

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Words with *ear*, *ir*, *our*, *ur*

- **Generalization** The vowel sound in *girl* can be spelled **ear**, **ir**, **our**, and **ur**: early, first, courage, return.

**Word Sort** Sort the list words by the spelling of the vowel sound in *girl*.

**ear**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**ir**

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

**our**

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

**ur**

10. \_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_

19. \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_

### Spelling Words

1. return
2. courage
3. surface
4. purpose
5. first
6. turkey
7. heard
8. early
9. turtle
10. birthday
11. journal
12. courtesy
13. nourish
14. purse
15. furniture
16. search
17. curtain
18. burrow
19. hamburger
20. survey



**Home Activity** Your child is learning to spell words with *ear*, *ir*, *our*, and *ur*. Read all the words in one spelling category and ask your child which spelling of the vowel sound in *girl* all the words share.

# Family Times

## Summary

### **So You Want to Be President?**

President of the United States is a tough job that many people strive to get. This book tells you what it takes to be president, but also how our past presidents stayed true to themselves and their unique personalities while in office.

### **Activity**

**Presidential Decisions** With your family, talk about the types of changes and decisions you would make if you were president of the United States. Explain why these changes are important to you and the country.



## Comprehension Skill

### **Main Idea and Details**

The **main idea** of a passage makes a point about the passage's topic and has at least one supporting detail. **Details** are smaller pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

### **Activity**

**Radio News** Together with a family member, listen to a news report on the radio. Pay close attention to what is being discussed. On a piece of paper, write down what you think is the main idea of the report and two supporting details. Compare your notes. Did you agree?

## Lesson Vocabulary

### Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *So You Want to Be President?* Practice using these words.

### Vocabulary Words

**Constitution** the written set of fundamental principles by which the United States is governed

**howling** very great

**humble** not proud; modest

**politics** the work of government; management of public business

**responsibility** the act or fact of taking care of someone or something; obligation

**solemnly** seriously; earnestly; with dignity

**vain** having too much pride in your looks, ability, etc.

## Conventions

### Plural Possessive Nouns

**Plural possessive nouns** show that something is owned by more than one person, place, or thing. Like singular possessive nouns, plural possessive nouns are created by adding an -'s to the noun. However, if the noun already ends in s, add only an apostrophe to the end of the word. *For example: men's shoes, geese's feathers, books' covers, buildings' windows.*

### Activity

**Animal Parts** Describe a recognizable feature of a certain type of animal. *For example: These are long, spotted, and stretch into the trees.* Have a family member respond with the plural possessive name of the animal and the feature. *For example: giraffes' necks.*

## Practice Tested Spelling Words

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea from a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

**Directions** Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

**T**he government of the United States has its share of responsibilities, but so do you. In order for the nation to do well, citizens have to do their part.

One responsibility of citizens is to take part in elections. Once you turn eighteen years old, you are given the right—and the responsibility—to vote. Citizens vote for

officials to be their representatives. In this way, each citizen has a say in governing the country.

Another responsibility of all citizens, no matter what age, is to obey laws. The nation's laws are written to keep citizens safe and protected.

1. In three or four words, write what the passage is about.

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2. What is the main idea of the passage?

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3. What is one important detail that tells more about the main idea?

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4. What is another detail that supports the main idea?

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5. In one sentence, write a summary of this passage.

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**Home Activity** Your child identified the main idea and supporting details in a short nonfiction article and wrote a summary of it. Read a magazine or newspaper article about citizens' involvement in government. Work together to write a short summary of the article.

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## Fact and Opinion

**Directions** Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

The United States has had forty-four presidents. Eighteen presidents have been members of the Republican Party. Fourteen others have been Democrats. Presidents have been members of four other parties, all of which have now disappeared. The Whig Party and the Democratic-Republican Party each

claimed four Presidents. Two Presidents (in fact, the first two) were Federalists.

Being the President is a difficult job. The President helps make laws and programs for everyone in the United States. He or she also does business with presidents and leaders from countries around the world.

1. Underline a statement of fact found in the passage.

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2. How do you know this is a statement of fact?

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3. Circle a statement of opinion found in the passage.

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4. How do you know this is a statement of opinion?

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5. On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph about a subject you know well. Use at least two statements of fact and two statements of opinion in the paragraph.



**Home Activity** Your child identified statements of fact and opinion in a passage. Write statements of fact and statements of opinion on folded pieces of paper. Ask your child to distinguish which statements are factual and which are based on opinion.

## Plural Possessive Nouns

**Directions** Make each sentence less wordy by replacing the underlined words with a plural possessive noun phrase. Write the new sentences.

1. The wise decisions of our Presidents helped create America's national parks.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The trees of our forests are for animals as well as for people.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. We must protect the creatures of our oceans.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. People should respect the plants of the deserts.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. All Americans should learn the histories of the states.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions** Write about a visit to the zoo or a wildlife park. Use at least two plural possessive nouns and underline them.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Home Activity** Your child learned how to use plural possessive nouns in writing. Have your child write a sentence about school using a plural possessive noun. Suggest that he or she use the word *teachers'*, *students'*, *boys'*, or *girls'*.

**Words with *ear, ir, our, ur*****Spelling Words**

return	courage	surface	purpose	first
turkey	heard	early	turtle	birthday
journal	courtesy	nourish	purse	furniture
search	curtain	burrow	hamburger	survey

**Word Parts** Draw a line to connect the first part of each list word with its second part. Then write the completed word on the line.

- |          |        |           |
|----------|--------|-----------|
| 1. sur   | day    | 1. _____  |
| 2. birth | pose   | 2. _____  |
| 3. ear   | vey    | 3. _____  |
| 4. bur   | age    | 4. _____  |
| 5. pur   | ly     | 5. _____  |
| 6. cour  | row    | 6. _____  |
| 7. jour  | ish    | 7. _____  |
| 8. tur   | nal    | 8. _____  |
| 9. ham   | burger | 9. _____  |
| 10. re   | tain   | 10. _____ |
| 11. nour | key    | 11. _____ |
| 12. cur  | turn   | 12. _____ |
| 13. sur  | tle    | 13. _____ |
| 14. tur  | face   | 14. _____ |



**Home Activity** Your child has learned to read, write, and spell words with *ear, ir, our, and ur*. Have your child read each spelling word and then spell it with eyes closed.

## Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea from a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

**Directions** Read the passage and complete the diagram. State the main idea and three supporting details. Then answer the question below the diagram.

Rosalynn Carter, the wife of President Jimmy Carter, took her role as First Lady seriously. She did not let her time in the White House pass her by. Mrs. Carter attended official meetings and represented the United States on business trips. Mrs. Carter also supported programs to help

needy citizens. For example, she worked to improve the lives of elderly people and citizens with mental health problems. Another accomplishment of Mrs. Carter was pointing out the importance of the performing arts to our society.

### Main Idea

1. Rosalynn Carter took

### Supporting Details

2. She attended

3. She represented

4.

5. What is a one-sentence summary of this passage?



**Home Activity** Your child identified the main idea and supporting details in a nonfiction passage. Together, read an article about a famous person. Work with your child to identify the main idea and supporting details of the article. Then ask your child to summarize the article.



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## Plural Possessive Nouns

**Directions** Write the possessive form of each underlined plural noun.

1. cities residents \_\_\_\_\_
2. senators speeches \_\_\_\_\_
3. streets names \_\_\_\_\_
4. cliffs ledges \_\_\_\_\_
5. women dresses \_\_\_\_\_
6. children toys \_\_\_\_\_
7. mice tails \_\_\_\_\_
8. congressmen letters \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions** Write the possessive form of each underlined plural noun.

9. Two wolves approached the deer feeding ground.  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. The wolves coats were thick and gray.  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. They wanted a deer for their cubs dinners.  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. The deer saw the wolves and vanished into the trees shadows.  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Home Activity** Your child reviewed plural possessive nouns. Have your child find and circle examples of plural possessive nouns in a magazine or newspaper article.