



ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION  
OFFICE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

## **Second Grade Spring Break Packet**



School Year 2013-2014  
ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION  
OFFICE OF ELA

## **Spring Break Homework Activities**

### **Materials:**

- 3 informational text in this packet: Prairie Dog Homes, The Grizzly Bear and Amazing Helen Keller.
- Second Grade Informational Reading Response Journal
- Suggested Book List
- Reading Record Log

★ Students are to return the completed packet to their teacher on April 28, 2014.

### **Parents are encouraged to assist in the following ways:**

- Provide your child with the necessary supplies such as a pencil, crayons, scissors, glue, etc.
- Make a plan to complete the activities during the Spring Break.
- Provide a quiet space and time for your child to work on the packet.
- Help your child with the directions.
- Provide assistance when needed when your child is reading.
- Provide positive feedback and praise for sincere effort.
- If your child is just beginning to learn to write independently, encourage him/her to write and spell as best as he or she can.
- Encourage daily reading of 20-30 minutes of a self-selected book. Read to your child, listen to him/her read, or share the reading. Record the books read on the independent reading log attached at the end of the packet.

# Prairie Dog Homes

Prairie dogs live in a home  
under the ground.

Their home is called a **burrow**.

## **Team Work**

Prairie dogs work together  
to dig their burrow.

They use their sharp claws to dig.

First they dig a hole.

Then they push the dirt out of it.

The dirt piles up into a big mound.



## Tiny Tunnels

The prairie dog burrow has tunnels and rooms. Prairie dogs dig tunnels just wide enough for them to fit through. They also dig a second entrance for quick escapes from predators.

## Rooms for Different Uses

The rooms are wider. They have different uses. There is a room for sleeping and a room for storing food. There is even a bathroom! Near the top, there is a listening room.

Why do you think prairie dogs have a listening room?

Inside a Prairie Dog Burrow



Answer:  
Prairie dogs have a listening room so they can stay below the ground while they listen for predators.





# The Grizzly Bear



Thick,  
furry  
coat

Big hump

Small,  
round  
ears

Big, wet nose

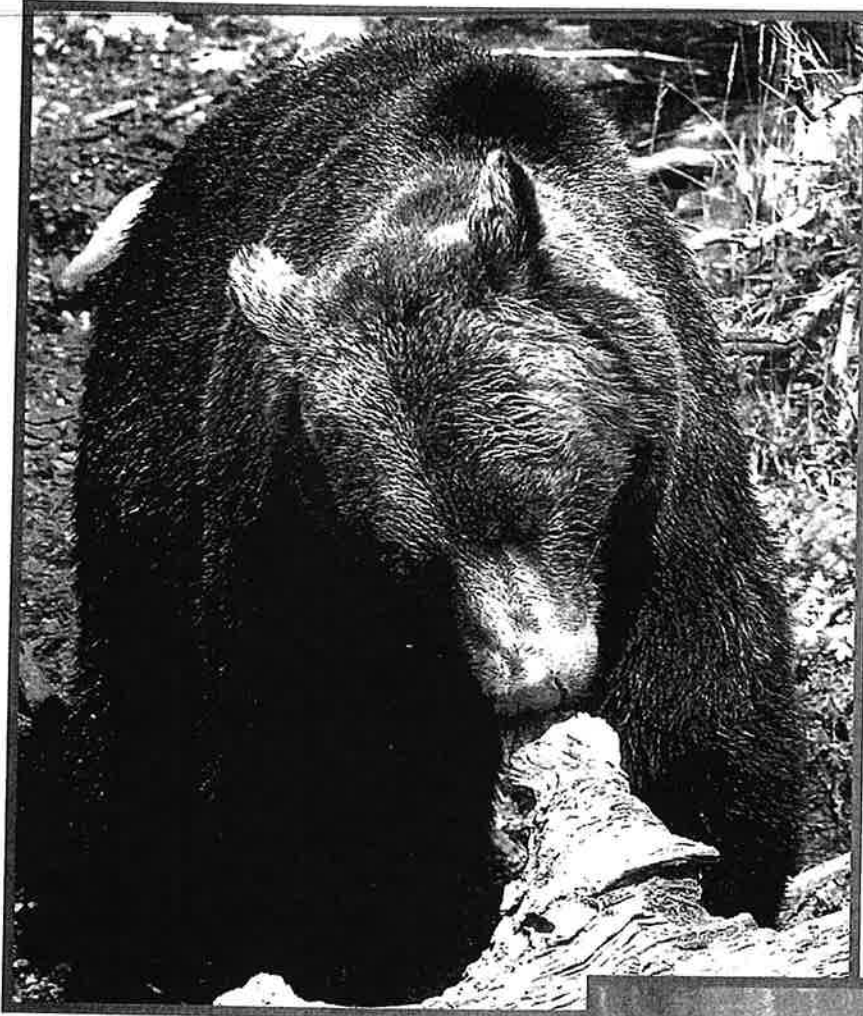
Long claws

Small tail

Grizzly bears live in  
forests, meadows,  
and mountains.  
They only live in  
North America.

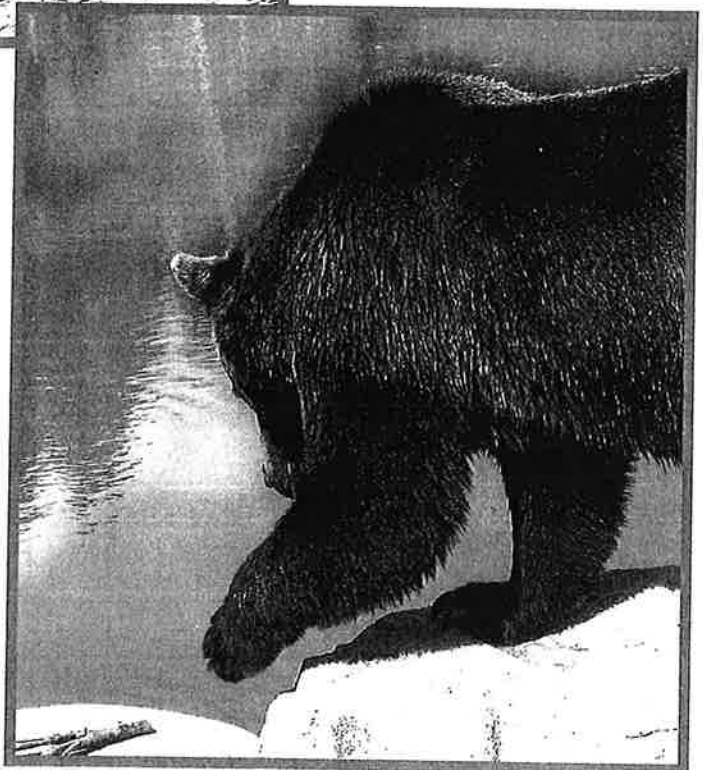


North America

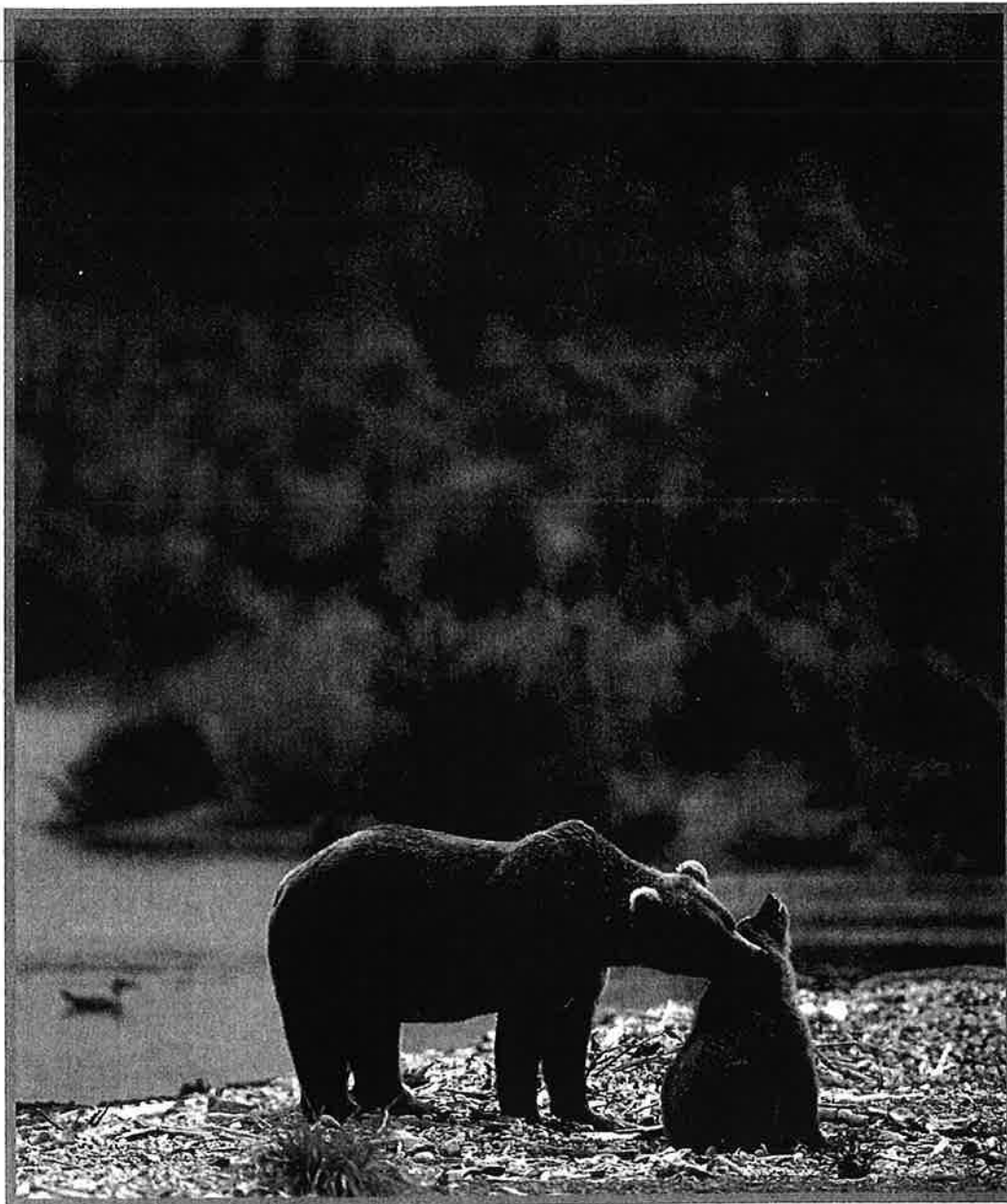


Grizzly bears  
eat grass,  
leaves, berries,  
and seeds.  
They also eat  
insects, fish, and  
small animals.

All bears can swim.  
They are happy in  
the water.  
They catch fish or  
cool off on a hot day.







A baby bear is called a cub.  
Mama bears take care of their cubs  
for two years.  
Mama bears keep their cubs safe,  
teach them to fish and hunt,  
and play with them!  
After two years, they go off to hunt,  
fish, and grow up on their own.

THE BIG PICTURE • WINTER 2002 • WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

# TIME FOR KIDS

Helen  
And Her  
Teacher

## Amazing Helen Keller

She was blind and deaf,  
but that did not stop  
Helen Keller from doing  
great things!

VOL. 2 • NO. 11 THEME

[www.timeforkids.com](http://www.timeforkids.com) AOL Keyword: TFK



# An Amazing Life

Helen Keller was born more than 120 years ago. She became blind and deaf when she was just a baby. A special teacher helped her learn to read and speak. Helen Keller did not let anything stand in her way!

CORBIS BETTMANN (3)

Age 7



Helen had no way to speak until she was 7. Then she began to learn sign language.

Age 19



Annie Sullivan taught Helen to spell words with her hands. She even went to college with Helen.

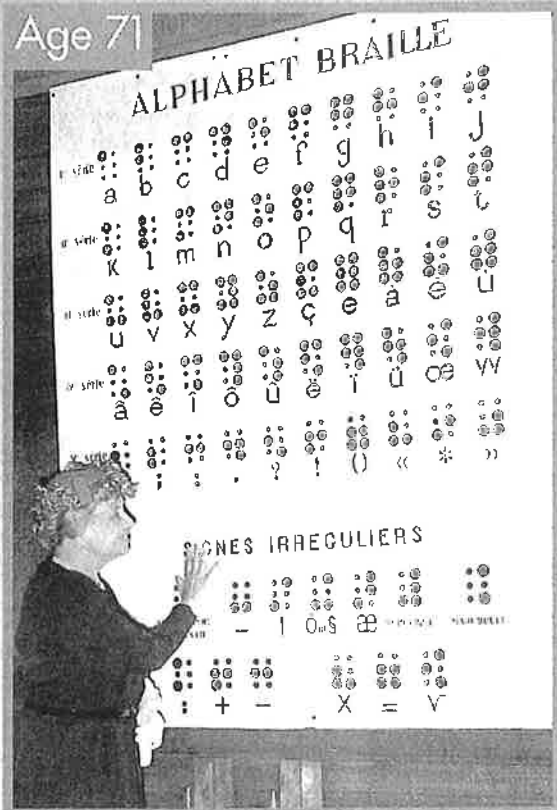
Age 39



Helen loved horseback riding. She believed that blind and deaf people could do almost anything.



Age 71



CORBIS BETTMANN (2)

Age 80



Helen became famous. She met President John F. Kennedy and 11 other Presidents!

She helped other blind and deaf people learn to read. Here she is with an alphabet for the blind.

How Many?



Helen Keller's first book was called *The Story of My Life*. People

around the world have read it. The book has been printed in more than 50 languages!



3

# **Second Grade Informational Reading Response Journal**



**Student Name**\_\_\_\_\_



**Title of Text**\_\_\_\_\_

**Name three facts about Prairie Dog Homes.**

**Fact #1**

---

---

---

---

---

**Fact #2**

---

---

---

---

---

**Fact #3**

---

---

---

---

---

**Title of Text**\_\_\_\_\_

**Name three facts about Grizzly Bears.**

**Fact #1**

---

---

---

---

---

**Fact #2**

---

---

---

---

---

**Fact #3**

---

---

---

---

---

**Title of Text**\_\_\_\_\_

**Name three facts about Helen Keller.**

**Fact #1**

---

---

---

---

---

**Fact #2**

---

---

---

---

---

**Fact #3**

---

---

---

---

---





## **Second Grade Suggested Reading List**

**Note:** The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started! Please note that the reading level of the books suggested varies. If your child is already reading, have him or her read a page of the book aloud to you to see if it is a good fit. If they struggle with more than a few words on the page, it is probably too difficult, but the book would still be a great book to read aloud to your child.

### **School Stories**

- Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman
- Junie B. Jones series by Barbara Park
- Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse by Kevin Henkes
- Miss Nelson is Missing by Harry Allard
- The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash by Trinka Hakes Noble

### **Historical Fiction**

- American Girls series
- Kamishibai Man by Allen Say

### **Informational Text by Gail Gibbons:**

- Apples
- Bats
- Bicycle Book
- Boat Book
- Caves and Caverns
- Cowboys and Cowgirls
- Dinosaur Discoveries
- Fill it up!
- Fire! Fire!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Each time you finish a book, write the information in your Reading Record.**

[illegible]