

Name _____

Old School

Long ago, schools were only for boys. Most schools had just 11
 one room. Boys of all ages sat in the same room. The boys 24
 learned about reading. They learned about math. In history, 33
 they learned about kings and queens and wars. Paper cost a lot 45
 of money, so they wrote on little chalkboards called slates. The 55
 teacher was always a man. He could be very mean. He could 67
 whip the boys if they were bad. There was no place at school 80
 to cook lunch. The boys had to bring their lunches from home. 92
 There were no lunchboxes like we have. They used pails or 103
 baskets to carry their food. Most people did not go to school 116
 for very long. Only rich men went to college. We are lucky to 129
 have schools where everyone can learn. 135

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

Parent Tips

1. Have the student read the ENTIRE story to himself & answer the questions.
2. Time the student while he reads aloud for exactly 1 minute. Do not help fix mistakes.
3. If the student is stuck on a word for 2 seconds, say the word & count it as a mistake.
4. Record the number of words read and the number of errors. Subtract: words read – errors = total words read correctly.
5. Now, help fix mistakes.
6. You may wish to read the story out loud as a model for fluent reading.
7. Repeat the steps on other days.

1. Long ago schools had just one _____.

- lunchbox
- room
- paper

2. A slate is a _____.

- paperclip
- chalkboard
- bookmark

3. What is the main idea of this passage?

- Long ago schools were very different.
- Boys took their lunches in pails.
- Only rich men went to college.

4. What is something you learned about schools from this passage?

