GRADE 3 · PRACTICE PAPER 1

Reading Magazine

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HOW TO USE THIS MAGAZINE

Use this magazine with the question paper “Reading Grade 3 — Practice Paper 1”. Each part of the question paper tells you which text to read and the page it is on. Read the text first, then answer its questions. You may look back at the magazine as often as you like.

PrepNest

The sandwich thief

Every lunchtime, Ravi put his lunchbox on the low wall near the bike racks. Every lunchtime, one half of his sandwich disappeared.

“Someone is taking my lunch,” Ravi told his friend Amina. “It is always the half with the cheese.”

Amina looked at the wall. She looked at the tree above the wall. Then she smiled.

“Tomorrow,” she said, “we will watch from the library window.”

The next day the two friends knelt at the window and waited. Ravi’s lunchbox sat on the wall in the sun. Nothing happened for a long time.

Then a grey bird with a black head landed on the wall. It tipped its head to one side, hopped twice, and lifted the lid with its beak.

“A currawong!” whispered Ravi.

The bird took the cheese half in its beak and flew up into the tree. Ravi laughed so loudly that the librarian looked up.

After that, Ravi kept his lunchbox in his bag. He still left one small crust on the wall, because the currawong had made him laugh, and that was worth a crust.

PrepNest

Wombats

Wombats are short, strong animals that live in Australia. A wombat is about as long as a school ruler and two hand spans wide. It has thick grey or brown fur.

Wombats dig burrows under the ground with their strong front legs and flat claws. A burrow can be longer than a classroom. Inside the burrow it stays cool in summer and warm in winter.

A wombat is a marsupial, so a wombat mother carries her baby in a pouch. Her pouch faces backwards. This means the pouch does not fill with soil while she digs.

Wombats eat grass, roots and bark. They come out to feed at night when the air is cool. During the hot part of the day they sleep in the burrow.

Wombat facts

- A baby wombat is called a joey.
- Wombat droppings are shaped like little cubes.
- A wombat can run as fast as a person for a short way.

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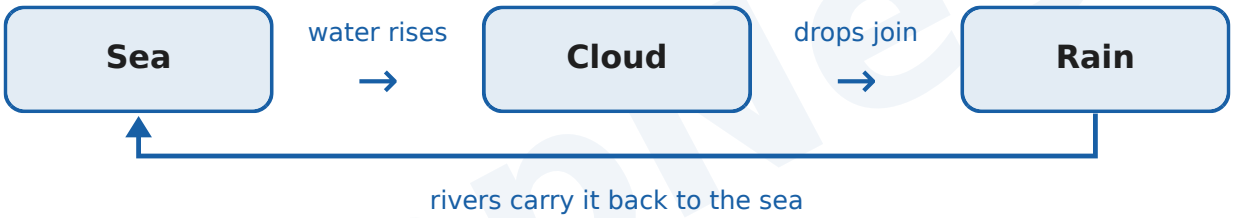
Where does rain come from?

Rain has been falling on Earth for a very long time. The same water goes around and around. This is called the water cycle.

The sun warms the sea. Some of the water turns into a gas called water vapour and rises into the sky. You cannot see water vapour.

High in the sky the air is cold. The water vapour cools and turns back into tiny drops. Millions of these drops together make a cloud.

The drops bump into each other and join up. When a drop is too heavy to float, it falls as rain. The rain runs into creeks and rivers, and the rivers carry it back to the sea. Then the cycle starts again.



The water cycle

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