Name _____ Date _____

Fluency Passage

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

Hippos

The name hippopotamus comes from Greek words that mean "river horse." Hippos live in the rivers and lakes of Africa. A grown hippo is one of the heaviest animals on land, yet it spends most of the day in the water. | 15 | 34 | 41

Water protects a hippo from the hot sun. A hippo's skin loses water quickly and can crack in dry air, so the hippo stays cool and wet in the water during the day. Its eyes, ears and nostrils sit high on its head. It can see, hear and breathe while the rest of its body stays hidden underwater. When it sinks below the surface, its ears and nostrils close tight. | 60 | 80 | 99 | 111

Surprisingly, hippos are not good swimmers. They are too heavy to float easily. Instead, they walk or bounce along the bottom of the river, and they come up to breathe every few minutes. | 126 | 144

A hippo even makes its own sunscreen. Its skin oozes an oily liquid that starts out clear and soon turns reddish. Long ago, people thought hippos were sweating blood! Scientists think the liquid helps protect the skin from the sun, and it may help keep germs out of cuts, too. | 163 | 177 | 194

When the sun goes down, hippos leave the water and walk onto land to eat. A hippo may follow the same path from the river night after night and graze on grass for four or five hours. By morning, it heads back to the water, where it will spend another day keeping cool. | 213 | 232 | 247

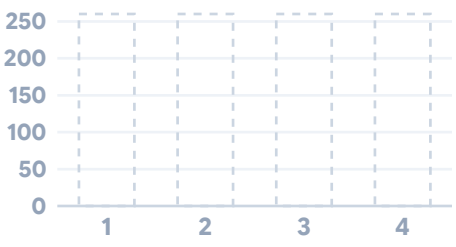
This text is from Main Idea and Summarizing for 4th Grade.

Total: 247 words

Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.

Read	Words read		Mistakes		Words correct
1		–		=	
2		–		=	
3		–		=	
4		–		=	

My reading chart

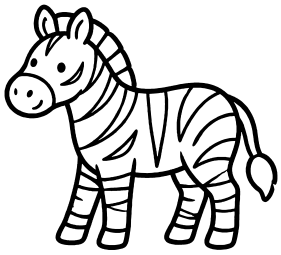


© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Fluency Passage

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



Why Do Zebras Have Stripes?

Every zebra has black and white stripes, and no two zebras have exactly the same pattern. 16
Zebras live on the grasslands of Africa, where they graze together in herds. For more than a 33
hundred years, scientists have wondered why zebras have stripes. 42

Some scientists thought the stripes helped zebras hide. In a running herd, the stripes might 57
make it hard for a lion to pick out one zebra. Others thought the stripes helped zebras stay cool 76
under the hot sun. Still others thought each zebra's pattern helped the others in its herd know it. 94

In recent years, many scientists have found strong evidence for a different idea: stripes keep 109
biting flies away. In one study, scientists watched horseflies around zebras and horses on a farm 125
in England. The flies flew toward the zebras, but they often failed to land. They landed on the 143
horses more often. Then the scientists put coats on some of the horses. Some coats were all 160
black, some were all white, and some had stripes. Far fewer flies landed on the striped coats. 177

Biting flies can spread disease, so a coat that keeps them away may help a zebra stay healthy. 195
Scientists are still studying stripes, and there may be more than one reason for them. 210

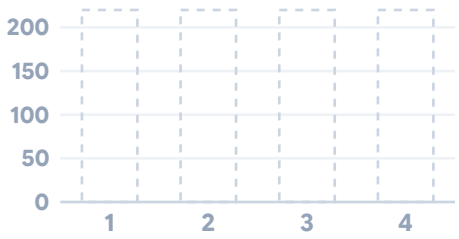
This text is from Main Idea and Summarizing for 4th Grade.

Total: 210 words

Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.

Read	Words read		Mistakes		Words correct
1		–		=	
2		–		=	
3		–		=	
4		–		=	

My reading chart



© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Fluency Passage

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

The Ostrich

The ostrich is the largest bird alive today. It can stand about 9 feet (2.7 meters) tall and weigh more than 200 pounds (90 kilograms). Ostriches live on the dry, open lands of Africa. Yet this giant bird cannot fly, because its wings are far too small to lift its heavy body. 52

An ostrich does not need to fly to escape danger, because it can run. Its long, strong legs can carry it at about 43 miles an hour (70 kilometers an hour), faster than any other bird can run. Each foot has just two toes, and the bigger toe has a thick nail that helps it push off the ground. The wings still help, too. An ostrich spreads them for balance and to turn quickly as it runs. 129

Ostriches lay the largest eggs of any living bird. One egg can weigh about 3 pounds (1.4 kilograms), as much as about two dozen chicken eggs. Several females may lay their eggs in one nest, a shallow hole scraped in the sand. The male and the main female take turns sitting on the eggs. 183

You may have heard that an ostrich hides by burying its head in the sand, but that is a myth. An ostrich may lie down with its long neck flat along the ground, and from far away, its head seems to disappear. An ostrich also lowers its head into its nest to turn its eggs, which may have helped the myth begin. 245

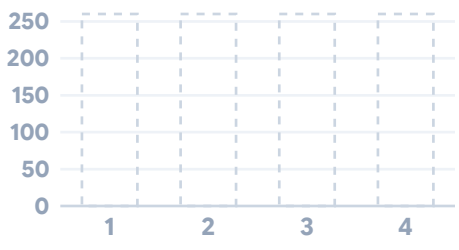
This text is from Main Idea and Summarizing for 4th Grade.

Total: 245 words

Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.

Read	Words read		Mistakes		Words correct
1		–		=	
2		–		=	
3		–		=	
4		–		=	

My reading chart

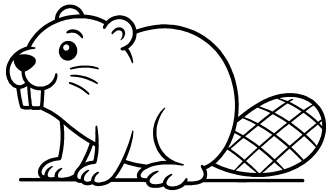


© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Fluency Passage

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



Beavers

A beaver is a large rodent with thick brown fur that keeps it warm and dry. Its back feet are webbed like a duck's feet, and its wide, flat tail is shaped like a paddle. Its big front teeth are orange, and they never stop growing. | 20 | 40 | 46

First, a beaver cuts down small trees by chewing around their trunks. Next, it drags the branches to a stream and pushes them into the mud. Then it packs the gaps with mud, stones and plants. Finally, the water backs up behind the dam and forms a pond. | 63 | 82 | 94

Because a beaver dam holds back water, a pond forms behind it. As a result, fish, frogs, ducks and insects have a new place to live. The pond also soaks water into the ground, so the land nearby stays green even in dry weather. | 112 | 131 | 138

Sometimes a beaver pond floods a road or a farm field. In the past, people usually trapped the beavers. Today, many people solve the problem with a pipe called a pond leveler. It runs through the dam and lets extra water flow out, so the pond stays at a safe level and the beavers can stay. | 156 | 173 | 194

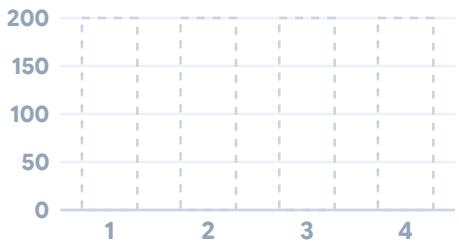
This text is from Text Structure for 4th Grade.

Total: 194 words

Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.

Read	Words read		Mistakes		Words correct
1		–		=	
2		–		=	
3		–		=	
4		–		=	

My reading chart

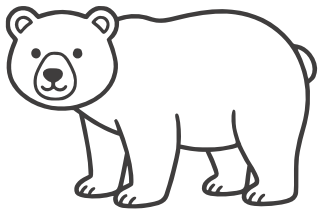


© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Fluency Passage

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



Keeping Bears Out of the Trash

Black bears have a powerful sense of smell, and they are always looking for an easy meal. In towns and parks near bear country, that can cause a serious problem. A bear that smells food in a trash can may knock it over and eat what is inside. 48

Once a bear learns that trash means food, it keeps coming back. It may lose its fear of people, and a bear that is not afraid of people can be dangerous. Bears like this are sometimes moved far away, or even killed. 90

To solve the problem, many parks and towns use trash cans with latches that a bear cannot open. Campers lock their food in metal boxes. Some towns ask people to keep trash inside until the morning the truck comes. 129

These steps work. In Yosemite National Park, after the park put in bear-proof food lockers and taught visitors to use them, the number of times bears broke into cars and campsites dropped sharply. 162

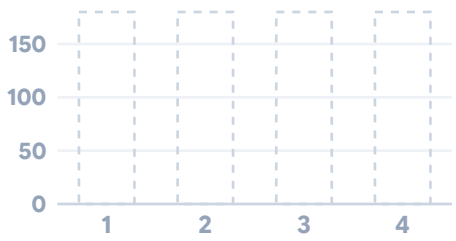
This text is from Text Structure for 4th Grade.

Total: 162 words

Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.

Read	Words read		Mistakes		Words correct
1		–		=	
2		–		=	
3		–		=	
4		–		=	

My reading chart

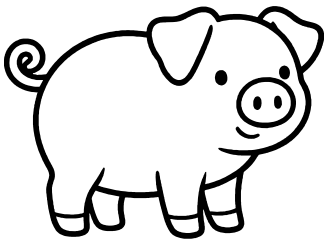


© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Fluency Passage

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



Pigs Are Smarter Than You Think

Many people think of pigs as dirty, dull farm animals. I think pigs are smart, and scientists have found plenty of evidence. 22

First, pigs can solve problems. In one study, scientists taught pigs to use a joystick with their snouts. The pigs learned to move a dot on a computer screen until it hit a target. 56

Second, pigs can figure out how a mirror works. In another study, pigs first spent a few hours with a mirror. Then they saw a bowl of food in the mirror. Most of them turned away from the mirror and found the real food hidden behind them. 103

Third, pigs are smart about staying clean and cool. A pig keeps the place where it sleeps apart from its bathroom spot. Pigs roll in mud because they cannot sweat much, and the cool mud keeps them from getting too hot. 144

All of this shows that pigs deserve more credit than they get. 156

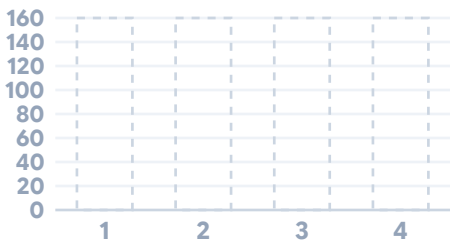
This text is from Reasons and Evidence for 4th Grade.

Total: 156 words

Read for 1 minute. Your partner counts.

Read	Words read		Mistakes		Words correct
1		–		=	
2		–		=	
3		–		=	
4		–		=	

My reading chart



© 2026 Eggroll Games