

Making Connections

Reading Comprehension Skills and Strategies Book 2

Unit 4 Skill Focus: Compare and Contrast

Unit 4 Theme: Past and Present

Text 1

Unit 4 Compare and Contrast: To compare and contrast, find what is the same and what is different.

At the Fair

What different games did Mario and Grandpa play?

Mario had always wanted to go to a fair. One day, a fair came to town, so Grandpa took him. When they arrived at the fair, Grandpa said, "When I was young, we didn't have a Slippery Dippery. We had donkey rides instead. But we did have a Ferris wheel." "I want to go on the Slippery Dippery first!" said Mario. "Whoosh!" "I feel a bit dizzy," he said when he got off. "I'll go next!" said Grandpa. "Whoosh!" "I feel a bit wobbly," Grandpa said. "Maybe a ride on the Ferris wheel will make us feel better," said Mario.

Text 2

The Weirdest Bike Ever!

Our class went to the history museum yesterday. We saw a model of one of the first bikes ever built. It was all wood and did not have any metal. My bike has lots of metal.

What do you think is the most interesting difference between the old bike and the new bike?

It had two wheels, the same as mine. It had spokes, like mine, but it did not have any pedals! How weird is that? The riders had to put their feet on the ground and scoot themselves along.

Text 3

Two Boys

What differences does the boy notice in the old photos?

Up in the attic, I found some photos in a dusty box. One photo shows a boy and his dad in a funny old car. They look a little like Dad and me, but our car is more modern than that (even though Dad drives a used station wagon). There is a photo of the boy and his family eating a turkey dinner. They're having a good time, just like we do at big family meals. In another photo, they are washing the dishes. I'm glad we have a dishwasher.

Scaffolding Level:

MODELING

GUIDED

COACHING/INDEPENDENT

Text 4

Two Bedrooms

What was the biggest difference between the two rooms?

Now
My bedroom is white and my carpet is red. Spacehips fly over the quilt on my bed. My desk and computer are right by the door. My books and my teddy bear sit on the floor.

Then
Gran's bedroom was yellow, her wood floor was bare. Her desk had a pen and some ink and a chair. Her books and her teddy bear sat on the shelf. Her mother had sewn the blue quilt by herself.

Text 5

Unit 4 Compare and Contrast

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read the text and answer the questions below.

Grandma and I

Grandma was a lot like me when she was young. She read lots of books and she loved cooking. She had a radio like I do, but she did not have TV.

She did chores like me, but the chores she did were a lot different. She had to help her mom with washing and ironing. I unload the dishwasher and set the table.

Grandma loved to play with her pet dog, Daisy. I named my dog Daisy after Grandma's dog. Maybe things aren't so different after all!



Fill in the circle next to each correct answer.

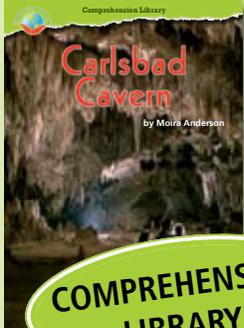
- Grandma liked to
 - watch television.
 - do chores.
 - cook.
 - play on the computer.

Text 6

Comprehension Library

Carlsbad Cavern

by Moira Anderson



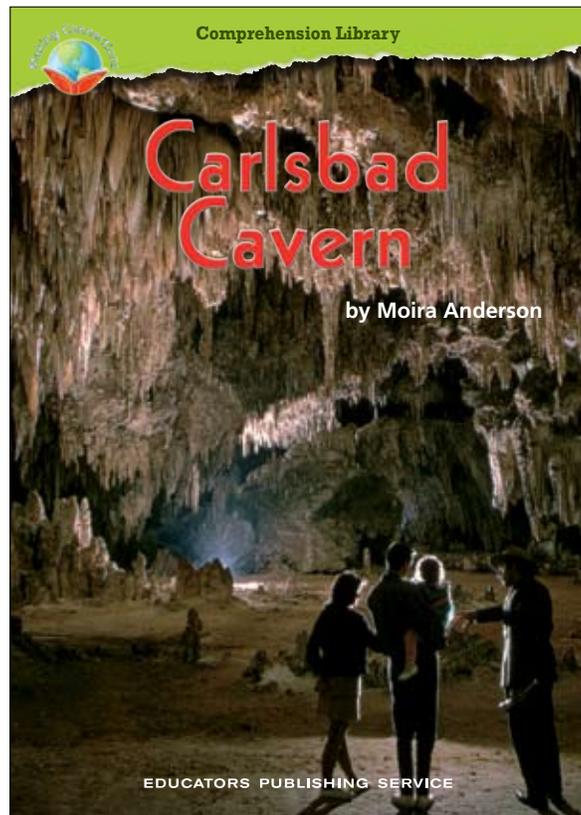
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Scaffolding Level:

INDEPENDENT

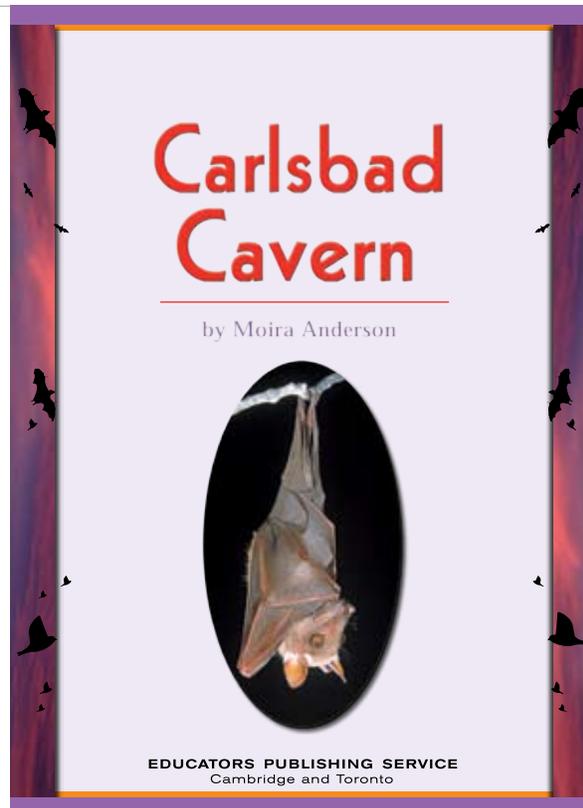
INDEPENDENT

INDEPENDENT



Skill Focus—Compare and Contrast

How are bats and birds alike?



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Introduction

Every year, thousands of people visit Carlsbad Cavern in New Mexico. Carlsbad Cavern is one of the world's largest caves. For part of the year, it is also home to more than one type of animal.



Visitors at Carlsbad Cavern

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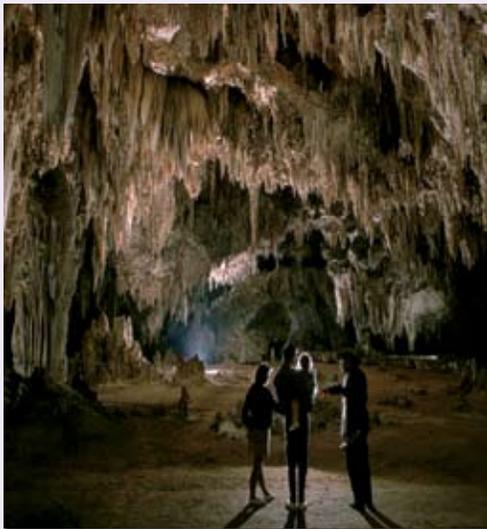
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The inside of Carlsbad Cavern

Bats and birds don't normally live together. However, every summer, cave swallows and Mexican free-tailed bats make Carlsbad Cavern their home.



Mexican free-tailed bat



Cave swallow

The bats and birds have been sharing this home since 1966, when the first cave swallows arrived at Carlsbad Cavern. To know why this is unusual, we need to learn more about bats and birds.

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What Do Bats and Birds Look Like?

Bats have furry bodies with short legs and feet. Some bats have weak legs and don't use them to walk. But all bats use their legs and feet to hang from branches and rocks. Each foot has five toes and claws that help them to grip when they are hanging upside down.



A fruit bat hanging upside down to rest

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Birds' bodies are covered with feathers. Like bats, they have legs and feet. Birds use them to walk or hop along. Most birds have only four toes with claws. Like bats, many birds have short legs. But birds that are fast runners or wade through water have long legs.



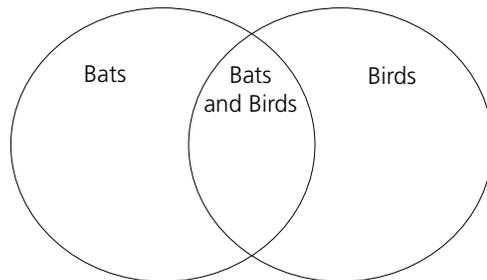
Birds can have long or short legs.



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Graphic Organizer and Questions

1. Draw a Venn diagram like the one below. Fill in facts about bats in the circle on the left. Fill in facts about birds in the circle on the right. Write how they are the same in the middle.



2. Why do bats and birds travel to Carlsbad Cavern?
3. Name three things that bats eat and three things that birds eat.
4. Would you like to visit Carlsbad Cavern? Why?

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