

Non-Fiction Focus Guided Reading Benchmark Texts
Comprehension Questions for Running Records

Level	Title	Literal Questions	Inferential Questions
A	Fruit Salad	Name some of the fruit that was in the salad.	How do you make a fruit salad?
B	Puppy Paints	What does Puppy paint?	Imagine that you could paint whatever you want. What would you paint and why?
C	Ready Freddy	What does Freddy do to get ready?	Why do you think Freddy gets Skip?
D	Ice Cream	Who was ordering ice cream?	Why wouldn't Frog give Moose ten scoops of ice cream?
E	Ring! Ring!	Name 3 characters in the story.	Do you think Skippy answered the phone? Why or Why not?
F	Little Bird	Name the two places Little Bird flew to.	Do you think Fox will really help Little Bird find his nest?
G	Our Tree House	Who did the tree house belong to?	Why does Cat think it's "the best tree house in town"?
H	The Story of Henny Penny	Why is Henny Penny so eager to meet the king?	What do you think hit Henny Penny on the head?
I	Hi! Fly Guy	Who names Fly Guy?	Why does Dad say that "Flies can't be pets!...They are pests!"
J	The Rain Came Down	Which character reacted first to the rain? (chickens) Second? (cat)	What is causing all of the chaos?
K	Frog and Toad All Year	Why does Toad not want to go outside?	What kinds of activities do you think Toad and Frog will do outside?
L	The Subway Mouse	Why did Nib build a "snug hideout"?	What do you think Nib dreams of at Tunnel's End?
M	Flat Stanley	Why is his name <i>Flat</i> Stanley?	What do you think his parents will do next after discovering him flat like this?
N	Brand New School, Brave New Ruby	What is Ruby referring to when she says "blacktop"?	Why do you think Ruby transferred to Hope Road Academy?
O	John Phillip Duck	What does it mean when the narrator says "He did all of his tricks without a hitch"?	Why would the guest call it "an unusual touch"?
P	97 Ways to Train a Dragon	What time of day does the passage begin in?	Can you give an example of what it is to "turn up his nose".

Q	Nothing Ever Happens on 90th Street	What is Eva’s advice to Alexis Leora?	Why do you think Alexis Leora tries to imagine Eva meeting someone and smiling?
R	Miracles on Maple Hill	Why was the sap in the pans in the front more golden?	What do you think it means “She could practically see Daddy’s arithmetic getting ready to start working”?
S	The Good Dog	Why did McKinley suddenly stop?	Why do you think Lupin whines when he says, “But if we leave the water won’t it be easier for that dog to follow us?”.
T	The Word Eater	Based on this passage, what does <i>instinctively</i> mean?	Why did Lerner help the worm?
U	My Side of the Mountain	Where does the narrator say fish live?	Why did he have to “chop away” until he found a grub?
V	Black Star, Bright Dawn	What was the Great Spirit’s concern? What did he do to address it?	Why do you think the birds “have to fly as high as they can” and “reach the limit of their strength” to find their voice?
W	The Titan’s Curse	Who does Artemis refer to as his brother?	What inference is being made when they say “...Apollo can drive the sun”? What season does the passage take place in?
X	The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg	What is the setting in the story? What evidence in the story supports your answer?	How do you think the narrator feels when he arrives in Portland?
Y	The Devils’s Arithmetic	What does the word <i>boiling</i> mean in this passage?	How does Hannah feel about her new home?
Z	The Hunger Games	How does Katniss cope when things are going bad?	Why does she feel lonelier and sadder when the dream slips away?

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A	Skippy Likes the Seasons	What does Skippy like?	Turn to page 8. The author states, “Skippy likes snow.” What do you think Skippy can do in the snow?
B	Houses	A house can be what color?	Turn to page 8. Imagine that you can paint your house or apartment a new color? What color would you choose and why?
C	Animal Tracks	List one animal that made tracks in the snow.	Turn to page 6. The author says, “The dog made these tracks in the sand.” What else can a dog do in the sand?
D	What Kittens Need	List one thing that a kitten needs.	Turn to page 6. What could happen if a kitten didn’t see a vet for a checkup?
E	In the Mountains	What do the bears do in the mountains?	Take a picture walk of pages 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. What did the author want you to learn from this book?
F	Growing Pumpkins	Where does a pumpkin seed grow?	Turn to page 14. What does the word ripe mean on page 14?
G	Whales	List one detail about the blue whale.	Take a picture walk of pages 4, 6, 7, 10 and 11. What did the author want you to learn from reading this book?
H	Plants We Eat	List one seed that was planted.	Turn to page 13. The author placed the pot in a sunny spot and watered the seeds every day. What could happen if the pot did not receive sunlight and water daily?
I	Critters in Camouflage	How does a snake camouflage itself?	Reread pages 6 and 8 silently. Why do you think it is important for an animal to camouflage itself? Use one detail from the text to support your response.

J	What's in Washington, D.C.?	What is the name of the tallest building in Washington D.C.?	Skim pages 8, 10 and 12. What did the author want you to learn from the text, "What's in Washington, D.C.?" Use details from the text to support your response.
K	Skyscrapers	How high was the first skyscraper?	Why do you think wood wasn't strong enough to build skyscrapers?
L	Elephants	Where do wild elephants live?	Reread page 11 silently. Imagine that you have to create a heading for page 11. Based on the information presented, what heading would you create? Use details from page 11 to support your response.
M	Why Do Dogs Barks	According to the text, explain one reason why a dog may bark?	Scan the headings on pages 14, 16 and 36. The author included the following headings in the text, <u>Why Do Dogs Bark</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are dogs related to wolves? • Why do dogs bark? • What kinds of jobs can dogs do? Imagine that you need to create an additional heading for this text. Create the heading. Explain why you included this heading. Use details to support your response.
N	Owls	Define the term raptors.	Reread page 21 silently. Why do you think, "Owls make nesting sites in unusual places?"
O	Rocks and minerals	Define the term cycle.	Reread page 21 silently. What did the author want to teach you after reading this text, "Rocks and Minerals?" Use details from the text to support your response.
P	Take a Giant Leap, Neil Armstrong!	How did the Armstrong family make moving easier?	Turn to page 20. Use one word to describe Neil's personality. Use two textual details from page 20 to support your response.

Q	Away West	Why did Billy tell Everett, “Never use a whip on horses?”	Reread page 71 silently. Why do you think Billy stated under his breath. “That’s about all I learned.” Use details from the text to support your response.
R	Everything Dolphin	Recall one detail to support the statement, “All life originally came from the sea.”	Reread page 8 silently. Do you agree with the author’s claim that “All life originally came from the sea.” Use details to support your response.
S	Neo Leo: The Ageless Ideas of Leonardo da Vinci	Why is James Starley credited as the father of the British bicycle industry?	Turn to page 5. What does the author mean by the statement, “But the surviving notes prove that he was a true visionary.” Use details from pages 16 and 17 to support your response.
T	The Great Serum Race	Describe the weather of the thirty-one-mile trip to the next relay point.	Reread page 81 silently. What inference can you make about Edgar’s personality? Use details from the text to support your response.
U	Tough the Sky	How did the other kids feel about the narrator after he purchased his Nike sneakers?	Reread page 40 silently. What life-lesson did the author want to teach you? Use details from the text to support your response.
V	Detector Dogs: Canines That Saves Lives	List one detail about a detector dog. List one detail about a human handler.	Reread page 27 silently. What inference can you make about the personality of a human handler? Use details from the text to support your response.
W	Baby Mammoth Mummy: Frozen in Time	Explain how Fisher arrives at the explanation that Lyuba is 32 days old.	Reread the section on Chemical Clues silently. How can this study help inform dentists today? Use details to support your response.
X	Alexander Hamilton: The Outsider	Describe how the people of New York felt. Use details from the text to support your response.	Contrast the feelings of the soldiers in the very beginning of the passage and the feelings of the soldiers at the end of the passage. Use details to support your response.

Y	We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March	Define the term exodus. Use details from the passage to support your response.	Reread page 72 silently. Create a heading to summarize this passage. Use details from the text to support the heading that you have selected.
Z	The Dark Game	The author states, "Without a doubt, Harriet Tubman was the most important African-American spy." Find 3 key details to support the author's claim about Harriet Tubman.	What inference can you make about Harriet Tubman's character? Use details from the text to support your response.