SAMPLE LESSONS
Direct Academic Vocabulary Instruction | Grades K–12 | RTI  

BOOK 2: Lessons 1 & 10

Word List

Lesson 1

Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

calf
n.
1. The back part of the leg between the knee and the ankle.
   My left calf itches where the poison ivy touched it.
2. A young cow or bull.
   The baby calf stays close to its mother.

claw
n.
1. The sharp curved nail on the toe of a bird or animal.
   Karl held out his hand, and the parrot wrapped its claws around his finger.
2. The part of a crab or lobster used for gripping.
   The lobster grabbed the clam with its big claw and held it.
v.
To scratch or dig with sharp nails.
   Our dog clawed at the back door so she could come into the house.

couple
n.
1. Two things of the same kind.
   There are a couple of cups on the shelf. Will you bring me one?
2. Two people who do things together.
   The couple skated slowly around the rink, moving with the music.

Word List

Lesson 10

Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

astronomy
n.
The study of planets, stars, and space.
   Many people who take up astronomy first become interested when they were children.

astronomer
n.
A person who studies astronomy.
   An astronomer uses a telescope to study space.

besides
prep.
In addition to or also.
   Besides being on the soccer team, Sean loves playing basketball.

crater
n.
A hole in the shape of a bowl found in the ground or at the mouth of a volcano.
   The hikers walked to the top of the volcano to look down into the large crater.

degree
n.
1. A unit for measuring how warm or hot something is.
   Cindy heated the oven to 350 degrees before she put the bread in to bake.
2. A stage or step in a series.
   By degrees, Malcolm slowly got better at doing his math problems.

Word List

Lesson 10

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5th Edition

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Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**calf**

*n.* 1. The back part of the leg between the knee and the ankle.
My left calf itches where the poison ivy touched it.
2. A young cow or bull.
The baby calf stays close to its mother.

*Show your partner the sound you think a calf might make.*

**claw**

*n.* 1. The sharp curved nail on the toe of a bird or animal.
Karl held out his hand, and the parrot wrapped its claws around his finger.
2. The part of a crab or lobster used for gripping.
The lobster grabbed the clam with its big claw and held it.

*v.* To scratch or dig with sharp nails.
Our dog clawed at the back door so she could come into the house.

**couple**

*n.* 1. Two things of the same kind.
There are a couple of cups on the shelf. Will you bring me one?
2. Two people who do things together.
The couple skated slowly around the rink, moving with the music.

*Point to a couple of things near you and tell your partner about them.*
**cushion**

*n.* A pillow or a pad with a soft filling.

Tammy rested her head on the **cushion** and soon fell asleep.

Tell your partner about a cushion you have at home.

**flap**

*n.* Something attached on only one side so that it can move freely.

Colin licked the **flap** of the envelope and then pressed it down.

*v.* To move up and down.

We heard the geese **flap** their wings as they flew over the pond.

Show your partner how to act like a bird flapping its wings.

**groom**

*n.* 1. A person who takes care of horses.

The **groom** led the horse out of the stall to brush it.

2. A man who is getting married.

The **groom** slipped the wedding ring on the bride’s finger.

*v.* To clean or make neat.

The mother cat **groomed** the kitten’s fur by licking it until it was smooth.
**share**

*n.* A part that each person gets of a whole.
Your **share** of the pizza will be two slices.

*v.* To use or enjoy with others.
My sister and I **share** a bedroom.

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Tell your partner about something you shared with a friend.

**shelter**

*n.* Anything that covers or protects.
Our dog looks for **shelter** under the bed when he hears thunder.

*v.* To give protection or safety to someone or something.
The small porch **sheltered** us from the rain.

**yard**

*n.* 1. The land around a building.
We lived in a house with a large **yard**.

2. A length equal to three feet, or thirty-six inches.
You need three **yards** of cloth to make your costume for the play.

**zero**

*n.* The word name for 0. It stands for nothing.
Three plus **zero** equals three.
Words and Their Meanings

Look at the group of words next to the number. Then circle the letter next to the word that has the same meaning.

1. to move up and down
   - (a) claw
   - (b) shelter
   - (c) flap
   - (d) groom

2. to use with others
   - (a) groom
   - (b) claw
   - (c) shelter
   - (d) share

3. the word name for 0
   - (a) couple
   - (b) zero
   - (c) yard
   - (d) calf

4. the land around a building
   - (a) yard
   - (b) groom
   - (c) claw
   - (d) cushion

5. something that protects
   - (a) calf
   - (b) shelter
   - (c) zero
   - (d) couple

Look at the word next to the number. Then circle the letter next to the group of words that has the same meaning.

6. claw
   - (a) a person who takes care of horses
   - (b) the curved nail of a bird
   - (c) a length of three feet
   - (d) the curved horn of a cow

7. calf
   - (a) a baby sheep
   - (b) the arm between the hand and the elbow
   - (c) a baby horse
   - (d) the back of the leg between the knee and the ankle
8 couple  
(a) a large number of things  
(b) a man getting married  
(c) two things of the same kind  
(d) a woman getting married

9 groom  
(a) to make clean and neat  
(b) to use with others  
(c) to move up and down  
(d) to swing from side to side

10 cushion  
(a) food for horses  
(b) a pad with a soft filling  
(c) a feeling of happiness  
(d) a young cow

Seeing Connections
Look at each group of words. Three are related in some way. Find the one word that does not belong and circle it.

1 stool wall chair cushion
2 seven two too zero
3 pony calf elbow knee
4 bride groom apple ring
5 pair two couple crowd
Applying Meanings
Circle the letter next to the correct answer.

1 Which of the following is equal to a **yard**?
   (a) twelve inches (b) a couple (c) three feet (d) zero

2 Which of the following could provide **shelter**?
   (a) a calf (b) a cushion (c) a claw (d) a cave

3 Which of the following has **claws**?
   (a) a groom (b) a crab (c) a calf (d) a shark

4 Which of the following might have a **flap**?
   (a) a tent (b) a couple (c) a bird (d) a swing

5 Which of the following cannot be **shared**?
   (a) money (b) shelter (c) toys (d) zero
Bailey Finds a New Home

Sandra Adams and Ken Hodkinson live at Sugar Wood Farm in New Hampshire. They have a cat named Bailey. He did not always live with them. If Bailey could talk, he might tell you how he came to live with Sandra and Ken. Let’s imagine he can.

At first, Ken and Sandra didn’t want me. Many times I waited outside their door for them to return home. I knew I had only a couple of seconds to make my move. So I would rub against Sandra’s calf, purring loudly and looking up at her face. But Ken always said, “Don’t let him in. Don’t let him in.” And they shut the door in my face.

It’s true that I already had a home. But I had to share it with two other cats who liked to bully me. That was no fun. I wanted something better. Sugar Wood Farm was just around the corner, and I checked it out carefully. I counted the cats that lived there. The number I came up with was zero. As we cats say, “Purr-fect!”

Weeks went by, and it was the same every time. I hung around the door for hours, and Ken and Sandra always closed it in my face. But I never gave up. Then, one dark and stormy night, my chance came. I was waiting for them to come home, as usual, when it started to rain. Now, cats know enough to get out of the rain. I could have taken shelter in their woodshed. But I wanted to be right there on the doorstep when they came home.

Before long, the rain turned to snow. This was even better. I was sure that no one would turn a cat away on such a night. I heard their car pull into the yard. Then I watched them hurry toward the house. As soon as they saw me, I started to meow like a little lost kitten.
In no time, I was inside the house. Sandra dried me with a warm, fluffy towel. Ken kept saying, “Don’t feed him. Don’t feed him.” But I wasn’t looking for food just then. I was looking for a new home. At last, I thought I had found it. I was right. Before long, they were feeding me. Sandra talked to my old owners about me. They missed me, but they had two other cats. I didn’t feel bad.

Cats spend a lot of time sleeping, so Sandra made a soft cushion for me to use. To be honest, I prefer their bed. They also made a cat door for me with a little flap. I just push it open with my nose, and it closes behind me. Sandra likes to groom me. I think I do it better myself, but it gives her a lot of pleasure. I try not to sharpen my claws on their furniture. I think they are happy to have me around.

Answer each of the questions with a sentence.

1. How did Bailey know there were zero cats at Sugar Wood Farm?

2. How do you know that Ken didn’t want to share his home with Bailey?

3. Why do you think Bailey rubbed against Sandra’s calf and not Ken’s?

4. Why didn’t Bailey look for shelter when it started to rain and then snow?
What happened to Bailey a couple of days after he was let into the house?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

How do you know that Bailey can come in and go out to the yard easily?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Why didn’t Bailey need to have Sandra groom him?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

How often do you think Bailey sleeps on the cushion Sandra made for him? Explain your answer.

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Do you think Bailey likes having the cat door with the flap? Explain your answer.

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

What are some ways Bailey might use his claws?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

**Fun FACT**

- The plural of **calf** is **calves**, as you might expect. The plural of **calf** is **calves**.
**Vocabulary Extension**

**share**

*verb* To use or enjoy with others.

*noun* A part that each person gets of a whole.

**Academic Context**

In school, *sharing* is telling others something. You can *share* stories or ideas or read something aloud that you wrote.

**Discussion & Writing Prompt**

Tell about a time you or someone else *shared* a story in class.

1. Turn and talk to your partner or group.

2. Write 1–3 sentences.

Use this space to take notes or draw your ideas.

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Be ready to share what you have written.
Review

Hidden Message Write the word that is missing from each sentence in the boxes next to it. The number after each sentence is the lesson the word is from. The shaded boxes will answer this riddle:

Joanne bet Joe that her dog could jump higher than a house. How did she win the bet?

1. The cloth was one ______ wide. (1)
2. Sue forgot her lunch, so I offered to ______ mine with her. (1)
3. ______ is the opposite of bad.
4. Ramon needs a ______ of stamps for his letter. (1)
5. Ellen put the ______ back on the sofa, after it fell. (1)
6. Three, two, one, ______ (1)
7. The kitten scratched my arm with its ______. (1)
8. The baby ______ followed its mother to the barn. (1)
9. The children ran for ______ as soon as the rain started. (1)
10. The opposite of in is ______.
11. The ______ leads the horse to the stable. (1)
12. Large birds must ______ their wings to get into the air. (1)
Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**astronomy**

*n.* The study of planets, stars, and space.

Many people who take up **astronomy** first became interested when they were children.

**astronomer** *n.* A person who studies astronomy.

An **astronomer** uses a telescope to study space.

Discuss with your partner what you could learn using astronomy.

**besides**

*prep.* In addition to or also.

**Besides** being on the soccer team, Sean loves playing basketball.

**crater**

*n.* A hole in the shape of a bowl found in the ground or at the mouth of a volcano.

The hikers walked to the top of the volcano to look down into the large **crater**.

**degree**

*n.* 1. A unit for measuring how warm something is.

Cindy heated the oven to 350 **degrees** before she put the bread in to bake.

2. A stage or step in a series.

By **degrees**, Malcolm slowly got better at doing his math problems.

Move toward your partner by small degrees.
**diameter**

*n.* The distance from side to side and through the center of a circle or a round object.

The **diameter** of the trunk of our old oak tree was at least thirty inches.

*Draw a circle on a piece of scrap paper and then show your partner where the diameter is.*

**gaze**

*v.* To look steadily at something for a long time.

Sam and Julie **gazed** at the polar bears swimming in a large pool at the zoo.

**gravity**

*n.* 1. The force that pulls things toward the center of Earth.

**Gravity** causes an apple to fall to the ground.

2. The condition of being serious.

Celia understood later the **gravity** of what she had done by playing too close to the large waves.

*Show your partner how your face looks when you think about something of gravity.*

**reflect**

*v.* 1. To turn or throw back, such as light or sound.

The mirror **reflected** Tyler’s face when he looked into it.

2. To think carefully about something.

Paul **reflected** on the next chess piece he would move.

*Tell your partner what you might reflect on when you write a poem.*
Completing Sentences

Circle each answer choice that correctly completes the sentence. Each question has three correct answers.

1. There was no one in the room besides
   (a) the Fourth of July.
   (b) the teacher.
   (c) Darryl and his silly cat.
   (d) my grandfather, who was asleep.

2. Craters
   (a) are formed when large objects from space hit Earth.
   (b) on the surface of Mars can be seen with a telescope.
   (c) are Milo’s favorite food, and he says they are healthy.
   (d) soon fill with water if they are not filled in with dirt.
3. The **universe**
   (a) is full of millions of stars.
   (b) is so big, I don’t know where it might end.
   (c) is all around our planet.
   (d) is the smallest animal in the world.

4. Degrees measure
   (a) how warm something is.
   (b) the temperature of the oven.
   (c) the diameter of an apple.
   (d) the different steps in a series.

5. Astronomers teach us that
   (a) none of the planets are real.
   (b) our sun is just another star.
   (c) Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system.
   (d) the Milky Way contains billions of stars.
Making Connections
Circle the letter next to the correct answer.

1. Which word goes with stars?
   (a) machine (b) telescope (c) antenna (d) crater

2. Which word goes with circle?
   (a) dozen (b) reflect (c) gravity (d) diameter

3. Which word goes with serious?
   (a) gravity (b) invent (c) degree (d) girder

4. Which word goes with stare?
   (a) invent (b) design (c) gaze (d) reflect

5. Which word goes with think?
   (a) gaze (b) rotate (c) imitate (d) reflect

Using Context Clues
Circle the letter next to the word that correctly completes the sentence.

1. The water _____ the full moon.
   (a) absorbed (b) reversed (c) reflected (d) flapped

2. Kendall’s interest in _____ led her to become an astronaut.
   (a) astronomy (b) degrees (c) lizards (d) factories

3. _____ French, Carlos is also studying Spanish.
   (a) Reflecting (b) Besides (c) Imitating (d) Inventing
Marco could see the moon’s craters clearly through the _____.
(a) universe   (b) cavern   (c) scoop   (d) telescope

The temperature fell to zero _____.
(a) strands   (b) degrees   (c) diameters   (d) centers

Vocabulary in Context
Read the passage.

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

How far up does the sky go? It seems to go on forever. No one knows where space ends. No one even knows if it has an end. So let us explore a small piece of it, our system of planets.

People have always gazed at the night sky. Long ago, they saw the moon and the stars just as we do today. But some people noticed something more. They saw that some stars moved slowly across the night sky. Now we know that the moving objects are not stars at all. They are planets circling the sun.

About five billion years ago, the sun and planets were formed. They were made from clouds of gas and dust. Gravity pulled the chunks and pieces together to make lumps of matter. More and more dust was added to them. This made the lumps get bigger. The largest lump became the sun. It is a giant star. It shines brightly because it is an enormous ball of fire. Eight smaller lumps circle the sun. These are the planets. They reflect light from the sun.

The four planets farthest from the sun are Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, and Jupiter. No astronaut will ever land on any of these four. That is because they are made of gas. Each of these planets has rings around it. Each planet also has several moons. Jupiter is the largest planet. Its diameter is eleven times that of the Earth.
Four smaller planets are closer to the sun. They are Mars, Earth, Venus, and Mercury. All of them are made of solid rock. Mercury is the closest to the sun. It is very hot. The temperature there can rise to 840 degrees. That’s almost twice as high as the top setting on an oven!

About four hundred years ago, the telescope was invented. People were able to look closely at the planets for the first time. The early astronomers were surprised. Saturn’s rings were beautiful. Mars had huge craters. Jupiter had several moons. One of the moons was even bigger than Mercury.

Our planet Earth travels around the sun. It is on a path between those of Mars and Venus. We think that Earth is one of the few planets in the universe that has liquid water. Our distance from the sun gives us just the right amount of heat. If we were much closer, the oceans would boil away. If we were much farther away, the oceans would turn to ice. But the temperature is just right. So life in all of its forms is possible on Earth.

Scientists now know that there are other suns besides our own. These suns also have planets circling them. They are very, very far away. Is there life on any of them? We do not know. They might have creatures that are smarter than we can imagine. Or Earth may be the only planet anywhere that has life. As more of space is explored, we may someday find out.

**Answer each of the questions with a sentence.**

1. According to the passage, which planet besides Earth has living creatures on it?

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

2. What did some of the very first astronomers see in the night sky?

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________
3 What would you see if you were gazing at Saturn?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

4 What did gravity pull together to make the sun and planets?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

5 Why will we probably not find any craters on the four giant planets?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

6 Do you think there might be other life in the universe? Explain your answer.
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

7 Which details in the passage tell you that the planets formed by degrees?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

8 How does the diameter of Jupiter compare with that of Earth?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

9 Why is it incorrect to say that the sun reflects light?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

10 How did the invention of the telescope help science?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

astronomy  besides  crater  degree  diameter  gaze  gravity  reflect  telescope  universe
Besides and beside look almost the same but have very different meanings. As you just learned, besides means “in addition to, or also.” Beside means “next to.” Be careful to use these words correctly, or you may say something you do not mean. For example:

Melanie ate two scoops of ice cream beside the table.
Melanie ate two scoops of ice cream besides the table.
(She must have had a bad stomachache after that meal!)
**Vocabulary Extension**

**reflect**

*verb* To think carefully about something.

*verb* To turn or throw back, such as light or sound.

**Academic Context**

When you **reflect** on something you have learned, you think carefully about it.

**Word Family**

- **reflection** (noun)
- **reflecting** (adjective)
- **reflector** (noun)

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**Discussion & Writing Prompt**

**Reflect** on one thing you learned today and tell about it.

1. Turn and talk to your partner or group.

2. Write 1–3 sentences.

Use this space to take notes or draw your ideas.

Be ready to share what you have written.
Review

Hidden Message Write the word that is missing from each sentence in the boxes next to it. All the words are from Lesson 10. The shaded boxes will answer this riddle:

Darryl has two coins that equal thirty cents. One of them is not a nickel. How can that be?

1. That photo clearly shows a ______ on the moon.
2. A circle is divided into two equal parts by its ______.
3. The ______ discovered a new star.
4. People on a spaceship do not feel any ______.
5. The water will ______ the sunlight into your eyes.
6. The temperature dropped to thirty ______ last night.
7. Earth is only a very tiny part of the ______.
8. We wanted to ______ at the stars all night.
9. ______ Jill, I have two other sisters.
10. Through the ______, we could see Venus.