



# Bk: Skills Card

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_ Room: \_\_\_\_\_

## Range of Reading

1. Complete a chapter book each week.
2. Get hooked on a series or author and go on a reading binge.
3. Read for an hour a day, including 30 minutes at home without anyone reminding you.
4. Read biography, contemporary fiction, traditional tales, poetry, drama, science, and history.
5. Read silently, faster than you can talk, but with good understanding.

## Vocabulary & Language

- Context Clues: notice new words or phrases and use context clues to hypothesize meaning.
- Synonyms/Antonyms: come up with synonyms/antonyms for words in text.
- Distinguish shades of meaning between potential synonyms (e.g., whispered vs. grumbled).
- Word Parts: use Greek/Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word.
- Figurative Language: find an example of figurative language (e.g., simile or metaphor). Describe its meaning and effect.

**Comprehension:** Support answers with evidence from the text.

### Literature

1. Using specific details from the text, describe in depth:
  - a major character.
  - a minor character.
  - the narrator (1st or 3rd person).
  - the setting (time, place, historical era).
  - a key event.
2. Retell the key events of the plot in chronological sequence.
3. What is the theme of the text? How do you know?
4. What other things have you read with a similar theme? How does this compare?
5. What form (genre) of literature is this? How do you know? Describe its basic structural elements.

### Informational Text

6. Tell the author's main idea in one sentence.
7. List the key facts and ideas that support the author's main idea.
8. Summarize the information presented. Tell exactly what happened and why. Use specific information from the text.
9. What do you think is your author's opinion or perspective on this material? How is it different from yours?
10. How did the author organize the information (e.g., chronological order, compare/contrast, pro/con, cause/effect, problem/solution, exposition)?
11. Was this a firsthand or secondhand account? How do you know?
12. Explain one of the graphic features in the text (charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, maps, tables) and describe how the information adds to the rest of the text.



# Bk: Academic Vocabulary

## Using Context Clues: How to Figure Out New Words

1. Notice a new word. (After trying several different pronunciations, if it still doesn't sound familiar...)
2. Use what you know and clues in the text to figure out what the new word might mean.
3. Come up with a likely **synonym** (or a short definition) for the new word that would make sense.
4. Reread the sentence, replacing the new word with your synonym.
5. If the meaning of the sentence is unchanged, your synonym is probably correct. If not, try again.

## Use Greek and Latin roots to help you solve unknown words.

anim	aqua, hydr	ast	aud	bio	cap	cycle	chron	dent	graph	hydr
<i>life, spirit</i>	<i>water</i>	<i>star</i>	<i>hear</i>	<i>life</i>	<i>head</i>	<i>circle</i>	<i>time</i>	<i>tooth</i>	<i>draw, write</i>	<i>water</i>

mega	meter	ped	phon	port	photo	ques, quer, quis, quir	scrib	spec, scope	tele	therm
<i>large, great</i>	<i>measure</i>	<i>foot</i>	<i>sound</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>light</i>	<i>ask</i>	<i>write</i>	<i>see</i>	<i>far off</i>	<i>heat</i>

Unknown Word	Greek/Latin Root	This word might mean...