Boring Years 5–6 is not intended to be a complete curriculum guide or textbook for the four basic content areas. It is a collection of inventive exercises to sharpen skills and provide students and teachers with tools for reinforcing concepts and skills and for identifying areas that need additional attention. This book offers a delightful assortment of tasks that give students just the practice they need – and to get that practice in a manner that will definitely be remembered as non-boring.

As your students take on the challenges of the enticing adventures in this book, they will increase their comfort level with the use of fundamental skills and concepts in the areas of English, maths, science, society and environment. Watching your students tick off the skills they've sharpened will be cause for celebration!

Name _____

Adventures Unlimited!

Let us take you on the adventure of your dreams! **Adventures Unlimited** is the one stop when you are shopping for travel anywhere, anytime. We have special trips to real and fantasy locations in the past, present and future! Choose your adventure – and start packing!

Global EXUBERANCE
TIME-TRAVEL ADVENTURES
 Attend a ball at the palace of Versailles.
 Learn to make a mummy in ancient Egypt.
 Take a gander at Camelot.
 Comb the streams with the gold miners.
 Test-drive a car of the future!
 Drop in on Leonardo da Vinci.
 Celebrate a Stone Age Rock Concert.
 Rock with music groups of the far future.

EXPEDITIONS INTO WIND & WATER
 Ride the world's most colossal waves.
 Snoop around the ruins of the Titanic.
 Raft through treacherous whitewater.

FANTASY ADVENTURES
 Fraternise with the real Mother Goose.
 Make friends with Ned Kelly
 Try wild escapades with Pecos Bill
 Scrutinise clues with the legendary Sherlock Holmes.
 Take a ride in Elvis's lavish Rolls Royce.

passport Explore beautiful soar
 Travel new Wonders
 Magic
 Heart
 tickets
 Different LITE!
 customs
 be.
 m, cure
 acations
 tickets

Find a word on the adventure posters that matches each word below.
 Look on both pages (pages 18 and 19).

Find a word that is a synonym for . . .

1. adventure _____
2. sail _____
3. tricks _____
4. socialise _____
5. examine _____
6. try _____
7. travel _____

Find 2 synonyms for *search*

8. _____
- _____

Find a word or phrase that means . . .

9. make-believe _____
10. grand _____
11. having to do with food _____
12. climb _____

Use with page 19.

Name _____


Space Mission

ADVENTURE 3 Fly a shuttle through space to visit the Space Station *Mir*. This is the place where Australian astronaut Andy Thomas spent 130 days in 1998. You don't have to stay as long as he did!

Read the travel brochure for the station. Use red to circle all statements that are facts. Use blue to circle all statements that are opinions.


You'll be so glad you did this!!

VISIT MIR SPACE STATION



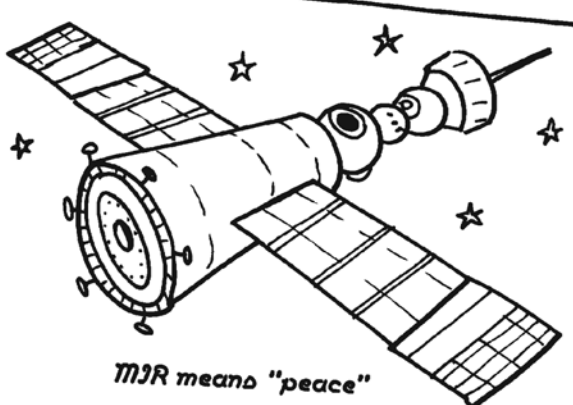
Travel to Mir by Space Shuttle

- Orbit the Earth & see fantastic sights!
- Astronauts will enjoy your visit!
- See the 6-port docking system.
- Explore the living and working spaces.
- Get fitted with your own space suit.
 - Walk in space.
- All food and equipment is provided.
 - You'll love the food!
- You'll have fun feeling weightless!
- No dangers or accidents will occur.



All astronauts & cosmonauts want a chance to live on Mir!

Must be at least 25 years of age.



MIR means "peace"

WE PROVIDE TRAINING!

STAY 5, 10 or 15 days

We won't keep you as long as we kept Cosmonaut Aleksandr Laveikin. He stayed 326 days!

Mir was launched in 1986 by the Soviet Union. Today it is maintained by Russia.

Schedule	
TRAINING	January 1
LAUNCH	December 5
RETURN FLIGHTS	December 9
	December 14
	December 19

Adventures, Unlimited

You can afford it!
See your Adventure Company Representative

Health examination required.

Name _____

Tricks on the Slopes

ADVENTURE 4 Learn downhill tricks from the champions! All kinds of fantastic antics happen on the slopes in the Winter Olympic Games. Here's your chance to learn some tricks from the best athletes!

Read the caption beside each picture. Then answer the questions. If the captions do not supply an answer, write NA (for not applicable).

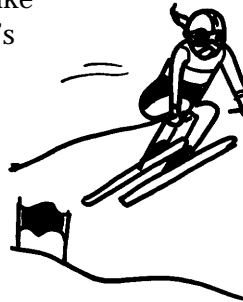
1. In the halfpipe event, snowboarders zip up and down the steep sides of a halfpipe. It is a U-shaped trench carved out of snow. Halfpipe competitors do wild tricks with crazy names like Ollies, Chicken Salad, McTwist and Fakies.



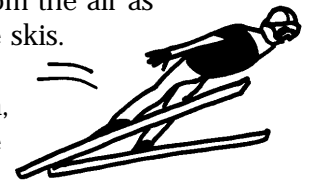
3. Aerial skiing contests are great fun! Daring skiers perform flips and twists in the air off a 60 metre long ramp. Judges give them a score that is based 20% on the takeoff, 50% on the flight in the air and 30% on the landing.



2. When Jacqui Cooper injured her knee in practice at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, it seemed Australia's hopes for a medal were over. However, Alisa Camplin was to change all that winning gold in the Women's Freestyle Aerial Skiing event.



4. Ski jumpers fly through the air with their ski-tips spread apart in a V-style. This V gives them greater lift from the air as the air flows beneath the skis. This helps the skiers fly further. Nasahiko Harada, from Japan, is one of the best ski jumpers ever.



1. In which three sports are athletes jumping into the air? _____
2. Why do ski jumpers use a V-style in the air? _____
3. Which sport has a trick named Chicken Salad? _____
4. How much of an aerial skier's score is based on the landing? _____
5. For what event did Alisa Camplin win a medal in 1994? _____
6. What is the sport of Japan's Nasahiko Harada? _____
7. In which two sports shown do athletes do twists? _____
8. How high in the air do aerial skiers perform? _____
9. When did Jacqui Cooper injure her knee? _____
10. What is a halfpipe? _____
11. How long is the ramp for aerial skiing? _____

Name _____