

**GRADE 4**  
**Reading**  
**STAAR Alternate 2**

**Administered April 2016**

**RELEASED**



READING



# Paws to Read

Paws to Read is a program where dogs listen to children read books at the library.



2a

In the Paws to Read program, children go to the library and sign up to read to a dog. When it is their turn, the children sit with a dog and read their book aloud to the dog.



2b



Mentor Public Library



© KariDesign/Fotolia

3a

Even beginning readers like to read to dogs. Learning to read is difficult for some children. It can even be more difficult when other children or adults hear beginning readers make mistakes trying to read words. In the Paws to Read program, the dogs just sit and listen. The dogs never make fun of the readers. The children's reading improves, and they enjoy reading more.



Mentor Public Library



The children want to help the dogs learn to be good pets.

The teachers want the children to read to dogs.

The dogs do not care if the children make mistakes.

The Paws to Read program has many children excited about reading. Children in the program check out more books from the library and read more. They get to practice reading as many books as they can to a dog that seems happy to listen. Reading to a dog has helped many children improve their reading skills and enjoy reading more.

4b

to tell people about a program called  
Paws to Read

to invite children to visit the library

to describe how dogs are trained

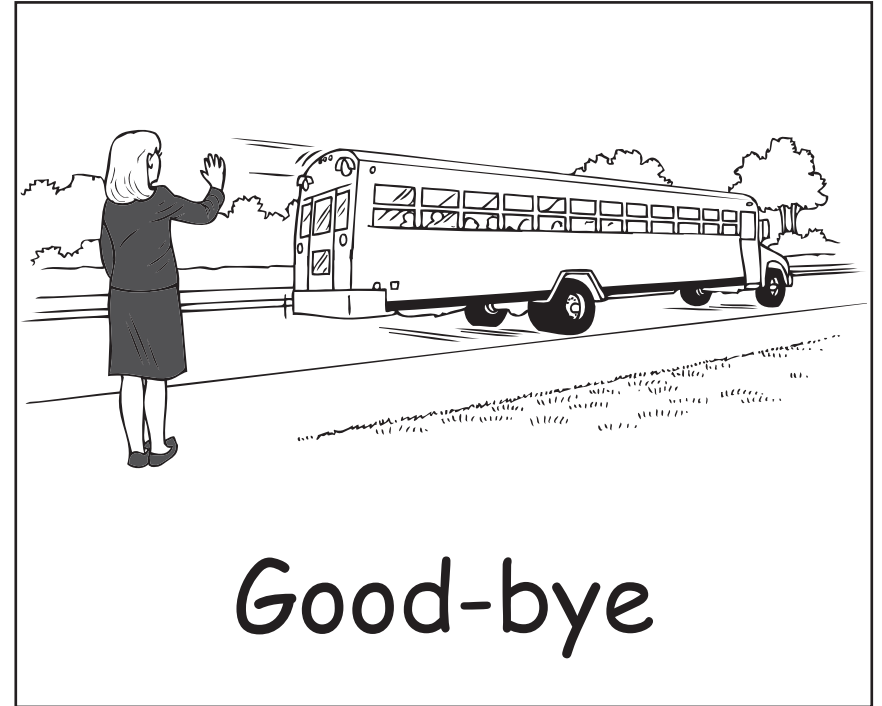


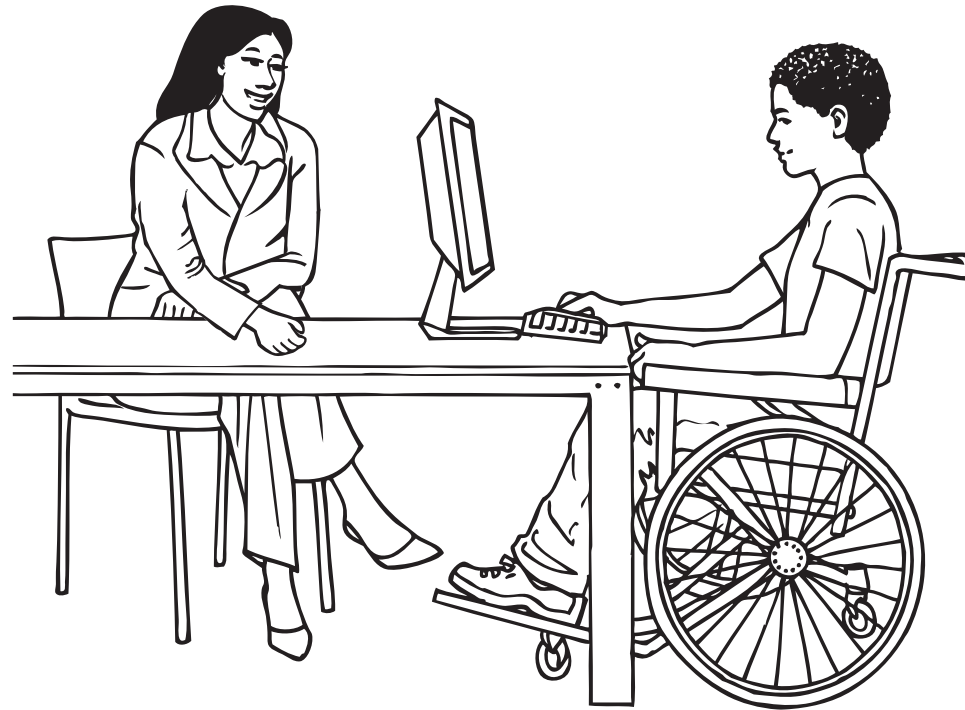


The teacher says, "Good morning."



The teacher says, "Good morning."





The teacher says, "You are doing good  on the computer!"



boy

work

fun



The teacher says, "It's time for recess. Put your books away."

lunchtime

library time

playtime



# A Hardworking Cat



© AFP/Getty Images

Tama is a cat that greets people at a train station.

Tama was a cat without a home. Tama now works at a train station. She greets passengers before they get on the train.



© EEI\_Tony/Bigstock.com



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A train company was losing money. Not enough people were riding the trains. The company could no longer pay the people who worked at the station. Now there were no workers left to help the passengers.

Tama was a cat without a home. She liked to watch people at the train station. She also liked the way people getting on the trains petted and talked to her.



Even though the workers were gone, Tama stayed at the train station. She greeted passengers with a soft purr and a warm nuzzle. People wanted to see the sweet cat that was always on duty.

The train company gave Tama a job. Her uniform is a simple black hat. She wears the hat every day at work.

Instead of paying with money, the train company pays Tama with cat food.





Tama wore the uniform when she rode the train.

Tama wore the uniform while working at the train station.

Tama wore the uniform to stay warm inside the train station.

Tama continues to do her job well. She walks around the station in her uniform and greets the passengers. She lets passengers pet her and take photographs with her. People come to the train station just to see Tama.

When people come to the train station to see Tama, they spend money on train tickets and gifts. This helps the train station. Tama's hard work has helped the train station stay open.

Tama is famous. Her photograph has been in many newspaper and magazine stories. She has been on TV and in videos. There is even a book called *Diary of Tama, the Station Master*. Life is good for this hardworking cat!





to show how cats look different from other animals

to show that cats like to be around people in a train station

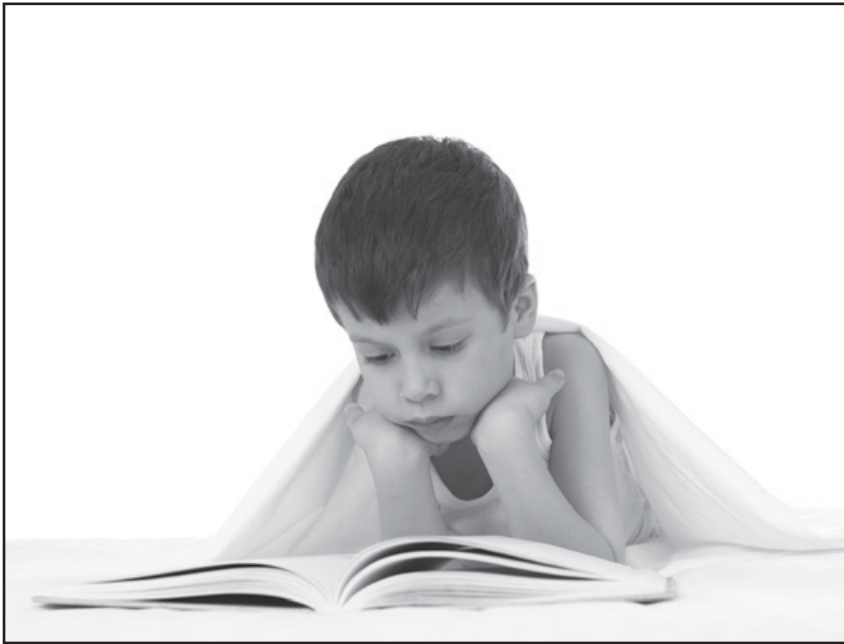
to show what a special cat that lives in a train station looks like





# The History of Ice Cream

People in the United States eat more ice cream than in any other country in the world.



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© Joanna Zielinska/Hemera/Thinkstock

A long time ago it was not easy to find ice cream. People did not have the ice that was needed to make ice cream.





© CatherinePro/iStock/Thinkstock



© MADDRAT/iStock/Thinkstock

15a

Even when people had ice, it took a long time to mix the ingredients and wait for the ice cream to freeze before it could be eaten.

Then the ice-cream maker was invented. An ice-cream maker let people make ice cream faster than they could mix it by hand. The machine froze the ice cream as it was being made. The ice-cream maker let people make ice cream in their homes.



Courtesy of Library of Congress

fewer  
ingredients

cold  
ice cubes

ice-cream  
maker

# Ice-Cream Cones

A man selling waffles at a fair saw that people would buy waffles at his booth and then go to the ice-cream booth. They would drop their ice cream onto his waffles. This gave him the idea of rolling a waffle into a cone shape. He had invented the ice-cream cone!



# Ice-Cream Bars

Years later another man who was a candy maker covered a block of vanilla ice cream with chocolate. His daughter said it was good but too messy. His son had the idea to put the ice cream on a stick like a lollipop. He had invented the first ice-cream bar on a stick.



# Ice-Cream Flavors

Every year ice-cream companies spend lots of time testing new flavors such as Chunky Chocolate and Very Berry. Still, the most popular flavor is vanilla.





Ice cream was put on a stick —

to keep the vanilla ice cream from melting in the waffle

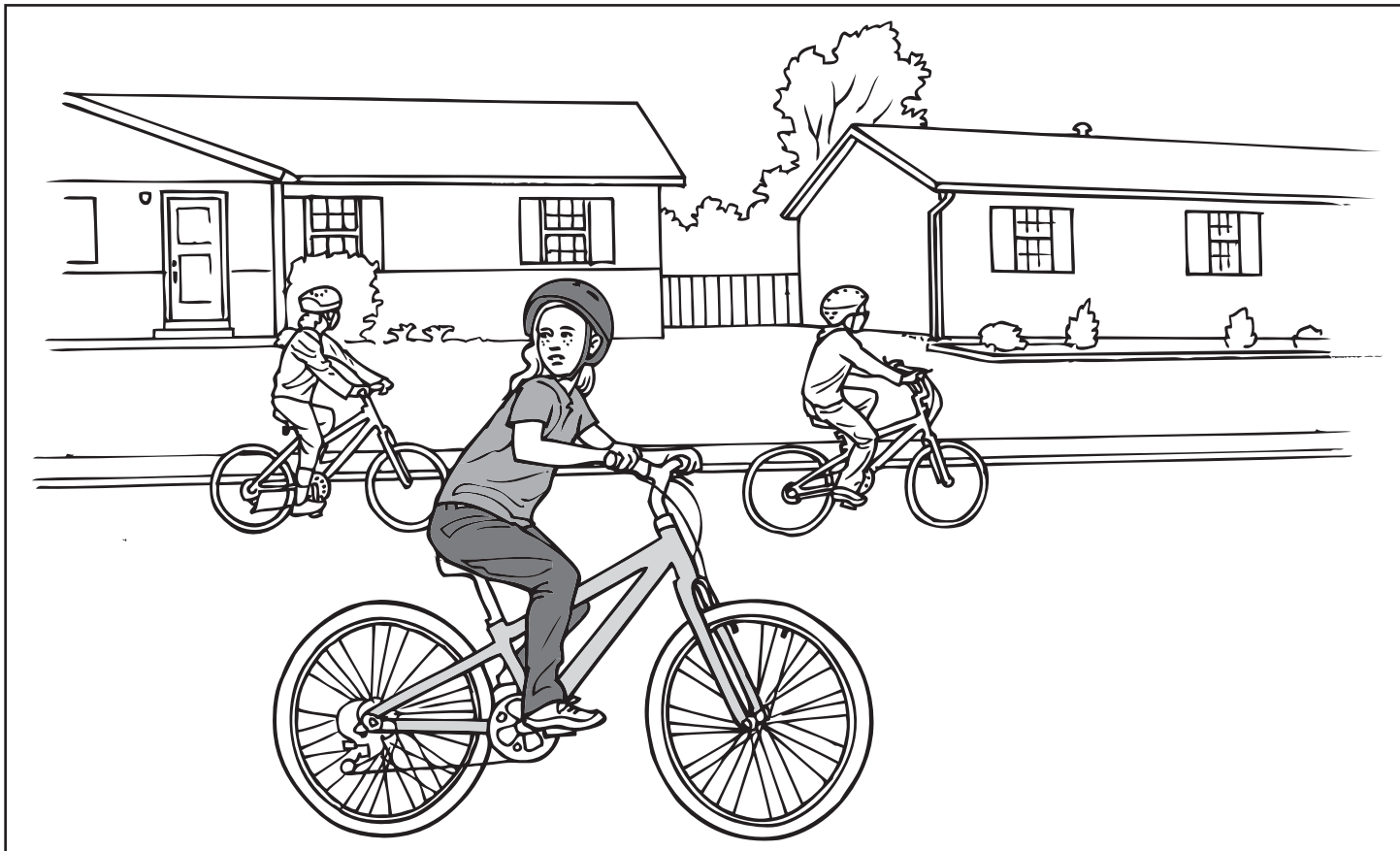
to make the ice cream covered with chocolate easier to eat

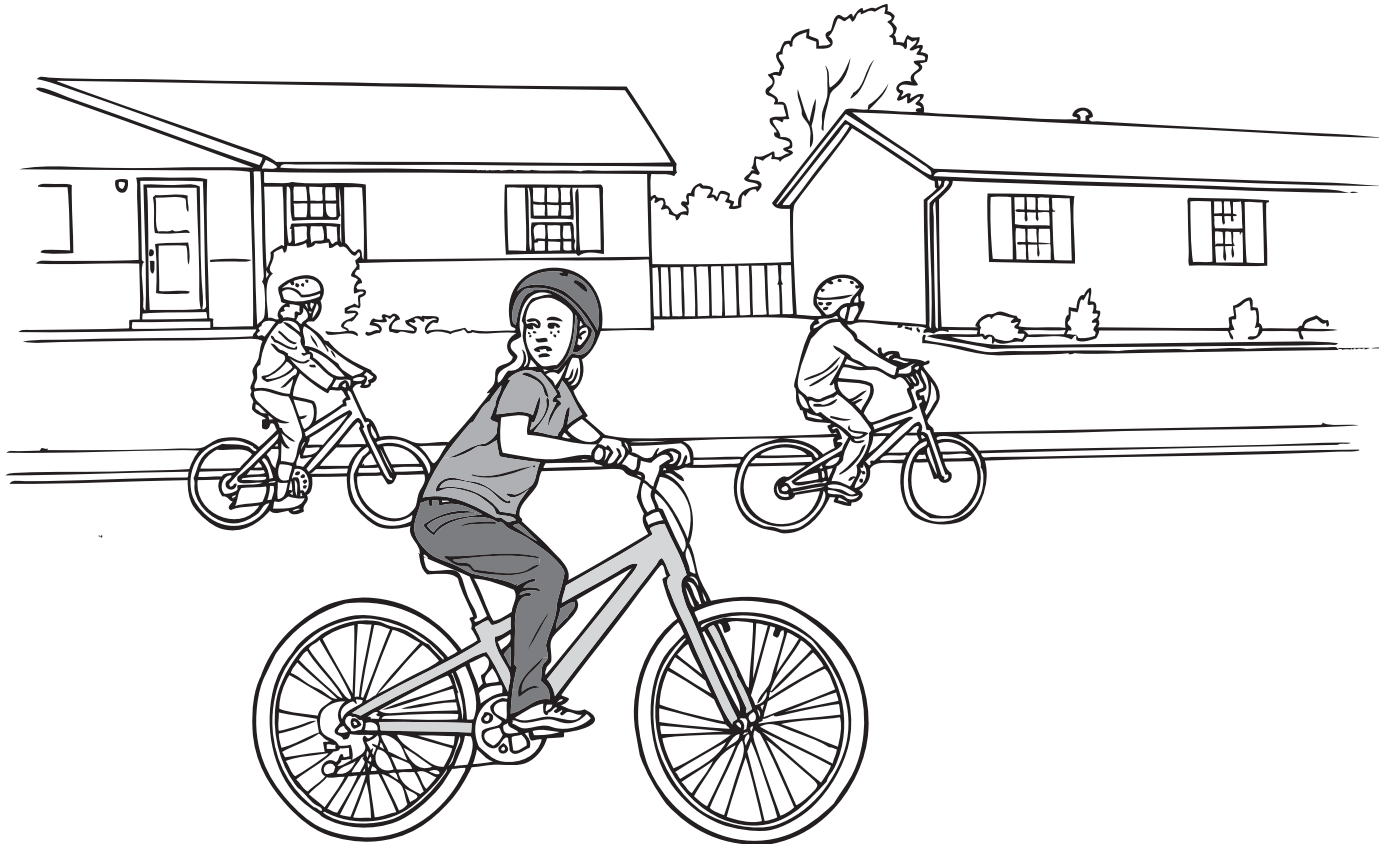
to test the new ice-cream flavors invented each year



# Laura's Neighborhood Surprise

Laura rode her bike in her new neighborhood with her new friends.





Laura rode on one side of the street.  
Christa and Lily rode on the other side.

"I can't believe you rode on Mrs.  
Ryan's side of the street," said Christa.

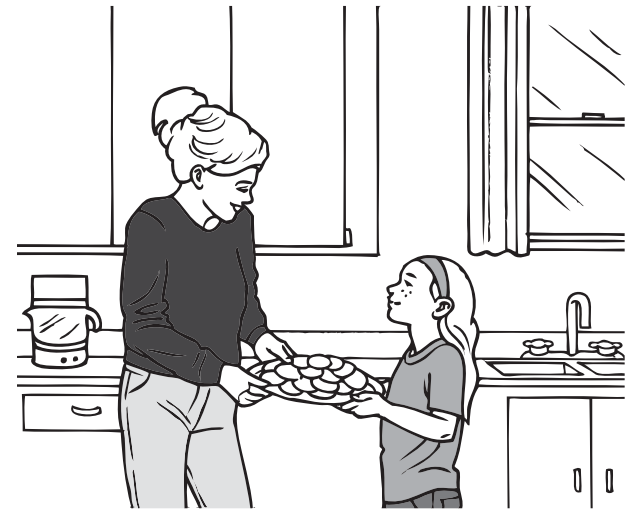
"Mrs. Ryan is a mean woman who doesn't like children. She watches us from her garden every day. She calls our parents if she sees us do anything wrong. We're all afraid of Mrs. Ryan, and you should be, too," said Lily.





When Laura got home from riding bikes with her friends, Laura's mother was waiting with a plate of cookies. "Please take these to our neighbor Mrs. Ryan."

"But my friends say that she doesn't like children. I'm afraid to go in her yard," Laura said.





"I met Mrs. Ryan, and she is a nice woman. You should meet her and decide for yourself," Mom said.

Laura took the cookies to Mrs. Ryan's house. She tiptoed up the steps and knocked lightly on the door. When no one answered, Laura quickly set the cookies on the doorstep and hurried home.





Laura quickly left the cookies for Mrs. Ryan and ran home.

Laura took cookies to Mrs. Ryan's house.

Laura told Mrs. Ryan about her friends.

Laura kept thinking about ways to stay away from Mrs. Ryan. But when Laura got home from school, Mrs. Ryan was sitting in her living room.



"I want you to meet Mrs. Ryan," Mom said. "She said you ran off yesterday before she could thank you for the cookies."

Mrs. Ryan shook Laura's hand. "It's nice to meet you. I think you will like living on this street. There are several children about your age to play with.

"When I am working in my garden, their laughter reminds me of when my own children were small," Mrs. Ryan said.

"But the girls said you don't like children and that you tattle on them all the time," Laura said.

Mrs. Ryan smiled. "I can understand why they might think that. I am part of the neighborhood watch. Their parents asked me to let them know if their children were in danger."



Laura had seen the signs for a neighborhood watch on their new street. Now it all made sense. She smiled at Mrs. Ryan.

"I hope you like your cookies." Laura couldn't wait to share the news about her neighbor with her new friends.





It tells why Laura is afraid of talking to Mrs. Ryan.

It tells why Laura's mom wants to give Mrs. Ryan cookies.

It tells why Mrs. Ryan checks on the children.

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