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Year 3 reading practice

Free printable practice from BrightHop. Read each text, then circle one answer.

Name: _____ Date: _____

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The Red Kite

On Saturday, Noah carried his new red kite to the top of the hill. The wind tugged at his hat as he unrolled the string.

"Ready?" asked his sister Ava. Noah nodded, ran ten steps, and let go. The kite jumped into the sky like a bright red bird.

Then the wind changed. The string snapped, and the kite spun away over the trees. Noah's shoulders dropped. He stared at the empty sky.

Ava gave him a gentle nudge. "Let's follow it," she said. They hurried down the hill and into the park. At last they spotted a flash of red caught in a low branch. Noah climbed up carefully and brought it down. "Next time," he grinned, "I will tie a stronger knot."

1. What colour was Noah's kite?

A Blue
B Red
C Yellow
D Green

2. Why did the kite fly away?

A Ava let go of it
B The string snapped
C It got stuck in a tree
D Noah dropped it on purpose

3. Noah's shoulders dropped and he stared at the empty sky. How did Noah feel?

A Excited
B Angry with Ava
C Sad and disappointed
D Sleepy

4. "Ava gave him a gentle nudge." What does gentle mean here?

A Hard and rough
B Soft and kind
C Very fast
D Loud

Bats at Night

Most bats sleep during the day and wake up when it gets dark. Animals that are active at night are called nocturnal.

Many small bats eat insects such as moths and mosquitoes. To find food in the dark, they make high squeaks that people cannot hear. The sounds bounce off objects and come back as echoes. The echoes tell the bat where an insect is.

During the day, bats rest in places like caves, tree hollows and roofs. Many bats hang upside down while they rest.

5. What does the word nocturnal mean in this text?

A Active at night
B Able to fly
C Living in caves
D Eating insects

6. According to the text, how do many small bats find food in the dark?

A They use their eyes only
B They follow the moon
C They listen for echoes of their squeaks
D They smell the insects

7. Why would a bat rest in a cave during the day?

A Caves have lots of insects
B It is a place to rest while it is light
C Bats cannot fly outside
D Caves are warm and noisy

8. Which sentence tells the main idea of the whole text?

A Bats hang upside down.
B Bats are nocturnal animals that find food using echoes.
C Moths and mosquitoes are insects.
D Roofs are good places to rest.

Answer key and explanations

1. B (Red)
The first paragraph says Noah carried his new red kite. The answer is stated in the text.

2. B (The string snapped)
The third paragraph says the string snapped, and then the kite spun away. It got stuck in a branch later, after it had flown off.

3. C (Sad and disappointed)
Dropped shoulders and staring at an empty sky are clues that he is sad. The story does not say "sad", so you work it out from his actions.

4. B (Soft and kind)
A nudge that is gentle is soft, not rough. Her next words are kind too: "Let's follow it."

5. A (Active at night)
The text says animals that are active at night are called nocturnal. The meaning is given right after the word.

6. C (They listen for echoes of their squeaks)
The second paragraph says bats make high squeaks that bounce back as echoes, and the echoes tell them where an insect is.

7. B (It is a place to rest while it is light)
Bats are active at night and rest in the day. The text lists caves as a resting place, so a cave is somewhere to rest while it is light.

8. B (Bats are nocturnal animals that find food using echoes.)
The main idea covers the whole text: bats are active at night and use echoes to find food. The other options are single details.