

Firefly Reading Path

Use punctuation and story actions to guide fluent oral reading.

4RF4.a "Read grade-level text across genres orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the story aloud twice. Before your second reading, circle each end mark that signals a change in voice, so you can use expression and pause correctly.

Maya's Firefly

- ① At sunset, Maya carried a small jar to the community garden. Fireflies blinked above the bean plants, but Maya had never caught one. "Wait by the path," her grandfather said softly. "Move slowly, and keep the jar open." Maya nodded. The garden seemed quiet, except for crickets calling from the tall grass near the wooden fence.
- ② Then a bright speck floated near Maya's sleeve. She held her breath. "There it is!" she whispered, lifting the jar. The firefly drifted inside, and Maya slid the lid on without a sound. Its light flashed once, twice, then three times. Maya smiled, but she did not shake the jar or rush away from the garden.
- ③ Grandfather leaned close. "Now watch," he said. Maya loosened the lid and tipped the jar toward the sky. Out flew the firefly! It rose over the beans and joined the other blinking lights. "Good night, little lantern," Maya called. On the walk home, she moved slowly again and listened to the crickets beside the path.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** Write the two sentences with exclamation marks. How should your voice sound when you read each one?

- 2** Which word tells you that Grandfather speaks quietly? Write the word and tell how it guides your voice.

- 3** In paragraph 2, which short sentence should you read slowly and quietly to match Maya's action?

- 4** After Grandfather says "Now watch," what mark shows a brief pause before the words he said?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two connected sentences about seeing an animal outdoors. Use dialogue in one sentence and an exclamation mark in the other, then underline one word you will stress when you read both sentences aloud twice.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Read the story aloud twice. Before your second reading, circle each end mark that signals a change in voice, so you can use expression and pause correctly. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write the two sentences with exclamation marks. How should your voice sound when you read each one?	"There it is!" and "Out flew the firefly!" Read both with excitement and energy.
2	Which word tells you that Grandfather speaks quietly? Write the word and tell how it guides your voice.	softly; read Grandfather's words in a quiet voice.
3	In paragraph 2, which short sentence should you read slowly and quietly to match Maya's action?	"She held her breath."
4	After Grandfather says "Now watch," what mark shows a brief pause before the words he said?	A comma.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

"Look," I whispered, "a fox is near the fence." The fox lifted its tail and vanished into the trees!

Accept wording that correctly identifies the quoted sentences, punctuation, and voice choices supported by the text. For Your Turn, accept two connected original sentences with dialogue, an exclamation mark, and one underlined word for emphasis.