



LANGUAGE ARTS

Student Book

▶ **4th Grade | Unit 6**

LANGUAGE ARTS 406

FUN WITH FICTION

Introduction | **3**

1. Finding the Facts 4

Book Reports | **8**

Handwriting and Spelling | **14**

Self Test 1 | **20**

2. Parables and Fables 23

Parables and Fables | **24**

Following Directions | **28**

Handwriting and Spelling | **29**

Self Test 2 | **34**

3. Poetry 37

Poetry Review | **38**

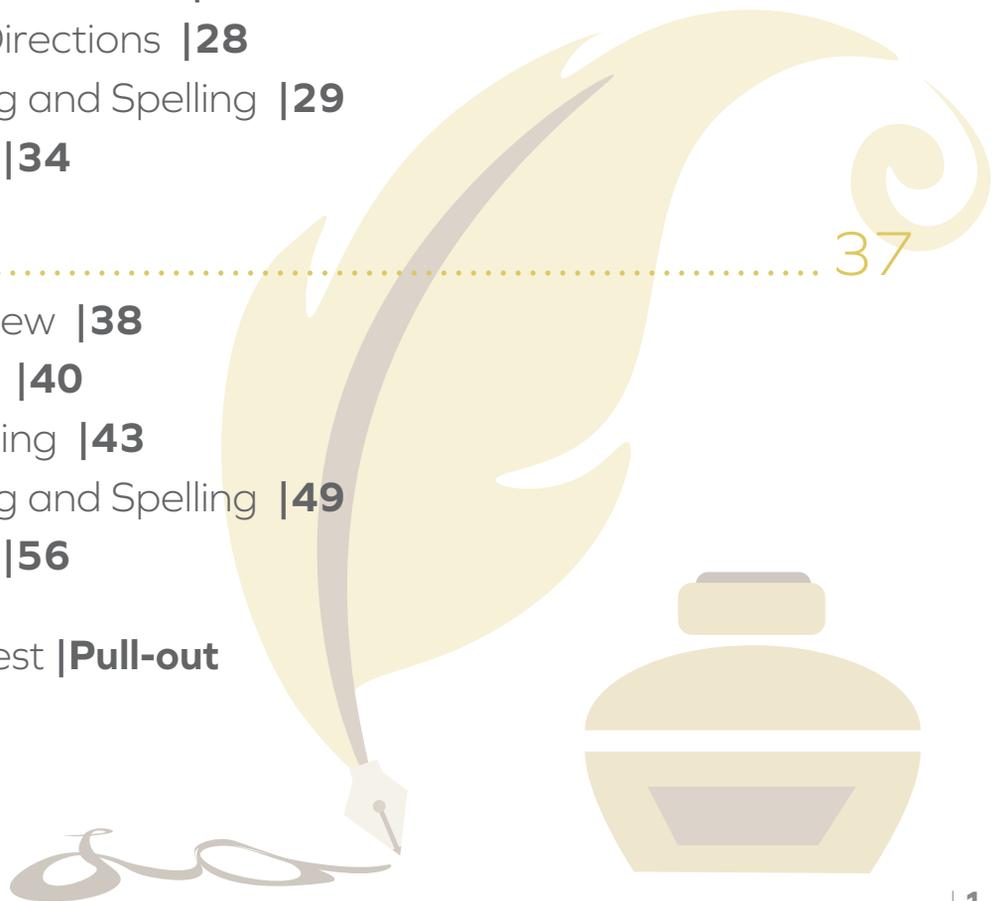
Poetry Tips | **40**

Poetry Writing | **43**

Handwriting and Spelling | **49**

Self Test 3 | **56**

LIFEPAC Test | **Pull-out**



Author:

Mildred Spires Jacobs, M.A.

Editor-in-Chief:

Richard W. Wheeler, M.A. Ed.

Editor:

Blair Ressler, M.A.

Consulting Editor:

Rudolph Moore, Ph.D.

Revision Editor:

Alan Christopherson, M.S.

Media Credits:

Page 3: © Photodisk, Thinkstock; **4:** © vicnt, iStock, Thinkstock.jpg; **5:** © Comstock Images, Stockbyte, Thinkstock **6:** © Randimal, iStock, Thinkstock; **7:** © Waldemarus, iStock, Thinkstock; **8:** © ffooter, iStock, Thinkstock; **12:** © jandrielombard, iStock, Thinkstock; **13:** © pialhovik, iStock, Thinkstock; **18:** © enisaksoy, iStock, Thinkstock; **23:** © egal, iStock, Thinkstock; **25:** © Brian Guest, iStock, Thinkstock; **28:** © GlobalP, iStock, Thinkstock **37:** © alexaldo, iStock, Thinkstock; **42:** © DejanKolar, iStock, Thinkstock; **45:** © deyangeorgiev, iStock, Thinkstock; **47:** © Bajena, iStock, Thinkstock.



**804 N. 2nd Ave. E.
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759**

© MCMXCVI by Alpha Omega Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.
LIFEPAC is a registered trademark of Alpha Omega Publications, Inc.

All trademarks and/or service marks referenced in this material are the property of their respective owners.
Alpha Omega Publications, Inc. makes no claim of ownership to any trademarks and/or service marks other than their own and their affiliates, and makes no claim of affiliation to any companies whose trademarks may be listed in this material, other than their own.

FUN WITH FICTION

In this LIFEPAC® you will find three new stories that will help improve your reading skills. You will learn new ways of giving a book report and a new rhyming pattern for poetry. You will find puzzles and poems and even a song to sing.

Your study and work in this LIFEPAC will help you write an outline, a story summary, and a title. You will also learn how to give and how to follow directions. You will learn to spell abbreviations and words with hyphens.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC. Each section will list according to the numbers below what objectives will be met in that section. When you have completed this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

1. Use improved reading skills.
2. Write an outline with Roman numerals and capital letters.
3. Write a summary of a story.
4. Write a title correctly.
5. Use a book list.
6. Give a good book report.
7. Compare parables and fables.
8. Follow and give directions.
9. Use words that help us to “see.”
10. Write a poem in a new rhyming pattern.
11. Compare stanzas and paragraphs.
12. Define new vocabulary words.
13. Write with improved slant of letters.
14. Spell new words.

1. FINDING THE FACTS

In this section you will improve your reading with a story about seals and a story about a **tornado**. You will study several suggestions for writing a book report. As you review writing with the correct slant, you will practice writing abbreviations.

Finally, you will work a crossword puzzle using the names of months.

Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Use improved reading skills.
2. Write an outline with Roman numerals and capital letters.
3. Write a summary of a story.
4. Write a title correctly.
5. Use a book list.
6. Give a good book report.
12. Define new vocabulary words.
13. Write with improved slant of letters.
14. Spell new words.

Vocabulary

Study these vocabulary words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFE PAC.

active (ak' tiv). Lively; moving rather quickly much of the time.

blubber (blub' ur). The fat of whales and other sea animals.

cellar (sel' ur). An underground room used for storing food.

fiction (fik' shun). Something made-up; a story that is not a fact.

funnel (fun' ul). A hollow cone with a wide mouth at the top, ending at the bottom in a tube.

snout (snout). The long nose of an animal.

summary (sum' u re). Brief statement giving the main points.

tornado (tor nā' dō). A terribly strong wind.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /FH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

Some Facts About Seals

"Wow!" exclaimed Jeff. "An elephant seal weighs two and one-half tons!"

Jeff and Mike were reading about seals. Their teacher had asked them to give a report to the class.

"What about this?" asked Mike. "A harbor seal has no ears, just holes in the side of its head." The boys went on reading. Each boy tried to find something interesting to tell the class. They discovered some interesting facts about seals.

Some seals have hair and can stay in the water as long as they wish. Their flippers are short. The young ones, called pups, are often born in the water. The seal is a quiet animal.

The sea lions and fur seals have very small ears. Their flippers are longer than some types of seals. Their young must be born on land because they cannot swim at birth. The seals with ears are quite noisy. They roar, bark, and howl.



| Fur seal

The elephant seal has a **snout**. It fills with air when the seal roars. The elephant seal is the largest of all seals and is not very **active**.

Most seals are gray or brown, but some are spotted. Some have bands or rings of a darker color. They have a thick layer of fat, called **blubber**, under the skin. This fat keeps in the body heat.

“The elephant seal is a funny-looking animal, isn’t it, Jeff?” said Mike.

“Yes, I think so,” replied Jeff. “But I guess the elephant seals wouldn’t think so! Let’s show the class this picture of the seal with a snout.”



Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- 1.1** Which kind of seal has no ears?
 - a. harbor seal
 - b. sea lion
 - c. fur seal
- 1.2** Which seal has larger flippers?
 - a. harbor seal
 - b. fur seal
- 1.3** Which seal is quieter?
 - a. harbor seal
 - b. fur seal
- 1.4** Which seal has a snout?
 - a. fur seal
 - b. elephant seal

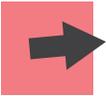


Some statements are true. These statements are called “facts”. Other statements tell what someone thinks. These statements are called “opinions”. This statement is a fact: “There are fifty states in the United States”. This statement is an opinion: “Alaska is the most interesting state in the Union”.



Write *fact* or *opinion* after each statement.

- 1.5** Some seals can swim at birth. _____
- 1.6** The elephant seal is a funny-looking animal. _____
- 1.7** Most seals are gray or brown. _____
- 1.8** Sea lions have small ears. _____



Define these words.

- 1.9** active _____
- 1.10** blubber _____
- 1.11** snout _____

Book Reports

Some of the reading exercises you have already done will help you to write a book report. For example, in other LIFE PACs you were looking for the main idea in a story. A good way to tell someone else about a book you have read would be to tell some of the main events.

Read the following story and look for the main events.



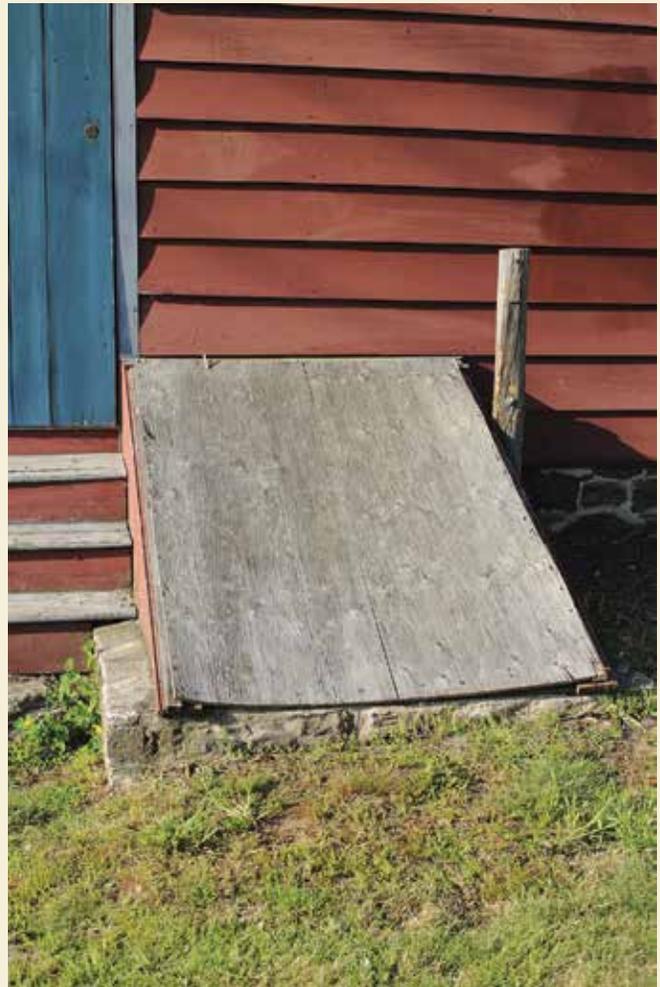
Storm Clouds Over Kansas

Tom stood with his father in the doorway of the barn. They were watching the dark clouds gather in the sky beyond their farmhouse on the Kansas prairie. The cattle and horses were restless. They seemed to know that a bad storm was coming.

Tom started to feed the cows, but he stopped suddenly when his father called. "Tom, come quick!" shouted Father. "Look at that sky now!" A dark **funnel**-shaped cloud was coming toward them.

"Hurry!" Father called. "Run to the **cellar** and open the door." Father headed for the house to get Tom's mother and two little sisters.

Tom got the cellar door open just as the others arrived. A mighty wind nearly blew them off their feet, but they all managed to scramble down the steps. Tom's father closed the door behind them, and they were safe from the storm.



| Storm Cellar

The cellar was an underground storage place for vegetables and other foods that needed to be kept through the winter. “This isn’t a very comfortable place,” said Tom’s mother, “but I’d rather be here than in the house!”

“Is it a **tornado**, Dad?” asked Tom. His little sisters stared, wide-eyed with excitement.

“It really is a tornado!” Tom’s father announced. “And it looks like a bad one. I’m concerned about the buildings and the animals. Let’s pray that they won’t be harmed.”

The children all knelt with their parents for prayer. Finally, Father decided that it would be safe to peek outside. Carefully he lifted the door a crack. The storm seemed to have stopped, so he opened the door wide and looked out.

“The barn roof is gone!” he exclaimed. “But thank the Lord the house was low enough to miss the strongest part of the wind. It’s all right.”

Branches, fence posts, and an odd collection of objects were scattered all over the yard. The yard was quite a mess. Tom and his father rushed to the barn to quiet the frightened animals, thankful that none of them was hurt.

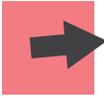


Circle the letters of the three main events from the story.

1.12

- a. Father went to the house to get Tom’s mother and sisters.
- b. Storm clouds gather.
- c. The family takes shelter in the cellar.
- d. The yard was a mess.
- e. They look at the farm after the storm.

An outline. You have outlined a story before, using Roman numerals and capital letters. The main events would be listed with Roman numerals. Something that was told about a main event would be under it and would be listed with a capital letter.



Complete these activities.

1.13 Write the main events of the story opposite the Roman numerals. Write them in the order given in the story. The second one is done for you.

I. _____

II. The Family Takes Shelter in the Cellar

III. _____

1.14 List the details that support the main idea.

II. The Family Takes Shelter in the Cellar

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

A summary. A **summary** gives the important events or facts of a story or book. A summary skips most of the details, but a few interesting ones should be given. A summary of a book makes a good book report.



Write a short summary of either "Some Facts About Seals" or "Storm Clouds Over Kansas."

1.15 _____

Fiction and nonfiction books. Some books are stories that have never happened. These books are called **fiction**. Other books are true. The story of someone's life is a true story and is not fiction. It is called *nonfiction*. A history book or science book is nonfiction.



Read the title of each book and write it under the correct column. The first one is done for you.

The Life of George Washington
How to Make a Kite
Jack and the Beanstalk

Green Eggs and Ham
Billy's Trip to the Moon
Shells of the Sea

1.16

FICTION**NONFICTION**

The Life of George Washington

Book titles. Every important word in a book title should begin with a capital letter. Every first word in a title should also be capitalized. Such words as *and*, *of*, *the*, *a*, and *to* do not need to be capitalized unless they are the first word. Check the titles in 1.16 to see if you capitalized the letters in each title correctly.

Correct any that you missed.

**Teacher check:**

Initials _____ Date _____

SELF TEST 1

Circle the letter of the correct answer (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.01** How much does an elephant seal weigh?
 a. two and one-half tons
 b. one and one-half tons
 c. three-quarters of a ton
- 1.02** What colors are most seals?
 a. black and white
 b. gray or brown
 c. gray and white
- 1.03** Why were Jeff and Mike reading about seals?
 a. They had been to a zoo.
 b. They lived by the ocean.
 c. They had to give a report.

Match the word with its meaning (each answer, 3 points).

- | | | | | |
|--------------|-------|---------|----|---|
| 1.04 | _____ | active | a. | a hollow cone with a wide mouth at the top ending at the bottom in a tube |
| 1.05 | _____ | blubber | b. | a terribly strong wind |
| 1.06 | _____ | fiction | c. | lively |
| 1.07 | _____ | funnel | d. | a brief statement giving the main points |
| 1.08 | _____ | snout | e. | something made-up |
| 1.09 | _____ | summary | f. | the long nose of an animal |
| 1.010 | _____ | tornado | g. | the fat of whales and other sea animals |

Write fact or opinion on each line (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.011 _____ Seals are ugly.
- 1.012 _____ Seals have blubber.
- 1.013 _____ Young seals are called pups.
- 1.014 _____ Dogs make good pets.
- 1.015 _____ George Washington was the first President of the United States.
- 1.016 _____ Cherry pie tastes better than peach pie.
- 1.017 _____ My mother is the world's greatest cook.
- 1.018 _____ January has thirty-one days.
- 1.019 _____ Summer is the best season of the year.
- 1.020 _____ Adam was the first man.

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.021 _____ Summaries should not be used for book reports.
- 1.022 _____ The story of someone's life is nonfiction.
- 1.023 _____ There is only one way to give a book report.
- 1.024 _____ In an outline the capital letters are used for ideas that are more important than those with Roman numerals.
- 1.025 _____ A summary gives the important events or facts of a story.
- 1.026 _____ A book of *fiction* is *not true*.
- 1.027 _____ Every word in a title should begin with a capital letter.
- 1.028 _____ A book list usually gives the name of the author before the name of the book.
- 1.029 _____ Always tell the ending of a book when giving a report to the class.
- 1.030 _____ A book report should include the name of the author.

Answer each question (each answer, 5 points).

1.031 How are books usually arranged on a book list? _____

1.032 What words in a title should begin with capital letters?

1.033 How should a story be outlined? _____

List three ways of giving a book report (each way, 5 points).

1.034 _____

1.035 _____

1.036 _____



Teacher check:

Score _____

Initials _____

Date _____



Take your spelling test of Spelling Words-1.



804 N. 2nd Ave. E.
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

800-622-3070
www.aop.com

LAN0406 - Jan '16 Printing

ISBN 978-0-86717-336-9

