

Sample Pages from

Teacher Created Materials

PUBLISHING

Created *by* Teachers *for* Teachers and Students

Please find enclosed in this sample the following:

Kids Learn! Activity pages:

- Table of Contents
- Intro letter to parents
- Things To Do at Home suggestions
- Writing activity
- Mathematics activity
- Reading activity

Parent Guide for Your Child's Success:

- Table of Contents
- Tips and activities for parents and students

Sample pages from readers:

- *The Dream Team*
- *Engineering Feats & Failures*

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Kids Learn!

Getting Ready for

5th Grade

Table of Contents

Introduction

Welcome to <i>Kids Learn!</i>	4
Top 10 Things Your Fifth Grader Will Need to Know	5
Things to Do at Home	6
Things to Do in the Community	8
Suggested Vacation Reading	10
Vacation Reading Log	11
Websites and Apps for Parents and Kids	12

Weekly Activities for Students

Week 1	14
Week 2	25
Week 3	36
Week 4	47
Week 5	58
Week 6	69

Preparing Your Child for Assessments

Language Arts Assessment Practice	81
Mathematics Assessment Practice	89

Appendices

Completion Certificate	97
Answer Key	99
Writing Paper	105
Parent Survey	111

Welcome to Kids Learn!



Dear Family,

Welcome to *Kids Learn! Getting Ready for 5th Grade*. Fifth grade will be an exciting year, with plenty of new educational opportunities. For example, your child will learn about text structure, long division, and the coordinate plane! Interesting new topics in science and social studies will keep students engaged in lessons at school as well.

Kids Learn! was designed to help solidify the concepts your child learned in fourth grade and help your child 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 child learned in fourth grade sharp while on break from school will help his or her fifth 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 child 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 child works in the book rather than an entire week's worth of activity pages at one time.
- Keep all **practice sessions with your child 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 child to practice.
- **Help your child with instructions**, if necessary. If your child is having difficulty understanding what to do, work through some of the problems together.
- Encourage your child 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 child during his or her vacation from school. Fifth grade will be here before you know it!

Things to Do at Home

To Develop Healthy Habits

- Allow your child to assume more responsibility at home. Give your child tasks, such as making his or her school lunch and helping with family chores.
- Post checklists and reminders to help your child establish good routines and stay organized.
- In order to guarantee a good night's sleep, make sure to eat dinner at least two hours before bedtime and ensure that your child goes to sleep at a consistent time each night. Children at this age need 10–11 hours of sleep per night, so plan ahead to make sure your child is well-rested.



To Practice Reading

- Send your child on a “print hunt.” Challenge your child to find as many different kinds of print throughout the house as possible (e.g., labels, directions, maps).
- Have your child find four different types of advertisements in a magazine and identify the target audience for each one.
- After reading a short story or newspaper article, ask your child to retell the sequence of events using the words *first*, *next*, *then*, and *finally*.



A Visit with Penguins

Directions: Read the passage, then answer the questions.

One of the penguins was ready to play. He waddled up the icy hill as fast as he could. Then, he flopped onto his stomach and slid down. Some of the penguins were eating lunch. They swallowed the fish as quickly as the zookeeper could empty the big buckets of food. A few of the penguins were sleeping quietly.

The children watched the penguins for a long time. When it was time to leave the exhibit, all the children were sad to go. Many of the children liked the penguin exhibit best.

1. Write 1–2 sentences to summarize the passage.

2. What do you think will happen next? Why?



Fraction Solutions

Directions: Write each improper fraction as a multiplication expression and as words. Draw a picture to show the amount.



An *improper fraction* has a numerator that is greater than (or equal to) the denominator.

$\frac{3}{2}$, $\frac{6}{3}$, and $\frac{9}{2}$ are all improper fractions.

$\frac{3}{2}$ is an improper fraction that can also be thought of as *three halves*.

$$\frac{3}{2} = 3 \times \frac{1}{2}$$



1. $\frac{6}{4} = \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad}$

Picture:

2. $\frac{8}{5} = \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad}$

Picture

3. $\frac{5}{3} = \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad}$

Picture:

Define It

Directions: Look up the meaning of each word in an online dictionary (for example, www.m-w.com). Record the definition of each word, then make up a new sentence using each word.

1. Mei-yin couldn't coax her friend into riding the roller coaster with her.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2. My favorite time of day to visit the beach is at dusk.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3. The hikers were weary after a long day of climbing through the mountains.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

4. There was a considerable amount of water on the road after the heavy rain.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

Sign In

Directions: Place + and - signs in the boxes so that both sides of each equation are equal.

1. $641 \square 262 = 903$

2. $91 \square 31 \square 41 = 100 \square 1$

3. $995 = 368 \square 887 \square 260$

4. $511 = 693 \square 416 \square 234$

5. $98 \square 63 \square 534 = 215 \square 900 \square 420$

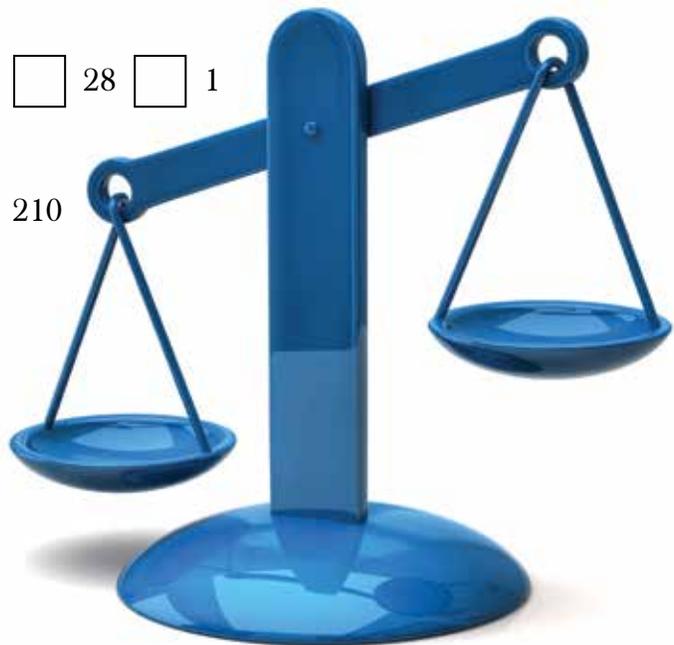
6. $218 = 93 \square 102 \square 23$

7. $115 \square 44 = 7 \square 14 \square 21 \square 28 \square 1$

8. $493 \square 73 \square 118 = 748 \square 210$

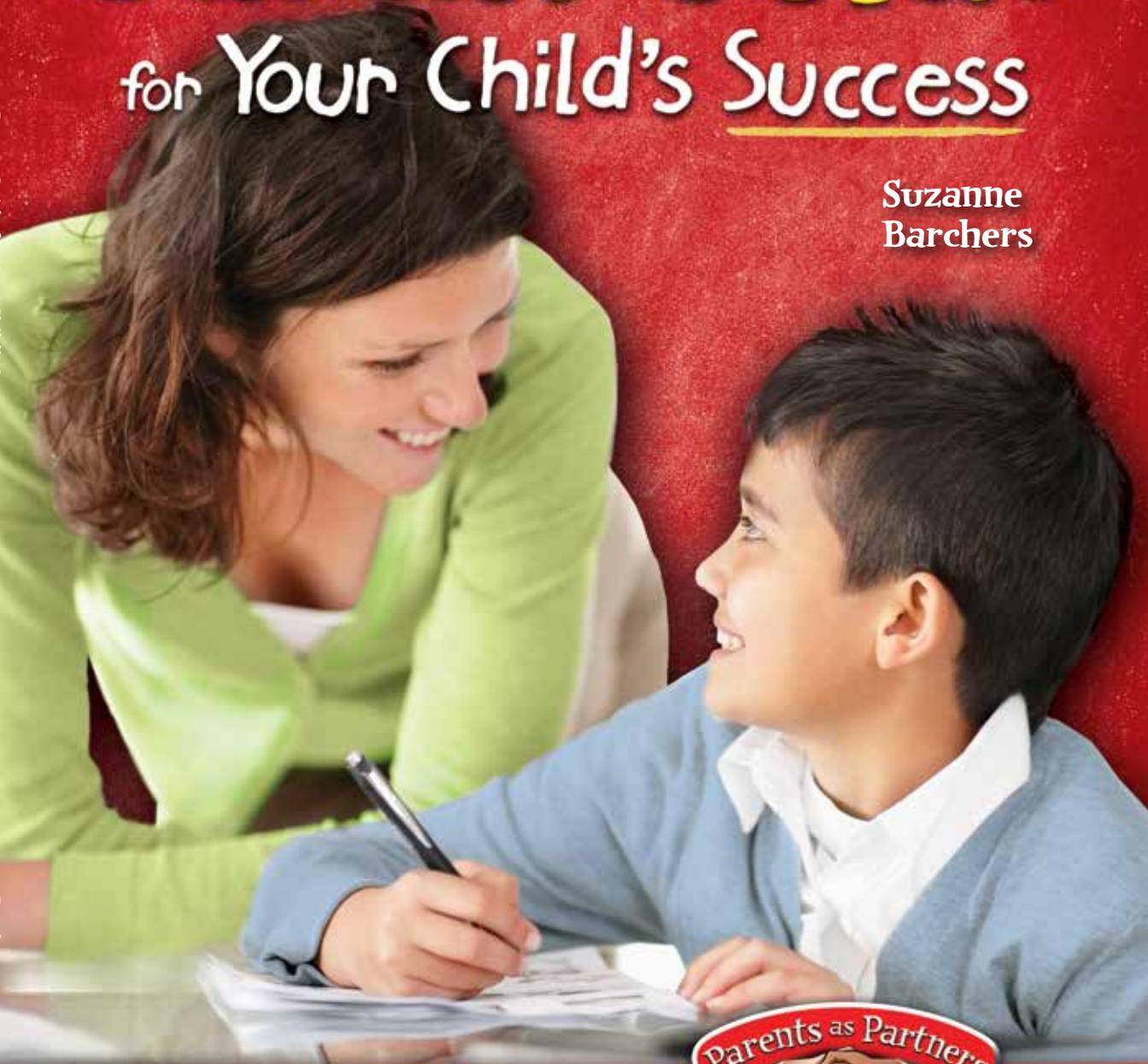
9. $752 = 965 \square 613 \square 400$

10. $90 \square 90 \square 90 = 180 \square 90$



Fifth Grade Parent Guide for Your Child's Success

Suzanne
Barchers



Parents as Partners



Teacher Created Materials

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Table of Contents

Dear Family	2
Home Routines and Habits	4
Top 10 Things Your Fifth Grader Needs to Know	12
Language Arts Activities	14
Math Activities	24
Science Activities	30
Social Studies Activities	32
Learning in the Community	34
Work Hard, Play Hard	38
Thank you!	40



Word Play

By now, your fifth grader has probably started to build a rich vocabulary. You can continue to develop that vocabulary by having some fun with word play.



Try some of these ideas, many of which can be found in newspapers, magazines, and online.

Onomatopoeia

An onomatopoeia is a word that resembles the sound it represents. There are examples all around, including new uses for words such as *tweet*.

Portmanteau

When two words are folded together into a new one, it's called a *portmanteau* word. This French word for *suitcase* demonstrates how meanings fold together, just like the two parts of a suitcase. Some examples include *emoticon*, *brunch*, and *sitcom*.

Chapter

by Chapter

Your fifth grader should be reading fewer picture books and filling the shelves with chapter books. Involve your child in assessing and organizing his or her book collection.



Here are some great books you might try with your fifth grader.

- *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt
- *No Talking* by Andrew Clements
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- *The Black Stallion* by Walter Farley
- *The Homework Machine* by Dan Gutman
- *M.C. Higgins, the Great* by Virginia Hamilton
- *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor

Here are some ideas for how to find books.

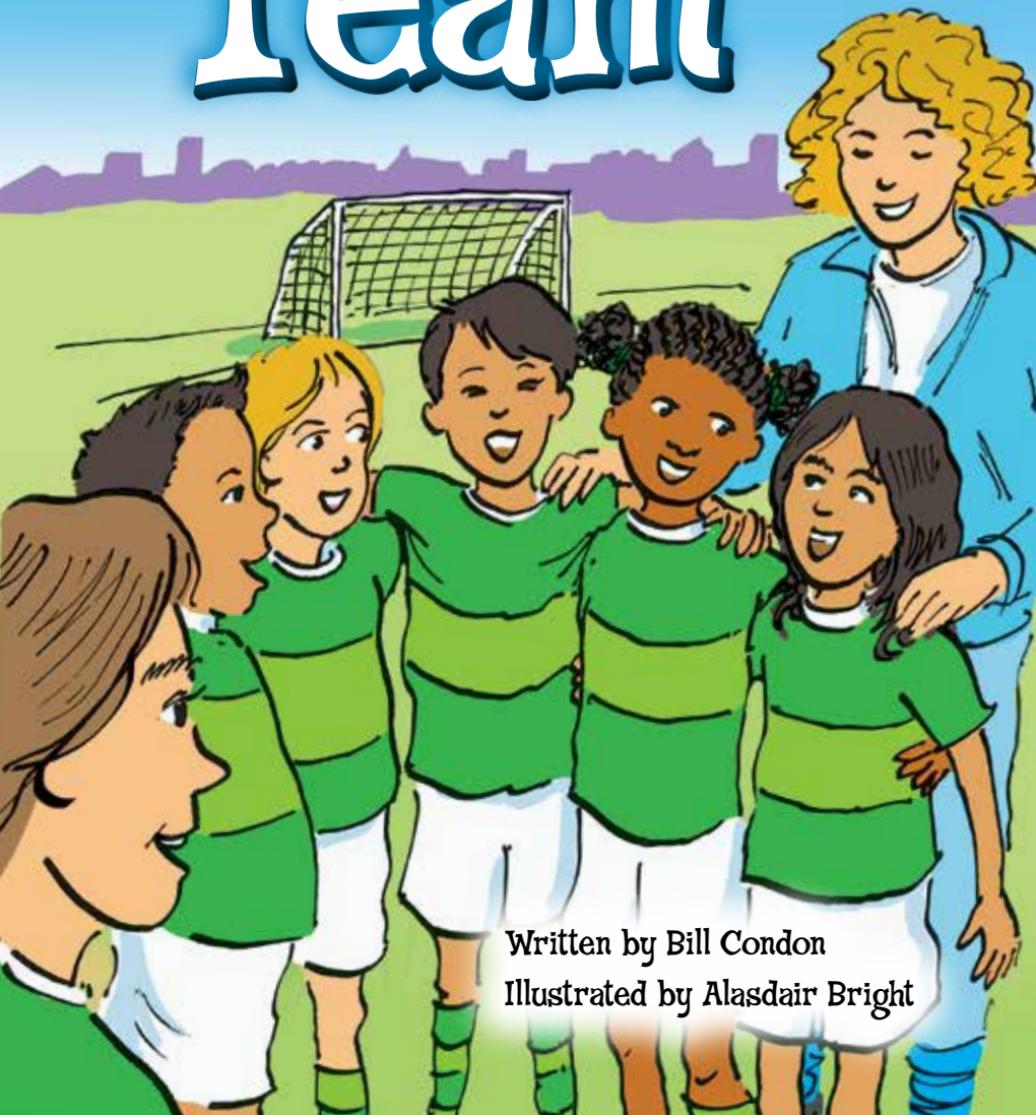
- Library book sales
- Book swap with neighbors
- Garage sales
- Sales at bookstores



One last thought...

Attend book events in your community. Some publishers give away or discount their books to generate interest. Sometimes authors attend these events, signing their books and chatting with their readers.

The Dream Team



Written by Bill Condon
Illustrated by Alasdair Bright

Rebecca thought her friends Manny, Silvio, Rosa, Nuong, and Camilla might be interested. *Wouldn't it be cool if we all played soccer together?* she thought.

The next day, Rebecca asked her friends if they wanted to join a soccer team, and they all said yes. Their teacher, Ms. Dunleavy, said she would be their coach.

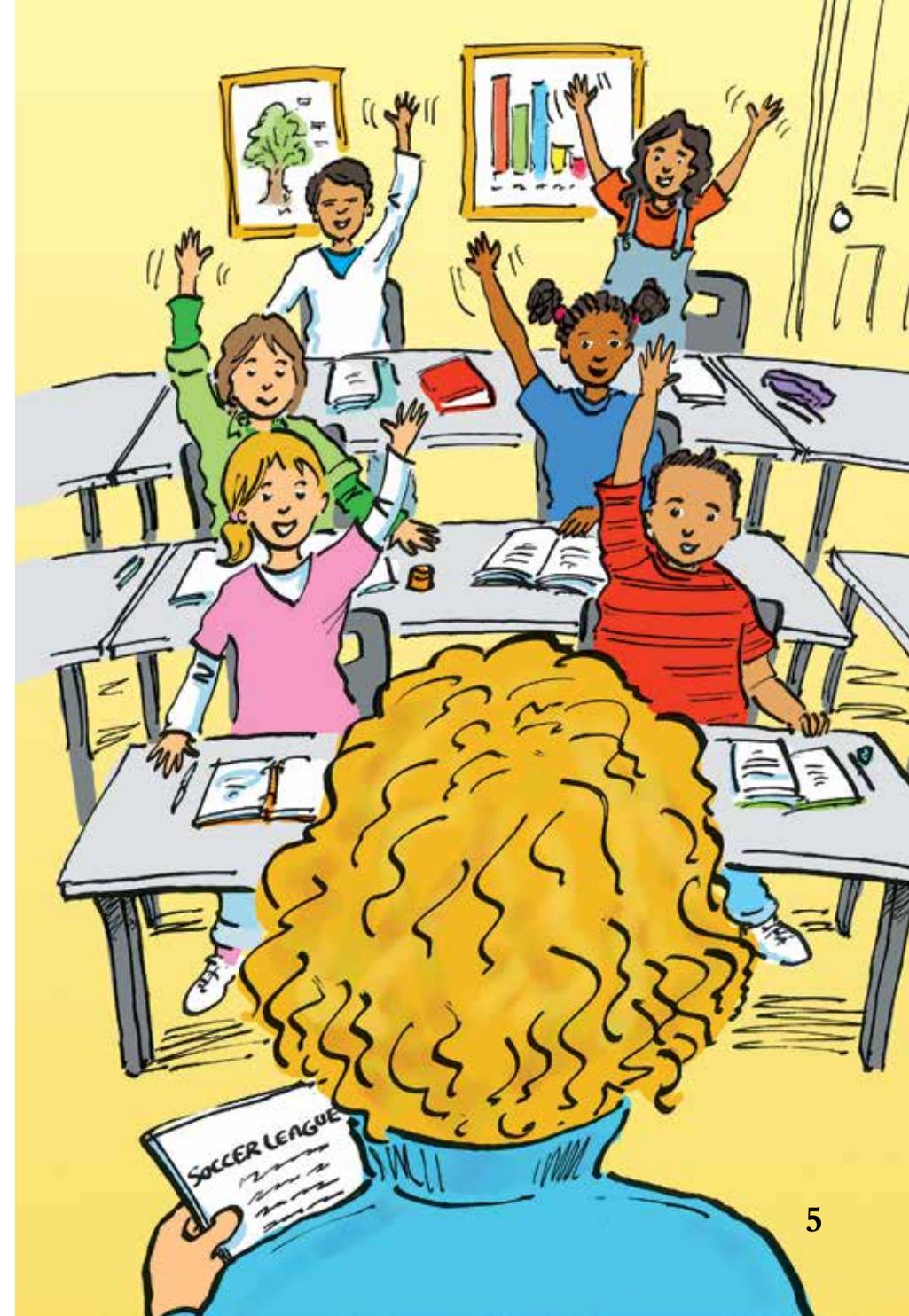
“The first thing we need to do is choose a team name. Does anyone have any ideas?” asked Ms. Dunleavy.

Six hands shot up.

“Me, me!” the students cried.

Ms. Dunleavy looked at Rebecca. “Since this was your idea, you can choose the name.”

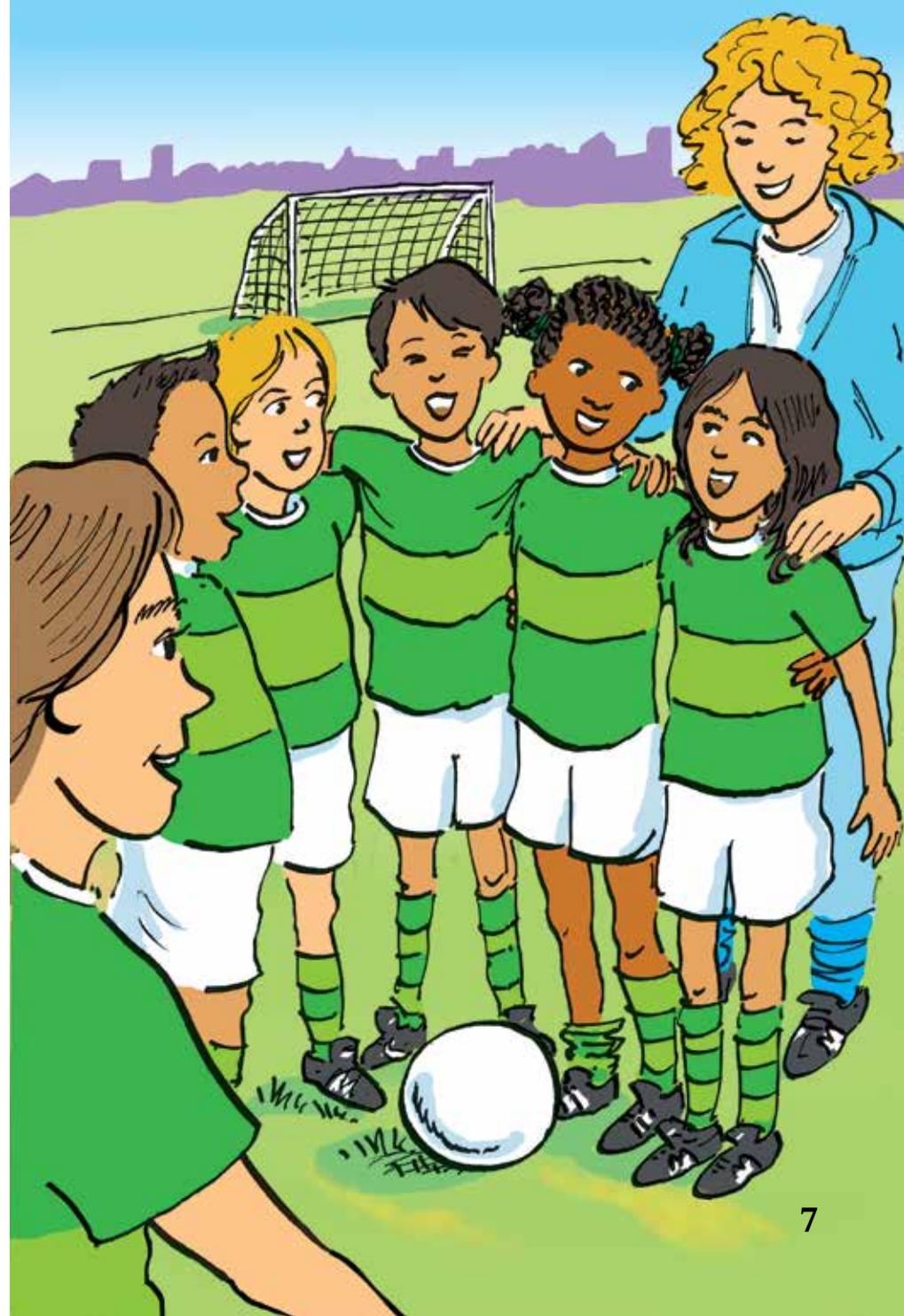
“Let's call our team The Caterpillars. I like caterpillars!” Rebecca said.



“That’s a great name!” Ms. Dunleavy said. “Caterpillars become something else—something surprising. You’ll be every bit as good as the Tigers and the Lions,” she told them. “You’ll be faster than the Panthers and too smart for the Rhinos. The Caterpillars will be a dream team!”

The first game was only a few days away, and everyone was very excited. Their uniforms were brand new—and green, just like caterpillars. Their cleats were shiny and clean. Nuong and Silvio had even written a song for them. The team sang it as they waited for the game to start:

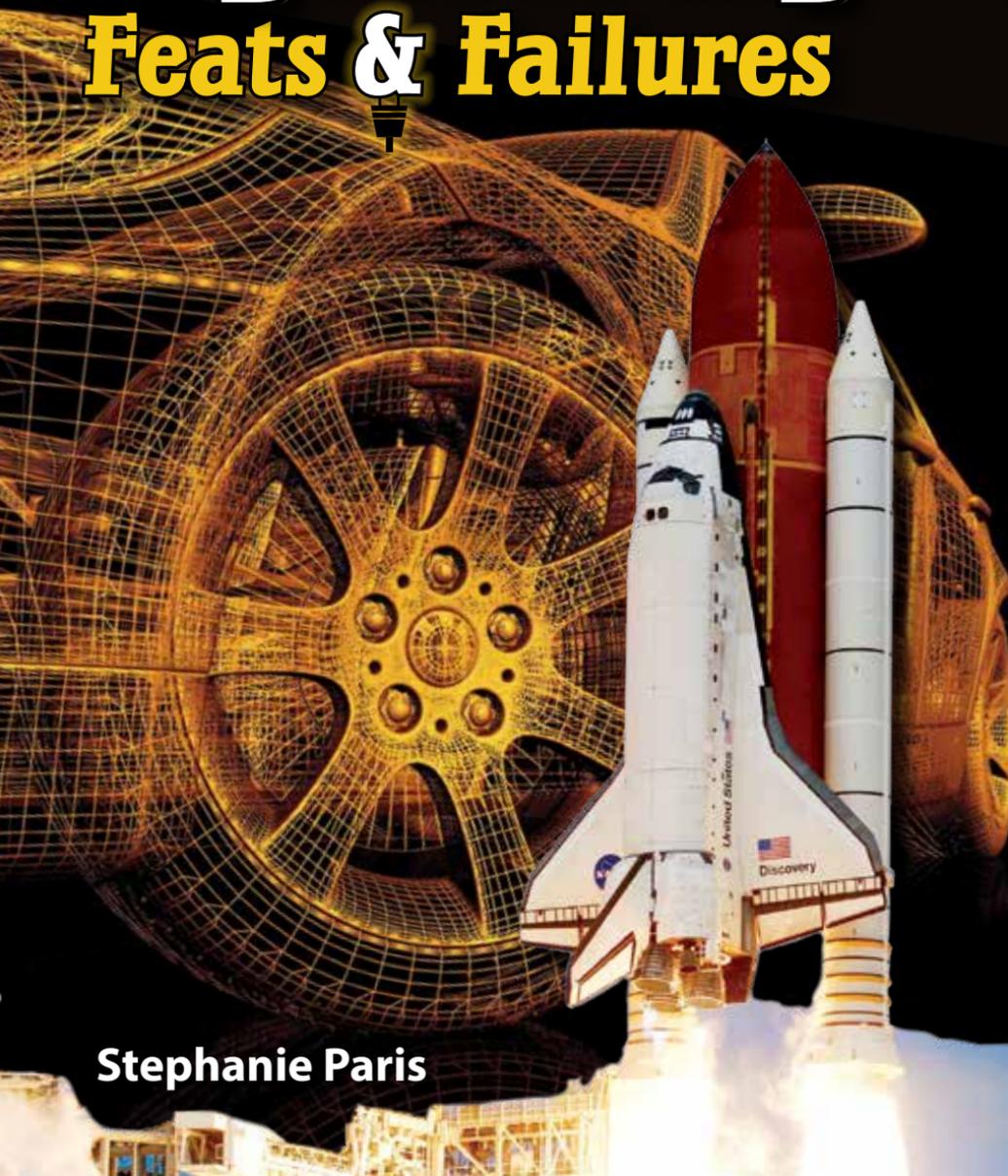
*We’re the Caterpillars, yes, we are.
We’re the best, and we’ll go far!
We kick the ball so straight and true.
We’re gonna Caterpillar you!*



TIME
FOR KIDS

Engineering

Feats & Failures



Stephanie Paris

Making It Work

Scientists learn things. But **engineers** do things. Engineers use science and math to make things. Sometimes, they solve a big problem. They may find a way to build a bridge across a river. Other times, they make life easier. It was an engineer who figured out how to make water flow from a sink.

For thousands of years, engineers have made huge buildings. They have created great machines. Again and again, they find brilliant ways to solve problems. But engineers are people. And people make mistakes. Sometimes, the most amazing **feats** turn into terrible failures.



- How is new technology developed?
- Why are failures and mistakes big parts of success?
- How have advances in science, technology, and engineering improved our lives?

Early Engineers

Ancient engineers made huge structures with basic tools. They used ramps, levers, and simple rollers. These tools helped them build monuments that still impress people today. People are still trying to figure out how these ancient engineers did their work!

The Great Pyramid of Giza

Because they were built so long ago, few ancient feats can still be seen today. But there are some. The Great Pyramid is the only Ancient Wonder of the World that still exists. It was built as a tomb for **Pharaoh Khufu**. It is nearly 450 feet high. Each side measures 756 feet long. It is made from over two million blocks of stone. Each block weighs over two tons! Scientists think workers built large wooden ramps. Then, they dragged each block into place.

There are seven official Ancient Wonders of the World, including gardens, monuments, temples, and a great lighthouse. All the ancient wonders were built between 2650 BC and 280 BC.

Pyramid Workers

Egyptian records show that many of the pyramid workers were forced to work. But they were treated well by the standards of the time. There were rules about how many hours they could work each day. They had fair **wages**, and there were even official holidays.

Monument Math

If the Great Pyramid has 2,300,000 stones and each stone weighs 2.5 tons, how heavy is the Great Pyramid?

$2.5 \text{ tons} \times 2,300,000 \text{ stones} = ?$