

High Interest Reading

Silly Laws

REM 735

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



AUTHORS
Tanya Bibeau
George Ann Gregory

ILLUSTRATOR
John Lakey

©2001

©Copyright by Remedia Publications, Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

The purchase of this book entitles the individual teacher to reproduce copies for classroom use. The reproduction of any part for an entire school or school system is strictly prohibited.

To find Remedia products in a store near you, visit:
<http://www.rempub.com/stores>

REMEDIA PUBLICATIONS, INC.
15887 N. 76TH STREET • SUITE 120 • SCOTTSDALE, AZ • 85260



INTRODUCTION

These fun-loving stories are designed to capture student interest while building key vocabulary, comprehension, thinking, and writing skills. Their broad appeal and high degree of review make them suitable for a variety of ages and reading levels. Each story has been rated according to the Fry Graph readability scale. *

Each story features five components: (1) vocabulary words, to enhance comprehension and for use in additional dictionary or writing activities, (2) cloze practice, to improve literal comprehension as well as the ability to use semantic and syntactic clues, (3) story questions, to target comprehension and thinking skills, (4) Extended Activities, located at the back of the book, to provide simple research and/or writing exercises for students desiring an extra challenge, and (5) crossword puzzles, to be used for periodic review after every third story.

CONTENTS

TITLE	FRY	PAGE
Alaskan Animals	2	1-2
Sneezing is Breaking the Law	3	3-4
Bathing Laws	2	5-6
Review 1		7
Horses and Cars	2	8-9
Swimsuit Laws	3	10-11
Women Drivers	2	12-13
Review 2		14
Women and Parachuting	3	15-16
Driving and Camels	3	17-18
Some Laws Had to Be Changed	3	19-20
Review 3		21
Do Not Eat in a Burning Building	3	22-23
Animals and Taillights	3	24-25
Special Dog Laws	3	26-27
Review 4		28
Extended Activities		29
Answer Key		30

A Note on Readability

* Readability scales are useful as long as one realizes their limitations. Results are guidelines only. Depending on the scales used, their results may differ from each other by as much as 2.5 grade levels. Since readability scales measure word and sentence length, both valid readability factors, we at Remedia do use them. Using such scales also helps us provide vocabulary-controlled materials in order to meet the special education needs of many of our valued clients. At the same time, we realize that they are not designed to measure every other factor affecting readability, such as sentence structure or appeal to the reader. We are also aware of the variance in standards and expectations set for each grade level. What is first grade material in one school may be second grade in another. At Remedia we strive to take all these factors into consideration as we develop and revise materials. We leave the rest in your capable hands. Regarding readability, you—and your students—will be the final judge.

Words to Know

Alaska	A • las • ka
offense	of • fense
reason	rea • son
viewed	viewed
stampede	stam • pede
legal	le • gal



We pass most laws for a good reason. Some of the laws may seem silly. But there might be a good reason to have the law.

Here are three laws from Alaska.

Moose may not be viewed from an airplane. What do you think? Is the moose afraid of a plane? Do you think there could be a stampede? Maybe the moose or people could get hurt.

It is also an offense to push a live moose out of a moving airplane. What problem is this law trying to solve?

While it is legal to shoot bears, waking a sleeping bear to take his picture is against the law. Do sleeping bears get mad when you wake them?

-
1. Write another word for "view." _____
 2. One Alaskan law says you can't view _____ from an airplane.
 3. Why do they have this law? Write two sentences from the story that might tell us why. _____

Name _____

ALASKAN ANIMALS

moose	out	seem	shoot
Alaska	wake	could	problem



Use the words in the box to fill in the blanks.

We pass most laws for a good reason. Some of the laws may _____ silly. But there might be a good reason to have the law.

Here are three laws from _____.

Moose may not be viewed from an airplane. What do you think? Is the _____ afraid of a plane? Do you think there could be a stampede?

Maybe the moose or people _____ get hurt.

It is also an offense to push a live moose _____ of a moving airplane. What _____ is this law trying to solve?

While it is legal to _____ bears, waking a sleeping bear to take his picture is against the law. Do sleeping bears get mad when you _____ them?

1. How could a stampede be dangerous? _____

2. Why do you think Alaskans made it illegal to wake a sleeping bear?

3. If you follow the law, are you doing something legal or illegal (not legal)?

SNEEZING IS BREAKING THE LAW

Words to Know

sneezing	sneez • ing
coughing	cough • ing
spitting	spit • ting
flu	flu
swept	swept
spread	spread



Did you know that in many cities and states it is against the law to sneeze or spit in public? That sounds a little odd. But not when you know why.

In 1918, the Spanish flu swept our country. Thousands died. This was the fifth time that a flu had killed so many. The first time was in 1831.

You can spread the flu to others by sneezing or coughing. The laws were passed to try and stop the spread of flu.

Does your city or state have a law against sneezing or spitting in public? It might be fun to find out.

1. Why are there laws against sneezing, coughing, or spitting in public? Write the sentence in the story that tells us. _____

2. What year did the Spanish flu sweep our country? _____
3. Does "swept" in the story mean "cleaned with a broom" or "moved quickly and strongly"? _____
4. What did the flu do five times? _____

Name _____

SNEEZING IS BREAKING THE LAW

why spread find coughing
states against fifth flu



Use the words in the box to fill in the blanks.

Did you know that in many cities and _____ it is against the law to sneeze or spit in public? That sounds a little odd. But not when you know _____.

In 1918, the Spanish _____ swept our country. Thousands died. This was the _____ time that a flu had killed so many. The first time was in 1831.

You can spread the flu to others by sneezing or _____. The laws were passed to try and stop the _____ of flu.

Does your city or state have a law _____ sneezing or spitting in public? It might be fun to _____ out.

1. What happened in 1831? _____

2. How does the flu spread? _____

3. True / False We can better understand the reason for a law once we know something about the history surrounding it.

4. Do you think flu shots are a good idea? Why or why not? _____

Words to Know

bath	bath
bathe	bathe
believe	be • lieve
Vermont	Ver • mont
Kentucky	Ken • tuck • y
Saturday	Sat • ur • day



A long time ago, people did not take baths very much. They thought they were bad. In the 1500's, most people bathed three times in their lives.

As the years passed, we learned that baths were good for us. Baths helped us to stay healthy. Not all the people believed this. Some states had to pass laws so people would take a bath.

Here are two laws that we passed more than a hundred years ago. They have not been changed. Do you think they worked?

Vermont said everyone had to take at least one bath a week—on Saturday night.

Kentucky said everyone had to take a bath at least once a year.

-
- In the 1500's, how often did most people take a bath? _____

 - Why didn't most people bathe very often? _____

 - Use two list words to finish this sentence: When you take a _____,
you _____ in a tub.

Name _____

BATHING LAWS

laws lives had thought
healthy least not learned



Use the words in the box to fill in the blanks.

A long time ago, people did _____ take baths very much. They _____ they were bad. In the 1500's, most people bathed three times in their _____.

As the years passed, we _____ that baths were good for us. Baths helped us to stay _____. Not all the people believed this. Some states had to pass laws so people would take a bath.

Here are two _____ that we passed more than a hundred years ago. They have not been changed. Do you think they worked?

Vermont said everyone had to take at _____ one bath a week—on Saturday night.

Kentucky said everyone _____ to take a bath at least once a year.

-
1. What does Vermont law say about baths? _____

 2. The Kentucky law says what about baths? _____

 3. Why do you think these laws were never changed? _____
