



CLASSROOM QUESTIONS – HOLIDAY ISSUE 2023

Reading Comprehension

1. Teen author Olivia Amiri says she realized that writing and storytelling are directly linked, and the way you say a phrase and the tone in which you write are similar, which made her a better writer. Discuss these ideas with students. Ask them if they have an interest in being writer, and to write their reasons for their answer.
 2. In his column, Conrad J. Storad tells us why leaves change color every autumn. He offers many interesting facts about leaves, such as leaves drop from about 203 billion trees in the United States every fall. Ask kids to write several more fascinating facts about leaves and their colors.
 3. Children's author and illustrator Heidi Woodward Sheffield tells aspiring writers and illustrators to take the earplugs out, to write every day about a strong emotion, and to read. And she says don't let grammar decide if you like to write. Ask students if they like to write or draw. Have them give some reasons for their answer.
 4. A student's first day at school, or returning to school can be stressful for some kids, stirring up all kinds of first-day jitters, as we see in the story *Back to School*, Backpack! Ask students to think of what their first day of school was like for them. Have them write a paragraph describing their day in detail and the emotions they experienced.
 5. The little boy in *Just Snow Already!* is so caught up in watching for snow to arrive that he doesn't see all the crazy stuff going on right on his street. Can students relate to this character? Have them write about something they were too focused on (video game, TV program, etc.) instead of seeing the things around them that make a difference.
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True or False

1. In *Dasher Can't Wait for Christmas*, the little reindeer sneaks out before Christmas Eve to check out the festivities. (True or False)
 2. The NORAD Tracks Santa website tracks the Easter Bunny's whereabouts, and also includes games, music, and more. (True or False)
 3. *Thrown to the Wind* is an immigrant story where the main character and his family land in New Amsterdam, a Dutch colony. (True or False)
 4. *Is This ... Winter?* is a story about a little girl who tries to understand what Santa and lights have to do with winter. (True or False)
 5. In *Lupe Lopez: Reading Rock Star*, Lupe figures out that learning to read is something you must do at your own pace. (True or False)
 6. *I Am Hungry* is about a little boy who is hungry but his eyes are bigger than his tummy and he gets a tummy ache. (True or False)
 7. The second book in the *Legend Keepers* series introduces readers to the important topic of climate change. (True or False)
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Fill in the Blanks

1. *The Misadventures of Scar Fernández* books are about a unique, loving, and mischievous _____.
 2. In *Wimee Creates with Vehicles and Colors*, Wimee is a _____ who helps kids use their imagination.
 3. The goal of the *Critter a Week* series is to connect kids and adults with amazing _____ that share our planet.
 4. The name of the three-legged hunting dog is _____ in the *Desert Friends* book series.
 5. *Little Red* is about a pickup truck and its driver named _____, tasked with bringing the town its Christmas tree.
 6. In the story *Pluto Rocket: Joe Pidge Flips a Lid*, Pluto is an _____ who's new in town and Joe is a pigeon who's king of the neighborhood.
 7. In the story *Marlon Finds a Way*, the readers sees if a cat and a _____ can ever be friends.
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Fill in the Blanks: 1. dog 2. robot 3. critters 4. Tripod 5. Katie 6. alien 7. sparrow

True/False: 1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False 5. True 6. False 7. True

Answers

