

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

**GRADE 6**  
**Reading Language Arts**  
**STAAR Alternate 2**

**Administered Spring 2025**  
**RELEASED**





# READING LANGUAGE ARTS



# Try It! You'll Like It!



dragon fruit: © anny ta/Shutterstock.com,  
cherimoya: © Kyselova Inna/Shutterstock.com,  
mangosteen: © Mark Brandon/Shutterstock.com

Don't let the unusual looks of the dragon fruit, the cherimoya, or the mangosteen keep you from tasting these delicious fruits.



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The dragon fruit has bright pink skin with green shoots like the flames of a meteor. When you cut open a dragon fruit, you see the white or dark red fruit that you can eat right out of the skin. Inside are tiny seeds that you can also eat. This unusual-looking fruit tastes like the mix of a kiwi and a pear.



peaches: © iStock.com/Tim UR,  
strawberries: © iStock.com/Tim UR



paer: © iStock.com/Tim UR, kiwi:  
© iStock.com/Antagain



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The cherimoya fruit may look as though a baby dinosaur will hatch out of it, but it has a tasty surprise inside. This fruit tastes like ice cream.



© iStock.com / Yuliya\_vdikovinku

On the outside, the cherimoya is covered with green skin that looks like fish scales. But the fruit inside is white, creamy, and sweet. It tastes a bit like pineapple, mango, and peach all mixed together. When you cut a cherimoya open, you'll see a few black seeds inside. They are easy to remove. Then you can scoop the fruit out with a spoon, just like a bowl of ice cream!





*The cherimoya fruit may look as though a baby dinosaur will hatch out of it, but it has a tasty surprise inside.*

*On the outside, the cherimoya is covered with green skin that looks like fish scales.*

*When you cut a cherimoya open, you'll see a few black seeds inside.*

The mangosteen is a small fruit with shiny dark purple skin. Inside you'll find about six or eight sweet white pieces. Some people say it tastes like a mix of strawberry, peach, and vanilla ice cream.



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Long ago, Queen Victoria of England would make anyone who brought her mangosteen a knight. Getting a ripe mangosteen to the queen was challenging. Men had to travel to remote countries where the fruits are found.



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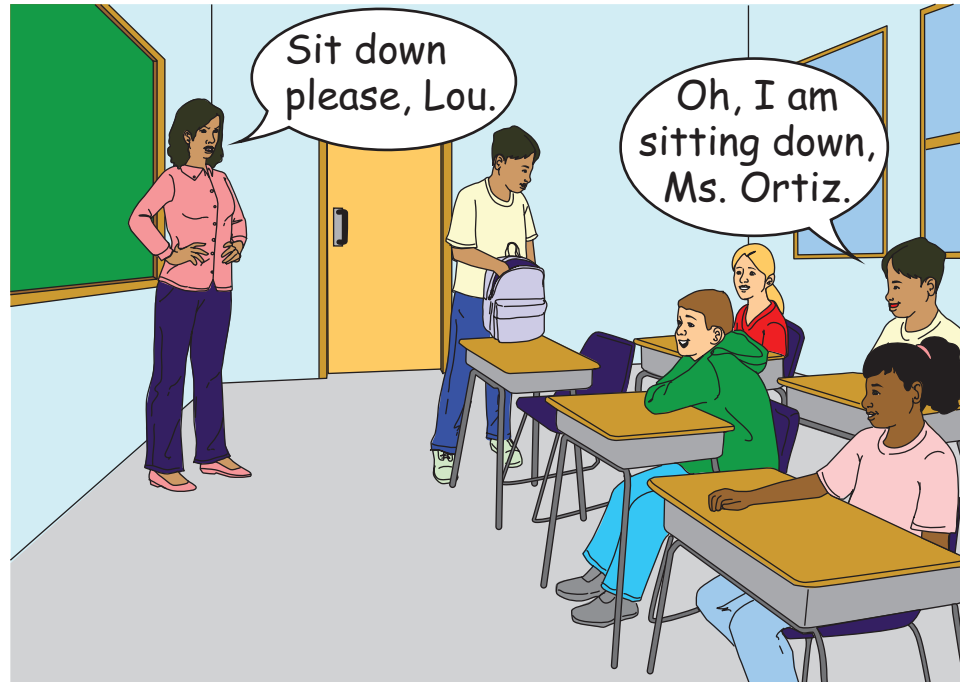
Mangosteens grow in countries where it is difficult to keep the fruit fresh.

Mangosteens grow in countries where picking the fruit quickly is difficult.

Mangosteens grow in countries that are far away and difficult to reach.



## Meet the Twins!



Lou and Drew are twin brothers who like to play tricks on their math teacher Ms. Ortiz. The whole class laughs when the teacher asks Lou to sit down. Lou calls from the back, "Oh, I am sitting down, Ms. Ortiz."



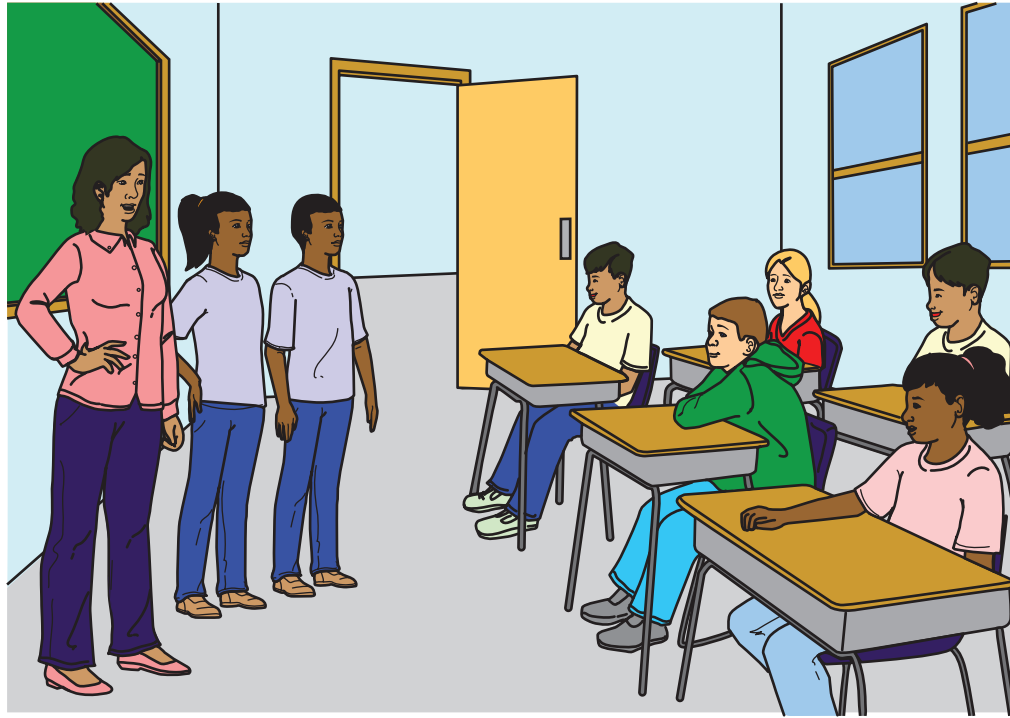
"Ugh!" says Ms. Ortiz. "I'll never be able to tell the two of you apart. You are identical! If only you didn't always wear the same T-shirts and jeans. It is going to get really crazy tomorrow when a new set of twins joins our class."

Lou and Drew have big smiles thinking about how two sets of twins can mix up Ms. Ortiz even more.



alike

separate



The next day, Ms. Ortiz announces, "Class, I want to introduce Riley and Randy O'Brien." Ms. Ortiz is smiling, but Lou and Drew are not. "Riley and Randy are not identical twins like Lou and Drew. They are fraternal twins. They do not look alike."

Lou and Drew are disappointed because their plan to mix up Ms. Ortiz even more will no longer work.

"Fraternal twins," explains Ms. Ortiz, "can be two boys, two girls, or one of each, like Riley and Randy."

"I know something cool," Randy adds. "Identical twins like Lou and Drew are almost the same in every way. But they do have different fingerprints."

"So," says Riley, looking at Lou and Drew, "which one of you is Lou, and which one is Drew?"

The boys give their correct names, and Ms. Ortiz looks at them closely. Then she starts math class, and she mixes up the boys' names only twice.

When the class is over, Riley stops at Ms. Ortiz's desk to speak to her.

Lou and Drew realize the new twins do not look alike.

Lou and Drew realize the new twins are girl twins.

Lou and Drew realize the new twins have matching fingerprints.

The next day, Ms. Ortiz writes a math problem on the board and asks Lou to come to the board to solve the problem. A boy gets up quickly and walks up to the board.

"Oh, I'm sorry, Drew, but I asked Lou to come solve the problem," Ms. Ortiz says with a smile. Drew walks back to his desk, and Lou goes to the board.

Then the fire alarm rings, and everyone must leave the classroom.

8a



After the fire drill, the students sit back down in their seats. Ms. Ortiz says, "Lou and Drew, please switch places and sit in your own seats."

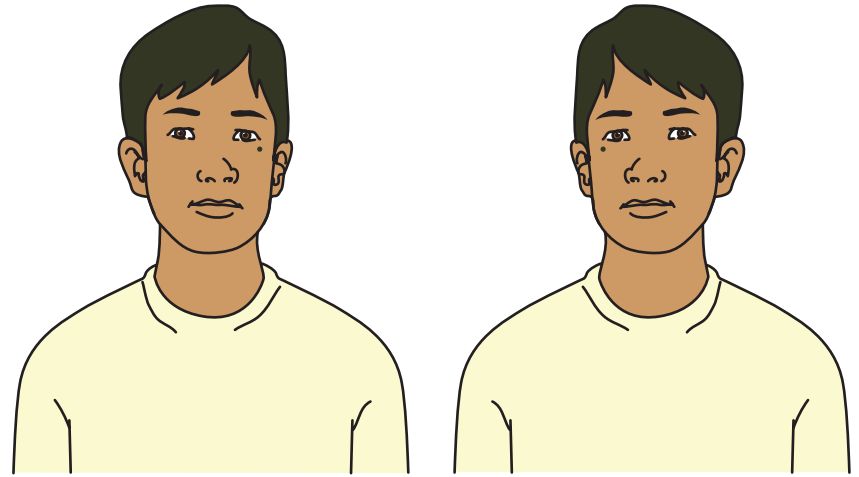
"Busted!" someone calls out. Lou and Drew frown as they switch seats.

"How come we can't fool you today?" asks Drew.

"You'll never be able to trick me again," answers Ms. Ortiz. "After class yesterday, Riley taught me some more about twins. Will you share the information with the class, Riley?"



Riley stands up and explains, "Some identical twins are 'mirror-image twins,' which means they are exact reflections of each other. Drew and Lou are this type. Drew's hair parts on the right, while Lou's part is on the left. Drew has a freckle under his right eye, but Lou's freckle is under his left eye. So, if you remember 'Lou' and 'left' both have the letter L, you'll never get them mixed up again."



That's an equation Ms. Ortiz will never forget how to solve!



*"Oh, I'm sorry, Drew, but I asked Lou to come solve the problem," Ms. Ortiz says with a smile.*

*Ms. Ortiz says, "Lou and Drew, please switch places and sit in your own seats."*

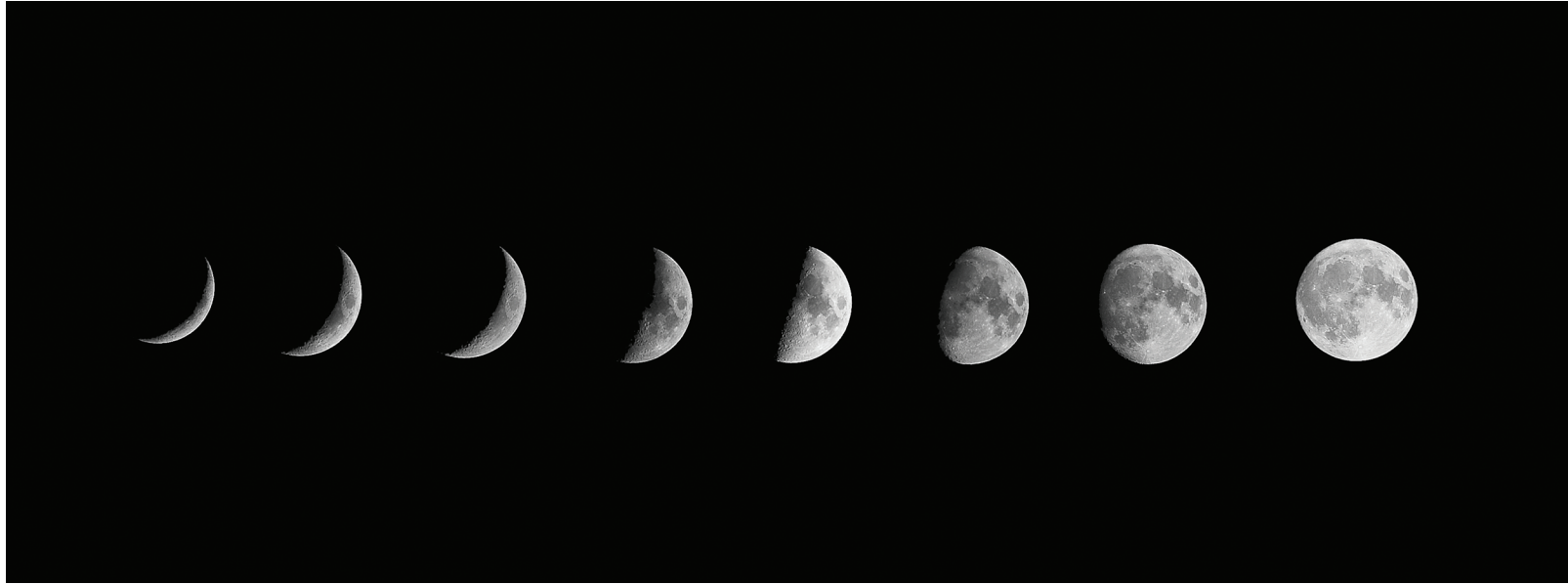
*"So, if you remember 'Lou' and 'left' both have the letter L, you'll never get them mixed up again."*



People around the world can see different phases of the moon.



People around the world can see different phases of the moon as it changes from a bright, full moon to a dark and invisible moon.



© Franco Mantegani/Shutterstock.com

As the moon changes, its shape slowly



until it is fully rounded.

fill

fills



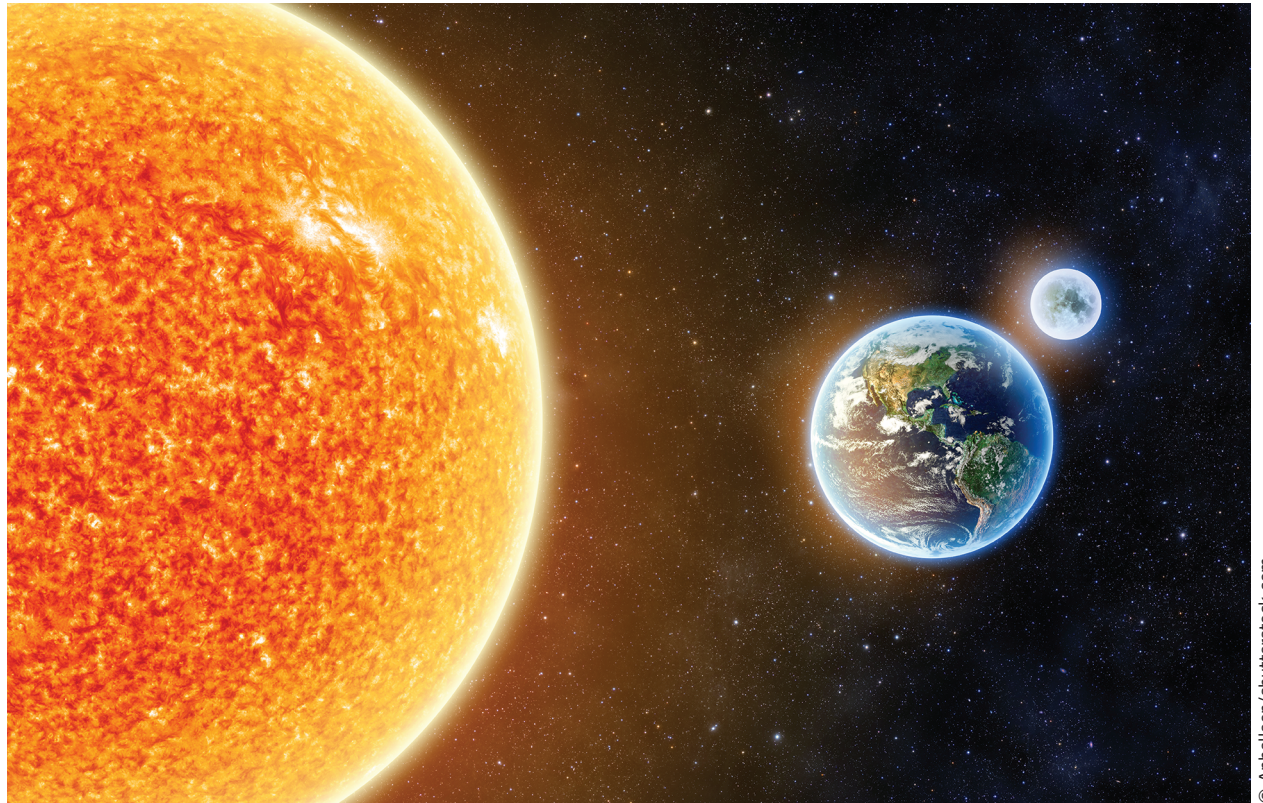
The moon is a rocky sphere that orbits, or circles, Earth. The glow that we see from the moon is the sun's light reflected from the moon like a mirror.



As the moon orbits Earth, the moon is sometimes in Earths shadow.

As the moon orbits Earth, the moon is sometimes in Earths' shadow.

As the moon orbits Earth, the moon is sometimes in Earth's shadow.



During the twenty-seven-day journey around Earth, the sunlit side of the moon that is visible from Earth changes. We can see only part of it. This causes the changes we see.

We can see only part of the moon, and this causes the changes we see.

We can see only part of the moon, but this causes the changes we see.

We can see only part of the moon, or this causes the changes we see.





Green sea turtles live in water.



© IrinaK/Shutterstock.com

Green sea turtles live in saltwater environments like the Gulf of Mexico.

14a



Green sea turtles like the warm weather.

Green sea turtles like the warm weather in Texas near the Gulf of Mexico.

Green sea turtles like warm weather.





In the winter of 2021, temperatures in Texas dropped below freezing. The turtles were shocked by the cold weather and couldn't swim. Thankfully, humans were aware of the problem,  they came to the rescue. People used boats to take freezing turtles to warming centers.



but

or

so



Miguel Roberts/The Brownsville Herald via AP

At the warming centers, scientists put the cold-stunned turtles in dry plastic kiddie pools or plastic tarps until the outside temperature rose. Then the turtles were taken back to the ocean. Many made a healthy return to their habitats.

Then the turtles were taken back to the ocean, or many made a healthy return to their habitats.

Then the turtles were taken back to the ocean, but many made a healthy return to their habitats.

Then the turtles were taken back to the ocean, and many made a healthy return to their habitats.



# One Hundred Years of Girl Scout Cookies



© Sheila Fitzgerald/Shutterstock.com

For more than 100 years, Girl Scouts in America have been selling cookies.



Girl Scouts began selling cookies in 1917, five years after the organization was founded. A troop in Oklahoma realized they needed money to support their activities. They baked cookies and sold them in a high school cafeteria. Their cookie sale was so successful that Girl Scout troops in other places began selling homemade cookies.



Marjorie Kamys Cotera/Bob Daemrich Photography/Alamy Stock Photo

started

appeared



© iStock.com/Richard McCracken

In 1922, Girl Scouts began making sugar cookies at home using a recipe that was published in a Girl Scout magazine. They placed them in wax paper bags and sealed them with a sticker. Then they sold them door to door. The cookies were very tasty and became very popular.



In 1935, Girl Scouts in New York decided to design their own cookie. The cookies were sold in boxes with "Girl Scout Cookies" printed on the top. Girl Scouts were selling so many cookies that it became too difficult to bake them all at home. So, the next year, the Girl Scout organization hired baking companies, which began making all the cookies the Girl Scouts sold.



Image courtesy of GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA.  
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*In 1922, Girl Scouts began making sugar cookies at home using a recipe that was published in a Girl Scout magazine.*

*In 1935, Girl Scouts in New York decided to design their own cookie.*

*Girl Scouts were selling so many cookies that it became too difficult to bake them all at home.*

Today, only two companies make all the Girl Scout cookies. The companies always bake the three original cookies made after World War II: the sandwich, the shortbread, and the chocolate mint. Other cookies are made as well and can change from year to year.



LES BREAU / Alamy Stock Photo

Some of the money the Girl Scouts earn from their cookie sales goes to pay for outdoor fun and science activities. Some troops save enough to do amazing things. In 1969, for example, 100 Girl Scouts raised enough money to travel to Florida to watch the launch of the *Apollo 12* rocket headed for the moon. Another group paid its way to the Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia.



Jim West / Alamy Stock Photo



Richard Levine / Alamy Stock Photo

Girl Scouts also use their money to help people. They sometimes plant gardens to grow food for community food banks. They create care packages for kids in hospitals. They send cookies to U.S. troops living in other countries. The cookie sale that started more than 100 years ago has helped Girl Scouts make a difference not only in their own lives but also in the lives of those around them.

to encourage people to bake and sell cookies using the Girl Scout recipe

to share the history and successes of Girl Scout cookie sales

to describe how to organize a Girl Scout cookie sale



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