

KS2 English Reading



10-4-10

'10 minutes a day for ten days'

Name _____

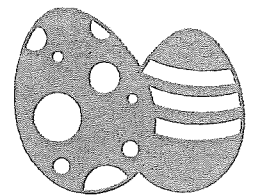
Soon after your Easter holidays you will be sitting your KS2 SATs. After all your hard work this year, we do not want you to forget all that work over the break!

If you do a little bit of Reading every day it will keep things fresh in your mind when you come back to school. By using this pack, you will be using the key skills you have been rehearsing all year. It is called 10-4-10 '10 minutes for 10 days.'

Everyday there are some Reading texts and questions, and a couple of SATs style questions.

Try to do as much of the booklet as you can, remember it should take around 10 minutes each day. If you struggle with anything, make sure you ask your teacher when you return to school.

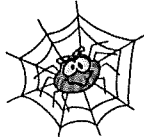
Good luck!



Easter Revision

Reading – Day 1

Marvellous Mini-beasts



Whether they scare you, fascinate you or just give you that creepy shudder down the spine, it can't be denied that mini-beasts are fascinating! Some look small and defenceless, some look dangerous and some even look beautiful, but they all have their own interesting traits and characteristics. Learning more about these wonders of nature can make a woodland walk a lot more interesting.

Amazing arachnids

Despite what many people think, spiders cannot be classified as insects. With eight legs, two body segments and no wings, the spider finds itself in the category of 'arachnids'. If you are amongst the millions of people who have a phobia of spiders, you suffer 'arachnophobia'.

There are over 30,000 species of spiders in the world. Thankfully, they're not all dangerous! Although the most common house spider found in Britain is thought of as totally harmless to humans, its bite is venomous! However, it is thought to be virtually impossible for this species to open its mouth wide enough, or have fangs long enough, to deliver a venomous bite to a human. Spiders tend to save their venom for their prey – insects and other spiders – which they catch using their silky webs.

Beautiful butterflies

Unlike spiders, butterflies are classified as insects. Six legs, a segmented body and four wings make up the anatomy of a butterfly. Their brightly coloured wings are made up of tiny scales, arranged in unique patterns.

Butterflies, as we see them flying around, are just one part of a four-part life cycle (also known as a 'metamorphosis').

1. How many different types of spiders can be found in the world?

_____ 1 mark

2. What word is used to describe being scared of spiders?

_____ 1 mark

3. List **two** different parts of a butterfly's body.

1. _____

2. _____ 2 marks

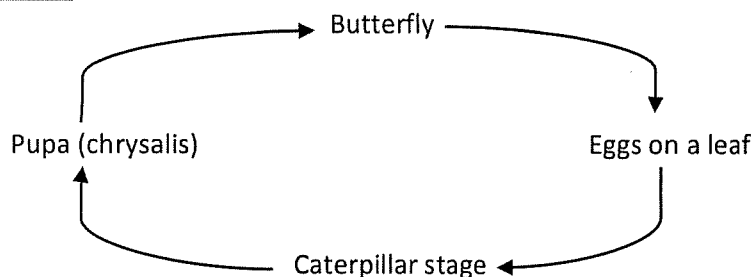
4. **Find and copy** the word that tells the reader that a butterfly's wing pattern could not be the same as that of another butterfly.

_____ 1 mark

5. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
Lots of mini-beasts are beautiful to look at.		
Ants are very strong.		
Butterflies' wings are colourful.		

1 mark



The life cycle of a butterfly



Butterflies can be found all around the world, using their long straw-like tongue to extract nectar and juice from flowers and rotting fruit. When they do this, they help spread the pollen of plants.

Astonishing Ants

Just like butterflies, ants are in the mini-beast category of insects. They have six legs and a body segmented into three parts. In an amazing feat of strength, an ant can lift 20 times its own body weight. That is like a child lifting a car!

Groups of ants, known as 'armies', live in colonies. Within these colonies, there will typically be three kinds of ants: the queen, male worker ants and female worker ants. It is the role of the queen ant to lay eggs, whilst the worker ants build/maintain the colony, find food and act as soldiers.

As they travel around in their mesmerising, large groups and lines, ants can cause quite a fuss for humans. Whether it's interrupting picnics and walking off with snacks, or giving a nasty nip to the skin, ants can make a nuisance of themselves. Luckily for us, nearly all bites from ants are not lethal.



6. Why is the information on the life cycle of a butterfly given as a diagram?

1 mark

7. However, it is thought to be virtually impossible for this species to open its mouth wide enough...

In this sentence, the word *virtually* is closest in meaning to...

Tick **one**

probably

always

extremely

almost

1 mark

8. Why do you think the text compares an ant lifting 20 times its body weight to a child lifting a car?

2 marks

Reading – Day 2 and 3

Emma’s New Watch

It was here. It had finally arrived. Emma had only been waiting for this day for 364 days, which is 8,736 hours to be precise – not that she had been counting! Trying to act casual, she sauntered down the stairs. As she let her imagination run wild, she pictured a pile of presents, stacks of cards and her mum’s famous chocolate cake waiting temptingly on the table.

Excitement tingled through her whole body as she pushed open the door to her living room. Emma waited for the usual cheer and “the song” that came on this date every year... but it didn’t come. Bemused by the lack of noise, Emma shuffled into the living room. Her father looked up from his newspaper and greeted her with a smile.

“Morning sweetheart!”

Morning? Morning? Was that it? Without replying to her dad, who had returned to his morning reading, she wandered into the kitchen to see if her mum would give her more satisfaction.

“Hello, darling. Would you like some toast before school?” asked Emma’s mum, as she stood washing breakfast pots at the sink.

Something seriously strange was going on. Where were the cards, presents and that delicious cake? Emma had been preparing herself for this day since the same date last year, and all she was feeling was utter disappointment.

“Is there nothing else you want to say to me?” she questioned her mum, “nothing you would like to give me...?”

Day 2

1. List one thing Emma was expecting to receive that day.

_____ 1 mark

2. What do you think is special about this day for Emma? Give one piece of evidence from the text that supports your answer.

1 mark

3. Use the information from the story to complete this table.

The day Emma usually did P.E. at school	
	9:00pm on Thursday 21st February
The date Emma thought it should be	

2 marks

4. Look at the second paragraph. **Find** and **copy** the word that shows Emma is not sure what is happening or why it is happening.

_____ 1 mark

“Just your packed lunch box and a reminder to pick up your P.E. bag,” Emma’s mum replied distractedly.

P.E. bag? She only did P.E. on a Thursday. Today was Friday. “But I don’t do P.E. today. I only do it on a Thursday,” she explained impatiently to her mum.

“Yes, I know, Emma. And today is Thursday. Thursday 21st February.”

For a moment, Emma didn’t know what to say; didn’t know what to think. Without a doubt, she had gone to bed last night at 9:00pm on Thursday 21st February. How was her mum getting so confused? As thoughts raced through her mind, she felt that same tingling feeling in her arm that she had felt before walking into the living room. However, she realised that it was not excitement at all. In fact, it was an actual physical tingle coming from her wrist.

The watch! It had been a premature gift from her great-grandmother and had been given to Emma with a strange wink and an even stranger message, which she had ignored at the time.

“Be careful how you use it. Time isn’t always as it seems...” Emma’s rather mystifying great-grandmother had warned her.

With a gold strap, analogue face and a section which told you the date, it was an expensive-looking timepiece. Inspecting the gift much more closely, Emma noticed something unusual. Although she had only worn the watch yesterday for the first time, it had stopped running. It had stopped on Thursday 21st February at 8:25am...

Day 3

1. ...*chocolate cake* **waiting temptingly** on the table... (paragraph 1)

What do the words highlighted in bold tell us about how Emma feels about the cake?

1 mark

2. What was the difference between the two occasions in the text when Emma felt a tingling feeling?

1 mark

3. **Find and copy** the word used in the text that is an alternative name for ‘watch’.

1 mark

4. Based on what you have read in the text, what do you think is special about Emma’s new watch? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

2 marks

Reading – Day 4

Intruders

The door swung open and was then pushed back until it was almost closed. Katie lay very still in her low, dusty hiding place. Except for a thin beam of light from the corridor outside, the room was in darkness. From where she was laid, she could only see two pairs of feet shuffling in across the floor. Her stomach churned and her heart was beating so fast she felt sure that the strangers would hear it thumping on the wooden floor. She followed the dark shapes as they moved slowly around the room and could hear the opening and closing of drawers and cupboards as the beam from a flashlight began to dance around in the gloomy darkness. However, she knew they wouldn't find what they were looking for.

Suddenly, she realised that in her rush to hide, she had left the bag containing the precious cargo on the floor at the other side of the bed. Slowly and carefully, she slid out her foot until her toes touched the softness of the velvet bag and then, just as slowly, she drew it in, making sure that she made no sound. Then she laid stone still, hardly daring to breathe, for what seemed like a lifetime. Thankfully, just as she was beginning to think they would never leave, the sound of voices drifted up from outside in the garden. The strangers stopped in their tracks and began to move back towards the door. Opening it, they quickly left the room, snapping the door tightly shut behind them. Katie gave a sigh of relief, knowing that she had been very lucky. If they had walked around to the other side of the bed, who knows what might have happened then!

End of text

1. How many people were in the room in addition to Katie?

_____ 1 mark

2. Number the following events (1 – 5) to show the order in which they happen in the story. One has been done for you.

People begin talking outside Katie's house. _____

The door is pushed until it is nearly closed. _____

Katie gets into her hiding place. _____

She watches the light from the intruders' torches. _____

The door gets completely closed shut. 5

1 mark

3. **Find and copy** a group of words that describe the bag.

4. How do Katie's feelings change from the first paragraph to the end of the text?

Katie's feelings at the beginning: _____

Katie's feelings at the end: _____

1 mark

5. What does the group of words, '*for what seemed like a lifetime*' tell us about how Katie felt?

1 mark

6. Why do you think the intruders decided to leave the room when they did?

1 mark

7. What do you think might have happened if the intruders had seen the bag?

1 mark

8. Do you think Katie has any idea who the intruders could be? Why or why not? Use evidence from the text.

2 marks

Reading – Day 5

Untouched

As light breaks through the quickly fading darkness,
 I look out and see a white sheet, a blank slate, an empty page.
 This white is not paper on which I will write.
 Nor is it a crisp, new bed sheet upon which I will lie.
 It is a blanket of white, covering the land beneath it,
 Not touched by anyone or anything.
 Even the howling wind has had little effect.
 No footprints mark the tracks of excited children,
 The birds have not yet had chance to create their prints.
 It lies there - simply waiting.
 Waiting for someone who can no longer resist temptation,
 At once they must mark the page, ruffle the bed sheets.
 No longer does my slate remain blank.
 Shrieks and shouts will echo as it is gathered up to make a frosty friend,
 And laughter will still ring out, even after hands are numb and cheeks are chilled.
 Although the image of the smooth white canvas has been destroyed,
 I will always remember it.

1. Which of these things do you think the poet is describing?

Tick **one**.

- snow
- a piece of paper
- a bedsheet

1 mark

2. Who, or what, do you think 'a frosty friend' (line 13) could be?

_____ 1 mark

3. Tick in the boxes to show whether the following statements are **true** or **false**.

	True	False
The wind has changed something about this white sheet		
The white sheet that is being described makes people cold		
The poet cannot remember what the untouched whiteness looks like		

2 marks

4. Why do you think the writer has called this poem, 'Untouched'?

2 marks

5. What information is in the poem that suggests the poet was looking out at the whiteness early in the morning?

2 marks

6. What has changed by the end of the poem?

1 mark

7. Find two examples of alliteration being used in this poem.

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

The Daily Newspaper

70p

Tuesday 7th October 2015

Runner Beans

MANY teachers across the country like to do their bit for charity, but not all go to the lengths of those from *Rose Brook Primary School* in Durham.

Over the last year, a group of five teachers from the small village primary school have completed the amazing feat of four marathons. They have run the exhausting distance of 26.2 miles in London, Edinburgh, Belfast and Liverpool.

The teachers, who trained for a year before embarking on this challenge, raised a staggering £10,000 for a local charity.

One of the runners, Mrs Hills, explained the reasons for their charity choice.

“Many of the children in our school have been affected by flooding. Their homes have been damaged, their belongings washed away and their lives severely disrupted,” she told *The Daily Newspaper*. “Therefore, we decided, as their teachers, we needed to help. So we thought we would raise money for *Rescue*, which is a local charity that helps those affected by severe flooding.”

In the lead up to the marathons, the staff and children at *Rose Brook Primary* hosted a variety of fundraising events at the school to help boost funds. One pupil remembers a particularly eventful day.

Page 4

1. Why do you think the reporter has given this article the headline, *Runner Beans*?

1 mark

2. Match the following statements to the correct number.

The number of miles that a marathon covers

Five

The amount of minutes each teacher had to sit in a bathtub of baked beans

Twenty six point two

The amount of teachers that participated in the marathons

Thirty

The number of marathons run by teachers

Four

1 mark

3. In paragraph two, which word means the same as achievement?

1 mark

The Daily Newspaper

“All of our teachers had to sit in a bathtub of baked beans for half an hour each!” tells Year 5 pupil, Daniel. “We had buckets for people to donate money. It was so much fun. The teachers hated sitting in the beans but they liked raising money.”

Along with their baked bean challenge, the school held discos, coffee afternoons and talent shows to supplement the money raised by the marathon runners.

Another one of the runners, Miss Stockwell, told us that sitting in the bathtub of beans was a piece of cake compared to the marathons. She went on to explain that she found the running difficult but felt an amazing sense of achievement at each finish line.

When asked if they would run a marathon again, all five teachers

responded with a huge cheer. It would seem they have caught the running bug!

Last night, a giant cheque for the £10,000 was presented to the chairman of the charity by the group of teachers at a celebration evening.

“We are absolutely over the moon with the money. Everyone at *Rescue* is overwhelmed by the generosity of the staff, children and families of *Rose Brook Primary*. This money will help us provide the correct level of support to families in the area affected by flood damage,” Gary Holden (chairman of *Rescue*) told us.

The staff at *Rose Brook Primary* have vowed to continue their fundraising efforts and look forward to future challenges.

Reported by Sarah Dunhew

Page 5

4. **Find** and **copy** the group of words which show that Miss Stockwell found the baked bean challenge easy.

1 mark

5. ‘*It would seem they have caught the running bug!*’

What does the reporter mean when she uses this sentence?

2 marks

6. How can you tell that Miss Stockwell was proud of herself when she ran the marathons?

1 mark

7. What was the date of the celebration evening?

1 mark

8. Do you think the reporter was impressed by the teachers’ fundraising? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

2 marks

Reading – Day 7

Young Warrior

As the sun faded, Blue settled down for a good night’s slumber after spending the day hunting for his family. Before his father had passed away, he had informed Blue that he must be a great warrior and hunt for his tribe and protect his family. Blue didn’t think that he could ever be as courageous as his father, the great chief ‘Sitting Bull’, so he mostly relied on Mohawk, his uncle.

Just as he was drifting off to sleep, he was startled by a loud noise outside the teepee. Making sure his sister was wrapped up safely, he nervously peeped outside. His heart was beating like a drum, but he knew he had to protect his family. Unfortunately for Blue, there was no time to seek his uncle. Although he was petrified of the dark, he ventured outside into the darkness, ready to accept his fate. From the darkness a shadow loomed towards the teepee. Without a thought for himself, Blue pounced on the figure. Paralysed with fear, he still managed to fight against the strange beast, even though it was much bigger and stronger than him.

After moments of struggling Blue realised he was up against a ferocious bear! Suddenly, the bear let go of Blue and headed towards a voice coming from the teepee. With its razor sharp claws, the bear struck in the direction of the small, defenceless girl. As he had not a moment to spare, Blue catapulted into the air and protected the girl. Sharp claws cut across his back, but he still tried to scare the bear away with his knife. Then out of nowhere, a gunshot pierced the night sky. Looking behind him, Blue could see his uncle standing over the bear with smoke coming from his rifle.

1. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Blue thought of himself as a very brave warrior.		
Mohawk was Blue’s father.		
Blue had a rifle to protect himself from the bear.		
The bear managed to hurt Blue.		

1 mark

2. List two things that scared Blue.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

3. ‘Although he was petrified of the dark, he ventured outside into the darkness, ready to accept his fate.’

In this sentence, the word *ventured* is closest in meaning to...

Tick **one**.

looked closely

listened carefully

ran with excitement

dared to go

1 mark

4. ... *a gunshot pierced the night sky.*

What does the word *pierced* tell us about the sound?

1 mark

5. What happened to the bear at the end of the tale?

1 mark

6. How does the first paragraph suggest that Blue does not feel very confident about himself?

1 mark

7. Give one example of a time in the story when Blue might have felt proud of himself:

Give one example of a time in the story when Blue might **not** have felt proud of himself:

2 marks

8. Was Blue expecting to hear a noise? How do you know?

1 mark

Reading – Day 8 and 9

As Jason was waiting for his bus home from school, he noticed a strange looking man with a long grey beard, standing in front of him. He wore a long blue coat and had a bright blue velvet bag slung over his shoulder. Jason was sure something was moving inside the bag but just at that moment, the man's bus pulled up and he lurched forward and stepped up onto the platform of the bus. Just as the doors of the bus were beginning to close behind him, Jason noticed something fall from the bag and bounce along the floor, landing at his feet. He bent down to pick it up. It was a strange silver ball. Jason knew he should have banged on the door of the bus and given it back, it didn't belong to him, but it was so interesting, so unusual, that instead he quickly looked around, and then slipped it into his pocket. He was dying to look at it more closely and once the bus had pulled away, he slipped his hand into his pocket and pulled out the strange metal ball. It seemed to vibrate in his hand and then, suddenly, it burst open and out rolled an unusual looking bulb, a bit like the daffodil bulbs he had planted with this mother last week. He quickly popped it back into his pocket as his bus arrived. When he got home, he decided he would plant it so he scraped a small hole in the garden and buried it. Then he forgot about it. During the night it rained and rained.

The next morning, Jason woke to the sound of his father's voice, urgently calling his mother into the garden. He looked out of the window and saw they were standing by a strange, blue, spiky plant around four feet tall! Peter's father, a keen gardener, scratched his head and frowned. Jason began to realise what had happened but decided it was best to keep quiet about it for now. He ran out into the garden pretending to be as surprised as his parents.

Over the next few days, friends who came to the house were shown the plant and asked if they knew what it was. No-one did. But because it had rained all week, no-one could get out into the muddy garden to examine the plant more closely. However, by the end of the week when the rain had finally stopped and they could get close to it again, they could see it was much taller than Jason's father and the leaves were turning an even brighter blue than they were before!

"It's not natural," said his mother, "It's very worrying! I think we should chop it down!"

The stem was also bright blue and so thick that Jason could not stretch his hands around it. Jason's father was also beginning to worry. He was afraid it could be poisonous.

However, over the next few days it seemed to stop growing and Jason's father thought it had probably outgrown itself and would now die off very soon. It certainly didn't look as strong and fresh as it did before. Neighbours, who had heard about the plant, came to touch it and smell it and take photographs of themselves next to it. A local reporter called and took a photograph of Jason standing beside it. He wanted to know where it had come from but no-one had any answers, except Jason! But he kept quiet. Then the plant began to droop. Jason was disappointed.

That night, as Jason was going to bed, there was a terrific thunder storm, hailstones pounded the ground and when he looked out of his window at the lightning, he could see that the plant suddenly looked stronger and straighter than before. His heart raced as he jumped into bed.

"Roll on tomorrow!" he whispered to himself as he snuggled down under the duvet.

Reading – Day 8

1. Where was Jason when he spotted the strange looking man?

_____ 1 mark

2. Why do you think Jason looked around before putting the silver ball in his pocket?

_____ 1 mark

3. Number the following events (1 – 5) to show the order in which they happen in the story. One has been done for you.

Jason’s mum wants to cut the plant _____

Jason hides the silver ball in his pocket _____

A strange looking man gets on a bus 1

The plant starts to come back to life _____

Jason acts shocked about the plant _____ 1 mark

4. Why might Jason’s dad think the plant could be poisonous?

_____ 1 mark

5. Do you think Jason regrets taking the silver ball? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

2 marks

Reading – Day 9

1. When Jason’s parents first see the plant, what does it look like?

_____ 1 mark

2. How do Jason’s feelings change throughout the story?

Beginning: _____

Middle: _____

End: _____ 2 marks

3. Why didn’t Jason tell anybody what he knew about the plant?

_____ 1 mark

4. Using information from the text, complete this table:

How does Jason travel to school?	
Where did the strange metal ball come from?	
Who took a photograph of Jason with the plant?	

1 mark

5. Thinking about events of the story so far, predict one thing which could happen in the next paragraph.

1 mark

Reading – Day 10

Mr R. Adams
42 Saddle Lane
Smithstown
ST12 7UY

Blue Hotel
Rowes Road
Darston
DT1 8XG

Tuesday 4th September 2015

To whom it may concern,

I wish to lodge a formal complaint to the manager of this establishment. Words almost fail me when I try to describe the level of unhappiness I experienced at your hotel.

Whilst on a final summer weekend away, my family and I visited the Blue Hotel the weekend of Saturday 1st September – Sunday 2nd September 2015. However, we certainly wish we had not made the unfortunate decision to do so.

Upon our arrival at the hotel, there was not a single member of staff available at the reception desk to welcome us. After waiting for an unacceptable amount of time, I decided to seek out someone for myself. To my utter disgust, a crowd of your employees were gathered in one of the leisure rooms having a wonderful time relaxing. As I gained their attention and explained my situation, I was greeted by several sighs and some definite eye-rolling.

1. Why has Mr Adams written this letter?

1 mark

2. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
The Adams family visited the hotel during summer.		
The woman who helped Mr Adams was rude.		
Mr Adams expects someone to reply to his letter.		

1 mark

3. The word *lodge* in the first sentence of Mr Adams' letter is closest in meaning to...

Tick **one**.

a place to stay

make

moan

become upset

1 mark

4. In paragraph 6, how were Mr Adams' feelings different from his wife's feeling about the hotel?

1 mark

5. **Find** and **copy** the group of words that tell us that Mr Adams left the hotel.

1 mark



Once an unwilling volunteer had come to our assistance, I was hoping things would significantly improve. How awfully wrong I was! The woman was extremely unhelpful and verging on rude.

Finally, we were shown our hotel “rooms”. My reason for the use of inverted commas is valid I assure you. The spaces that you describe as ‘rooms’, I would call storage cupboards at best. They were certainly not spacious enough for a family of four to live comfortably for a weekend.

Despite all of these issues, my wife convinced me to give the hotel a chance and we decided to visit the restaurant. We were hoping for a nice, hot meal accompanied by refreshing beverages and pleasant surroundings. Sadly, the restaurant resembled a greasy spoon café and not the chic eatery we had been hoping for. It was at that point I decided to vacate your establishment.

I would appreciate some written feedback from a representative of Blue Hotel, which explains why this level of poor service is being offered to the general public. If you choose not to respond to my comments, I will have no choice but to publish my grievances on social networking sites.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours faithfully,
Mr R. Adams (disgruntled customer)

6. What is Mr Adams going to do if nobody from the hotel replies to his letter?

_____ 1 mark

7. List three things that Mr Adams was not happy with during his stay at the hotel:

- 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
- 1 mark

8. Do you think Mr Adams would stay at this hotel again? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

_____ 2 marks