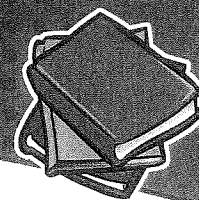




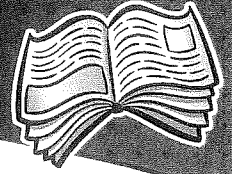
Child Labor in the Industrial Revolution



The Industrial Revolution that began in England in the late 1700s changed the world. Many good things happened because of it. New jobs were created in mills and factories. People who went to work earned more money. However, life for many children became harder.	11 23 35 44
Many of the new workers were children. Children as young as five were employed in textile mills, factories, and mines. Strength and skill were not needed when machines did a lot of the work. Factory owners were happy to hire children because they could pay them less than adults.	56 67 80 92 93
Some people thought child labor was good because it helped poor families earn a living. Others thought it was terrible. Children often worked from dawn to dark. They had no time for school.	104 115 126
Even small children had very dangerous jobs. They breathed coal dust in mines and got sick. In factories, they worked with heavy machines that could crush them.	136 148 153
Eventually, laws were passed that protected child workers. In 1916, the first child labor bill was passed in the U.S. Children under 16 could not work full-time. Minimum wage laws made hiring children more expensive for employers. As a result, fewer children worked and more stayed in school.	163 177 188 199 202

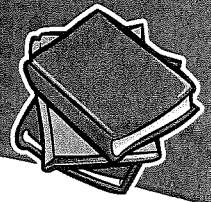


Space Cat



My cat, Jenny, is from outer space. Let me tell you why I believe this.	15
First, she does not like cat food. She prefers to eat dog food. My dog, Sam, is not happy about this because it's his food Jenny keeps eating.	30
While Sam whines over his empty bowl, Jenny simply licks herself clean, as if she has not just stolen food from a dog five times her size.	43
Second, Jenny hums instead of purrs. You would know the difference if you heard it. She does it at the strangest times, too. Most cats purr when they are happy and comfortable. Jenny hums just to hear herself humming. Maybe she's trying to send a message to her fellow alien cats.	55
Finally, Jenny spends a lot of her time staring up at the stars in the night sky. Her tail sways back and forth as she sits on my windowsill, looking up. She's probably homesick.	70
My mom doesn't think Jenny's behavior is strange. Lots of cats like dog food, she says. My mom claims not to hear the humming and says that many cats enjoy staring at the sky. I do not accept that, though. Jenny is special. She must be an alien.	81
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California Condor



In the 1980s, there were few wild California condors left. Biologists captured all of them. They hoped to breed them in captivity so they could save the species.

This condor is the largest bird of prey in North America. These black birds have a wingspan of about nine feet. Condors feed on dead animals.

There were thousands of condors when large herds of animals roamed North America. The decline of open space greatly reduced their numbers. As the herds were killed off, the condors began dying, too.

By the 1980s, many were dying of lead poisoning. At first, biologists were puzzled. Eating animals killed with lead bullets turned out to be the cause of the condors' lead poisoning.

More than 50 condors have been released into the wild. Some have since died by flying into power lines. The birds had to be trained to stay away from the lines. Scientists now put miniature power poles in the flight pens. These replica lines deliver a small shock. The birds have learned to avoid them when they fly free.

After release, the condors are tracked by satellite. Small radio transmitters are attached to their wings. The signals let scientists know where the birds are. They can tell how many survive after they're freed.

Camp Blue Feather



It was summer vacation, and Heather was having a great time at Camp Blue Feather. It was her first time at a sleepaway camp, and she had been a little scared to be away from home for a whole week. But now that she was here, it was lots of fun.

On her first day at camp, Heather went swimming in the nearby lake. She and her fellow campers had a swimming race. Heather's best friend, Donna, won the race and got a nice shiny trophy.

On the second day, the campers hiked along Blue Feather Trail. Heather and Donna took pictures of all the beautiful flowers they saw along the way. At one point, they even spotted a deer!

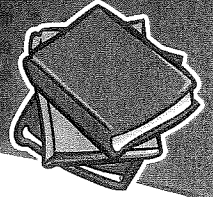
On the third day, Heather went to the crafts tent. She made a picture frame and decorated it with glitter and macaroni. She thought she would give it to her mom for her birthday.

For the rest of the week, she swam, hiked and made crafts. On the last night, the kids gathered around the campfire and sang songs.

The next morning, it was time to leave. Everyone was sad to go, but they were already looking forward to coming back next summer.



The Inuit of the Arctic



Even the harshest places on Earth have been home to the world's people. The Inuit have lived for thousands of years in the frozen Arctic.	12 25
Inuit means "people" in their own language. The Europeans called these people Eskimos.	35 38
Historically, everyday life for the Inuit was very hard. The Arctic is cold most of the year. The ground is often frozen. When the sea is not frozen, the water is still ice-cold. The Inuit survived in this harsh environment by hunting and fishing.	50 65 78 83
Seals and caribou were the most important animals. These two animals provided most of the food and shelter. Small skin-covered boats called kayaks were made for sea hunts.	93 105 112
In the winter, seals were hunted at their breathing holes in the ice. In summer, seals and caribou were hunted on land. The animal skins were used for clothes and blankets. Bones were made into knives, needles, and other tools.	126 138 150 152
Winter homes were partially underground for protection from the cold. They were made of earth and stone. Sometimes, igloos were built of blocks of ice. They gave shelter to hunters far from home.	161 173 185
Much of the old way of life is gone today, but the Inuit culture and language still survive.	200 203



Country Cousin, City Cousin



Maria lived in the city in an apartment on the sixth floor. She took a city bus to school and an elevator up and down to come or go from the apartment.

The subway rumbled underneath the sidewalk. At night, Maria could hear big trucks going by, and sometimes police sirens.

Her cousin Ana lived on a farm where her parents had a peach orchard. Six cats lived in the old barn on the farm, and Ana also had a pet dog named Scooter.

One day Maria's mother asked her if she wanted to spend a week with Ana. Maria jumped at the chance to visit her cousin.

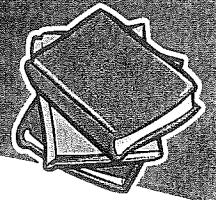
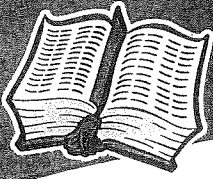
Ana happily showed Maria all around the farm. They played in the old barn and tried to coax the cats to play. Maria ate a delicious peach right from the tree.

When the week was over and Maria went home, her mother asked her if she had fun. "I had lots of fun with Ana," said Maria, "but country life sure is exhausting."

"Why?" asked her mother.

"It was so quiet at night, I couldn't sleep!" Maria said. "It will be great to hear an old bus rolling by tonight. That's my lullaby."

California Condor



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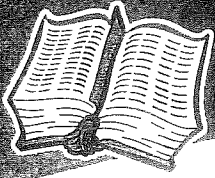
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There were thousands of condors when large herds of animals roamed North America. The decline of open space greatly reduced their numbers. As the herds were killed off, the condors began dying, too. 64
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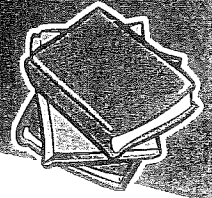
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The Runaway



By Robert Frost

Once when the snow of the year was beginning to fall,	11
We stopped by a mountain pasture to say, "Whose colt?"	21
A little Morgan had one forefoot on the wall,	30
The other curled at his breast. He dipped his head	40
And snorted to us. And then he had to bolt.	50
We heard the miniature thunder where he fled,	58
And we saw him, or thought we saw him, dim and gray,	70
Like a shadow against the curtain of falling flakes.	79
"I think the little fellow's afraid of the snow.	88
He isn't winter-broken. It isn't play	95
With the little fellow at all. He's running away.	104
I doubt if even his mother could tell him, 'Sakes,	114
It's only weather.' He'd think she didn't know!	122
Where is his mother? He can't be out alone."	131
And now he comes again with clatter of stone,	140
And mounts the wall again with whited eyes	148
And all his tail that isn't hair up straight.	157
He shudders his coat as if to throw off flies.	167
"Whoever it is that leaves him out so late,	176
When other creatures have come to stall and bin,	185
Ought to be told to come and take him in."	195



The Bracelet



Sarah was very proud of the bracelet she made. She had strung colorful beads on wires. She braided three wires together and added a clasp. Her mom said it was beautiful, and Sarah wore it to school every day.

One day, at recess, she realized the bracelet was missing! Sarah and her friends looked all over the schoolyard, but they couldn't find it. Finally, their teacher made them stop looking and come back in for class.

The next day, she checked with the lost and found in the principal's office, but it wasn't there. Losing the bracelet made Sarah very sad.

A month passed, and the bracelet never turned up. Then one day after school, Sarah saw a third-grader wearing her bracelet! She was furious! Sarah started to march up to her to demand the bracelet back, but when she got closer she heard the girl say to her friends, "Yes, it's very pretty. I got it for my birthday." The little girl was so happy with the bracelet, she was just beaming.

Sarah turned around without saying anything. That afternoon at home, she got out her jewelry kit and made herself another bracelet, just like the first, but in different colors.