

# Introduction

The Reading Comprehension Card Set is a collection of 60 progressively difficult stories. The set includes non-fiction and fiction stories to engage students with varied interests and learning styles and expose them to different genres. The non-fiction stories are based on content areas of maths, science, and social studies for year seven students. The stories include five multiple-choice questions for students to answer after reading the stories orally or silently.

The set is designed to provide supplemental activities to a reading programme and can be used in a language learning station, whole-class activity, or independent work. Cards are sequentially numbered to encourage independent practice and self-pacing.

The cards are levelled in progression of reading ability to allow teachers to challenge students at individual reading levels. The table of contents indicates the AL (Attainment Level) and TYG (Targeted Year Group) of each card. Teachers are encouraged to evaluate the cards and adjust the levels according to their own observations.

Each card includes a short story and photograph to aid reading comprehension. Use the story cards individually or photocopy them for small-group or whole-class reading activities.

Five multiple-choice comprehension questions are listed on the reverse side of each story card. The questions focus on subjects including: main idea, cause and effect, sequencing, predicting outcomes, making inferences, context clues, and drawing conclusions.

Use the student answer-sheet template card to track answers and scores. Make enough copies of the answer sheet for students to work independently. The answer sheet includes an area for students to create their own 5W questions (who, what, when, where, and why) to extend comprehension skills. These questions will vary and should be marked subjectively. Use a wet-erase marker with the story cards for individual quick-response answers.

Note: For multiple uses of each card, always use a wet-erase marker. To ensure that your marker doesn't leave a permanent mark, test it on the corner of a card. Use a damp cloth to remove marks. Cards will warp if saturated with water.

Use the answer key for a quick reference when marking. Record and track students' progress on each story using the record sheets. Make copies of this sheet to use with multiple classes. Do not store the answer key and record sheets in the box of cards that students can easily access. The recorded data is a great discussion tool during parent-teacher meetings.

<b>Table of Contents</b>		<b>Fiction</b>	<b>Content Area</b>	<b>TYG</b>	<b>AL</b>
<b>Card</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Non-Fiction</b>			
1	The Perfect Catch	Fiction		7	4
2	Rotation vs. Revolution	Non-Fiction	Science	7	4
3	Mountain Getaway	Fiction		7	4
4	The Vegetable Garden	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	4
5	Over The Bridge and into the Woods	Fiction		7	4
6	The Caste System of India	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	4
7	Friendly Bus Driver	Fiction		7	4
8	The Phases of the Moon	Non-Fiction	Science	7	4
9	Cabin in the Woods	Fiction		7	4
10	Rain, rain go away!	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	4
11	Toasting Marshmallows	Fiction		7	4
12	The Great Wall of China	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	4
13	On the Shore	Fiction		7	4
14	Black Holes	Non-Fiction	Science	7	4
15	Big City	Fiction		7	4
16	Pizza Party	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	4
17	Cowboy Ride	Fiction		7	4
18	Clothing of Ancient India	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	4
19	Snow-Covered Cows	Fiction		7	4
20	Far, Far Away	Non-Fiction	Science	7	4
21	Shaggy Dog	Fiction		7	5
22	Guitars Are for Girls	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
23	A Special Walk	Fiction		7	5
24	Mummies	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5
25	Anyone There?	Fiction		7	5
26	The Erupting Earth	Non-Fiction	Science	7	5
27	Running on the Beach	Fiction		7	5
28	Art Assignment	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
29	Slam Dunk!	Fiction		7	5
30	Chinese New Year	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5

\*AL - Attainment Level

\*TYG - Targeted Year Group

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<b>Card</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Non-Fiction</b>			
31	Flying Kites	Fiction		7	5
32	What type of plant is it?	Non-Fiction	Science	7	5
33	Toys and More Toys	Fiction		7	5
34	Chocolate Winner	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
35	Milk and Cookies	Fiction		7	5
36	Olympia	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5
37	Sent to the Office	Fiction		7	5
38	Healthy Choices	Non-Fiction	Science	7	5
39	Rosies Ri de Home	Fiction		7	5
40	How many more cookies?	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
41	Over the Rainbow	Fiction		7	5
42	Stonehenge	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5
43	Road Trip	Fiction		7	5
44	Earthquakes	Non-Fiction	Science	7	5
45	Buffalo Crossing	Fiction		7	5
46	Gumballs	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
47	No running in the halls!	Fiction		7	5
48	The Colosseum	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5
49	Tony and the Bird	Fiction		7	5
50	The International Space Station	Non-Fiction	Science	7	5
51	Petting Zoo	Fiction		7	5
52	What's on your pizza?	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
53	A Day at the Rink	Fiction		7	5
54	Medieval Castles	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5
55	The Mysterious Store	Fiction		7	5
56	Newton's Laws of Motion	Non-Fiction	Science	7	5
57	Traffic Jam	Fiction		7	5
58	Chocolate Pie for the Queen	Non-Fiction	Maths	7	5
59	Taxi Ride	Fiction		7	5
60	Ancient Egyptian Pyramids	Non-Fiction	Soc. St.	7	5

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# The Perfect Catch

1A

**J**ohnny Chin was having a miserable afternoon, and that meant his entire rounders team was having one, too. Nobody could understand what had happened to the best fielder on the team. The Fakenham Falcons knew they could rely on Johnny to catch everything that came his way: pop-ups, **hurtling** comets, even the lazy ones that seemed to float **languorously** in the air like soap bubbles. **Invariably** the balls would end up smack in the middle of Johnny's **capacious** grasp.

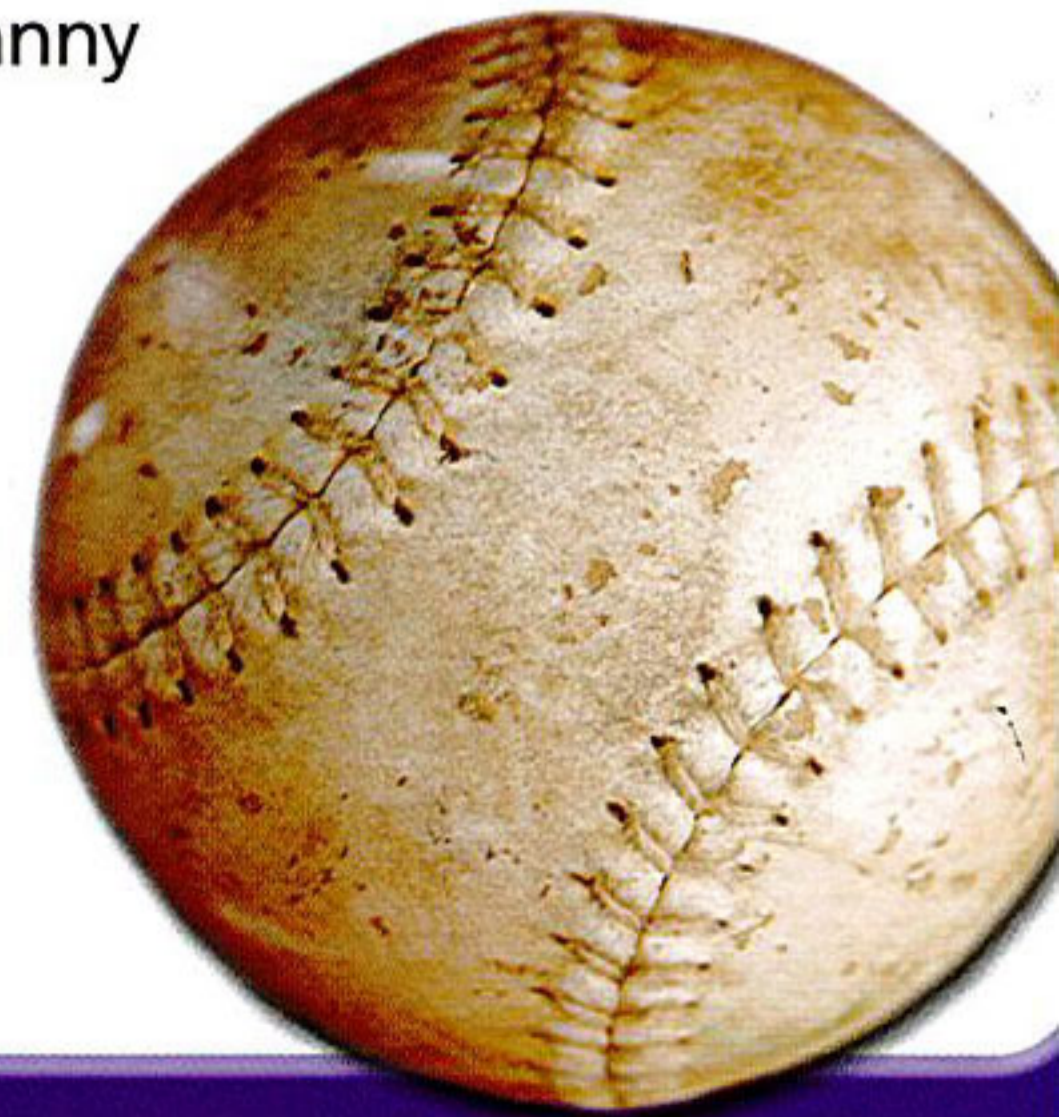
But today Johnny seemed to have lost his confidence; the balls came flying his way, but he just couldn't catch them. The Falcons were losing 6 to 4, and to make matters worse, they were losing to their most **noxious** rivals, the Roxburg Rockheads.

At the beginning of the seventh inning, team captain Paul Jones strode over. "It's all psychological,"

he told Johnny. "I've seen you catch that ball a hundred times with no problem. You just have to stop agonizing about what'll happen if you don't."

Johnny shrugged; maybe Paul was right—maybe if he stopped worrying and just allowed things to happen, his catching would improve. It certainly couldn't get any worse.

Johnny caught the next ball that came his way with ease, without even thinking about it. It was a perfect catch, and Johnny knew his slump was over.



# The Perfect Catch

## Comprehension Questions

1B

1. Why does Johnny have trouble catching the ball during the game?
  - a. He can't concentrate because he is stressed out about his schoolwork.
  - b. He allows his worries and fears to get the better of him.
  - c. The Rockhead batters hit the ball harder than anyone else.
2. Why are the Falcons losing the rounders game?
  - a. The Rockheads have been cheating.
  - b. Their best fielder no longer cares about the rest of the team.
  - c. Their best fielder has lost his self-confidence.
3. What does **invariably** mean?
  - a. constantly
  - b. greatly
  - c. occasionally
4. Johnny gets his confidence back after
  - a. a long-overdue heart-to-heart with his father.
  - b. a pep talk from the team captain.
  - c. he finds his missing lucky cap.
5. Why, at the end of the story, does Johnny believe that his slump is over?
  - a. He's no longer letting his nervousness stop him from catching the ball.
  - b. He's learned a secret scientific method for catching fast-moving balls.
  - c. He's decided to quit rounders and take up rugby instead.