



CLASSROOM QUESTIONS – JANUARY ISSUE 2024

Reading Comprehension

1. In his column, Conrad Storar tells us many interesting facts about hot air balloons. For example, most are mainly used for short flights at low altitudes and the first experiments with them took place in China. Ask students to write three more fascinating facts about them.
 2. Author Teresa Robeson wants kids to learn about astronomy and space. Her next release, *Clouds in Space*, is about an astronomical phenomenon called nebulae (Latin for “clouds”). Unlike clouds you see on Earth, nebulae are made of other gases and are created in different ways. Ask students if they have an interest in astronomy and have them write their reasons for their answer.
 3. The author of *Fraser the Forest Ranger* picked forest rangers as a symbol of friendship and says that making friends can be difficult for many kids. Ask students if they’ve ever tried to start a friendship with someone or if someone has tried to make friends with them. What are some ways to start a new friendship?
 4. The book *If I Had a Crocodile* takes readers on an adventure with an unusual pet. Ask kids if they’d really be able to have a crocodile for a pet. Ask them to write about one or more pets they would like to have and what they would name their pet, and to draw a picture of it.
 5. In the story *Unstuck*, the main character has writer’s block when she starts to write a fantasy novel for a class assignment. Define and discuss writer’s block. Ask students if they’ve ever experienced writer’s block. If they have, what did they do about it, and if they haven’t what are some ideas they might try if they ever do experience it?
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