



**FastBridge**



**CBMreading English-5**

Progress Monitoring Assessment  
Student Materials

**Rose**

Rose was bored and had nothing to do. She thought that if only she had some money, she could buy a new comic book or game. She decided she needed to find a way to earn money. Rose asked her mom if she could earn money doing chores. Rose's mom suggested having a lemonade stand to earn money instead. Rose liked the idea, but she had an even better one. Why not hold a bake sale to earn money?

She liked this idea because she could bake delicious cookies. Rose got out a big bowl and mixed the butter, sugar, and eggs together. She added flour, baking powder, salt, and chocolate chips too. She made sure everything was evenly mixed together in the bowl. Then she asked her mom to help her use the oven. Together, they baked the cookies. They turned golden brown in the oven and really smelled delicious!

Now Rose was ready to go and sell her cookies. She carried a table outside, and set it near the street. Rose carefully taped a "Cookies for Sale" sign on the front of the table. She wanted the people going down the street to see it. She brought a chair to sit on, and a plate of cookies. Rose sat down, ready for business.

A boy walked by, but he did not have any money. Rose was nice and gave him a cookie anyway. The mail truck drove up and the mail carrier looked hungry, so Rose gave him several cookies. Rose's dad came home and ate two cookies. All the cookies were gone and Rose still had no money! It did not matter to Rose. She had fun all afternoon and was glad she had shared.

**Zack**

Zack could hardly wait for summer to come. Every summer, Zack went to his Grandma's for a whole month. She lived on a big lake and every year there was a sand castle building competition. This year, Zack was excited because he could finally compete. He wanted to build the biggest sand castle ever.

The day of the contest, Zack went to the beach. The other kids were already digging, so he got to work. He built a big tower, getting buckets of wet sand mixture from a big hole. Zack added bucket after bucket full of sand to his tower. He was so busy that he did not notice anything else. Zack was building closer and closer to another castle.

Suddenly, the two builders bumped into each other. As they looked up, they saw that their two towers could be put together to make one big castle! They decided it would be better to work as a team. Before long they were building their way towards other kids, too. Everyone kept busy adding sand until late in the afternoon. At last they ran out of room to build.

Finally, Zack and his new partner stood up and looked around. Without knowing it, all the boys and girls on the beach had built a big sand city! There were towers across the beach and walls to connect them. Nobody could tell who had the biggest sand castle. It was too hard to see whose castle was whose. Zack was happy to have been part of the sand city.

**John, Kevin, and David**

John wanted a way to escape from his older brothers. His brothers, Kevin and David, always wanted him to play tag with them, but he wanted to read. John tried to read everything he could. He was happiest when sitting in his room with a book. Books allowed John to have more adventures than he ever had. His brothers usually tagged him first anyway. Sometimes he ended up being out and unable to play.

One day, his brothers asked him to play tag again, but John had a better idea for them. He suggested that they play army and build a fort in John's room with blankets and chairs. His brothers liked the idea and asked how to play. The three boys went through the house collecting sheets and blankets. They also grabbed three chairs to use as the base. Soon the fort was finished and everyone liked it.

The three brothers sat inside with flashlights and told spooky stories. But soon, Kevin and David became bored playing the game. They wanted to go outside and play tag, but John liked the fort too much. He wanted to stay there and read. His brothers laughed at him for staying inside. Once they were gone, though, John read and was happy.

Afterwards, John often escaped from playing tag by building a fort. Sometimes Kevin and David stayed for a while and told spooky stories with John. The best times, however, were when they just let him read.

**Mindy, Ron, and Steve**

Mindy and Ron wanted to throw a surprise party for Steve. Steve was a friend from school and his birthday was two weeks away. There was a lot of planning that needed to be done. The two friends needed to send out invitations and plan activities. They had a lot to do to make it a surprise. It was going to be hard to keep the party a secret.

First, they needed to select guests. They were lucky because most of Steve's friends were in the same class. That made writing the guest list easy. Mindy and Ron called Steve's school friends to invite them. Many of them said yes and promised to keep the secret.

Next, they had to plan what would happen at the party. Mindy and Ron asked Steve's mom if she would make the birthday cake and she agreed to do it. Then they needed to think about activities to do that day. They could not decide whether to watch movies or play games. They asked Steve's other friends to help them decide. They decided to rent a movie and then play some games.

Finally, the day of Steve's party had come. Mindy and Ron had prepared everything and were ready for Steve to arrive. Everyone gathered in the house and hid quietly. Steve came in and everyone jumped out. He was very surprised and jumped towards the door! The rest of the party was a success. Mindy and Ron were glad they took the time to plan carefully.

**Karen, Terry, and Carson**

Karen wanted a new video game to play. It was not time for her birthday or for any holidays at all. She asked her parents if they would get it for her. Her mother asked where her allowance had gone. Her father just smiled and said she should get a job. Karen surprised him and said she would do it.

The first thing Karen thought of was a lemonade stand. On Saturday she put a table out in front of her apartment building and made a sign. She made some lemonade with a mix. Then, she poured it into a plastic pitcher with ice. She charged fifty cents for each cup of lemonade. Finally, Karen sat in a chair and waited for customers.

Karen's upstairs neighbor Terry came along with her little dog, Carson. Terry said she would buy some lemonade on the way back. Then someone Karen did not know walked by along with his big, yellow dog, and he bought some lemonade. Someone else walked by with two long-haired dogs on leashes. She waved but did not buy any lemonade. More people walked by with their dogs. Some of them bought lemonade, but most of them did not.

Karen counted up the money from her lemonade. She sold ten cups and made five dollars. She thought about all the dogs she had seen and went upstairs to knock on Terry's door. Karen asked if Terry would like someone to walk her dog. Terry said she would give her two dollars per walk. Karen agreed to walk Carson after school. Soon she had earned enough money to buy a new game.

**Nora and Karen**

Nora got a new tent for her birthday this year. She always wanted to go camping with her friends and family. As soon as her birthday party was over, she asked her parents if they could go camping that weekend. They told her that camping would not be possible this time. Instead, her mom suggested setting up the tent in the backyard. Nora could call her friend, Karen, and they could camp together. She thought this was a great idea and called Karen immediately.

As soon as Karen arrived, the two girls got to work. In the backyard they picked the flattest and cleanest spot to place the tent. Next, they put a waterproof mat down in case it rained. Finally, they set up the tent on top of the mat. Inside the tent, they unrolled their sleeping bags. They brought in pillows, pajamas, and flashlights for later that night.

Nora's dad started a small campfire for the girls. Her mom gave the girls a picnic basket full of goodies. The girls roasted hotdogs over the fire and then they roasted marshmallows to eat with chocolate and graham crackers. They talked about other places where they would like to camp.

All too soon, the sky grew dark. The girls poured water on the fire to put it out. They climbed in the tent and zipped the door shut because they did not want bugs to get in. The girls got ready for bed and crawled into sleeping bags. They took turns telling each other scary ghost stories. Feeling sleepy, Nora thought it had been the perfect camping trip.

**Bob and Miss Davis**

One day in school, Bob's teacher made an announcement. The class would be doing community service projects. She explained that each student would choose something they could do that would help other people in their town. Bob decided he wanted to help clean up the park nearby. He asked his friends if they wanted to work with him.

Their teacher, Miss Davis, thought Bob's idea was great. Not many people liked to go to the park, because there was a lot of trash on the ground. Also, all the playground equipment was broken. It would be a big job, though. Miss Davis suggested that the students ask other adults for help. Many people in the community would like to use the park.

First, Bob and his classmates met in the park one Saturday. Everyone wore gloves and picked up all the trash. It took several hours, but the park looked much better when they were done. Some parents helped take the trash to the local garbage dump.

After that, Bob went downtown and talked to local business owners. He asked the business people if they would like to donate money or equipment to improve the park. Many people said yes, and one person also donated picnic tables. Another business arranged to have the playground equipment fixed. After everything was finished, the park looked great. The students made posters to announce that the park was ready. All the families in the neighborhood were very happy.



**Alice**

Everyone in Alice's class was getting sick, and she was too. She had a stuffy nose and her eyes were watery. During the day she felt a tickle far in the back of her throat. Alice asked her teacher for a pass to see the nurse. The nurse gave her medicine and said to call her parents. Her father came to get her and talked to the nurse. She told him how to help Alice feel better.

Once home, her father sent her straight to bed. Alice curled up with her teddy bear. Her father came in to check her temperature, and she did not complain because it should not get too high. Unfortunately, she had a fever, which gave her a headache. Her father told her to drink orange juice and take medicine. These things would help her fever and headache go away. He brought her some red medicine in a little cup.

Alice was afraid the medicine would taste bad. She knew she would feel worse if she refused. So she held her nose and drank the medicine. Because she was so brave, her father gave her ice cream. It got rid of the bad taste.

Alice tried to take very good care of herself. She ate well, rested, and drank lots of orange juice. She also took the medicine when her father told her to, and each time she was braver about it. Soon, Alice began to feel better again. It was not long before she could go outside and play.

**Gary and Tom**

Gary and his dog like to explore. Gary heard a story about a tree that a person could climb and sit in like a chair. He wanted to find it the next time they went exploring.

The tree was in the woods behind all the neighborhood houses. It was so far into the woods that Gary was afraid to go there alone. But luckily his friend Tom knew those woods better than anyone. He would spend days hiking and camping among the trees. If Tom came along, Gary knew they would find the tree. He asked and Tom agreed to help. The two explorers headed into the woods for their adventure.

The two boys began to look around for the astonishing tree. They walked quietly and cautiously among the leaves and fallen branches. The woods smelled pleasant and the sunlight shined through the leaves as a deer suddenly ran across the path. Then, in front of the explorers, was a gigantic tree. It was very tall, very wide, and very strange. The middle appeared to be partly missing. Halfway up the tree only part of the trunk continued upward.

Gary and Tom felt they had to climb the enormous tree. They walked around to the front of it, but the branches were large and difficult to grab onto. It took a long time but they found what they wanted. There was a flat spot in the middle of the tree. The rest of the tree circled around the middle. The boys climbed in and sat in the chair. The sitting tree was their new favorite spot.

**Ned**

It was only two hours before Ned's soccer game. Suddenly, he remembered it was his turn to bring treats. Every week, one family brought something good for everybody to eat and enjoy after the game. He was sure his dad did not remember to get anything. He also knew they would not have time for the store. Ned would have to make the snacks for the team himself.

He raced into the kitchen and opened the fridge. In the bottom drawer of the fridge he found exactly what he was looking for. Six big oranges were in there, and Ned washed them up. Then he sliced them into many pieces for the team. Sliced oranges make a good snack after running around playing soccer.

In the cupboard there was also a box of brownie mix. Ned had baked something only once before, but he needed something else to bring along with the oranges. He followed the instructions and made only one mistake. One of the eggs he cracked landed right on the floor. He would clean the mess up later. He poured the mix into a pan. Then the brownies went into the oven.

Later, his dad walked in the door. Ned was just taking the brownies out of the oven. His dad was very curious when he smelled brownies, and then suddenly he remembered the soccer treats. His dad was impressed that Ned had remembered and fixed something. His dad told him he was proud of him. He was even happier when he got to try a brownie.

**Lily**

Lily opened her eyes and sat up in bed. She could see something just outside her window. A little brown bird tucked grass into a round pile of twigs where it was building a nest. Lily watched the bird fly back and forth several times. It gathered one piece of grass at a time. Then it would hop to the edge of the window ledge. Next it would fly away again, only to return very soon.

Lily got up to look closer at the little bird. When it saw her it flew away, but Lily sat still and soon it came back. It had brown wings and a brown tail with stripes. It had a yellow ring around each eye. Its chest was light brown with spots. Lily did not know what kind of bird it was.

She decided to learn who was nesting outside her window. She put slippers on and went to the living room where there was a bookshelf full of books. There were books about trees, flowers, and animals. She knew there was a book about birds.

Lily found the book about different kinds of birds. It had pictures of hawks, cardinals, and robins. She saw a picture that looked like her bird, with brown wings and a brown, striped tail. It had a light brown chest with spots. It even had a yellow ring around each eye. As she read on, Lily learned the bird's name. It was called a house wren. Pleased with herself, Lily went back to watch the bird work.

**Willa and Amanda**

One day, Willa got an invitation to a party. Her friend Amanda was having a costume party and had invited all the students in the class. Each person would dress up for the party. There would be a prize for the best costume. Willa was excited because she loved to dress up. She wanted to think of a really different kind of costume.

After school, Willa looked through her closet to get ideas. She did not see anything that looked like a costume, so she decided to make one instead. Willa thought about what she wanted to make all evening. Finally, she decided to dress up as a robot.

Willa found a big cardboard box and another small one. She used her allowance money to buy silver spray paint from the hardware store and then painted the boxes. After that, she cut three holes in the large box. One hole was at the top, for her neck. The other two were on each side, for her arms. She made the small box into the robot's head. She cut holes for her eyes and mouth so she could see and breathe.

On the day of the party, Willa got her costume together. She put on gray pants and a gray sweater. Then she put the big box over her body and the small box over her head. She looked just like a robot in a movie! Her friends loved the costume, and said it was very original. Willa even won the prize in the costume contest. It was really fun to see her friends in costumes, too.

**Jill and Lane**

One day, Jill learned that her class would get pen pals. A pen pal, her teacher said, is a person who lives far away. You and the pen pal write letters back and forth. Her class would be writing letters to students in another state. Jill would be writing to a girl named Lane. Jill had never written to a pen pal before. She really wanted her first letter to be good.

Jill thought about what Lane might want to know. She realized that because Lane lived far away, she might not know what Jill's state was like. Jill described the many hills and trees where she lived. She explained that her town was next to a national park. Jill and her father went to the park and took pictures.

Since Lane did not know her, Jill told her about herself. She explained that she had two sisters and one brother, and that her parents were dentists. She wrote about how she loved to play basketball and softball. She asked Lane what she liked to do for fun. She also asked Lane if she had brothers and sisters. When she finished writing, the letter was way too long. Jill copied the most important parts into a new letter.

After she finished the letter, Jill put it in an envelope. She also included one of the photographs from the national park, as well as her most recent school picture. On the back of the envelope, Jill drew flowers and stars. She was happy with the letter she wrote. Now she was ready to get a letter from Lane!

**Pat and Samantha**

Pat was ten and was the youngest child in her home. Every once in a while she felt ignored because she had three older brothers and two older sisters. Her parents said she was too young to help with work. Of course, this made her very angry. Pat wanted to show that she could be trusted to help.

Everyone in the family helped in her father's pet store. She wanted to help work in the store like everyone else. She asked her father to let her have a chance too and her dad agreed to let Pat help. He said she could wash some of the puppies. He told her not to let them run away. Delighted, she ran to the back of the store. She grabbed a box of several puppies, soap, and water.

As she prepared the bath, her friend Samantha called her. Samantha wanted Pat to come to her house and see some new clothes her mother had bought. Pat forgot about the puppies waiting for their baths. She ran off to see Samantha's new clothes.

Pat returned to find the box empty and the puppies gone. Just then, she heard her dad calling for her and she ran crying to him. She really had wanted to show that she could help, but she had failed and felt foolish. To her relief, the puppies were all asleep under a chair! Her father understood that it was a mistake. He said when she got older he might let her help again.

**Alex and Deb**

Alex did not want to take swimming lessons. He was afraid of getting water in his nose. But his mom wanted him to, so he went to the swimming pool and signed up. At the first lesson, he climbed into the pool and waited. The swimming teacher, Deb, was already there and said hello. She could tell he was worried and said lessons would help.

Deb started by telling everyone to get their head wet. Alex could go underwater without getting water in his nose. He pinched his nose shut with his fingers, closed his eyes tightly, and went underwater. Coming up, Alex took a deep breath. He had not gotten any water in his nose!

Next, Deb wanted everyone in the class to practice kicking. Alex took the kickboard from her and held tightly. The kickboard floated and kept his arms and head above water while he kicked quickly and splashed. He did not get any water in his face. He sped across the pool to the other side. Deb told him he did well, and that he was fast!

Deb showed Alex's class how to blow bubbles. She put her face in the water and breathed out. Alex tried to blow bubbles in the water, too, but breathed in water and started choking. Deb told him to try humming into the water. Alex hummed, and slowly slid his nose into the water. Bubbles came out of his nose, but no water came in. Alex came up and smiled because he was not afraid anymore!



**Robert**

Every summer day an ice cream truck passed through Robert's neighborhood. It played songs and had pictures of different types of ice cream on the sides. Robert wanted the biggest chocolate fudge bar. Every time he asked his dad for one, his dad said no. He said Robert could do chores to earn money. If Robert did chores, his dad would pay him a dollar. Robert would earn one dollar per chore.

First, his dad asked him to help wash the dishes. He showed Robert the sponge to use and how to dry. Robert stood next to his dad at the sink and scrubbed the dirty dishes. Sometimes they were very dirty, but he did not complain. He worked hard and did all that his dad told him. When he was finished, he had one dollar. He was halfway to getting the treat he wanted.

Next, Robert helped his dad mow the lawn. He mowed while his dad trimmed the bushes. This was very hard work indeed, since it was hot and the lawn mower was heavy. He pushed it with all of his strength. He mowed the whole lawn, and was proud of himself. It was a hard task, and he was very tired. But he was glad to get his second dollar.

The next day the ice cream truck arrived right on time. Robert heard the music and quickly ran outside with his two dollars. He got his fudge bar, and no ice cream tasted sweeter!

**Josh and Greg**

Josh wanted to see the moon through his brand new telescope. He heard that it was going to turn red on Saturday night. He was excited to learn that the moon would change color. He asked his teacher what that meant. She said that the moon was going to have an eclipse. The earth would be between the sun and the moon. This would change how the moon's color looked to us.

Josh's friend Greg did not believe him. He said it was impossible for the moon to change color. Josh wanted to prove it to him, so Josh asked his mom to take them to the beach. She said she was busy on the night of the eclipse. The two boys asked Greg's parents, and his mom said yes. She wanted to see the moon turn red, too.

Saturday the boys and Greg's mom drove out to the beach. They set up chairs and the small telescope and ate a picnic dinner of sandwiches and juice. While they ate, the boys learned about different clusters of stars. Greg's mom told them about the different shapes these clusters make. She told them how people used to tell stories about stars. The boys thought stars were fun to learn about.

They looked at stars while waiting for the eclipse to start. Soon Greg said he did not think the moon would even change color. Josh was worried, but then it happened. During the eclipse the moon turned red. All of them were excited to see the moon change color.

**Molly and Sara**

Molly wanted to go to her friend Sara's birthday party. They had celebrated birthdays together since they were very little, and they did not want to stop now. But this year there might be a problem. Molly's family was going on vacation the week of Sara's party. This meant that she could not go to the party. The girls were very disappointed that the birthday tradition would end.

But Molly was not going to give up yet. She asked her mom if they could change the week of their trip, but her mom said no. She asked her dad if she could stay with her grandma. Her father told her that he would miss her too much. They were visiting relatives and they needed her to be there. Molly tried to tell him that Sara was like her sister. He still said that she could not miss the vacation.

Molly had another idea. She asked Sara's parents to let Sara come on the trip with her and her family. This time, it was Sara who said no. She wanted to have her party like it was every summer. Molly came home from her friend's and went to her bedroom. She did not want anything to eat. Her parents saw how upset she was.

The next day, all of the parents got together to talk. They made a plan to help the two friends. That night, Molly and Sara were playing at Molly's house, and her mom called them to come downstairs. They came down to find Sara's mom holding a birthday cake. Molly's father was holding some birthday presents. Some friends of the girls started to arrive at the house. Their parents had planned a surprise early birthday party!

**Jenny, Suzy, and Bean**

One day Jenny's class adopted a rabbit as the class pet. All the students loved watching the rabbit eat and play. Jenny asked her mom if she could get a rabbit too, but her mom said no. Their apartment was too small and rabbit cages are too big. Besides, rabbits need lots of room to move around. A rabbit could not move much in their apartment.

Jenny was disappointed, but she learned a hamster would work instead. Hamsters are like mice, but their tails are shorter, and they can store food in pouches in their cheeks. Her friend Suzy got a hamster for her birthday. It was so small, the cage fit into Suzy's room. The hamster also had a plastic ball. The ball allowed it to run around on the floor. It would not get lost, and it could get exercise.

Jenny thought the hamster was even cuter than a rabbit. She asked her mom if they could get a hamster instead of the rabbit. Her mom said yes, and Jenny was very happy. She understood that it would be her responsibility. At the pet store, she picked out a gray hamster. It fit in the palm of her hand. She named her pet Bean because he looked like one.

Jenny set up Bean's cage and gave him food and water. She played with him every day, and he loved running in his ball all around the house. Jenny was very glad to have a new pet.

**Jim and Tom**

Jim's class was putting on a play. Some kids would be actors, some would be dancers, and everyone would sing. Jim was excited and so was his friend Tom. Jim and Tom volunteered to act in the play. Jim rushed home to tell his parents. He had never acted in a play before. He really wanted to do a good job.

The play showed the history of the town where they lived. Jim's part in the play was to be the explorer who discovered the land where the town was built. Tom played a famous scientist who lived in their town. They each had to memorize the lines they would say. Both boys helped each other practice during lunch.

Every night, Jim also practiced his lines with his parents. At first, they were hard to remember. But after practicing every day after school, Jim could remember every word. He did not need his script at all. He also worked on speaking loudly and clearly. He needed to make sure everyone could hear him.

On the day of the play, Jim was nervous. He was afraid that when he was standing in front of the school he would forget his lines! But when Jim got on stage, it was not so bad. He could see his mom and dad in the front row. Suddenly, he was not nervous anymore. He remembered all his lines and did a great job. Everyone clapped for him, and his parents were so proud.