
Week 5 (WC 18.05.20)

Year 4 Literacy Home Learning Activities 1,2 and 3

All activities are to be completed either on the worksheets provided or in your workbook.

Activity 1

- Read the text and answer the questions.

The Story of the Bees and the Flies

There were once two tribes of people who lived near one another. They were not at all alike for one of the tribes looked for food and carried it away to safely save it for winter while the other played and sang and danced all day long.

"Come and play with us," said the lazy people but the busy workers answered, "No, come and work with us. Winter will soon be here. Snow and ice will be everywhere and if we do not save food now we shall have none for the cold, stormy days."

The busy people brought honey from the flowers but the lazy people kept on playing. They laughed together and whispered to one another, "See those busy workers! They will have food for two tribes and they will give us some. Let us go and dance."



While the summer lasted, one tribe worked and the other played. When winter came, the busy workers were sorry for their friends and said, "Let us give them some of our honey." So the people who played had as much food as if they too had brought honey from the flowers.

Another summer was coming and the workers said, "If we should make our home near the lilies that give us honey it will be easier to get our food." So the workers moved away but the lazy people played and danced as they had done before for they thought, "Oh, they will come back and bring us some honey."

By and by the cold came. The lazy people had nothing to eat and the workers did not come with food. The manito* had said to them, "Dear little workers, you shall no longer walk from flower to flower. I will give you wings, and you shall be bees."

Whenever people hear a gentle humming they will say, 'Those are the busy bees, and their wings were given them because they were wise and good.'

To the other tribe the manito said, "You shall be flies and you too shall have wings; but while the workers fly from flower to flower and eat the yellow honey, you shall have for your food only what has been thrown away. When people hear your buzzing they will say, 'It is good that the flies have wings, because we can drive them away from us more quickly.'"

* A manito is a supernatural being that controls nature.

Questions

1. How are the two tribes different?

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2. Why will the busy workers not play with the other tribe?

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3. Why do the tribes need to save food?

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4. What type of food are the worker tribe collecting?

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5. Why are the lazy tribe not worried about collecting food?

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6. What happens when winter comes and the lazy tribe have no food?

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7. Is it fair that the lazy tribe have as much food as the busy tribe? Why do you think this?

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8. Where do the worker tribe move to? Why?

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9. What do the lazy tribe do when the worker tribe move?

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10. Why is the lazy tribe not bothered that the worker tribe has moved away?

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11. Does the worker tribe bring the lazy tribe food?

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12. What is a manito?

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13. What has the manito done for the worker tribe?

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14. Why were the workers given wings? Look for two good qualities.

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15. What has the manito done to the lazy tribe?

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16. What do the lazy tribe eat now?

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Activity 2

Read a poem

- Read *Hero Dad*. Read it twice: once in your head, once out loud.
- What is the poem about? What things has the Dad not done? What does he do that makes him a hero to his daughter?

Remind yourself about determiners

- Use the *Revision Card*.
- Complete *Determiners: Identify and Choose*.

Write about an imaginary adventure

- Read the *Writing Brief*.
 - Write about an imaginary adventure with your family and friends. Underline the determiners that you have used in your writing. The *Determiners List* might help you spot them.
-

Hero Dad

He's never scaled the foothills
of the Himalayas or climbed Mount Everest.

Never parachuted from a plane
or circumnavigated the planet.

Never swam the breadth of any river
or explored the North Pole.

But to his daughter
rapping him up from his deep dreaming
to rid her bedroom ceiling
of that spider creeping by in furtive spurts
sending jiggles down her nerves –

He is a hero all right – a sleepy-eyed knight
mounting that high horse of a stool
a paper napkin his only armour –
See how he catches the eight-legger
and sets it free to weave a safer harbour.

Grace Nichols



Revision Card - Determiners

A **determiner** tells us a bit more about a **noun**.

- **Determiners** go next to their **noun** or at the beginning of a **noun phrase**.
- They don't carry the meaning but they do influence it.



a brown dog
the brown dog
my brown dog
her brown dog
that brown dog

Thinking about the way **determiners** change the meaning.

This is a cake.

It is no particular cake.

This is my cake.

The cake is all mine!

This is that cake.

The cake is the one I told you about.



Determiners tell us a bit more about the **noun**.
They can change the meaning in subtle ways.

A **determiner** tells us a bit more about a **noun**.
We still need the **noun**. The **determiner** works with it.



This rabbit is undercover.

His mask is black.

The mask is his.

Look carefully at the **determiners**. The **determiners** go in front of the **nouns**.

This is not a **determiner**.
It has replaced the **noun** (rabbit's).
Determiners work with **nouns**. They do not replace them.

Determiners: Identify, Choose, Use

A Check your understanding – Underline the determiners in each sentence

- 1) *My dad has never jumped out of a plane.*
- 2) *My mum has never walked along a tightrope between two buildings.*
- 3) *Our family does not climb any mountains on the way home from school.*
- 4) *The cat does not battle those ferocious dogs from next door.*
- 5) *My gran does not canoe down any rapid waters.*
- 6) *The dog does not solve crimes for the grateful police force.*
- 7) *My sister has never defused an unexploded bomb.*
- 8) *I think my family is a rather ordinary family.*

B Build your skills - Choose the best determiner for each sentence

- 1) *I am scared of _____ dark. (a/the)*
 - 2) *I would never touch _____ spider. (a/the).*
 - 3) *_____ dad uses a paper napkin to pick up spiders. (my/some)*
 - 4) *_____ mum checks under the bed before Emma goes to sleep. (the/her)*
 - 5) *My brother and I asked _____ gran to tell us a ghost story. (our/its)*
 - 6) *My cat is afraid of _____ loud noises. (any/that)*
 - 7) *It is _____ amazing feeling, travelling on a plane. (a/an)*
 - 8) *I would love to climb _____ highest mountain in the world. (a/the)*
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Writing Brief



Write about an imaginary adventure with your family or friends
Underline the determiners you have used.

You could describe your mum flying a plane, or your friend exploring a jungle.

- Describe it as if it happened last month and after each few sentences, go back and undermine the determiners you have used.*
 - Do they influence the meaning in the way you intended?*
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Determiners List

Determiners give different types of information about their noun.

Articles	Possessives	Quantifier/ Numbers	Demonstratives
a an the	my your his her its our their	some any no every one two	this that these those



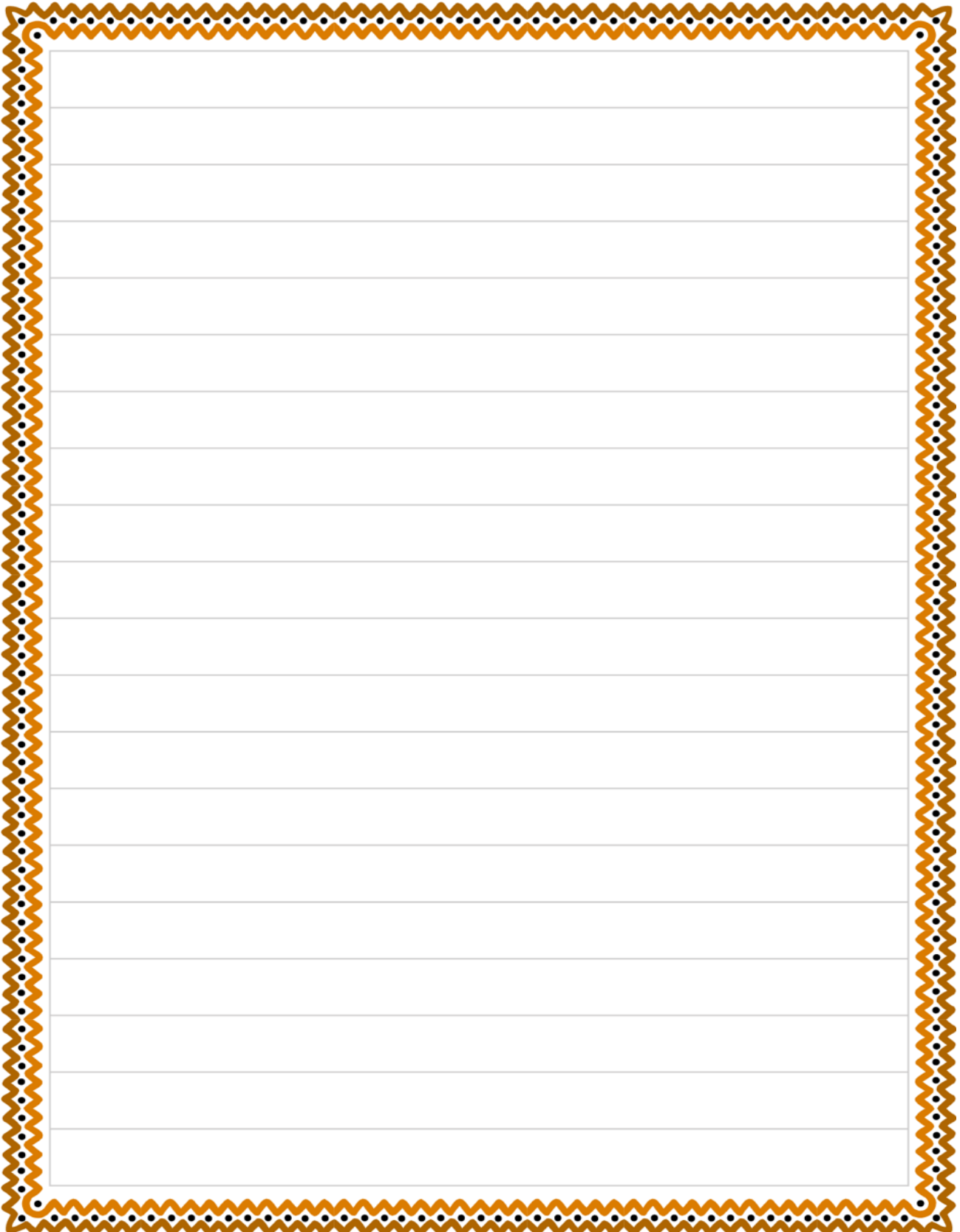
a brave dog

her heroic rescue

that terrifying spider

An amazing adventure

Write your imaginary adventure here. Underline the determiners you have used. Do they influence the meaning in the way you intended?



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black zigzag border. The interior is ruled with horizontal lines for writing.

Activity 3

Read the poem

- Re-read [Hero Dad](#).
- What do you notice when you read it again? What patterns can you spot? Which is your favourite phrase?

Practise finding and changing determiners

- Use the [Revision Card](#) to remind yourself about determiners.
- Look at the list of determiners on the Determiner Card.
- Find and highlight the determiners in the poem, 'Hero Dad'.
There are 18 in all – can you find them all?

Write your own poem

- Use [Poem Frame](#) to write your own poem about someone in your family or a friend of yours. Explain why they are a hero to you.
 - Carefully write your poem out in your best handwriting.
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of the Himalayas or climbed Mount Everest.

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a brave dog

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that terrifying sp



Poem Frame

Hero _____

He's/she's never _____

Never _____

Never _____

Or _____

He/she does _____

Or _____

Or _____

Or even _____

But to his/her _____

He/she is a hero all right

Because whenever _____

He/she is there.

Hero Poem

Write your poem here.



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing, enclosed by a decorative border with a repeating orange and black zigzag pattern.
