

Kentucky Summative Assessments



Grade 3 Reading Released Items 2026



Directions: Read the passage “The Guard, the Monkey, and the King’s Crown.” Then answer the questions.

The Guard, the Monkey, and the King’s Crown

by Clare Mishica

- 1 Long ago, three playful monkeys lived in a towering tree near a castle. They liked to collect anything they found, especially sparkling trinkets.
- 2 One warm night, the king left his bedroom window open. A curious monkey sneaked into the bedroom to explore. She found the king’s ruby crown sitting in its golden box on a table. In a flash, the monkey grabbed the crown and hurried back out the window. She leaped from branch to branch, then hid the crown in a hollow in the tree.
- 3 The next morning, the king discovered the empty golden box. He also saw the monkeys swinging on the branches outside his open window. No one else could have climbed into his room so quietly! The king rushed downstairs to tell the guards, Ajay and Ravi, what had happened. “If you can find my crown, I will reward you,” he promised.
- 4 Ajay and Ravi marched outside and stared up, up, up at the enormous tree.
- 5 “This is an impossible task,” muttered Ajay, shaking his head. “There are enough hollows in that trunk to hide a hundred royal crowns.”
- 6 “Perhaps the monkeys will show us where to search,” Ravi said as one monkey tossed a nut at his hat.
- 7 Ajay laughed. “Those monkeys won’t help you. It’s a better idea to search for some breakfast.” He marched back inside.
- 8 Ravi did not follow Ajay. Instead, he found a shady spot by the castle wall and sat down to watch the monkeys. They leaped and swung through the branches, doing funny tricks. When Ravi noticed how much they liked to show off, an idea sparked in his mind. He dashed inside the castle and rummaged through his room. At last, he found a shabby felt cap and a tattered straw hat.



- 9 Ravi hurried back outside, waving the hats in front of the monkeys. Then he hung the two hats on a low branch and waited. The nosy monkeys soon climbed down to examine Ravi's gifts. One monkey put the felt cap on his head. The second monkey tried on the straw hat. But the third monkey was not interested in the old hats. Instead, she climbed into a hole near a crooked branch. Quick as a whip, she pulled out the crown and placed it on her head. "Look at me!" the monkey seemed to say to her friends. "I have the best hat of all!"
- 10 Ravi smiled as he watched the monkey hide the crown again. Swiftly, Ravi climbed up the branches to rescue it.
- 11 "I'm sorry. You cannot keep the king's crown," Ravi told the monkey. "But I am happy you liked showing it off!"
- 12 Later that day, the grateful king rewarded Ravi for his clever deed with a bag of gold coins. Ravi thanked the king. Then he used his gold to buy a fine horse—and three sparkling toy crowns that he hung in the monkeys' tree.

"The Guard, the Monkey, and the King's Crown" by Clare Mishica, from *Highlights*, June 2013. © 2013 Highlights for Children, Inc.

1

RE923941260_2

Which answer **best** explains why Ajay and Ravi want to find the crown?

- A** To catch the thief
- B** To get the reward
- C** To please the king
- D** To protect the king



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923941260

Book Question Number: 1

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.1

Item Type: MC

Key: B

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Answer Choice Options			
				A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)
All Students	25,291	64%	0.64	12%	64%	17%	7%
Gender							
Female	12,373	64%	0.64	11%	64%	17%	8%
Male	12,917	65%	0.65	12%	65%	17%	7%
Ethnicity							
African American	2,737	55%	0.55	16%	55%	18%	11%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	48%	0.48	10%	48%	28%	14%
Asian	603	72%	0.72	11%	72%	11%	5%
Hispanic or Latino	2,949	58%	0.58	13%	58%	15%	13%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	64%	0.64	13%	64%	15%	9%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,386	67%	0.67	10%	67%	17%	6%
Two or more races	1,536	60%	0.60	15%	60%	18%	7%
Migrant							
Migrant	152	52%	0.52	11%	52%	20%	18%
English Learner							
English Learner	3,054	57%	0.57	14%	57%	14%	15%
Economically Disadvantaged							
Economically Disadvantaged	16,152	60%	0.60	13%	60%	18%	9%
Students with Disabilities							
Students with Disabilities	5,279	57%	0.57	13%	57%	19%	11%



2

RE923947909_2

Ravi's decision to watch the monkeys in the tree **most** affects the plot because —

- A** he discovers all the monkeys liked old hats
- B** he realizes how he can find the crown
- C** he becomes friends with the monkeys
- D** he learns a lot of funny tricks



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923947909

Book Question Number: 2

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.3

Item Type: MC

Key: B

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Answer Choice Options			
				A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)
All Students	25,292	62%	0.62	15%	62%	14%	9%
Gender							
Female	12,374	62%	0.62	15%	62%	14%	8%
Male	12,917	61%	0.61	16%	61%	14%	9%
Ethnicity							
African American	2,735	52%	0.52	19%	52%	17%	12%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	55%	0.55	10%	55%	17%	17%
Asian	602	72%	0.72	12%	72%	9%	7%
Hispanic or Latino	2,950	54%	0.54	19%	54%	16%	11%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	62%	0.62	15%	62%	13%	11%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,390	64%	0.64	14%	64%	14%	8%
Two or more races	1,535	58%	0.58	18%	58%	15%	9%
Migrant							
Migrant	153	49%	0.49	25%	49%	14%	11%
English Learner							
English Learner	3,054	50%	0.50	19%	50%	18%	13%
Economically Disadvantaged							
Economically Disadvantaged	16,152	58%	0.58	17%	58%	15%	10%
Students with Disabilities							
Students with Disabilities	5,283	53%	0.53	17%	53%	17%	13%

**3**

RE923949494_2

How do paragraphs 9–11 help to develop the plot?

- A** By showing that monkeys do not like all hats
- B** By explaining how Ravi tricks the monkeys
- C** By explaining that monkeys are very nosy
- D** By showing how quickly monkeys climb



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923949494

Book Question Number: 3

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.5

Item Type: MC

Key: B

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Answer Choice Options			
				A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)
All Students	25,297	53%	0.53	20%	53%	17%	10%
Gender							
Female	12,377	53%	0.53	20%	53%	17%	11%
Male	12,919	53%	0.53	20%	53%	17%	10%
Ethnicity							
African American	2,738	47%	0.47	22%	47%	18%	13%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	48%	0.48	24%	48%	21%	7%
Asian	603	64%	0.64	15%	64%	13%	8%
Hispanic or Latino	2,949	46%	0.46	21%	46%	19%	14%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	53%	0.53	17%	53%	15%	15%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,390	55%	0.55	19%	55%	16%	9%
Two or more races	1,537	50%	0.50	21%	50%	19%	10%
Migrant							
Migrant	153	37%	0.37	22%	37%	22%	18%
English Learner							
English Learner	3,056	42%	0.42	21%	42%	20%	17%
Economically Disadvantaged							
Economically Disadvantaged	16,156	49%	0.49	21%	49%	18%	12%
Students with Disabilities							
Students with Disabilities	5,282	45%	0.45	20%	45%	19%	16%



4

RE923953741_4

Which character trait allows Ravi to be successful in his task?

- A** Forgiveness
- B** Greediness
- C** Kindness
- D** Trickiness



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923953741

Book Question Number: 4

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.3

Item Type: MC

Key: D

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Answer Choice Options			
				A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)
All Students	25,298	42%	0.42	11%	7%	41%	42%
Gender							
Female	12,376	39%	0.39	11%	6%	44%	39%
Male	12,921	44%	0.44	11%	7%	38%	44%
Ethnicity							
African American	2,739	33%	0.33	16%	9%	42%	33%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	41%	0.41	10%	3%	45%	41%
Asian	603	48%	0.48	8%	5%	40%	48%
Hispanic or Latino	2,950	35%	0.35	12%	9%	44%	35%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	47%	0.47	6%	6%	40%	47%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,389	44%	0.44	10%	6%	40%	44%
Two or more races	1,537	41%	0.41	11%	7%	40%	41%
Migrant							
Migrant	153	35%	0.35	12%	11%	42%	35%
English Learner							
English Learner	3,055	32%	0.32	13%	9%	46%	32%
Economically Disadvantaged							
Economically Disadvantaged	16,158	38%	0.38	12%	8%	42%	38%
Students with Disabilities							
Students with Disabilities	5,282	37%	0.37	13%	9%	42%	37%

**5**

RE923951527_1

Why does Ravi buy the three sparkling toy crowns for the monkeys?

- A** He wants to share his good fortune with the monkeys because they helped him get the reward.
- B** He hopes if the monkeys have their own crowns, they will move away from the castle.
- C** He likes to watch the monkeys do funny tricks, but they will only do them with hats.
- D** He wants the monkeys to wear the crowns so that the king will be happy.



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923951527

Book Question Number: 5

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.1

Item Type: MC

Key: A

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Answer Choice Options			
				A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)
All Students	25,295	46%	0.46	46%	25%	13%	16%
Gender							
Female	12,377	46%	0.46	46%	25%	13%	16%
Male	12,917	46%	0.46	46%	25%	13%	16%
Ethnicity							
African American	2,737	41%	0.41	41%	27%	16%	17%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	41%	0.41	41%	14%	24%	21%
Asian	602	51%	0.51	51%	26%	11%	12%
Hispanic or Latino	2,948	41%	0.41	41%	24%	16%	19%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	34%	0.34	34%	26%	11%	30%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,391	48%	0.48	48%	25%	12%	16%
Two or more races	1,537	45%	0.45	45%	25%	14%	16%
Migrant							
Migrant	152	36%	0.36	36%	18%	22%	24%
English Learner							
English Learner	3,052	39%	0.39	39%	24%	18%	19%
Economically Disadvantaged							
Economically Disadvantaged	16,155	43%	0.43	43%	25%	14%	17%
Students with Disabilities							
Students with Disabilities	5,282	40%	0.40	40%	24%	15%	21%



Directions: Read the passage “The Perfect Hiding Spot.” Then answer the questions.

The Perfect Hiding Spot

by Clare Mishica

- 1 Rabbit was going to the park to play games with Mouse when he spied something shiny by his steps. It was a big silver coin. “I’m so lucky!” said Rabbit as he picked up the treasure. Where could he hide it?
- 2 His garden was the perfect place.
- 3 In a flash, Rabbit dug a hole next to his tomato plant. Clumps of earth flew up like a fountain. Rabbit carefully placed the coin in the hole and covered it again. He made an X with two sticks so he could find the spot.
- 4 Pleased with his work, Rabbit brushed off his paws. Then he glanced down at his clothes. They were covered in dirt, too.
- 5 Rabbit went inside to wash up. *Splish! Splish! Splash!* He scrubbed his clothes and washed his face.
- 6 All at once, Rabbit’s forehead wrinkled with worry. What if Mole dug a tunnel under his garden? Mole might find the coin and take it. Rabbit had to hide his treasure inside his house.
- 7 Rabbit dashed outside to rescue his coin. Clumps of dirt stuck to his wet feet, but Rabbit didn’t notice. He hurried back inside and put the coin in his cookie jar.
- 8 But as he stared at the jar, Rabbit’s forehead wrinkled again. What if Coyote peeked into the jar? Sometimes, while Coyote was visiting, he sneaked a cookie. Rabbit’s silver coin was not safe there. He had to find a better place.
- 9 Rabbit searched and searched for the perfect hiding spot. He tried tucking the coin inside his umbrella. He tried putting it under his pillow. No matter where Rabbit hid the coin, it didn’t seem safe.
- 10 With a big sigh, Rabbit plopped down in a chair at his kitchen table. His floor was a mess of muddy trails, and Mouse was at the park without him. Rabbit stared at the



coin sitting on his table. Then an idea popped into his head. He knew the perfect place for the treasure.

- 11 Rabbit grabbed his coin and skipped down the path to the park. He found Mouse on a swing by the pond. “Hi, Mouse!” Rabbit called. “Sorry I’m late.”
- 12 Mouse ran over to join Rabbit, who was standing near a square machine.
- 13 *Clink!* Rabbit put his coin into a slot in the machine. *Click!* He pushed a button. *Plunk!* A fat bag fell down. It was full of peanuts.
- 14 “It’s our lucky day,” Rabbit told Mouse. Then Rabbit opened the bag and shared the snack with his friend.

“The Perfect Hiding Spot” by Clare Mishica, from *Highlights*, Dec. 2014. © 2014 Highlights for Children, Inc.

6

RE923952192_2

Which word **best** describes Rabbit at the beginning of the story after he found the coin?

- A** Brave
- B** Nervous
- C** Smart
- D** Unlucky



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923952192

Book Question Number: 6

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.3

Item Type: MC

Key: B

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Answer Choice Options			
				A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)
All Students	25,299	32%	0.32	20%	32%	40%	8%
Gender							
Female	12,380	29%	0.29	22%	29%	40%	9%
Male	12,918	35%	0.35	18%	35%	39%	8%
Ethnicity							
African American	2,737	25%	0.25	26%	25%	39%	10%
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	31%	0.31	21%	31%	41%	7%
Asian	603	31%	0.31	19%	31%	43%	8%
Hispanic or Latino	2,950	31%	0.31	21%	31%	37%	10%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	28%	0.28	23%	28%	40%	9%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,395	34%	0.34	18%	34%	40%	7%
Two or more races	1,534	31%	0.31	22%	31%	40%	8%
Migrant							
Migrant	153	31%	0.31	24%	31%	35%	10%
English Learner							
English Learner	3,055	27%	0.27	23%	27%	38%	11%
Economically Disadvantaged							
Economically Disadvantaged	16,158	30%	0.30	22%	30%	40%	9%
Students with Disabilities							
Students with Disabilities	5,282	33%	0.33	21%	33%	37%	9%



7

RE923951791_1,5

Which details **best** help the reader understand why “Rabbit’s forehead wrinkled”? Select **two** correct answers.

- A** “What if Mole dug a tunnel under his garden?” (paragraph 6)
- B** “Rabbit had to hide his treasure inside his house.” (paragraph 6)
- C** “Rabbit dashed outside to rescue his coin.” (paragraph 7)
- D** “He hurried back inside and put the coin in his cookie jar.” (paragraph 7)
- E** “What if Coyote peeked into the jar?” (paragraph 8)



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923951791

Book Question Number: 7

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.4

Item Type: MS

Key: A,E

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Score Percentages		
				Score 0 (%)	Score 1 (%)	Score 2 (%)
All Students	24,809	60.2%	1.20	19%	42%	39%
Gender						
Female	12,128	60.7%	1.21	19%	41%	40%
Male	12,680	59.6%	1.19	19%	42%	39%
Ethnicity						
African American	2,637	50.0%	1.00	26%	49%	26%
American Indian or Alaska Native	28	51.8%	1.04	14%	68%	18%
Asian	597	67.1%	1.34	15%	35%	50%
Hispanic or Latino	2,873	52.8%	1.06	23%	49%	28%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	62.8%	1.26	15%	45%	40%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,117	62.8%	1.26	17%	40%	43%
Two or more races	1,506	59.3%	1.19	20%	41%	39%
Migrant						
Migrant	147	48.0%	0.96	25%	54%	21%
English Learner						
English Learner	2,967	47.8%	0.96	26%	51%	22%
Economically Disadvantaged						
Economically Disadvantaged	15,775	56.2%	1.12	21%	46%	33%
Students with Disabilities						
Students with Disabilities	5,121	55.3%	1.11	20%	49%	31%



8

RE923952762

Short Answer Directions: Read the question carefully. Then enter your answer in the space provided.

How does the act of Ravi and Rabbit sharing their good fortune connect to the idea of helping others? Support your answer with evidence from **both** texts.



Released Item Performance

Kentucky Summative Assessments

Spring 2026

Grade 3

Reading

Item: RE923952762

Book Question Number: 8

Standard: RL.3, RL.3.9

Item Type: SA

Key: Rubric

Student Group	Number of Students	Percent Correct	Average Item Score	Item Breakout Statistics - Score Percentages		
				Score 0 (%)	Score 1 (%)	Score 2 (%)
All Students	24,674	31.8%	0.64	59%	19%	22%
Gender						
Female	12,168	32.6%	0.65	58%	19%	23%
Male	12,505	31.0%	0.62	60%	18%	22%
Ethnicity						
African American	2,602	19.2%	0.38	73%	15%	11%
American Indian or Alaska Native	28	16.1%	0.32	82%	4%	14%
Asian	596	43.2%	0.86	46%	22%	32%
Hispanic or Latino	2,855	24.0%	0.48	67%	17%	15%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	47	23.4%	0.47	70%	13%	17%
White (non-Hispanic)	17,045	34.8%	0.70	55%	19%	25%
Two or more races	1,497	31.0%	0.62	60%	18%	22%
Migrant						
Migrant	147	21.4%	0.43	69%	20%	12%
English Learner						
English Learner	2,942	18.8%	0.38	73%	16%	11%
Economically Disadvantaged						
Economically Disadvantaged	15,657	26.7%	0.53	64%	18%	18%
Students with Disabilities						
Students with Disabilities	5,069	24.2%	0.48	68%	16%	16%

Rubric

Rubric	
Score Point 2	• Completes all components of the question and communicates ideas clearly • Demonstrates an understanding of the concepts and/or processes • Provides a correct answer using an accurate explanation as support
Score Point 1	• Provides a partially correct answer to the question and/or addresses only a portion of the question • Demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and/or process
Score Point 0	• Answer is totally incorrect or irrelevant
Blank	• Did not give any answer at all

Anchor Set

A1

becuse it is good to help others.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 1
Score Point 0

The response is irrelevant.

A2

i think they both have the monkey in it.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 2
Score Point 0

The response is irrelevant.

A3

“But as he astared at the jar, Rabbit’s forhead wrinkled agin.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 3

Score Point 0

The response is incorrect.

A4

In sted of trying to hid his coin he desided tp spendet and share it with his friend the mous.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 4

Score Point 1

Partial understanding of the concepts is demonstrated by providing support from only one text (*he desided tp spendet and share it with his friend the mous*).

later that day the grateful king rewarded ravi for his clever deed with a bag of coins ravi thanked the king then he used his gold to buy a fine horse and three sparkling crowns that he hung in the monkey's tree.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 5
Score Point 1

Partial understanding of the concepts is demonstrated with text support from one text (*[Ravi] used his gold to buy...three sparkling crowns that he hung in the monkey's tree*).

In "The perfect hiding spot" Rabbit used his money to buy peanuts and he shared them with Mouse. In "The Guard, the Monkey, and the King's Crown Ravi shared her money Ajay and they went to buy 2 horses.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 6
Score Point 1

The student provides creditable support from one text, demonstrating a partial understanding of the concepts (*Rabbit used his money to buy peanuts and he shared them with Mouse*). Ravi did not share money with Ajay (*Ravi shared her money Ajay*).

Ravi and Rabbit sharing their good fortune connects to the idea of helping others by how Ravi shared his reward with the monkeys by getting them toy crowns with his reward, and how Rabbit shared his coin with Mouse by getting peanuts, and sharing them with him, helping Mouse and the monkeys.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 7

Score Point 2

The student completes all components of the question and provides support from both texts that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts (...*Ravi shared his reward with the monkeys [and] Rabbit shares his coin with Mouse by getting peanuts and sharing them*).

Rabbit had a coin and he wanted to keep it for himself but at the end of the story he put it in a machine and shared a snack with his friend mouse. Ravi and Ajay had mission to find the king's crown but at the end Ravi got rewarded with a bag of gold and bought 3 sparkling toy crowns then he hung them in the monkey's tree. So in both stories the mouse and the monkey both got something Ravi and Rabbit both had coins and weren't being selfish and keeping them for themselves and the things that they bought with the coins they shared.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 8

Score Point 2

The student completes all components of the question and provides support from both texts that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts (*[Rabbit] shared a snack with his friend mouse [and] Ravi bought 3 sparkling toy crowns and hung them in the monkey's tree*).

Ravi and Rabbit shared their good fortune with other people. Ravi bought 3 crowns for the monkeys and Rabbit got a bag of peanuts and shared it with mouse. In “The Guard, the Monkey, and the King’s Crown,” it says, “Ravi thanked the king. Then he used his gold to buy a fine horse-and three sparkling toy crowns that he hung in the monkeys’ tree.” He wasn’t greedy and shared the gold to get something new to entertain the monkeys. In “The Perfect Hiding Spot,” it says, “It’s our lucky day,” Rabbit told Mouse. Then Rabbit opened the bag of peanuts and shared the snack.” To me this means, they both shared their treasures with others using kindness.

Anchor Annotation, Paper 9**Score Point 2**

The student completes all components of the question and provides support from both texts that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts (*Ravi bought 3 crowns for the monkeys and Rabbit got a bag of peanuts and shared it with mouse*).



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