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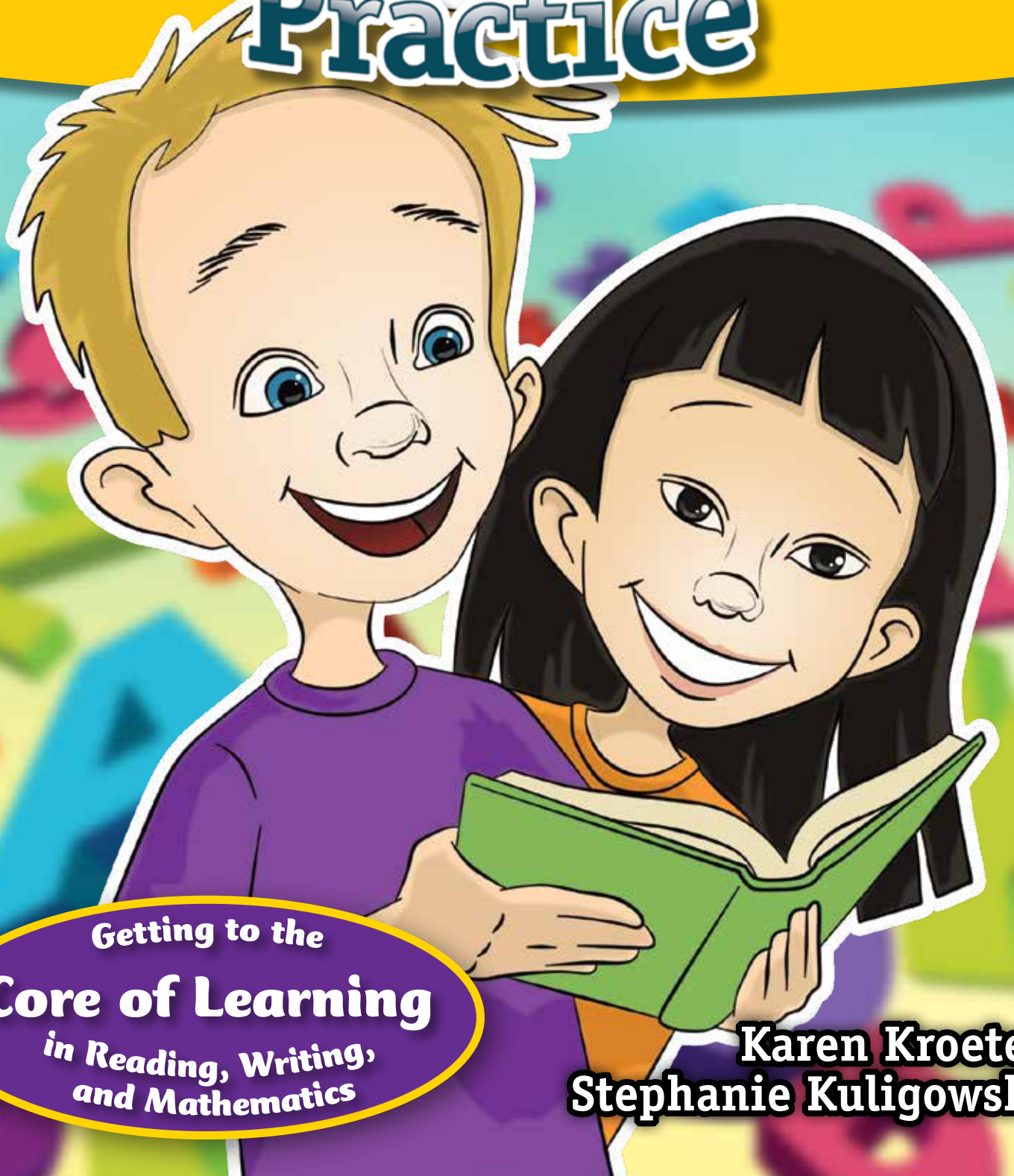
BRIGHT & Brainy

Resource CD
Included

Level

6

6th Grade Practice



Getting to the
Core of Learning
in Reading, Writing,
and Mathematics

**Karen Kroeter
Stephanie Kuligowski**

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Recognizing Elaboration Strategies

Elaboration Techniques

- **anecdote**—a short story (A)
- **scenario**—a hypothetical situation (Sc)
- **example**—a representative person, place, thing, or event (E)
- **definition**—an explanation of an unfamiliar word (D)
- **statistic**—facts or numerical data (St)
- **quotation**—the reprinting of words someone has said or written (Q)
- **cause/effect**—a relationship between an event and its results (C/E)
- **comparison**—an examination of similarities and differences (C)

Directions: Identify the elaboration techniques used by the author. Code the passages by writing the initial(s) of the technique next to the section of text in which it is used.

The Amazing Waterbear

Have you ever heard of an eight-legged creature that moves like a bear? It has four to eight claws on each foot. It also has skin, eyes, and muscles. Amazingly, it can dry out into a form that shows no signs of life, only to be revived by a single drop of water. Oh yes, and this marvelous creature probably lives in your own backyard! It is a waterbear, and it is arguably one of the most fascinating organisms on Earth.

Waterbears are formally called *tardigrades*. This means “slow moving.” The largest of them is only 1.5 mm long, so they aren’t easy to spot without a microscope. They like to live on moss and are common parts of any forest ecosystem. But, they can be found in lakes, ponds, meadows, or hot springs. Some have even reportedly been found under 5 meters of ice at the top of the Himalayas! _____

Waterbears are most notable for their incredible survival skills. When their environment dries out, they simply dry out with it. They are able to suspend all signs of life for long periods of time. Then they can come out of their dehydrated state without ill effect. There are reports of some waterbears that were revived from dried moss over 100 years old! _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Informal vs. Formal Writing Style

Informal writing style	Formal writing style
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May use first or second person points of view • Uses contractions • Includes slang or dialect words • Uses more short sentences • Used for narratives, friendly letters, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most often the objective third person point of view • Does not use contractions • Does not include slang or dialect words • Uses longer, more complex sentences • Used for research papers, business letters, reading responses, etc.

Directions: Read the passages. Determine whether informal or formal writing style is needed. Then, rewrite the passages using the correct styles.

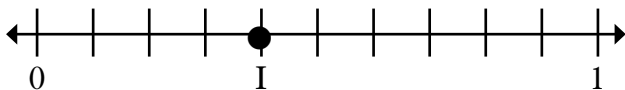
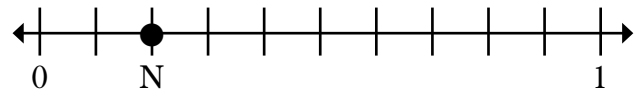
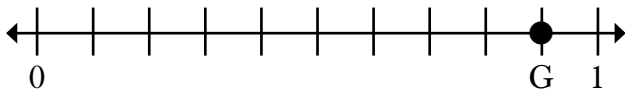
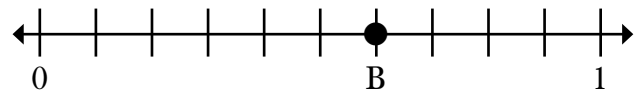
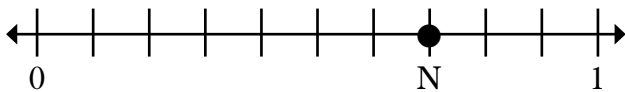
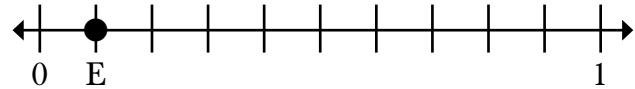
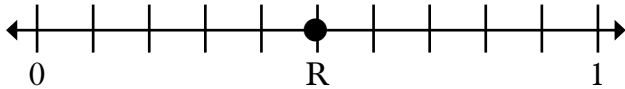
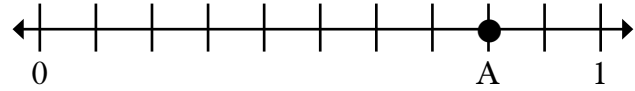
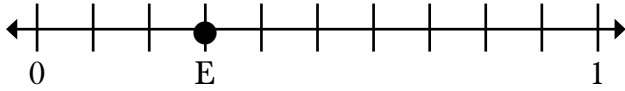
- ❶ In my research, I found out that the killer whale is really a member of the dolphin species. Betcha didn't know that, did ya? They're also called orcas. They're easily recognized with their distinct black backs, white chests and sides, and white patches above and behind the eyes. They look super cool when they jump out of the ocean. And they're huge! Male killer whales are about 20 feet long and weigh about six tons. Their dorsal fins are taller than my dad, who is six feet tall!

- ❷ One young man's fondest memory is of a day long ago. The young man, who was approximately five years old, spent the day at the park with his father. The father is named Jorge Rodriguez and the young man is Juan Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez first took the young man to a climbing apparatus. The young man climbed to the apex. Mr. Rodriguez applauded his son's grand achievement (from a personal narrative written by Juan Rodriguez).

Name: _____ Date: _____

Decimals on a Number Line

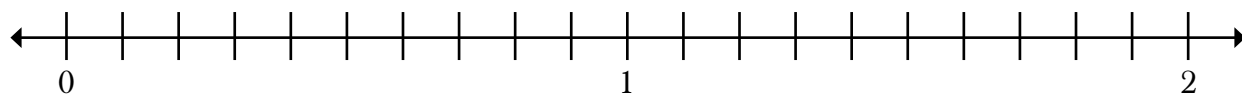
Directions: Match the letter with the correct spot on the number line to uncover the mystery message below.



Every expert was once

0.8 0.6 0.3 0.9 0.4 0.7 0.2 0.1 0.5

Directions: Plot and label the following points on the number line.



C = 0.9 I = 1.8 O = 1.5 Y = 0.2 D = 1.4
 O = 0.3 N = 1.1 T = 1.9 A = 1.0 U = 0.4