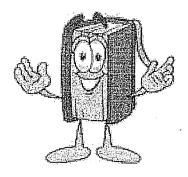
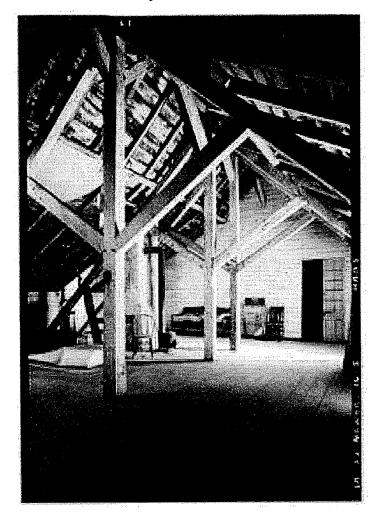


Fourth Grade Summer Reading Packet



The Spookiest Attic

by W.M. Akers



I hear sounds coming from up above my head. I try to sleep, but the tighter I close my eyes, the louder the noises seem to get. It sounds like someone dragging a rake across a chalkboard. Or...no, it's more like a bunch of marbles falling onto a linoleum floor. No, not that either. Tonight the sound could be two dozen maracas, rolling back and forth on a lazily tossing boat.

Whatever it is, it's scaring me to death. My name is Drew, and I sleep in the bedroom just underneath the attic. At least, I'm *supposed* to sleep there. Ever since the noise started, I can barely catch four winks, much less 40 of them. It's not the sound that bothers me so much as the pictures it puts in my head. Stuff like a rake on a chalkboard. Who could sleep while that's running through their brain?

Well, as my mother likes to say, I've had enough of this nonsense. Tonight I'm getting to the

ReadWorks® The Spookiest Attic

bottom of this. The only problem is, even before the noises started, the attic wasn't my favorite part of the house. In fact, it was my least favorite place-not just in the house, but in the whole world. A lot of people have spooky attics, but ours is the spookiest.

We live in a big old house-my dad says it's "rambling"-and the attic is way bigger than it needs to be. The lights don't work very well, and there are all sorts of shadowy corners behind clothes, chests, and boxes that have been there since long before we moved in. We really have *no idea* what is up there, and I can't imagine anything scarier than that.

Except, except...except whatever it is that's making these noises.

Tonight I'm not going to let my imagination run wild. I grip my dad's most powerful flashlight with my hand and check to make sure the batteries are working. I have spares in my backpack, just in case they run out. I also have a water bottle, a sandwich, some chips, and a few cookies in case I get stranded up there. Most importantly, I have my music player. This is crucial because everyone knows that monsters can't get at you as long as you've got music to keep you safe. I jam the headphones into my ears and turn the music up *loud*.

My parents have been asleep for hours when I open the creaky attic door and climb the steps into the darkness. The flashlight beam sweeps ahead of me, illuminating trunks and piles of junk and who knows what else. I creep across the dusty floor, moving slowly and making sure not a single part of the attic escapes my flashlight's glare. I ignore my sweaty palms, pounding heart, and the sickening sensation in my stomach that I am making a *very bad mistake*. This isn't about facing my fears, I tell myself. It's about getting some sleep. If I can't sleep, I can't study. If I can't study, I'll flunk out of school and have to join the circus. And the fact is I don't like the circus one bit.

I'm thinking so hard about how much I don't want to join the circus that I space out a little and am shocked to find myself all the way at the other end of the attic. I didn't find anything at all. If there are monsters up here, they must be better at hiding than I am at looking. Only now do I realize how far I am from the stairs. This attic is long, dark, and full of secrets. And I have to walk back across. More importantly, I have to find out what's making the skittering noise, or this whole trip was a waste. I take out my headphones and wait for the monsters to strike. They leave me alone...for now.

I hear the noise coming from far away. It's not just right above my bedroom but seems to be coming from several different directions at once. My ears are playing tricks on me, I think. This is what happens when you don't get enough sleep. I walk toward the place where the noise is the loudest, my quivering flashlight held straight out in front of my body. There are

three boxes stacked on top of one another with writing too small for me to read. I get closer, and the noise gets louder. A label on the box, written in faded marker, reads "Toys."

Of course! It's a box of old toys, probably from a hundred years ago or more. There are probably some wind-up toys in there, and somehow they've gotten wound. Each night they rattle up against each other, and each night they keep me awake. All I have to do is take the toys out of the box, and they'll quiet down.

I stand on my tiptoes, trying to reach the upper box of toys. I'm just getting a grip on it, when it slips out of my sweaty palms. It flips over, dumping its contents all over me. My head takes the blow from a bunch of heavy old toys, and my body is covered in 15 or 20 thousand creepy, crawly, fuzzy spiders.

Sometimes, it's not possible to scream loud enough. I run as fast as I can back to the stairs, knocking spiders off my body with both hands. I must have dropped the flashlight along the way, because it's dark when I get back downstairs, and I can't see whether I've gotten all the spiders off me until my mom turns on the hallway light.

"Andrew!" she says. "What's wrong?"

"I want to switch bedrooms," I tell her. "And you need to hire an exterminator."

Name:	Date:

- 1. Why is Drew not able to sleep?
 - A. The noises coming from up above his head are too loud.
 - B. His mom turns on the hallway light and starts talking.
 - C. The attic in his house has shadowy corners.
 - D. He is worried that he will have to join the circus.
- 2. Where does this story take place?
 - A. on a lazily tossing boat
 - B. in Drew's house
 - C. at Drew's school
 - D. at a circus Drew visits
- **3.** Read these sentences from the story: "The only problem is, even before the noises started, the attic wasn't my favorite part of the house. In fact, it was my least favorite place-not just in the house, but in the whole world. A lot of people have spooky attics, but ours is the spookiest."

What can be concluded from these sentences?

- A. Drew likes the attic because it is interesting.
- B. Drew likes the attic because it is noisy.
- C. Drew dislikes the attic because it is spooky.
- D. Drew dislikes the attic because it is boring.
- 4. Why does Drew explore the attic?
 - A. He wants to find out what is making the noises he hears from his bedroom.
 - B. He wants to try dragging a rake across a chalkboard while his parents are asleep.
 - C. He wants to find some of his old toys to play with because he cannot fall asleep.
 - D. He wants to have an adventure without leaving the house where he lives.

- 5. What is a theme of this story?
 - A. how much fun old toys can be
 - B. how nice mothers can be
 - C. how boring a circus can be
 - D. how scary an attic can be
- **6.** Read the following sentences: "My name is Drew, and I sleep in the bedroom just underneath the attic. At least, I'm *supposed* to sleep there. Ever since the noise started, I can barely catch four winks, much less **40** of them."

What does Drew mean when he says that he "can barely catch four winks, much less 40 of them"?

- A. He means that his eyes are itching and causing him to wink.
- B. He means that he used to be able to wink forty times in a row.
- C. He means that he is having trouble sleeping.
- D. He means that he sleeps very well every night.
- **7.** Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Drew does not find monsters in the attic; _____, he finds spiders.

- A. including
- B. instead
- C. therefore
- D. for instance

8. After Drew knocks the box over in the attic, the toys that were inside it fall on top of him. What else from the box falls on him?				
9. Describe what Drew does after the contents of the box fall on him.				
10. Will Drew be able to sleep better now that he knows the cause of the noises in the attic? Support your answer with evidence from the story.				

The Rabbits' Day at Carrot Beach

by ReadWorks



Every rabbit likes to lie about in the sun. And in the village of Rabbit Terrace, there are two best friend rabbits that can't wait to go sunbathing today. Meghan Rabbit and Amber Rabbit want to go to the beach.

"I want to look nice in my bikini this year!" says Meghan Rabbit, holding up a bright red bathing suit with white polka dots.

"You won't look too nice in that color with your very white fur," says Amber. "You're as pale as a ghost!"

"You think you're going to make fun of my fur, little miss thing?" Meghan responds. "You look like you fell into a bucket of flour!"

"Well, we'll just have to see who gets a better tan first. Let's go!"

The best place in Rabbit Terrace to sunbathe is Carrot Beach. It gets lots of sun, because the carrots need lots of sun to grow. Rabbits also need lots of carrots to grow. And Amber and Meghan need lots of sun to get their tan on!

The rabbits use sunblock with an SPF 30, and rub it all over their fur. Then, they pack an insulated cooler bag with carrot juice and head to Carrot Beach.

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It's noon, and the sun is bright and hot in the sky. It beats down on the fluffy white rabbits. They walk for what seems like a very long time. Too long.

"Which way is the beach?" Meghan asks, a little afraid. "I thought it was west."

"No, no, it's definitely to the east," says Amber.

"I'm so tired!"

The two friends stop in the shade for a minute and wipe their brows. They cover their eyes to shield them from the bright sun. Up ahead, they see the shade of tall reeds. It's scary and dark, but nice and cool. They head into the reed forest and sit on a small rock.

Thankfully, they have carrot juice to keep them from passing out in the summer heat.

Carrot juice is removed from the cooler bag and opened. So refreshing and nutritious! They drink it so fast they almost start choking. Slow down little rabbits! Think! Which way are you going?

Suddenly, a strange face pops out from behind the reeds. The two rabbits cry out, startled. "Who are you?" They can barely make out the shape of the face. He looks old and haggard, with chipped teeth and tangled fur. He resembles a rabbit, but not one they've ever seen.

"I'm a wabbit," he says. "That's a wandering-rabbit. I've been wandering in these reeds for ten years now. I know these reeds in and out. And it seems you've gotten yourself lost!"

"We have. But why do you stay in the reeds? You look tangled. Your fur is matted. You never see sunlight!"

"Bah!" says Wabbit. "I couldn't care less about sunlight. I like the night!"

"But you need the sun! It's healthy!"

"I'll take my chances in the reeds!"

"Well, please have some of our carrot juice. It's good for you!"

Wabbit takes the juice and drinks it. He perks up a little bit. "Tastes like sunshine," he says. "I guess I do miss it a little sometimes." And then, Wabbit points a paw up and out of the reeds. "That a way! That's where you're no doubt headed."

Looking into the distance, they see the unmistakable glow of Carrot Beach. They have more

energy from the carrot juice now, and they hop wildly toward Carrot Beach.

"Thank you, Wabbit! Goodbye!"

And there it is: rows upon rows of carrots. The same carrots that made the carrot juice that got them there. So tall and delicious, growing in the sun.

The two friends spread out their beach towels and re-apply their suntan lotion. They place their towels in the perfect spot. Not too sunny, not too shady. All around them are living things. The farmer waters the carrots every morning, and sometimes extra water gathers in a pool. The rabbits dip their toes in the pool of water to cool off.

As summer progresses, the sun and water make carrots grow taller and taller. The taller the carrots grow, the less the sun will be able to peek through their leafy green tops.

Suddenly, the carrots begin to rustle. The face of Wabbit pops out!

"Wabbit! You left the reeds!"

"I sure did," Wabbit says. "Well, I won't be staying for long, but I guess I did need a little bit of the sunshine. My fur was looking mighty...lumpy."

Wabbit hops away, and the girls decide to pack up and head home, too. The sun starts to set as they make their way.

There's extra carrot juice to give them energy for the hop back home.

Name:	Date:
1. In this story, where	do Meghan Rabbit and Amber Rabbit want to go?
A. the reeds	
B. the mountains	
C. the beach	
D. the village	

- 2. What is the main problem that Meghan Rabbit and Amber Rabbit face?

 - B. They start to get thirsty after running out of carrot juice.
 - C. They get sunburnt after sunbathing for too long.

A. They get lost on their way to Carrot Beach.

- D. There is not enough sunshine in the reed forest where they end up.
- At Carrot Beach, there are rows upon rows of carrots. The farmer waters the carrots every morning, and sometimes extra water gathers in a pool. The rabbits dip their toes in the pool of water to cool off.

Based on this information, what can be concluded about what Carrot Beach is like?

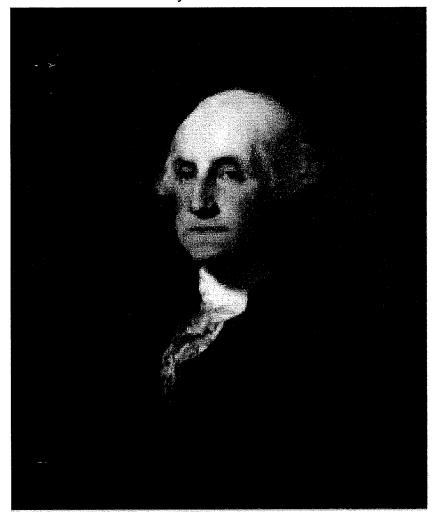
- A. Carrot Beach is not a typical beach. It is most likely a pool located at a gym.
- B. Carrot Beach is not a typical beach. It is most likely a forest located in the mountains.
- C. Carrot Beach is not a typical beach. It is most likely a carrot garden on a farm.
- D. Carrot Beach is a typical beach by the ocean where rabbits can swim.
- 4. Based on the passage, how does sunshine affect Wabbit?
 - A. It makes him feel excited.
 - B. It makes him feel funny.
 - C. It makes him feel weak.
 - D. It makes him feel good.

5. What is this story mainly about?
A. wandering rabbits that hide in the reeds B. drinking a lot of carrot juice from a cooler
C. rabbits going sunbathing at Carrot Beach
D. the bathing suits that rabbits like to wear
6. In the passage, Meghan Rabbit tells Amber Rabbit, "You look like you fell into a bucket of flour." Why does Meghan Rabbit say this?
A. to suggest that the color of Amber Rabbit's fur is the same as the color of flour B. to suggest that the texture of Amber Rabbit's fur is the same as the texture of flour C. to suggest that Amber Rabbit loves to play with buckets of flour D. to suggest that Amber Rabbit is clumsy because she fell into a bucket of flour
7. Choose the answer below best completes the sentence.
Meghan and Amber have trouble finding Carrot Beach,Wabbit helps them find it.
A. like
B. never
C. also
D. but
8. What do the carrots at Carrot Beach need to grow taller and taller?

. Why does Wabbit leave the reeds?	
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s can the upy end show uply? I	r de coesque Megras Paportigita Ambur Papor
	throughout the passage. Why is sunshine from the story to support your answer.

U.S. Presidents: George Washington

by ReadWorks



George Washington is a central figure in the history of the United States. He guided the U.S. and helped it evolve into the nation that it is today. Before becoming President, Washington led the Continental Army to victory, winning American independence from Britain during the Revolutionary War. After the war ended, he was a key player at the convention that drafted the United States Constitution. Finally, as President, Washington's leadership solved many problems. It showed people that the Constitution could work to govern a new nation.

America was a very different place back in Washington's time. The nation was small and weak. There were only 11 states in the U.S. when Washington took office. When he left after two terms there were 16. The country only stretched as far as the Mississippi River. Slavery was legal and widespread throughout the nation. Most people farmed and struggled to make a living. Many children never went to school. Most adults could not read or write. Communication and transportation were slow and difficult. It took days for Washington to

travel the distance covered in a couple of hours by car today.

Many Americans loved Washington for the way he handled hardship. As a general, he lost many battles and suffered greatly. Washington never gave up, even during the bitter winters when he and his troops had barely enough food or supplies to survive. Washington's officers admired his loyalty and strength so much that they wanted to make him king. Washington refused. Washington wanted to strengthen the democratic government in the U.S. He did not want the U.S. to have kings who were rulers for life. He showed this when he resigned from the Presidency. He resigned after being President for two terms. By stepping away from all the power of the Presidency, he set an example for future Presidents. He also strengthened the new democratic government in the U.S.

There are some parts of Washington's legacy today that are more complicated. Washington owned a plantation called Mount Vernon. Many enslaved people worked at Mount Vernon. But after the American Revolution, Washington started to think that slavery was wrong. Washington was not public about his thoughts. But we know that his view on slavery changed because he freed all of the enslaved workers at Mount Vernon when he died. Washington also was involved with taking land from Native American tribes living in North America. Washington wanted to make fair ways to deal with tribal land. But more than that, he wanted to expand the U.S. So, if a tribe would not agree to his terms, he took their land violently from them. Washington is admired today by many Americans, but these harmful actions are also part of his legacy.

Today, George Washington is honored in many ways. His face adorns America's dollar bill and its quarter. Both Washington state and our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., are named after the first President. The bridge that stretches across the Hudson River from New Jersey to New York is named the George Washington Bridge. It is located exactly where Washington crossed the Hudson with his troops to defeat British forces. Mount Vernon now has a museum and education center. There, historians teach people today about all sides of Washington's complicated legacy.

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Name:	Date:
1. George Washington led solo	diers in which war?
A. World War I	

- B. the Civil War
- C. the Revolutionary War
- D. World War II
- 2. What does the author describe in the second paragraph?
 - A. how George Washington became president
 - B. how America was different during Washington's time
 - C. how George Washington is honored today
 - D. how Washington helped win the Revolutionary War
- 3. Read the following sentences from the text.

"Washington's officers admired his loyalty and strength so much that they wanted to make him king. Washington refused...He resigned after being President for two terms. By stepping away from all the power of the Presidency, he set an example for future Presidents. He also strengthened the new democratic government in the U.S."

What can you conclude about Washington based on this information?

- A. Washington cared more about the country's government than about personal power.
- B. Washington was forced to step down from the Presidency by his friends.
- C. Washington mostly cared about military victories, not government strength.
- D. Washington decided to build a new home while he was President.
- 4. How can America's feelings about George Washington best be described?
 - A. scared
 - B. sad
 - C. appalled
 - D. complicated

5. What is this passage mostly about?
A. how the United States was different during the time of George Washington
B. George Washington, the first President of the United States
C. why George Washington's face is on the dollar bill and the quarter
D. how George Washington helped defeat the British in the Revolutionary War
6. Read the following sentence: "[George Washington's] face adorns America's dollar bill and its quarter."
What does the word "adorns" mean as used in this sentence?
A. loves
B. peels
C. shocks
D. decorates
7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.
George Washington's officers admired him so much that they wanted to make him king Washington refused.
A. so
B. namely
C. after
D. but
8. What evidence do we have that George Washington's views on slavery changed during his life?

9. How did Washington expand the U.S.'s land?

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	scribes Washington's legacy as complicated?
Support your answer with two exam	ples from the passage.

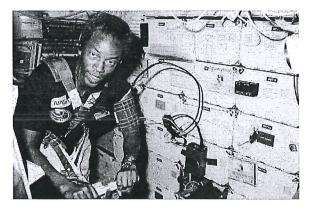
Breaking Barriers in Space

by ReadWorks



NASA Guion S. Bluford Jr.

Have you ever wanted to be an astronaut? Take some tips from the first African American person in space: Guion S. Bluford Jr.



NASA

Guion S. Bluford Jr. on the Challenger in 1983

Before Bluford was an astronaut, he was a pilot in the United States Air Force. He flew more than 140 missions during the Vietnam War. After years as a pilot, he went back to school and got a doctorate degree in aerospace engineering. Soon afterward, Bluford applied to be a part

of NASA's astronaut training program. More than 10,000 people applied along with him. NASA chose Bluford and just 34 others to train to be astronauts. It was a very difficult program, but Bluford made it through. He was set to go up into space!

Guion S. Bluford Jr. boarded the *Challenger* in August, 1983. He was surprised to see so many people watching the spaceship launch. It was rainy, and the launch was set to happen around 1:00 am. Still, there were people outside watching. They wanted to see this historic moment. Once the spaceship launched, the crew listened to the astronauts' voices. They could hear someone laughing. Who was it? It was Bluford! He said, "I laughed and giggled all the way up. It was such a fun ride."

Once Bluford and the other astronauts got into space, they started doing experiments. One of the most important experiments was seeing how space affects the human body. This work would help future astronauts who would be in space for a much longer period of time.

Bluford flew into space three more times before deciding to stick to Earth for good. But his love of space travel continues to this day. Now, he talks to people across the country. He shares his stories about space and experimenting in a whole new environment.

D. to Venus

Name:	Date:
1. Where did Guion S. Bluford, Jr. tr	avel as the first African American?
A. to space	
B. to Mars	
C. to the bottom of the ocean	

- 2. What did Bluford do after he served as a pilot in the United States Air Force?
 - A. He decided to become a ship captain for the United States Navy.
 - B. He went back to school to get a doctorate degree in aerospace engineering.
 - C. He went back home and decided to become a brain surgeon.
 - D. He started writing books for children about his time as a pilot.
- 3. Read the following sentences from the text.

"More than 10,000 people applied along with him. NASA chose Bluford and just 34 others to train to be astronauts. It was a very difficult program, but Bluford made it through. He was set to go up into space!"

What can you conclude based on this information?

- A. Bluford had to work very hard to make it into space.
- B. Going to space was really easy to Bluford to accomplish.
- C. Bluford didn't really want to go to space but went eventually.
- D. Bluford's dream was to become a deep-sea diver.
- 4. How do you think the author of this text would describe Bluford?
 - A. as confused and unsure
 - B. as shy and quiet
 - C. as serious and strict
 - D. as determined and hard-working

5. What is the main idea of this text?

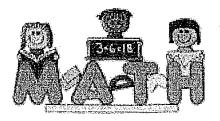
- A. The *Challenger* was a spaceship that was launched by NASA in 1983 and completed a mission to space.
- B. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. enjoyed his time as an Air Force pilot, even though it was stressful flying missions during war.
- C. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. laughed the whole way up as the Challenger was being launched because the ride was so fun.
- D. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. studied and worked hard to become the first African American person in space.

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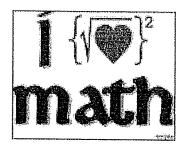
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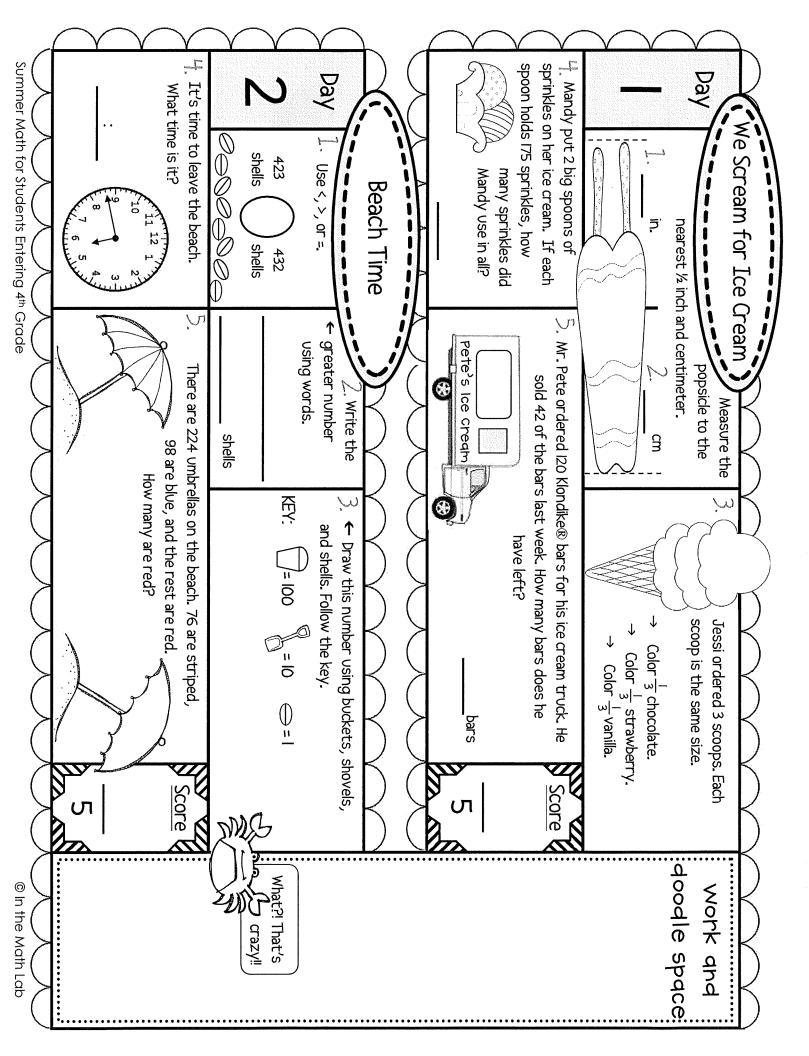
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Fourth Grade Summer Math Packet

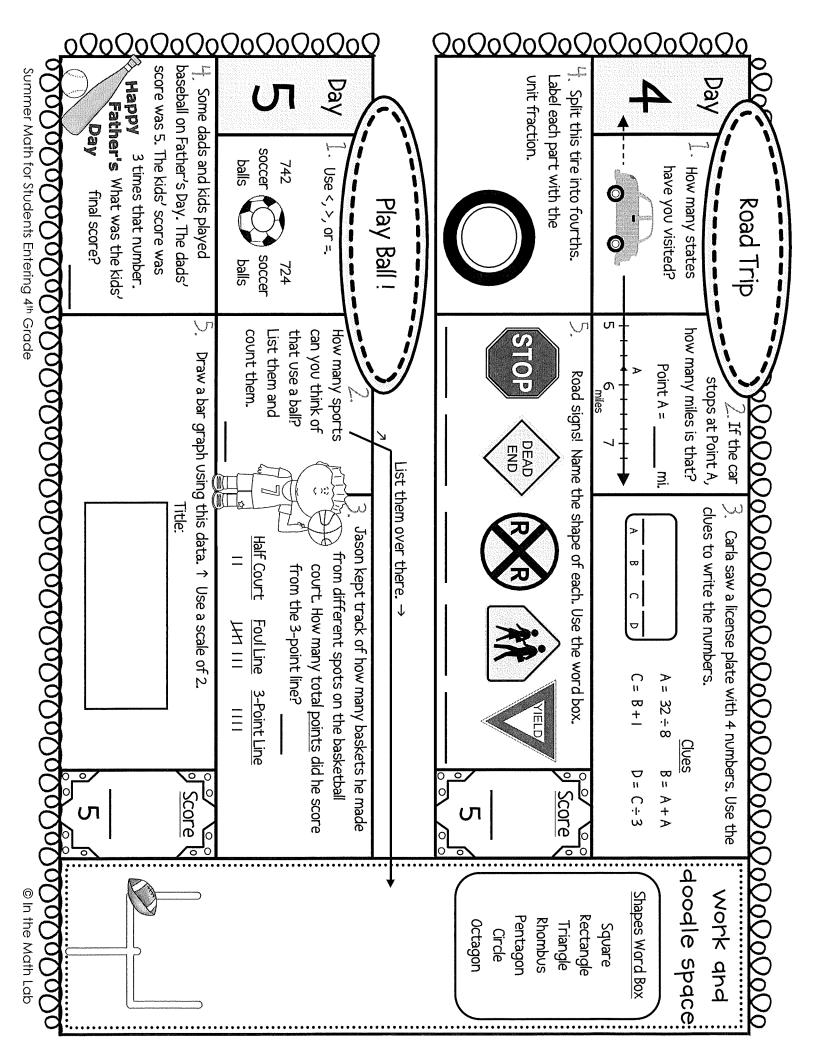






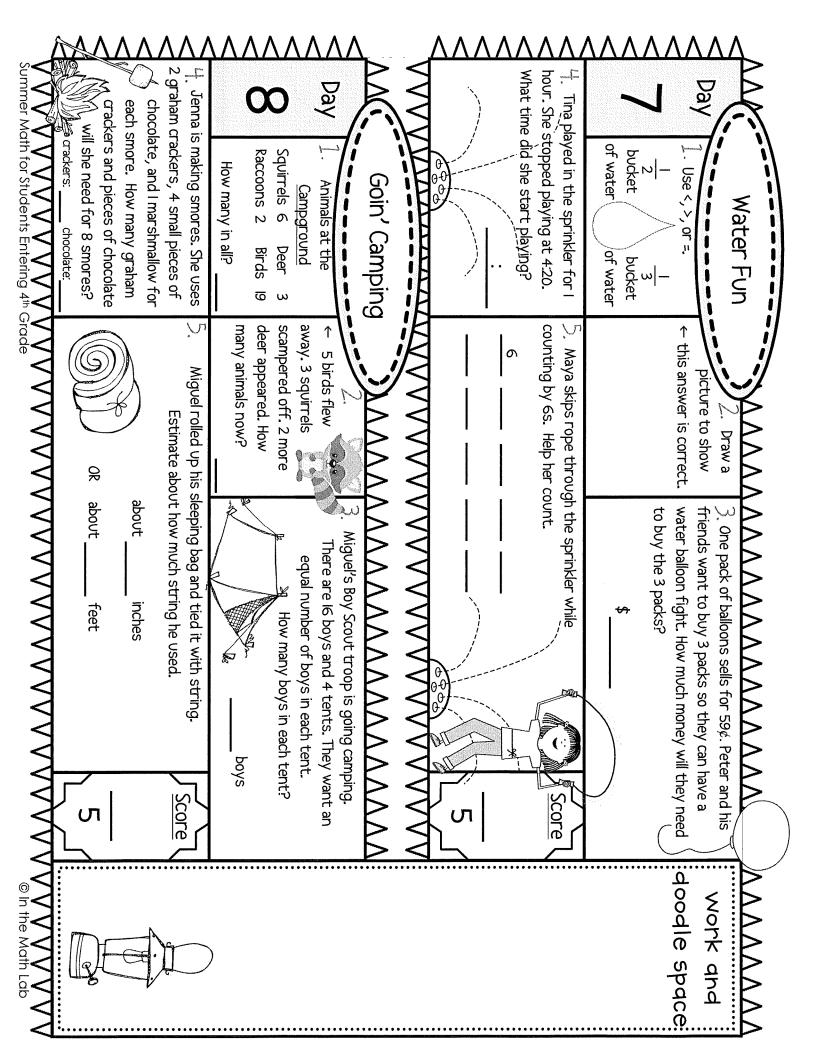
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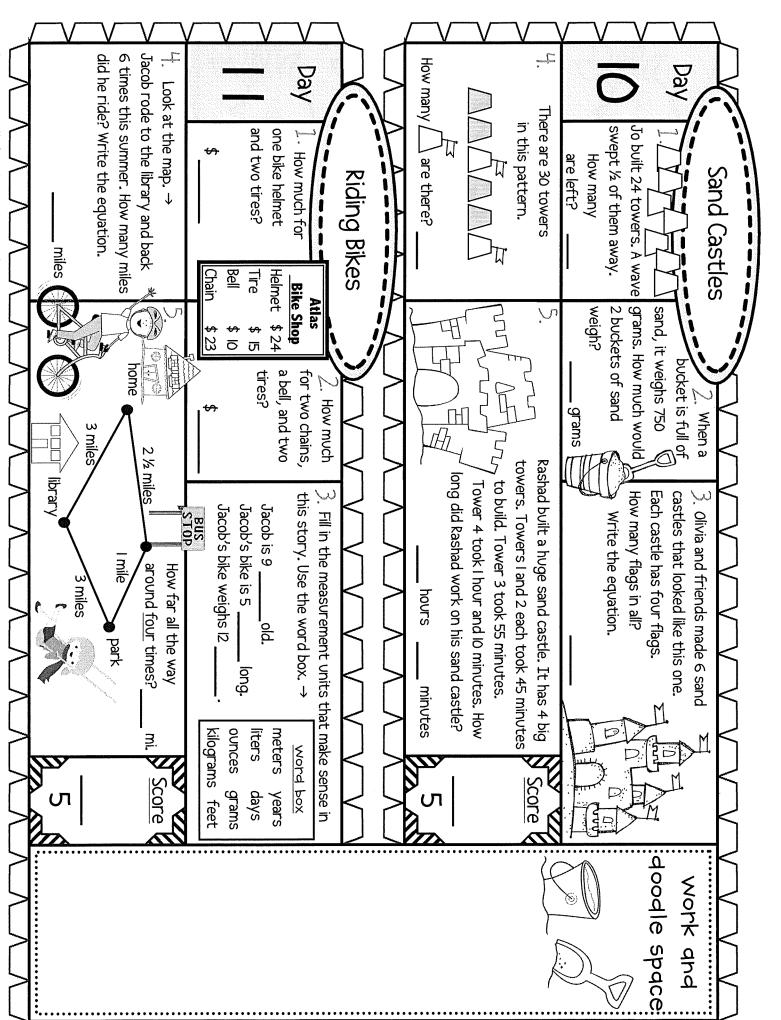
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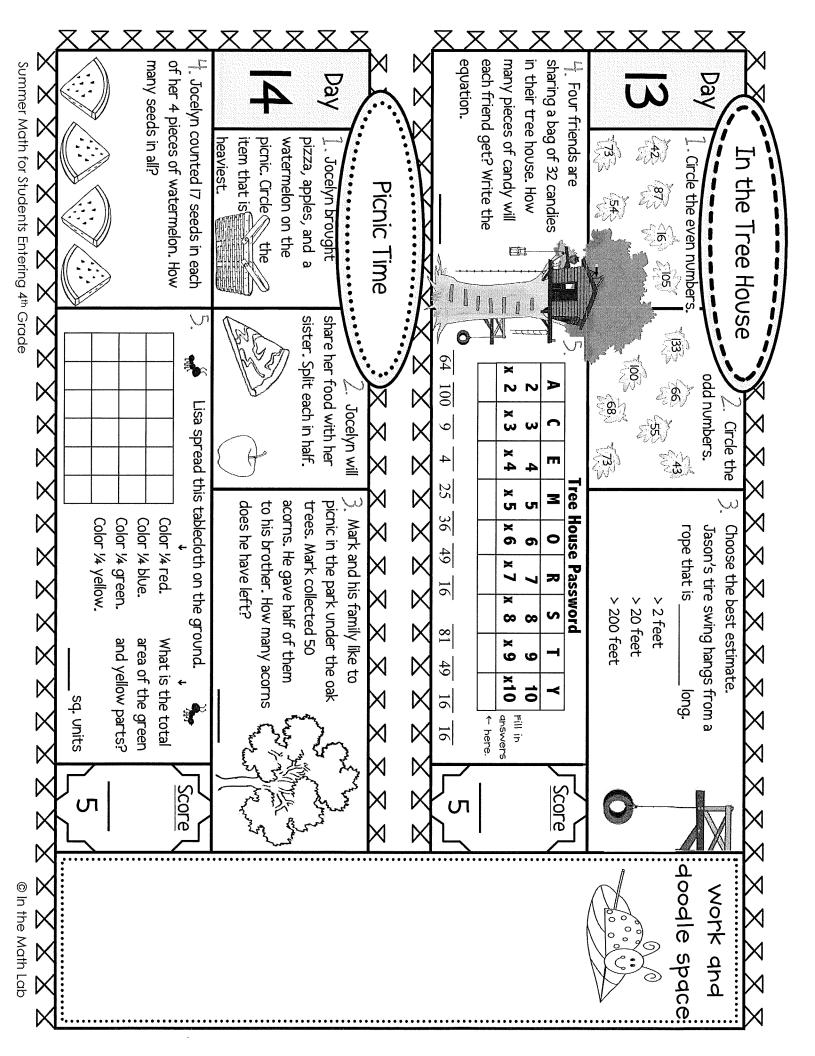


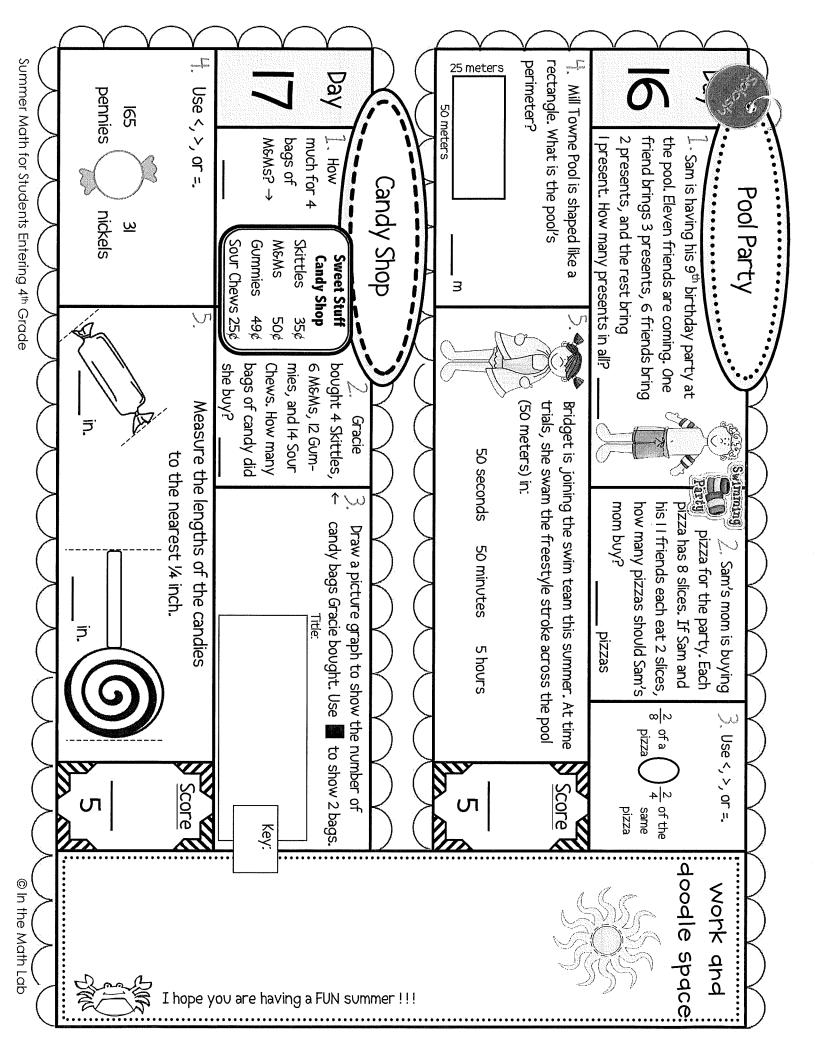
Summer Math for Students Entering 4th Grade

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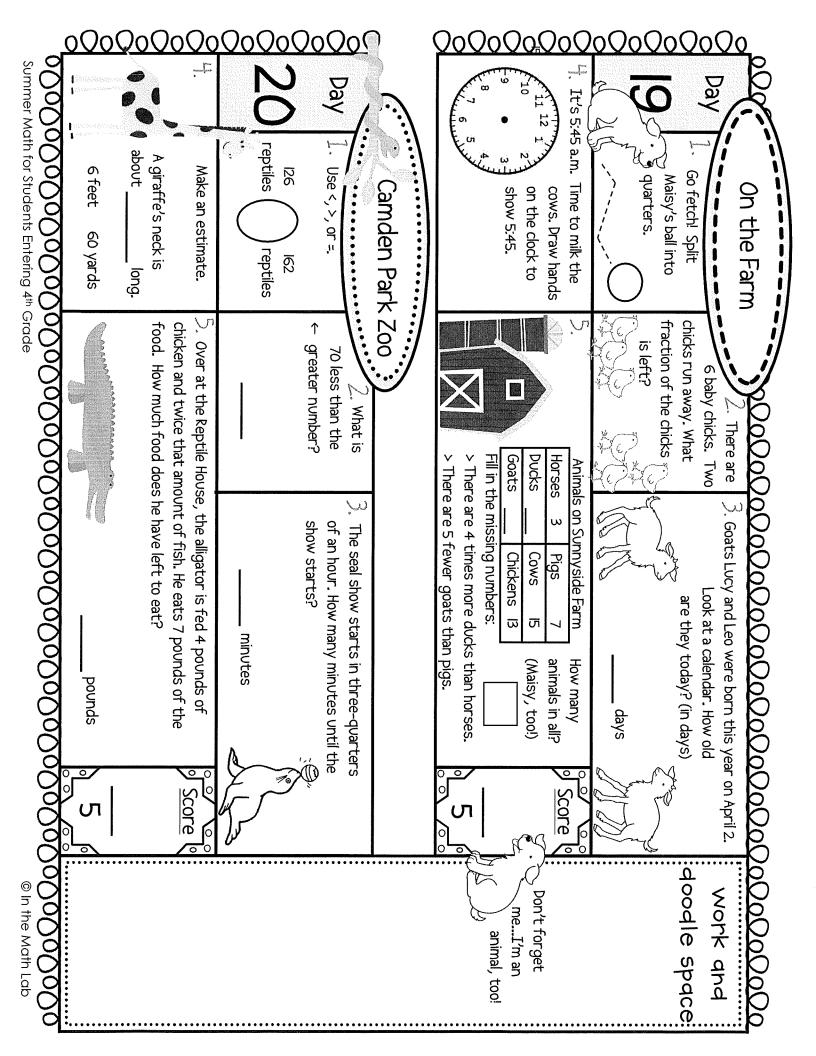
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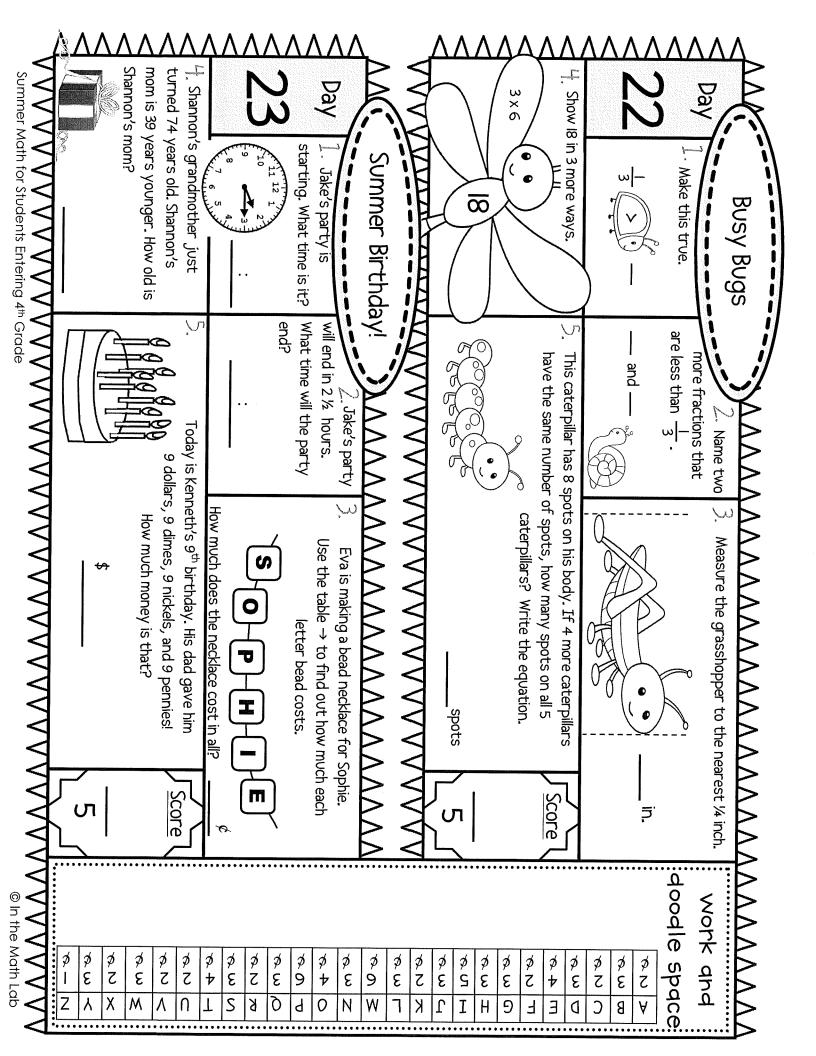
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