


2

COURSEBOOK



New
Aster

FOR A STRONG BASE IN ENGLISH

 Pearson

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The Sparrows Get a New Home

1

What do birds use to make their nests? Make a list of five things around you that a bird could use to make its nest.

On Friday nights, Rini and her dad would draw up a 'what to do for the garden' list!

'What will we do tomorrow?' asked Rini.

'Go to the hardware shop,' replied her dad, 'for plywood and nails.'

'Plywood and nails? Whatever for?' asked Rini.

'Think of something special for the garden,' said Father.

But Rini could think of nothing. They already had garden tables and benches. So what was the wood for?

The next day, after they returned home with the material, her dad showed her a sketch. The sketch showed a house that looked very much like a doll's house. But this house had no doors or windows, just one small round hole, right in the centre.



1

‘We’re going to make this,’ said her dad. ‘Can you guess what it is?’
‘Some sort of box?’ said Rini. ‘Maybe you’ll grow creepers in it?’
‘Try again,’ laughed her dad. ‘What does it look like?’
‘A house! A house,’ said Rini, ‘for really small creatures!’
‘Right!’ replied her dad. ‘It’s a bird house. For the sparrows!’
‘But they don’t need houses,’ said Rini. ‘They can make nests.’
‘Well, they used to. But now, in the cities, it’s difficult for sparrows to find safe nesting places. High buildings have replaced old houses. The gardens are small, and there are few trees, so they have a difficult time.’
‘Will it help if we build the house?’ asked Rini.
‘I hope so,’ her dad replied.



And so, a small bird house was built and placed on the window ledge. Both Rini and her dad kept a watch over it. A few months later, they were rewarded. Quiet as mice, they watched a pair of sparrows busily bringing bits of straw and grass and entering the bird house through the round hole. A nest was being made! Rini felt happy. Soon the birds would have a family. Just like hers!

Brinda Dutta

New Words to Know

hardware shop a shop that sells paints, locks, garden tools, etc.

plywood a strong board made of wood, used for making things

material things used for making something

nesting place a place where a bird can make its nest

build make something

window ledge a narrow shelf outside a window

Comprehension

A1. Tick the correct answer.

1. On Friday, Rini and her father would
 - a. plan what to do for the garden.
 - b. clean the house.
2. Birds need bird houses because
 - a. they do not have enough nesting places.
 - b. they do not want to live in nests anymore.
3. The sparrows were building their nest with
 - a. paper and cloth.
 - b. straw and grass.



A2. Read these lines from the story and answer the questions.

1. *'Maybe you'll grow creepers in it?'*
 - a. Who said this?
 - b. Who would want to grow creepers?
 - c. What is 'it'?

2. 'Will it help if we build the house?'

- a. Who is the house for?
- b. Who are 'we'?
- c. How would the house help?

A3. Think and answer.

1. What was Rini's father planning to make for the garden? How would it help?
2. Why is it difficult for sparrows to find nesting places in the cities?
3. What was the pair of sparrows doing?
4. Why was Rini happy?

Word Wonder

B1. Write the numbers beside the words. One has been done for you.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1. second | <u> 2 </u> | 2. third | <u> </u> |
| 3. first | <u> </u> | 4. sixth | <u> </u> |
| 5. fourth | <u> </u> | 6. eighth | <u> </u> |
| 7. tenth | <u> </u> | 8. seventh | <u> </u> |
| 9. fifth | <u> </u> | 10. ninth | <u> </u> |

B2. Write these words in the alphabetical order.

tomorrow	shop	material	garden
guess	nests	creepers	sparrows
window	trees	sketch	plywood

Learn About Language

C1. Read these sentences.

- It's a **house**.
- But they don't need **houses**.

A naming word or **noun** is a word that names a person, a place, a bird, an animal or a thing. The noun **house** names one thing. The noun **houses** talks about more than one house.

The noun that names one person, place or thing is called a **singular noun**.

The noun that names more than one person, place or thing is called a **plural noun**. We add **s** to most singular nouns to form their plurals.

Now, complete this table.

Singular	Plural
1. table	
2. bird	
3. nail	
4. garden	
5. window	
6. creature	

C2. We use **a** before a word that begins with a consonant sound. We use **an** before a word that begins with a vowel sound.

For example,

- **an** arrow
- **an** orange
- **a** pen
- **a** book

Fill in the blanks with a or an.

1. We go to school in _____ bus.
2. _____ pilot flies _____ aeroplane.
3. I live in _____ house.
4. Ajay wants to be _____ astronaut.

5. Today is _____ beautiful day!
 6. This was _____ interesting story.

C3. Read these sentences.

- Her dad showed her **a** sketch. **The** sketch showed **a** house that looked very much like **a** doll's house.

We use **a** or **an** before the names of things when we use them for the first time. We use **the** before the names of things we already know about.

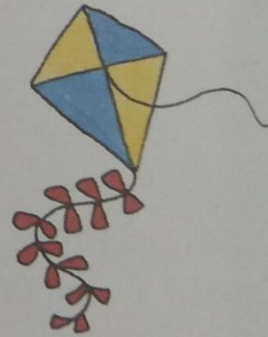
Now, fill in the blanks with a, an or the.

_____ hare and _____ tortoise were friends. They lived in _____ far-off forest. One day, _____ hare challenged _____ tortoise to _____ race. _____ race would take place on Sunday. All the animals of _____ forest gathered to watch _____ two friends.

Language Lab

D1. Read aloud.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. plan—plane | 2. car—care |
| 3. mad—made | 4. cap—cape |
| 5. pip—pipe | 6. kit—kite |
| 7. mat—mate | 8. rat—rate |



D2. Read these questions and their answers aloud.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • What time is it? | <i>It is 5 o'clock.</i> |
| • Where is the library? | <i>The library is on the second floor.</i> |
| • Who is the girl in the blue dress? | <i>She is my best friend.</i> |
| • When does the dance class start? | <i>The dance class starts at 8 o'clock.</i> |

Now, work in pairs. Ask questions using What, Where, Who, When and How, and answer them. Look at the pictures for clues.



Composition

E. Fill in the blanks to complete this paragraph.

My family and I went to _____ on
 _____. We travelled by _____
 _____. The weather was _____ and
 we _____.

We had a lot of fun. We _____.

For lunch, we _____.

It was a delicious meal!

After lunch, _____.

On our way back, we _____.

It was a wonderful picnic!

Activity

F. Make a list of all the naming words you can find in this picture.



Now, colour the picture.

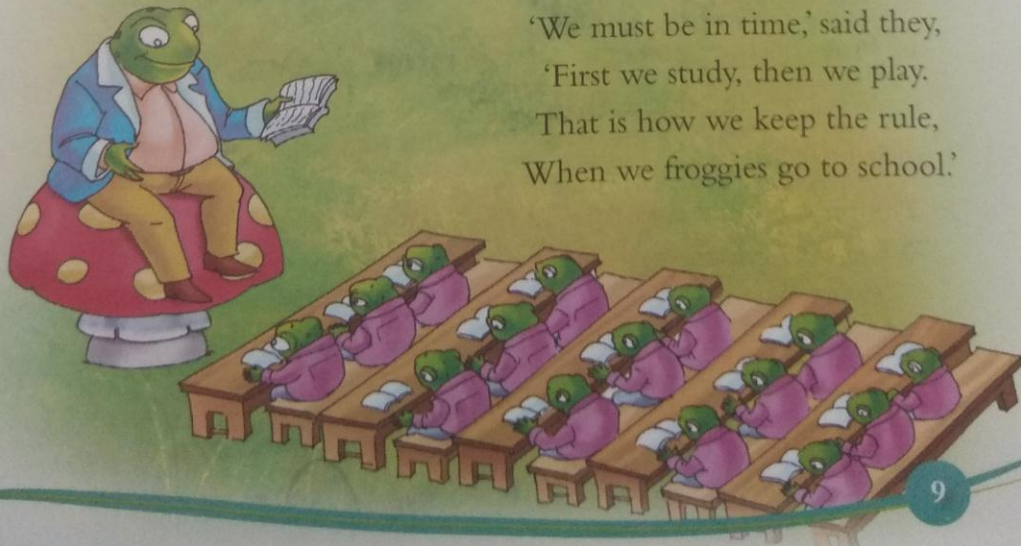
Frogs at School

2

What are the activities you do during the morning assembly at school?

Twenty froggies went to school
Down beside a rushy pool,
Twenty little coats of green,
Twenty vests, all white and clean.

'We must be in time,' said they,
'First we study, then we play.
That is how we keep the rule,
When we froggies go to school.'



New Words to Know

- froggies** a fun way of naming small frogs
rushy covered with rushes (a type of plant that grows in water)
vest a sleeveless piece of clothing that is worn over a shirt

Comprehension

A1. Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

clean rushy green white twenty

- _____ froggies went to school.
- The school of the froggies was beside a _____ pool.
- Their coats were _____.
- Their vests were _____ and _____.

A2. Read the line from the poem and answer the questions.

- 'That is how we keep the rule'
 - Who keeps the rule?
 - How do they keep the rule?
 - What are the things that the froggies must do?

A3. Think and answer.

- The froggies had two rules in their school.
What were they?



Word Wonder

B1. These are the names of some waterbodies. Complete them by adding the correct vowels.

1. p _ _ l
2. l _ k _
3. _ c _ _ n
4. s _ _
5. r _ v _ r
6. p _ nd



B2. Find these words in the word grid.

jump hop leap spring bound soar



S	A	B	H	G	Y	N
Q	C	B	O	U	N	D
J	U	M	P	L	K	M
Z	V	Q	S	R	T	Y
S	P	R	I	N	G	J
O	T	Y	U	I	L	P
A	D	L	E	A	P	O
R	F	N	L	S	W	A



Learn About Language

C1. Describing words tell us more about naming words.

Describing words are also called **adjectives**. Colours and numbers are adjectives too.

Underline the describing words in these sentences.

1. It was a neat classroom.
2. The twenty froggies wore white vests.

3. The little girl bought a red balloon.
4. The green frog jumped into the blue pool.
5. The playful kitten played on the sofa.
6. We found large shells on the sandy beach.



C2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate adjectives.

1. This is a _____ box.
2. We entered a _____ cave.
3. We sat on the _____ grass.
4. I want to buy a _____ shirt.
5. In winter, we wear _____ clothes.
6. The _____ girl is wearing a _____ dress.



C3. Read this sentence.

- The froggies wore **green** coats.

You have seen that a describing word usually comes before a noun. It can also come after the verb and the noun.

- Their coats were **green**.

Rewrite these sentences as shown.

1. This is a funny poem.

This poem is funny.

2. It is an old house.
3. That is a colourful scarf.
4. This is a tiny insect.
5. Those are heavy packets.



Language Lab

D1. Read aloud.



- | | | |
|-----------|--------|-------|
| 1. vest | van | vane |
| 2. west | went | well |
| 3. twenty | twelve | twin |
| 4. sweet | swim | sweat |

D2. Read these lines aloud. How many times can you say them correctly?



1. A black bug bit a big black bear.
2. Six slippery snails slid slowly seaward.



Composition

- E. What are the rules that you should follow in the classroom?
Complete this list and make a colourful poster for your classroom.

Classroom Rules

1. Listen.
2. Talk softly. Do not yell.
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Activity

- E** Animals, plants, birds and insects live all around us. The place where they live is called their habitat.

Ask your parents or your teacher to help you find a place in your school or your home which is home to animals, plants, birds and insects. Note down their names or draw them in your scrapbook.



