

Early Reading Comprehension in Varied Subject Matter



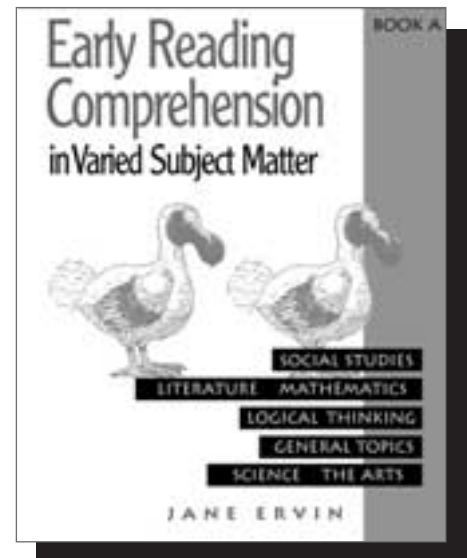
BOOK A

Jane Ervin

Recommended for Grades 2–3

Early Reading Comprehension introduces valuable skills including main idea, sequencing, literal and inferential recall, and vocabulary. This series features short, illustrated fiction and nonfiction passages. The thematically organized stories, articles, and poems include selections about social studies, science, logical thinking, math, literature, the arts, and general topics. Following each passage are several matching, multiple choice, and written response questions.

The following sample lesson **A Sea Monster** features a nonfiction reading passage designed to reinforce story recall, sequencing, inferential thinking, and vocabulary skills. Try this lesson today with an individual student, a small group, or the entire class. *Early Reading Comprehension* can be incorporated into almost any reading curriculum.



Three easy ways to order:

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Recommended Companion Material

See our Companion Material recommendations on page 4 for great materials that complement *Early Reading Comprehension*.



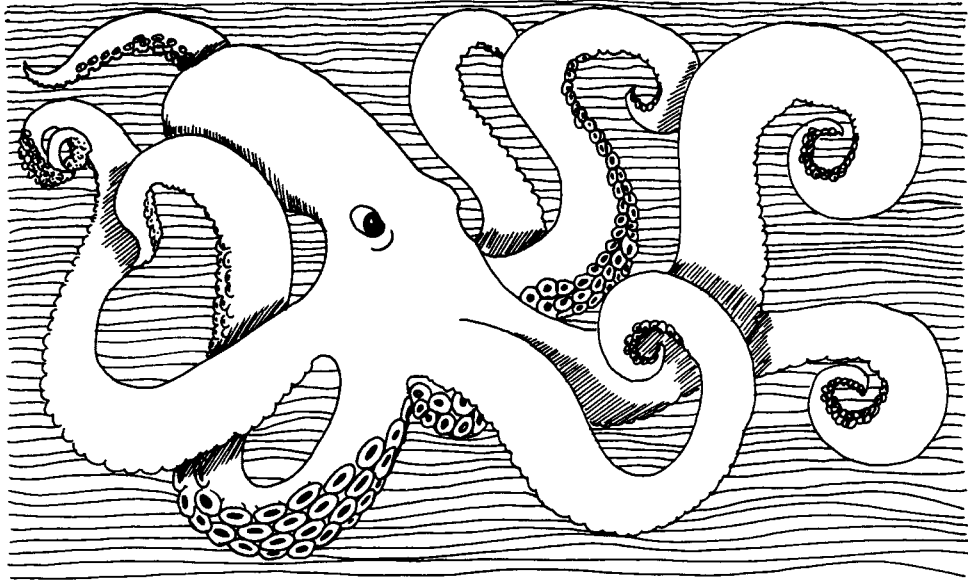
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12 A Sea Monster?

What did Susan meet under water? Was it a sea monster?

Yes ☐ No ☐



Susan was swimming under water when something came near her. It had a round middle with eight long arms sticking out of it. Each arm had rows of little cups that could hold things tightly. In its middle was a mouth with two **beaks** as sharp as knife **blades**.

In the past, many sailors had been afraid of this animal. But Susan was not afraid. She was a **scientist** learning about the **octopus**. She knew that it eats crabs and other small shellfish from the bottom of the sea. She knew that some octopuses give off lots of ink when they feel in danger. This makes a screen so their enemies can't see them slip away. Susan hoped this would not happen because she wanted to watch the octopus so she could learn more about it.

The passage is about

- (a) sea monsters (b) an octopus (c) how to swim under water

Can you remember?

1. How many arms did the creature have
(a) four (b) eight (c) eighteen
2. What did the arms have on them?
(a) cups (b) sharp spikes (c) fingers
3. What did its mouth have?
(a) a long tongue (b) sharp teeth (c) sharp beaks
4. In the past, sailors thought an octopus was
(a) good to eat (b) nice to have as a pet (c) something to be afraid of
5. Susan was
(a) doing her job (b) having fun (c) swimming in a race

Put the sentences in the correct order.

- _____ In the past, sailors had been afraid.
- _____ Susan was swimming under the water.
- _____ Was it a sea monster?
- _____ She was a scientist learning more about how it lives.

Match the words with their meanings.

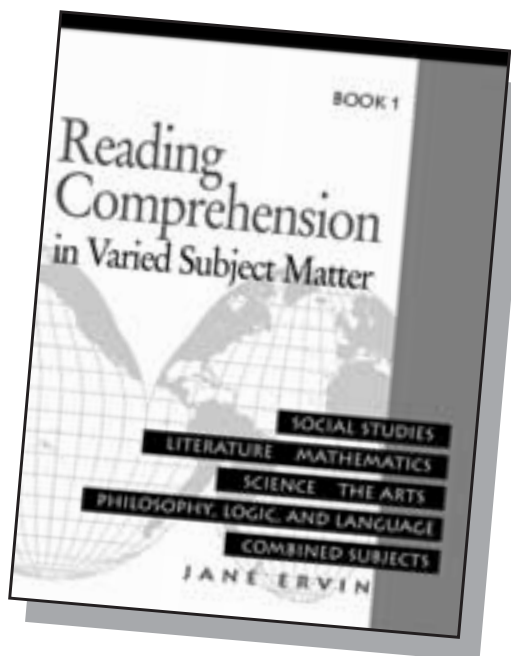
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|--------------------|--|
| _____ 1. beak | (a) someone who knows a lot about science, the way things in the world are and why |
| _____ 2. scientist | (b) the bill of an animal, sometimes sharp |
| _____ 3. octopus | (c) a small, eight-armed animal that lives in the sea |
| _____ 4. blade | (d) the cutting part of something |

Write about it.

1. Write 2 sentences about the same subject. Use 1 of the words from “Match the words with their meanings.”
2. Make up a story about a monster. Make the monster as strange and scary as you can.

Recommended Companion Material

EPS offers a wide range of products that complement the comprehension activities in *Early Reading Comprehension*. We recommend the following series to help students develop comprehension and reasoning skills.



Reading Comprehension in Varied Subject Matter

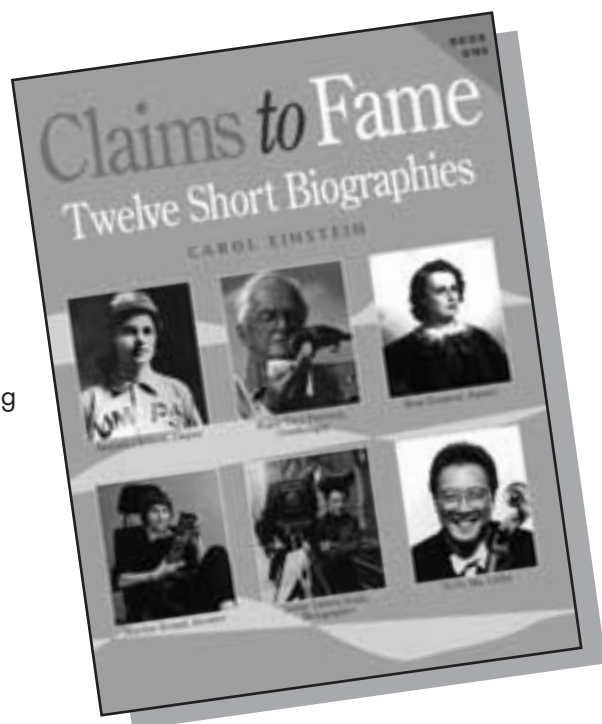
Grades 3–8

Reading Comprehension features short reading passages in these subject areas: social studies, science, literature, mathematics, philosophy, logic, language, and the arts. Each passage is followed by comprehension exercises.

Claims to Fame

Grades 2–5

Claims to Fame features short biographies about diverse people from ancient to modern times. A prereading focus question is featured at the beginning of the passage while comprehension exercises that follow include vocabulary, writing, and inferential thinking skills.



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