mailbox mail truck

POST OFFICE

Read the short story and answer each question.

From Your Mailbox to Mine

airplane

mail carrier

post office

Nina writes a letter to her cousin. She puts it in an envelope, adds a stamp, and drops it into a big blue mailbox.

A mail truck picks up the letter and takes it to the post office.

At the post office, machines sort the mail by city and zip code.

Nina's letter goes on an airplane to another state. Then a truck takes it to a new post office.

A mail carrier takes the letter and walks to Nina's cousin's house.

He opens the mailbox and finds Nina's letter inside!

Even though they live far apart, the mail brings them close.



From Your Mailbox to Mine

- 1. What does the picture of the airplane help you understand?
- A. That mail flies through the sky
- B. That airplanes carry animals
- C. That letters get sorted by color
- D. That trucks are faster than planes

- 2. What does the diagram of the mailbox and letter show?
- A. How to make a phone call
- B. How a letter gets mailed
- C. Why letters need stamps
- D. How Nina made her envelope

3. Fill in the blank:
Nina puts a on her letter before she mails it.
4. How do the pictures help you understand the journey the letter takes?
5. What step in the mail process would be hardest to understand without a picture?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: | Lexile Level: 240L-390L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, End of the Year

Genre: Nonfiction – Narrative Recount / Informational Process

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a nonfiction story that explains how mail travels from one person to another. As we read, we'll look closely at the words and pictures to understand each step in the journey of a letter."

Vocabulary: mailbox, stamp, sort, zip code, mail carrier

Before Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. Have you ever sent or received a letter?
- 2. What do you think happens after you put a letter in a mailbox?
- 3. Why do people still use mail when we have email?

During Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What does the picture of the mail truck show?
- 2. How do the illustrations help you follow the path of the letter?
- 3. What new word do you see in the pictures that helps explain the steps?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What did the pictures teach you about how mail moves from place to place?
- 2. What surprised you about how letters travel?
- 3. How would you explain the process to a younger student?

Activity Idea

Let students write a pretend letter to a friend or family member. Then have them cut and glue printed step-by-step pictures (mailbox, post office, plane, truck, mailbox) onto a timeline to show the path their letter takes. They can add labels and arrows to explain each part of the process.

