

*ReadingHorizons*  
**ELEVATE**®

# Student Packet

Murmur Diphthongs *AR* and *OR*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Welcome to the *Reading Horizons Elevate*® Weekly Student Packet!

Each packet contains the following items:

- Practice pages for each skill lesson from the *Reading Horizons Elevate*® Student Book
- Transfer Cards
- Passages with comprehension questions from the *Reading Horizons Elevate*® Reading Library

Some packets will also include practice pages for Most Common Words lessons.

### **Student Book Practice Pages**

Each practice page begins with a brief review of the associated skill or list of Most Common Words. Students may need the support of a fluent reader to read the skill review and the instructions for each activity.

Most Common Words are words that appear so frequently in writing that students need to know them by sight. Until these words become a regular part of the student's vocabulary, the student may require more support from a fluent reader while completing these practice pages.

### **Transfer Cards**

Transfer Cards were designed to be fully decodable, meaning that the student should have learned all the necessary skills to read these independently. These cards provide valuable practice using the skills taught in the program.

### **Reading Library Passages and Comprehension Questions**

Reading Library passages are designed to give students practice reading a variety of nonfiction texts. Each packet will include at least two passages of varying difficulty. Students will benefit from additional support from a fluent reader while working through these passages.

Happy Reading!

The Reading Horizons Team

For more information, contact your instructor at \_\_\_\_\_.

## Murmur Diphthong AR

## Skills Review

- Murmur Diphthongs make a new vowel sound when the vowels are joined with the letter *r*. A Murmur Diphthong is not short or long; it has its own sound.
- The *ar* Murmur Diphthong says /ar/, which sounds like the name of the letter *r*.
- To add the suffixes *-ing*, *-ed*, *-er*, and *-est* to *ar* Murmur Diphthong words, use the rules already taught.
  - 1) If the word ends in a Murmur Diphthong, there is only one consonant at the end of the word, so another *r* must be added before adding the suffix (*star/starring*; *scar/scarred*).
  - 2) If there is a consonant following the Murmur Diphthong, there are two consonants at the end of the word, so just add the suffix (*farm/farming*; *park/parked*).

## DECODING

To mark the *ar* Murmur Diphthong:

Mark an *x* under the vowel *a* and arc the *ar* together. If there is a consonant after the Murmur Diphthong, do not mark it as a guardian consonant.

arm      jar

When proving *ar* Murmur Diphthong words with suffixes, prove the base word first. Then rewrite the word with the suffix and underline the suffix.

star      starring      park      parked

A. Prove these *ar* Murmur Diphthong words. Remember to mark Blends and Digraphs.

farm      chart      scar      yard

start      dark      card      smart

B. Prove these multisyllabic words that contain *ar* Murmur Diphthongs.

radar      artist      margin      garden

C. Rewrite the words with the suffix.

1. bark (ed) barked

5. star (ed) \_\_\_\_\_

2. start (ing) \_\_\_\_\_

6. scar (ing) \_\_\_\_\_

3. hard (er) \_\_\_\_\_

7. farm (er) \_\_\_\_\_

4. dark (est) \_\_\_\_\_

8. smart (est) \_\_\_\_\_

## Murmur Diphthong AR

### READING

Read the story.  
Notice the *ar* Murmur  
Diphthong words.

The dog barked as Carl drove into the farm. He could see Marge in the yard, dressed in a light coat and scarf, digging in the garden. He parked his car and walked to the large barn. Carl wanted to do his part. It would be hard, but he knew it was the smart thing to do!

### APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

A. Circle the *ar* Murmur Diphthong word that best completes the sentence. Then write the word on the line. Use the story for clues.

1. Carl went to the farm to help Marge.

park farm card

2. The dog began to \_\_\_\_\_ when Carl drove in.

star bark hard

3. Marge wore a coat and a \_\_\_\_\_ around her neck.

scarf card yarn

4. Carl parked his \_\_\_\_\_.

yard scar car

5. Carl and Marge worked in the \_\_\_\_\_.

market harvest garden

B. Unscramble the words to make an *ar* Murmur Diphthong word.

1. rca \_\_\_\_\_

4. rab \_\_\_\_\_

2. krpa \_\_\_\_\_

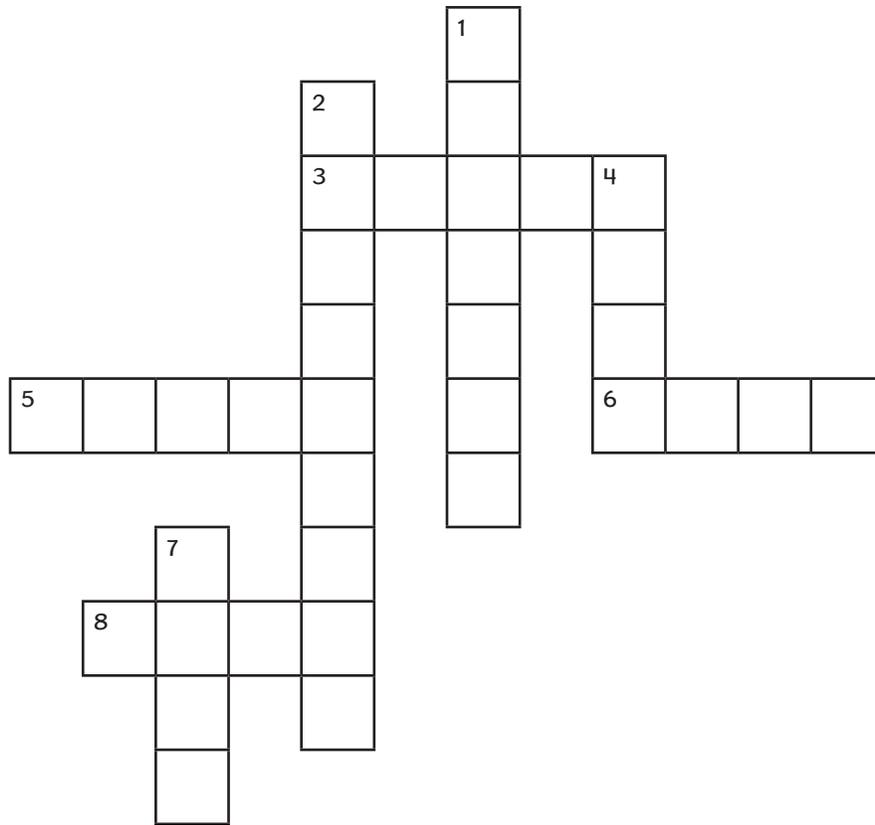
5. tsrat \_\_\_\_\_

3. phar \_\_\_\_\_

6. nyar \_\_\_\_\_

## Murmur Diphthong AR

C. Choose the correct word to complete the sentence. Use each word to complete the crossword puzzle.

**Across**

- On Friday night, she is going to Tim's birthday \_\_\_\_\_. (party/alarm)
- The boy is very \_\_\_\_\_. (radar/smart)
- After the sun goes down, it gets very \_\_\_\_\_. (harm/dark)
- The cat and dog are inside the \_\_\_\_\_. (barn/yarn)

**Down**

- Please take out the \_\_\_\_\_. It stinks! (harmony/garbage)
- I don't live in a house. I live in an \_\_\_\_\_. (article/apartment)
- The kids play in the \_\_\_\_\_. (yard/star)
- If something is not easy, it is \_\_\_\_\_. (mark/hard)

# Parkour

In order to get from one place to another, a person has plenty of options. A person can drive a car or ride a bicycle. Perhaps a person might take a bus or a train. If the distance is very far, a person might fly in a plane or sail by boat. Many people can travel using their legs—walking, jogging, or running. Other people move using wheelchairs or motorized devices. However, for those who practice parkour, the method of transportation can be a form of art.

Parkour, sometimes called *PK*, may be best defined as the art of moving through—sometimes above, under, or around—the obstacles in one’s path. It involves acrobatic and creative running, jumping, climbing, rolling, and bouncing off of objects. Often, a combination of these actions can be used. Parkour enthusiasts might, for example, jump up against one wall, then push themselves upward to the opposite wall, and subsequently vault a ledge above the first wall. Finally, they might pull themselves to the top of an adjacent roof. All of these moves would be accomplished in the blink of an eye, or very quickly. Normally, most people would reach the same destination simply by climbing up a flight of stairs, but parkour is about finding a more interesting way to arrive at a destination.

Because there is no competition in parkour, most participants consider parkour to be an activity or discipline rather than a sport. Instead of focusing on competition, parkour participants have other reasons for practicing this activity. The motivation behind doing parkour is self-improvement, the development of critical-thinking skills, and the enjoyment that comes through participation. In fact, parkour participants believe that an important part of the discipline is to help each other improve. They will sometimes gather together to practice their skills and share new techniques. For example, parkour participants may play a game called Follow the Leader, in which people will copy the action that the person in the lead performs.

The origin of parkour can be traced, or followed, back to the use of obstacle courses by French military trainers during the early 20th century. Soldiers were required to pass through a course of challenges as part of their physical training. These challenges, which were later used in military schools, included climbing walls, stepping across small platforms, and surmounting other barriers. In French, these obstacle courses were referred to as *parcours*.

*Continued on the next page.*



*hobbies, sports*

*Lexile®: 1080L  
Word Count: 707*

**Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Parkour (continued)

It was stories of these obstacle courses that inspired modern parkour. In the 1980s, a French teenager learned about *parcours* from his father who was educated at a military school and also served in the French military. This teenager liked the physical challenge of *parcours*, and he later invited a group of friends to practice this style of movement with him. Whereas the military performed *parcours* on specially designed courses, these young friends used obstacles they found in their neighborhood. They climbed over walls and railings. They jumped from steps and rooftops. As they practiced, they wanted to improve not only their athletic skills but also their artistic style. They later used the name *parkour* to describe this activity. Parkour gained international popularity as these young people shared videos on the internet of their performances.

Parkour experts offer advice to those who may be interested in this activity. Almost anywhere is a suitable location for practicing parkour: gyms, parks, city sidewalks, and office buildings. Participants should be careful not to jump from roofs or buildings that are too high, or they will risk harming themselves and damaging property. Participants should also be careful not to **trespass**, which means to enter privately owned buildings or other property without permission. Little, if any, equipment is required to participate in parkour, but many athletes use gloves and good running shoes. Some people even choose to participate in their bare feet.

Those who enjoy parkour claim that it provides more benefits than just exercise. It helps people think quickly and become more aware of their surroundings. Participants develop a more graceful ability to move in ways that are not possible when traveling in machines such as cars, elevators, and planes. Some participants even claim that parkour helps people better understand the potential and limits of the human body!

# Parkour

## Comprehension Questions

Circle the best answer.

- This passage is mostly about a
  - military school.
  - group of friends.
  - physical activity.
  - new type of plane.
- An appropriate alternative title for this passage is
  - Jumping with Style.
  - Competing for Money.
  - Training with Soldiers.
  - Using Amazing Machines.
- Parkour involves all of the following EXCEPT
  - running.
  - jumping.
  - climbing.
  - swimming.
- In parkour, Follow the Leader is
  - a tall building.
  - a training game.
  - an internet video.
  - a piece of clothing.
- The name *parkour* was created by a group of
  - teachers.
  - soldiers.
  - builders.
  - teenagers.
- The passage suggests that parkour participants are most concerned with
  - having fun and telling silly stories.
  - studying about history and architecture.
  - earning a great deal of money and fame.
  - improving their ability to move and think.
- We can infer that some parkour participants have been injured while
  - driving race cars.
  - running on trains.
  - dropping out of airplanes.
  - jumping from tall buildings.
- The author mentions an eye (paragraph 2) to
  - describe a famous group of parkour athletes.
  - give warnings about common parkour injuries.
  - highlight the crowds that like to watch parkour.
  - emphasize how quickly parkour moves happen.
- The author concludes the passage by
  - listing some benefits of parkour.
  - comparing parkour to popular sports.
  - explaining how parkour was created.
  - describing popular parkour competitions.
- To *trespass* (paragraph 6) means to
  - wear protective clothing.
  - climb higher than before.
  - hurt oneself by moving fast.
  - go where one is not allowed.

## Murmur Diphthong OR

## Skills Review

- The *or* Murmur Diphthong says /or/. It has the same sound as the word *or*.
- To add the suffixes *-ing*, *-ed*, *-er*, and *-est* to *or* Murmur Diphthong words, just add the suffix (*sort/sorting*; *form/formed*).

## DECODING

To mark the *or* Murmur Diphthong:

Mark an x under the vowel *o* and arc the *or* together. If there is a consonant after the Murmur Diphthong, do not mark it as a guardian consonant.

for      corn

When proving *or* Murmur Diphthong words with suffixes, prove the base word first. Then rewrite the word with the suffix and underline the suffix.

sort      sorting      form      formed

A. Prove these *or* Murmur Diphthong words. Remember to mark Blends and Digraphs.

storm      cord      thorn      fork

B. Prove these multisyllabic words that contain *or* Murmur Diphthongs.

orbit      forest      forgot      story

C. Rewrite the words with the suffix.

- scorn (ed) scorned
- form (ing) \_\_\_\_\_
- storm (ed) \_\_\_\_\_
- sort (ed) \_\_\_\_\_
- sport (ing) \_\_\_\_\_
- inform (ed) \_\_\_\_\_

## READING

Read the form.  
Notice the *or*  
Murmur  
Diphthong  
words.

## IMPORT/EXPORT FORM

Important: Record all products exported from York Port.

May 10:	2 tons of cork
May 11:	3 tons of corn
May 12:	1 ton of absorbing cloth
May 15:	1 ton of wire cord
May 16:	5 tons of forest pine

## Murmur Diphthong OR

## APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

A. Circle two words that rhyme with the first word.

1. **corn:** card    **torn**    **horn**

2. **cord:** sword    ford    lard

3. **cork:** bark    fork    stork

4. **port:** fort    start    sort

5. **form:** farm    dorm    storm

B. Read the words and the definitions. Circle "yes" if the definition is correct. Circle "no" if the definition is not correct.

1. Yes    **No**    **forbid:** to scare

2. Yes    No    **enforce:** to urge someone to follow a rule or law

3. Yes    No    **ornate:** having a lot of decoration

4. Yes    No    **passport:** to allow someone or something to pass through a port

5. Yes    No    **transport:** to move something or someone from one place to another

C. Find and circle these multisyllabic Murmur Diphthong words in the word search. Words can go down ↓, across →, or diagonal ↘↗.

export  
factory  
forest  
glory  
important

orbit  
organize  
popcorn  
report  
tornado

F	A	C	T	O	R	Y	S	T	E
P	E	X	P	O	R	T	N	Z	O
P	A	L	O	E	R	A	I	A	F
B	X	A	P	Y	T	N	E	S	R
P	Q	F	C	R	A	D	A	A	E
O	X	R	O	G	O	Y	H	D	P
R	C	P	R	R	R	L	D	T	O
B	M	O	N	O	E	Q	C	U	R
I	X	E	L	F	E	S	F	D	T
T	N	G	F	W	F	R	T	O	A

**Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR**

nor      forth      corn      port  
born     for        cork      dorm  
forlorn   format   glory    story  
+export   +form   +import   +sort

Norm didn't save any corn for the boys in the dorm. They were forlorn.

**Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR**

cork      support    organ    storm  
short     torn        for       sport  
import    corn       coral    record  
+report   +form     +sort    +forge

Morgan likes to record storms. For her, it is a kind of sport.

**Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR**

for      cord      fork      torn  
short    form     acorn    cohort  
report   adorn    story    organ  
+forbid +absorb +record +sport

Gordon recorded the story about a man who played an organ.

**Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR**

sport    stork    port    cork  
oral     or        corn    forest  
format   record   export   forgo  
+storm   +form   +reform +scorn

Norma will export the corn. It will go to the port.

## Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR

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or            torn            fork            port  
storm        corn            sort            gorge  
ornate        Cora            orbit            story  
+absorb      +sport        +form        +forge

Cora drove through a storm to get an ornate cord for the stage.

## Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR

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sort            sport            born            orb  
stork            storm            Norm            morning  
portrait        absorb            ornate            coral  
+report        +correct        +cord            +ford

This ornate frame is the correct fit for the portrait of my Uncle Norm.

## Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR

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fork            cord            stork            morn  
forth            torn            worn            moral  
Portland        horrid            afford            story  
+portray        +storm        +format        +sport

The moral of the story is this: don't drive through a horrid storm if you can help it!

## Lesson 70: Murmur Diphthong OR

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north            fort            corn            horn  
form            stork            for            or  
mortar            forbid            torso            glory  
+force            +reform        +sort            +snort

Mort forbids the twins from going in his fort.

# Acid Rain

Rain is very important to life on Earth. All living things need it to survive. Sometimes, rain can be highly acidic. This type of rain is called *acid rain*. We also use the term *acid rain* to refer to any other form of acid precipitation, including fog, hail, and snow.

Scientists use the pH scale to measure acidic content. A liquid with a low pH level is more acidic. One with a high level is called *basic*, or *alkaline*. A rating of 7, in the middle, is neutral and is neither acidic nor basic. Regular rainwater is slightly acidic, with a pH range between 5 and 6. Thus, rain with a pH level lower than 5 is considered acid rain.

The main cause of acid rain is air pollution. Air becomes polluted when fossil fuels like coal and oil are burned by cars, factories, or power stations. Nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide are then released into the air. These gases react with the water in the air to create acidic chemicals. These acidic chemicals are spread out by the wind and fall back to Earth as acid rain. Sometimes, acid rain may be caused by a natural event, such as a volcanic eruption or a forest fire. When a volcano erupts or when a forest burns, it sends acidic gases into the air.

Acid rain was first observed in the 19th century, during the Industrial Revolution. As manufacturing became more common, many new gases were released into the air. In 1872, scientist Robert Angus Smith studied acid rain in England. He noticed that buildings and statues near factories were slowly being destroyed by the acid rain caused by air pollution.

Acid rain is dangerous for many reasons. Acid rain can harm humans in many ways. It can destroy food crops and may contaminate drinking water sources.

Scientists have become very concerned with the negative effects of acid rain on the environment as well. Acid rain damages lakes and rivers. If the pH of a lake drops below 4.8, it could kill the animals and plants that live there. Currently, several lakes in the USA and Canada have a pH too low to support animal and plant life.

In addition, acid rain can be harmful to forests. It can damage the leaves and bark of trees. If these are damaged, trees may be weak against cold weather, disease, and insects. Acid rain may also damage soil and prevent trees from growing big and tall. It can also destroy small microorganisms that plants need to grow. In some countries, half of the forests have been damaged by acid rain.

Other targets of acid rain are buildings, vehicles, and works of art. For example, the Statue of Liberty in New York City has been damaged by acid rain. Acid rain is destroying the statue's protective green layer and weakening the metal connectors. Acid rain is very harmful to buildings made of limestone and sandstone, like the Taj Mahal of India. When acid rain falls on these types of buildings, it wears away the stone. Acid rain may also destroy the metal in airplanes, bridges, cars, and pipes.

Due to these problems, some people are trying to stop acid rain. Part of this involves reducing pollution. Many governments have made laws to reduce air pollution. Scientists are working on new sources of energy. Efforts are also being given to help restore nature that has been damaged by acid rain. It is an issue that affects people around the world.



*nature, technology, health*

Lexile®: 920L  
Word Count: 585

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

# Acid Rain

## Comprehension Questions

Circle the best answer.

1. The best alternative title for this passage is
  - a. Acid Rain and Its Negative Effects.
  - b. The Man Who Discovered Acid Rain.
  - c. Ways to Stop the Spread of Acid Rain.
  - d. How Acid Rains Travels Across the Globe.
2. A natural event that creates acid rain is
  - a. the flooding of a river.
  - b. growing plants on a farm.
  - c. the eruption of a volcano.
  - d. burning coal at a power plant.
3. A pH level that is alkaline is
  - a. 1.
  - b. 3.
  - c. 6.
  - d. 9.
4. A lake is considered dangerously acidic if
  - a. it is next to a city.
  - b. it is next to a forest.
  - c. it has a pH below 4.8.
  - d. it has a pH above 7.5.
5. We can infer that the information in this passage most likely comes from
  - a. artists.
  - b. doctors.
  - c. scientists.
  - d. politicians.
6. The author mentions the Statue of Liberty (paragraph 8) as an example of a structure that
  - a. has been damaged by acid rain.
  - b. creates large amounts of pollution.
  - c. kills animals that live in the water.
  - d. removes harmful gases from the air.
7. *Precipitation* (paragraph 1) is
  - a. air that is full of chemicals.
  - b. water that falls from the sky.
  - c. metal that is used in buildings.
  - d. poison that comes from factories.

