

Grade Three

Show Me What You Know

Directions: Read the *excerpt* from The Fire Cat below. Then answer the questions that follow. Draw a heart above your last name.

Averill, Esther. *The Fire Cat*. New York: HarperCollins, 1960. (1960)

Joe took Pickles to the Chief, who was sitting at his desk.

“Oh!” said the Chief. “I know this young cat. He is the one who chases little cats.”

“How do you know?” asked Joe.

The Chief answered, “A Fire Chief knows many things.”

Just then the telephone began to ring. “Hello,” said the Chief. “Oh, hello, Mrs. Goodkind. Yes, Pickles is here. He came with Joe. What did you say? You think Pickles would like to live in our firehouse? Well, we shall see. Thank you, Mrs. Goodkind. Good-bye.”

The Chief looked at Pickles and said, “Mrs. Goodkind says you are not a bad cat. And Joe likes you. I will let you live here IF you will learn to be a good firehouse cat.” Pickles walked quietly up the stairs after Joe. Joe and Pickles went into a room where the firemen lived.

The men were pleased to have a cat. They wanted to play with Pickles. But suddenly the fire bell rang. All the firemen ran to a big pole and down they went. The pole was the fast way to get to their trucks. Pickles could hear the trucks start up and rush off to the fire.

Pickles said to himself, “I must learn to do what the firemen do, I must learn to slide down the pole.”

He jumped and put his paws around the pole. Down he fell with a BUMP.

“Bumps or no bumps, I must try again,” said Pickles. Up the stairs he ran. Down the pole he came – and bumped.

But by the time the firemen came back from the fire, Pickles could slide down the pole.

“What a wonderful cat you are!” said the firemen. The Chief did not say anything. Pickles said to himself, “I must keep learning everything I can.” So he learned to jump up on one of the big trucks.

And he learned to sit up straight on the seat while the truck raced to a fire. “What a wonderful cat you are!” said the firemen. The Chief did not say anything. Pickles said to himself, “Now I must learn to help the firemen with their work.”

At the next fire, he jumped down from the truck. He ran to a big hose, put his paws around it, and tried to help a fireman shoot water at the flames.

“What a wonderful cat you are!” said the firemen. The Chief did not say anything.

The next day the Chief called all the firemen to his desk. Then he called for Pickles. Pickles did not know what was going to happen. He said to himself, “Maybe the Chief does not like the way I work. Maybe he wants to send me back to my old yard.” But Pickles went to the Chief.

At the Chief’s desk stood all the firemen – and Mrs. Goodkind! The Chief said to Pickles, “I have asked Mrs. Goodkind to come because she was your first friend. Pickles, jump up on my desk. I have something to say to you.”

Pickles jumped up on the desk and looked at the Chief. Out of the desk the Chief took – a little fire hat!

“Pickles,” said the Chief, “I have watched you at your work. You have worked hard. The time has come for you to know that you are now our Fire Cat.” And with these words, the Chief put the little hat on Pickles’ head.

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- 1. Write an open-ended question that you have about Pickles in the margin of the text above (Monday’s lesson).**

- Question has more than one possible answer
- Question is about Pickles
- Question ends with a question mark

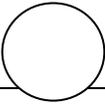
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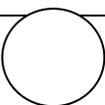
2. Find two possible answers to your question. Underline where you found the answers in the text. (Tuesday's lesson)

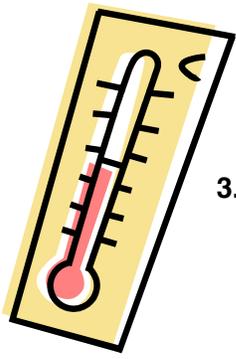
- _____
- _____
- _____

/4

- Two *different* answers are given
- Text proof is underlined



3. Re-read the passage below:

The next day the Chief called all the firemen to his desk. Then he called for Pickles. Pickles did not know what was going to happen. He said to himself, “Maybe the Chief does not like the way I work. Maybe he wants to send me back to my old yard.”

Why is Pickles worried about the Chief not liking the way he works? Make sure to reference an earlier event in the story to prove your thinking.

○	

- Gave at least one reason to the question
- Referenced the text

/2

4. Read the following *excerpt* from The Fire Cat. Then, ask a question to clarify what the excerpt is about. Then, paraphrase the excerpt. (*Thursday’s lesson*).

At the Chief’s desk stood all the firemen – and Mrs. Goodkind! The Chief said to Pickles, “I have asked Mrs. Goodkind to come because she was your first friend. Pickles, jump up on my desk. I have something to say to you.”

Pickles jumped up on the desk and looked at the Chief. Out of the desk the Chief took – a little fire hat!

“Pickles,” said the Chief, “I have watched you at your work. You have worked hard.

The time has come for you to know that you are now our Fire Cat.”

And with these words, the Chief put the little hat on Pickles’ head.

Question to Clarify Meaning	Paraphrase

- Question is directly related to helping you figure out the text
- Paraphrase is about the excerpt
- Paraphrase shows the most important moment/s
- Paraphrase shows the beginning, middle, and end of the excerpt
- Paraphrase has no inaccurate information

/5

BONUS QUESTION!

How does Pickles show grit?

May I Have Some More Cake, Please?

Directions: Read the following *poem* “Autumn” by Emily Dickinson. Autumn is another word for the season fall.

Dickinson, Emily. “Autumn.” *The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1960. (1893)

The morns are meeker than they were.
The nuts are getting brown;
The berry’s cheek is plumper,
The rose is out of town.
The maple wears a gayer scarf,
The field a scarlet gown.
Lest I should be old-fashioned,
I’ll put a trinket on.

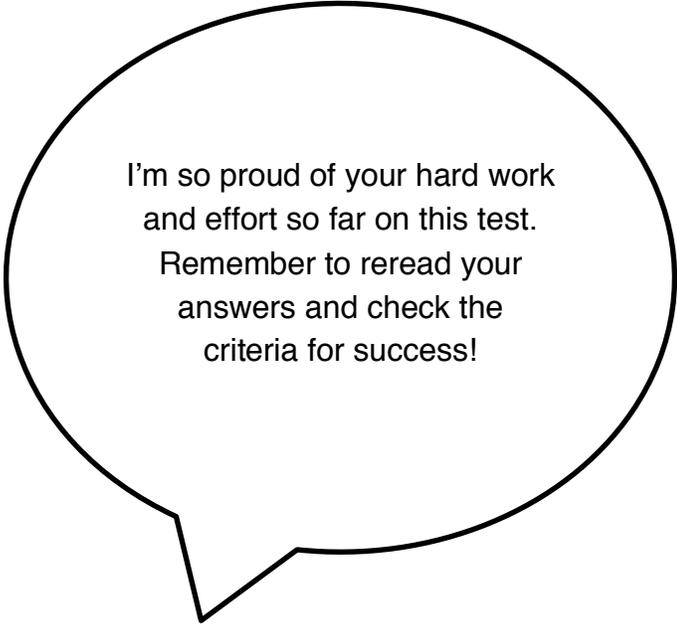
5. Fill in the chart below asking *two different* types of questions (Monday's lesson).

Clarifying Question	Open Ended Question
	/5

- Clarifying question helps you figure out the text
- Open ended question has more than one right answer

6. What is Emily Dickinson comparing a field to in the line “The field a scarlet gown”

- a. a field
- b. a gown
- c. autumn



7. Draw a picture of what you think the text looks like in the blank space near the poem. You may use color. After drawing a picture, write a question that you now have about the text here:

What is confusing about the text?

- Picture shows details from the poem
- Question is relevant to the text
- Question shares a confusion

/3



Review a Few

6. Write a sentence that uses the words explore and coward.

/2

7. If you needed to research where bats live on the internet, what key words should you type into a search engine?

/2

Take That and Rewind it Back

Read the following passage and answer the questions (*from July*) that follow:

"Thar goes our cow, Pa!" said the little girl.

"Shore 'nough, that do look like one of our cows, now don't it?"

The man tipped his slat-backed chair against the wall of the house. He spat across the porch floor onto the sandy yard. His voice was a lazy drawl. He closed his eyes again.

"She's got our markin' brand on her, Pa. A big S inside a circle," said Essie.

The man, Sam Slater, looked up. "Shore 'nough, so she has."

"She's headin' right for them orange trees, Pa," said Essie.

"Them new leaves taste mighty good, I reckon," replied her father. "She's hungry, pore thing!"

A clatter of dishes sounded from within the house and a baby began to cry.

"You'd be pore, too, did you never git nothin' to eat," said the unseen Mrs. Slater. There was no answer.

The sun shone with a brilliant glare. The white sand in the yard reflected the bright light and made the shade on the porch seem dark and cool.

"She might could go right in and eat 'em, Pa," said the little girl. Her voice was slow, soft and sweet. Her face, hands and bare legs were dirty. At her feet lay some sticks and broken twigs with which she had been playing.

Pa Slater did not open his eyes.

3. Where does this story take place?

- a. Inside a house
- b. On a porch overlooking a pasture
- c. Downtown

/2

4. Write out all the characters in the below

/1

Soar to a Four

The Keeper of History

Oladapo and his family live in New York. He is the youngest of five children. Oladapo's father comes from a small country in Africa. In his native country, Oladapo's father was the storyteller of the local village. He told old stories about the village that he learned from his father.

Every Sunday Oladapo's father would go to the village center to tell a story. The entire village would sit around and listen. Some of the stories were funny. Other stories were scary. But most of them were about the events that happened in village long ago. The storyteller was a very important man in the village. At the time, not too many books were available. The people in the village wanted to know the history of their village and the people who lived there before them. Oladapo's father was so important that he was like the second chief in the village.

In time, more schools were built and more books became available. Oladapo's father's position in the village changed. He was no longer the person who kept the history of the village alive. He became more of an entertainer. Still, people loved to hear his stories. When he came to the United States, he gave his job to his brother. In New York, though, Oladapo's father continues to tell stories to his family and friends.

1. If you wanted to find out more about storytellers, you should --
 - A visit a museum
 - B draw a picture of New York
 - C read a book about African villages
 - D study old stories
2. The last paragraph answers which question?
 - A Why did Oladapo's father position change in time?
 - B How many people would listen to the stories?
 - C Where does Oladapo's father come from?
 - D What type of stories were mostly told?
3. Most of Oladapo's father's stories were about events that --
 - A were funny
 - B happened long ago
 - C will happen in the future
 - D people had forgotten
4. What is the purpose of this story?
 - A To describe Oladapo's family
 - B To get you to visit a library
 - C To tell us about the importance of storytellers
 - D To make you tell your own stories

All proof is underlined and labeled

Survey Says

1. What is one aim that you think you did really well this week?

2. Rate your choice reading stamina on a scale of 1-5. Why?

3. How can you improve your reading next week?

4. What book are you dying to read next?