



Reading Comprehension Cards

Set One

# Getting the Main Idea



Educational  
Insights®



# Hot Dots<sup>®</sup> Reading Comprehension Cards

Hot Dots Reading Comprehension Cards are two cards in one! Use the cards with the Hot Dots Power Pen™ (sold separately) for independent review, or use the cards themselves as traditional reading comprehension cards.

## What's on each card?

Question

Hot Dots answer choices

Hot Dots answer choices

1. What is the main idea of this fable?

- A) There are many ways to trick a person.
- B) People can be fooled by too much praise.
- C) Foxes should never be trusted.

2. What did the fox do to trick the crow?

- A) He said he would get her more cheese.
- B) He climbed up the tree.
- C) He asked her to sing for him.

3. Why did the crow finally open her mouth?

- A) She wanted to show how she could sing.
- B) She was tired of holding the cheese.
- C) She wanted to yawn.

4. What could be another title for this story?

- A) A Beautiful Voice
- B) Crow Is Tricked
- C) A Fight Over Cheese

## Using the cards with the Hot Dots Power Pen

Read the story on the front of the card. Turn the card, read the questions, and use the Hot Dots Power Pen to select your

answer choices. The pen gives instant feedback each time. When a correct answer is selected, the pen lights up and makes one of seven positive, congratulatory sounds. When an incorrect answer is selected, the pen makes a simple wrong answer sound. (Sorry, no lights!)

Demonstrate how the Hot Dots Reading Comprehension Cards and Power Pen work before letting children work independently. Show how to position the pen on a Hot Dots answer choice. Make sure the tip of the Power Pen touches the center of the dot next to the answer and that it sits flat on the surface of the Hot Dot.

## Tips:

- Make sure the cards rest on a hard surface when using them with the Power Pen.
- Never laminate the cards.

## Using the cards as traditional reading comprehension cards

Read the story then turn the card over to answer the questions with pencil and paper. Check the answers. The correct answers appear on the Answer Key card.

# Suggestions for the Teacher

**Set 1: Getting the Main Idea** is a collection of 50 stories in increasing order of difficulty, reading levels Grades 2-5. Each story meets the content criterion of State and National Standards for English and Language Arts. On the back of each card are four multiple-choice questions which focus on specific details from the selected text.

## Comprehension Check

Students read the story and then turn the card over to answer the questions with the Hot Dots Power Pen or with pencil and paper. When one or more items are answered incorrectly on two successive selections, the student has reached his or her level of reading independently for comprehension.

The stories may be duplicated and the comprehension questions given as a group or class activity.

## Oral Reading Test

These paragraphs may be used as oral reading tests. The student reads orally from one copy while the teacher marks on another copy. It's best to type the reading materials double-spaced to allow room for marking. It's often more convenient to have the student tape record the reading—at least until the teacher becomes thoroughly familiar with oral diagnosis marks.

These 10 marks are useful for oral reading diagnosis.

1. Circle omissions.
2. Write in insertions with a caret (^).
3. Draw a line through substitutions and mispronunciations and write in the word as it was pronounced above.
4. When reading is too fast to write in all mispronunciations, draw a line through the word and write "P" over the word.
5. Underline with a wavy line to indicate repetition.
6. Mark inversions as a substitution or write "I" over the word.
7. Connect disregarded punctuation with a curved line.
8. Bracket words with which the student needs help.
9. Make a check mark over words that the student corrected him/herself.
10. Indicate a pause with two vertical lines.

### Example:

The man in the (black) suit was walking <sup>I</sup> <sup>slowly</sup> up  
the <sup>pad</sup> path. I (didn't) know his // name, but I  
thought <sup>P</sup> I had <sup>last</sup> seen him before. <sup>~</sup> He told me  
his name later. ✓

# Table of Contents

- |    |                                       |    |                                    |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------|
| 1  | The Fox and the Crow (2.0)            | 26 | More Than Just a Snack (4.1)       |
| 2  | Tiger's Prime Minister (2.1)          | 27 | A Boy Who Loved the Sea (4.2)      |
| 3  | Dance of the Bees (2.2)               | 28 | All in the Family (4.3)            |
| 4  | The Best Season (2.3)                 | 29 | Counting with Fingers (4.4)        |
| 5  | Our Wonderful Trees (2.4)             | 30 | Ocean Animals and Garbage (4.5)    |
| 6  | Terrific Teeth (2.5)                  | 31 | How Animals Communicate (4.6)      |
| 7  | Two Kinds of Whales (2.5)             | 32 | A Giant-eyed Fellow (4.7)          |
| 8  | Ocean Animals (2.6)                   | 33 | Dinosaur Clues (4.7)               |
| 9  | How Spider Got Bald (2.7)             | 34 | Extinct! (4.8)                     |
| 10 | Cloud Colors (2.8)                    | 35 | Sun Tales (4.8)                    |
| 11 | Raindrops and Snowflakes (2.8)        | 36 | Special School Visitors (4.9)      |
| 12 | Birds on the Move (2.9)               | 37 | Reaching for the Top (5.0)         |
| 13 | A Surprise Visit (3.0)                | 38 | Super-sized Teeth (5.1)            |
| 14 | A Camel's Hump (3.1)                  | 39 | The Story of Basketball (5.1)      |
| 15 | King Midas and the Golden Touch (3.2) | 40 | Up, Up, and Away! (5.2)            |
| 16 | The First Plays (3.2)                 | 41 | Using Stamps (5.2)                 |
| 17 | Hungry Plants (3.3)                   | 42 | Protecting Children Who Work (5.3) |
| 18 | Playtime (3.4)                        | 43 | The Star-Spangled Banner (5.4)     |
| 19 | Flowers at Work (3.5)                 | 44 | Diego Rivera (5.5)                 |
| 20 | The King of Fairy Tales (3.6)         | 45 | Pioneers in America (5.5)          |
| 21 | The Emperor's New Clothes (3.6)       | 46 | Johnny Appleseed (5.6)             |
| 22 | Pecos Bill (3.7)                      | 47 | Strange Partners (5.6)             |
| 23 | Let's Ride! (3.8)                     | 48 | Rain Forest Facts (5.7)            |
| 24 | Round Maps (3.9)                      | 49 | Harriet Tubman (5.8)               |
| 25 | Talking Drums (4.0)                   | 50 | A Festival of Lights (5.9)         |