

English Express

Teaching Notes



Art: Guy Parsons

Please photocopy these notes.

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A hippo in Africa

✓ There is a blog written by Stephen, the caretaker pictured with Mzee. Go to: www.lafargeecosystems.com/main/blog.php
The blog has photos back to December 2004 when Owen was rescued.

✓ Here are two children's books about Owen:
⇒ *Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship* by Isabella Hatkoff
⇒ *Mama: A True Story, in Which a Baby Hippo Loses His Mama During a Tsunami, But Finds a New Home and a New Mama* by Jeanette Winter

Hugs, kisses and other greetings

✓ Make discussion questions about the ways students greet others. Use frequency adverbs and different situations (e.g., at an interview, at an airport, at a party, etc.).

✓ Look at: businesssoftouch.com/index2.html

One red paperclip

✓ Read more at: oneredpaperclip.blogspot.com
✓ Have a swap meet with your class. Have students bring a small inexpensive object from home. Write all the object names on the board. Make a short dialogue (e.g., "I'll trade you my _____ for your _____." "I'd rather not trade." or "It's a deal.").

Answers for exercises

Hippopotamus

Some possible words: atoms, autos, hats, him, hip, hoop, hum, maps, must, out, pat, paths, pit, pops, pots, ship, shoot, shout, soap, soup, spot, stump, suit

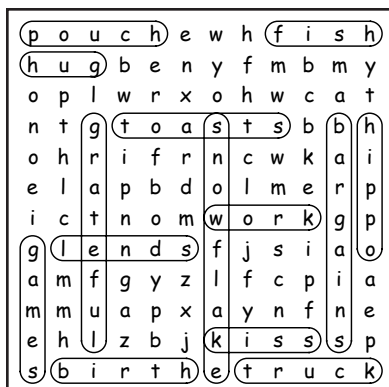
What's the word?

2. skal 5. shopping 8. resolutions
3. celebration 6. noise 9. angel
4. Christmas 7. toast

A hippo in Africa

- 2, 8, 1, 6, 7, 4, 3, 5

Find the word—answers



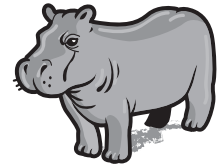
Family Literacy special issues

The Family Literacy series is available from the *English Express* office on an ongoing basis. The eight issues include:

- #1: What is Family Literacy?
- #2: How do young children develop?
- #3: Helping babies learn
- #4: Helping toddlers learn
- #5: Helping preschoolers learn
- #6: Children between 4½ & 7—helping them learn
- #7: Starting Grade One
- #8: Tell a story, read a story

How many words can you make?

Hippo is short for hippopotamus.
Make words from the letters.



hippopotamus

ham

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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Greetings – hugging, kissing and bowing

Answer these questions about yourself. Then compare your answers with other people's. Use frequency adverbs. For example: sometimes, usually, never.

1. Do you ever kiss people on the cheek? Which people? When?

2. Do you ever hug people? Which people? When?

3. Do you pat people on the back when you hug them?

4. How do you greet your friends on special occasions?

5. How do you greet your relatives when they come to visit?

6. Do you have a special greeting in your culture? For example, if you kiss on the cheeks, how many times do you kiss? _____

What's the word?

Answers on page TN-1

Fill in the blanks with the words below.
The words are on pages 5 and 8 in the newspaper.



1. Every snowflake is different.
2. Swedes say _____ when they make a toast.
3. Hanukkah is a _____ for Jewish people.
4. December 25 is _____ Day. Most people have the day off.
5. Many people go _____ for bargains on Boxing Day.
6. On New Year's Eve, we kiss, hug, sing and make lots of _____.
7. A _____ is a way to say "Good luck" or "Good health."
8. Many people make _____ to lose weight or quit smoking for the new year.
9. The girl in the pink jacket made an _____ in the snow.

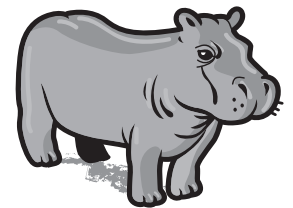
skal
resolutions
celebration

shopping
angel
toast

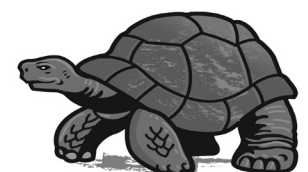
Christmas
noise
~~different~~

A hippo in Africa

What came first? What came second? Number the sentences.



- _____ Many people helped to save the baby hippo.
- _____ One day, Owen will live with the other hippos.
- 1 A baby hippo lost his mother and got stuck near the shore.
- _____ At first, the tortoise did not like Owen. He hissed at Owen.
- _____ Now Owen and the tortoise are together all the time.
- _____ People put Owen in an area with some tortoises.
- _____ They took Owen to a wildlife park near Mombasa.
- _____ Owen walked over to a tortoise and stood beside him.



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Man trades paperclip for a house

Answer the questions. Use complete sentences.

1. Who is this story about? _____

2. What was his dream? _____

3. How did Kyle's dream come true? _____

4. Why did a town in Saskatchewan send a note to Kyle?

5. Where is Kyle's house? _____

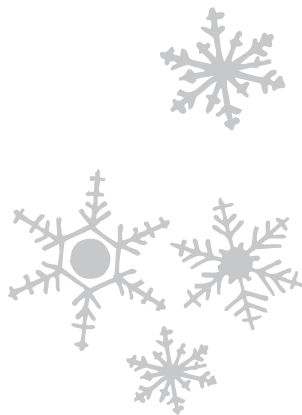
6. When did he move in? _____

Find the words

Answers on page TN-1

Find these words in the puzzle. Some words go across and some go down.

bargains kiss
birth lends
fish pouch
games snowflake
grateful toasts
hippo truck
hug work



p	o	u	c	h	e	w	h	f	i	s	h
h	u	g	b	e	n	y	f	m	b	m	y
o	p	l	w	r	x	o	h	w	c	a	t
n	t	g	t	o	a	s	t	s	b	b	h
o	h	r	i	f	r	n	c	w	k	a	i
e	l	a	p	b	d	o	l	m	e	r	p
i	c	t	n	o	m	w	o	r	k	g	p
g	l	e	n	d	s	f	j	s	i	a	o
a	m	f	g	y	z	l	f	c	p	i	a
m	m	u	a	p	x	a	y	n	f	n	e
e	h	l	z	b	j	k	i	s	s	s	p
s	b	i	r	t	h	e	t	r	u	c	k