

Typing Practice Pages

These pages are designed to be used as typing practice for a beginning typist. To use these pages, a person should already know how to type with correct fingering. (If you need to learn the correct fingering, you can use *Type Write Touch Typing*, available from Gentle Shepherd.)

There are 90 days of practice pages, which will cover half a school year.

Most of these pages are in sets of “two’s.” The first day is a general facts page, and the second day reviews those same facts by asking and answering questions.

There are also 17 pages of rhymes, and one page of alphabet sentences.

For a five day school week, two sets of fact pages can be used each week (to cover four days) along with one page from the rhymes group (for the fifth day).

Check-off pages are available (on pages 10-11 of this e-book) for use in planning and/or keeping track of progress.

Please note: On some of the pages a dash is used. To make the dash appear as it does on the pages, hit the hyphen key twice. Right at first, it will look like two hyphens. But when you continue the typing after the hyphens, they will change to look like a dash.

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THE TUNDRA

The tundra is an area of very cold land in northern Canada, Alaska, Iceland, Greenland, northern Scandinavia, and Siberia.

Trees don't grow in the tundra; only grasses, mosses, and lichens grow there.

The land is covered with snow for at least eight months. In the summer, the top layer of land thaws, and plants can grow. The rest of the land stays frozen; it is called the permafrost.

Some animals and birds that live in the tundra are white, such as the arctic hare and the snowy owl.

Some plants in the tundra have dark red leaves—this coloring lets them absorb more heat from the sun.

In the summer the sun shines nearly all the time; in the winter it is dark nearly all the time.

It can be as cold as 60 degrees below zero in the winter.

Some animals found in the tundra are the arctic hare, the arctic fox, the lemming, the musk ox, the wolf, the polar bear, and the caribou.

Over 100 kinds of birds live in the tundra in the summer. Only a few birds stay year-round.

Some insects that live in the tundra are mosquitoes, flies, moths, grasshoppers, blackflies, and arctic bumblebees.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TUNDRA

What kinds of plants grow in the tundra? Grasses, mosses, and lichens

What is the permafrost? It is land that is always frozen.

How many degrees below zero does it get sometimes in the tundra? 60 degrees

What color of leaves will absorb more heat? Dark red

How many kinds of birds live in the tundra in the summer? Over 100

Are there bumblebees in the tundra? Yes, arctic bumblebees

Are there bears in the tundra? Yes, polar bears

How many months is the land covered with snow? Eight months

Where is the tundra found? In northern Canada, Alaska, Iceland, Greenland, northern Scandinavia, and Siberia

METALS

Metals are substances with certain characteristics: when polished they shine, they are good conductors of heat and electricity, they can be formed into useful shapes without breaking—including being stretched into wire and squeezed into a sheet.

Gold can be made into thinner sheets and finer wire than any other metal.

Metals differ in weight. The heaviest metal is osmium. It is 22 ½ times as heavy as water. A one foot cube of osmium weighs 1,400 lbs. The lightest metal, lithium, weighs about half as much as water. Aluminum, a light metal, is used for building airplanes.

Metals also differ in melting points. Tungsten, used for electric light bulb filaments, has the highest melting point of any metal—over 6000 degrees Fahrenheit. Mercury, a metal used in thermometers, has a low melting point; it is liquid at room temperature.

The metal that is the best conductor of heat and electricity is silver. Next best is copper.

Some metals can be found in the earth in their pure state. Many other metals are found combined with other substances in rocks called ores.

Taking metals or ores from the earth is called mining.

Some countries that do a lot of mining are the United States, Canada, and South Africa. Some metals are found only in certain countries. For example, cobalt is mined in Zaire and in Finland.

QUESTIONS ABOUT METALS

How does the weight of osmium, the heaviest metal, compare to the weight of water? It is 22 ½ times as heavy as water.

How much does the lightest metal weigh, compared to water?

Lithium, the lightest metal, is half as heavy as water.

What metal is the best conductor of heat and electricity? Silver

What are metals combined with in ores? They are combined with other substances.

What characteristic of metals explains why metals are used so frequently in many different products? They can be formed into useful shapes.

Name three countries that do a lot of mining for metals: the United States, Canada, South Africa

Which metal can be made into very thin sheets and very fine wire? Gold

Which metal is liquid at room temperature? Mercury

PANDA BEARS

The panda bear lives in mountainous bamboo forests in west-central China.

Its fur is white, with black eye patches, ears, legs, feet, chest, shoulders, and arms.

Panda bears are slow-moving animals. They spend about half or more of every day eating.

To eat, they sit down and hold bamboo with their forepaws. The forepaw is different from other bears; they have a thumb, so they can grasp.

Their paws have short claws, making it easy for them to climb trees.

In Chinese, their name, “Daxiongmao,” means “large bear cat.”

Pandas are 5-6 feet high and weigh over 200 pounds.

The panda is endangered, because its habitat has shrunk as people have farmed and developed land nearby.

There are over 100 pandas in captivity, and about 1000 in the wild.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PANDA BEARS

How much of each day does a panda spend eating? Half, or more

Can pandas climb trees? Yes

What one country do wild pandas live in? China

How is the panda's forepaw different from other bears? They have a thumb, so they can grasp.

What do panda bears eat? They eat bamboo.

What does the Chinese name for panda bear mean? Large bear cat

What colors is a panda bear? Black and white

How tall is a panda bear? 5-6 feet

How heavy is a panda bear? Over 200 pounds

Is the panda an endangered species? Yes

About how many pandas are there in the wild? 1000

She Sells Seashells

She sells seashells by the seashore.

If she sells seashells by the seashore,

The shells that she sells are seashore shells,

I'm sure.

Whether the Weather

Whether the weather be cold or

Whether the weather be hot,

Whether the weather be fair or

Whether the weather be not,

Whatever the weather,

We'll weather the weather,

Whether we like it or not!

Violet, indigo, blue and green,

Yellow, orange and red,

These are the colors you have seen

After the storm has fled.

(rainbow)

The beginning of eternity,

The end of time and space,

The beginning of every end

And the end of every place.

(letter E)

Look in my face, I am somebody;

Look in my back, I am nobody.

(mirror)