

Literacy Homework



The Tornado



A rooster crowed, waking Lucy Sanders from a deep sleep. She usually	(2)
popped out of bed like buttons pop off a shirt, but today she was tired. She	(14)
had stayed up late last night reading.	(30)
Lucy looked out her window. The sky was a funny yellow-gray, and	(37)
there were no sounds. Then, across the fields, Lucy saw a whirling dust cloud.	(50)
It grew bigger and bigger. A tornado was coming!	(64)
Lucy raced down the stairs, shouting, "Mama, Mama - a tornado!"	(73)
Mrs. Sanders checked the sky. Then she grabbed the baby from his	(83)
swing. "Run! Run to the root cellar!" she shouted.	(95)
Lucy and her mother ran through the yard, and Lucy pulled open the	(104)
cellar door. She hurried down the steps. Her mother locked the door and	(117)
followed her into the darkness.	(130)
Quickly Mrs. Sanders lit the old lamp, and the light glowed warmly.	(135)
Lucy sighed. They were safe now. Everything would be all right.	(147)
	(158)

Fluency & Comprehension - Please answer each question in *complete sentences*.

- 1) Complete five 1 minute reads, and record your words per minute score.

Read #1: _____ Read #2: _____ Read #3: _____ Read #4: _____ Read #5: _____

- 2) What does it mean when she "popped out of bed."

- 3) Why was Lucy so tired at the beginning of the story?

- 4) What did Lucy do after she saw the tornado?

- 5) What did Mrs. Sanders do right before she ran to the root cellar?

Comprehension Common Questions

Name _____

1) What **genre** is this passage?

Fiction or
Non-Fiction?

Traditional Literature Realistic Fiction Science Fiction Historical Fiction Informational Biography Poetry Mystery Fantasy Folktale

2) What **point of view** is this passage?

First Person

Second Person

Third Person

(The author says "I" a lot)

(The author says "you" a lot)

(The author says "he, she or they" a lot)

3) What was the **author's purpose** for writing this passage?

Inform (Facts)

Persuade (To change your mind)

Entertain (Fun)

Explain (How to...)

4) What is the **setting** of this passage? Where does it take place?

5) Write a *complete sentence* stating the **main idea** or topic of this passage.

6) If possible, list a **main character**. List *one word* that could describe that character.

Character:

Adjectives:

7) If possible, list one **contraction** (ex: I am = I'm) and one **compound** word (ex: back + pack = backpack).

Contraction:

Compound:

8) If possible, list one **two-syllable** word, and one **three-syllable** word.

Two-syllable:

Three-syllable:

9) What **event** happened first in this passage?

10) What **event** happened last in this passage?
