



**PAWS  
Reading  
Grade 3**

**Released Items  
With Data**

**2009**

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**Read the directions before each passage and then answer the question that follows.**

Imagine that your class is learning how to retell stories. Read "Blue Moon" as if you had been assigned to retell this story to your class. After reading the story, answer the question as if you were preparing to retell this story.

## Blue Moon



- 1 I don't know why, but my dad likes to sing while he makes spaghetti sauce. The song he sings is about a blue moon. I always used to think it was silly because I know the moon isn't blue. Now I think about it in a different way.
- 2 One day Dad was stirring his pot of spaghetti sauce. Just when I was about to ask him what a blue moon is, my brother burst into the kitchen. "Dad, can we make juice pops?" Matt asked. "You know, with sticks and ice cube trays?"
- 3 In the excitement over making juice pops, I forgot about blue moons. Later on while I was watching TV, the announcer said, "This happens only once in a blue moon." Suddenly it seemed that blue moons were everywhere.
- 4 After dinner Matt, our sister Annie, and I sat on the front steps of our house slurping juice pops. It was a hot evening, and a big, round moon peeked over our neighbor's treetops. The moon was definitely not blue. It was a normal shade of yellow. "Annie," I asked, "what's a blue moon?"

5 "It must be the color of the moon when it's sad, Mary," she said. "You know, sad and blue."

6 I thought about this, feeling unsure. How could the moon feel sad?

7 "I know, Mary," Matt said, interrupting my thoughts. "It's the color the moon turns when it gets moldy. Everyone knows the moon is made of green cheese! Yuck!" He made a face and held his nose.

8 That didn't sound right either. The moon is made of rock. The astronauts who walked on the moon did not bring back chunks of cheese.

9 I decided to ask my mom. She was weeding her vegetable garden. "Mom, what's a blue moon?" I asked.

10 "Blue moon . . ." She smiled and started humming the same song my dad had sung.

11 "No, Mom, I'm serious."

12 "Okay," she sighed. "Funny you should ask, Mary. I just read something about it. It has to do with how many full moons there are in one month. If there is more than one, the second is called a blue moon. There's another meaning too. If I remember correctly, a blue moon is the third full moon in a season that has four full moons."

13 My head started spinning with the thought of having to keep count of full moons. I looked up into the sky. The moon had cleared the treetops and I could see it above the roof. It was still yellow, like a huge, gold coin. When I partly closed my eyes, though, I was sure I could see a shade of blue.

**Why does the author start the story with the father humming a song?**

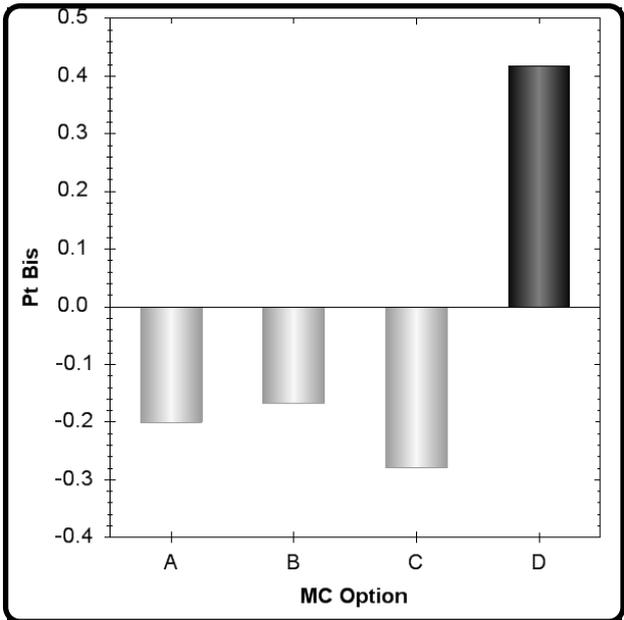
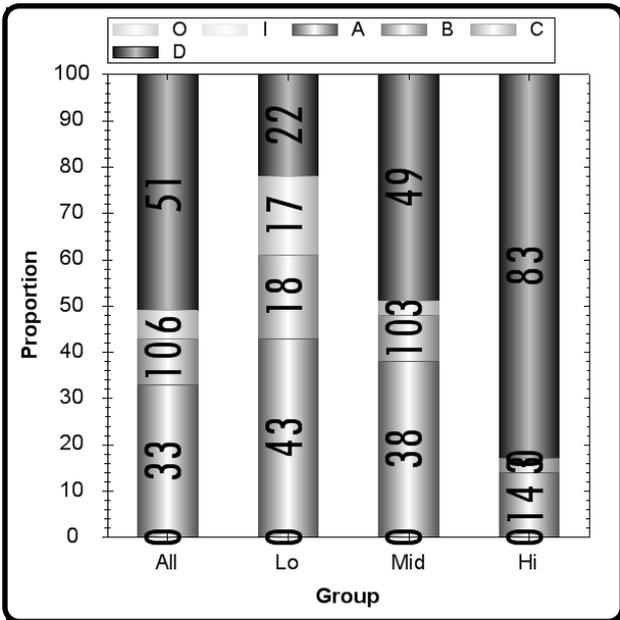
- A.** It shows the father likes to sing.
- B.** It introduces the main character.
- C.** It shows the father is a good cook.
- D.** It introduces the problem.

Grade 3 Reading CID 3338751  
 Item # 44 Administration OP06  
 R.03.N.2  
 Psg : Blue Moon (NAR OP2006, 2007)

Type: Multiple Choice  
 Max Points: 1  
 Correct Answer: D  
 N Count: 6116  
 Item Mean: 0.516  
 Discrimination: 0.418

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	33	10	6	51	0	0
Low Scorers	43	18	17	22	0	0
Middle Scorers	38	10	3	49	0	0
High Scorers	14	3	0	83	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.201	-0.168	-0.279	0.418



Notes:

3338759

**What does Mary already know about the moon?**

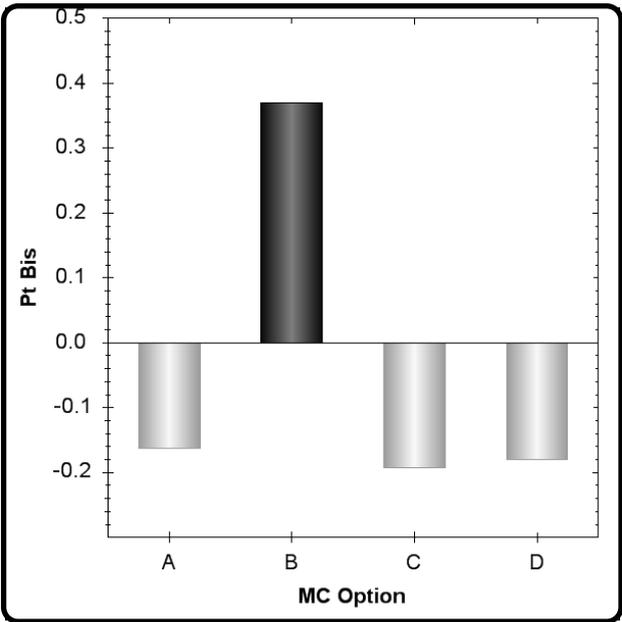
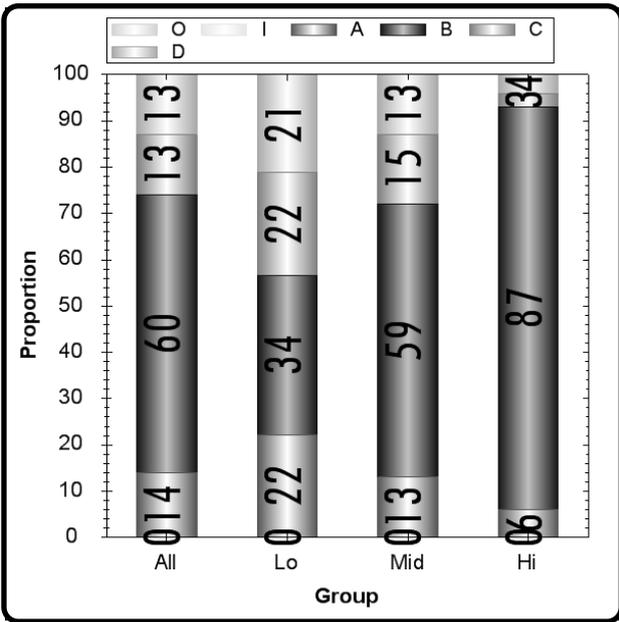
- A.** Blue moons are everywhere.
- B.** The moon is made of rock.
- C.** Blue moons are full moons.
- D.** The moon is full once every season.

**Grade 3** **Reading** **CID 3338759**  
**Item # 45** **R.03.N.1** **Administration OP06**  
**Psg : Blue Moon** **(NAR OP2006, 2007)**

Type	Max Points	Correct Answer	N Count	Item Mean	Discrimination
Multiple Choice	1	B	6116	0.605	0.370

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	14	60	13	13	0	0
Low Scorers	22	34	22	21	0	0
Middle Scorers	13	59	15	13	0	0
High Scorers	6	87	3	4	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.163	0.370	-0.193	-0.180



Notes:

**Why does the author have Mary ask different people about blue moons?**

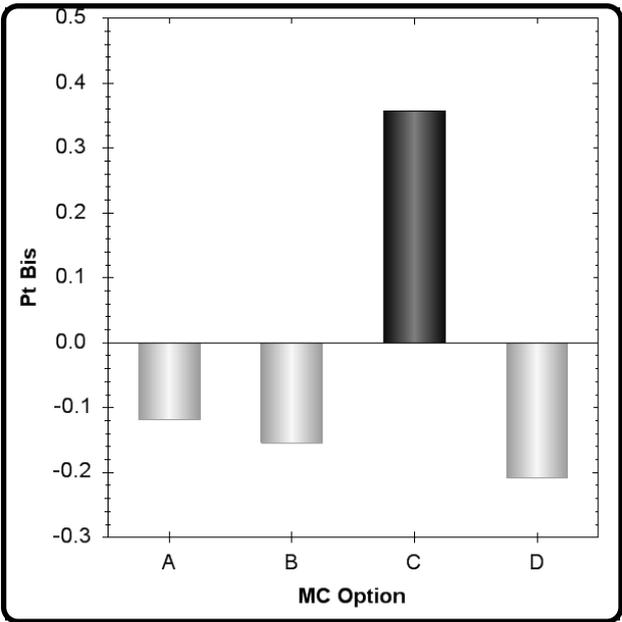
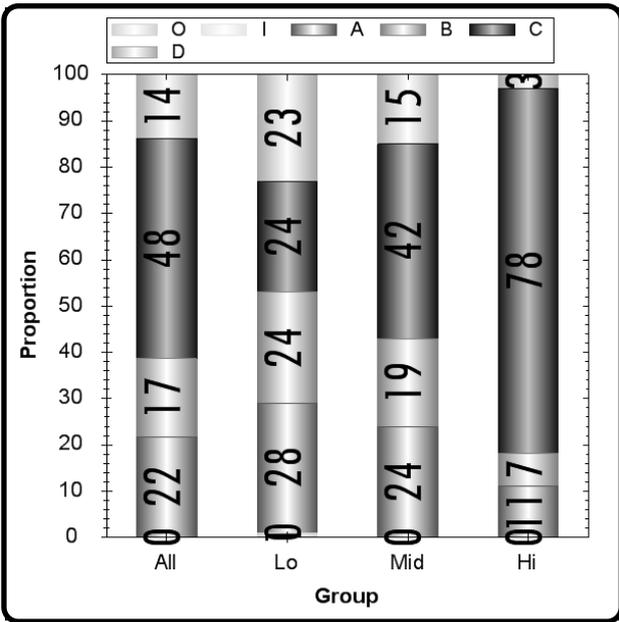
- A.** To show that only her mother and father know about blue moons
- B.** To show that the other children also want to know what blue moons are
- C.** To show that she is determined to learn about blue moons
- D.** To show that her parents know the same song about blue moons

Grade 3 Reading CID 3338733  
 Item # 43 Administration OP06  
 R.03.N.2  
 Psg : Blue Moon (NAR OP2006, 2007)

Type: Multiple Choice  
 Max Points: 1  
 Correct Answer: C  
 N Count: 6115  
 Item Mean: 0.477  
 Discrimination: 0.358

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	22	17	48	14	0	0
Low Scorers	28	24	24	23	1	0
Middle Scorers	24	19	42	15	0	0
High Scorers	11	7	78	3	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.119	-0.154	0.358	-0.209



Notes:

**What about Mary is most important to the story?**

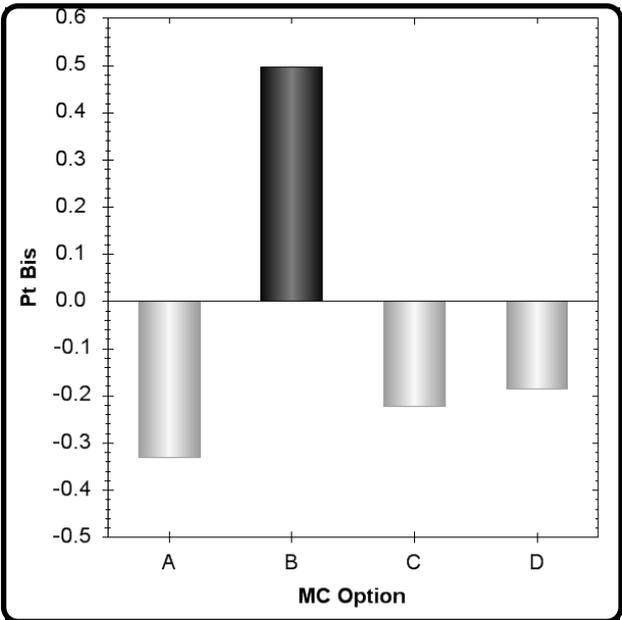
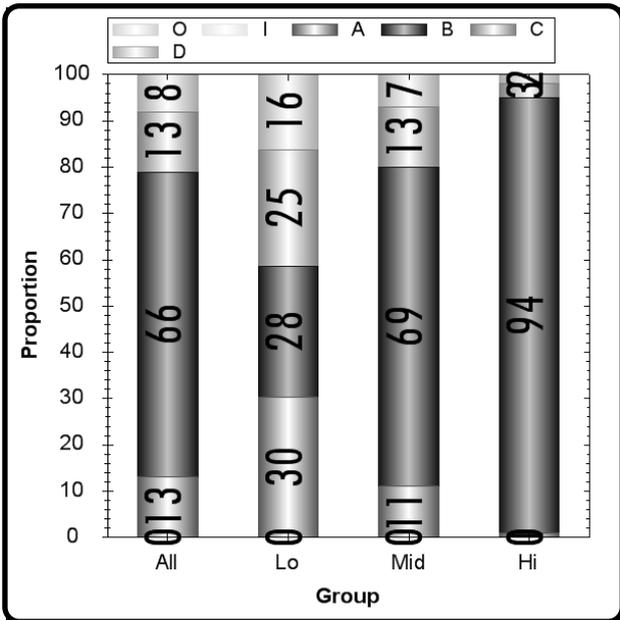
- A.** She enjoys eating juice pops with her brother and sister.
- B.** She doesn't give up when she wants to find the correct answer to a question.
- C.** She enjoys hearing different songs and wants to know more about them.
- D.** She talks about things with her brother and sister.

Grade 3 Reading CID 3337120  
 Item # 41 Administration OP06  
 R.03.N.1  
 Psg : Blue Moon (NAR OP2006, 2007)

Type Max Points Correct Answer N Count Item Mean Discrimination  
 Multiple Choice 1 B 6116 0.663 0.498

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	13	66	13	8	0	0
Low Scorers	30	28	25	16	0	0
Middle Scorers	11	69	13	7	0	0
High Scorers	1	94	3	2	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.331	0.498	-0.222	-0.186



Notes:

**How does Mary feel when her mother starts humming the song about a blue moon? Use details from the story to support your answer.**

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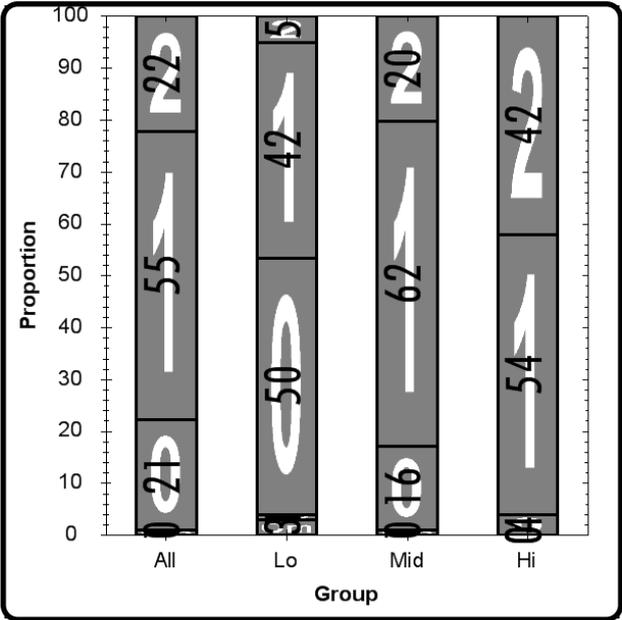
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Grade 3 Reading CID 3338822  
 Item # 47 Administration OP06  
 R.03.N.1  
 Psg : Blue Moon (NAR OP2006, 2007)

Type Max Points N Count Item Mean Discrimination  
 Open Ended 2 6034 1.018 0.451

	0	1	2	Omit	Invalid
All	21	55	22	1	0
Low Scorers	50	42	5	3	1
Middle Scorers	16	62	20	1	0
High Scorers	4	54	42	0	0



Notes:

