

B is for Bear

Assignment 9

- Complete Lesson 9 in your B is for Bear textbook, volume 1. Teach this week's letter combinations:
 - The *oo* letter combination makes the long *u* sound as in *root*.
 - The *le* letter combination appears at the end of words and makes the *l* sound.
 - In the *mb* letter combination, the *b* is silent.
 - In the *kn* letter combination, the *k* is silent.

To prepare for this week's lesson you may write out any number of the following words for your child on a piece of paper.

boot, hoot, root, droop, stoop, loop, loot, toot, moon, soon, loon, balloon, baboon, raccoon, bassoon

little, candle, bubble, purple, table, paddle, puddle, riddle, saddle, simple, tickle, rattle, needle, toddle, middle, cradle, handle, fiddle, cattle, gentle, battle, castle, tackle, whistle, freckle, settle, hustle, gaggle, giggle, single, shingle, dangle, struggle, rustle, fickle, cackle, chuckle, sickle, crackle, trifle, stifle, hustle, bustle, tattle, snuggle, dwindle, peddle, bundle, idle, kindle, rabble, rubble, stubble, noble, hobble, tumble, apostle

lamb, dumb, numb, thumb, limb, climb, comb, tomb, bomb

know, knew, knock, knife, knee, kneel, knelt, knave, knell, knoll, knead, knack, knuckle, knob, knit, knitting



Your child may try to guess the meaning of the words *loon*, *rubble*, *kindled*, *knack*, and *knoll* in context. Read the following sentences and have the student choose the correct answer from the multiple choice. Where possible, gestures may help make the meaning clear.

1. The *loon* out on the lake made such a strange sound last night.
 - a) a kind of fish
 - b) a kind of bird
 2. The old city building is now nothing but *rubble* after the crane knocked it down last week.
 - a) stones and other building material after being wrecked
 - b) grass and weeds
 3. We *kindled* the fire with newspaper.
 - a) put out
 - b) sparked
 4. Tom has a *knack* for baking bread.
 - a) disaster
 - b) special talent
 5. We climbed the *knoll* in the centre of the village.
 - a) small hill
 - b) ladder
- After reading the story about Hercules, the following are questions will allow your child to apply the story to his or her own life.
 1. If you were Hercules, what road would you take—the easy road or the hard road? Explain why.

Answers may vary; however, it is good for you to point out specifically the consequences of the decision. It is good to make sure that the examples are immediately applicable to your child's life. You may mention that taking the easy road in moral decisions especially can lead to disaster. A young person may decide to lie, for instance, because telling the truth may get him into trouble. They want to avoid the unpleasant consequences of telling the truth. However, lying can ruin relationships, harm people, and lead to a very unhappy life. Though it is hard, getting into the habit of always telling the truth will lead to virtue and "fame" (i.e., honor or a good reputation)
 2. Have you ever thought about what road you will take (what kind of life you will lead)? When is the best time to make this decision—when you are young or old? Explain you

answer.

Answers will vary, of course, but the best time to take a thought for anything is before we begin to do it. If we wait to make such decisions in the middle or end of a project, we must undo the mistakes. Sometimes, too, it is too late to begin again.

3. How often do we make our choice to take the easy or hard road? One time? Twice? Or continually?

Although there are more fitting seasons in our life that we make the decision, we continually make the decision—every year, every day and every moment of our lives.

4. How do hard work and trouble (suffering) bring us good character (virtue)?

Hard work brings us so many good things. For one, it teaches us patience. Often people want pleasure immediately. When people cannot wait for things they want, we often say that they want “instant gratification.” However, those who work for everything, learn to enjoy what they get more and appreciate the pleasure gained by the hard work. So many people born in wealthy families become so used to pleasure that they no longer enjoy it. They do not fully appreciate their possessions, as they are too easily acquired.

- Complete Lesson 9 of your handwriting book.
- Memorize part 3 of John Keats’ “To Autumn.”
- Students should write out Dictation 9, found at the bottom of the online assignment page, in their dictation books. Parents should be writing misspelled words down on the dictation page and going over it. Students should bring their dictation textbooks every week to class for me to review.
- Here are two book recommendations for you:
 - Alice McLerran. Barbara Cooney, illustrator. *Roxaboxen*. HarperCollins, 1991. This book describes an imaginary town.
 - Clay Rice. *The Stick*. Familius, 2014. Depicts the imagination of children. This book aims at inspiring children to achieve what they dream of—a potential topic of conversation.