

BEING A READER™

SECOND EDITION

Grade 3 Comprehension Checks Guidance and Answer Key

Guidance

The *Being a Reader* Comprehension Checks provide educators with a quick way to evaluate students' comprehension throughout the school year. Each comprehension check includes five multiple-choice questions aligned to specific comprehension skills.

- For narrative texts (fiction and narrative nonfiction), the questions evaluate students' understanding of:
 1. Character
 2. Setting
 3. Theme
 4. Inference
 5. Sequence
- For informative texts (expository and persuasive nonfiction), the questions evaluate students' understanding of:
 1. Topic
 2. Main idea
 3. Important ideas (important facts or details)
 4. Text structure
 5. Vocabulary

Administering the Comprehension Checks

Plan ahead to determine when and how you will administer the comprehension checks.

- Review the "Comprehension Checks Across the Grade" table on page 3.
- Determine which comprehension checks you plan to administer and note the best timing within each unit.
- Locate the Grade 3 Comprehension Checks in the Student-Facing Resources tab of the Grade 3 *Being a Reader* resources on the Learning Portal.
- Download the comprehension checks for the unit you are teaching.
- Print a class set of the comprehension checks you plan to administer for your students.
- After scoring the comprehension checks, document the students' scores on the "*Being a Reader* Grade 3 Comprehension Check Class Record Sheet."

Using the Class Record Sheet

The "[Being a Reader Grade 3 Comprehension Check Class Record Sheet](#)" is a Google sheet with formulas that automatically calculate the score for each comprehension check and a cumulative unit score. To use the class record sheet:

- Make a copy of the Google sheet.
- Enter your students' names in row 2.
- For each student, enter a value for each question (1=correct response; 0=incorrect response).
- The cumulative unit score is an average of all of the comprehension checks available for the unit. If you do not administer all of the comprehension checks for a unit, you will need to adjust the formula.

Analyzing the Data

The last column of the class record sheet calculates how many students answered each question correctly.

- If you notice a particular question to which less than half of the class responded correctly, consider spending more instructional time on that particular skill with the next text. For example, if more than half the class missed question 1, you might spend more time discussing character with the next narrative text or identifying topic with the next nonfiction text.
- If you notice individual students consistently responding to particular question types incorrectly, plan to focus on those skills when conferencing with students during Individualized Daily Reading (IDR).

Refer to the "Reading Conference Activities Reference Guide" in the IDR Resources tab in the Learning Portal for activities that will support students with these target skills.

Grading Support

The comprehension checks can be used as additional data points to inform grades for reporting purposes; they are not intended to take the place of the Student Progress Assessment (starting with Unit 2). We recommend that you use the comprehension checks alongside other program assessments, including conferences, class and group assessments, and the Student Progress Assessment.

Including the Comprehension Checks in the Student Progress Assessment

To include the comprehension checks as an additional data point for the Student Progress Assessment:

1. In Section 1: Reading of the Student Progress Assessment, add a "Part C: Comprehension" score.
2. For each comprehension check administered in the unit, use the following scale for scoring student responses:
 - 3 = Meets expectations for target (4–5 correct responses)
 - 2 = Partially meets expectations for target (2–3 correct responses)
 - 1 = Does not meet expectations for target (0–1 correct responses)
3. Calculate the Part C subtotal. The image below provides an example of this.

Section 1: Reading

Part C: Comprehension Checks

COMPREHENSION CHECK NUMBER	MEETS EXPECTATIONS	PARTIALLY MEETS EXPECTATIONS	DOES NOT MEET EXPECTATIONS
4	3		
5	3		
6		2	
7		2	
Subtotals	6	4	

Part C score (sum of subtotals/number of items scored) $10/4=2.5$

4. Add the Part C score to the Reading section of “Section 3: Summary” and calculate the overall reading score:

Section 3: Summary

Reading

Part A score: 3

Part B score: 3

Part C score: 2.5

Overall Reading score: 2.8 (Part A score + Part B score + Part C score)/3

Comprehension Checks Across the Grade

The table below lists the comprehension checks available throughout Grade 3 and tells when to administer each one.

Comprehension Check Number	Text Title	Administer After Teaching
1	<i>Hey, Wall: A Story of Art and Community</i>	Unit 1, Week 1, Day 2
2	<i>My Papi Has a Motorcycle</i>	Unit 1, Week 3, Day 2
3	<i>Our House Is on Fire: Greta Thunberg’s Call to Save the Planet</i>	Unit 1, Week 4, Day 4
4	<i>The Three Ninja Pigs</i>	Unit 2, Week 1, Day 2
5	<i>Birdsong</i>	Unit 2, Week 2, Day 3
6	<i>Mountain Chef</i>	Unit 2, Week 3, Day 5
7	“Protecting Our Land: The Journey of the National Park Service”	Unit 2, Week 4, Day 2
8	<i>A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 1–8</i>	Unit 3, Week 1, Day 4
9	<i>A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 9–19</i>	Unit 3, Week 3, Day 4
10	<i>A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 20–25</i>	Unit 3, Week 5, Day 4
11	<i>The World Is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid</i>	Unit 4, Week 1, Day 3
12	<i>Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist</i>	Unit 4, Week 2, Day 4
13	“Ayodele Casel: Infinite Music”	Unit 4, Week 3, Day 3
14	<i>Bloom: A Story of Fashion Designer Elsa Schiaparelli</i>	Unit 4, Week 4, Day 2
15	<i>Migration</i>	Unit 5, Week 1, Day 3
16	<i>Epic Migrations By Air</i>	Unit 5, Week 2, Day 4
17	“The Gray Whale: Past, Present, and Future”	Unit 5, Week 3, Day 4
18	<i>Epic Migrations By Land</i>	Unit 5, Week 4, Day 2
19	“No Time for Extra Recess!”	Unit 6, Week 1, Day 4
20	“Concerns About Cursive”	Unit 6, Week 2, Day 2
21	“Chocolate Milk at School? Thumbs Down!”	Unit 6, Week 3, Day 3
22	<i>Possum’s Tail</i>	Unit 7, Week 1, Day 5
23	“Belonging”	Unit 7, Week 4, Day 3

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Grade 3 Comprehension Checks

UNIT 3 CONTENTS

Comprehension Check Number	Text Title	Administer After Teaching
8	<i>A Boy Called Bat</i> : Chapters 1–8	Unit 3, Week 1, Day 4
9	<i>A Boy Called Bat</i> : Chapters 9–19	Unit 3, Week 3, Day 4
10	<i>A Boy Called Bat</i> : Chapters 20–25	Unit 3, Week 5, Day 4

Comprehension Check 8

A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 1-8

Read the question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

Question 1

Who is the main character of *A Boy Called Bat*?

- A. Janie
- B. Bat
- C. Dr. K
- D. Mr. Grayson

Question 2

Where does Bat's mom work?

- A. A grocery store
- B. A school
- C. An animal clinic
- D. A library

Question 3

What is an important event that happens to Bat at the beginning of the story?

- A. Bat moves to a new school and makes new friends.
- B. Bat's mom brings home a skunk kit that needs to be cared for.
- C. Bat goes on a trip with his family.
- D. Bat's mom starts a garden that needs to be cared for.

Question 4

Read the excerpt below. How might Bat feel in this part of the story?

Bat did not want to scare the skunk kit. He wanted to hold the skunk kit, maybe even feed and care for the skunk kit.

- A. Bat feels excited because he wants to hold and take care of the skunk kit.
- B. Bat feels angry because he doesn't want to be around the skunk kit.
- C. Bat feels afraid because he is worried about the skunk kit.
- D. Bat feels bored because he doesn't care about the skunk kit.

Question 5

What happens after Bat sees the skunk kit for the first time?

- A. Bat decides to take it to school for show-and-tell.
- B. Bat runs to tell his friend about it.
- C. Bat writes about it in his journal.
- D. Bat wants to hold it.

Comprehension Check 9

A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 9-19

Read each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

Question 1

What is one thing Bat is really good at doing?

- A. Painting pictures
- B. Listening carefully
- C. Playing soccer
- D. Singing songs

Question 2

Where does Bat's dad live?

- A. In an apartment
- B. In a small house
- C. In a log cabin
- D. In a mansion

Question 3

What is an important event that happens in the middle of the story?

- A. Bat writes a letter to Dr. Dragoo.
- B. Bat loses Thor and has to search for him.
- C. Bat goes on a field trip to learn about wild animals.
- D. Bat gets into a big argument with his sister, Janie.

Question 4

What can you infer about why Bat wants to write a letter to Dr. Dragoo?

- A. Bat wants to ask Dr. Dragoo where he can take Thor.
- B. Bat is seeking advice from Dr. Dragoo on how to convince his mom to let him keep Thor.
- C. Bat is writing an apology note to Dr. Dragoo.
- D. Bat wants to ask Dr. Dragoo which other animals make good pets.

Question 5

What is the correct order of events that led to Bat naming the baby skunk Thor?

- A. Bat's mom suggests the name Thor. Bat likes the name.
Then the family agrees that Thor is a great name.
- B. Bat's mom talks about the Norse god Thor. Bat likes the name Thor.
Then Janie agrees that Thor is a great name.
- C. Bat decides to name the skunk Stripy. Bat tells his family about his decision.
They all like the name.
- D. Bat wants to name the skunk Stripy. Janie suggests the name Thor.
Then the family agrees that Thor is a great name.

Answer Key

Unit 1

Comprehension Check 1: *Hey, Wall: A Story of Art and Community*

1. d 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a

Comprehension Check 2: *My Papi Has a Motorcycle*

1. a 2. b 3. a 4. c 5. c

Comprehension Check 3: *Our House Is on Fire: Greta Thunberg's Call to Save the Planet*

1. b 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. b

Unit 2

Comprehension Check 4: *The Three Ninja Pigs*

1. c 2. c 3. a 4. d 5. b

Comprehension Check 5: *Birdsong*

1. c 2. b 3. a 4. a 5. d

Comprehension Check 6: *Mountain Chef*

1. c 2. d 3. b 4. a 5. b

Comprehension Check 7: "Protecting Our Land: The Journey of the National Park Service"

1. a 2. b 3. d 4. b 5. d

Unit 3

Comprehension Check 8: *A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 1-8*

1. b 2. c 3. b 4. a 5. d

Comprehension Check 9: *A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 9-19*

1. b 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d

Comprehension Check 10: *A Boy Called Bat: Chapters 20-25*

1. b 2. c 3. b 4. b 5. a