

Editor

Lorin Klistoff, M.A.

Managing Editor

Karen J. Goldfluss, M.S. Ed.

Art Production Manager

Kevin Barnes

Art Coordinator

Renée Christine Yates

Imaging

James Edward Grace

Ricardo Martinez

Publisher

Mary D. Smith, M.S. Ed.

Reading Galaxy

Book 2

- Over 150 nonfiction and fiction passages
- Follow-up questions for each passage's target essential comprehension skills.
- Ideal for test preparation!

Book 2

Author

Melissa Hart, M.F.A.

Recorded by Jana Moore and David Acheson

Colored by I-Shun Lo



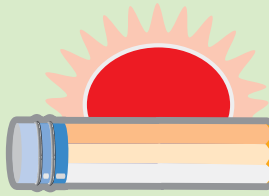


Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Tracking Sheet	6
Nonfiction	7
Animals	9
The Giraffe—Cats—Giant Squid—Puffins—Saola—Mole Rat—Tiger— Lions—Red Squirrel—Night Animals—Chipmunk—Sharks—Hermit Crab— Tongues—Groundhogs—Seahorses—Ostrich—Hummingbirds	
Biography	27
George Washington—Betsy Ross—Thomas Jefferson—Dolley Madison— Albert Einstein—George W. Bush—Michelle Kwan—Tiger Woods— Condoleeza Rice—Walt Disney—Denzel Washington—Sandra Bullock— Bruce Willis—Laura Bush—Babe Ruth—Hank Aaron—Christopher Columbus—Harriet Tubman	
American History	45
The First Airplane—Cell Phones—Coke—The Iron—The Popsicle—Light Bulbs—Kool-Aid—Marshmallows—Microwave Oven—Q-tips—Sewing Machine—Umbrellas—Wipers—Band-Aids—Basketball—The Telephone— Braille—Diapers	
Science	63
Mammals—Birds—Fish—Reptiles—Amphibians—Insects—Seeds— Habitats—Seasons—Earth’s Resources	
Current Events	73
Winter Olympics—iPod—Hurricane Katrina—Tsunami—Lance Armstrong— September 11th—John Paul II Dies—Ben—Air Force One—Lion King Tryouts—Five Mummies—Working in the Mines—Moms and Dads Want Kids To Eat Veggies—Space Shuttle Comes Home	

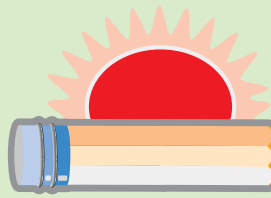


Table of Contents

Fiction	87
Fairy Tales and Folklore	89
Barnella—The Three Little Bugs—Savannah and the Giant Sunflower—Little White Duck—The Mice and the Cat—Timmy and the Three Wolves—Lars and Nina—Rain Blue—The Rat and the Princess—The Butterfly and the Bird—The Ugly Monkey—The Apple Girl—Why Bees Buzz—Karl and the Talking Kiwi—Jumping Jellyfish—Little Blue Bonnet	
Historical Fiction	105
Sam Walks on the Moon—“I Have a Dream”—A Pilgrim Day—One-Room Schoolhouse—Stars in Her Eyes—Henry Learns to Fly—Grandpa and the Five and Dime—Crayons—Band-Aids—Toll House Cookies—The Horseless Carriage—Life Savers—A Model House—The Meat Plant—In the Mine—Ore Boat on the Great Lakes	
Contemporary Realistic Fiction	121
Frank—Yucky—Hoops—The Big Game—Missing Money—Party—Skiing—After School—Fight—My Hair—No Homework—Best Friends—The Big “D”—Moving Day—Stuck in the Snow Fort—The Tent	
Mystery/Suspense/Adventure	137
Lights in the Shed—The Bus—Snapshot—Where’s My Dog?—Who’s at My House?—Codes—Socks—Surprise!—The Case of the Missing Keys—The Cat Has My Tongue!—The Missing Dog—Broccoli—Look at Its Hair!—Great Balls of Fire!	
Fantasy	151
Candy Planet—Wafflehead—Arnie the Ant—Talking Shampoo Bottle—Wishes—Mr. Cat—Waterpark—The Moon—More Chili and Cheese, Please!—The Circus—Candice—A Lollipop?—Martians—Jellybeans and Me—Vanishing Veggies—Soldiers Under My Bed	
Answer Key	167
Leveling Chart	175
Certificate	176

NONFICTION





THE GIRAFFE

The giraffe is an amazing animal. It has a tall, long neck. Its neck helps it reach up really high, so it can munch on the tasty leaves in trees.

A male will fight with his neck. This is called neck fighting. Two males hit each other with their heads, and they fight until they get tired. The giraffe that quits the fight first loses.

A giraffe also uses his neck to keep safe. His long neck helps him to see danger when it is out in the grass. The giraffe watches for lions and other dangerous animals. The mother giraffe can be eating far away and can still keep an eye on her babies. She holds her head high and keeps looking around.

To stay alive, giraffes have to stand tall!



STORY QUESTIONS

- What body part helps the giraffe eat leaves on the tops of trees?
 - head
 - neck
 - feet
 - ears
- This story is mostly about . . .
 - the lion.
 - the mother.
 - the giraffe.
 - the baby.
- A **synonym** is a word that means the same thing. *Munch* is a synonym for...
 - watch
 - eat
 - look
 - stand



CATS

Cats are very interesting animals, and they have something very interesting on their faces. These things help them catch mice. These things also help them get away from other animals. Cats use these to feel their way in the dark, and they use them to find out how large a hole is. They also use these when the air moves. These things help tell the cat if there is a wall, a bed, or an object from the air that hits them. The cat uses these to feel its food on the ground. They tell the cat if a mouse is about to get away. If a twig hits it, the cat will blink to protect its eyes because these things let it know quickly that something is coming toward it.

Do you want to know what these things are? They are the cat's whiskers! They give the cat feeling. They guide and save the cat from getting hurt. They help the cat go through its day and night happily.



STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is this story mostly about?
 - a. keeping your cat safe
 - b. the life of a cat
 - c. a cat's whiskers
 - d. helping your cat eat the right food
2. An **antonym** means the opposite. *Day* is an antonym for . . .
 - a. light.
 - b. wall.
 - c. big.
 - d. night.
3. Which one is **NOT TRUE** about the cat's whiskers?
 - a. They help the cat to cook rice.
 - b. They save the cat from getting hurt.
 - c. They help the cat find their way in the dark.
 - d. They help the cat catch mice.