Beat the Clock

Informational Text

Beat the Clock- Informational Text

- Students will read one passage per week.
- Students will have one minute to read the passage. (use timer or phone to track the time)
- The parent will put a dash over the top of any word the student misses.
- At the end of one minute the parent will mark the last word read.
- The parent will write the time for the passage on the bottom of the page.
- The student will have three opportunities to practice this passage each day.

The goal for the student is to get the best time by Thursday

Paul Revere

Paul Revere was an important person in our country's fight 10
for independence. He was born in December 1734. He lived in 20
Boston, Massachusetts, with his many children. He was a 29
silversmith and sometimes even a dentist. Revere was also a 39
member of the Sons of Liberty, a secret patriot group. He 50
was an excellent horse rider and carried messages between 59
the different groups. Revere participated in the Boston Tea 68
Party to protest the tea tax. He is famous for his midnight 80
ride warning the American colonists that "The redcoats 88
were coming". The British soldiers were heading to Lexington 97
and Concord to destroy the weapons of the local militia. This 107
was the beginning of the Revolutionary War. He was a very 117
important person in the fight for America's independence. 125
After the Revolutionary War, Revere ran a hardware store 134
and opened the first copper rolling mill. Revere's courage 143
showed that he believed in liberty and independence. 151

Number of Words Read	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1st Attempt				
2nd Attempt				
3rd Attempt				

Levels of Government

Government is a group that sets laws and runs a community. 11
Local government is what leads a town or city. State 21
government is what leads a state. National government leads 30
the entire country. Laws may differ between communities, 38
states, and the nation. Local and state laws cannot conflict 48
with national laws. The mayor is the elected leader of local 59
government. Some communities also have city councils. The 67
local government runs the school system, organizes 74
emergency services, and sets laws to keep its members 83
safe. The state government runs the entire state. The 100
governor is the elected leader of a state government. Each 110
state also elects two senators and representatives to 118
represent their state in the national government. State 126
government is in charge of the state's education and health 136
systems, protecting the state's environment, and building and 144
maintaining roads. National government protects our country 151
and our freedoms. 154

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Ancient Greece

Ancient Greece has a huge impact on our culture. It 11
influences many parts of the United States today. Our 20
country's democratic government was first used by Ancient 27
Greece. They had the first democracy in the world. A 37
democracy is when the citizens of a country choose its 47
leaders. The Ancient Greeks used a form of democracy 57
called a direct democracy. In the United States, we have a 67
representative democracy and elect leaders to vote for us. 76

Ancient Greeks also started the idea of a trial with a 87
jury. The Ancient Olympics originally began in Athens, Greece. 99
We still enjoy the Modern Olympics today. The Ancient 107
Greeks also first created the columns that you see in front 117
of homes and courthouses. You can see examples of columns 126
on many monuments and buildings in Washington, D.C. Ancient 135
Greece also has an important influence on doctors today. In 144
fact, that is where the first medical school was formed. 154

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Soil

Soil is the upper layer of earth where plants grow. It 12
consists of a mixture of weathered rock, minerals, and a 22
variety of living and dead life forms. Soil has developed over 33
hundreds of millions of years, as the forces of weather have 44
ground the top rocky layer of the Earth into smaller and 55
finer particles. 57

There are three main types of soil. One type of soil is 68
clay. It often has a reddish color and absorbs a lot of 80
water. Its particles are very small. When it's dry it feels 91
smooth, and when it's wet it feels sticky. Another type of 102
soil is sand. It is often a light color, almost white. Water 114
passes through sand quickly. It is made of large particles. 124
Sandy soil feels rough when you rub it between your fingers. 135
The third soil type is loam. It is often dark brown or black. 148
Loam is a combination of sandy soil and clay. Loam stays 159
moist while allowing drainage and air circulation. It has 168
medium size particles. Loam is the best soil for growing 178
plants. 179

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Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was born a slave in Maryland. Unlike most 10
slaves, he was taught to read and write. Douglass worked 20
in shipyards in Maryland. He was later able to escape from 31
slavery through the Underground Railroad. Douglass worked 38
for the Anti-Slavery Society for many years. He traveled to 49
many states, giving lectures and speaking firsthand about 57
slavery. Douglass became a speaker, telling others about his 66
life as a slave. He later began his own newspaper called the 77
North Star. Douglass published his life story, Narrative of 86
the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave. He was 95
an advisor to President Lincoln and later named marshal for 105
Washington, D.C. His actions showed that be believed in the 115
freedom of expression, which is the right to share one's 125
beliefs. Douglass died in 1882 after a long illness. His voice 136
continued to be heard long after his death. 144

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Susan B. Anthony

Susan B. Anthony was a women's rights leader in the late 11
1800's. She helped lead the way for women's suffrage in the 22
United States, which is the right to vote. Susan B. Anthony 33
was born in Massachusetts in 1820. She went to school and 44
became a teacher. She had very strong beliefs against 53
slavery, but she was not allowed to vote or speak because 64
she was a woman. She became involved in trying to get the 76
government to let women vote and to make laws so that 87
women could have equal rights with men. At first, she would 98
speak at conventions and meetings. Then she helped run a 108
civil rights newspaper. Susan B. Anthony voted in the 117
November 1872 elections. This was illegal at the time, and she 128
was fined $100 for voting. She refused to pay and never did 140
pay the fine. She worked her entire life to give women the 152
right to vote and own property. 158

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