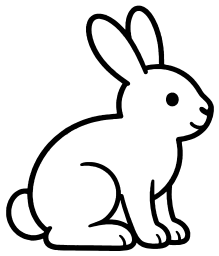
Name _____ Date _____

# Fluency Passage

**Read the text out loud. A partner times one minute.**



## Snowshoe Hares

The snowshoe hare lives in the cold forests of Canada, Alaska and the northern United States. Its fur changes color with the seasons, and that helps it hide from the animals that hunt it. 34

In summer, a snowshoe hare's fur is brown. The brown fur blends in with the dirt, rocks and dead leaves on the forest floor. A fox or a hawk may pass right by without seeing it. 70

As the days get shorter in the fall, the hare slowly sheds its brown fur, and white fur grows in its place. By the time snow covers the ground, the hare is almost all white. Only the tips of its ears stay dark. 113

The hare also has huge back feet covered with thick fur. They work like snowshoes, so the hare can run on top of deep snow without sinking. 140

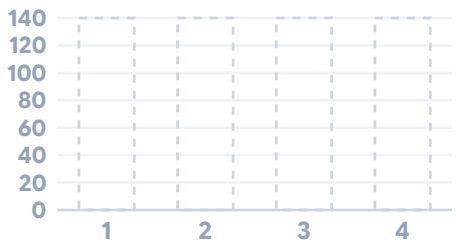
This text is from Main Idea and Details for 3rd Grade.

**Total: 140 words**

**Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.**

| Read | Words read | | Mistakes | | Words correct |
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**My reading chart**



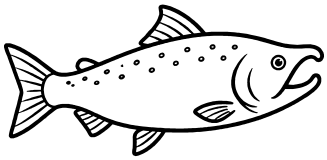


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# Fluency Passage

**Read the text out loud. A partner times one minute.**



## The Salmon's Long Trip

Pacific salmon make one of the most amazing trips of any fish. They hatch in a stream, swim all the way to the ocean, and then come back to the same stream where they hatched. 35

A young salmon spends its first weeks, months or even years in fresh water. Then it swims downstream to the sea. There it eats and grows for one to several years. 66

When it is ready to lay eggs, the salmon swims back. It leaps up waterfalls and swims against the current. Some salmon swim more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) up a river! Scientists think salmon use their strong sense of smell to find their home stream. 112

At last the salmon reaches the place where it hatched. The female digs a nest in the gravel and lays her eggs there. Most Pacific salmon die soon after, and their bodies feed the stream and the young fish that will hatch. 154

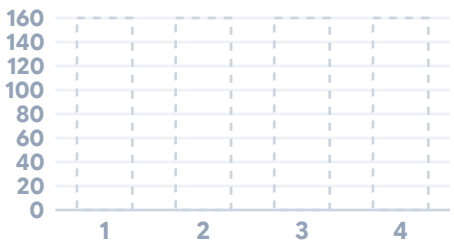
This text is from Main Idea and Details for 3rd Grade.

**Total: 154 words**

**Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.**

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**My reading chart**



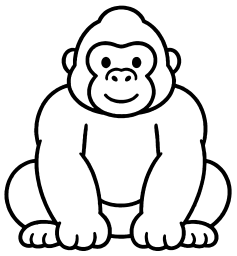


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# Fluency Passage

**Read the text out loud. A partner times one minute.**



## Gorilla Families

Gorillas are the largest apes in the world. They live in the forests of central Africa 16
in family groups called troops. 21

A troop is led by a big grown male called a silverback. He gets his name from the 39
patch of silver-gray hair on his back. The silverback keeps the troop safe. If 53
danger comes near, he may stand up, beat his chest and roar to scare it away. 69

A troop also has several females and their young. A baby gorilla rides on its 84
mother's back and stays close to her for about three or four years. Young gorillas 99
play, wrestle and chase each other, and this helps them learn. 110

Every evening, each grown gorilla builds a fresh nest of leaves and branches to 124
sleep in. Babies sleep in their mothers' nests. 132

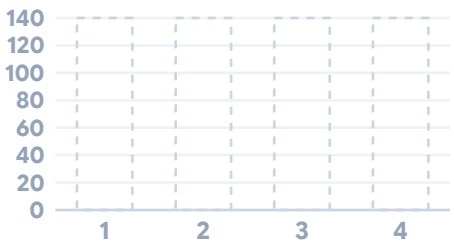
This text is from Main Idea and Details for 3rd Grade.

**Total: 132 words**

**Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.**

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**My reading chart**



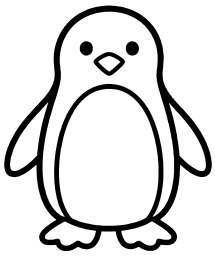


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# Fluency Passage

**Read the text out loud. A partner times one minute.**



## Why Emperor Penguins Huddle

Emperor penguins live in Antarctica, the coldest place on Earth. In winter, strong winds blow. It can get colder than -40°F (-40°C). At that temperature, both scales show the same number! 12 24 31

Because it is so cold, thousands of penguins crowd together in a tight group called a huddle. As a result, the penguins in the middle stay warm. The ones on the outside get cold, so the whole group keeps shuffling. Slowly, the ones on the edge move in. The ones in the middle move out. That way, every penguin gets a turn to warm up. 45 60 74 89 96

The fathers keep the eggs warm all winter. Each father holds an egg on his feet under a warm fold of skin, so the egg never touches the ice. 111 125

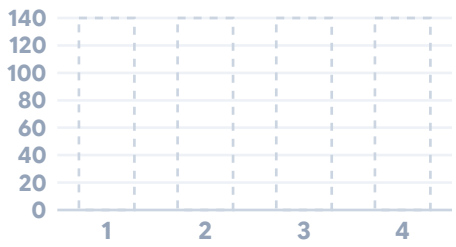
This text is from Sequence and Cause and Effect for 3rd Grade.

**Total: 125 words**

**Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.**

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**My reading chart**



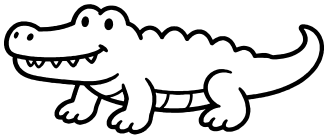


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# Fluency Passage

**Read the text out loud. A partner times one minute.**



## Alligators and Crocodiles

Alligators and crocodiles are both big reptiles. Both have long tails, tough skin 13
and strong jaws. Both hunt in or near water. But you can tell them apart. 28

Look at the snout. An alligator has a wide snout shaped like a U. Compared 43
with an alligator, a crocodile has a narrow snout shaped like a V. 56

Look at the teeth. When an alligator closes its mouth, you can hardly see its 71
bottom teeth. Unlike an alligator, a crocodile shows a big bottom tooth on each 85
side. You can see it even when its mouth is shut. 96

Look at where they live. Alligators live in fresh water in the southern United 110
States and in China. Crocodiles live in many warm parts of the world. Some can 125
live in salt water. 129

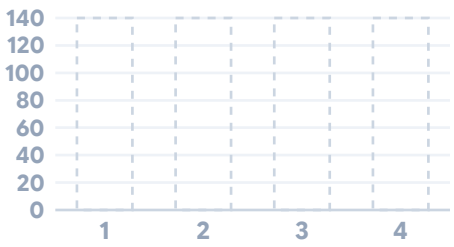
This text is from Sequence and Cause and Effect for 3rd Grade.

**Total: 129 words**

**Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.**

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**My reading chart**



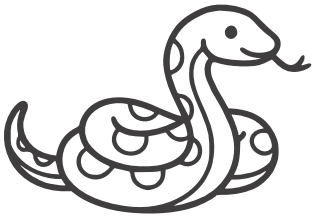


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# Fluency Passage

**Read the text out loud. A partner times one minute.**



## Give Snakes a Chance

Many people are afraid of snakes, but I think snakes deserve our respect. 13
Most snakes are not dangerous to people, and most would rather slide away 26
than meet you. 29

Snakes also help us. Many snakes eat mice and rats, which eat the grain 43
that people store and can carry disease. 50

Snakes are amazing, too. A snake uses its tongue to smell! It flicks its 64
tongue to collect smells from the air, then carries them to a special spot 78
inside its mouth. 81

So the next time you see a snake, do not scream. Leave it alone, and let it 98
do its important job. 102

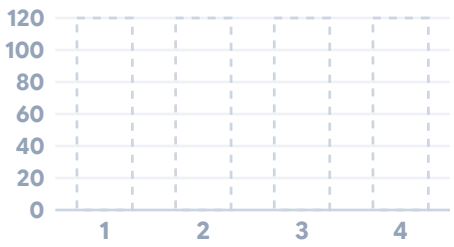
This text is from Point of View and Paired Texts for 3rd Grade.

**Total: 102 words**

**Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.**

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**My reading chart**





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