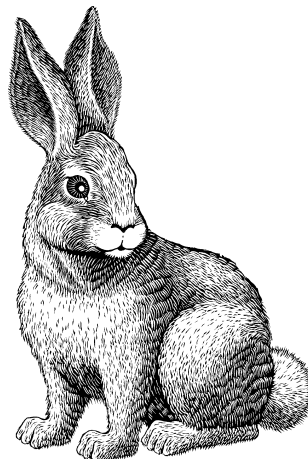


Mole's Big Adventure

The following story was adapted from Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*.

- 1 Mole had been very busy all morning cleaning his little home. It was almost spring, and there was much to do. First, he used a broom to sweep. Next, he mopped each room. Then, he used a clean rag to wipe all the dust from each and every shelf in his neat, organized home. He did not have to worry about windows, since he didn't have any. His home was deep underground. The rain and snow did not bother him one bit down there.
- 2 Then Mole stopped and sniffed the air. A smell came from far away and crawled through the mud and floated up to his nose. It was fresh spring air! Mole shook with glee. He threw his rag aside and began to dig. Up and up he dug. He scratched and scraped, dirt spraying in every direction. He dug so much dirt that it began to fill up his home. His floors began looking very untidy, but Mole did not care. Clean rooms were nice, but that smell! It was simply too tempting to ignore! Mole dug even faster. Then, at last, his nose poked through the dirt. He sniffed, and—POP!—out came his head into the sunlight!
- 3 The smell of fresh spring air was better than anything else in the whole world. Mole felt happy, so he sat on his hill and gazed around for a long time. The sun dangled in the sky like a big yellow balloon, and a lazy breeze tickled Mole's fur. Birds flew by, and little worms inched their way through the grass. Everything was green and growing. It was so pleasant that Mole decided to do something he had never done before—leave his hill and take a long, relaxing walk.
- 4 "After all," he said to himself, "I deserve a little trip after all of the hard work I did today!"
- 5 Mole walked down his hill and across a field. He passed under berry bushes and found an interesting trail, when suddenly a rabbit stopped him.
- 6 "Hold on," said the rabbit. "You must pay me six pennies to use this trail to the river."



7 "A river?" Mole asked. "I have never seen a river. What is a river?"

8 "It's like a long, blue snake," said the rabbit, "and it moves fast!"

9 "Oh, that doesn't sound like fun," replied Mole.

10 "It isn't a real snake," said the rabbit. "It's more like a road made of water."

11 "Oh, I would like that very much."

12 "Then you need to pay me first!" the greedy rabbit shouted.

13 But Mole walked right by the rabbit. He was too excited about seeing the road made of water. The rabbit hollered after him, but Mole didn't hear a thing. He continued down the trail until the sweet smell of the river filled his nose. Then he saw it, and as soon as he did, Mole thought he might never return home again.



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Headlines 3.6G (Comprehension—Key Ideas) M

If this passage were a news story, it might have this headline.

Mole's Spring Cleaning Leads to Excitement

On the line below, write a headline of your own about the passage.

Read & Respond

Directions: Complete the following items after you read the passage.

3.7C (Response—Text Evidence) M

1. This passage is a biography, meaning it tells the story of someone's life. On the lines below, write two sentences from the passage that tell something important about Garrett Morgan's life.

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

3.7C (Response—Text Evidence) M

2. How did Morgan discover his hair-refining solution?

3.3B (Vocabulary—Context)/3.3D (Vocabulary—Word Relationships) M

3. Read the sentences from paragraph 5 of the passage.

Morgan's product was a fast success. The profits from the hair straightener allowed Morgan the freedom to try inventing other things.

Which word below means the opposite of profits?

- A Earnings
- B Fines
- C Losses
- D Rights

3.9D.ii (Informational—Features)/3.10C (Author's Purpose—Print and Graphic Features) M

4. How do the bold section titles help the reader understand the passage?

Put It All Together 3.9D.i (Informational—Central Idea and Evidence) M

A. Directions: The sentences below describe several events in Shirley's life. Number the events in the order that they happened. The first event is marked for you.

- _____ A. An elephant attacks Shirley and breaks her leg.
- _____ B. Shirley and Jenny see each other at the farm.
- _____ C. Shirley's first circus sells her to another circus.
- 1 D. Shirley is born in 1948.
- _____ E. Workers keep Shirley away from other elephants.
- _____ F. A circus buys Shirley, and she leaves her home in the wild.
- _____ G. Shirley's second circus sells her to a zoo.
- _____ H. Shirley is hurt in a fire.
- _____ I. Shirley leaves the zoo and moves to a farm.
- _____ J. Shirley and Jenny meet for the first time.

B. Directions: Think about the events you ordered above. Which ones led to pleasant results in Shirley's life? Which ones led to unpleasant results? Did any events do both? Write the letters of the sentences in the appropriate spaces of the Venn diagram. Be ready to discuss your choices with your classmates.

