



# Florida B.E.S.T. CONTEXT CLUES

states, "Colonies can be from a few bats to hundreds of bats." Explain how colonies means as it is used in the passage. Support your definition with evidence from the passage.

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### Family Structure

Vampire bats living in colonies together have strong ties. Vampire bats have developed an adaptation to share food. Vampire bats can only live two days without food. Since food can be scarce, a hungry bat will often beg another bat for food. A donor bat regurgitates some of the blood it consumed for the hungry bat. This ensures that the colony survives. Donor bats will also offer food to starving bats.





Vampire bats drink blood to quickly digest the blood so that they can urinate two minutes after they have consumed it. They return to their roosts to rest.

Vampire bats are adapted to survive in complete darkness. The blood from mammals is a rich source of iron for vampire bats.

790L

## Vampire Bats

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Vampire bats are sanguivorous. They only consume blood. There are three species of vampire bat, the hairy-legged vampire bat, the white-winged vampire bat, and the common vampire bat. This tells us that they once evolved from a common ancestor.

### Anatomy

Unlike other bats, vampire bats have short muzzles. They also have naked nose pads. Common vampire bats have thermoreceptors on their noses. Vampire bats also use infrared radiation to find blood hotspots on their prey. Vampire bats also use infrared radiation to find blood hotspots on their prey. Part of their brains is called the inferior colliculus. This helps them detect breathing of the sleeping animals they prey on. They use their sharp front teeth to puncture the skin of their prey. Unlike most other bats, vampire bats can walk, run, and fly.



### Habitat

Vampire bats live in dark places like caves, hollow trees, and buildings. They dwell between Central to South America. They live in arid, humid, tropical, and subtropical environments. Colonies can range from a few bats to hundreds of bats. A colony consists of females, young, and a few adult males. There are "resident males" and "nonresident males" in a colony.

### Context Clues

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What does the word *sanguivorous* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. similar  
b. species  
c. different  
d. feeding on blood

2. Read this sentence from paragraph 2 of the text.

They use their sharp front teeth to puncture the skin of their prey.

What is the meaning of *puncture* as it is used in the text?

a. eat  
b. jump  
c. feed  
d. break

3. What does the word *dwell* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. live  
b. dark  
c. hunt  
d. countries

4. Paragraph 3 says, "They live in arid, humid, tropical, and subtropical environments." What is the meaning of *arid* as it is used in the text?

a. hot  
b. dry  
c. wet  
d. humid



# Word Detectives Use Context Clues

## Definition (meaning)

The concept, or idea, was new to her.



## Examples

- \*Like
- \*Such as
- \*OR

The data, such as reading level growth, can be found in student binders.

## Synonyms (Same)

The turtle slowly sauntered through the grass.

## Antonyms (Opposite)

The plate wasn't break since it did not break when she dropped it on the floor.

## Word Parts

Is there a helpful PREFIX, SUFFIX, OR ROOT WORD?

helpful  
re-write  
re-test

© Backless

Context Clues

12. Paragraph 5 states, "Piranhas tend to travel in shoals of 20 fish." Explain what the word *shoals* means as it is used in the passage. Support your definition with **one** context clue from the passage.

Shoals means groups. Piranhas tend to travel in groups of 20 fish.

13. What does the word *scarce* mean?

- a. limited
- b. fearful
- c. plentiful
- d. aggressive

14. Read this sentence from the passage:

Piranhas are more **prone** to attack when food levels are lower.

In your own words, write a definition for the word *prone* that helped you define the word.

Prone means likely to attack in the dry season.

Context Clues

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

8. Read this sentence from paragraph 1 of the text:

Piranhas have a fearsome **reputation**.

What is the meaning of *reputation* as it is used in the text?

- a. jaws
- b. teeth
- c. scary
- d. opinions people have

9. What does the word *inhabit* mean as it is used in the text?

- a. live in
- b. bite in
- c. hunt in
- d. scare in

10. Paragraph 4 says, "The piranha's **predators** include cormorants as it is used in the text?"

- a. caimans
- b. dolphins
- c. seabirds
- d. alligators

11. What does the word *omnivorous* mean as it is used in the text?

- a. fish-eating
- b. plant-eating
- c. animal-eating
- d. plant- and animal-eating

880L

Context Clues

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### TEST: Piranhas

Piranhas have a fearsome reputation due to their sharp teeth. Piranha actually means "tooth fish" in the Brazilian language of Tupi.

There are between 30 to 60 species of piranhas. They live in rivers in South America and have been around for millions of years. Many inhabit the Amazon basin, the Orinoco River, and rivers of the Guianas.

Piranhas vary from about 5 to 10 inches long. They have a single row of tightly packed, sharp teeth that interlock. Their teeth are used for puncturing and shearing prey. Piranhas have one of the strongest bites of any bony fish. The black piranha has one of the most powerful bites of any vertebrate. Piranhas lose their teeth, and they are replaced throughout their lives. Black piranhas can bite with a force of 72 pounds.

The piranha's predators include cormorants, which are medium to large birds, as well as caimans, and dolphins. People are also predators of piranhas since people eat them. Piranhas are often sought after as pets; however, having a piranha is illegal in most of the United States and other parts of the world. South American natives catch piranhas and use their teeth to make tools and weapons.

Piranhas are omnivorous. Some species of piranhas consume plant matter as well as the rivers they inhabit. They also eat other fish. Piranhas tend to travel in shoals. They have even been known to attack each other when food is scarce. Red-bellied piranhas are the species of piranha that have a reputation for being the most aggressive.

Piranhas have a feared reputation due to popular movies and myths. While piranhas have attacked humans, humans are not their choice of prey. Many rivers in South America have warning signs about the dangers of piranhas. Piranhas are more prone to attack when food levels are lower.



Red-bellied Piranha

©Gale Bichsel



### Context Clues

5. Paragraph 4  
Explain what the definition with

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plants

6. What

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.**

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### Air Plants

Air plants, or epiphytes, stay attached to other plants rather than rooting in soil. Attaching to plants above ground gives them more light than ground plants. This also keeps them from being eaten by herbivores that may eat them. Water and nutrients from



### Praying Mantis

Praying mantis triangle-shaped head can turn 180 degrees along with their eyes, allows them to see everything in their surroundings. Praying mantises are usually green or brown, which helps them camouflage in their surroundings.



890L

### Context Clues

Plants and animals adapt to their environments to survive. These changes are **anatomical**, where plants and animals adapt their physical features. Adaptations are also **behavioral**, where traits are inherited or learned.

## Plant and Animal Adaptations

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Cacti

Cacti have adapted to live in extreme, dry conditions. They are able to store water in their stems and roots. In addition, cacti have spines instead of leaves. Regular plant leaves have large surface areas for evaporation to occur. Cacti's spines minimize water loss. Some cacti can survive years of drought due to their ability to retain water!



### Vervet Monkeys

Vervet monkeys have developed a more complex language than many animals. They are able to communicate different signs of danger. They have different calls for warnings about snakes, eagles, and leopards. Dolphins and parrots also have similarly complex languages.

# CONTEXT CLUES

4th & 5th grade

## Table of Contents

\*This product includes 12 Lexile® leveled stories in the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Florida B.E.S.T. Text Complexity Band (the range for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade is 740L-1010L).

1. Be a Word Detective anchor chart/ journal page
2. Types of Context Clues anchor Chart/ journal Page
3. Historical Text Anchor Chart/Journal Page
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5. Vampire Bats- 790L
6. The New England Puritans- 790L
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Florida B.E.S.T. uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile <sup>®</sup> Bands Aligned to Florida B.E.S.T. Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	1185L-1385L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."



# Jazz Music

Jazz music is a genre of music that **originated** in New Orleans, Louisiana. The word jazz came from the term jasm, which means “pep energy”. It’s rooted in African-American music such as blues and ragtime. Jazz is **traditionally** about the black experience in the United States. Nowadays, jazz is performed by people of many cultures. Jazz is considered one of America’s original art forms.

One of the key elements of jazz music is **improvisation**. Creativity is key. A jazz musician interprets a song in a variety of ways. He or she may never play a song the same way twice. His or her mood, experiences, and interactions with other musicians and the audience will change the music. **Call and response** is another common element of jazz music. Call and response is when one musician plays a musical phrase and a second musician answers with another phrase. The musicians go back and forth in like a conversation to build on the song.

Jazz began in New Orleans in the early 1910s. It was **influenced** by brass band marches, ragtime, and blues. Jazz bands consisted of groups of self-taught African-American musicians. Bands traveled throughout black communities in the South.



The Bolden Band (in 1905) was one of the early jazz bands.

The 1920s is known as the Jazz Age. Jazz became widely recognized. Jazz music took on a swing feeling. It was during this **decade** that Louis Armstrong, one of the most influential jazz figures, began his jazz career.



Louis  
Armstrong

During the 1930s, jazz became more arranged, swinging, and bluesy. It was very dance-oriented. Jazz music was broadcast on the radio across America.

Bebop became popular in the 1940s. During this period, jazz changed from being pop dance music to focusing on musicians' talents. Faster tempos and improvisation became big.

Free jazz emerged in the 1950s. Free jazz had more formal structures and beats. Free jazz also became widely popular in Europe.

In the late 1960s to early 1970s, jazz-rock fusion became prevalent. This combined jazz improvisation with rock rhythm, sounds, and electrical instruments. Jazz-rock fusion continued in the 1990s and 2000s.

As jazz spread around the world, it developed different regional and cultural styles. Many modern musicians are influenced by jazz music.



Bebop Musicians Charlie Parker, Tommy Potter, Miles Davis, and Max Roach



Modern Jazz Musician, Harry Connick Jr., at the New Orleans Jazz Festival in 2007

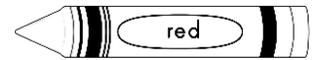


Billie Holiday in 1947

**Context Clues**

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. Read this sentence from paragraph 1 of the text.



Jazz music is a genre of music that **originated** in New Orleans, Louisiana.

What is the meaning of *originated* as it is used in the text?

- a. lived in
- b. began in
- c. ended in
- d. played in

2. What does the word *traditionally* mean as it is used in the passage?



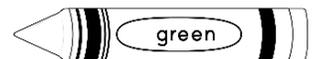
- a. artsy
- b. musically
- c. originally
- d. sometimes

3. What does the word *improvisation* mean as it is used in the passage?



- a. to prepare
- b. to perform
- c. to play music in the same way
- d. to play or perform without preparing

4. Paragraph 2 says, "**Call and response** is another common element of jazz music." What is the meaning of *call and response* as it is used in the text?



- a. Musicians use creativity to write songs.
- b. Musicians call each other to work together.
- c. Musicians play songs in many different ways.
- d. Musicians have conversations with the use of their instruments.

Context Clues

5. Paragraph 3 states, "Jazz began in New Orleans in the early 1910s. It was **influenced** by brass band marches, ragtime, and blues." Explain what the word *influenced* means as it is used in the passage. Support your definition with **one** context clue from the passage.



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6. What does the word *decade* mean as it is used in the passage?



- a. a period of ten years
- b. a period of fifty years.
- c. a period of twenty years
- d. a period of one-hundred years

7. Read this sentence from the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph on page 2.



In the late 1960s to early 1970s, jazz-rock fusion became **prevalent**.

In your own words, write a definition of the word *prevalent*. Then list two words or phrases that helped you define the word.

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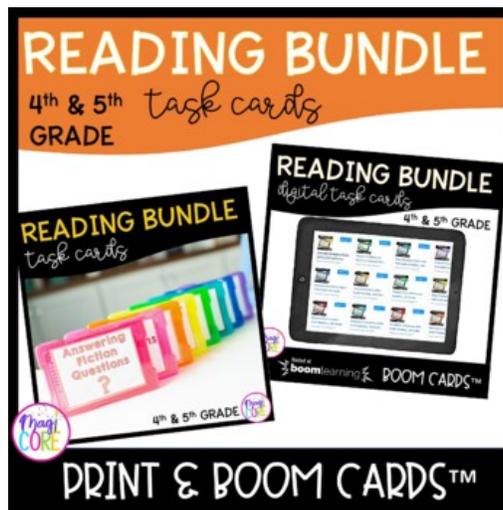


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