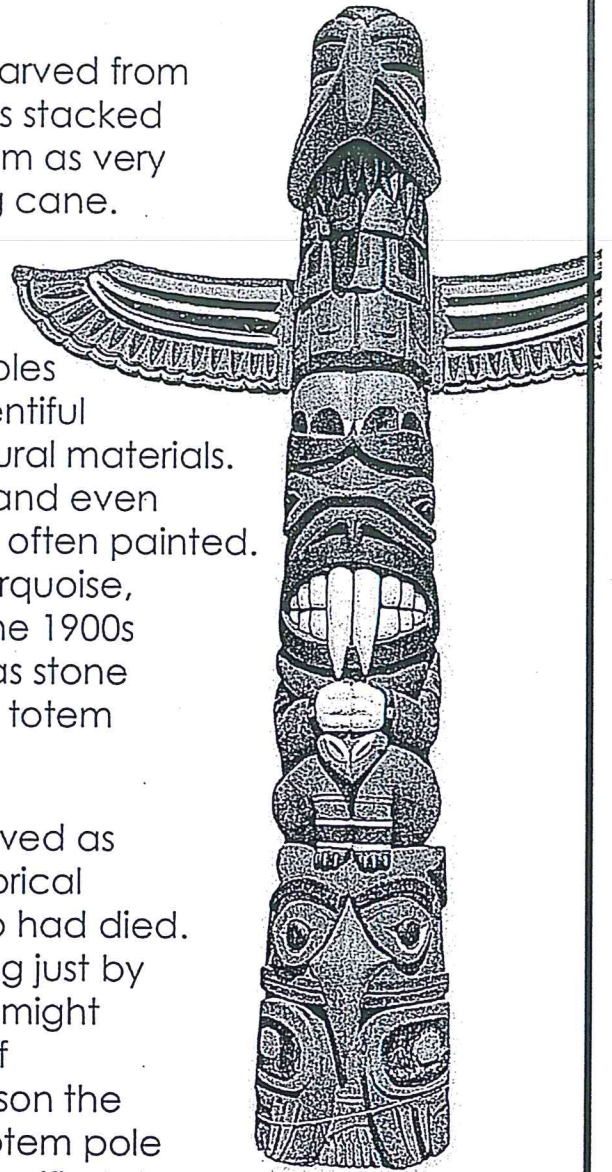


3rd GRADE What is a Totem Pole?

A totem pole is a Native American sculpture carved from a tree. They feature carvings of animals or humans stacked one on top of the other. You probably picture them as very tall towers, but they could be as small as a walking cane.

Long ago, Native Americans lived throughout North America. However, totem poles were only carved by tribes in the Pacific Northwest. Totem poles were made from large cedar trees which were plentiful in that region. Their carving tools were simple, natural materials. They carved with shells, stones, sharpened wood, and even bones, antlers, or beaver teeth. Totem poles were often painted. The most common paint colors were red, black, turquoise, and white. Very few totem poles carved before the 1900s still exist. Wooden totem poles are not as **durable** as stone sculptures. Wood **decays** over time. The average totem pole lasts 75 – 100 years.

Totem poles are works of art, but some also served as storytellers. They described a legend, retold a historical event, or honored an important tribe member who had died. It's difficult to know what story a totem pole is telling just by looking at it. For example, a bear on a totem pole might symbolize strength. A bear can also be a symbol of motherhood. The bear might indicate that the person the totem pole is honoring was a bear hunter. Each totem pole tells a unique story. To understand the story of a specific totem pole, you need someone familiar with the totem pole to tell it to you.



Common Animals on a Totem Pole	What do they symbolize?
Beaver	Creative, Artistic, and Determined
Bear	Strength, Motherhood, Teaching
Eagle	Great Strength
Owl	Wisdom
Wolf	Intelligence and Leadership

Monday	Tuesday
<p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>Why did Native Americans choose to make totem poles out of cedar trees?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p>According to the text, what is a totem pole?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">True or False?</p> <p>Totem poles are always very large towers.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p>Long ago, where were you most likely to see a totem pole?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>What caused totem poles to be less durable than stone sculptures?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p>What is the meaning of the word durable in this text?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>What is the main idea of this article?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>What is the 3rd paragraph mainly about?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>How does the picture in this article help the reader?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p>List one detail in the 3rd paragraph that supports the main idea.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>What information can you find in the chart?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p>What were the most common colors found on a totem pole?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>Where in the article can you find out what an Eagle symbolizes on a totem pole?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p>Why is it difficult to know what story a totem pole is telling just by looking at it?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>	<p>If a totem pole were to include a bear, what might that bear symbolize?</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>

Use the Reading Guide to help you understand the passage.

Reading Guide

What is Luis doing at the beginning of the passage?

When does Luis begin to have a problem?

How does Luis solve his problem?

The Broken Vase

Luis tossed the ball up in the air again and again. Not even rain could stop him from practicing. But Luis really wasn't supposed to be playing with his ball in the house. Each time he tossed the ball up in the air, it dropped easily into his catcher's mitt. Grandpa had told him he had the hands of a catcher. Luis sure hoped so, because he wanted to be a baseball player one day.

Crash! Luis had only taken his eyes off the ball for a split second. The ball had bounced off the edge of Luis's glove and hit a vase, shattering it to pieces. Just last week, Mom had given him the speech about not playing ball in the house. She had even threatened to not let him go to the baseball game with Grandpa on Saturday.

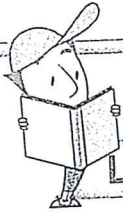
Luis peered down the hall. Mom was in the kitchen on the phone. Maybe she hadn't heard the crash. Luis began picking up the pieces of the vase and placing them in his glove. Could he get them out to the trash without her knowing? Would she even notice that the vase was gone?

He looked at the broken pieces in his baseball glove. Then Luis remembered the day his favorite baseball player visited his school. He had talked about how important it was to always be honest. Luis knew what he had to do. There would be other games with Grandpa. He walked down the hall to find Mom.

Answer the following questions.

6. What is Luis's problem?
- A. He broke a vase with a ball.
 - B. He can't find his catcher's mitt.
 - C. His baseball practice was canceled due to rain.
 - D. He can't go to the ball game with Grandpa.
7. At first, Luis thinks he can solve his problem by
- A. putting the broken pieces under the sofa.
 - B. gluing the vase back together.
 - C. calling Grandpa to tell him what happened.
 - D. hiding the broken pieces in the trash.
8. Luis solves his problem by
- A. deciding never to play baseball again.
 - B. asking Grandpa to take him to a different game.
 - C. being honest and telling Mom what happened.
 - D. telling Mom he doesn't know what happened.
9. What is NOT part of the plot?
- A. Luis practices in the house when it rains.
 - B. Mom had asked Luis not to play ball in the house.
 - C. Grandpa visits Luis to take him to a game.
 - D. Luis thinks about the words of his favorite baseball player.

10. Think about a different way Luis could solve his problem. Write the solution on the lines.



Lesson Practice

Use the Reading Guide to help you understand the passage.

Reading Guide

Which word helps you understand what *on the road* means?

What idioms do you see in paragraph 2?

How does Hank feel about his chances of winning?

The Rodeo Champ

Cowboy Hank was a big rodeo star. He had been a cowboy for ages. He had won many prizes at many rodeo shows. Hank was busy as a bee. He went from show to show. He traveled many miles. Now Hank was on the road again.

"This next rodeo is in a small town off the beaten path," Hank said. "Winning this will be a piece of cake."

But Hank was wrong. The rodeo was filled with big rodeo stars. He was shocked and surprised. You could have knocked him over with a feather. They were all good cowboys. He was no longer the big fish in a small pond. They were as good as Hank. They all thought they could win. Hank knew he would have to work very hard.

After a while, he thought he was in over his head. Then Hank got to ride a horse named Star. Star was a great horse. He made Hank look good. Hank won the big prize that day. He was on cloud nine. Hank was a very happy cowboy when he went home.

Answer the following questions.

1. The phrase piece of cake means
 - A. tasty.
 - B. hard.
 - C. easy.
 - D. noisy.
2. Which word helps you understand the phrase knocked him over with a feather?
 - A. cowboy
 - B. surprised
 - C. rodeo
 - D. stars
3. Which phrase can BEST replace in over his head without changing the meaning of the sentence?
 - A. not as good as the others
 - B. better than the others
 - C. younger than the others
 - D. older than the others
4. The phrase on cloud nine means
 - A. feeling light.
 - B. feeling wet.
 - C. feeling sad.
 - D. feeling happy.

5. Read these sentences from the passage.

They were all good cowboys. He was no longer the big fish in a small pond.

Underline the idiom and then tell what it means.

Use the Reading Guide to help you understand the passage.

Reading Guide

What clue in the text helps you understand the meaning of "spilled the beans"?

What problem does Jen have?

How does Jen use her checklist? Is it real?

Mom's Party

Dad, Sam, and I had just left the bakery with a big birthday cake. We had been planning Mom's party for weeks, and now we were down to the final hour. "Are you sure she'll be surprised?" I asked Dad for the millionth time.

"I'm sure, Jen," Dad said. "Unless you've spilled the beans!"

"No!" I said. "I'm great at keeping secrets, but what about Sam? He may have let the cat out of the bag."

"Hey!" Sam said. "You're off your rocker! I would never tell!"

There was a reason I kept asking Dad if Mom would be surprised. I had a nagging feeling that we were forgetting something. I went through the checklist in my head. Everybody had received their invitations and knew to meet at Jackson Park at noon. Mom's friend Carla was there right now decorating with balloons. Aunt Sara was setting up a table with lots of food. We had just picked up the cake and ice cream. I had checked everything off my list.

At noon, our friends began showing up. The park looked amazing, and everyone was having fun. "A penny for your thoughts," Aunt Sara said to me. "You're not sick, are you?"

"No, it's just that I can't shake this feeling that we're forgetting something," I explained.

Aunt Sara looked around. "Everything looks great," she said. "And everyone's here."

"That's it!" I shouted. "Everyone is NOT here! We forgot to invite Mom!"

Answer the following questions.

- 6. The phrase for the millionth time means
 - A. exactly one million times.
 - B. many times.
 - C. not telling the truth.
 - D. counting to one million.

- 7. What do the idioms spilled the beans and let the cat out of the bag mean?
 - A. to be sure
 - B. to find a reason
 - C. to tell a secret
 - D. to forget something

- 8. Which phrase can BEST replace the idiom you're off your rocker without changing the meaning of the sentence?
 - A. You're rocking in a chair.
 - B. You're wrong.
 - C. You're funny.
 - D. You're not feeling well.

- 9. What does a penny for your thoughts mean?
 - A. I have only one penny.
 - B. May I borrow some money?
 - C. Where are you going?
 - D. What are you thinking?

10. Read this sentence from the passage.

No, it's just that I can't shake this feeling that we're forgetting something.

Underline the idiom that Jen uses. Explain what she really means on the lines below.



Lesson Practice

Use the Reading Guide to help you understand the passage.

Reading Guide

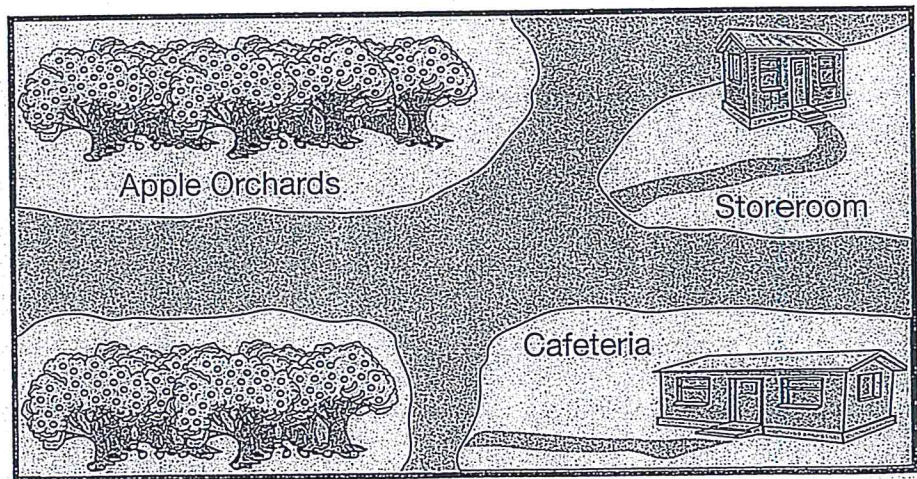
What other information could new illustrations add to this passage?

How do the map and the passage work together?

Apple Orchard

Gregory's class went to the Leeman Apple Orchard to pick apples. Mr. Leeman showed the class the special baskets that were used to store the picked apples. He also showed where the apples got stored. It was a huge room that was kept cold so they would stay fresh. The best part of the day was watching the big machines wash and clean the apples. Finally, they were packed for the supermarket. From there people would buy the apples and take them home.

The class finally got a chance to pick their own apples. Each student was allowed to fill a bag of apples. After picking the apples, everyone sat down in the cafeteria and was given some apple cider and a warm apple donut.



Answer the following questions.

1. What does the map show?
 - A. the bus route
 - B. Leeman Apple Orchard
 - C. the supermarket
 - D. a city map
2. Based on the map, which of the following statements is true?
 - A. The orchard has two buildings.
 - B. People prefer Macintosh apples.
 - C. The cafeteria sells apple cider.
 - D. The apple trees are always growing.
3. Which of the following is something you CANNOT find on the map?
 - A. the storeroom
 - B. the cafeteria
 - C. the supermarket
 - D. the apple orchards
4. Which new illustration would help you better understand this passage?
 - A. a picture of the bus
 - B. a picture of the supermarket
 - C. a picture of the apple cider and apple donut
 - D. a picture of how the apples are washed and cleaned
5. How do you think a new illustration could help this passage?

Use the Reading Guide to help you understand the passage.

Reading Guide

How do the illustration and the passage work together?

How does the illustration help you understand the setting?

What information does the illustration add to the passage?

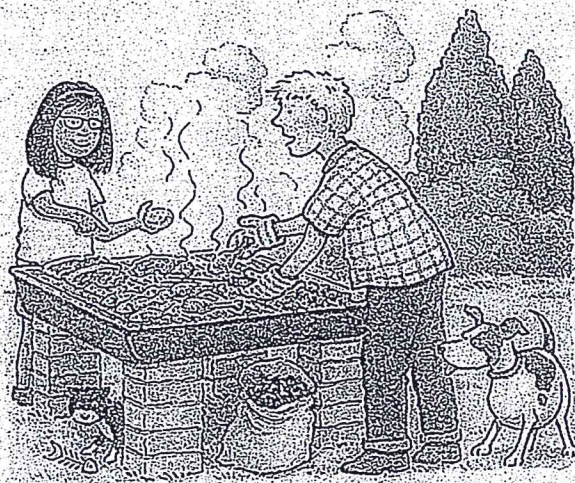
The Cookout

In June, Nancy and Scott moved to the country from the city. They were excited about their new home. The pets were pleased, too. Shadow the cat and Toby the dog had so much exploring to do outside. Once Nancy and Scott settled in, they planned a cookout at their new house. The couple invited their new neighbors.

Nancy took care of the shopping. She bought all kinds of food so there would be many choices. Nancy wanted to be sure that her new friends would have something they liked. She bought steak at the butcher shop, fresh fish at the fish market, and chicken at the farm down the road. Nancy stopped at the local farmer's market to buy fresh tomatoes, lettuce, and cucumbers for a big salad.

Scott was in charge of cooking. He got the fire going in the big grill. To be safe, Scott wore grill mitts and used long-handled tools. Nancy helped with the cooking. Shadow and Toby supervised, too! The cookout was a family effort.

Soon the neighbors would arrive. Nancy and Scott hoped their cookout would be huge success.



Answer the following questions.

- 6. What does the illustration show about the setting?
 - A. It is a farmyard.
 - B. It is a school playground.
 - C. It is a grassy yard.
 - D. It is a sandy beach.

- 7. Which of the following story details does the illustration support?
 - A. Nancy shopped for the food.
 - B. Nancy and Scott wanted the cookout to be a success.
 - C. Scott started the fire in the grill.
 - D. Scott used grill mitts and long-handled tools.

- 8. How does the illustration help you understand the way Nancy and Scott cook the food?
 - A. It shows that they use a wood stove.
 - B. It shows that they cook all of the food.
 - C. It shows that they use a campfire.
 - D. It shows that they use a grill.

- 9. Based on the illustration, Nancy and Scott feel
 - A. nervous about meeting their neighbors.
 - B. worried about cooking the right food.
 - C. happy to welcome their neighbors.
 - D. tired from so much shopping and cooking.

10. Based on the story and the illustration, why do you think the pets are interested in the cookout?

Name: _____

Marker Mania

Choose a color for each part of speech below:

Nouns a person, place, or thing	Verbs action words

Underline parts of speech with the colors you chose:

1. My grandpa draws cars.
2. Sonia blew out the candles.
3. Kittens chase string.
4. Eddie shopped at the mall.
5. Corn grows in my mom's garden.
6. All the lions at the zoo were roaring.
7. How many popsicles did Veronica eat?
8. I rode my bike yesterday.
9. Ricardo brushed his teeth.
10. Let's climb a tree!

Name: _____

Marker Mania

Choose a color for each part of speech below:

Nouns a person, place, or thing	Verbs action words	Adjectives describing words for nouns

Underline parts of speech with the colors you chose:

1. Jenna wore a bright sweater.
2. My brother swam in the cold lake.
3. Who spilled the purple juice?
4. This restaurant bakes delicious rolls.
5. Reggie found colorful sneakers at the shoe store.
6. The school bus drove down the shady street.
7. Lucy and Kevin played with a friendly puppy.
8. My dad planted yellow flowers.
9. The noisy horn honked.
10. What book did Trevor buy?

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

No Boys Allowed

Vanya clipped the "No Boys Allowed" sign onto her fort with a clothespin. She'd been working on it all afternoon. Still, something wasn't quite right. The entrance was just two picnic blankets hanging down from tree branches. They draped together like curtains. Vanya had wanted her fort to have a tunnel for an entrance. She'd searched her garage, attic, and basement for a large, empty box, but hadn't found one.

"Know anyone who recently bought a refrigerator?" Vanya asked her dog, Lucky. "I bet they'd have a big empty box."

Lucky looked up at Vanya. "Ruff, ruff," he barked, then chased after a yellow butterfly.

"Wow, Vanya! Did you build that?" a voice from behind Vanya asked. Vanya turned to see her neighbor, Abraham. He was stopped with his bike on the sidewalk. "That fort is so cool. Can I check out the inside?"

Vanya shook her head firmly. "Sorry, no boys allowed! See the sign?"

"That's not fair," Abraham protested.

"Rules are rules," she told him.

"I guess I'll go see who is at the playground." Abraham looked sad as he got on his bike. Vanya felt a pang of guilt. She turned around to look at her fort again so she wouldn't have to watch Abraham ride away.

"Want to see inside my fort, Lucky?" Vanya asked her dog.

Lucky wagged his tail.

But as Vanya looked from Lucky to her fort, she realized that her "no boys allowed" rule had created a big problem. Lucky was a boy! If Abraham couldn't go in, neither could Lucky. Suddenly, her fort didn't seem as much fun. It seemed kind of lonely.

"Hey Vanya," called Abraham. "I found something you might want."

"I thought you were headed to the playground?" said Vanya.

"I was." Abraham jumped off his bike. "But I overheard you talking about wanting a cardboard box. As I was biking to the playground, I saw Mr. Abood put a big box out at the end of his driveway for recycling to pick up. I came back to get you because it's too big to carry back here all by myself."

"Really? You were going to help me? Even with my 'no boys allowed' rule?" Vanya asked.

Abraham shrugged. "There's no rule against being nice, is there?"

"Nope, there isn't." Vanya walked over to the sign hanging from her fort. She ripped off the word "No". The sign now read "Boys Allowed".

"You're welcome in my fort, anytime, Abraham," said Vanya. "Let's go get that box."

Monday	Tuesday
<p>Before you read, make a prediction about this story based on the title.</p> <hr/>	<p>What is Vanya's problem at the beginning of the story?</p> <hr/>
<p>Who is the main character in the story?</p> <hr/>	<p>Why can't Abraham go inside Vanya's fort?</p> <hr/>
<p>Where does the story take place?</p> <hr/>	<p>Why was Abraham sad when he got on his bike to go to the playground?</p> <hr/>
<p>What is Vanya building at the beginning of the story?</p> <hr/>	<p>What clue in the story helps you know that Vanya feels bad when Abraham can't come inside her fort?</p> <hr/>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>Why can't Lucky go inside Vanya's fort?</p> <hr/>	<p>What lesson did Vanya learn in this story?</p> <hr/>
<p>Why did Abraham return to Vanya's fort?</p> <hr/>	<p>At the beginning of the story, what is Vanya's opinion about having rules?</p> <hr/>
<p>What caused Vanya to change her sign?</p> <hr/>	<p>How does Vanya's opinion about rules change at the end of the story?</p> <hr/>
<p>After you finish reading the story, predict what might happen next?</p> <hr/>	<p>What is your point of view? Do you think it is okay to sometimes break rules?</p> <hr/>