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Standards

Each lesson in *Activities for Fluency, Grades 5-6* meets one or more of the following standards, which are used with permission from McREL (Copyright 2007, McREL, Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning. Telephone: 303/337-0990. Website: *www.mcrel.org*.)

Language Arts Standards	Page Numbers
Uses the general skills and strategies of the writing process	28, 38, 45, 61, 70, 84, 90, 101, 111, 117, 125, 133
Uses the stylistic and rhetorical aspects of writing	43, 44, 46, 52, 53, 54, 85, 99, 100, 106
Uses grammatical and mechanical conventions in written compositions	21, 22, 27, 29, 35, 75, 116, 123, 131
Gathers and uses information for research purposes	30, 50, 62, 83, 107, 130
Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process	8–10, 46, 24, 32, 43, 48, 56, 57, 64, 65, 72, 73, 79, 80, 87, 88, 96, 111, 112, 119, 120, 127, 128
Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts	11, 12, 14, 17–21, 26, 33, 34, 41, 42, 49, 51, 57–60, 66–69, 74, 76, 77, 81, 82, 89, 98, 105, 113–115, 121, 122, 129
Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes	36, 37, 69, 91–93, 103, 104, 108, 124, 132



Sample Fluency Report Card

Directions: Students will be asked to read a piece of writing from each section out loud. Using a stopwatch, time your students' reading.

Together, fill out the Fluency Report Card similar to the sample, below.

	Minutes Seconds
Rate of Reading	2 36
Accuracy	Number of Mistakes
	2 mistakes
Tone	Pitch, Volume, and Rhythm
	Pitch was a little high, but volume was perfect. Focus on varying your rhythm as you read, so as not to sound robotic. Practice challenging words including "scrumptious" and "tedious."
	Your strengths in fluency!
What You Did Best	Your pronunciation is excellent, Jim. Your volume is pleasant to hear—not too loud and not too soft. Well done!



Your Own Language

Directions: Read Emily Dickinson's poem in the left-hand column. Then, rewrite it in your own words in the right hand column. The first lines have been done for you.

A narrow fellow in the grass Occasionally rides; You may have met him, did you not, His notice sudden is. The grass divides as with a comb, A spotted shaft is seen;	Sometimes, a snake moves in the grass.
And then it closes at your feet	
And opens further on.	
He likes a boggy acre,	
A floor too cool for corn.	
Yet when a child, and barefoot,	
I more than once, at morn,	
Have passed, I thought, a whip-lash	
Unbraiding in the sun,	
When, stooping to secure it,	
It wrinkled, and was gone.	
Several of nature's people	
I know, and they know me;	
I feel for them a transport	
Of cordiality;	
But never met this fellow,	
Attended or alone,	
Without a tighter breathing,	
And zero at the bone.	



Adjectives

In a previous lesson, you learned that an adjective describes a noun.

Directions: Underline the adjective in each sentence. Circle the noun that each describes. The first one has been done for you.

- 1. Jon wore a pair of tattered pants to school.
- Mirabelle had to come to school in a faded dress.
- 3. Jon's teacher spoke to the class in a prim voice.
- 4. Jon's family was penniless because his father was out of work.
- 5. The students had to write with broken pencils.
- 6. The Great Depression cost many people their jobs.
- 7. The teacher also longed for new books.
- 8. Jon's mother thought that employers might hire young workers.

