



# ***New York State Testing Program***

**English  
Language Arts  
Book 1**

Grade

**3**

**January 9–13, 2006**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## TIPS FOR TAKING THE TEST

Here are some suggestions to help you do your best:

- Be sure to read carefully all the directions in the test book.
- Plan your time.
- Read each question carefully and think about the answer before choosing or writing your response.

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**Reading*****D***irections

In this part of the test, you are going to do some reading. Then you will answer questions about what you have read.

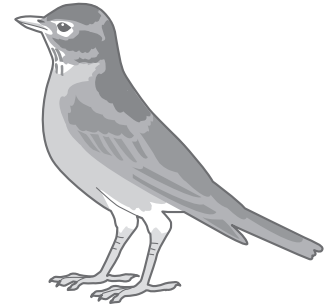
***Go On***

# Directions

Read this article about a bird. Then answer questions 1 through 5.

# A Backyard Bird

by Lynea Bowdish



Have you ever seen a robin? Robins have dark heads and red chests.

A good place to see robins is in your own backyard. Robins don't seem to mind being around people.

You may also see robins on lawns or in parks. They are looking for worms and bugs to eat.

Early in spring, robins build their nests. They build them in trees. This way the nests will be hidden, so the birds will be safe.

The nests are made from grass, sticks, and mud. The mud glues everything together.

The mother robin lays one egg a day for three or four days. She sits on them to keep them warm. The eggs are blue.

After the babies hatch, both the mother and father feed the babies. The young birds have spots on their chests.

Do any robins live near you? Look around. You may be surprised!

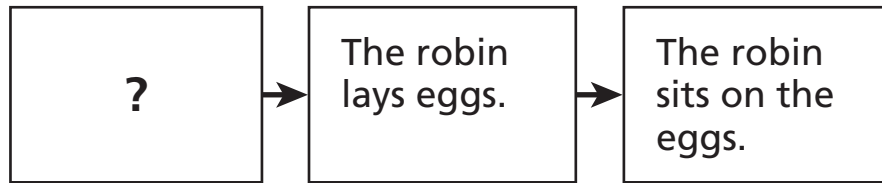
**1** According to information in the article, which sentence about robins is **true**?

- A** Robins hide from people.
- B** Robins eat worms and bugs.
- C** Robins build their nests in summer.
- D** Robins are blue when they are young.

**2** Why does the mother robin sit on the eggs?

- F** to hide them
- G** so they do not fall
- H** to keep them warm
- J** so they are not in the sun

- 3** The chart below shows events from the article.



Which sentence **best** belongs in the empty box?

- A** The robin builds a nest.
- B** The robin looks for a tree.
- C** The robin feeds the babies.
- D** The robin’s babies hatch.

- 4** Read this sentence from the article.

**The mud glues everything together.**

This sentence means that

- F** mud can be messy
- G** mud holds the nest together
- H** it is hard to build a nest out of mud
- J** it is important to glue the mud together

- 5** Which title would be another good title for this article?

- A** “Baby Robins”
- B** “Why Robins Make Good Pets”
- C** “How to Make a Robin’s Nest”
- D** “All About Robins”

**STOP**

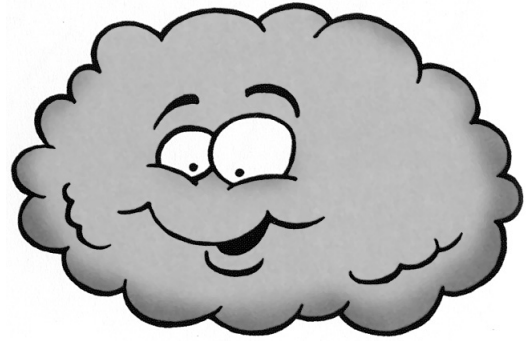
**Pages 4 – 7 of this test are not available.**

# *D*irections

Read this article. Then answer questions 11 through 16.

## Where do clouds come from?

by Shar Levine and Leslie Johnstone  
illustrated by Steve Harpster



Look up in the sky. Do you see any clouds? What do they look like? Some clouds are fluffy and white, like cotton balls. Others are dark, almost black, and make you grab an umbrella. At sunrise and sunset, clouds can look red, purple, or yellow—as if they were colored with crayons. But what are clouds anyway?

You can't reach out and touch the clouds, but you can make your own in a bottle.

### You need

- an adult helper
- hot water
- a huge, empty glass jar
- ice cubes
- metal strainer

### Do this

1. Have your helper fill the jar with hot water, leave it there for two minutes, then pour out most of the water, leaving just an inch or two at the bottom of the jar.
2. It's your turn now. Put the strainer over the mouth of the jar. Fill the strainer with ice cubes. Watch the jar.



## What happened?

A cloud formed in the jar! Some of the hot water at the bottom of the jar turned into hot water vapor. The water vapor rose and bumped into the cold air coming off the ice cubes. When the water vapor condensed, it formed a cloud.

vapor = mist

condensed =  
changed to liquid

Hot air rises and carries with it lots of water vapor. The higher the air rises, the more it cools down. Soon the cold air can't hold all the water vapor so it starts turning into tiny water drops, and becomes a cloud.

**11** What is this article **mostly** about?

- A** the weight of a cloud
- B** the color of clouds
- C** what makes a cloud
- D** why clouds are fluffy

**12** What do you do **right after** you pour most of the water out of the jar?

- F** Find an adult helper.
- G** Fill the jar with hot water.
- H** Fill the strainer with ice cubes.
- J** Put the strainer over the jar.

**13** Which item do you need for Step 1?

- A** a jar
- B** a strainer
- C** ice cubes
- D** crayons

**14** What item is **not** in the article but would be helpful for Step 1?

- F** a clock
- G** an ice cube
- H** an umbrella
- J** a cotton ball

**15** The article says that clouds

- A** are made of cotton
- B** can look colorful
- C** can only be made of hot water
- D** are hard for people to see

**16** What is the **main** purpose of this article?

- F** to list the types of clouds
- G** to tell a story about a cloud
- H** to give information about clouds
- J** to show how to color a cloud

# STOP



# Directions

Read this story about two friends. Then answer questions 17 through 21.

## The Loose Tooth

by Tony Johnston

illustrated by Cyndy Szekeres

Mole tied a string to Troll's tooth. He tied the other end to the bedpost. He sat next to Troll. He held his hand. They waited for the tooth to pop out.

But nothing happened.

"Hmmm," said Mole. "The Old Mole Family Way is not working."

Troll looked worried. Mole thought again.

"Now I remember," he said. "We tie the string to a chair. Then the tooth will come out—zing-o!"

Mole untied the string from the bedpost and tied it to a chair. He sat next to Troll. They waited.

But the tooth did not come out.

"I know!" cried Mole. "I was all mixed up. We tie the string to the doorknob. Then I slam the door. And the tooth will come right out—presto!"

"Stink-o!" said Troll. "I will not do that. That will really hurt."

"But, Troll, that is the real Old Mole Family Way. I promise it won't hurt."

"Promise crisscross applesauce?"

"Promise crisscross applesauce."

"All right, Mole," said Troll. "But I am not ready. Don't slam the door till I say 'now.'"

Mole tied the string to the doorknob. He opened the door. He sat next to Troll. He waited for Troll to say "now."



He waited for a long time.

“Are you ready yet?” asked Mole.

“Please don’t rush me,” said Troll.

So they waited some more.

A breeze came through the door. The room got chilly. Troll got chilly. He sneezed loudly, “KER-SNORT!”

“Bless you,” said Mole.

“Thank you,” said Troll. “That ith very nithe of you to thay.”

“*Thay?*” cried Mole. “Let me see your tooth.” Mole looked. The tooth was gone.

“Troll?” asked Mole. “Did that hurt?”

“Not a bit,” said Troll. “What happened?”

“You sneezed your tooth out.”

Troll smiled hugely in the mirror. “That ith the New Troll Family Way,” he said.

“That is a good way,” said Mole.

“And you are a good friend,” said Troll. “It really helped to have you next to me.”

“Yes,” said Mole. “That always helps a lot.”

Then they went to look for the tooth.

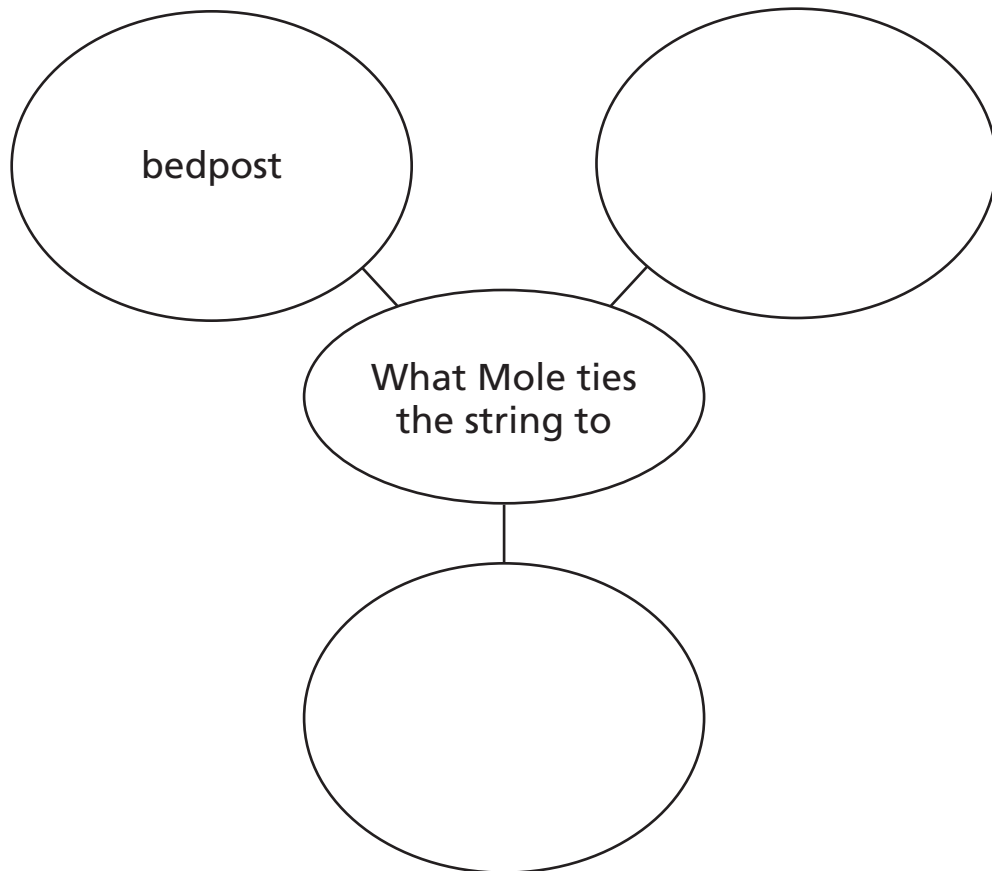


**Go On**

**17** What happens **right after** Mole ties a string to the bedpost?

- A** Troll and Mole wait.
- B** Troll starts to worry.
- C** Mole says it will not hurt.
- D** Mole ties a string to Troll's tooth.

**18** In the story, Mole ties the string to three things. Using details from the story, complete the web with the things Mole ties the string to. One has been done for you.



**19** What finally causes Troll’s tooth to come out?

- A** slamming a door
- B** waiting with his friend
- C** tying a string to his tooth
- D** sneezing loudly

**20** Which sentence **best** describes Mole in this story?

- F** Mole is in a hurry to finish.
- G** Mole wants to try only one way.
- H** Mole has trouble remembering.
- J** Mole is worried about his own tooth.

**21** Which sentence from the story gives the **most** important information?

- A** “Are you ready yet?”
- B** “He waited for a long time.”
- C** “You sneezed your tooth out.”
- D** “They waited for the tooth to pop out.”

**STOP**

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Place Student Label Here



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