



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8th Edition

Maze Benchmark

Grade 6

Student Materials

Name: _____

Date: _____

Practice Passage

Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he
takes a school _____ to go to school. In the _____, he also
takes a bus home.



Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____

Adjusted Score: _____

Blizzards of the United States

Blizzard is a term used to describe a kind of massive storm that covers everything with snow. Usually, blizzards also have strong winds extreme cold.

Blizzards in the United States caused by cold, dry air moving from the north and colliding with , humid air rising up from the . They are

most common in the Great Plains, Great Lakes, and the Northeast. Cold


from the Pacific Ocean colliding with air from the Gulf of Mexico cause

blizzards in the Midwest. Winds become strong in prairie areas that flat

and free of trees. When air from eastern Canada meets warm , it can cause

major blizzards in New England.

a blizzard hits, it may dump much as twenty-five feet of

Keep going 

snow. when a blizzard hits, many public get shut down. Buses and

trains running, and schools are closed. Snowdrifts cover roads and train

tracks and reach up as high as telephone and the upper stories of buildings.

may cover barns and other places food is grown or stored.

Also, are often made to stay indoors, if they want to go out


play in the snow, because of risk of frostbite from the severe and

blasting winds. When people know blizzard is on its way they stock up on

food in case storm lasts for longer than a or so and buy extra flashlight


and candles just in case the goes out.

Storm warnings on TV radio stations tell people that they stay at

Keep going 

home while the blizzard _____, and not go out driving in _____ cars unless it is
necessary. The _____ amount of windblown snow can make _____ hard to see where
you are _____. That is why drivers try to _____ off the road and airplanes are
grounded until the storm lifts.

Very _____ blizzards may become historic events. In _____ United States there
are storms that _____ still remembered for their sudden severity _____ the problems they
caused. For instance, _____ the fall of 1880 a blizzard _____ the Midwest in October,
covering crops _____ had not yet been harvested. Snow _____ buildings and stopped
train service. Then _____ after storm hit until March. One _____ the longest of these
storms lasted _____ nine days. Many people could not _____ their homes for months at

Keep going 

a _____, and those who did often had _____ dig tunnels from their front doors.

the snow melted that spring, there _____ enormous floods that covered the plains

washed whole towns away.

In March _____ 1993 a blizzard called the Storm _____ the Century struck

the east coast _____ the United States. The extent of _____ storm system was massive. It

stretched _____ Canada into Central America. Snow fell _____ areas where snow is

extremely rare, _____ as Florida and Alabama. Ten million _____ on the east coast

lost electric _____ .`

Blizzards are nothing to take lightly. Whenever there is a blizzard warning, it

is best to be prepared for the worst.

