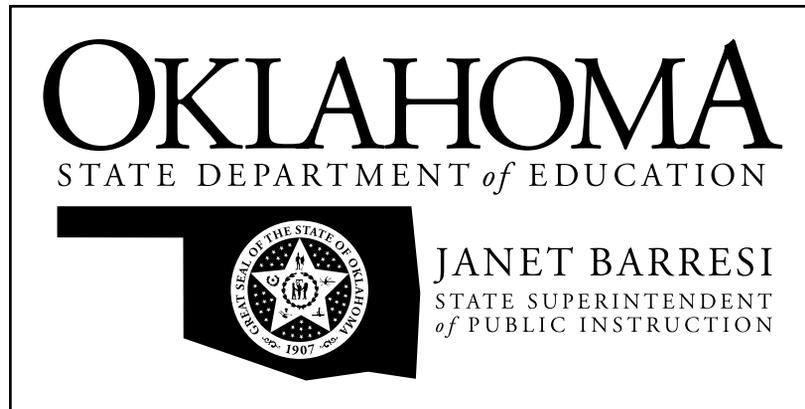


# Oklahoma School Testing Program



Oklahoma Core Curriculum Tests

## 2011–2012 Released Items

Grade 3  
Reading

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Oklahoma State Department of Education  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

## **Acknowledgments**

### **Reading**

"Pride and Joy" by Deborah Churchman. Reprinted from the April 2005 issue of *Ranger Rick*® magazine, with the permission of the copyright owner, the National Wildlife Federation®.

PHOTO Lion with cub (panthero leo), Serengeti National Park, Tanzania. © Ariadne Van Zandbergen / Alamy

"Benjamin's Apple Lunch" by Clare Mishica. "Benjamin's Apple Lunch" story © SEPS: Licensed by Curtis Licensing, Indianapolis, IN. All rights reserved.

**PEARSON**

# Reading



# Directions

Read the selection below and the questions that follow it. Choose the best answer for each question.

100805

## PRIDE and JOY

Lions are grand. Lions are majestic. Lions are fierce! Lions are . . . fun?  
by Deborah Churchman

- 1 Yes, indeed. Lions are the only big cats that live in groups. Most of the time, members of these groups (called prides) just sleep and sleep. Every day or two, they go hunting. But most mornings and evenings, they get together. That's when the cubs—and sometimes even the adults—start to play!
  - Young cubs easily climb trees. It gets them away from the worst of the flies and other pests on the ground. And it gives them a great view of all the action.
  - Cubs wrestle, chase, nip, tag, and tussle with each other. Adults usually put up with all this play. Sometimes, they even join in!
  - A cub will stalk, pounce on, and nab almost anything.
  - Why do cubs play so much? Maybe they're learning important hunting skills. Maybe they're learning how to get along with each other. Or maybe they just want to have fun!
- 2 A cub's life is not all fun and games. Cubs spend most of their lives doing what lions do best—sleeping. They may spend 19 hours each day asleep! The rest of their time is divided between playing and trying to get food.
- 3 Young cubs drink only milk. When a cub gets to be three or four months old, it will start to eat meat. When some of the adults in a pride go off to hunt, the older cubs may tag along. If the hunt is successful, the young will dash in and grab a bit of meat.



- 4 Then, when all the meat is gone, everyone in the pride will slump into a long slumber. Sooner or later, those playful cubs will be awake again—and itching for some fun!





**1** Where should a reader look to find a word that means the same as pest? 522924\_3

- Ⓐ atlas
- Ⓑ almanac
- Ⓒ thesaurus
- Ⓓ encyclopedia

**2** In paragraph 1, the expression “put up with” means the same as 523211\_2

- Ⓐ skip.
- Ⓑ allow.
- Ⓒ forget.
- Ⓓ reward.

**3** How do lion cubs spend most of their time? 522952\_4

- Ⓐ eating
- Ⓑ playing
- Ⓒ climbing
- Ⓓ sleeping



**4** What is a synonym for dash as it is used in paragraph 3?

522897\_2

- Ⓐ leap
- Ⓑ hurry
- Ⓒ sneak
- Ⓓ squeeze

**5** Which question is answered in this passage?

523020\_3

- Ⓐ What animals do lions hunt?
- Ⓑ How many lions live in a group?
- Ⓒ How often do lions hunt for food?
- Ⓓ When do cubs become adult lions?

**6** Which idea is an opinion from the passage?

523150\_2

- Ⓐ Lions are the only big cats that live in groups.
- Ⓑ Climbing trees gives cubs a great view.
- Ⓒ A group of lions is called a pride.
- Ⓓ Young cubs drink only milk.

**7** Between which two guide words in a dictionary would a student find information about lions?

523253\_4

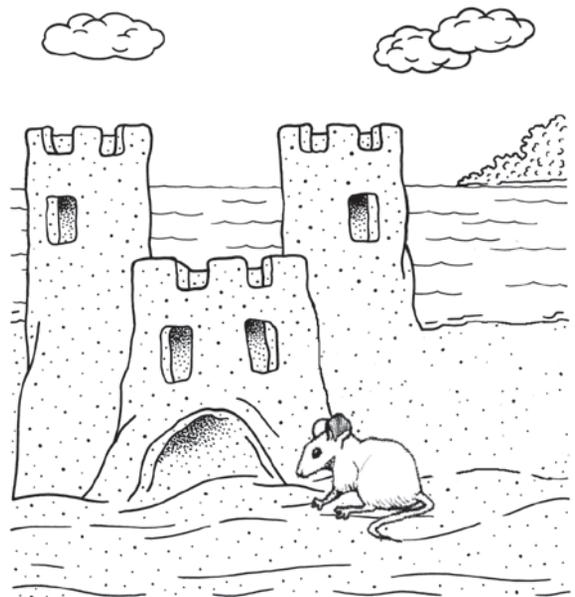
- Ⓐ library and light
- Ⓑ liver and lizard
- Ⓒ limit and linger
- Ⓓ link and litter



## Benjamin's Apple Lunch

by Clare Mishica

- 1 Benjamin Bunny's,<sup>TM</sup> nose twitched. He could smell delicious, ripe apples. But where were they? He looked and looked. "There they are," he said, "inside that big wooden barrel."
- 2 Benjamin tried to hop into the barrel, but it was too high. He tried to push it over, but the barrel was too heavy. How could he get apples for his lunch? Maybe Crow would help.
- 3 Benjamin found Crow polishing his coin collection.
- 4 "Can you help me get some apples?" asked Benjamin.
- 5 "Not now," said Crow, rubbing a shiny nickel. "I have to polish my dimes next. Why don't you ask Squirrel?"
- 6 Benjamin found Squirrel planting acorns. "Can you help me get some apples?" he asked.
- 7 "First, I have to finish planting," Squirrel said. "Then I have to eat my nut stew and write a letter to my great-grandma."
- 8 "Then will you help me?" asked Benjamin.
- 9 "Sure—after I paint my kitchen," said Squirrel. "I should be done by next Tuesday."
- 10 Benjamin's stomach rumbled. "I don't think I can wait that long," he said.
- 11 "Ask Mouse," Squirrel said. "I saw her playing by the lake."
- 12 Benjamin hopped down to the lake. He found Mouse making a big sand castle
- 13 "Can you help me get some apples?" asked Benjamin. "They are in a barrel."
- 14 "I'd like to help," said Mouse, "but I must finish my castle. I have two more towers to build."





- 15 Benjamin's stomach rumbled again—much louder this time. Who could help him get the apples? He sat down to think while Mouse dug a hole under her sand castle. When the castle suddenly plopped over, Benjamin jumped up. He knew who could get the apples. HE could!
- 16 Benjamin hip-hopped back to the apple barrel and started digging. Dirt flew up in big clumps. Soon there was a little hole under the barrel. Benjamin kept digging until the hole got bigger and bigger. Soon the hole was so big that the barrel tipped over and the apples tumbled out.
- 17 Benjamin picked up the shiniest apple. Crunch! Munch! Slurp! The sweet juice made his whiskers sticky, but Benjamin didn't mind. Whiskers can be washed later, he thought, but eating crisp, juicy apples can't wait!



**8** In paragraph 3, what does collection mean?

522822\_2

- Ⓐ habit
- Ⓑ group
- Ⓒ factory
- Ⓓ balance

**9** What will probably happen after Crow polishes his dimes?

523157\_3

- Ⓐ He will eat apples with Benjamin.
- Ⓑ He will help Squirrel build a castle.
- Ⓒ He will see if Benjamin still needs help.
- Ⓓ He will write a letter to his grandmother.

**10** In paragraph 15, what does rumbled mean?

522820\_1

- Ⓐ made a noise
- Ⓑ turned over
- Ⓒ ate food
- Ⓓ felt sick



**11** In paragraph 17, the word shiniest means

522869\_3

- Ⓐ less shiny.
- Ⓑ least shiny.
- Ⓒ most shiny.
- Ⓓ more shiny.

**12** Someone would probably read this story to

522973\_1

- Ⓐ enjoy something funny.
- Ⓑ learn about rabbits.
- Ⓒ study apples.
- Ⓓ gather facts.

**13** Which words from the passage sound like what they mean?

523203\_4

- Ⓐ polish my dimes
- Ⓑ eat, write
- Ⓒ towers to build
- Ⓓ munch, slurp



**14** Which statement from the passage is an opinion?

523144\_4

- Ⓐ Benjamin found Squirrel planting acorns.
- Ⓑ He sat down to think while Mouse dug a hole under her sand castle.
- Ⓒ Soon there was a little hole under the barrel.
- Ⓓ Whiskers can be washed later, he thought, but eating crisp, juicy apples can't wait.

**15** Which sentence best tells the theme of the story?

523104\_4

- Ⓐ Mice like to build sand castles.
- Ⓑ Sometimes your friends cannot help you.
- Ⓒ Apples are the best food for a rabbit to eat.
- Ⓓ Sometimes you can figure things out by yourself.



**16** Which sentence best tells what this story is about?

523080\_2

- Ⓐ Benjamin sees some apples in a barrel.
- Ⓑ Benjamin finds a way to get his lunch.
- Ⓒ Benjamin learns how to build castles.
- Ⓓ Benjamin talks to all of his friends.

**17** What can you learn from reading this story?

523061\_1

- Ⓐ If you pay attention, you can often solve a problem.
- Ⓑ Squirrels like to plant acorns more than anything.
- Ⓒ Rabbits have many animal friends in the woods.
- Ⓓ Crows always have a lot of money to count.

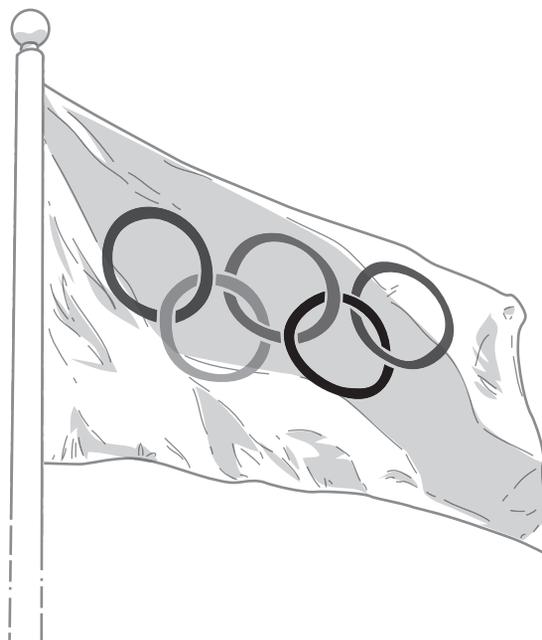


## The History of the Olympic Games

- 1 Every four years the best athletes from all over the world gather for a very special competition. It is called the Olympic Games. You have probably heard of the Olympics. You might even have watched them on television. Did you know they were first held more than 2,700 years ago? Back then, the Olympics were much different than they are now. The first Olympics had just one event. It was a short foot race. Instead of a medal, the winner received a crown made from an olive branch.
- 2 The first Olympics took place in the country of Greece. The people there liked the race very much. They decided to have the Olympics every four years. They also added more events. They added more races to find out who ran the fastest. Some races were long and some were short. Some events were added to see who the strongest athletes were. Other events were added to find out who jumped the farthest or the highest.
- 3 Athletes from all over Greece took part in the Olympics. People from all over the country came to watch. Then Greece stopped having the Olympics. Nobody is sure why. More than 1,500 years passed. Most people forgot all about the Olympic Games.
- 4 One person who did not forget was Pierre de Coubertin. He was from France. He wanted to bring back the Olympics. In 1896, he helped start the new Olympics. The new Olympics had many events. There were more races and more jumping events too. There were also new events such as swimming. The new Olympics were also held in Greece, but athletes from other countries were permitted to compete.
- 5 The Olympic Games continued to change. More events were added. More countries sent athletes. The Olympics are now held in different countries. Medals are awarded to winners. New events are still being added, and today the Olympics are better than ever.



- 6 The Olympics even has its own flag. It was used for the first time in 1920. The flag is white with five big rings on it. The rings are blue, yellow, black, green, and red. They stand for the five parts of the world. The five parts of the world are Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia, and Europe. The rings on the flag are all linked. They show how the people of the world join together for the Olympics.





18

522920\_2

**crow**n (kroun) *n.* **1.** A jeweled head covering worn by a king or queen. **2.** A head piece given to honor a winner **3.** The upper part of a tooth. **4.** The cap or top part of something.

Which meaning best fits the way crown is used in paragraph 1?

- Ⓐ 1
- Ⓑ 2
- Ⓒ 3
- Ⓓ 4

19 What is another word for liked as it is used in paragraph 2?

522890\_3

- Ⓐ shared
- Ⓑ studied
- Ⓒ enjoyed
- Ⓓ changed



**20** In paragraph 4, permitted means

522843\_1

- Ⓐ allowed.
- Ⓑ ordered.
- Ⓒ needed.
- Ⓓ trained.

**21** Between which two guide words would compete be found in a dictionary?

523250\_4

- Ⓐ code and coin
- Ⓑ cold and color
- Ⓒ conclude and control
- Ⓓ compare and complain

**22** On the Olympic flag, the linked rings show

522996\_4

- Ⓐ the five events that are held at the Olympics.
- Ⓑ the five countries where the Olympics are held.
- Ⓒ how many times the Olympics have taken place.
- Ⓓ how the world's people join together for the Olympics.

**23 The reader can tell that sports**

523046\_3

- Ⓐ have not changed in 2,700 years.
- Ⓑ first began about 1,500 years ago.
- Ⓒ are enjoyed by many people around the world.
- Ⓓ are not as popular now as they were in the past.

**24 What is this article mainly about?**

523114\_1

- Ⓐ how the Olympics have changed since they first began
- Ⓑ what Olympic athletes receive for winning an event
- Ⓒ a Frenchman named Pierre de Coubertin
- Ⓓ the five different parts of the world

**25 Which of these statements is an opinion from the article?**

523148\_1

- Ⓐ The Olympics are now better than ever.
- Ⓑ The Olympics are now held in different countries.
- Ⓒ The first Olympics were held more than 2,700 years ago.
- Ⓓ The Olympics did not take place for more than 1,500 years.



