

Short Stories to Improve Grade 2 Reading Curriculum Map

Your independent reader will enjoy the stories and activities while extending literacy skills.

- Each story 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.

Each includes a one page story, and three worksheets.

- Part A: Word Power
- Part B: Understanding the Story
- Part C: Using Your Ideas

Story One: Our Country Canada

- Skills:
 - Using Context Clues
 - Following Directions
 - Alphabetical Order
 - Subject/Verb Agreement

Story Two: The Canadian Moose

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Classifying Details
 - Spelling
 - Kinds of Nouns

Story Three: Sugar From the Trees

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Sequential Ordering
 - Consonant Digraphs

Story Four: Swimming Home – Salmon

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Classifying Details
 - Consonant Blends

Story Five: Life in the Pack

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Recalling Details
 - Long/Short Vowels
 - Syllabication

Story Six: Our Canadian Flag

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Brainstorming
 - Rhyming
 - Vowel Digraphs
 - Consonant Digraphs

Story Seven: Pumpkins! Pumpkins!

- Skills:
 - Sequential Ordering
 - Following Directions
 - Word Meanings
 - Subject/Verb Agreement

Story Eight: Saving Our Water

- Skills:
 - Context Clues
 - Following Written Directions
 - Recalling Information
 - Classifying Information
 - Recognizing Common Nouns

Story Nine: The Northern Lights

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Ordering Words to Make Sentences
 - Recognizing Proper Nouns

Story Ten: Groundhog Day

- Skills:
 - Following Directions
 - Recalling Details
 - Word Meanings
 - Double Vowels

Story Eleven: Canadian Money

- Skills:
 - Using Context Clues
 - Following Directions
 - Word Meanings
 - Syllabication

Story Twelve: Fun in Canada (fun things in every season)

- Skills:
 - Classifying Sentences
 - Following Directions
 - Spelling

Story Thirteen: The RCMP and the Musical Ride

- Skills:
 - Classifying Sentences
 - Following Directions
 - Spelling
 - Word Meanings
 - Plural Nouns
 - Kinds of Nouns



"Did you know that Canada can make its own light show?" asked Mr. Dixon
"Mother Nature can make our sky light up with many colours."

The Northern Lights



The Northern Lights are seen in the dark Arctic sky.
Hot electrons from the sun collide with gases in the cold Arctic air.
They make a colourful light show as they whirl and dance around.
The lights glow in shades of purple, blue, green, yellow and sometimes red.
The pattern keeps changing as the light moves around.

The Inuit believed that the lights were a powerful spirit.
They were seen as having magic in them.
People believed that if you whistled to the Northern Lights, they would come to you.
If you spit at them, they would run away.

Some Inuit believed that the Northern lights were dangerous.
They would stay indoors when the lights were shining.
Sometimes they would go outside, but would be very quiet.

Northern Lights are also called "Aurora Borealis."



The Northern Lights

A. Antonyms are words that mean the **opposite**.

Examples: dark - light night - day

Synonyms are words that mean the same.

Examples: big - huge little - tiny

Write **A** if the words are **antonyms**. (opposites)

Write **S** if the words are **synonyms**. (same)

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. dark - light ____ | 4. colourful - bright ____ |
| 2. powerful - strong ____ | 5. come - run away ____ |
| 3. dangerous - safe ____ | 6. outside - inside ____ |

B. Put each group of words in order to make a good sentence.

1. Arctic sky are seen The Northern Lights in the dark
- _____

2. a powerful spirit were The Inuit believed that the lights
- _____

3. also called Northern Lights Aurora Borealis are
- _____



The Northern Lights

C. Synonyms and Antonyms

Read these sentences from your story.

Write words from the story that **mean the opposite** of the one in the brackets. ()

Check in your story if you need help.

1. The Inuit believed that the lights were a (weak) _____ spirit.
2. People believed that if you whistled to the Northern Lights, they would (run away) _____

Now write words from the story that **mean the same** as the ones in the brackets. ()

Check in your story if you need help.

3. Some Inuit believed that the Northern Lights were (harmful) _____
4. They would stay (inside) _____ when the lights were (glowing) _____
5. Choose one of the sentences and draw a picture of it in the shape box below.



The Northern Lights

D. Read the paragraph from the story.

Illustrate the paragraph to show its meaning.

Be sure to include each group of words that are underlined.

The Northern Lights are seen in the dark Arctic sky.

Hot electrons from the sun collide with gases in the cold Arctic air.

They make a colourful light show.

They whirl and dance around.

They glow in shades of purple, blue, green, yellow and sometimes red.

The pattern keeps changing as the light moves around.

The Northern Lights

A. 1. A. 2. S 3. A 4. S 5. A 6. A

B. 1. The Northern Lights are seen in the dark Arctic sky. 2. The Inuit believed that the lights were a powerful spirit. 3. Northern Lights are also called Aurora Borealis.

C. 1. powerful 2. come 3. dangerous 4. indoors, shining D. Illustration

