

8th Grade Passages

End of Year (EOY) Examiner Packet

Passage 1	<i>Jim Henson</i>
Passage 2	<i>A Dream Turns 70</i>
Passage 3	<i>Rocks From the Sky</i>

Directions

Passage 1

"I want you to read this passage out loud and do your best reading. If you get stuck or come to a word you cannot read, I will tell you the word so you can keep reading. When I say 'Stop,' I will ask you to tell me about what you read. Do you understand? ... Okay, you will begin as soon as I turn the page."

- Read the title of the passage.
- Start timing when the student says the first word.
- As he or she is reading, mark any words incorrect that are misread (i.e., substitutions, omissions, reversals, skips, or numerals read incorrectly).
- If the student hesitates for more than 3 seconds on a word, mark it as an error. Provide the word and then say, "Go on."
- If the student skips a line, stop and redirect the student to the beginning of the line. Count the first word of the line as an error. Do not stop the timer.
- After 60 seconds, say, "Stop." Circle the last word read.
- If the student finishes all the words before the time is up, note the time required to read all the words.
- COMPREHENSION RETELL: Give the initial retell prompt: "Can you tell me everything you remember reading in the passage?" Each time the student pauses, use the follow-up prompt ("Do you remember anything else?") until the student can recall no other information.

Passages 2 & 3

"Now try this passage: (Title). Ready? ... Begin."

Follow guidelines listed above.

Texas Middle School Fluency Assessment—Version 2.0 © 2010 Texas Education Agency, University of Houston, and The University of Texas System

These materials are copyrighted © by and are the property of the Texas Education Agency, the University of Houston, and The University of Texas System and may not be reproduced without their written permission, except by Texas public school educators in Texas under the following conditions:

1. any portion reproduced will be used exclusively for nonprofit educational purposes;
2. any portion reproduced will be reproduced in its entirety and remain unedited, unaltered, and unchanged in any way; and
3. no monetary charge is made for the reproduced materials or any document containing them; however, a reasonable charge to cover only the cost of reproduction and distribution may be charged.

Record Sheet: Passage Reading Fluency

Student Name		Date		Gender	
Examiner (and Title)		School		Grade	

Passage 1 *Jim Henson*

Last word read		Word number	
A Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		B Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \mathbf{B}) \div \mathbf{A} =$ Words correct per minute (WCPM)	
			C EQUATED SCORE
Comprehension Retell			
X Recalled idea units		Y Maximum possible idea units	
		$\mathbf{X} \div \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Z}$ PASSAGE RETELL SCORE	

Passage 2 *A Dream Turns 70*

Last word read		Word number	
A Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		B Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \mathbf{B}) \div \mathbf{A} =$ WCPM	
			C EQUATED SCORE
Comprehension Retell			
X Recalled idea units		Y Maximum possible idea units	
		$\mathbf{X} \div \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Z}$ PASSAGE RETELL SCORE	

Scoring continues on the next page.

Record Sheet: Passage Reading Fluency (cont.)

Student Name	
--------------	--

Passage 3 *Rocks from the Sky*

Last word read		Word number	
Ⓐ Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		Ⓑ Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \text{B}) \div \text{A} = \text{WCPM}$	
		Ⓒ EQUATED SCORE	
Comprehension Retell			
Ⓐ Recalled idea units		Ⓓ Maximum possible idea units	
		$\text{X} \div \text{Y} = \text{Z}$ PASSAGE RETELL SCORE	

Total equated scores (add all Ⓒ's)	
Divide by 3 for AVERAGE EQUATED SCORE	

Total passage retell scores (add all Ⓓ's)	
Divide by 3 for AVERAGE RETELL SCORE	

Jim Henson
TCLD Title: Jim Henson
Lexile: 800 – 8th Grade EOY #1
Source: TAAS 2001

17
35
53
71

Those of you who have seen the show Sesame Street know the wonderful puppets made by Jim Henson. When Henson was a child, he never played with puppets or saw a puppet show. But when he grew up, he made puppets that became famous. One of Henson’s first puppets was a frog made out of his mother’s old green coat. The frog’s best friend was a pig. Soon many other puppets followed.

72
91
107
124
142
161
180

Jim Henson was born in Mississippi in 1936. He lived in a small town, where he rode horses and fished. When Henson was in the fifth grade, his family moved near Washington, D.C. After high school Henson needed to find a job. A television station was looking for someone to work with puppets on a new show. Henson had learned about puppets when he had joined a puppet club in high school. He was excited about a chance to be on television. He and a friend made three puppets and tried out for the job. They were both hired, but the show was on television for only three weeks.

181
198
213
229

People at another television station liked Henson and his puppets. They decided to put them on an afternoon show. Later Henson did another show called Sam and His Friends. Many people thought only small children would be interested in watching it. People of all ages, however, thought the show was funny. In 1958 it won a prize for being one of the best shows in town.

247
262
278
293

Henson’s puppets began doing commercials on television, trying to get people to buy things such as coffee. His puppets also appeared on weekly television shows. In 1969 Henson helped make a new show called Sesame Street. On this show his puppets helped children learn numbers, letters, and shapes.

295
312

Seven years later Henson’s puppets had their own show. In 1980 the show was chosen as the greatest international television show of all time. It was seen in homes all over the world.

328
345
361
379
396

Henson worked below the stage so his puppets would be watched instead of him. When the camera was pointed in a certain direction, the people moving the puppets could not be seen. Henson always watched a television below the stage. This let him see exactly what the people at home saw during his show. Henson made his puppets seem real by turning their heads or changing the angle of their mouths. This made them appear to be sad, happy, or surprised.

409

428

429

Today people all over the world smile when they see these life-like puppets on television and in the movies.

A Dream Turns 70
TCLD Title: A Dream Turns 70
Lexile: 1020 – 8th Grade EOY #2
Source: TAKS Study Guide 2003

Early afternoon finds the base for Australia’s Royal Flying Doctor Service a blur of activity.

15
34

A 35-year-old man has been seriously injured. In less than 90 minutes, a medical team will be airborne, on its way to the victim 200 miles away.

44
64
81
100
117
132
148
165

Flying to give emergency care to the victim is just another day at the office—or in this case, away from the office—for the men and women of the medical service, which today celebrates the 70th anniversary of its first flight. That first flight, on May 17, 1928, was a dream come true for John Flynn, the medical service’s founder. Flynn came to the Outback in 1911. At that time, only two doctors served this remote area of Australia. Flynn set up hospitals throughout the region. His goal was to make medical care readily available to everyone living there. However, because of the Outback’s vast size, many people were still not able to reach help quickly. Flynn refused to give up. He continued to look for ways to improve medical care in the Outback.

179
196
214
232
250

A friend suggested using airplanes to fly doctors to people in need of emergency care. Flynn liked the idea and began asking for donations to start a flying medical service. It took Flynn years to raise the money to make his dream a reality. But his efforts were finally successful. On May 15, 1928, the Aerial Medical Service was born. Just two days later it made its first flight. During its first year it made 50 flights, treated 225 patients, and saved at least four lives.

265
282
297
312
327
344
355

Much has changed since then. The Royal Flying Doctor Service, as it has been known since 1955, helps thousands of people every year. Its 40 planes, equipped much like hospital emergency rooms, make thousands of flights from bases across Australia. Technology continues to affect life in the Outback. However, the medical service’s vital role has not diminished. Doctors still fly to people in need of emergency care, and the service still flies patients to hospitals when necessary. After 70 years, people in the Outback still depend on the flying doctors.

Rocks from the Sky
TCLD Title: Rocks from the Sky
Lexile: 1110 – 8th Grade EOY #3
Source: TAAS 2001

Shooting stars are not really stars at all, but are actually rock fragments that enter Earth's atmosphere from space. These fragments, which scientists call meteors, move so swiftly that they begin to burn when they pass through the gases of the atmosphere. Most are about the size of a pebble and burn up completely before they reach Earth's surface. Some larger ones, however, pass through the atmosphere and fall to the ground. Once they hit the ground, they are called meteorites.

16

30

49

64

Since ancient times people have claimed to have seen objects flash across the sky and, on occasion, fall to Earth. But years ago most scientists did not believe these stories. During the 1700s some scientists acknowledged that rocks might fall from the sky, but only after being hurled into the air from Earth by lightning or a volcanic eruption. Thus, scientists remained incredulous that these rocks had originated in space.

81

98

115

132

146

A few scientists began to study these events thoroughly. A German scientist named Ernst Friedrich Chladni read written accounts of such occurrences and realized that the stories were similar in many ways. He also examined some of the meteorites themselves and concluded that they were not like the rocks of the regions in which they were found. In a book published in 1794, Chladni argued that rocks could fall from the sky following the appearance of a meteor and that the rocks came from space. Chladni's book was not taken seriously by other scientists, but other evidence soon followed.

151

166

181

196

215

233

248

In 1802 British chemist Edward Charles Howard examined suspected meteorites collected from four widely separated parts of Europe. He ascertained that these rocks contained large amounts of iron and nickel, which do not normally occur together on Earth. Based on the rocks' chemical composition, he declared that they probably had originated somewhere other than Earth.

250

262

276

293

In 1803 an event occurred that convinced those scientists who were still unsure. On the clear afternoon of April 26, residents of the French village of L'Aigle heard thunder and saw a huge ball of fire in the sky. Explosions followed, and thousands of rocks fell to the ground. News of the spectacular occurrence spread, and a physicist named Jean-Baptiste Biot came to L'Aigle to investigate. Biot interviewed many of the villagers and examined many of the rocks that had fallen. Although the rocks resembled one another, they were unlike the rocks in the area. He concluded that the meteorites had indeed come from space. This event was critical in changing the minds of most scientists. They could no longer deny the existence of meteors and meteorites. But the 1803 meteor shower did not offer a clear and thorough understanding of meteorites. Another hundred years would pass before scientists realized that very large meteorites sometimes strike

305

321

338

356

371

387

403

419

435

449

462

477

492

508

509

Earth, leaving craters like those on the moon. Not until the twentieth century, when airplane travel provided better views of the landscape, did the existence of these meteorite craters become obvious. Today, scientists agree that Earth has a number of craters caused by rocks falling from space.

Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table EOY – *Jim Henson*

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<78	55	128	112		169	227	226
79	56		113	178	170	228	227
	57	129	114	179	171	229	228
80	58	130	115	180	172	230	229
81	59	131	116	181	173	231	230
82	60	132	117	182	174	232	231
83	61	133	118	183	175	233	232
84	62	134	119	184	176		233
85	63	135	120		177	234	234
86	64		121	185	178	235	235
	65	136	122	186	179	236	236
87	66	137	123	187	180	237	237
88	67	138	124	188	181	238	238
89	68	139	125	189	182	239	239
90	69	140	126	190	183	240	240
91	70	141	127	191	184		241
92	71	142	128		185	241	242
93	72		129	192	186	242	243
	73	143	130	193	187	243	244
94	74	144	131	194	188	244	245
95	75	145	132	195	189	245	246
96	76	146	133	196	190	246	247
97	77	147	134	197	191	247	248
98	78	148	135	198	192		249
99	79	149	136		193	248	250
100	80		137	199	194	249	251
	81	150	138	200	195	250	252
101	82	151	139	201	196	251	253
102	83	152	140	202	197	252	254
103	84	153	141	203	198	253	255
104	85	154	142	204	199	254	256
105	86	155	143	205	200		257
106	87	156	144		201	255	258
107	88		145	206	202	256	259
	89	157	146	207	203	257	260
108	90	158	147	208	204	258	261
109	91	159	148	209	205	259	262
110	92	160	149	210	206	260	263
111	93	161	150	211	207	261	264
112	94	162	151	212	208		265
113	95	163	152		209	>262	266
114	96		153	213	210		
	97	164	154	214	211		
115	98	165	155	215	212		
116	99	166	156	216	213		
117	100	167	157	217	214		
118	101	168	158	218	215		
119	102	169	159	219	216		
120	103	170	160		217		
121	104		161	220	218		
	105	171	162	221	219		
122	106	172	163	222	220		
123	107	173	164	223	221		
124	108	174	165	224	222		
125	109	175	166	225	223		
126	110	176	167	226	224		
127	111	177	168		225		

Retell Scoring Guide

Jim Henson

(page 1 of 2)

Each row of the table represents an idea unit and is worth 1 point.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units
18	A guy Jim Henson created made puppets	1
28	He Henson never saw a puppet show played with puppets had puppets when he was little a child	2
52	He Henson made a puppet that was a frog or from his mother's coat	3
67	The frog's friend Another puppet he (Henson) made was a pig	4
78	He Henson was born in lived in Mississippi a small town the country 1936 or rode horses and fished	5
104	He Henson They Henson's family moved to Washington to D.C.	6
144	He Henson was in a puppet club learned about puppets became interested in puppets in high school	7
154	He Henson Henson and a friend tried out for wanted got was/were excited about made three puppets for a job on a a chance to be on a puppet show tv show	8
200	He Henson They Henson and his friend got on another an afternoon puppet show tv show or did another show called Sam and His Friends	9
232	People thought the show was funny one of the best shows in town	10

Table continues on the next page.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units
252	His (Henson’s) puppets did commercials	11
283	He Henson started created made helped begin the show Sesame Street	12
292	His (Henson’s) puppets helped children learn numbers letters shapes	13
319	His (Henson’s) puppet show was seen around the world one of the greatest international shows of all time	14
342	People could see the puppets on stage and not him (Henson) instead of him (Henson)	15
379	He Henson watched a tv below the stage to see what people saw	16
392	He Henson made his puppets seem real by turning their heads changing their mouths	17
425	Today, people like to see his puppets on tv in movies	18

Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table EOY – *A Dream Turns 70*

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<24	22	77	80	129	137	181	194
25	23	78	81	130	138	182	195
26	24	79	82	131	139	183	196
27	26		83		140		197
28	27	80	84	132	141	184	198
29	28	81	85	133	142	185	199
30	29	82	86	134	143	186	200
31	30	83	87	135	144	187	201
32	31	84	88	136	145	188	202
33	32	85	89	137	146	189	203
34	33	86	90	138	147	190	204
35	34	87	91	139	148	191	205
36	35	88	92	140	149	192	206
37	36	89	93	141	150	193	207
	37		94		151		208
38	38	90	95	142	152	194	209
39	39	91	96	143	153	195	210
40	40	92	97	144	154	196	211
41	41	93	98	145	155	197	212
42	42	94	99	146	156	198	213
43	43	95	100	147	157	199	214
44	44	96	101	148	158	200	215
45	45	97	102	149	159	201	216
46	46	98	103	150	160	202	217
47	47	99	104	151	161	203	218
	48		105	152	162	204	219
48	49	100	106		163		220
49	50	101	107	153	164	205	221
50	51	102	108	154	165	206	222
51	52	103	109	155	166	207	223
52	53	104	110	156	167	208	224
53	54	105	111	157	168	209	225
54	55	106	112	158	169	210	226
55	56	107	113	159	170	211	227
56	57	108	114	160	171	212	228
57	58	109	115	161	172	213	229
58	59	110	116	162	173	214	230
	60		117		174		231
59	61	111	118	163	175	215	232
60	62	112	119	164	176	216	233
61	63	113	120	165	177	217	234
62	64	114	121	166	178	218	235
63	65	115	122	167	179	219	236
64	66	116	123	168	180	220	237
65	67	117	124	169	181	221	238
66	68	118	125	170	182	222	239
67	69	119	126	171	183	223	240
68	70	120	127	172	184	224	241
	71		128	173	185	225	242
69	72	121	129		186		243
70	73	122	130	174	187	226	244
71	74	123	131	175	188	227	245
72	75	124	132	176	189	>228	246
73	76	125	133	177	190		
74	77	126	134	178	191		
75	78	127	135	179	192		
76	79	128	136	180	193		

Retell Scoring Guide

Each row of the table represents an idea unit and is worth 1 point.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit						Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units	
24	A man	has been was	injured hurt				1	
44	The Australian Royal Flying Doctor Service The medical team The flying doctors		travel fly go	in less than 90 minutes 200 miles		to the victim injured man person who was hurt	2	
86	It's	the 70th anniversary* of the been 70 years* since the	first flight first time the doctors flew airplane rescues				3	
101	John Flynn The man	started the service	in 1928 a long time ago			or	4	
		came to	the Outback Australia	in 1911 a long time ago				
128	He Flynn	wanted to set up	hospitals medical care			or	5	
		wanted to make	hospitals medical care	available to everyone				
160	It was hard to	get to reach help from/at	a hospital a doctor medical care	in the Outback in a remote area far out in Australia		because of the the country's size	6	
176	The man Flynn	would not	give up stop	trying	to get to improve	medical care hospitals	or	7
		continued	to look for to search for	ways to	get improve	medical care hospitals		
189	He Flynn	raised money asked for donations					or	8
	A friend	suggested he (Flynn) told him (Flynn) to	use airplanes to get to fly doctors to		to people in need of	medical help emergency care		
256	When it first started, In its first year,	the medical service the doctors		made 50 flights [†] treated 225 patients [†] saved at least 4 lives [†]			9	

* Students who calculate that it has been over 70 years since the service began in 1928 should receive credit.

† To earn credit for this idea unit, the student's response must contain one of these details.

Table continues on the next page.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units								
288	Now the service helps thousands of people every year	10								
297	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px;">The planes</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">are like emergency rooms have emergency room equipment</td> </tr> </table>	The planes	are like emergency rooms have emergency room equipment	11						
The planes	are like emergency rooms have emergency room equipment									
332	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px;">The service The doctors</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">still fly people</td> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px;">to hospitals in need of emergency care</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"><i>or</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">People</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">still depend on the</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">service flying doctors</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	The service The doctors	still fly people	to hospitals in need of emergency care	<i>or</i>	People	still depend on the	service flying doctors		12
The service The doctors	still fly people	to hospitals in need of emergency care	<i>or</i>							
People	still depend on the	service flying doctors								

Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table EOY – *Rocks From the Sky*

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<60	52	106	109	153	166		223
	53	107	110	154	167	200	224
61	54	108	111	155	168	201	225
62	55	109	112		169	202	226
63	56	110	113	156	170	203	227
64	57		114	157	171	204	228
65	58	111	115	158	172		229
	59	112	116	159	173	205	230
66	60	113	117		174	206	231
67	61	114	118	160	175	207	232
68	62		119	161	176	208	233
69	63	115	120	162	177		234
	64	116	121	163	178	209	235
70	65	117	122	164	179	210	236
71	66	118	123		180	211	237
72	67	119	124	165	181	212	238
73	68		125	166	182	213	239
74	69	120	126	167	183		240
	70	121	127	168	184	214	241
75	71	122	128		185	215	242
76	72	123	129	169	186	216	243
77	73		130	170	187	217	244
78	74	124	131	171	188		245
	75	125	132	172	189	218	246
79	76	126	133	173	190	219	247
80	77	127	134		191	220	248
81	78	128	135	174	192	221	249
82	79		136	175	193	222	250
83	80	129	137	176	194		251
	81	130	138	177	195	223	252
84	82	131	139		196	224	253
85	83	132	140	178	197	>225	254
86	84		141	179	198		
87	85	133	142	180	199		
	86	134	143	181	200		
88	87	135	144	182	201		
89	88	136	145		202		
90	89	137	146	183	203		
91	90		147	184	204		
92	91	138	148	185	205		
	92	139	149	186	206		
93	93	140	150		207		
94	94	141	151	187	208		
95	95		152	188	209		
96	96	142	153	189	210		
	97	143	154	190	211		
97	98	144	155		212		
98	99	145	156	191	213		
99	100	146	157	192	214		
100	101		158	193	215		
101	102	147	159	194	216		
	103	148	160	195	217		
102	104	149	161		218		
103	105	150	162	196	219		
104	106		163	197	220		
105	107	151	164	198	221		
	108	152	165	199	222		

Retell Scoring Guide

Each row of the table represents an idea unit and is worth 1 point.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units
12	Shooting stars are rocks rock fragments meteors	1
39	They The rocks The fragments The meteors burn burn up when they come into pass through fall to earth the atmosphere the gases or	2
81	The ones The rocks The fragments The meteors that fall to the ground hit the ground do not burn up are called meteorites	3
111	Scientists didn't believe there were meteors meteorites or thought people told stories about rocks falling from the sky	4
136	They † Scientists thought believed that the rocks meteors meteorites were from lightning volcanoes erupting	5
173	One scientist Ernst * Chladni * studied read the stories the events	6
208	He The scientist Chladni * discovered decided said the meteorites were not like were different from other rocks in the area region	7
236	He The scientist Chladni * said argued wrote a book saying that the rocks meteorites came from space	8
268	Another scientist Howard looked at examined inspected rocks meteorites from separate parts of Europe different parts of Europe different countries	9

* Students should not be penalized for mispronouncing either "Ernst" or "Chladni."

† "They" is only acceptable if it is clear the student is referring to scientists.

Table continues on the next page.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit					Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
294	He The scientist Howard	decided declared said	that the	rocks meteorites	weren't from Earth had a chemical composition not from Earth had a chemical composition from somewhere other than Earth	10
351	Scientists	were convinced believed in meteorites	after	thousands * of a bunch of	rocks meteorites fell in France * in L'Aigle * † in a French village * in April 1803 *	11
384	A scientist A physicist Biot	investigated examined		the rocks the meteorites		12
411	He ♦ Biot	said decided		the rocks the meteorites	were from space	13
431	People Scientists	could not deny		meteors meteorites	anymore after the 1803 meteor shower	14
465	It was another 100 years before It was a while longer before They ‡ Scientists		they ‡ scientists finally	realized discovered saw from airplanes	that meteorites could make craters in the Earth	15

- * To earn credit for this idea unit, the student must supply at least one of the starred (*) details.
- † Students should not be penalized for mispronouncing "L'Aigle."
- ♦ To earn credit for this idea unit, the student must mention or refer specifically to Biot.
- ‡ "They" is only acceptable if it is clear the student is referring to scientists.