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## To the Teacher

The activities in this book are the perfect solution for kids who finish class assignments early and ask, "I'm through! What can I do?" They are ideal for extra credit and homework assignments as well as learning center activities. They can also be used to fill those extra minutes of transition time during the school day.

The book is packed with puzzles, brainteasers, pictures to draw, and mazes. It includes the following sections:

- Fun with Words
- Number and Shape Puzzles
- Picture Puzzles
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Thinking
- Just for Fun

The activities are creative, challenging, and fun! Best of all, they can be done independently by students. This makes them perfect for those times when you're busy with a reading group or working with other students. The activities and puzzles can also be used as rewards and incentives.

The activities correlate to the curriculum and cover reading, vocabulary, writing, math, and more. These ready-to-use puzzles are just what you as a busy teacher need to keep your students challenged and your classroom humming.



# Mystery Message #1

If you follow the directions correctly, a mystery message will appear. Read the message going across from bottom to top. Write the message on the lines below.



OCCUR	HAPPILY	BASKET	HASTILY
ONE	FLORIDA	CUPCAKE	PINK
BEET	IN	ORANGE	TENT
MICHAEL	SHAKE	SEEM	EGGS
PEANUT	PURPLE	YOUR	DOOR
ALL	SOONER	QUICKLY	WITHIN
THICK	AIRPLANE	PAUL	PUT
WEAKLY	DON'T	THAT	AWAY



- Cross off all words that begin and end with the letter T.
- Cross off all words that have exactly five letters.
- Cross off all words that are the names of colors.
- Cross off all words that are adverbs.
- Cross off all words that are proper nouns.
- Cross off all the compound words.
- Cross off all words that have two of the same vowels together.

## Mystery Message

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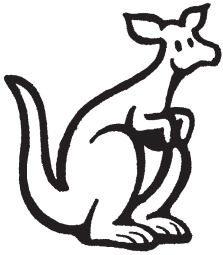


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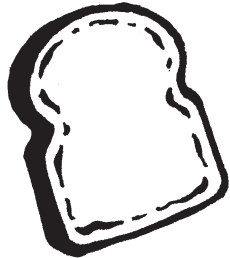
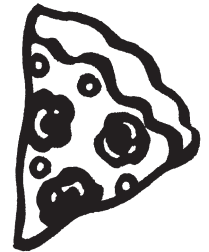
On the back of your paper, describe what this message means in your own words.

## Mystery Message #2

If you follow the directions correctly, a mystery message will appear. Read the message going across from top to bottom. Write the message on the lines below.



YOU	WHILE	TWELVE	BUBBLE
KANGAROO	LETTER	BRIGHT	THE
CAT	INTERVIEW	MELLOW	IS
WON'T	BELLOW	SHE	AWAY
YELLOW	BREAD	THE	EXAMPLE
FORTY	MICE	BRUSH	WASN'T
OUR	PIZZA	WILL	FIVE
PLAY	CAN'T	US	BRANCH



- Cross off all words that are contractions.
- Cross off all words that have double consonants in the middle.
- Cross off all words that rhyme with the word *fellow*.
- Cross off all the number words.
- Cross off all words that have three syllables.
- Cross off all words that begin with the *br* blend.
- Cross off all words that are pronouns.

### Mystery Message

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On the back of your paper, describe what this message means in your own words.

## Mystery Message #3

If you follow the directions correctly, a mystery message will appear. Read the message going down from top to bottom starting in the upper left. Write the message on the lines below.



VANILLA	FRIEND	WE'RE	WE
BUTTONS	EARLY	STRAWS	THE
THE	CHOCOLATE	CANADA	NIECE
I	HASN'T	CATCHES	BROOK
TOOK	STRAWBERRY	BAGELS	WORM
THEY	GEORGE	FIELD	WHO'S
CHERRY	BIRD	LOOK	HER



- Cross off all words that are pronouns.
- Cross off all words that have an *ie* spelling.
- Cross off all words that name ice cream flavors.
- Cross off all the things that have holes.
- Cross off all words that are contractions.
- Cross off all the proper nouns.
- Cross off all the compound words.
- Cross off all words that rhyme with *book*.

### Mystery Message

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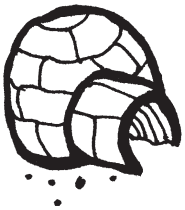


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On the back of your paper, describe what this message means in your own words.

## Mystery Message #4

If you follow the directions correctly, a mystery message will appear. Read the message going down from top to bottom starting in the upper left. Write the message on the lines below.



LOCATION	LEVEL	GAME	WHITE
CENT	COUNT	YOUR	BEFORE
AGREE	BROWN	RECOGNIZE	OWE
NAME	TREAT	CHICKENS	THEY'RE
ABOUT	IGLOO	ABSENT	DEPEND
DON'T	NOON	GOING	HATCHED
RED	TELEPHONE	SENT	ABOARD



- Cross off all words that begin and end with vowels.
- Cross off all words that have exactly three syllables.
- Cross off all words that rhyme with the word *same*.
- Cross off all words that name a color.
- Cross off all words that are homophones for the word *scent*.
- Cross off all words that begin and end with the same consonant.
- Cross off all words that begin with the first two letters of the alphabet.

### Mystery Message

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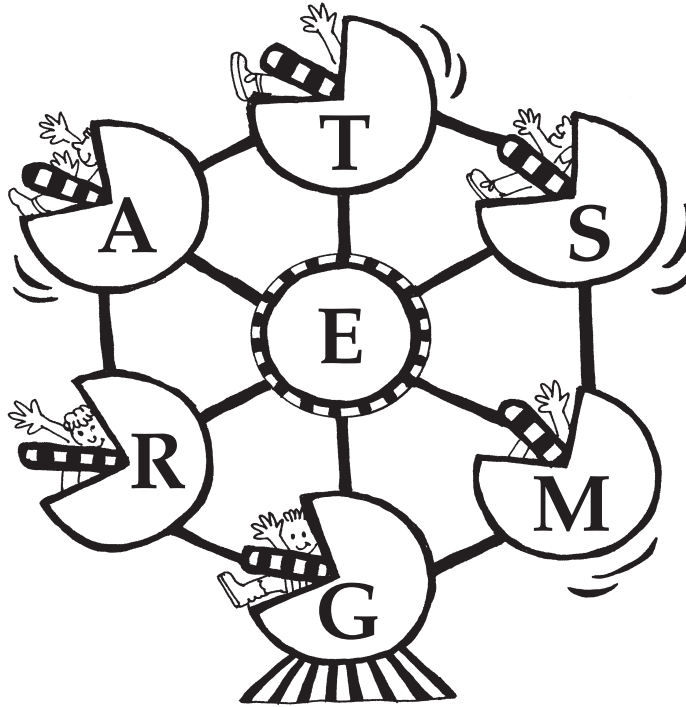


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On the back of your paper, describe what this message means in your own words.

# Ferris Wheel Fun

How many words of three or more letters can you make by moving from one connected circle to another in any direction? (Example: TEA is allowed, but TAG is not.) You may not use a letter twice in a row, but plurals are allowed. Write the words on the lines below. You can use the back of the paper if you need more room. Note: There are more than 50 words!



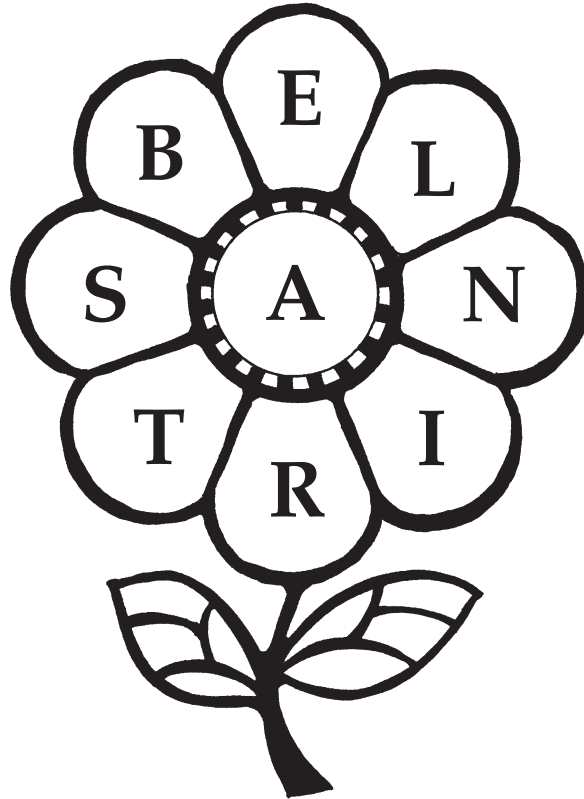
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## Just for Fun

Write your answers in alphabetical order on a separate piece of paper.

## Flower Power

How many words of three or more letters can you make by moving from one touching or connecting petal to another in any direction? (Example: LAST is allowed, but BET is not.) You may not use a letter twice in a row, but plurals are allowed. Write the words on the lines below. You can use the back of the paper if you need more room. Note: There are more than 50 words!



_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

### Just for Fun

Write your answers in alphabetical order on a separate piece of paper.

## Letter Links

How many words of three or more letters can you make by moving one square at a time in any direction? You may not use a letter twice in a row, but plurals are allowed. Write the words on the lines below. Use the back of this paper if you need more room. Note: There are more than 60 words!



S	P	O	T
H	A	N	G
Y	I	R	E



_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

### Just for Fun

Make up a Letter Links puzzle for a friend to solve.

