

Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program

TCAP

Early Literacy Assessment Grade 2 Test Practice





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Metadata—English

Passage

Grade	Passage Title	Lexile Level	Word Count
2	A Beetle Like No Other	500L	258
2	A New Hat	450L	244
2	How Animals Keep Dry	560L	247
2	from "A Feather Is a Letter from a Bird"	590L	494
2	from "Thomas Edison, Young Inventor"	840L	258
2	Who Stole My Peanuts?	520L	588

Metadata Definitions

Grade	Grade level or Course.
Passage Title	Title of the passage(s) associated with this item.
Lexile Level	Readability level for passage.
Word Count	Count of words in the passage.

Items

Page Number	Grade	Item Type	Key	TN Standards
3	2	MC	B	2.RI.KID.1
4	2	MC	D	2.RI.CS.5
5	2	MC	B	2.RI.KID.3
6	2	MC	C	2.FL.SC.6j
7	2	CR	Scored with Writing Rubric	2.W.RBPK.8
10	2	MC	A	2.RL.KID.3
11	2	MC	B	2.RL.CS.5
12	2	MS	C,D	2.FL.PWR.3a
13	2	MC	C	2.FL.VA.7b.ii
14	2	CR	Scored with Writing Rubric	2.W.RBPK.8
17	2	MC	B	2.FL.VA.7a
18	2	MC	D	2.RI.KID.1
19	2	MC	C	2.RI.IKI.7
20	2	MC	A	2.FL.VA.7a.ii
21	2	MC	D	2.FL.SC.6b
22	2	MC	D	2.FL.SC.6c

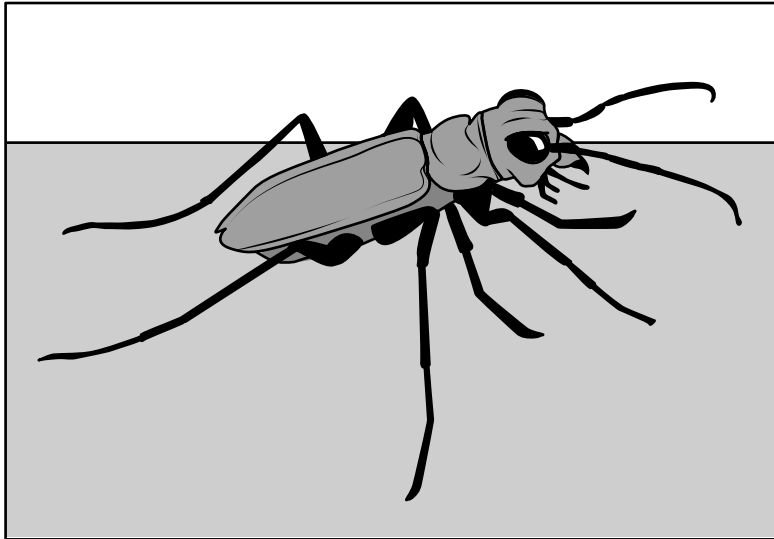
26	2	MC	B	2.RL.KID.2
27	2	MC	D	2.RL.KID.1
28	2	MC	D	2.FL.SC.6d
29	2	MC	B	2.FL.WC.4a
32	2	MC	A	2.FL.VA.7a
33	2	MC	D	2.RI.KID.1
34	2	MC	A	2.RI.KID.2
35	2	MS	B,E	2.FL.PWR.3a
40	2	MC	B	2.RL.KID.1
41	2	MC	D	2.RL.KID.2
42	2	MC	C	2.RL.IKI.7
43	2	MC	A	2.FL.PWR.3d

Metadata Definitions

Grade	Grade level or Course.
Item Type	Indicates the type of item. MC= Multiple Choice, MS = Multiple Select, Composite = MC for Part A, MC or MS for Part B
Key	Correct answer. This may be blank for constructed response items where students write or type their responses.
TN Standards	Primary educational standard assessed.

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

A Beetle Like No Other



Tiger beetles have long legs that help them run fast.

- 1 A bug races near a stream. It dashes across a rock. Its long legs bend and stretch. Its bright blue body shines in the sun. Its large eyes pop out. It has wings, but it is not a fly. What is it?

Little Jewels

- 2 Tiger beetles are insects. They are part of the beetle family. These beetles have long, brightly colored bodies that look like jewels. They can have a shiny blue, green, orange, or red color.

Watch It Go!

- 3 Tiger beetles are faster than other beetles. This is because of their long legs. They can run up to speeds of five and a half miles per hour. How fast is that? To match the speed of a tiger beetle, a person would have to run 480 miles per hour. That's almost as fast as an airplane!

Time to Eat

- 4 Speed helps tiger beetles catch food. Their large eyes also help. With their sharp vision, tiger beetles can spot a meal from far away. Then, they are off and running. But they move so fast that they lose sight of their meal. Tiger beetles must stop to focus. Now they can locate their food again. Time to eat!

Keeping Safe

- 5 Tiger beetles aren't just fast runners, they are good fliers too! This helps them easily avoid danger. Tiger beetles can also spray a liquid when they are in trouble. The liquid smells like bubblegum. Other animals do not like the sweet smell.
- 6 Tiger beetles are special little creatures.

00 Why are tiger beetles so fast?

- Ⓐ They have big eyes.
- Ⓑ They have long legs.
- Ⓒ They have wings.
- Ⓓ They have thin legs.

00

In which section can a reader find details about how tiger beetles escape trouble?

- Ⓐ "Little Jewels"
- Ⓑ "Watch It Go!"
- Ⓒ "Time to Eat"
- Ⓓ "Keeping Safe"

00

What must a tiger beetle do **after** it runs to catch food?

- Ⓐ spot a meal
- Ⓑ stop to focus its sight
- Ⓒ look far away
- Ⓓ lose sight of its meal

00

Read this sentence from paragraph 1.

It has wings, but it is not a fly.

What is the correct way to combine the words **is** and **not**?

- Ⓐ isnot
- Ⓑ isnt
- Ⓒ isn't
- Ⓓ is'nt

00 Now follow along as the prompt is read to you.

Writing Prompt

Tiger beetles have features that help them survive and avoid danger. Which feature do you think is most useful to tiger beetles? Why do you think that?

Write 3 or 4 sentences to answer the questions. Which feature do you think is most useful to tiger beetles? Why do you think that?

Be sure to

- answer the questions completely.
- write at least 3 or 4 complete sentences.
- use evidence from the passage to support your answer.
- use correct spelling and grammar.
- use correct capitalization and punctuation.

You may read the passage and the writing prompt again to yourself. Write your answers in the space provided. You may use as much space as you need.

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

A New Hat



- 1 “How was school today?” Dad asked Ava when she got home.
- 2 “Good,” Ava said, “but my head was cold. I need a new hat that is warm and looks good.”
- 3 “Okay, let’s see if we can find a hat that you can wear tomorrow,” Dad said. “Try my hat.”
- 4 Ava tried on Dad’s wool cap. It was very warm, but it didn’t look good. It was too big.
- 5 “Here, try on Mom’s hat,” Dad said, handing a baseball cap to Ava.

6 The hat looked good on Ava’s head, but it was not at all warm.

7 “You could try putting on Levi’s hat,” Dad said, handing Ava her baby brother’s tiny hat.

8 Levi’s hat might have been warm and looked good, but Ava couldn’t even get it on her head!

9 “Maybe we could make a new hat,” Ava suggested.

10 “We could make one out of an old shirt,” Dad said.

11 “Dad, a shirt goes on your body, not on your head,” Ava said.

12 “I know that,” Dad said, smiling at Ava. “Let’s see what we can do anyway.”

13 They found a warm fleece shirt that Ava had outgrown. Ava used to love that shirt. She used to wear it all the time. Ava was surprised and a little sad when Dad snipped off the bottom half of the shirt. Then, he tied one end in a knot.

14 “Here, put this on,” Dad said.

15 Ava’s new hat fit perfectly, it was warm, and it looked great!

00

How does Ava feel about Dad's idea of making a new hat out of an old shirt?

- Ⓐ Ava is not sure that it is a good idea.
- Ⓑ Ava thinks that the idea will take too much time.
- Ⓒ Ava thinks that Mom will have a better idea.
- Ⓓ Ava does not want to hear any ideas from Dad.

00

Why is paragraph 13 important to the passage?

- Ⓐ It explains why Ava makes the hat herself.
- Ⓑ It shows how Ava gets a new hat.
- Ⓒ It tells why Ava needs a new hat.
- Ⓓ It describes how Ava feels about the hat.

00

Which **two** words from the passage have a **long** vowel sound?
Choose **two** correct answers.

- Ⓐ shirt
- Ⓑ half
- Ⓒ time
- Ⓓ needs
- Ⓔ when

00

Read this sentence about the passage.

Ava _____ the new hat to keep her head warm.

Which word **best** fits in the sentence?

- Ⓐ puts
- Ⓑ holds
- Ⓒ wears
- Ⓓ dresses

00

Now follow along as the prompt is read to you.

Writing Prompt

Ava could not find a hat that fit, so Dad had an idea to make a new hat out of an old shirt. Do you think Dad had a good idea? Why or why not? Would you do anything differently?

Write 3 or 4 sentences to answer the questions. Do you think Dad had a good idea? Why or why not? Would you do anything differently?

Be sure to

- answer the questions completely.
- write at least 3 or 4 complete sentences.
- use evidence from the passage to support your answer.
- use correct spelling and grammar.
- use correct capitalization and punctuation.

You may read the passage and the writing prompt again to yourself. Write your answers in the space provided. You may use as much space as you need.

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

How Animals Keep Dry

by Melissa Stewart

- 1 When rain falls, you run inside and wait for the storm to end. Many other animals take cover too. Like you, they want to stay warm and dry.
- 2 But some animals don't mind the rain at all. A snail's hard shell protects it from the rain. A summer storm is the perfect time for this little animal to be on the move. As raindrops splatter against its shell, a snail slowly glides over the ground. When it finds a puddle, the snail lowers its head and takes a good, long drink.
- 3 If caterpillars aren't careful, they can drown in the rain. When the first drops fall, they crawl under leaves or cling to stems. Adult butterflies are also in danger. They fly to the closest flower and dangle underneath.



- 4 A doe and fawn take cover under leafy tree branches. They don't want water to soak through their fur.
- 5 A rattlesnake squeezes into a rocky crevice. As rain cools the air, the snake's whole body slows down. It breathes in and

out more slowly, and its heart beats less often. The snake curls up in a tight ball and falls asleep.

6 Bees hide in hives, and ants stay safe in their underground nests. A falling raindrop could injure these little insects.

7 But raindrops slide right off a duck's oily feathers. The oil comes from a small hole near a duck's tail. Ducks use their bills to spread the oil over all their feathers. Rain doesn't bother them one bit.

"How Animals Keep Dry" by Melissa Stewart. Copyright © 2013. Used with permission of the publisher via Copyright Clearance Center.

00 What is the meaning of the word dangle in paragraph 3?

- Ⓐ live
- Ⓑ hang
- Ⓒ sleep
- Ⓓ rest

00

Which animal would **most likely** be in danger by staying out in the open during a rainstorm?

- Ⓐ doe
- Ⓑ snail
- Ⓒ duck
- Ⓓ caterpillar

00

What does the picture help the reader understand about the passage?

- Ⓐ why rain is a danger for some animals
- Ⓑ why some animals need homes
- Ⓒ how two animals stay safe from rain
- Ⓓ how two animals are different

00

Read this sentence about the passage.

Smaller birds are not likely to appear in your backyard during a rainstorm.

When the prefix **dis-** is added to the word appear, what is the meaning of the new word?

- Ⓐ go out of sight
- Ⓑ come back into sight
- Ⓒ move quickly into sight
- Ⓓ stay far away from sight

00

Read this sentence about the passage.

The cow and her two _____ stayed dry under the trees.

Which word makes this sentence correct?

- Ⓐ calfs
- Ⓑ calfes
- Ⓒ calvs
- Ⓓ calves

00

Read this sentence about the passage.

**The mother bluebird and her babies kept _____ dry
in their nest.**

Which word makes this sentence correct?

- Ⓐ itself
- Ⓑ herself
- Ⓒ yourselves
- Ⓓ themselves

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Excerpt from “A Feather Is a Letter from a Bird”

by Susan Westley

1 On Monday, Jimmy ran along the sandy white beach.

2 Crunch, crunch. Shells broke beneath his sneakers.

3 Suddenly, Jimmy saw something sticking up from the sand. He bent down to pick up a velvety gray-and-white feather.

4 “A feather is a letter from a bird,” said Mom, walking up behind him.

5 “Read it to me, please,” Jimmy said, handing it to her.

6 “H’m, let me see.” Mom turned the feather over and upside down. “Ah, this is interesting: Dear Jimmy, I watched you build a sandcastle today. I’m a builder, too. I make my nest with grass and seaweed. Your friend, Laughing Gull.”

7 Jimmy and his mom looked up to see a gull sailing by. Jimmy waved.

8 On Tuesday, Jimmy sat on the beach, digging a hole in the sand.

9 Jimmy looked up to see a brown bird dive into the water and come up with his beak billowing out like a large balloon.

10 A brown feather floated on top of one foamy wave. Jimmy jumped up and waded into the water, then ran to Mom. “Another letter, Mom! Can you read it to me?”

11 “This is a pelican feather,” she said, turning the sandy brown feather over and upside down. “It says: Dear Jimmy, I eat fish. What do you like to eat? Your friend, Pelican.”

- 12 Jimmy laughed. "Let's fry fish tonight, Mom!"
- 13 On Wednesday, the smell of shrimp, mussels, and fish floated through the air at the noisy farmers' market.
- 14 Jimmy stopped when he spied a long-legged white bird strolling along the sandy path nearby. A feather fell from its wing. He grabbed it before anyone could step on it.
- 15 "Mom, another letter from a bird!"
- 16 "Read it, read it, please!" Jimmy heard the tall bird squawk at people passing by.
- 17 "Dear Jimmy, I live in marshes, swamps, shorelines, mudflats, and ponds. Where do you live? Your friend, Snowy Egret."
- 18 Early Thursday morning, Jimmy and his mom strolled along the wooden boardwalk through the mangroves. They stopped on the bridge to watch a rose-colored bird swish her spoon-shaped beak back and forth in the water, searching for food. A misty feather floated through the air and landed at Jimmy's feet. His eyes grew big as he picked it up and handed it to Mom.



19 “This is lovely,” she said, turning the feather over and upside down. “Dear Jimmy, do you like my pale pink feathers? I get them from eating shrimp. Aren’t I beautiful? Your friend, Roseate Spoonbill.”

20 On Friday, Jimmy ran along the shoreline, dragging a stick behind him.

21 He began to carve marks into the sand. “Dear birds, I live in the white cottage near the shore. Did you see my house? I like pizza, but eat fish, too. Send me another letter soon. Your friend, Jimmy.”

22 Just then, Jimmy heard a twee-wee-wee and looked up to see a sandpiper skitter past him. In its wake was a brown-and-white speckled feather. Jimmy picked it up and ran to his mother.

From "A Feather Is a Letter from a Bird" by Susan Westley from LADYBUG, July 2012. Copyright © 2012 Cricket Media.

00

What is the central message of the passage?

- Ⓐ Birds are able to travel far.
- Ⓑ Learning about nature can be fun.
- Ⓒ Knowing how to read is important.
- Ⓓ Birds eat many different types of foods.

00

Why does Jimmy run to his mother at the end of the passage?

- Ⓐ so she can help him write a letter
- Ⓑ so she can play with him in the sand
- Ⓒ so she can help him find more feathers
- Ⓓ so she can tell him about the sandpiper

00

Read this sentence about the passage.

The pelican _____ toward the beach.

Which word makes this sentence correct?

- Ⓐ flied
- Ⓑ flyed
- Ⓒ flown
- Ⓓ flew

00

Read this sentence about the passage.

Jimmy wants to _____ a letter to the birds.

What is the correct spelling of the missing word?

- Ⓐ male
- Ⓑ mail
- Ⓒ meil
- Ⓓ mael

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Excerpt from “Thomas Edison, Young Inventor”

by Lori Soard

- 1 One of the best-known whiz kids of all time was Thomas Alva Edison. He was born in 1847 in Milan, Ohio. As an adult, Thomas invented many things we use and depend on every day, including the electric light bulb. His experiences as a boy and young man led Thomas on the road to becoming a great inventor.



- 2 As a child, Thomas wasn't like other kids. He didn't start to talk until he was 4 years old. Many parents might have worried about a child who waited so long to talk. But his mother, Nancy, knew that her boy simply needed encouragement and time.
- 3 Once young Thomas did start speaking, he asked LOTS of questions. When he was 7, Thomas started school. But Thomas asked so many questions, he drove his teacher mad! Finally, after three months, the Edisons began teaching Thomas at home.

- 4 The Edisons gave their son great classics (famous books) to read. And at the library Thomas read every book he could get his hands on. Because Thomas was partly deaf, reading might have been the best way for him to acquire knowledge and information.
- 5 Soon he became fascinated with science. When he was 10, Thomas set up a chemical laboratory in the basement at home. By the time he was 12, Thomas’s parents realized that their son’s questions were too big for them to answer. They hired teachers to help him and encouraged him to continue his studies and experiments. Working on his own experiments was one of the most important ways Thomas learned.

Source: Excerpt from “Thomas Edison, Young Inventor” by Lori Soard. Reprinted with permission of Cricket Media. Copyright 2009.

00 What does the phrase depend on mean in paragraph 1?

- Ⓐ need
- Ⓑ change
- Ⓒ want
- Ⓓ forget

00

Why did Edison's parents hire teachers?

- Ⓐ They wanted him to read more books.
- Ⓑ They wanted him to be like other children.
- Ⓒ They did not want him working alone.
- Ⓓ They could not answer his questions.

00 What is the passage **mostly** about?

- Ⓐ Edison's childhood
- Ⓑ Edison's parents
- Ⓒ Edison's discoveries
- Ⓓ Edison's teachers

00

Which **two** words from the passage have a **short** vowel sound?
Choose **two** correct answers.

- Ⓐ home
- Ⓑ with
- Ⓒ time
- Ⓓ drove
- Ⓔ best

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Who Stole My Peanuts?

by Cathy Andrews Hinman

1 “Can we ride our bikes to Birch’s Store?” asked Patty as Dad turned into the campground. “I want to buy peanuts in the shells.”

2 Mama smiled. “After we set up camp.”

3 At the gate, Patty’s brother asked, “Can we ride our bikes in?” “Sure,” said Dad.

4 Patty and Cody grabbed their helmets and bikes from the truck and sped through the gate. Patty inhaled the woodsy scent of pine needles. “I love this place.”

5 “Me too!” Cody passed Patty.

6 Cody always arrived first, no matter where they went. “Let’s get things set up so we can go to Birch’s.”

7 Patty’s heart raced as she wound the twinkle lights around a tree. She and Cody helped pitch the tent and set up the cots. She liked sleeping in the tent where she could smell campfires and frying bacon in the morning. At night, her lights eased the eerie sounds of swaying branches and dropping pinecones. She tried not to think about wildlife at night, but she knew Mama and Dad slept right beside her.



8 ZZZZZIP! "All done!" said Patty.

9 "Can we go to Birch's now?"

10 "OK," Mama said.

11 Patty smelled apple-cinnamon as she opened Birch's door. She ran to the big wooden barrels with signs: *Salted, Unsalted*. "They still have them!" She scooped salted peanuts into a plastic bag until the scale read one pound.

12 "Geez, Patty," said Cody. "Do you have enough peanuts? That bag is as big as my football!"

13 Patty grinned. "You want me to share, don't you?"

14 "Come on, kids," said Mama, "let's go swimming."

15 Cody zoomed ahead and stood dressed in his swim trunks when Patty arrived. Her mouth watered as she opened her bag. The salty nutshell dried her mouth. "Umm!" She took the soaked shell from her mouth and broke it with her fingers. Patty popped two peanuts into her mouth.

16 "Can I have some?" asked Cody.

17 "Sure, everyone can have some. When they're gone, we'll go to Birch's again."

18 Mama and Dad laughed and grabbed their towels. Patty spun her bag of peanuts, set it on the table, and tucked the twisted stem under the bag. By the time she straddled her bike, Cody had already rounded the beach corner. After swimming, they rode back to their campsite. When Patty pulled in, Cody was sitting near the table. Patty gasped at her plastic bag full of air!

19 "Who stole my peanuts?"

20 "Not me," said Cody, shaking his head.

21 "Somebody stole my peanuts!" cried Patty.

22 "What?" Mama stared at Cody. He shook his head. "Patty, is this a prank so you can go to Birch's again?"

23 "No!" cried Patty.

24 Dad parked his bike. "You'll figure it out."

25 Patty looked to the left.

26 An older couple, she thought. They probably wouldn't like peanuts. She looked at the campers to the right who were tending a baby. *No, they wouldn't give peanuts to a baby.*

27 Cody stuffed chips into his mouth and spilled some on the ground.

28 "Don't be such a slob," said Patty. "You're not supposed to leave open food around. It draws the animals." She held her empty bag. "Why would somebody steal my peanuts without the bag?"

29 "Yeah," said Cody. "They'd snatch the whole bag and run."

30 Patty rubbed her chin. She saw something from the corner of her eye.

- 31 "Mystery solved! I know who stole my peanuts!"
- 32 "Who?" asked Cody.
- 33 Patty pointed under Cody's chair. "He must have worked fast to shell a pound of peanuts."
- 34 Cody laughed. "I guess he's stocking up for winter!"
- 35 Mama smiled. "Back to Birch's."



"Who Stole My Peanuts?" by Cathy Andrews Hinman from HOPSCOTCH, Oct/Nov 2013. Copyright © 2013 Fun for Kidz Magazine.

00

Which detail shows that the family has been to this campground before?

- Ⓐ Patty winds twinkling lights around a tree.
- Ⓑ Patty knows that Birch's Store sells peanuts.
- Ⓒ The family sets up the campsite.
- Ⓓ The family goes swimming.

00

What lesson does Patty learn?

- Ⓐ Spending time with family is fun.
- Ⓑ Sharing with others is kind.
- Ⓒ Save money for something you want.
- Ⓓ Keep important things in a safe place.

00

Why is the picture at the end of the passage important?

- Ⓐ It shows that squirrels live in campgrounds.
- Ⓑ It shows how much food was already eaten.
- Ⓒ It shows who took the peanuts.
- Ⓓ It shows why a squirrel is eating peanuts.

00

Which word from the passage can be made into a new word by adding the suffix **-ly**?

- Ⓐ love
- Ⓑ want
- Ⓒ some
- Ⓓ under

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