Reading Magazine

Literacy Practice Tests are designed to assist with preparation for NAPLAN

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Contents

Dogs make better pets than cats .............................................. 1

Komodo Dragon ....................................................................................... 2

Best ever smoothie recipes ........................................................... 3

Head Lice ........................................................................................................ 4

The ant and the grasshopper ....................................................... 5

Monkey Business ........................................................................................ 6

The following material has been designed by 3P Learning to prepare students for the National Assessment Program Literacy Test. This material is to be used for revision purposes only. 3P Learning does not guarantee that the format is the same as an actual Reading Magazine.
Many households around the world keep cats and dogs as pets. Both pets make great companions however dogs make much better pets than cats because you can interact with them more easily.

Dogs need to be walked every day. This helps to keep dog owners fit and active.

You can train dogs more easily than cats. You can teach them tricks like fetch, sit and roll over. You can even teach them to put their paw in your hand and shake, just like when humans shake hands!

Dogs are protective. When a stranger comes to your home some dogs bark. This is how they protect their masters.

Dogs are always happy to see you. They will greet you when you come home from work or school by wagging their tails and jumping around.

Dogs are very clever which means they can be given serious jobs. Farm dogs help farmers round up cattle. Guide dogs help blind people move around more easily. Sniffer dogs are used at airports to keep us safe. Police dogs can even help police to catch criminals!

Dogs make better pets than cats because dogs are easier to interact with. They are also clever and can help humans in different situations. No wonder they are known as man’s best friend!
The Komodo Dragon is not really a dragon but it is the world’s largest lizard.

The Komodo Dragon has scaly grey skin, very strong limbs and a powerful tail. They can grow to lengths of more than 3 metres and can weigh up to 100 kg. This is about the same weight of a very large adult male!

The Komodo Dragon can be found on the islands of Komodo and Rinca in Indonesia. You can only reach these islands by boat. They live in open grasslands where it is very hot and dry.

Komodo Dragons eat most kinds of meat. They have been known to eat small mammals like rodents as well as large animals like water buffalo. Baby Komodo Dragons mostly eat small lizards or insects. They have a very strong sense of smell which helps them to catch their prey. When they are hunting they flick their long forked tongue around. This helps them to smell.

An interesting fact about the Komodo Dragon is that their razor sharp teeth are almost completely covered by their gums. Their saliva contains poisonous bacteria which will help to kill their prey.
Best ever smoothie recipes

**Strawberry Banana Smoothie**
- 1 punnet of strawberries, washed and hulled
- 2 bananas, cut into pieces
- 2 cups of orange juice
- \(\frac{1}{2}\) cup of milk
- 1 cup of yoghurt

Add ingredients together in a blender and blend until smooth.

**Healthy Orange Smoothie**
- 1 orange, peeled and separated
- \(\frac{3}{4}\) cup of canned peaches
- 1 cup of yoghurt
- \(\frac{1}{2}\) cup of ice cubes

Add all together in a blender and blend until smooth.

**Blueberry Fruit Smoothie**
- 2 cups of yoghurt
- 1 cup of milk
- 1 cup of blueberries
- 1 cup of strawberries
- 1 cup of peaches
- \(\frac{1}{2}\) cup of ice cubes

Add all together in a blender and blend until smooth.
Have you ever had head lice? Most kids have. They can be a big problem in schools. You usually know if you have them because your head will be very itchy.

Lice like to live in warm, clean hair and feed on blood. Lice lay eggs called nits that stick to your hair. Then these nits hatch and turn into more lice.

Lice have 3 pointy tubes in their mouths called stylets. To drink your blood they push the stylets into your scalp. Stylets are like straws and are so small that you cannot feel them. After the lice drink your blood they spit into the holes that they have made. This stops the blood turning into a scab. It’s the spit that makes you itch. The more you scratch, the more you bleed. This is great for the lice as it gives them a quick and easy meal.

Did you know that lice cannot jump or fly? Lice crawl into your hair so you can get them when your head touches someone else’s. You can also get lice by using someone’s hairbrush or wearing their hat. This is why we don’t share these things at school.

To get rid of lice you must use a special shampoo or lots and lots of conditioner. You should also use a special comb to scrape out the lice and their nits. The nits are really hard to get out because the lice produce glue that sticks the nits to the hair. It also helps to wash your sheets and towels at home in case the lice have crawled onto them.

Head lice sure do their best to stick with you!
Once, there lived an ant and a grasshopper.

During the final days of summer the ant was hard at work, scurrying back and forth carrying grains of rice on her back.

The grasshopper looked at the ant and laughed.

‘Why do you work so hard? All that scurrying is no way to enjoy what’s left of summer’ he said. ‘Come and sit back and enjoy my song. Why waste the last days of sunshine in labour and toil?’

The ant smiled politely at the grasshopper and ignored him. She continued to scurry back and forth collecting more grains of rice and crumbs.

The grasshopper laughed and laughed.

‘What a serious little ant you are!’ he called after her. ‘Life’s too short! Forget about work! Let’s live it up!’

He then hopped around, dancing and singing merrily.

The ant grew tired of the grasshopper making fun of her. She marched up to the grasshopper and snapped,

‘Listen grasshopper, you should think about collecting some food of your own for the winter or you will have nothing to eat!’

But, did the grasshopper listen? No, he did not.

Sure enough summer ended and the days grew colder and shorter. Winter set in. It became freezing cold, and snow began to fall.

The ants were tucked away cosily with their crumbs and grains of rice. The grasshopper was cold and hungry. He had no shelter, no food and he had stopped his dancing and singing long ago.

‘Oh why, oh why did I waste all that time playing?’ he moaned. ‘I am now cold and miserable. I should have listened to the ant.’

It is wise to worry about tomorrow, today.
Father Monkey had 5 little monkeys. He loved them dearly but they were driving him crazy, always fighting over who was the cleverest. They were so busy fighting, they rarely stopped to take the time to BE clever. So, one day, he decided to teach them a valuable lesson and asked his friend Elephant to help him.

He blindfolded all the monkeys and told them whoever could guess the mystery animal, simply by touch, would be crowned Cleverest Monkey of the Year. Each little monkey was confident that THEY would be the one to wear the golden crown and lined up in front of the elephant excitedly.

The first little monkey felt the elephant’s side and exclaimed confidently, ‘Oh, this animal is big and smooth. Rhinos are big and smooth – it must be a rhino!’

The second little monkey grabbed hold of the elephant’s trunk and said, ‘It’s a snake, there can be no doubt about it.’

The third little monkey touched the elephant’s ear and sighed, ‘Oh please, this animal is obviously a sting ray!’

The fourth little monkey stroked the elephant’s tail and muttered, ‘This feels like a pig’s tail to me. Yep, definitely a pig.’

The last little monkey cautiously felt the elephant’s tusk and said, ‘Dinosaurs have sharp tusks like this! Funny, I thought they were extinct ... I hope this one doesn’t eat me!’

Father Monkey removed the blindfolds from the monkeys, roaring with laughter.

‘Why, you silly little monkeys! You didn’t take the time to explore Elephant thoroughly or to think about the clues the others gave you! I guess that beautiful crown is going to be on my head for a while!’