

INTRODUCTION

95 Readables™
Sample Pack

Contents

This sample pack includes select content from the grade 2 nonfiction series **Wild Neighbors: Exploring Animal Habitats**

- From the **Teacher's guide** you will find
 - Table of contents for all teacher support for each book in the grade 2 series
 - Sample phonics guide
 - Scope and sequence
 - Educator companion for **Forest Friends**, which includes a vocabulary guide, comprehension questions, extension activities, writing prompts, and more
- A sample of book 2 in the **Wild Neighbors: Exploring Animal Habitats** series, **Forest Friends**, includes:
 - 2 full chapters
 - Phonics guide so you can see the specific skills students are practicing as they read the chapter
 - Beautiful full-color images to create a memorable and engaging introduction to chapter books!

Teacher's guide for

Wild Neighbors: Exploring
Animal Habitats

Aligned with the 95 Phonics Core Progress



A nonfiction decodable series for grade 2

- Vocabulary guides
- Comprehension questions
- Response to reading strategies
- Graphic organizers
- Written responses

Scope & Sequence		30 decodable texts across 6 books
Book 1: Desert Detectives - Decades of Grade 1 Skills		95 Phonics Core Progress
Ch. 1: Vowel Blends: Consonant Digraphs, Final Blends		Lesson 1
Ch. 2: Initial 3-Letter Blends and Final Blends		Lesson 2
Ch. 3: Phonograms		Lesson 3
Ch. 4: Long Vowel Teams in Single Syllable		Lesson 4
Ch. 5: Open Single Syllable		Lesson 5
Ch. 6: Inflected Endings: -ed, -ing		Lesson 6
Book 2: Forest Friends - Vowel Teams		95 Phonics Core Progress
Ch. 1: Predictable Vowel Teams: ig, ua, ee, ie		Lesson 7
Ch. 2: Predictable Vowel Teams: ie, ee, ie, ee, ie		Lesson 8 and 9
Ch. 3: Unpredictable Vowel Teams: ie, ee		Lesson 10 and 11
Ch. 4: Unpredictable Vowel Teams: ee, ie		Lesson 12 and 13
Ch. 5: Unpredictable Vowel Teams: ee, ie		Lesson 14 and 15
Ch. 6: Review Predictable Vowel Teams and Unpredictable Vowel Teams		Lesson 16 and 17
Book 3: Under the Sea - Vowel & Complex Consonants		95 Phonics Core Progress
Ch. 1: Vowel - Single Syllable: ee, ie, ee, ie, ee		Lesson 18 and 19
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Ch. 3: Silent Letter: ge, ve, ve, ve, ve		Lesson 21
Ch. 4: Complex Consonants: ck, k, ck, ck, ck, ck		Lesson 22
Ch. 5: Hard/Soft: g and j		Lesson 23
Ch. 6: Review Vowel - Single Syllable, Vowel - Phonograms, Silent Letter, Complex Consonants		Lesson 24 and 25
Book 4: Purr, Purr - Vowel Teams, Vowel & Consonant in 30 Decodable Syllable Types		95 Phonics Core Progress
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Book 5: Backyard Buddies - Long Vowel Teams in & Open Syllable Types		95 Phonics Core Progress
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Ch. 2: Long Vowel Teams in Multisyllable		Lesson 33
Ch. 3: Open Single Syllable		Lesson 34
Ch. 4: Open Multisyllable		Lesson 35
Book 6: The Savannah Squad - The 6 Syllable Types		95 Phonics Core Progress
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Ch. 2: Vowel - Multisyllable		Lesson 37
Ch. 3: 6 Syllable Types		Lesson 38
Ch. 4: 6 Syllable Types		Lesson 39

Scope & Sequence

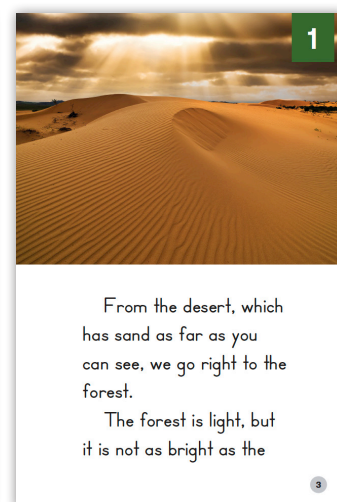
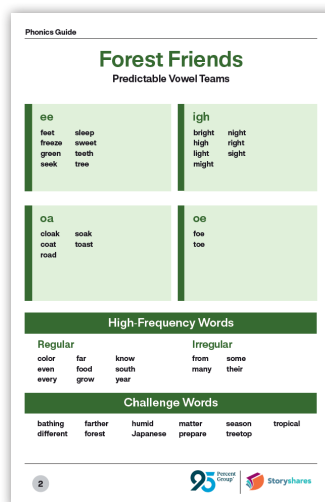
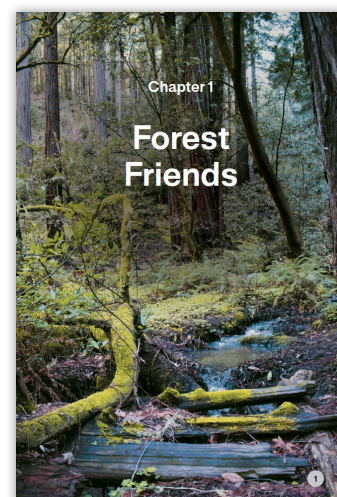
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Ch. 3: Open Single Syllable		Lesson 34
Ch. 4: Open Multisyllable		Lesson 35
Book 6: The Savannah Squad - The 6 Syllable Types		95 Phonics Core Progress
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Ch. 3: 6 Syllable Types		Lesson 38
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Storyshares



Teacher's guide for

Wild Neighbors: Exploring Animal Habitats

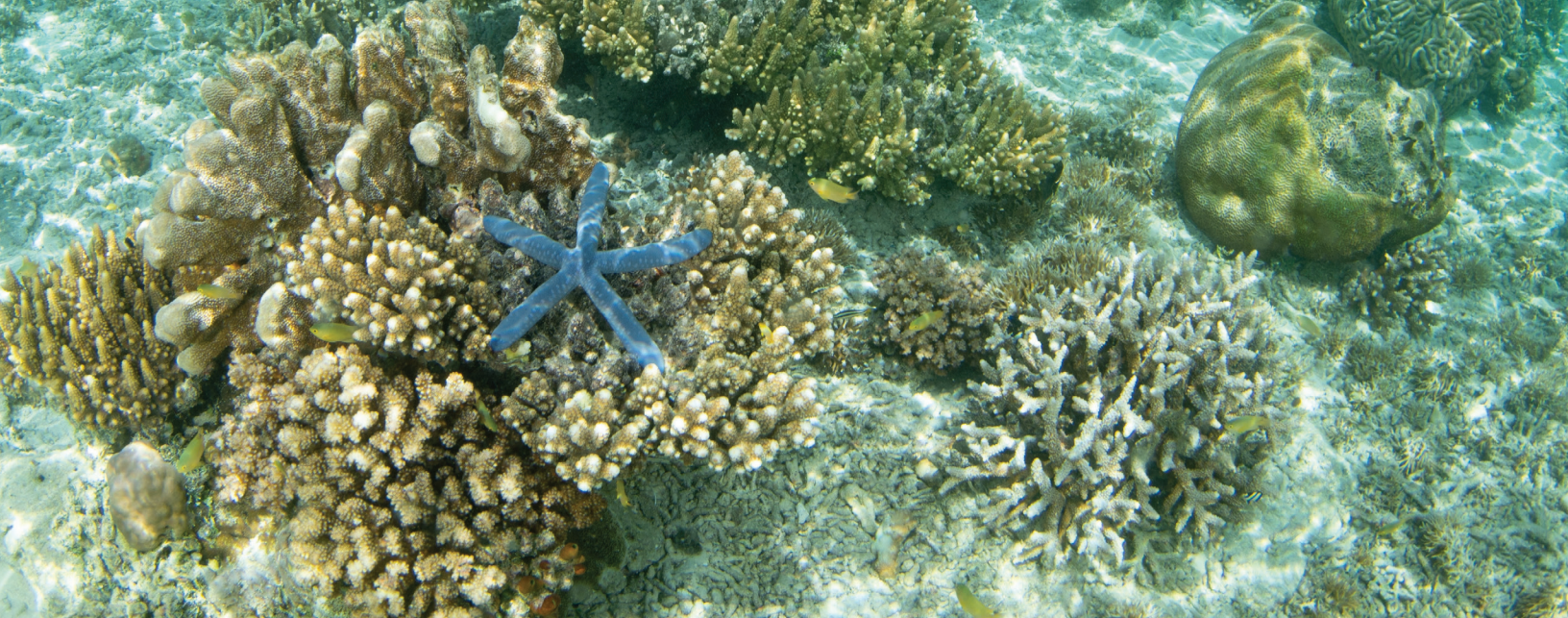
Aligned with the 95 Phonics Core Program®



A nonfiction decodable series for grade 2

- Vocabulary guides
- Comprehension questions
- Response to reading strategies
- Graphic organizers
- Written responses





Wild Neighbors: Exploring Animal Habitats is a collection of decodables.

Science Concepts

Dive into a fun nonfiction series that explores the world's most amazing ecosystems! From deserts to coral reefs to your own backyard, discover fascinating animals and how they survive and thrive. Get ready to explore, learn, and become a wildlife expert!

Scope and Sequence

The sequence of stories is aligned with the progression of skills as outlined in the 95 Phonics Core Program® Grade 2 Scope and Sequence. The first book consists of a review of grade 1 skills. The series progresses with the final book being an introduction to grade 3 skills.

Guidance and Support

In addition to being paired with the 95 Phonics Core Program, books will also be paired with relevant word lists, ideas for extended practice, and checks for understanding.

ABOUT STORYSHARES

Storyshares is a literacy organization and niche publisher dedicated to bringing the transformational power of books to striving readers all across the globe.

We meet underserved readers wherever they are, providing culturally inclusive texts that are filled with diverse, relatable, and compelling characters brought to life with accessible language and formatting.

"Easy to read but hard to put down," our library is home to choices that readers of all ages can and want to read as they work to strengthen key literacy skills.

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Phonics Guides

Phonics Guide

Saharan Silver Ants

Inflectional Endings

-s/-es ants gifts hopes lets nests sands	-ed killed	-ing being hunting during running finding speeding getting standing
---	----------------------	--

High-Frequency Words

Regular	Irregular			
after	also	live	other	their
body	from	of	person	world
few	hour	only	some	
first				
keep				

Challenge Words

avoid	died	insect	minute	silver
cover	dinner	length	named	worst
degree	hairs	lizard	Saharan	

60

Each chapter begins with a **Phonics Guide** to help educators move students through the scope and sequence.

Examples of focus words that reinforce phonics concepts are previewed for educators at the beginning of each chapter.

High-frequency words are showcased ahead of time and spiraled in each subsequent chapter.

Challenge words that do not follow the scope and sequence are highlighted for previewing and interactive oral reading.

Scope & Sequence

30 decodable texts across 6 books

Book 1: <i>Desert Detectives</i> Review of Grade 1 Skills	95 Phonics Core Program®
Ch. 1: Initial Blends, Consonant Digraphs, Floss Rule Ch. 2: Initial 3-Letter Blends and Final Blends Ch. 3: Phonograms Ch. 4: Long Vowel Silent-e Single Syllable Ch. 5: Open Single Syllable Ch. 6: Inflectional Endings: -s/-es, -ed, -ing	Lesson 1 Lesson 2 Lesson 3 Lesson 4 Lesson 4 Lesson 5
Book 2: <i>Forest Friends</i> Vowel Teams	95 Phonics Core Program®
Ch. 1: Predictable Vowel Teams: igh, oa, ee, oe Ch. 2: Predictable Vowel Teams: ai, ay, oi, oy, au, aw Ch. 3: Unpredictable Vowel Teams: ie, ow Ch. 4: Unpredictable Vowel Teams: ea, oo Ch. 5: Unpredictable Vowel Teams: ou, ew Ch. 6: Review: Predictable Vowel Teams and Unpredictable Vowel Teams	Lessons 6 and 7 Lessons 8 and 9 Lessons 11 and 12 Lessons 13 and 14 Lessons 15 and 16 Lessons 10 and 17
Book 3: <i>Under the Sea</i> Vowel-r & Complex Consonants	95 Phonics Core Program®
Ch. 1: Vowel-r Single Syllable: ar, or, er, ur, ir Ch. 2: Vowel-r Phonograms: air/are, oar/ore, ear/ere Ch. 3: Silent Letters: gn, kn, mb, wr Ch. 4: Complex Consonants: ck, k, tch, ch, dge, ge Ch. 5: Hard/Soft c and g Ch. 6: Review: Vowel-r Single Syllable, Vowel-r Phonograms, Silent Letters, Complex Consonants	Lessons 18 and 19 Lesson 20 Lesson 22 Lesson 23 Lesson 24 Lessons 21 and 25
Book 4: <i>Polar Pals</i> Vowel Teams, Vowel-r, Consonant-le, & Closed Syllable Types	95 Phonics Core Program®
Ch. 1: Vowel Teams Single Syllable, Vowel-r Single Syllable Ch. 2: Consonant-le Multisyllable Ch. 3: Closed Multisyllable Ch. 4: Closed Multisyllable	Lessons 10, 17, and 21 Lesson 26 Lesson 27 Lesson 27
Book 5: <i>Backyard Safari</i> Long Vowel Silent-e & Open Syllable Types	95 Phonics Core Program®
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Book 2: Forest Friends



Vocabulary Guide for *Forest Friends*

Strategies for Building Vocabulary

Before Reading	During Reading	After Reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Use relevant images to help students visualize and understand new words.▪ Break down words into their prefixes, roots, and suffixes. Define each morpheme and guide students to infer the overall meaning based on their knowledge of these morphemes.▪ Connect new words to real-world examples. This can be a great opportunity to tell engaging stories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Prompt students to use new vocabulary in their responses during discussions and in response to the comprehension questions.▪ Encourage students to use the context in the sentences to infer the meanings of the vocabulary words.▪ Ask students to describe connections between two or more words on a page, encouraging them to use both in a sentence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage students to use at least one of the words in their written responses.▪ Now that students have been exposed to multiple words in context, encourage them to sort the vocabulary words into categories.▪ Encourage students to share examples or synonyms of the words and use those examples to make a word web.

Chapter One: Forest Friends

chatter (verb): to close (teeth) together quickly, again and again, usually because of the cold

- Page 5: "Some in the north can freeze and make your teeth **chatter**."

cloak (noun): covering that hides whatever is underneath it

- Page 5: "Some in the south soak in hot and humid rain, but still, under the **cloak** of night, might make you wish for a coat."

foe (noun): enemy

- Page 12: "Each animal has a set of gifts that prepare it to find food and stay safe from **foes**."

seek (verb): to look for

- Page 9: "The animals here **seek** a home high in the vines and treetops."

tropical (adjective): having a hot and humid climate

- Page 9: “If your feet take you even farther south, there are much warmer forests where you can get a sight of **tropical** plants.”
-

Chapter Two: The Moose

lay claim to (verb): to take

- Page 18: “When it comes to size, a moose can **lay claim to** a top spot.”

faint (adjective): hard to notice

- Page 23: “From far away, they can pick up the **faint** smell or noise of an enemy.”

hooves (noun): plural of “hoof,” the hard covering over a moose’s foot

- Page 19: “The moose’s **hooves** are wide, and its legs are long.”

resourceful (adjective): good at solving problems

- Page 21: “There is a lot of food, and the moose is **resourceful**.”
-

Chapter Three: The Hedgehog

froth (noun): a group of small bubbles

- Page 38: “It will make a **froth** from the plant and lick it onto its spines.”

temperate (adjective): having a mild climate that is not very hot or very cold

- Page 31: “Down south of the forests where moose live are more **temperate** forests.”

thrive (verb): to grow or do well

- Page 31: “Here you can find animals that **thrive** in wild lands where the snow does not blow as much.”
-

Chapter Four: The Sharp-Shinned Hawk

dense (adjective): having a lot of something in a small area

- Page 51: “Small size is not a point of pride for many animals, but for the sharp-shinned hawk, it makes the **dense** forest a good home.”

stake out (verb): to watch and hunt from a spot

- Page 48: “If the little birds hide, the hawk will **stake out** backyard bird feeders.”
-

talon (noun): claw of a bird

- Page 45: "With **talons** and a beak that can hook and rip, the sharp-shinned hawk likes to feast on the meat of small birds."
-

Chapter Five: The Jaguar

clout (noun): power, status

- Page 61: "The jaguar's paws give it even more **clout** in the jungle forest."

pounce (verb): to jump on something suddenly

- Page 58: "These spots let it go unseen by its prey until the jaguar is close and can **pounce** upon it."
-

Chapter Six: The Capybara

bog (noun): land that is very wet and muddy

- Page 69: "They prefer to stay in marshes, **bogs**, rivers, and swamps."

marsh (noun): land that is wet and muddy

- Page 69: "They prefer to stay in **marshes**, bogs, rivers, and swamps."

rodent (noun): small mammal with sharp front teeth

- Page 67: "Capybaras are **rodents**, but don't think for a minute that they seem like rats or mice."

Comprehension Questions

Chapter One: Forest Friends

- What are some differences between forests in the north and south?
- What does the land have to have in order for it to be called a forest?
- What does the author mean when they say the trees in the northern forests “sleep more than they wake”?

Chapter Two: The Moose

- What senses help a moose stay safe from danger, and how does it use them?
- How do the moose’s hooves help it survive in its habitat?
- Why is a moose better suited to life in forests of the north than forests of the south?
- Why doesn’t a moose need to hunt to survive?

Chapter Three: The Hedgehog

- Name two ways a hedgehog protects itself from predators, using examples from the text.
- What does the author mean when they say, “The hedgehog may be cute, but it does have the tools to stay safe at home in the forest”?
- Why do hedgehogs sometimes put froth on their spines?
- According to the text, how is a hedgehog similar to and different from a wolf?

Chapter Four: The Sharp-Shinned Hawk

- How does being small help the sharp-shinned hawk survive?
- Why does the sharp-shinned hawk build its nest in the canopy?
- An author’s purpose for writing may be to answer a question, explain something, or describe something. What is this chapter about, and what do you think was the author’s purpose for writing it? How do you know?
- What is the meaning of “roof” in the sentence below?

“The forest’s canopy, or **roof**, must be thick to keep the nest undercover from predators who fly above.”

Chapter Five: The Jaguar

- How does the jaguar's fur help it survive in the jungle?
- Where are some places the jaguar chooses to hunt? Why?
- The main topic is what a piece of writing is mostly about. What is the main topic of Chapter 5?
- How is a jaguar different from other cats?

Chapter Six: The Capybara

- Why does a capybara choose to spend most of its time in a water-rich environment?
- What is special about a capybara's head, and how does that help it survive?
- What are some similarities and differences between a capybara and a jaguar?
- What is the meaning of the word "packs" in the following paragraph?

"Finally, capybaras like to live and sleep in **packs**. They protect each other, if needed, with warnings when an enemy comes close. They also help each other reach the plants they like to eat."

Response to Reading Strategy

Understanding Key Details

Teaching Points

In the last book, we looked at how to support students in identifying the main topic of a text. Students determine the main topic by noticing patterns and making connections across key details. Key details are important pieces of information in a text. They say something about the main topic. Students can discover key details by answering the “five Ws and one H” questions: **Who** is this mostly about? **What** is this mostly about? **Where** does this take place? **Why** is this important? **How** does this connect to what I already know?

Teaching Strategies

1. Encourage students to **craft their own questions** about the text. Independently or in pairs, encourage students to create questions that begin with the five Ws and one H. You can use the questions in the Teaching Points section as examples or you can assign students question words. They can each write a question that begins with that word and then find peers who used different words to write their questions.
 2. Have students find text evidence to **answer the questions** they or their peers created. Students can use sticky notes to flag the evidence that answers the questions. These are key details!
 3. After students have found text evidence, encourage them to **rephrase their evidence** to directly answer the questions. These are their key details too!
-

Graphic Organizer: The Five Ws and One H of the Forest

Directions: As you read, take notes on the answers to these big questions about the book. The answers to these questions are key details that can tell you about the main topic of the book.

What makes a forest a forest?	
Who lives in the forest?	
When do animals rely on the forest?	
Where can you find forests?	
Why is the forest a good home for animals?	
How do animals hide in the forest?	

Written Response

Directions: Use your graphic organizer to help you respond to the question below.

What makes the forest a good place for animals to live? Use key details from the book to support your answer.

Scaffolded Version:

The forest is a good place for animals to live. One key detail that shows this is _____

Another key detail that shows this is _____

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BOOK

2

NONFICTION
SERIES 1

Forest Friends

by Cat Jenkins



Forest Friends

by Cat Jenkins



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The Explorer's Word Log

Let's dive into some key vocabulary words.

Chapter 1

chatter	(verb): to close (teeth) together quickly, again and again, usually because of the cold
cloak	(noun): covering that hides whatever is underneath it
foe	(noun): enemy
seek	(verb): to look for
tropical	(adjective): having a hot and humid climate

Chapter 2

lay claim to	(verb): to take
faint	(adjective): hard to notice
hooves	(noun): plural of "hoof," the hard covering over a moose's foot
resourceful	(adjective): good at solving problems

Chapter 3

froth	(noun): a group of small bubbles
temperate	(adjective): having a mild climate that is not very hot or very cold
thrive	(verb): to grow or do well

Chapter 4

dense (adjective): having a lot of something in a small area

stake out (verb): to watch and hunt from a spot

talon (noun): claw of a bird

Chapter 5

clout (noun): power, status

pounce (verb): to jump on something suddenly

Chapter 6

bog (noun): land that is very wet and muddy

marsh (noun): land that is wet and muddy

rodent (noun): small mammal with sharp front teeth

A vibrant, high-quality photograph of a forest floor. In the foreground, a small stream flows over moss-covered logs and rocks. The water is clear, reflecting the surrounding greenery. The forest floor is covered in a thick layer of moss, ferns, and fallen leaves. In the background, tall, slender trees rise up, their trunks partially obscured by the dense foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Chapter 1

Forest Friends

Forest Friends

Predictable Vowel Teams

ee

feet	sleep
freeze	sweet
green	teeth
seek	tree

igh

bright	night
high	right
light	sight
might	

oa

cloak	soak
coat	toast
road	

oe

foe
toe

High-Frequency Words

Regular

color	far	know
even	food	south
every	grow	year

Irregular

from	some
many	their

Challenge Words

bathing	farther	humid	matter	season	tropical
different	forest	Japanese	prepare	treetop	



From the desert, which
has sand as far as you
can see, we go right to the
forest.

The forest is light, but
it is not as bright as the



desert, where you toast in
the sun. The forest is green,
but there are many kinds of
forests.

Some in the north can
freeze and make your teeth



chatter.

Some in the south soak
in hot and humid rain, but
still, under the cloak of night,
might make you wish for a
coat.



A forest in the north is cold much of the year. The plants know that their time is short, so they sleep more than they wake.

If you take a road south,



it will lead to warm forests
where it is sweet to have

CHAPTER 1

Fun Fact

Time spent under the cloak of a green forest makes you feel good. The Japanese call it **shinrin-yoku**, or “forest bathing.”

🎧)) optional teacher read-aloud



the best of all four seasons.
Here you will find plants
that grow in spring and
summer, and trees that
dress in fall colors.

If your feet take you



even farther south, there are much warmer forests where you can get a sight of tropical plants.

The animals here seek a home high in the vines and



treetops. The forest might
get a rain bath every night.

No matter how different
they are, all forests have a
lot of trees that grow side
by side.



Land can be flat or have sand, a lake, or many hills, but there must be trees for it to be a forest.

Each kind of forest is home to different kinds of



animals. They might fly, swim, or hang from a tree by their toes. Each animal has a set of gifts that prepare it to find food and stay safe from foes.



Let's take a look at how
the forest is home to many.

A full-page photograph of a moose standing in a shallow pond. The moose is dark brown with large, light-colored antlers. It is facing right, and its reflection is visible in the water. The background features a dense forest of evergreen trees and a large, rugged mountain range under a warm, golden light, suggesting sunset or sunrise.

Chapter 2

The Moose

The Moose

Predictable Vowel Teams

ai

air	daily	gain	sail
claim	faint	rain	tail

au

pause

aw

crawl	thaw
jaw	

ay

bay	may
lay	way

oi

join
noise

oy

toy

High-Frequency Words

Regular

after	even	seven
before	family	
easy	far	

Irregular

again	from	through
among	live	
does	often	

Challenge Words

bear	food	moose	return	winter
biggest	hear	North America	strength	wolf
enemy	hoof	pounds	water	



From jaw to tail, moose are the biggest animals in the deer family, and they even join ranks among the biggest animals that live in North America. A moose



may stand seven feet tall and may gain as much as 1,800 pounds after birth. When it comes to size, a moose can lay claim to a top spot.



The moose's hooves are wide, and its legs are long. This makes it easy for the moose to sail through a lake or wade through a bay without a misstep. When



there is a thaw and there is a lot of rain and mud, wide hooves keep the moose from slowing to a crawl.

The moose does not need to hunt or fight for food in



the forest. There is a lot of food, and the moose is resourceful. Its daily meal is twigs, bark, leaves and shoots from the trees and shrubs that grow in forests.



A moose's nose and top lip are made for stripping leaves and grabbing water plants.

The moose has sharp hearing and a keen sense of



smell that forewarns them of danger. From far away, they can pick up the faint smell or noise of an enemy. The moose will often pause and prepare to fight if



it senses that a wolf or
a bear hunts it. One hit
from a moose hoof can
make a wolf sail through
the air like a toy!



A moose's thick fur
keeps it warm in winter
before spring makes a
return.




With its size and strength, the moose is made for the way of life in the cold forests of the north.



CHAPTER 2

Fun Fact

Just as a camel may close its nose to keep sand out, a moose may close its nose as a way to keep water out. This gains the moose time under water when it **dives as deep as 20 feet** to eat water plants.

 optional teacher read-aloud