

# From Phonics to Reading

Wiley Blevins

This Way to  
Fluency

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## Unit 3 Lesson 24 Decodable Text Lesson Plan Inventions



**Focus Phonics Skill** Prefixes *im-*, *in-*, *non-*, *mis-*, *sub-*

**Sample Decodable Words with Phonics Skill** *imperfect, impossible, insightful, misfortune, mishandled, nonsense, nonstop, submarines, subway*

**High-Frequency Word Review** *why, where, were, what, water, work, words*

### BEFORE READING

**Academic Vocabulary Word About the Text** *improve*

**Define** to make better

**Example** Tony cleans up litter to *improve* his neighborhood.

**Ask** What skill would you like to *improve*? How will you do it?

**English-Learner Supports** Have students listen to and follow along with the text. Then do an echo read and discuss key ideas. Preteach the words *inventions, underground, subway, jets, factory, and machine*.

### DURING READING

**Technique** Have students whisper-read the text, then do a choral read.

### AFTER READING

#### Comprehension Questions

1. What can we use to study the ocean? (*submarines*)  
Find and read the word.
2. What did Margaret Knight invent?  
Find and read the sentence that tells you.
3. Which inventor did the most to *improve* people's lives?  
Support your response with details from the text.
4. What would you like to invent to make your life easier?  
Explain what your invention would look like and how it would work.

**Writing Prompt** Have students write a summary of the text.

**Fluency Plan** On the following day, have partners reread the text. On the day after that, have students independently reread the text and make a list of all of the words that begin with the prefixes *im-*, *in-*, *non-*, or *sub-*.

**Directions:** Read the text.

## Inventions

We can travel underground with subway trains. We can travel across the globe with nonstop jets. We can study the ocean with submarines. Many inventions solve problems that seem impossible.

Here are some insightful inventions.

### Paper Bag

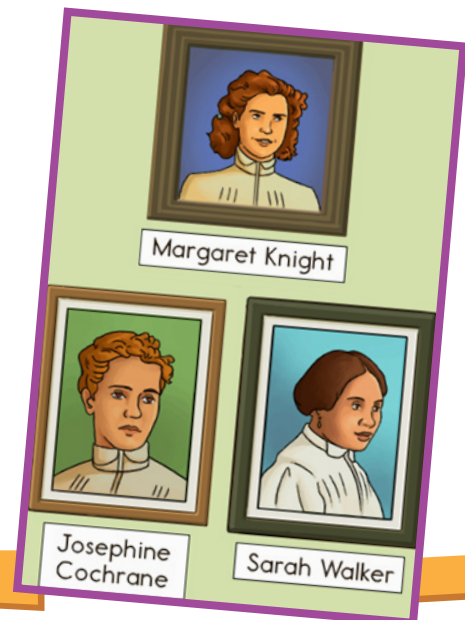
Margaret Knight worked in a factory where paper bags were made by hand. She thought this was nonsense. That's why in 1868, she invented a machine that could cut, fold, and glue paper bags.

### Dishwasher

Washing dishes is never an easy task. Fragile dishes can get mishandled and break when washed. Josephine Cochrane wanted to solve this problem. In 1886, she got to work. "I'll do it myself!" were her words. Her dishwasher was not like the imperfect ones that came before. Dishes were placed on a rack and water jets were used to clean dishes.

### Hair Care

Sarah Walker had the misfortune of losing her hair. She tried creams and lotions, but had success with something she created herself. "Madam Walker's Wonderful Hair Grower" was the first of what would become a line of hair care products. In 1910, she set up a laboratory and beauty school to continue her work.



**Directions:** Read “Inventions” again.  
Then answer the questions.



1. What can we use to study the ocean? Write the word.

submarines

2. What did Margaret Knight invent?  
Use details from the text to support your answer.

She invented a machine that could make paper bags.

3. Which inventor did the most to improve people’s lives?  
Use details from the text to support your answer.

Possible answer: Josephine Cochrane did the most to improve  
people’s lives. Her dishwasher saved time and helped prevent people  
from breaking dishes.

4. What would you like to invent to make your life easier?  
Tell what your invention would look like and how it would work.

Check child’s work.

## Write About It

**Directions:** Write a summary of the text.

Encourage children to use words with prefixes from the text in their writing.

Word bank: imperfect, impossible, insightful, misfortune, mishandled,  
nonsense, nonstop, submarine, subway.

Writing

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read the sentences on your own.  
Then, read the sentences to a partner.

1. Friday was a wonderful day at school.
2. Five different speakers were invited to speak for Career Day.
3. The speakers happily talked about their workdays and workplaces.
4. We eagerly asked them questions, too.
5. What's it like to treat injured and disabled eagles, deer, and moose?
6. That's something I asked Dr. Eva Lopez, a vet who works at a wildlife center.
7. How did you become a reporter who covers traffic and transit?
8. Someone raised their hand and asked Ms. P.J. Brown about that.
9. We discovered that Mr. Henry Lee was the owner of a bicycle repair shop.
10. I can't wait to learn the date of the next Career Day!

## Progress Check

Check the box after each reading.

Read 1

Read 2

Read 3

Read 4

Read 5

How was my reading?

- ☐ Did I read each word correctly?
- ☐ Did I raise my voice at the end of a question?
- ☐ Did I read a sentence with an exclamation mark (!) with excitement?
- ☐ Did I read a sentence that ends with a period (.) the way I talk?
- ☐ Did I chunk longer sentences into smaller parts to read them better?

My partner's name is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Directions:** Practice reading the text on your own. Then read the text to a partner. Your partner will complete the Reading Record on page 90.

## Life on Mars

For a long time, writers and filmmakers have been showing us what life on Mars might be like. Some of their works are unbelievable. They include nonhuman beings who live there and are green. But other works are more true to life. They focus on human efforts to survive in this distant, unfriendly place.	10 23 31 42 52 54
While ideas about life on Mars continue to be imagined, the facts remain: Mars is unlike Earth in many ways. It is highly questionable if the small, dusty red planet could support any life-form of its own.	65 77 87 92
Then what about this? Could humans visit or even live on Mars? Is such a future possible or impossible?	103 111
Experts think this goal is doable. But there are big problems that need to be solved first. For example, Mars is extremely cold and icy, with frequent subzero temperatures. The air on Mars is not breathable.	122 133 142 147
Overall, the picture is more hopeful than hopeless. Mars is reachable by spaceship, and scientists are currently working on missions to the planet. Stay tuned for updates.	157 164 174

## Reading Record and Partner Feedback

Title \_\_\_\_\_

**Read 1** Date \_\_\_\_\_ Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Number of words read: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of errors: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

### Speed

- ☐ too slow  
☐ just right  
☐ too fast

### Accuracy

- ☐ skipped words  
☐ read every word  
☐ self-corrected

### Expression

- ☐ attended to end punctuation  
☐ paused at commas  
☐ read with feeling

**Read 2** Date \_\_\_\_\_ Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Number of words read: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of errors: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

### Speed

- ☐ too slow  
☐ just right  
☐ too fast

### Accuracy

- ☐ skipped words  
☐ read every word  
☐ self-corrected

### Expression

- ☐ attended to end punctuation  
☐ paused at commas  
☐ read with feeling

**Read 3** Date \_\_\_\_\_ Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Number of words read: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of errors: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

### Speed

- ☐ too slow  
☐ just right  
☐ too fast

### Accuracy

- ☐ skipped words  
☐ read every word  
☐ self-corrected

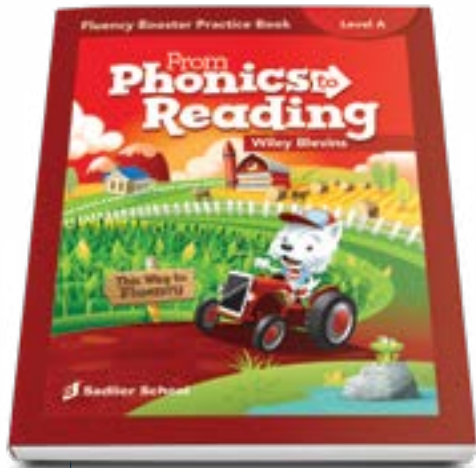
### Expression

- ☐ attended to end punctuation  
☐ paused at commas  
☐ read with feeling

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–Wiley Blevins

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