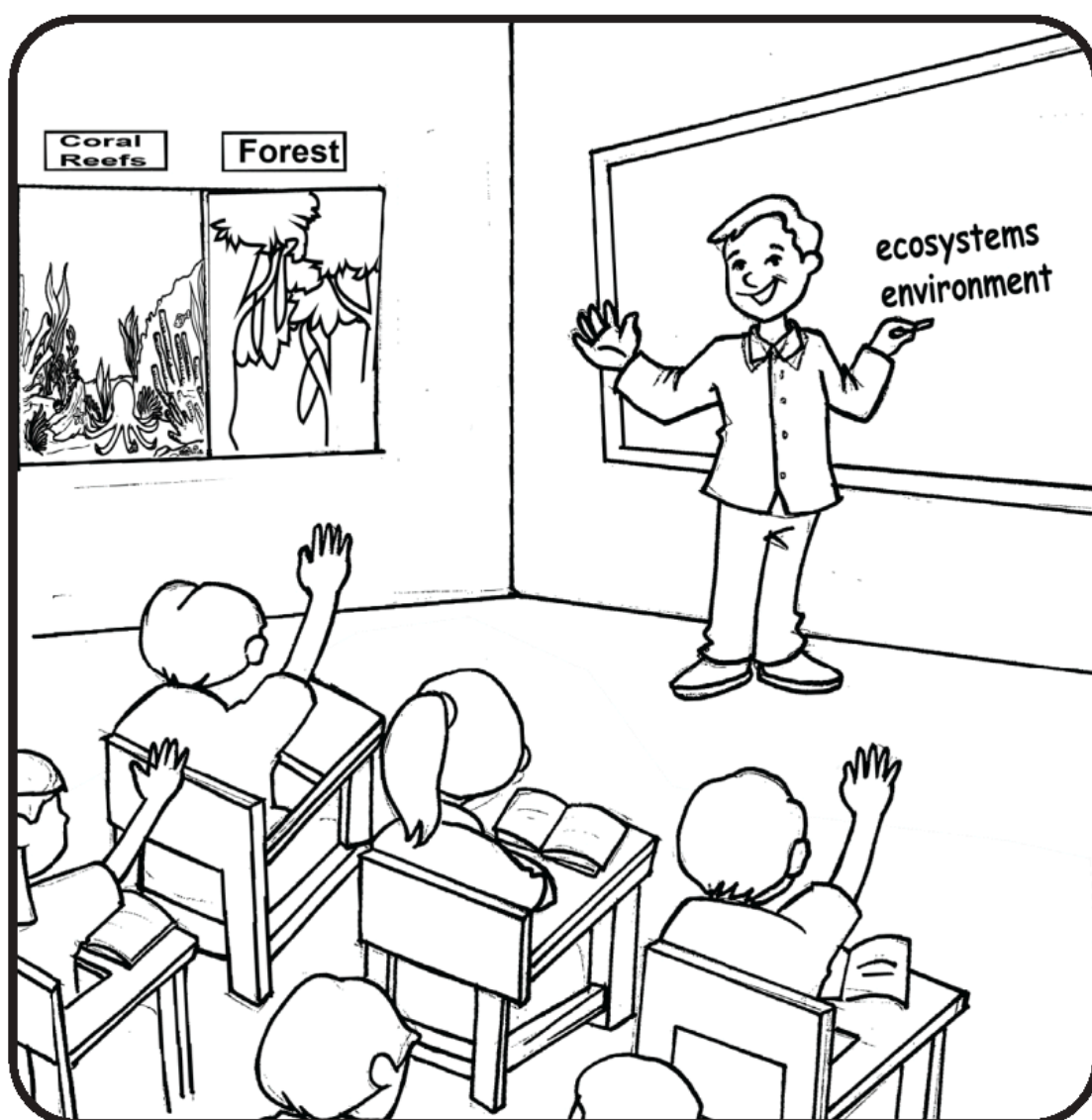


Leveled Reader

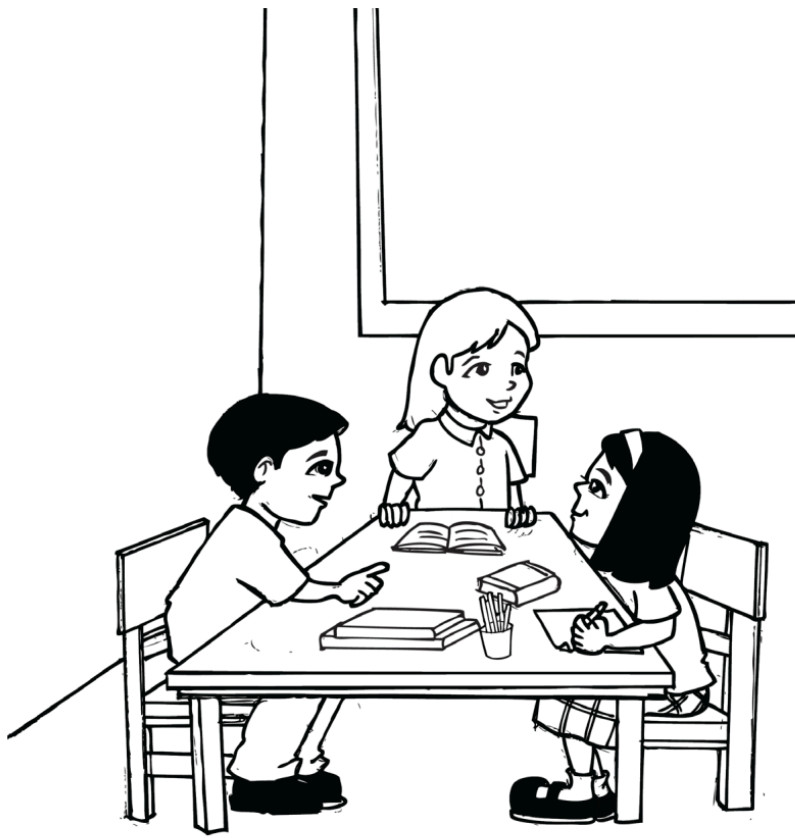
in Filipino

Let's Learn About Ecosystems



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Illustrated by Rea Diwata Mendoza



At lunch time, Jake's group gathers to talk. They think about what they know about watersheds. Jake says he knows it has to do with water.

Fay says, "To save time, let's each take a task."

They all agree and set a day to meet next.



Jake goes to the library. He reads about watersheds. He finds out that rain drains down from hills.

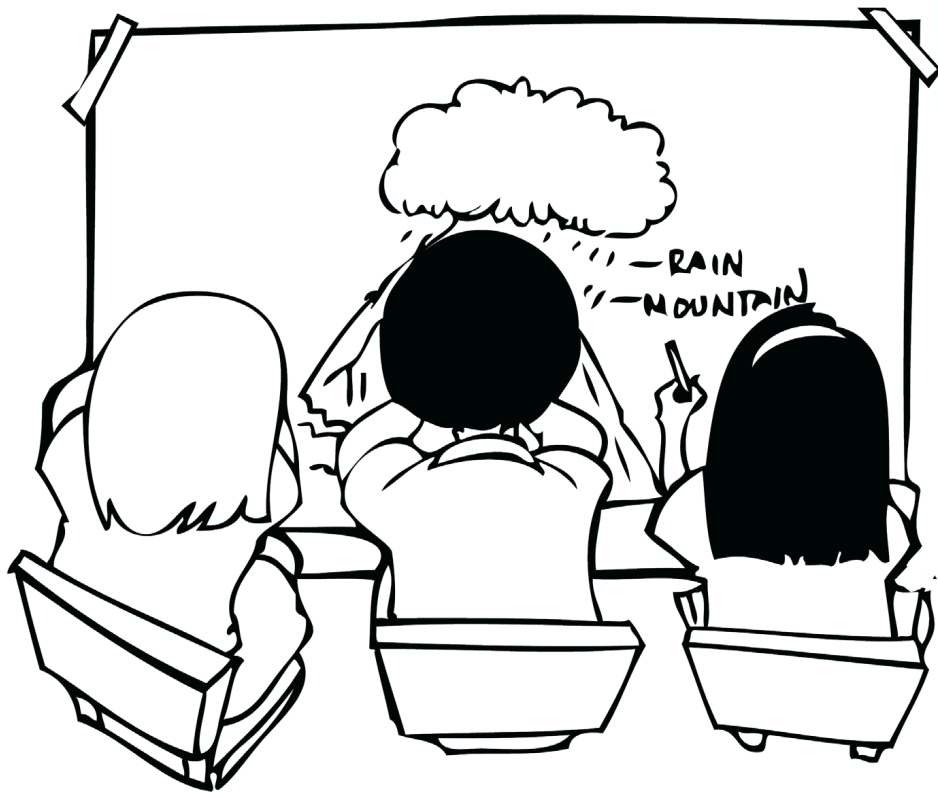
The rain goes into ridges that go into a lake. The lake that takes all of the water is the watershed.



Fay talks to a science teacher. She finds out that watersheds are very important. They become the source of water to drink, use to bathe, and to clean. They are a main water source.



Grace looks at a map. She finds out that watersheds are found in low places, can take many shapes, and can be long or wide.



The next day, Jake's group gathers to share. They draw a big poster. They name every place. They play out what they will say. Tomorrow is the big day!

Skill Builder 1

Phonics: Less common *long a* vowel spelling patterns
("a" ending with "e", ai, ay)

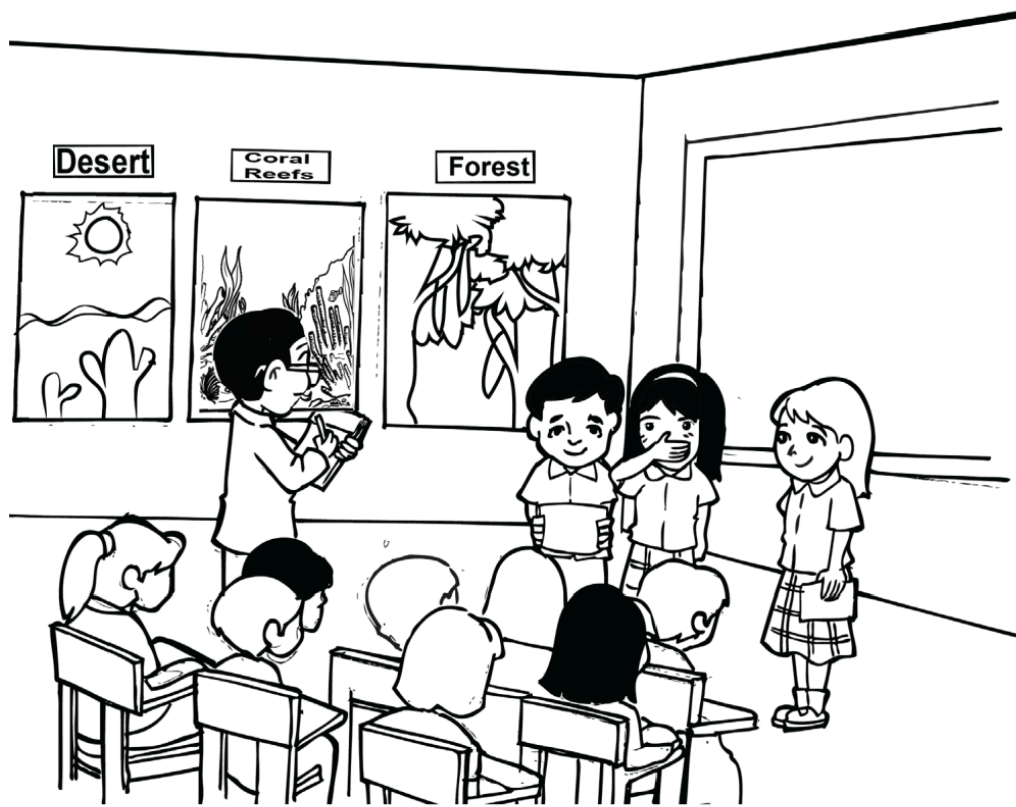
Find and write 3 words for each spelling pattern.
Sort them in your notebook.

Make a sentence with a word from each column.
Read your words and your sentences to your partner.

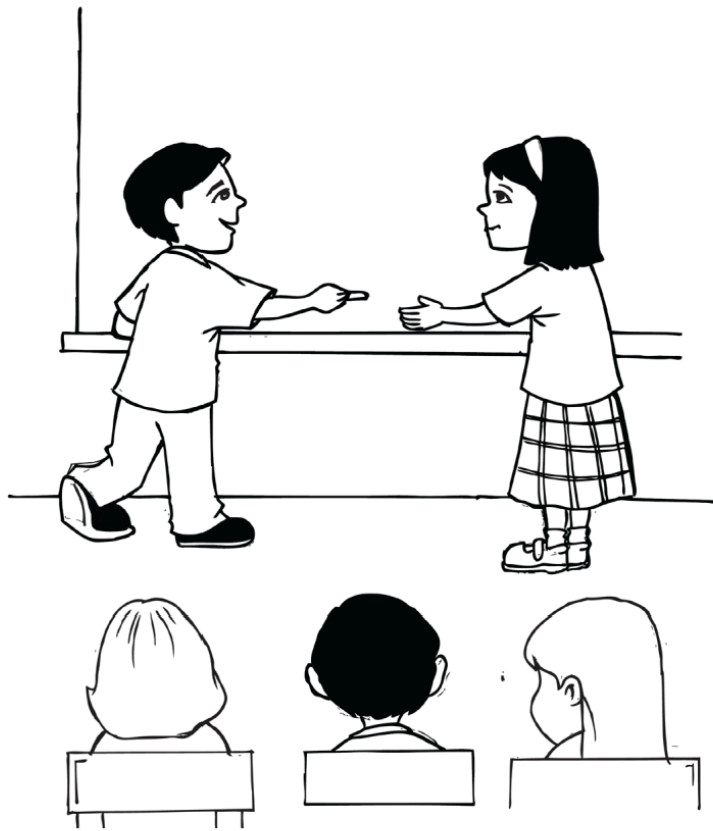
late	wait	day

Spelling Words

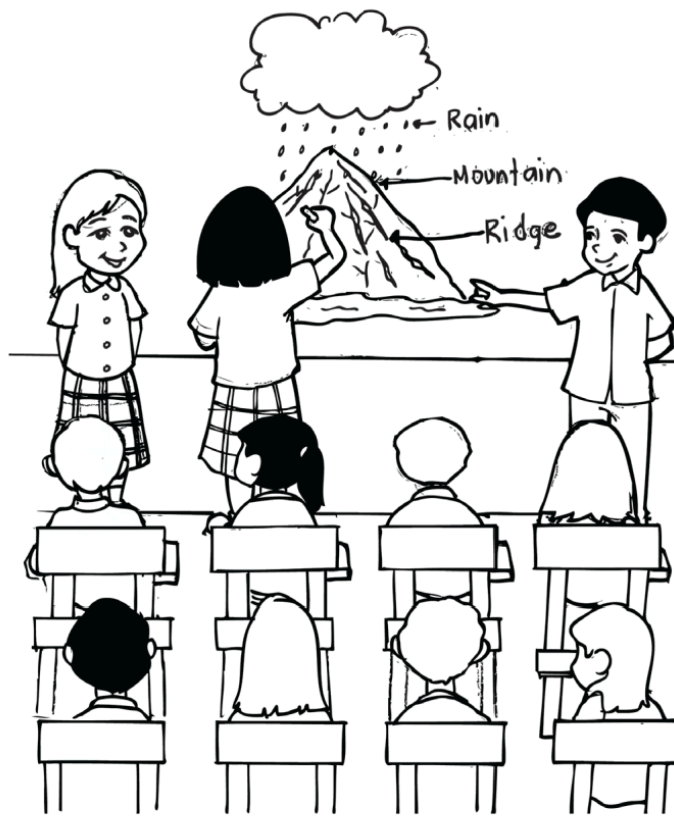
about	draw	does	tape	train
gray	place	wait	may	chain



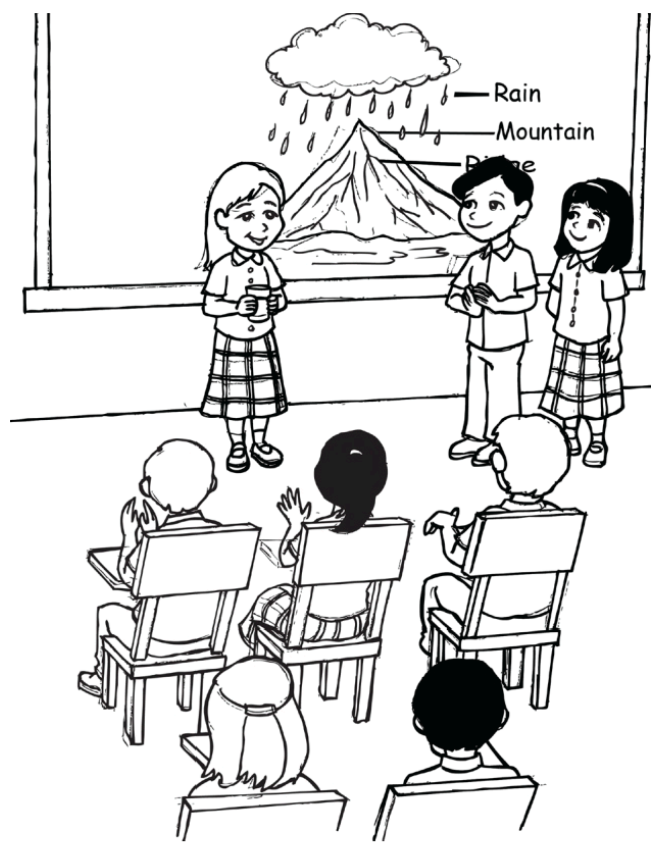
Today, the class will find out about watersheds! No one is late. Jake, Fay, and Grace take their places in front of the board. But, where is the poster?



Grace's face turns red. She forgot the poster at home! Jake does not wait. He knows what to do. He takes a piece of chalk and gives it to Grace. Jake explains how watersheds are made.



Grace draws the rain that drains into ridges. She draws the lakes and oceans. These are the places where water stays.



Fay explains why watersheds are important to keep safe. We all need clean water to live.

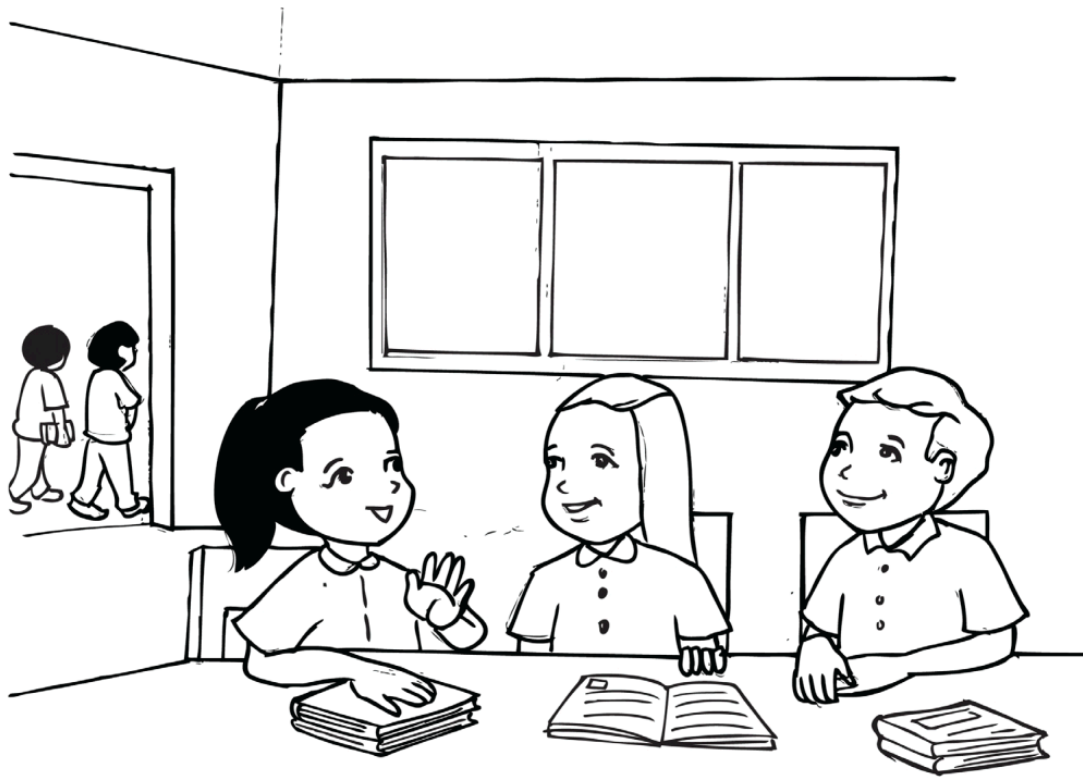
The class claps for Jake's group. Jake really did save the day!

Skill Builder 2

Grammar: Use verbs in simple present and past tense

Write 2 sentences in the simple present tense in your partner's notebook.

Rewrite the sentence your partner wrote in your notebook in the past tense.



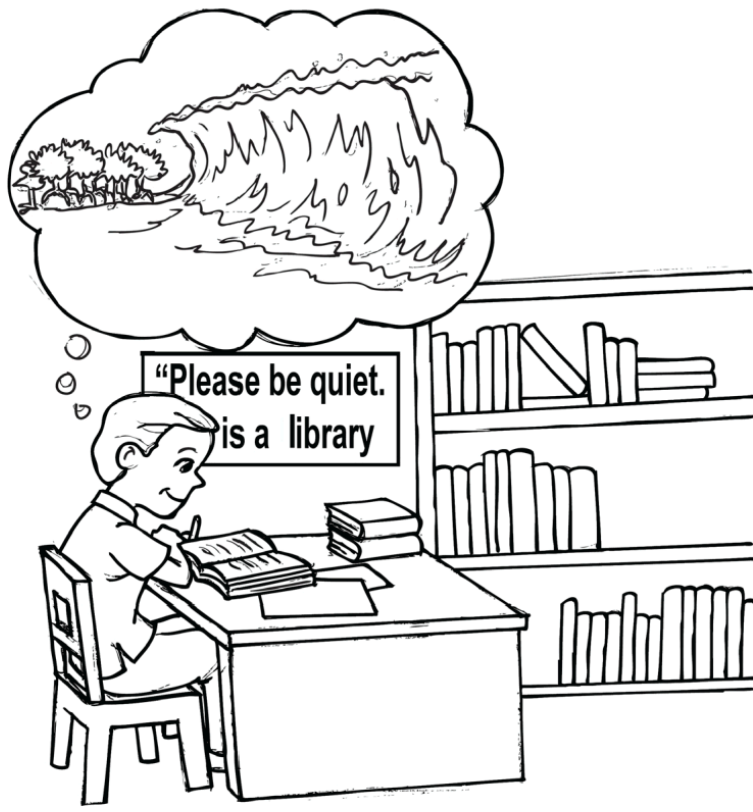
Joan's group talks about what they know about mangroves. Hope says she knows that mangroves are found along the coast of the ocean. Joan says she knows there is one close. Sloan says he does not know about mangroves. They set a goal to know more by tomorrow.



Hope talks to a scientist. He shows her a map of the globe. There are many mangroves all over. Most are in the tropics. There are many in the Philippines.



Joan goes to the coast with her dad to see a mangrove. She sees a fisherman. He takes her in his boat. He shows her the mangrove at low tide. The mangroves have many roots and animals. She even sees a toad.



Sloan goes to the library. He notes that mangroves protect coasts from erosion and tsunamis. He notes that it is important to let mangroves grow. It is important not to destroy them.



The next day, Joan's group makes a poster on mangroves. They draw trees and shrubs along a coast. Joan draws a picture of a toad. They each take a role. Tomorrow, they will share what they know!

Skill Builder 3

Phonics: Less common *long o* vowel spelling patterns
("o" ending with "e", oa, ow)

Find and write 3 words for each spelling pattern.
Sort them in your notebook.

Read them to your partner.

hole	road	grow

Spelling Words

goes	many	found	hope	coat
flow	stone	coal	blow	soak



It is time for Joan's group to show what they know about mangroves! The class gathers close to listen. Hope, Joan, and Sloan show their poster.



Joan shows photos of mangroves from around the globe. Some are broad. They cover the whole shore. Some don't need a lot of oxygen to grow.



Hope shows photos of animals and plants in the mangroves. There are many kinds of fish, toads, and bugs. There are many kinds of shrubs and trees. Mangroves are diverse.



Sloan says mangroves are important. Mangroves protect us from storms and erosion. Mangroves are important for our coasts. The class claps for Joan's group. They did a good job!

Skill Builder 4

Grammar: Verbs in simple present and past tense

Change the sentences in the **present tense** to the **past tense** and the sentences in the **past tense** to the **present tense**.

Mr. Day is happy with Hope.

They protected us from the storm.

The coast is broad.

Joan likes mangroves.



June's group gathers after school to talk. June wants to know about all kinds of forests. Sue wants to learn why forests are important. Bloom wants to learn about how we can protect forests.



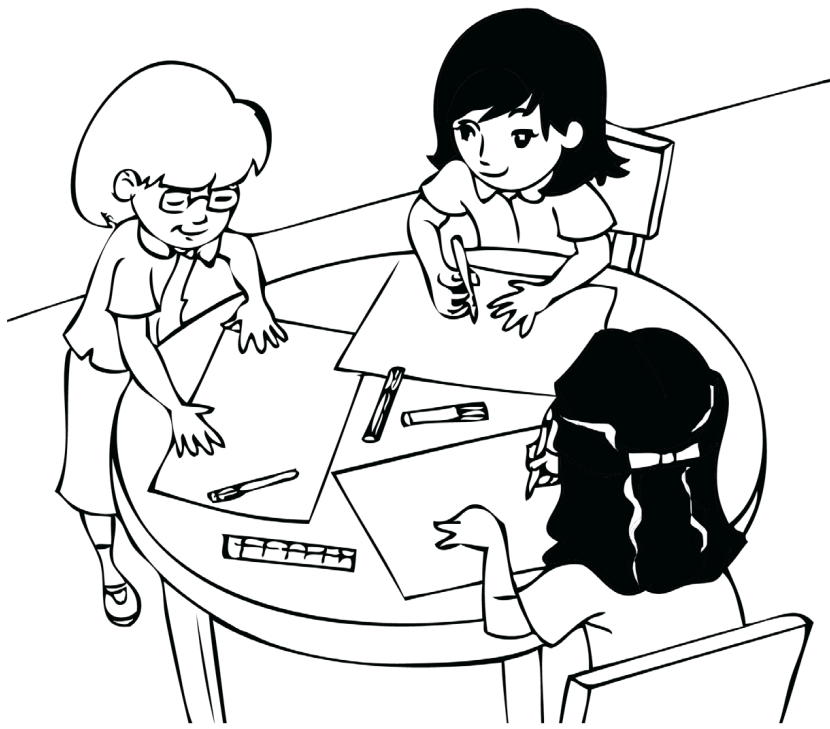
June goes to see her friend, Drew. He knows about forests. He tells her about tropical forests that are dense and lush. He tells her about temperate forests that are in cool places. He tells her about montane forests that get a lot of dew.



Sue goes with her family to a huge tropical forest park close by. She learns how forests provide food and shelter to many animals. The trees have many fruits. They also breathe the fumes from the city. But, forests are being cut to make room for human food and shelter.



Bloom goes to a computer. She learns how to plant new trees. She learns how to prune plants. She learns that parks are good places to protect forests.



June, Sue, and Bloom pool what they learned. They draw a poster on forests. Bloom gathers tools to show how to save forests. They will soon be ready to show the class what they know!

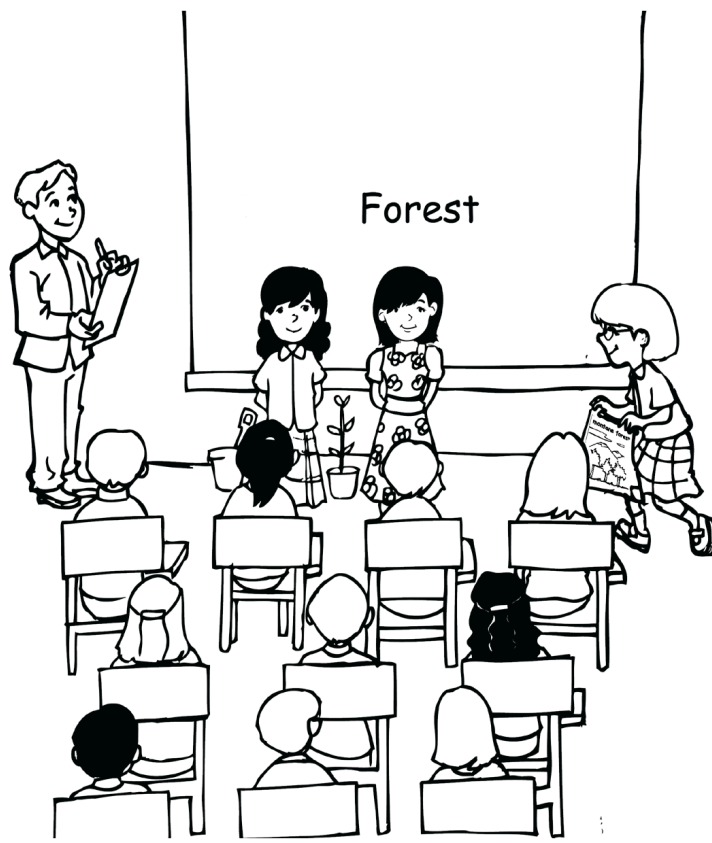
Skill Builder 5

Phonics: Less common vowels

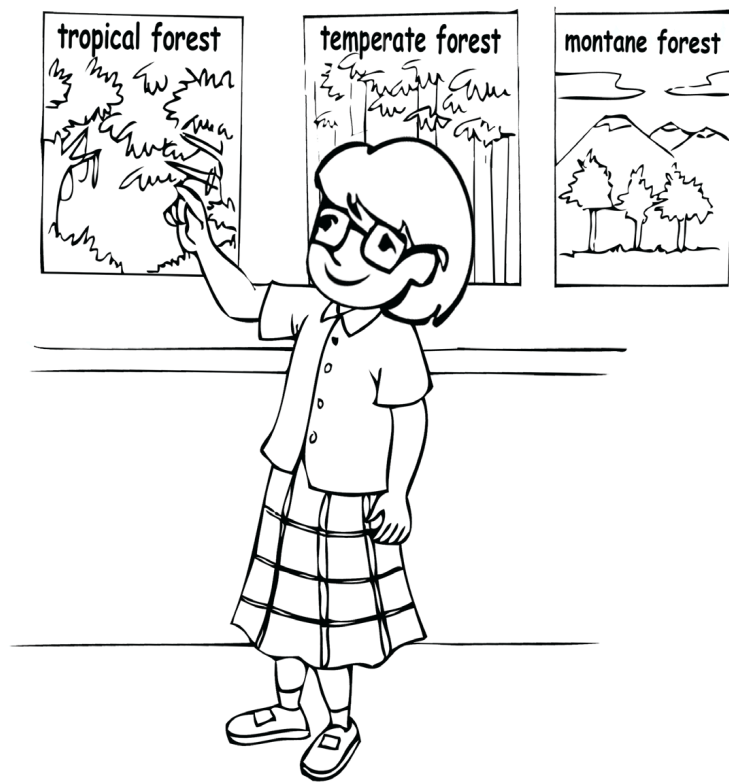
Copy this bingo board in your notebook and fill it in with words that have the “a” ending with “e”, ay, ai, “o” ending with “e”, oa-, ow, “u” ending with “e”, oo, and ew spelling patterns.

Spelling Words

some	good	get	flute	cruise
gloom	few	pool	suit	chute



June's group will now share what they learned about forests. Sue looks very cute in her suit. Bloom has her tools ready. June runs into the room with her poster. They are all in a good mood!



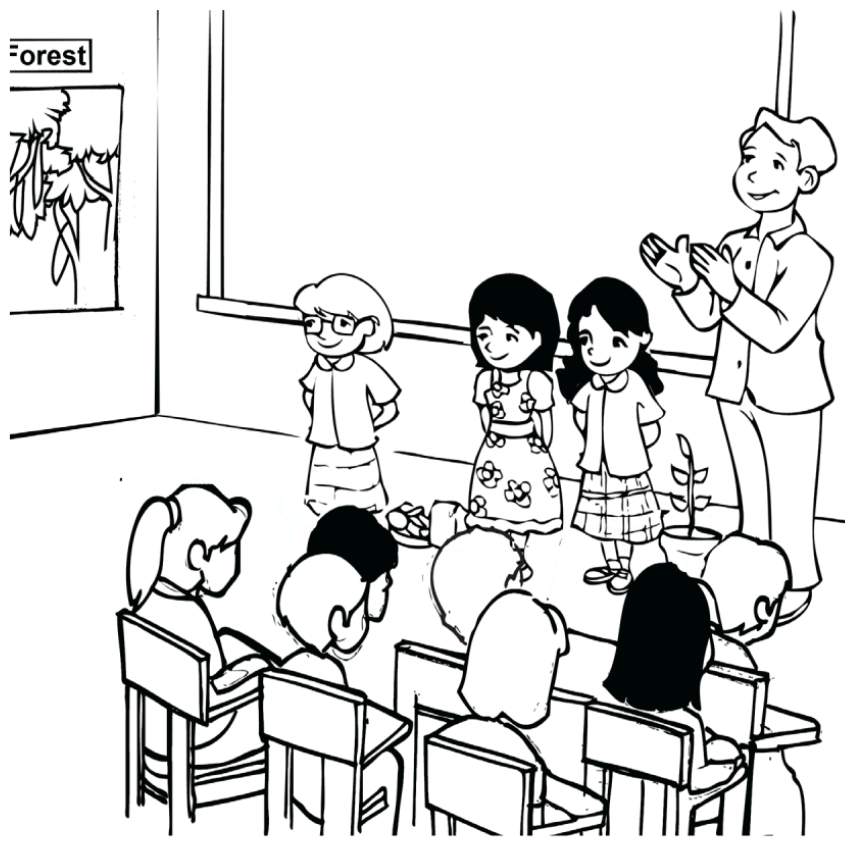
June shows the class all the forests she drew. She tells them about the forests in cool and warm places. She tells them how forests can be in high and low places. Forests can be wet or dry. They have many kinds of trees.



Sue tells the class about her trip to the park. She shows them a few fruits she found. She has them try the juice from the fruits. Forests provide food and shelter to humans and many animals.



Bloom uses her tools to show how to plant new trees. She shows how to protect the roots. She says that forests protect us from erosion and sand dunes. It is important that we protect forests!



Mr. Day and the class clap for June's group. They knew a lot about forests. The class wants to plant trees at their school.

Mr. Day tells them they will all visit the forest park soon. The whole class cheers.

Skill Builder 6

Grammar: Verbs in **simple present** and **past tense**

Write 2 sentences on what you learned about forests in the past tense. Then, rewrite them in the present tense.

Bottle Cap Mystery Words

1. Take your 26 bottle caps and write one letter of the alphabet, A-Z, on each top. When you finish, you will have one cap for each letter of the alphabet.
2. Look through **Let's Learn About Ecosystems** and write down five words that you find interesting. Don't share your words with anyone else!
3. Get into groups of three—you can pool your bottle caps so that you have three caps for every letter.
4. The first pupil in the group puts down the first letter of one of the words chosen from the story. The other two pupils try to guess the word. If they don't get the answer from only the first letter, then the second letter is added. Continue adding letters, one at a time until someone in the group correctly guesses the word. The pupil guessing the point gets one point.
5. If the word isn't guessed after 5 letters, the word is revealed. No points are awarded and the second pupil selects a word. The game continues until a pupil earns 5 points.



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