

# *Blacker's Bulletin #23*

**Khan Academy:** This week in math we will be working on two-step word problems, reviewing polygons and taking a quiz. Let me know if you are having any trouble connecting with our classroom on Khan Academy.

**Distance Learning Packets:** Our packets this week include a Reading Menu, cursive practice pages, a graphic organizer for practicing the reading focus skill, a leveled reader, a Daze passage and a vocabulary practice page. Again this week, we will use the leveled reader for fluency practice and skill practice.

**Fluency Practice:** This means repeated reading out loud of the first section of the text. Please read out loud with your student each day from the leveled reader, pages two through five. Repeated reading of the same passage builds reading fluency.

**Skill Practice:** This week we are practicing comparing and contrasting. This means that we are telling how details or ideas are alike and different. Please support your student with completing the venn diagram identifying details you find in the leveled reader that are alike and different.

## Homework

1. Khan Academy math assignments
2. Read leveled reader pages 2-5 each day out loud
3. Finish leveled reader at least once
4. Complete graphic organizer "Venn Diagram: Compare and Contrast"
5. Reading Menu 28
6. Daze #16
7. Vocabulary Spelling City Lesson 22 assignments

- or -

- Target Vocabulary practice page
8. Cursive
9. Read at least 20 minutes each day



# READING MENU 28



After reading, choose 1 question and circle it.  
Questions 1-6 are best for fiction stories and  
questions 7-9 are best for nonfiction books. Record  
your answer to the question in complete sentences.

1. Who are the secondary characters? Are they important to the story? Why or why not?	2. What is your favorite part of the story so far? Why?	3. What type of person would enjoy reading your story? Why?
4. How does the main character feel about the problem in the story? How do you know?	5. Compare and contrast the setting of this story to the setting of the last story you read.	6. If you were the author, what would you change about the story? Why?
7. What is the topic of your book? Why did you decide to read about this topic? Explain.	8. Identify a cause and effect relationship in your text. Explain.	9. Do some research on the author. Write a paragraph with important facts about the author.

## SELF CHECK

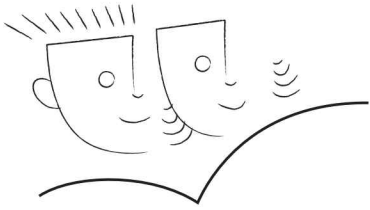
- ☐ I answered the entire question that I chose.
- ☐ I wrote in complete sentences.
- ☐ I used evidence and examples from the text to support my answer.
- ☐ I edited my work to make sure that it makes sense.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Book Author: \_\_\_\_\_

	0	1	2
Completion	Question is not answered.	Question is partially answered.	Answer is complete.
Sentences	Answer is not in complete sentences.	Answer is in complete sentences.	Answer is in complete sentences and part of the question is used in the answer.
Thoughtfulness	Answer shows little effort or thought.	Answer shows limited thought.	Answer is thoughtful.
Text Evidence	Answer does not include text evidence.	Answer has limited use of text evidence.	Answer is supported with significant text evidence.
Editing	Answer has many errors.	Answer has some errors.	Answer has very few errors.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Practice 1

After playing in the dirt, Sam went

home  
summer  
was

to wash her hands.

Practice 2

On her way home, she

chair  
sleep  
saw

an ice cream truck.

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STOP

C: \_\_\_\_\_

I: \_\_\_\_\_

AS: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Invention of the Vacuum

Pet hair, dust, dirt, and cookie crumbs can all add up to make a carpet a dirty mess. It's time to

get out the 

thinking
mops
vacuum

 cleaner! Plug it in, and in 

simple
just
easy

 a few minutes the carpet is 

than
clean
suck

 again.

It wasn't so simple in the past. Before the 

invention
wheels
did

 of vacuum cleaners, floors were cleaned with 

brooms
hair
sat

, brushes, and mops. To get a 

backbreaking
carpet
housekeepers

 really clean, it had to be 

really
hung
enough

 up

outdoors and beaten with sticks. It 

later
was
man

 backbreaking, unpleasant work.

Inventors looked for 

not
ways
cart

 to make the job easier. The 

were
first
plug

 sweeping machine appeared in 1858. It 

was
made
hung

 a brush with wheels on a 

handle
air
appeared

. The brush spun around when pushed, 

time
sweeping
got

up dirt. This machine worked about as 

handle
would
well

 as a broom, but it could 

call
not
rug

 pick up dirt that was deep

in a 

carpet
created
just

. Housekeepers still had to beat their 

carpets
instead
cookie

 to get all the dirt out.

A 

few
pet
feet

 years later, an inventor came up with a 

dirty
so
machine

 that would suck the dirt up, 

hose
rather
looked

than brush it around. The suction 

housekeeper
was
used

 created by a small fan inside the 

machine
wasn't
thanks

. There was

no motor to drive the 

catch
fan
cleaning

, however. Instead, it had a crank that the 

housekeeper
pick
it's

 turned by hand.

Turning this crank machine fast enough and long enough to clean a mess popular whole rug was tiring! This invention

machine did not when inventor catch on.

Around the beginning of the clean get twentieth century, someone got the idea that a good machine that years

blew air could be used for twentieth idea cleaning floors. This machine was not popular either success work. All it did was

blow the dirt small tiring around!

Finally, a year later, a man carpet very invented a machine with a motor that however few sucked dirt up. However,

this machine was make huge broom ! It sat on a cart that was be pulled first by horses. People would call the man suction whole

when they wanted their floors cleaned. He would closets sweeping park the cart outside the house and pulled cleaner a use

hose that was one hundred beaten feet was long to suck up the dirt. It was not brush house easy, but it did a very

ways sucked good job of cleaning.

This man's success still got brushes other inventors thinking, and it wasn't year add long before someone made

the first small crank electric sticks vacuum cleaner. Thanks to its small use long size, people could store it in

their 

size  
closets  
cleaned

 . Thanks to its electric motor, it was 

horses  
well  
easy

 to use. And thanks to all these 

clever  
outdoors  
there

  
inventors, cleaning a carpet is a 

job  
worked  
quick

 and simple job today!





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Many countries  
celebrate Mary Day  
on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

☐

Letter formation

☐

Spacing

☐

Line use

☐

Punctuation





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Day is a  
celebration of  
spring or workers.

☐

Letter formation

☐

Spacing

☐

Line use

☐

Punctuation



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teachers are also  
celebrated in May.

☐

Letter formation

☐

Spacing

☐

Line use

☐

Punctuation





Name \_\_\_\_\_

What do you do to  
recognize a great  
teacher?

☐

Letter formation

☐

Spacing

☐

Line use

☐

Punctuation



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Venn Diagram: Compare and Contrast

**Rescuing the Whooping Crane**

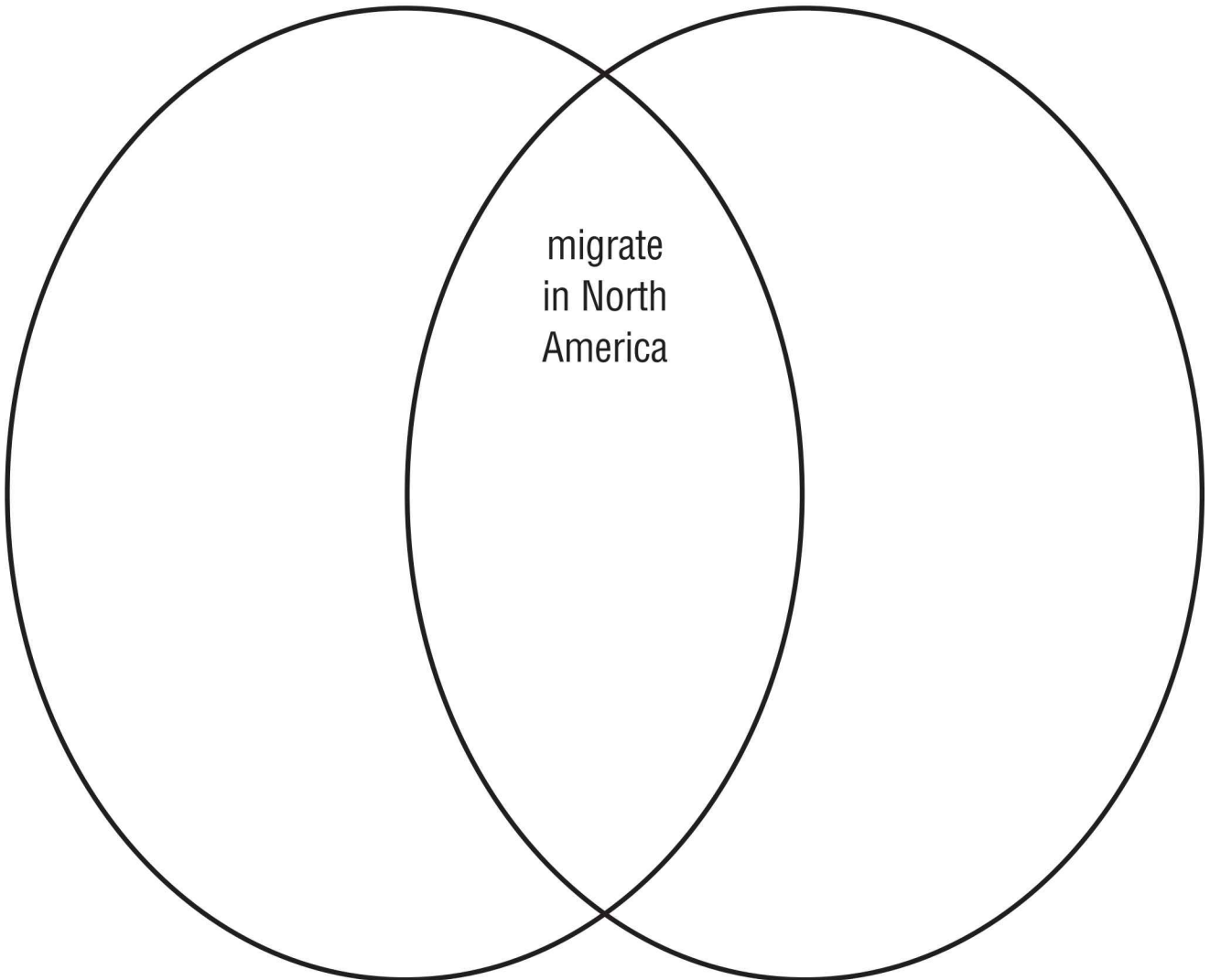
Graphic Organizer 14

Title *Rescuing the Whooping Crane*

**Western Flock**

**Both**

**Eastern Flock**



# Target Vocabulary

## Flight of the Swallows Target Vocabulary

Answer each question *yes* or *no*. Then tell why.

### Vocabulary

migrate  
survival  
plenty  
frightening  
accidents  
solid  
chilly  
landscape  
thunderous  
dramatic

1. Do people **migrate** when they go on vacation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you need food and water for **survival**?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Does a woman with ten dogs have **plenty** of dogs?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Is seeing a school bus in front of a school **frightening**?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Could you have an **accident** playing baseball indoors?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Is ice more **solid** than water?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Will **chilly** weather make cliff swallows fly south?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Is a **landscape** painting a picture of a person?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Would you cover your ears around a **thunderous** noise?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Would you enjoy watching a **dramatic** rescue?  
\_\_\_\_\_

A large, detailed photograph of a Whooping Crane standing in shallow water. The crane has white feathers, a long neck, and a distinctive red patch on its forehead and around its eye. Its long legs are partially submerged in the water, which shows ripples. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural habitat.

# Rescuing the Whooping Crane

by Minnie Timenti

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

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## Birds That Whoop

Whooping cranes get their names from their loud whooping calls. These grand, graceful birds are snow-white, with black-tipped wings and red faces. Reaching heights of more than four feet, whooping cranes are the tallest birds in North America. Thousands of whooping cranes once flew over the North American **landscape**. Their nesting regions were wet prairie marshes in the United States and Canada. These areas were drained as human settlers moved in. When the whooping cranes lost their nesting grounds, most of them died off.



After a while, only one flock of whooping cranes remained. They spent winters along the Texas coast. But by the 1930s, this flock had only about 15 birds. That was when the U.S. government stepped in to set up a safe area for them.





Male whooping cranes may have wingspans of 7 1/2 feet. Females are slightly smaller.



## Western Whoopers

The government set up the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas in 1937. Here, whooping cranes could spend winters in a protected place. During most years, they found **plenty** of shellfish, frogs, and water plants to eat. Then, in spring, they would **migrate** to their Canadian nesting grounds, 2,400 miles north.

 When the autumn air turned **chilly**, and **solid** ice formed on the northern wetlands, the whooping cranes returned to Aransas. Over time, the flock began to grow. By 2007, there were more than 200 whooping cranes in the refuge.


 Still, the whooping cranes faced many dangers. In the air and on land, **frightening accidents** happened. Birds crashed into power lines or cell phone towers as they migrated. They struggled to survive in **thunderous** storms. They became prey for eagles or coyotes. Sometimes they also became the target of hunters.


 The whooping crane is one of the rarest birds in North America.




## Captive Cranes


Wildlife experts thought it was extremely risky to have just one group of wild whooping cranes left. What if a disaster or a disease wiped out the whole group? Whooping cranes would be gone forever. To prevent that from happening, wildlife experts decided to raise some birds separately.


 Most wild pairs of whooping cranes raise only one chick at a time, even if they lay two eggs. Scientists took some of the extra eggs and raised chicks in captivity. But when they grew up, these whooping cranes never learned to migrate, which they needed to do to survive.

 Wildlife experts dreamed of a second migrating flock of whooping cranes. This flock would migrate in eastern North America. With two flocks, these highly endangered birds might have a better chance of survival.

 Cranes do not have to be taught how to fly. They do it by instinct. But they do have to be taught how to migrate. Whooping cranes migrate because their parents teach them how. The young cranes follow the older parents. But for captive cranes, there are no crane parents.



 The cranes' human keepers came up with an ingenious solution. They used *imprinting*, a natural trait of all crane chicks. Immediately after whooping cranes hatch from eggs, they will follow the first large object they see. Usually, that large object is a bird's parent. For the whooping cranes born in captivity, their human handlers "tricked" the chicks into thinking the humans were their parents. It worked like a charm.

 A trainer in a white crane suit works with a young crane chick.



## Trick the Chick

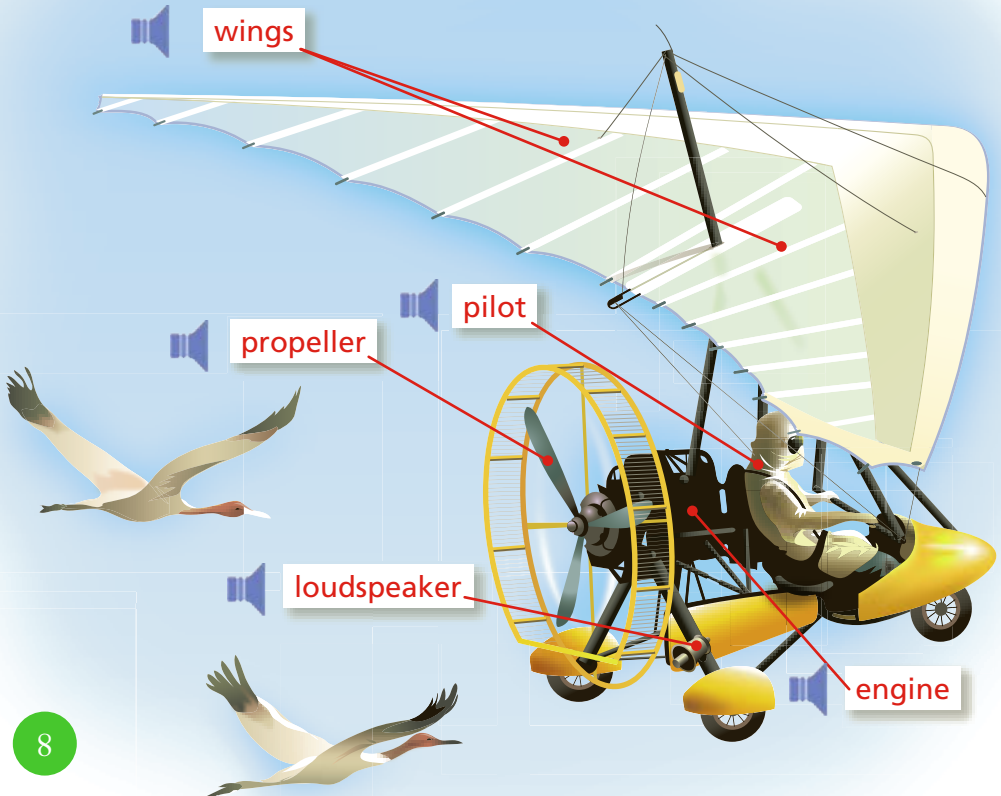
How do you  
"trick" a whooping  
crane chick?

You dress like a  
whooping crane, of  
course! That's what the captive cranes'  
handlers did. They put on white whooping  
crane costumes. The young cranes think the  
humans are their parents and follow the  
disguised humans—everywhere.

Once the cranes learned to follow humans on the ground, the next step was to teach them to follow humans while the cranes were flying. Two Canadians, Bill Lishman and Joe Duff, solved this problem back in 1993.

Lishman and Duff had taught a flock of captive Canada geese to fly behind very small airplanes, called *ultralight aircraft*. An ultralight carries just one or two people. It is like a hang glider with an engine.

## What's in an Ultralight?





Canadian geese follow an ultralight aircraft.




The two Canadians were able to lead the geese from Ontario, Canada, to Virginia, on the east coast of the United States. While they flew south, the Canada geese actually “learned” the 400-mile migration route. The Canadian men knew their method was successful when the flock returned home in the spring on their own—without a human to show the way.

The same approach also worked to teach whooping cranes how to migrate.


## Go, Team!


After their success with the Canada geese, Bill Lishman and Joe Duff started a group called Operation Migration. Their goal was to help captive and wild whooping cranes learn to migrate in eastern North America.

 Since wild whooping cranes had pretty much disappeared from eastern North America, any wild cranes that were born there would not know how to migrate. But thanks to Operation Migration, cranes trained by humans could then teach migration routes to other wild cranes.





 The map shows the route of the first Operation Migration journey.

 In 2001, Operation Migration and the rest of the team made their first attempt at training whooping cranes to migrate. They chose eight birds that were raised in captivity. These whooping cranes set off behind an ultralight flown by a human wearing a crane costume. The aircraft played whooping crane calls from a loudspeaker on the back of the aircraft.

 The group set out from Wisconsin and flew south, stopping to rest along the way. Seven of the whooping cranes made it to their wintering grounds in Florida. The journey covered more than 1,200 miles. Five of the whooping cranes survived the winter. Then, in the spring, these birds made it back to Wisconsin, much as the Canada geese had done—on their own.



 The team happily planned more journeys. Each year, a new group of whooping cranes learned to follow ultralight planes on the same migration route.

 Scientists then placed a new group of whooping crane chicks among the birds that returned to Wisconsin. Those chicks followed the experienced whooping crane adults to learn the migration route. The young cranes were now learning to migrate from older whooping cranes.








These two whooping crane chicks with their parents were the first to hatch in the wild in many years.



In 2006, two eastern whooping crane chicks hatched in the wild. They were the first wild whooping cranes born in eastern North America in more than 100 years. One of these chicks survived and followed its parents as they migrated south that winter. An eastern whooping crane had learned to migrate in the wild without human help. Operation Migration's system worked!

## **A Dramatic Comeback?**

It's an exciting story. But how will it end? Hopeful experts think that there might be 125 whooping cranes in Wisconsin by 2020, including 25 nesting pairs. If that happens, whooping cranes will no longer be endangered. What a dramatic comeback that would be!

 Thanks to groups like Operation Migration, the whooping crane has a fighting chance to make a comeback.



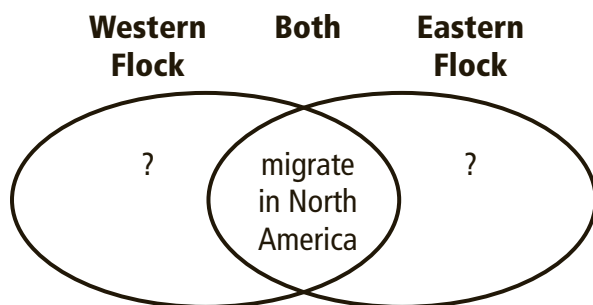


## Responding



### **TARGET SKILL Compare and Contrast**

How are the western and eastern flocks of whooping cranes alike? How are they different? Copy the diagram below. Complete it to show how the two flocks are different by adding details from the book.



### **Write About It**

**Text to World** What if there were suddenly no more animals? Write two paragraphs describing what the world would be like. Use exact words in your description.



### TARGET VOCABULARY

accidents

chilly

dramatic

frightening

landscape

migrate

plenty

solid

survival

thunderous

### EXPAND YOUR VOCABULARY

captive

captivity

endangered

flock

instinct

nesting grounds



### TARGET SKILL

**Compare and Contrast** Tell how details or ideas are alike and different.



### TARGET STRATEGY

**Visualize** As you read, use selection details to picture what is happening.



**GENRE Informational text** gives factual information about a topic.