# READING FLUENCY & COMPREHENSION TOOLKIT

MARK PENNINGTON

ASSESSMENT AND PRACTICE



FLUENCIES COMPREHENSION WORKSHEETS



129 YouTube Modeled Readings

Pets are nice. Pets live with us. They can be good friends. Pets make people happy. They can be very fun.

Some pets are very smart. Many can be trained to do what people say. Pets may come to us when we call. Some can do special tricks. Some even seem to talk to us with a "bark," a "meow," or a "chirp."

Many people enjoy life more with pets. Pets can be good company. Pets can help people feel less lonely. Some pets help us feel better. Pets can even help us get more exercise.

Not all animals make good pets. Most wild animals are afraid of people. Others could be dangerous, like large cats or bears. It would be too hard to care for some animals. They might need a special place to live or special food to eat.

Pets and owners must make a good match. People need to think carefully about some things before getting a pet. A pet owner needs to have a good place for a pet to live. A small apartment may be perfect for a fish or hamster, but not for a large dog or cat. Also, some pets cost more to keep than others. Large pets eat more than small ones, and their cost of medical care can be expensive. People need to consider how much time they will be able to spend with their pets. Pets need plenty of human attention to stay happy.

The most popular pets worldwide are dogs and cats. There are slightly more cats than dogs. Birds, hamsters, turtles, snakes, lizards, and fish are also the pets of choice for many people. In the last few years pets have become more "exotic." Many people are now keeping ferrets and monkeys as pets. Most local governments have laws restricting which pets are acceptable in their communities.

Pet owners need to be responsible with their pets. Adult pets need to be spayed or neutered to prevent unplanned litters. According to the Humane Society, over three million unwanted pets are put to sleep each year. Also, mixed breed cats and dogs can make wonderful pets. In fact, some of the best pets can be adopted from local animal shelters at little cost. Pets are valuable friends and need our very best care.

Total Number of Words Read

- Total Number of Mistakes

- Total Number of Words Read

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# Animal Article Fluency Timings Name \_\_\_\_\_

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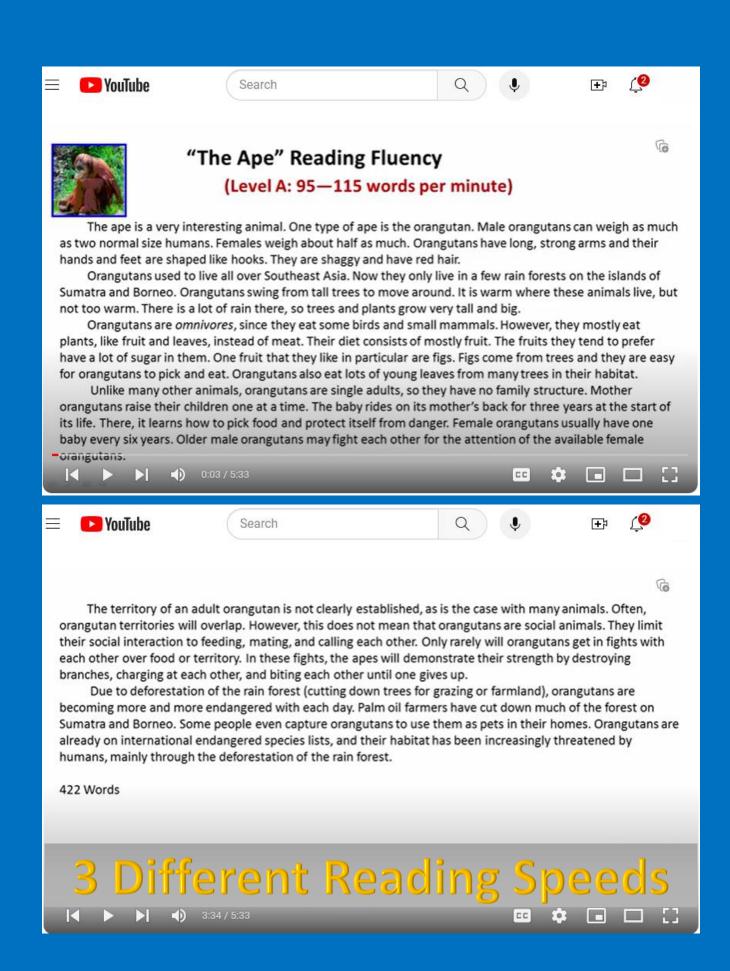
# of Words Read in Two-Minute Timing

# "The Ape" Reading Fluency #1

The ape is a very interesting animal. One 8 type of ape is the orangutan. Male orangutans orangutan can weigh as much as two normal size humans. 16 Sumatra Females weigh about half as much. Orangutans 25 Borneo 32 have long, strong arms and their hands and feet omnivore are shaped like hooks. They are shaggy and have 41 endangered 50 red hair. species 52 Orangutans used to live all over Southeast 59 Asia. Now they only live in a few rain forests on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo. Orangutans swing from tall trees to move 73 83 around. It is warm where these animals live, but not too warm. There 96 is a lot of rain there, so trees and plants grow very tall and big. Orangutans are *omnivores*, since they eat some birds and small 111 121 mammals. However, they mostly eat plants, like fruit and leaves, instead of meat. Their diet consists of mostly fruit. The fruits they tend to prefer have a 133 lot of sugar in them. Figs are the favorite fruit of the orangutans. Figs come 148 from trees and they are easy for orangutans to pick and eat. Orangutans also 164 179 eat lots of young leaves from many trees in their habitat. Unlike many other animals, orangutans are single adults, so they have 189 200 no family structure. Mother orangutans raise their children one at a time. The 213 baby rides on its mother's back for three years at the start of its life. There, it 230 learns how to pick food and protect itself from danger. Female orangutans usually have one baby every six years. Older male orangutans may fight each 242 255 other for the attention of the available female orangutans. 264 The territory of an adult orangutan is not clearly established, as is the case with many animals. Often, 282 orangutan territories will overlap. However, this does not mean that orangutans are social animals. They limit 298 their social interaction to feeding, mating, and calling each other. Only rarely will orangutans get in fights with 316 each other over food or territory. In these fights, the apes will demonstrate their strength by destroying 333 branches, charging at each other, and biting each other until one gives up. 346 Due to deforestation of the rain forest (cutting down trees for grazing or farmland), orangutans are 362 becoming more and more endangered with each day. Palm oil farmers have cut down much of the forest on 381 Sumatra and Borneo. Some people even capture orangutans to use them as pets in their homes. Orangutans are 399 already on international endangered species lists, and their habitat has been increasingly threatened by 413 humans, mainly through the deforestation of the rain forest. 422 Total Number of Words Read Total Number of Words Read - Total Number of Mistakes - Total Number of Mistakes

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# "The Ape" Comprehension Worksheet #1

The ape is a very interesting animal. One type of ape is the orangutan. Male orangutans can weigh as much as two normal size humans. Females weigh about half as much. Orangutans have long, strong arms and their hands and feet are shaped like hooks. They are shaggy and have red hair.

Orangutans used to live all over Southeast Asia. Now they only live in a few rain forests on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo. Orangutans swing from tall trees to move around. It is warm where these animals live, but not too warm. There is a lot of rain there, so trees and plants grow very tall and big.

Orangutans are *omnivores*, since they eat some birds and small mammals. However, they mostly eat plants, like fruit and leaves, instead of meat. Their diet consists of mostly fruit. The fruits they tend to prefer have a lot of sugar in them. Figs are the favorite fruit of the orangutans. Figs come from trees and they are easy for orangutans to pick and eat. Orangutans also eat lots of young leaves from many trees in their habitat.

Unlike many other animals, orangutans are single adults, so they have no family structure. Mother orangutans raise their children one at a time. The baby rides on its mother's back for three years at the start of its life. There, it learns how to pick food and protect itself from danger. Female orangutans usually have one baby every six years. Older male orangutans may fight each other for the attention of the available female orangutans.

The territory of an adult orangutan is not clearly established, as is the case with many animals. Often, orangutan territories will overlap. However, this does not mean that orangutans are social animals. They limit their social **interaction** to feeding, mating, and calling each other. Only rarely will orangutans get in fights with each other over food or territory. In these fights, the apes will **demonstrate** their strength by destroying branches, charging at each other, and biting each other until one gives up.

Due to deforestation of the rain forest (cutting down trees for grazing or farmland), orangutans are becoming more and more endangered with each day. Palm oil farmers have cut down much of the forest on Sumatra and Borneo. Some people even capture orangutans to use them as pets in their homes. Orangutans are already on international endangered species lists, and their habitat has been increasingly threatened by humans, mainly through the deforestation of the rain forest.

Predict	(1) Why has the habitat of orangutans decreased?
Re-think	(2) How do orangutans depend on their habitat?
Summarize	(3) Summarize their family relationships.
$\forall$	(4) What other animals prefer independence and being alone to close relationships?
Connect	(5) How could orangutans be saved?

**Interpret** 

#### **SCRIP**

# Comprehension Cues

#### Summarize

- ☑ Put the big idea into a smaller one.
- ☑ Put the main idea and key details into your own words.

#### Connect

- ☑ Think about how the reading relates to other reading.
- ☑ Visualize what's going on in the reading.

#### **Re-think**

- ☑ Re-read for better understanding or look at what is said in a different way.
- ☑ Ask questions or make comments about the reading.

## Interpret

- ☑ Think about what the author really means.
- Draw a conclusion or figure out what is implied (suggested).

#### **Predict**

☑ Based upon what has happened or what has been said, guess what will happen or what the text will say next.

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