Read the passage. Use the reread strategy to make sure you understand the information.

Opossums

An adult opossum is roughly the size of a large cat.

- II When the mother gives birth, she may have seven or
- 21 more babies. She has a pouch, like a kangaroo.
- Each baby opossum is the size of a honeybee. At first,
- 41 the babies remain inside the mother's pouch. After two
- 50 months pass, the babies leave the mother's pouch. They
- 59 are still small enough that the mother can carry them
- 69 on her back. The baby opossums develop quickly. Soon,
- 78 the young animals are on their own.

nose

whiskers

tail

140 150

162

172

179 186

197

An adult opossum has long gray fur on its body. Its 96 face is white and it has black ears. The opossum has 107 a pointed snout with a pink nose. Its tail and feet are

pink, too. Its mouth is filled with fifty sharp teeth.

An opossum has a very useful tail. This tail is almost a foot long and nearly hairless. The opossum can use this tail to grasp things. Its tail helps it cling to tree branches. On each hind foot, an opossum has a thumb.

Opossum

thumb

These thumbs help it grasp things, too.

These animals are known for "playing possum." When rattled by a predator, they lie still and don't move at all until the threat goes away.

I. What is the main topic of the passage?

2. Write two key details about an adult opossum.

3. Write two key details about a baby opossum.

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to pronunciation. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

	Words Read	_	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		_		=	
Second Read		_		=	

N	α	m	Δ

Read the selection. Complete the Main Topic and Key Details chart.

Main Topic						
Detail	Detail	Detail				

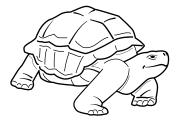
Name_

Read the poem. Use the reread strategy to check your understanding.

A Tortoise

A tortoise is a gentle fellow,

- 6 It lives a life that's calm and mellow.
- 14 A tortoise can live for quite a long span,
- 23 In fact it may even live longer than a man.
- 33 You'll never discover a tortoise at sea,
- 40 It lives on the land—that's where it should be.
- 50 Can a tortoise enter and win a race?
- 58 Not when it moves at such a slow pace.
- 67 It has four stumpy legs and four tortoise feet.
- 76 Flowers and leaves are its favorite treat.



- Some creatures have feathers and some have hair, 83
- But what does our friend tortoise wear? 91
- A tortoise wears a hard outer shell, 98
- 105 That always works to serve it well.
- 112 When a tortoise is uncertain about where to hide,
- 121 It simply pulls its head and four limbs inside.
- Even though at times a tortoise may feel shy, 130
- 139 It can walk around with its head held high.
- 148 For a tortoise is a marvel of the animal pack,
- 158 It carries its home right on its back.

- A. Reread the poem and answer the questions.
- I. Write a key detail about a tortoise's life span.

2. Write a key detail about a tortoise's home.

3. Write a key detail about how a tortoise stays safe.

B. Work with a partner. Read the poem aloud. Pay attention to how you pause and group words together. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

	Words Read	_	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		_		=	
Second Read		_		=	

Read the selection. Complete the Key Details chart.

Detail Detail Detail Read the passage. Use the reread strategy to check your understanding of new information or difficult facts.

Roller Coaster Science

Riding a roller coaster can feel like flying. The cars race up and down the track. They move around corners 10 20 at high speed. Do you know how a roller coaster works?

31 The Ride Begins

34 A long chain runs under the first uphill track. A motor moves this chain in a loop. It is like the moving 44 56 belt at the store checkout. The roller coaster cars grip 66 onto the chain. The chains pull the roller coaster train up to the top of the hill. 76

Moving Along the Track

- 87 When the train reaches the top of the hill, the chains 98 are unhooked. **Gravity** takes the train down the track.
- 107 Gravity is a **force** that pulls objects toward the center of
- 118 the earth.

83

Gravity moves the cars down the hill.

- 120 The train moves down the track and picks up **speed**.
- 130 The train goes so fast it moves up the next hill. Then it
- 143 happens all over again.

147 The Ride Ends

- When the ride is over, the roller coaster train must
- 160 stop. There are brakes built into the track. These brakes
- 170 stop the **motion** of the train. The roller coaster ends at
- 181 the same position where it started.
- That is the science of a roller coaster. The next time
- 198 you take a ride, think about these forces at work!

N	a	m	e

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.

I. Write a clue from page 103 that helps you figure out the author's purpose.

2. Write a clue from page 104 that helps you figure out the author's purpose.

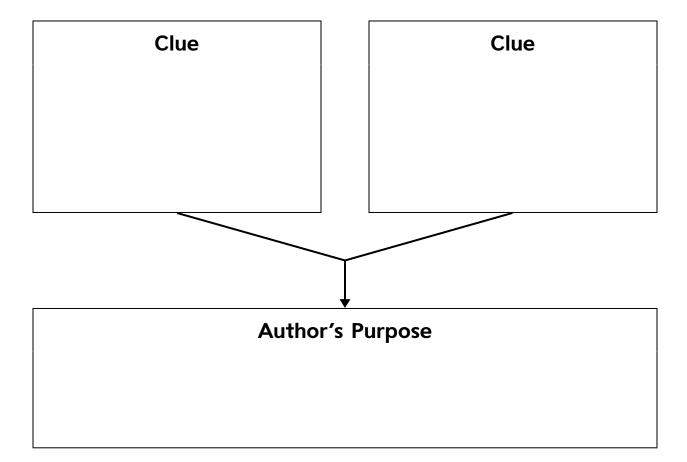
3. What is the author's purpose for writing this passage?

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to how your voice rises and falls as you speak naturally. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

	Words Read	_	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		_		=	
Second Read		_		=	

Name_

Read the selection. Complete the Author's Purpose chart.



N	a	m	e
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Read the passage. Use the reread strategy to check your understanding of story events.

A Shooting Star

Carla's family arrived at the park in the late afternoon. The sun was shining in the blue sky. There 9 was not a cloud anywhere. 19 Carla and her sister Rosa were excited because this 24 33 was their first camping trip. They explored the campsite right away. They saw lots of big evergreen trees. A 42 chipmunk ran on a branch overhead. 52 Mama suggested, "Let's get things set up. Then we 58 67 can go for a hike." Papa added, "We should have enough time to hike 72 before nightfall." 81 83 After the tents were set up, the family hiked. Daylight 93 was fading as they returned to the campsite. 101 "Look! There are fireflies here," said Carla.



- Everyone looked up to watch the fireflies. Just then, 108 117 they noticed a shooting star cross the dark night sky.
- "What is that?" Rosa asked. 127
- "It's a shooting star. Some people claim you can wish 132
- 142 on a shooting star and your wish will come true,"
- 152 said Papa.
- Carla and Rosa quickly made wishes on the 154
- 162 shooting star.
- Mama explained, "Some people call it a shooting star, 164
- 173 but it's not really a star. It's just some dust flying toward
- 185 the Earth. It heats up and glows. That's what we see."
- 196 "No matter what we call it, I hope our wishes come
- true!" said Carla. 207

I. What event happens first in the story?

2. What event happens at the end of the story?

3. Think of an event that could happen after the story ends. Write about it.

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to how your voice rises and falls as you speak naturally. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

	Words Read	_	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		_		=	
Second Read		_		=	

Read the selection. Complete the Sequence chart.

