

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Sample Reading Selections #3 & 4***Joshua's Circus Rabbit**

- 1 Joshua's teacher, Mr. Santos, was helping the class plan for Visitor's Night. "Let's make our room look like a circus. We can hang up pictures of clowns and tents. We can put other circus items around the room. Your visitors will feel like they are at a circus!"
- 2 Mandy raised her hand and asked, "Can we make a circus train? I have a book that shows one filled with wild animals. We could make one from wagons and stuffed animals."
- 3 Everyone liked Mandy's idea. Joshua and two other children offered to bring their wagons to school. Mr. Santos asked others to bring in stuffed animals.
- 4 On the way home from school, Joshua thought and thought. He used to have stuffed elephants, monkeys, rabbits, bears, and tigers. Last year, though, he had given them away. Now he had only one stuffed animal—a rabbit named "Pinky." It was special to Joshua because his grandmother had given it to him when he was a baby. But who had ever heard of a pink circus rabbit?
- 5 Joshua went straight to his room when he got home. He picked up Pinky. He touched her button nose, furry ears, and cute tail. How could he make a pink rabbit look like a circus animal?
- 6 First, Joshua tried tying Pinky's ears back. She still looked like a rabbit. Then, he covered her with strips of black tape. She looked like a silly pink tiger. Next, Joshua made lion hair from yellow string. When he put it on Pinky, she looked like a rabbit with a mop on her head! Joshua gave up.
- 7 In the morning, he had to decide what to do. Should he take Pinky to school in his wagon? Finally, he put her in his wagon and pulled it to school. He found a surprise there! Mandy had brought her stuffed cat. One boy had brought a toy chicken and baby chicks. Another student had brought a stuffed dog. Of course, there were lots and tigers, lions, elephants, and monkeys, too.
- 8 "Let's make a circus pet wagon!" Joshua said.
- 9 Mr. Santos helped the class make a sign for the last wagon in the circus train. It said, "Circus Pets." Joshua placed the cat, chicken, chicks, dog in their special wagon, right behind Pinky the rabbit.

**1. In paragraph 4, younger means**

- A most young.
- B more young.
- C best young.
- D less young.

**2. In paragraph 4, an antonym for special is**

- A important.
- B different.
- C unusual.
- D ordinary.

**3. If you wanted to know how to say the word circus, you could look in**

- A a dictionary.
- B an encyclopedia.
- C a thesaurus.
- D an almanac.

**4. What was Joshua's class getting ready for?**

- A spring break
- B Visitor's Night
- C summer vacation
- D Open House

**5. A reason to read this story is**

- A to learn about rabbits.
- B to be entertained.
- C to learn about cats.
- D to be informed.

**6. Joshua got his stuffed rabbit from his**

- A father.
- B mother.
- C grandmother.
- D grandfather.

**7. Visitor's Night at Joshua's school most likely turned out to be a**

- A fun time for everyone.
- B confusing time for kids.
- C lesson about animals.
- D party for the rabbits.

**8. Which list of words is written in correct alphabetical order?**

- A Pinky, Patty, Polly, Pamela
- B rabbit, real, robin, rule
- C clown, circus, could, can
- D tents, teacher, touched, tying

**9.** This story is mainly about how

- A activities can be made fun for everyone.
- B everyone likes to have stuffed animals.
- C circus wagons are easy to make.
- D pink rabbits belong in circuses.

**10.** One reason Joshua wants to include his rabbit in the parade is because

- A it is special to him.
- B he doesn't want to take his wagon.
- C rabbits are really wild animals.
- D he promised his grandma.

**Go On To Next Section** →

**Camp Wiki-Waki**

1 “I think you’ll like it here at Camp Wiki-Waki,” Mom said, as Dad parked in front of the office cabin.

2 “Me, too!” said Mandy.  
“Where’s the lake?”

3 Dad said, “We need to go into the office and sign you in. You can ask them about the lake.”

4 After Mom signed Mandy in, the girl in the office said, “Welcome to Camp Wiki-Waki. I’m Maria. If you have any questions, ask me.”

5 “Where’s the Lake?” Mandy asked her.

6 “Oh, the dam broke this winter. We’ve fixed it, but there will be no lake this year.”

7 “No lake? That’s why I came to camp!” Mandy said.

8 “There are many other things to have fun with here,” Joyce told her. “Why don’t you talk to our camp leader, Ms. Johnson?”

9 “That sounds like a good idea,” Mom said.

10 They met Ms Johnson, and she walked with them down to the dam.

They stood on the dam looking out over where the lake used to be.

11 “It’s usually a beautiful lake,” Ms Johnson told them.

12 Mandy sat on the rough dirt where the dam had been fixed. She picked up a stick and poked around in the dirt. She dug around and pulled out a strange rock. It was flat and pointed on one end. She could see where someone had chipped away parts of the rock to shape it this way.

13 Mandy held the rock up and said, “Look what I found!”

14 “Why, it’s an arrowhead,” Ms. Johnson said. “There were once many Native Americans living near this lake. One of them probably made this arrowhead. We need to tell someone who studies these things about what you found.”

15 Mandy walked back to the office with Ms. Johnson, who made a phone call. She told Mandy that some people would come and look for more arrowheads.

16 “You can help them search, Mandy,” Ms Johnson told her.

17 Mandy looked at the arrowhead lying on Ms. Johnson’s desk. “I

think I'll stay at camp after all. I probably won't get a chance to dig up such important objects again. I can always swim next year."

18 She turned to her parents and said, "Let's go get my stuff and put it in my cabin. I have an important job to do this summer."

**11. Between which two subjects would you find arrowheads in your encyclopedia?**

- A ants and Apaches
- B aardvarks and armor
- C arenas and artists
- D airplanes and almanacs

**12. To find out what snack will be served Friday, a camper should look at**

- A a map of the camp.
- B a list of events.
- C the gift shop.
- D the weekly menu.

**13. Which words show that Mandy decided to stay at camp?**

- A "Let's go get my stuff and put it in my cabin."
- B "No lake? That's why I came to camp!"
- C "She picked up a stick and picked at the dirt."
- D "Why don't you talk to our camp leader?"

**14. What is the best way to retell this story?**

- A Mandy is unhappy with the camp but decides to stay.
- B The lake will be refilled and the campers will still swim.
- C Mandy found an exciting, new interest
- D There are many other things to do at camp besides swim.

**15. Joshua and Mandy are alike in that they**

- A go to the same school.
- B both have many stuffed animals.
- C change a bad time into a good one.
- D like to play outside all afternoon.

**16. What is one thing both stories talk about?**

- A Things may turn out better than you expected.
- B You can't always do what you want to do.
- C Everyone needs to have a pet in the summer.
- D A circus is sort of like a summer camp.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Sample Reading Selections #3 and 4*

	State Obj.:	DOK:	ANSWER:
1.	2.2	2	B
2.	2.3	2	D
3.	2.4	2	A
4.	4.1.a	1	B
5.	4.1.b	2	B
6.	4.1.c	1	C
7.	4.2.a	2	A
8.	6.1.a	2	B
9.	4.3.a	2	A
10.	4.4.a	2	A
11.	6.1.b	2	C
12.	6.1.c	2	D
13.	4.2.b	2	A
14.	4.3.a	3	C
15.	5.21.a	3	C
16.	5.2.b	3	A