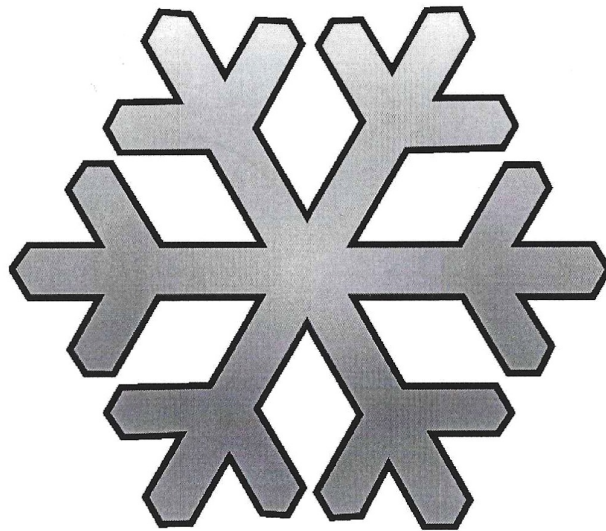


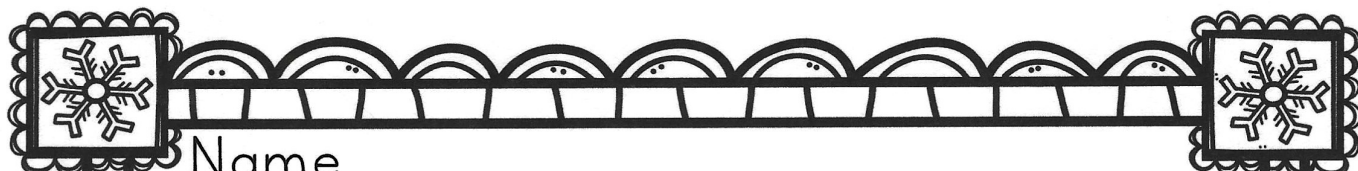
# Winter Break Packet

Have a wonderful vacation!



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

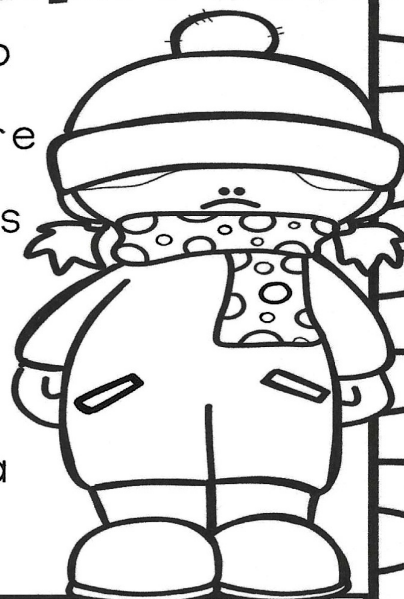
Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# WINTER BREAK HOMEWORK

This is a review packet to help practice your skills while we're on winter break. Complete this review packet and return it after the break. Have a wonderful Winter Break and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!



*Record all the books you read here!*

Book Title	Author



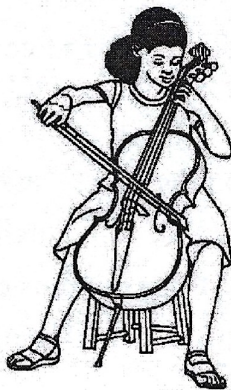
## **D**irections

Read this story. Then answer questions 1 through 6.

*Minna is on her way to a cello lesson and is worried about playing her cello with a vibrato effect, a skill of vibrating the strings with a bow or fingers, to produce a richer sound.*

## **Excerpt from *The Facts and Fictions of Minna Pratt***

*by Patricia MacLachlan*



- 1 The streets were grimy with spring. Willie played Tchaikovsky on the corner, music that made Minna feel sad and peaceful at the same time. Next to the violin case the small brown dog slept, curled like a sausage on Willie's jacket. A woman in a fur coat with worn elbows stood in front of Minna, a baby peering over her shoulder, his head bobbing as he stared at Minna. The baby grinned suddenly and drooled down his mother's back, leaving a wet trail of fur where his mother couldn't see. A slimy secret between Minna and the baby. Minna touched his hand and moved off through the crowd, standing on the steps for a moment, watching Willie. She sighed and looked up at the gargoyles. *Willie on the street corner has a vibrato. Where is mine?*
- 2 Inside it was dark and quiet and cool. Porch beckoned Minna in and unzipped her cello case. Minna slumped in a chair.
- 3 "Min?" asked Porch. He sat down next to her. "Problems?"

**GO ON**

- 4 "It's my vibrato," said Minna, looking at him.
- 5 "What about it?"
- 6 "Where is it?" Minna's voice was loud in the empty room. "I mean," she  
leaned forward, "Lucas has a vibrato. Even Willie has one. Where is mine?"
- 7 Porch frowned at Minna.
- 8 "William Gray?" he said sharply. "What do you mean 'even' Willie? What do  
you know about Willie?"
- 9 Minna's face reddened. She had not even known Willie's full name.
- 10 "Nothing, except that he's always there, playing on the street corner. He  
always gives me my money back," she added softly.
- 11 Porch's face softened.
- 12 "He does, does he? A gift. Willie is a fine musician, Minna. And he was a  
fine musician before he got his vibrato. Did you know he plays in the symphony  
chamber group?"
- 13 "But why does he play on the street?" asked Minna, surprised.
- 14 "For his own reasons, Minna," said Porch. "You might ask him that yourself."
- 15 "We never talk about anything but music," said Minna.
- 16 "Well," said Porch, sitting down and leaning back in his chair, "life and music  
are not separate, you know."
- 17 There was a silence.
- 18 "Min," said Porch, "your vibrato is not something that is there, I mean that  
exists, like fingernails, or hair about to grow longer. It is something you can work  
at, yes, and think about, yes, but it is much more like . . ." Porch folded his arms,  
"like understanding something for the first time, or suddenly knowing what a  
book you're reading is all about." He peered at Minna. "It is like a light going on  
over your head. Do you know what I mean?"
- 19 "No," said Minna, staring at Porch. She was thinking about her past life;  
the moments along the way when she needed something to make things right.  
When she was seven it had been a plaid skirt, at ten it had been a bicycle. Then it  
had been her first full-size cello. Now it was a vibrato. Would it end there?
- 20 "You will understand," said Porch. "You will." He tapped her knee. "Ready for  
Mozart?"

- 21 Minna sat up, gripping her cello by its neck. She stared at the music, thinking about Willie and her mother and father. Did she know them at all, even the slightest little bit?
- 22 "I'll never be ready for Mozart," said Minna.
- 23 "Ah," said Porch, "but Mozart is ready for you, Minna Pratt. Come on, let's do K. 158. Your favorite key."
- 24 Minna couldn't help smiling. Porch was right, it was her favorite key. Sometimes, *most* of the time, Porch knew Minna as well as anyone else did. Except for McGrew; McGrew who knew, for instance, that in spite of Minna's grumbling, in spite of her complaints, Minna played the cello because she wanted to.
- 25 Porch picked up his violin.
- 26 "Let's play the repeats," said Porch. He turned to look at Minna. "And we will play it wonderfully. In tune. With or without a vibrato."
- 27 And they did.

**GO ON**

**1** In paragraph 1, what does Minna learn from watching Willie?

- A** She sees that playing music makes a crowd gather.
- B** She notices that the music makes others happy.
- C** She realizes that she wants to have a vibrato.
- D** She discovers that music makes her sad.

**2** What new information about Willie does the reader learn in paragraph 12?

- A** He is more than he seems.
- B** He is a generous person.
- C** He performs with a vibrato.
- D** He plays with something in mind.

**3** Read these sentences from paragraph 18 of the story.

**He peered at Minna. "It is like a light going on over your head."**

What does the phrase "a light going on over your head" mean as it is used in paragraph 18?

- A** a new way of understanding
- B** something that is above you
- C** a way someone helps you out
- D** something that happens after hard work

4 Which statement **best** reflects a theme of the story?

- A Having something new can make things better.
- B With time and practice, a person can achieve a goal.
- C A teacher can help you figure out everything you need to know.
- D Playing music is fun even when you are still learning how to do it.

5 Read these sentences from the story.

“Willie is a fine musician, Minna. And he was a fine musician before he got his vibrato.” (paragraph 12)

“And we will play it wonderfully. In tune. With or without a vibrato.” (paragraph 26)

How do these sentences develop the story overall?

- A They explain why Willie gives back Minna’s money.
- B They show Minna’s eagerness to play with a vibrato.
- C They show what Minna learns from Porch about Willie.
- D They suggest that Minna does not need a vibrato to play well.

6 Based on the story, which sentence **best** describes Minna?

- A She plays the cello because she enjoys it.
- B She complains about her music lessons.
- C She talks with Willie about music only.
- D She thinks Mozart is too difficult.

**GO ON**

Lexile: 690L  
Word Count: 318

## So Long, Shopping Mall

Shopping malls have been around for the past 50 years. But lately, malls have started to disappear. Some are closing their doors for good. Others are trying to keep their customers.

The first shopping mall opened in 1956. Since then, more than 1,500 others have been built. Large parking lots let crowds park at malls. Big stores like Sears, Macy's, and JC Penney draw shoppers in. Inside, smaller stores sell everything from clothes to kittens. Kiosks sell glasses, hot pretzels, and other items. The food court offers fast, cheap food. Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny even show up for pictures.

Shopping malls attracted different people and provided something for everyone. Shoppers flocked to stores to find good deals. Others came just to browse. Hundreds of employees worked at a mall. They worked in retail, maintenance, or security. Retirees walked the halls for exercise when the weather outside was poor. Teenagers hung out in the food court. Couples attended movies.

Employees, shoppers, and others are in for a change. Interest in malls started to drop in the mid-2000s. First, foot traffic began to drop. Then stores started to close. Then entire malls began to close. These changes had a lot to do with technology.

Today, shoppers can buy anything they need online. It's faster and easier than going to a mall. Businesses that sell online don't have to rent store space or hire cashiers. They save money compared to stores in a mall, so their prices can be lower.

Some say that one out of every four malls will be closed by 2022. That's why some malls are trying new ways to attract business. They've added better restaurants, bowling alleys, and ropes courses. Some have rented out upper floors as office space or apartments. Perhaps a mall near you has tried these types of changes. Head to your local mall to check and see (before it's too late).

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **So Long, Shopping Mall**

**Answer the questions below.**

1.) Which conclusion can most likely be drawn from the details in paragraph 2?

- a.) Most shopping malls have many of the same elements.
- b.) Shopping malls are not a fun place for young children.
- c.) Advertising to get people to come to a mall can be expensive.
- d.) Each new shopping mall is built with better features than before.

2.) What made shopping malls popular with different people? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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3.) What evidence from the text supports the conclusion that technology has affected shopping malls?

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4.) What evidence from the text illustrates the ways shopping malls are trying to stay open?

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5.) Do you think shopping malls will ever become popular again? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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## Determining Theme

Lexile: 770L  
Word Count: 398

# Little Brother

Leo enjoyed teasing Lucas, his five-year-old brother. In Leo's mind, Lucas deserved it because he was annoying. Whenever Leo wanted to do something fun, his little brother would tag along and do the same thing. If Leo played basketball, Lucas would try to play with him. If Leo kicked the soccer ball, Lucas would try to kick the ball, too. The only problem was that Lucas was a lot younger than Leo, and he wasn't very good at sports.

"He looks up to you and is trying to learn from you, Leo," his mom would often say.

"He's annoying and slows down our game," Leo would always reply. "He can't even make one basket or dribble the soccer ball."

Often, Leo and his friends would make Lucas cry and run to his mother inside the house. They would steal the ball and keep it away from him, call him names, and tease him.

One day, after Leo took the soccer ball from Lucas and refused to pass it back to him, Lucas ran inside crying, as always. This time, though, Leo's mom had finally had enough.

"LEO! GET IN HERE RIGHT NOW!" she screamed from inside.

Leo was not interested in facing his mother. If he went inside, he'd surely be grounded for bullying and teasing his little brother. He decided to run to the park and play soccer there for a while until his mom cooled down. When he got to the park, he didn't see any of his friends at the soccer field. In fact, the boys playing soccer were much older than Leo. They were also much better at soccer.

"Can I play with you guys?" Leo asked shyly.

"We don't have room for little wimps," shouted one of the older boys. "Run home, little baby, so your mommy can change your diaper."

Leo's face turned red, and a tear trickled down his cheek.

"Oh wook! The wittle baby is crying," another boy continued.

Leo was embarrassed and walked away feeling very upset. He realized that it wasn't fun being bullied. When Leo arrived at home from the park, he saw Lucas kicking the soccer ball with his mom.

"Don't worry, Leo. Go play with your friends," his mom said. "I'll play with your brother."

"No way!" Leo replied. "I'm going to teach Lucas some of my soccer moves."

"Yeah!" Lucas said, beaming with excitement.

## Determining Theme

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Little Brother

**Answer the questions below.**

- 1.) What is the theme or message the author would like you to learn from this story?

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- 2.) What events from the story lead you to believe that this is the theme or message?

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- 3.) How does Leo treat his brother at the beginning of the story? Why does Leo decide to play soccer with his brother at the end of the story?

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- 4.) Think about a time when someone was mean to you or treated you unfairly. What happened? How did you respond? How do you think the author of this story would want you to respond? Combine your thinking with details from the story to support your answer.

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# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Break Math

A teacher buys the folders listed below.

- 5 boxes of red folders with 36 folders in each box
- 6 boxes of blue folders with 32 folders in each box

Which number is **closest** to the total number of red and blue folders that the teacher buys?

- A 275
- B 380
- C 440
- D 550

What number is 9 times as much as 400?

- A 391
- B 409
- C 3,600
- D 3,609

There are three different sections to sit in at a baseball park. The number of people who can sit in each section is described below.

- red section seats 200 people
- blue section seats 20 fewer people than the red section
- green section seats 2 times as many people as the blue section

What is the total number of people who can sit in the baseball park?

- A 260
- B 380
- C 640
- D 740

Which two numbers both round to 1,500 when rounded to the nearest hundred?

- A 1,399 and 1,599
- B 1,449 and 1,549
- C 1,457 and 1,547
- D 1,489 and 1,589

The value of the digit 9 in the number 29,461 is 10 times the value of the digit 9 in which number?

A 46,195

B 53,982

C 89,354

D 93,610

Mr. Fuller wants to put fencing around his rectangular-shaped yard. The width of the yard is 55 feet and the length is 75 feet. How many feet of fencing does Mr. Fuller need?

A 130

B 260

C 3,905

D 4,125

How does the value of the digit 3 in the number 63,297 compare to the value of the digit 3 in the number 60,325? Be sure to include what you know about place value in your answer.

***Explain your answer.***

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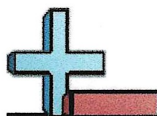
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858

The 8 in the hundreds place is \_\_\_\_\_ the value of the 8 in the ones place.

631,183

The 1 in the thousands place is \_\_\_\_\_ the value of the 1 in the hundreds place.



### Comparing Numbers within 1 Million

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Use  $>$ ,  $<$  or  $=$  to compare the two numbers.

2,856 \_\_\_\_\_ 2,857

22,099 \_\_\_\_\_ 22,990

607,494 \_\_\_\_\_ 670,449



### Rounding Within 1 Million

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Round each number to the place value specified.

Round 43,622 to the nearest hundred.



# SUBTRACT


$$\begin{array}{r} 2,380 \\ -1,295 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 713 \\ - 345 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

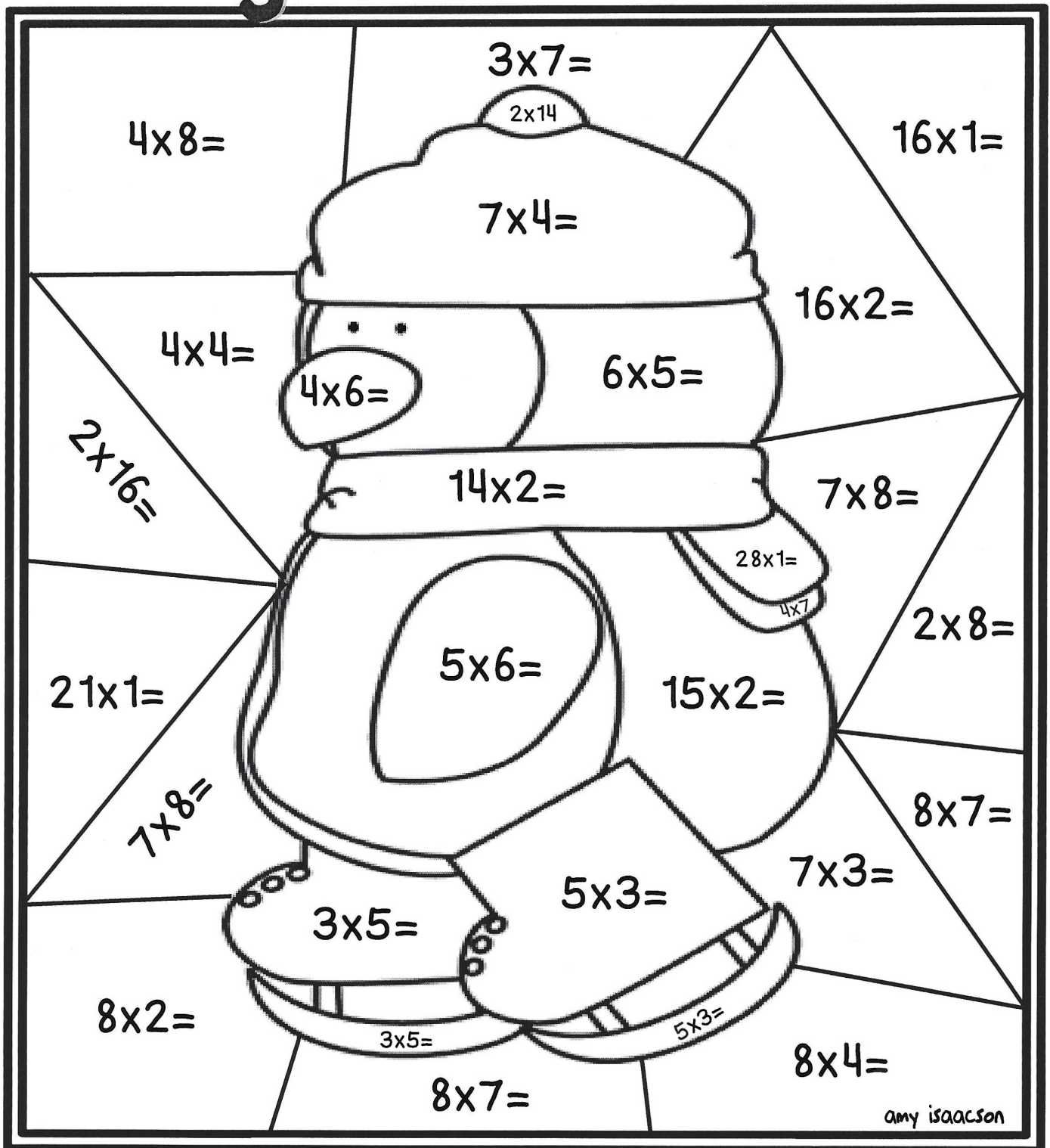
$$\begin{array}{r} 1,355 \\ - \quad 821 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,350 \\ -2,321 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 723 \\ - 527 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,939 \\ - 3,279 \\ \hline \end{array}$$


# Penguin on Skates!



amy isaacson

15=grey  
16=yellow

21=dark green  
24=orange

28=light blue  
30=black

32=purple  
56=dark blue