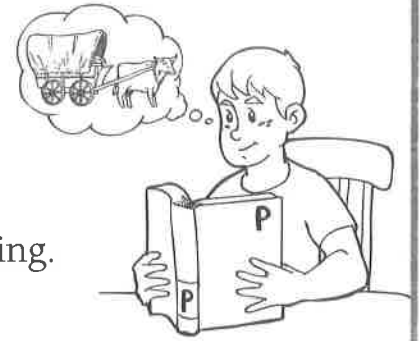


## Luke and the Books

“Help!” shouted Luke. “I’m in serious trouble. I started my report. It’s about nineteenth-century western pioneers. But the computer stopped working. Will you help me?” Luke asked.



“We’re not going to do your work for you,” warned Jamal.

“I’m not asking you to,” said Luke. “My report needs to be two pages. If all of you tell me one thing you know, that should be enough for two pages.” Luke took out a notebook. “I know pioneers rode in covered wagons.”

“The pioneers used a spinning wheel to make thread. Then they weaved the thread into cloth,” explained Brooke.

“I once saw a movie about pioneers. They built a barn together. It was a musical,” said Tia. “They twirled, or spun, axes. They did gymnastics on piles of lumber.”

“Oh! Oh! Pick me!” shouted Jalissa. “I read a book about a pioneer girl and her family. One time grasshoppers fell from the sky. They attacked the pioneers. They ate all the food.” Luke wrote in his notebook.

“I don’t have two pages. I need more facts!” Luke groaned.

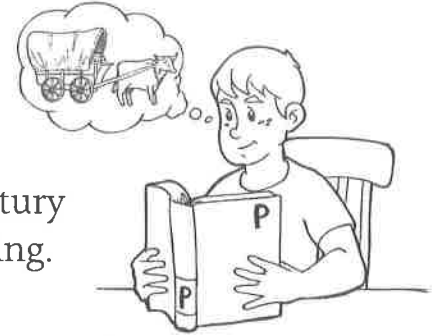
“You need an encyclopedia. Then you can look up *pioneers*,” Brooke suggested. “Encyclopedias are books that have information about a lot of different things.” Luke was discouraged. The encyclopedia wasn’t just one book. It was twenty-six! Luke thought he would drown in all that information.

“Don’t worry,” said Brooke. “There is one book for each letter of the alphabet. Use the book with the letter *p*.”

Luke’s friend helped him find the *P* book. He looked up *pioneer*. He looked at all the information. “Here are the grasshoppers. It says here they’re called locusts.” Luke worked on his report. Soon he wrote two pages. “I’m almost a pioneer myself now. I did my entire report without a computer!”

## Luke and the Books

Help!” shouted Luke. “I’m in serious trouble,” he said. “I started my report about nineteenth-century western pioneers. But the computer stopped working. Help me?” asked Luke.



“We’re not going to do your work for you,” warned Jamal.

“I’m not asking you to,” said Luke. “I need to write a two-page report. If all of you tell me one thing you know, that should be enough for two pages.” Luke took out a notebook. “I know something about pioneers. I know they rode in covered wagons. Who else knows something?” he asked.

“The pioneers used a spinning wheel to make thread. Then they weaved the thread into cloth,” explained Brooke.

“I once saw a movie about pioneers. They worked together to build a barn. It was a musical,” said Tia.

“Oh!” shouted Jalissa. “I read a book about a pioneer girl and her family. In one part grasshoppers descended from the sky. They came down and attacked the pioneers. They ate their food.” Luke wrote in his notebook.

“I don’t have enough. I need more facts!” Luke groaned.

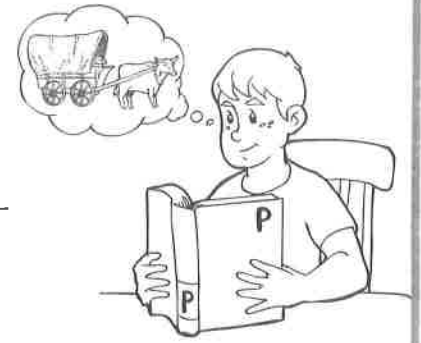
“You need to get an encyclopedia. Then you can look up *pioneers*,” Brooke suggested. “Encyclopedias are books that have information.” The encyclopedia wasn’t just one book. It was twenty-six! Luke feared he would drown in all that information.

“There is a book for each letter of the alphabet. Use the book with the first letter of your topic,” said Brooke.

Luke found the *P* book. He looked up *pioneer*. “Whoa!” he said happily. “Here are the grasshoppers. But it says here they are called locusts.” Luke set to work. Soon he wrote his two pages. “I’m practically a pioneer myself now. I did my entire report without a computer!”

## Luke and the Books

Help!” shouted Luke. “I started writing my report about nineteenth-century western pioneers—but the computer stopped working. You’ll help me out, won’t you?” asked Luke.



“We’re not going to do your work for you,” warned Jamal.

“I’m not asking you to,” said Luke. “If I write down what all five of us know, it should be enough to make a two-page report.” He opened the pad of paper. “Here’s what I know: Pioneers rode in covered wagons. Now, who’s next?”

“There was a spinning wheel the pioneers used to make thread they could weave into cloth,” Brooke offered.

“I saw a movie musical where pioneers built a barn,” offered Tia. “They twirled axes and did gymnastics.”

“Oh!” shouted Jalissa. “I read a book about a pioneer girl and her family who lived on a prairie! My favorite part is where grasshoppers descend from the sky. They come down and attack the pioneers and eat all their food.” Luke wrote more notes.

“This isn’t going to be anywhere near two pages” groaned Luke.

“You need to get an encyclopedia and look up *pioneers*,” Brooke advised. “Encyclopedias are books that have information about different things,” Brooke informed him. To Luke’s dismay, the encyclopedia wasn’t just one book—it was twenty-six! He feared he would drown in the ocean of information.

“Don’t worry. The books are divided by the letters of the alphabet,” Brooke said.

Luke looked up *pioneer* in the *P* book. “Whoa!” he said happily. “Here are the grasshoppers but they’re called locusts.”

Luke set to work. Soon his two pages were written. “I’m practically a pioneer myself now. I did my report without a computer!”

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Use what you read in the passage to answer the questions.****1.** What is Luke's report about?

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**2.** How does Jamal feel about helping Luke? How can you tell?

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**3.** How long does Luke's report need to be?

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**4.** What did the pioneers use to make thread for cloth?

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**5.** Who saw a musical movie about pioneers?

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**6.** What happened after the grasshoppers came down from the sky?

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**7.** What clues help you conclude that this is Luke's first time using an encyclopedia?

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**8.** How does Luke solve his problem?

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