

## GRADE 4 English Language Arts Reading and Responding: Lesson 29

Read aloud to the students the material that is printed in **boldface type** inside the boxes. Information in regular type inside the boxes and all information outside the boxes should **not** be read to students. Possible student responses are included in parentheses after the questions.

Any directions that ask you to do something, such as to turn to a page or hand out materials to students, will have an arrow symbol ( $\Rightarrow$ ) by them.

*Optional:* At some point during the lesson, you may read the passage aloud so that students can hear fluent, expressive reading and the correct pronunciation of unfamiliar words. You may read the passage at any point during the lesson as you feel appropriate. The decision to read the passage aloud should depend on student needs, the degree of text difficulty, and the particular lesson.

### *Purpose of Lesson 29:*

In this lesson, the tutor and students will

- read a nonfiction passage,
- practice answering multiple choice and short answer questions, and
- practice test taking.

### *Equipment/Materials Needed:*

- Student Worksheet: Reading and Responding Lesson 29-1
- Student Worksheet: Reading and Responding Lesson 29-2
- pencils

Introduction:

**Today you will get more practice reading a nonfiction passage and answering questions about it.**

⇒ Distribute Student Worksheet: Reading and Responding Lesson 29-1.

**Read this passage carefully and then answer the multiple choice and short answer questions on this worksheet. Remember to look for key words and to use strategies you have learned for answering multiple choice questions.**

⇒ Distribute Student Worksheet: Reading and Responding Lesson 29-2.

After students have finished reading the passage and completed the worksheet, go over the answers together. (See the answers to the worksheet on the following page.) Discuss the reasons for eliminating incorrect choices as well as the reasons for choosing correct answers.

Answers to Worksheet (Key words in the question and correct answers are highlighted.)

1. Who would probably be the **most interested** in the information in this article?
  - A. someone who likes school
  - B. someone planning a fishing trip
  - C. someone writing a story about a spaceship**
  - D. someone who likes comic books
  
2. Which of the following is the **hottest planet**?
  - A. Mercury
  - B. Pluto
  - C. Earth
  - D. Venus**
  
3. Which planet is **farthest from the sun**?
  - A. Jupiter
  - B. Neptune**
  - C. Earth
  - D. Mars
  
4. Which one of the following statements is **true**?
  - A. The sun is the largest planet.
  - B. The sun is the hottest planet.
  - C. Jupiter is the largest planet.**
  - D. Jupiter is the hottest planet.
  
5. **Why** does the **sun look bigger** than the other stars?  
*It is closer to the Earth than all the other stars.*
  
6. Why can't **plants grow on Venus**?  
*The temperature gets too hot.*
  
7. Why can't **animals survive on Jupiter**?  
*It gets too cold.*
  
8. Why is Pluto such a cold planet?  
*It is so far from the sun.*

## PLANET FACTS

There is much information to learn about the planets. It takes **Earth** one year, 365 days, to complete one orbit around the sun. The planet **Mercury** takes only 88 days to orbit the sun, since it is closest to the sun; but **Pluto** takes 248 years. **Pluto** and **Neptune** are the coldest planets with temperatures 320 degrees below zero. They are the farthest from the sun. On **Mercury**, the temperature can reach 600 degrees; on **Venus**, the temperature may reach 860 degrees. Plants and animals can't survive on these planets because of the heat or the cold. **Earth** is called the "Life Planet" because scientists believe that **Earth** is the only planet where plants, animals, and people can live.

**Earth** is a middle-sized planet. There are four planets smaller than **Earth**: **Mercury, Venus, Mars, and Pluto**. There are four planets larger than **Earth**: **Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune**. The biggest planet is **Jupiter**; it is more than 1,000 times bigger than **Earth**. **Pluto** is the smallest planet.

The sun is really a star, a ball of hot, glowing gas. Since it is closer to **Earth** than all the other stars, it looks bigger than the other stars. The sun is 93 million miles away from the **Earth**. It is only 25 trillion miles to the next closest star.

Student Worksheet: Reading and Responding Lesson 29-2

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who would probably be the most interested in the information in this article?
  - A. someone who likes school
  - B. someone planning a fishing trip
  - C. someone writing a story about a spaceship
  - D. someone who likes comic books
  
2. Which of the following is the hottest planet?
  - A. Mercury
  - B. Pluto
  - C. Earth
  - D. Venus
  
3. Which planet is farthest from the sun?
  - A. Jupiter
  - B. Neptune
  - C. Earth
  - D. Mars
  
4. Which one of the following statements is true?
  - A. The sun is the largest planet.
  - B. The sun is the hottest planet.
  - C. Jupiter is the largest planet.
  - D. Jupiter is the hottest planet.
  
5. Why does the sun look bigger than the other stars?
  
6. Why can't plants grow on Venus?
  
7. Why can't animals survive on Jupiter?
  
8. Why is Pluto such a cold planet?