

Canadian Mini Lessons

Improving Reading, Writing & Grammar Skills

— Grade 3 —

Written by Eleanor M. Summers

Your increasingly independent reader will enjoy the stories and activities while extending literacy skills. The stories, concepts and skills are Canadian content, grade appropriate and aligned to the Canadian Language Arts curriculum.

This resource consists of two parts:

Section 1: Reading Skills

- Uses Canadian content for all stories and activities.
- Offers reading experiences in a variety of genres: fiction, non-fiction
- Provides a variety of activities that are based on skills in the Canadian curriculum.
- Extends the stories with real life applications.
- Answer Key to make checking answers quick and easy.

Section 2: Grammar and Writing Skills

- Activities to practice and reinforce vocabulary development, spelling, grammar, punctuation and creative writing.
- Skills are based on the Canadian curriculum.
- Answer Key to make checking answers quick and simple.



Eleanor Summers is a retired elementary teacher who continues to assist young children with the development of their literacy skills. Her goal is to write creative and practical resources for teachers to use in their literacy programs.

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At Glance™

Learning Expectations Section 1	Ice Fishing	Dale of the RCMP	Goof for You! Good for Me!	An Unexpected Visitor	Yum! Yum! Poutine	The Badger	Bears Just Want to Have Fun	Wild Turkeys	Leif the Lucky	Life in Canada	Under Cover	The Canadian Arctic	Sugaring Off	The First Forts
Comprehension Skills														
• Recalling Details	•				•		•				•		•	•
• Classifying Sentences		•										•		
• Finding Proof		•										•		
• Completing a Chart			•											
• Sequential Ordering				•									•	
• Drawing Conclusions						•			•	•				
• Following Directions								•					•	
• Using Context Clues														•
Word Study Skills														
• Word Meanings	•		•	•		•				•	•	•		•
• Hard and Soft "C"	•													
• Visual Discrimination		•					•						•	
• Y as a Vowel		•												
• Long Vowel Digraphs			•											
• Common/Proper Nouns				•										
• Recognizing Syllables					•									
• Antonyms/Synonyms										•				
Language Skills														
• Creative Expression	•	•		•	•				•			•	•	•
• Completing a Chart			•			•		•						
• Illustrating Sentences							•							
• Designing a Poster								•						
• Creating a Book											•			



At Glance™

Learning Expectations Section 2	Early Native Hunters	The Farmers' Market	Basketball	Green Gables	World's Largest Tomahawk	Keeping Warm Up Top	He Shoots! He Scores!	Ski-Dog	Have You Got the Time?	Customs and Traditions	O Canada	What is an Artifact?	Underground Railroad	Our Fair Domain	Yellowknife	Happy Birthday!
Language Skills																
• Verbs and Verb Tense	•															
• Nouns and Adjectives		•														
• Verbs/Adverbs			•													
• Prepositions				•												
• Contractions					•											
• Abbreviations					•											
• Prefixes						•										
• Suffixes						•										
• Synonyms/Antonyms							•									
• Compound Words								•								
• Conjunctions and, or, but									•							
• Interrogative Sentences										•						
• Paragraph Writing											•					
• Capitalization/Punctuation												•				
• Punctuation - Comma													•			
• Proofreading														•	•	
• Run-on Sentences																•
• Creative Expression	•	•		•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
• Completing a Chart			•			•		•								





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Ice Fishing

“Boys, come here,” my dad called to my brother and me.
“How would you like to go ice fishing?” he asked.

Jake and I always had fun whenever Dad wanted to try something. So we ran downstairs to hear about this plan.

“We need warm suits, mitts and boots,” said Dad.
“We’ll bring along some blankets too.”

Soon we were off! We had all our gear and some lunch Mom had made. We loaded our things onto a sleigh and headed out onto the lake. Soon we came to our uncle’s fishing shack. A fishing shack is like a little house. It has a small stove and camp chairs. You can get warm and eat lunch in it.

Dad cut some round holes in the ice with an ice auger. We put some bait on our hooks to get ready to catch some fish. Our fishing poles are short so they are easy to handle. “Now we are ready,” said Dad. “Ice fishing takes lots of time and patience.” We sat holding onto our poles, waiting for a bite.

We waited and waited and waited. All of a sudden, I felt a sharp tug on my line. I pulled hard and the fish pulled back just as hard. Finally I pulled that fish up out of the hole. It was only 15 centimetres long! “Too small,” said Dad. “You will have to put it back.”

All day we fished but we only caught little fish. But we sure had a lot of fun! Soon it was time to pack up and go home. We all thought that it would have been great to surprise Mom by bringing home some fish for supper.

Wait a minute! What’s that smell coming from the kitchen? Yum! Hamburgers!





Ice Fishing

A. Word Power

1. Match these words from the story to their meanings.
Write the letter for each word in front of the correct meaning.

Word	Letter	Meaning
a) bait		A unit for measuring length
b) centimetres		A tool for making a hole in the ice
c) fishing shack		Being able to put up with troubles without getting upset or angry
d) ice auger		Something used to attract the fish
e) ice fishing		A small house on the ice used by fishermen
f) patience		Trying to catch fish through a hole in the ice

2. Hard and Soft "C"

The consonant "c" usually has a hard sound. (sounds like "k")

Examples: candy call could

When "c" is followed by "e", "i" or "y," it usually has a soft sound. (sounds like "s")

Examples: city cereal cyclone

Read these words from your story.

Write **H** if "c" has a **hard** sound. Write **S** if "c" has a **soft** sound.

- a) come _____ d) patience _____
 b) ice _____ e) centimetres _____
 c) catch _____ f) coming _____



Name: _____

Date: _____



Ice Fishing



B. Understanding the Story

We read a story carefully to understand the words and the ideas.

If we want to find answers quickly, we can **skim** the story.

To **skim** a story means to **glance through** it to find details or facts.

1. **Skim** the story “Ice Fishing” to find the answers to these questions.

Write one or more words on the blanks.

a) How many people are going ice fishing? _____

b) Name three things they will wear ice fishing. _____

c) What is a fishing shack? _____

d) Who owns the ice shack? _____

e) What did they use to make holes in the ice? _____

f) Are ice fishing poles long or short? _____

2. Explain in your own words:

“Ice fishing takes a lot of patience.” _____

3. What smell was coming from the kitchen? _____

4. Why do you think Mom was cooking hamburgers instead of waiting for fish?

