

Sample Pages from



Created *by* Teachers *for* Teachers and Students

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To Create a World ⁱⁿ which
Children Love to Learn!

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Welcome to Kids Learn!



Dear Family,

Welcome to *Kids Learn! Getting Ready for 7th Grade*. Seventh grade will be an exciting year, with plenty of new educational opportunities for your young teen. For example, your teen will learn about cell biology, world history, and three-dimensional geometry! Interesting new concepts in language arts and algebra will keep students engaged in lessons at school as well.

Kids Learn! was designed to help solidify the concepts your teen learned in sixth grade and help your teen prepare for the year ahead. The activities are based on the Common Core State Standards and provide practice with essential skills for the grade level. Keeping the skills your teen learned in sixth grade sharp while on break from school will help his or her seventh grade year get off to a great start. There is also a section at the end of the book that provides practice for standardized testing.

Keep these tips in mind as you work with your teen through the *Kids Learn!* book:

- Set aside a **specific time each day** to work on the activities.
- **Complete one language arts and one mathematics page** each time your teen works in the book rather than an entire week's worth of activity pages at one time.
- Keep all **practice sessions with your teen positive and constructive**. If the mood becomes tense or if either of you gets frustrated, set the book aside and find another time for your teen to practice.
- **Help your teen with instructions**, if necessary. If your teen is having difficulty understanding what to do, work through some of the problems together.
- Encourage your teen to do his or her best work and **compliment the effort that goes into learning**. Celebrate the completion of all the activities by filling in the certificate at the end of the book and displaying it in a special place.

Enjoy the time learning with your teen during his or her vacation from school. Seventh grade will be here before you know it!

Things to Do at Home

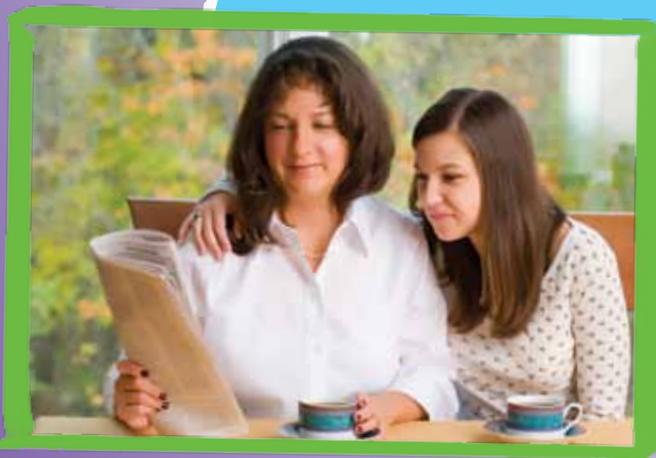
To Develop Healthy Habits

- Establish a system for posting a family schedule or calendar in a prominent place. Take time to review the plans for the following day the night before.
- Show your teen how to break down multistep projects or assignments into manageable chunks. Help him or her reduce school-related stress by providing strategies to stay organized.
- Students at this age still need about nine hours of sleep each night. Encourage your teen to engage in a relaxing activity before bedtime (e.g., a warm bath or shower) and to avoid sleeping in on the weekends as this will interfere with weekday sleep patterns.



To Practice Reading

- Have your teen read the directions of a game he or she has never played. After reading the directions carefully, have your teen teach the rest of the family how to play the game.
- To encourage your teen to read the newspaper daily, have him or her choose a news event to follow for at least two days. Discuss with your teen who is involved in the event, why the event occurred, and any resolutions that might have been reached.



- Have your teen select two advertisements from a magazine and analyze them to determine the marketing techniques used to attract buyers and the intended audiences for the products. Ask your teen to create an advertisement using similar techniques for a household object or personal electronic device.

Things to Do in the Community (cont.)

To Practice Writing

- Have your teen visit the public library and check out a book about the local area. Encourage him or her to write a story that illustrates the changes the area has gone through over the years.
- Ask your teen to write a letter to the editor of a local magazine or periodical addressing an area of interest or concern in the community.
- Encourage your teen to write a letter to his or her teacher describing what he or she has been doing over the summer. This letter can be addressed to the teacher at the school's mailing address.



To Practice Math

- Work with your teen to plan a neighborhood garage sale to raise money for a local charity. Your teen can be in charge of advertising the sale, pricing the items, making change during the sale, keeping accurate records, and calculating the final proceeds.
- Have your teen study your weekly grocery receipts. Then, challenge him or her to go on a coupon scavenger hunt to see how much money he or she can save on the next shopping trip.
- Attend a community sporting event and have your teen record statistics to find scoring averages. For example, he or she could record the number of points scored and compare it with the number of scoring attempts.



The Better Bargain

Directions: Determine the better bargain, Brand A or Brand B. Circle the better bargain.

Item	Brand A	Brand B	Solution
1. flour	3 pounds for \$7.25	1 pound for \$2.50	Brand A: $\$7.25 \div 3 =$ $\$2.42$ per pound
2. eggs	1 dozen for \$1.25	18 eggs for \$1.75	
3. milk	$\frac{1}{3}$ gallon for \$3.00	1 gallon for \$4.10	
4. rice	1 pound for \$2.00	3 pounds for \$6.10	
5. hot sauce	8 oz. for \$2.35	12 oz. for \$3.05	
6. apples	5-pound bag for \$14.00	1-pound bag for \$3.00	
7. ice cream	1 half-gallon for \$4.40	2 half-gallons for \$8.50	
8. orange juice	6 8-oz. bottles for \$5.45	48-oz. bottle for \$4.80	

Latin Prefixes

Directions: Use a dictionary to find three words that begin with the prefixes below. Read the definition of each word. Then, write simple definitions in your own words.



A *prefix* is a word part added to the beginning of a word. Many English prefixes come from the ancient Greek and Latin languages.

dis: not, not any

1. **disagree: to not agree** _____

2. _____

3. _____

pre: before

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

inter: between, among

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

sub: under

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

post: after

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Preparing Your Teen for Assessments

Background for Parents

Many states have recently adopted the Common Core State Standards, a set of national educational standards in language arts and mathematics. These standards provide clear goals for learning in grades K–12 so that all students can gain the skills and knowledge they need to be successful. For more information on the Common Core State Standards, please visit www.corestandards.org.

Assessments that are aligned with the Common Core State Standards will replace other state end-of-year tests. These assessments include a variety of types of items. Some items ask students to select the correct option or options from a list. Other items ask students to give a written or numerical response. Students will also complete tasks that gauge their ability to bring together knowledge and skills across many standards.

Preparation Pages

The test preparation items on pages 81–95 provide sample test questions and tasks similar to those that may be found on next-generation assessments. Use the following tips to work through the assessment practice pages with your child:

- Work with your child as he or she completes the practice items so that you can address any questions as they arise.
- Help your child understand how to go about selecting answers or working through tasks.
- Use the Answer Key to check the answers together, and discuss any incorrect responses.
- Keep in mind that for the purposes of this practice, getting the correct answer is not as important as helping your child become comfortable with the test-taking format and process.

Language Arts Assessment Practice (cont.)

12. A student is writing an essay for a library media class. Read the paragraph from the essay and the directions that follow.

What would it be like if library books weren't put into any kind of order? You probably wouldn't be able to find the book you wanted. That is why library books are organized. Most public libraries separate books for children and teens from books for adults. That way, children teens and adults can find the books they wants more easily. Most libraries also separate fiction books from nonfiction books. Fiction book are alphabetized by the author's last name. So, if you are looking for a children's fiction book, begin by going to the children's section. Next, look for the fiction books in that section. Finally, search alphabetically for the last name of the author, and you will likely find the book.

One sentence in the paragraph above contains a grammar usage and punctuation error. Write the incorrect sentence below, in the space provided, correcting the two errors.

13. Read the paragraph and the directions that follow.

But at last he found Darkington Hall. It was a gray, gloomy, sprawling building about thirty miles from Todcaster. To the west of the hall was a sinister forest, to the north were bleak and windswept moors, and to the east, the gray, relentlessly pounding sea.

—excerpt from *Which Witch?* by Eva Ibbotson

Underline the words and phrases that set the tone in the passage above. Then, describe the tone of the passage and explain how the author's choices convey the tone.

Language Arts Assessment Practice (cont.)

14. A student is writing an informational report about teeth. The student needs to use words that are clear and specific in his report. Read the paragraph and the question that follows.

Your teeth are made up of four layers. Within the layers are the parts of a tooth. There's also a kind of bacteria that's always in your mouth. When you eat bad foods, a reaction occurs. The bacteria change the sugar and starch into acid. Each time you eat these foods, the acid attacks your teeth working its way through a tooth, leaving a little hole. The hole is called a cavity. If you ignore it, the hole gets into the next layer of tooth. It can even get to the inside of your tooth. You'll know when this happens, because it hurts! A lot!

Which set of words best replaces the underlined words with more clear and specific language?

- A insides; yucky
- B ingredients; not good
- C pieces; defective
- D nerves; unhealthy

-
15. A student is writing a paper about Mount St. Helens. Read the paragraph from the paper. Then, answer the question that follows.

It started out as a quiet day in the Cascade Range in Washington State in the United States. But May 18, 1980, would not stay quiet. An earthquake caused Mount St. Helens to erupt. It was the worst blast ever recorded in the United States.

Which source would provide the most accurate information about Mount St. Helens?

- A A blog describing the experience of an earthquake
- B A nonfiction book titled *The Largest U.S. Earthquakes*
- C A magazine article titled "Surviving an Earthquake"
- D An almanac from 1980