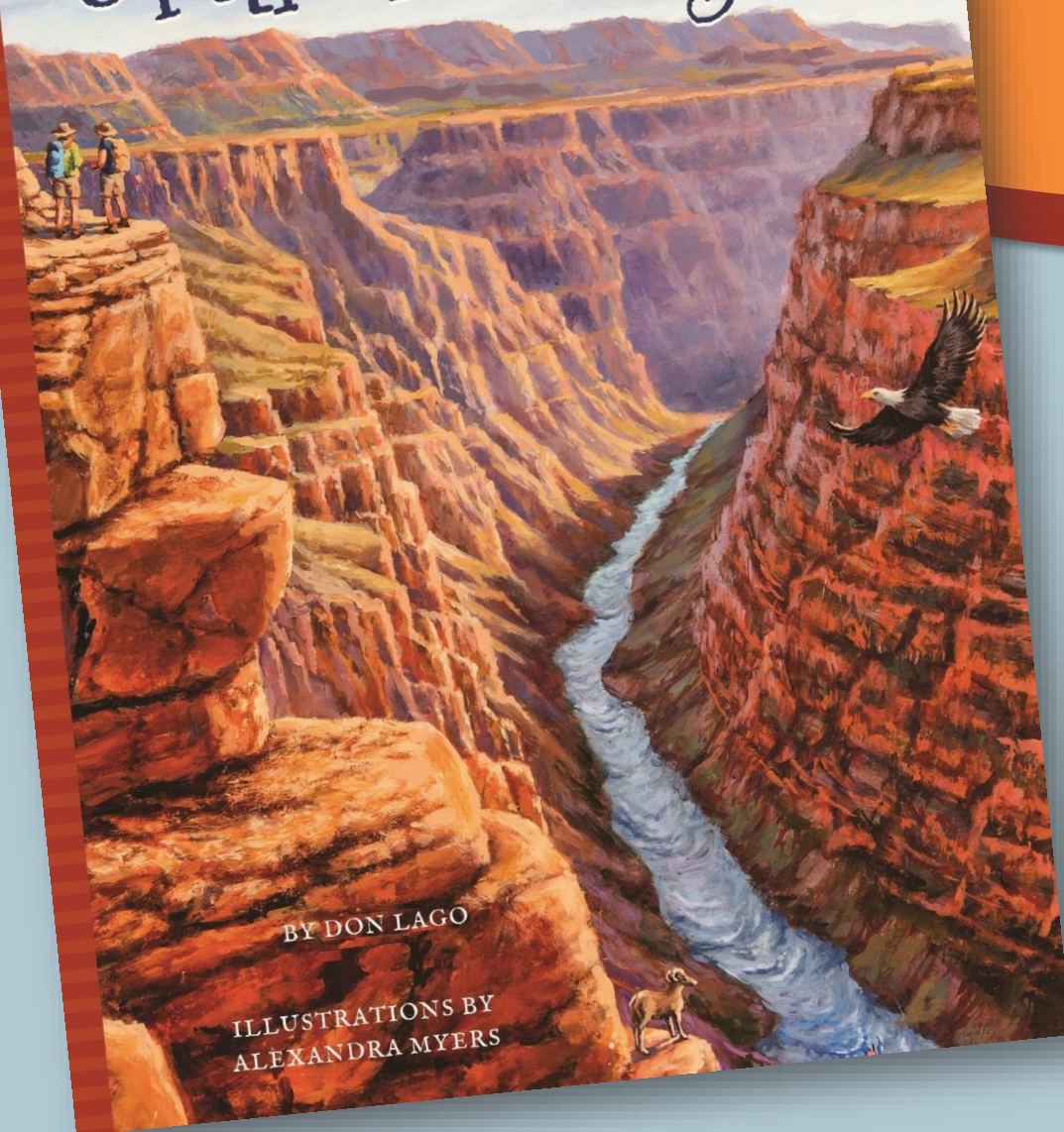


# ALL ABOUT The Grand Canyon



## *Teacher's Guide*

*Including Common Core Standards, Sample Questions, and Activities*

# All About the Grand Canyon

## Common Core Literacy Scaffolding Questions

*Developed by: Chris Edwards, Ed.D*

**Note to teachers and parents:** The standards listed here are taken from the Common Core Standards: *Grades 6-12, Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects* from the subset standards for grades 6-8. The standards listed here are 6-8.1–6-8.10. These Common Core Standards can be viewed in greater detail at this website:

<http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RH/6-8/>

Some states have decided not to adopt the Common Core standards, but the new state standards are uniformly similar. Teachers who choose to use these questions in a state that has not adopted Common Core standards are encouraged to apply their own state standards to these questions. Teachers who choose to use these questions for grades other than 6-8 can find all of the Common Core standards at: <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/>.

Teachers, please note that these questions are designed only to provide a very basic literacy scaffold and to provide examples. There is plenty of room for you to add your creativity and use your expertise to develop “why” questions and to help students make connections to other texts.

**The questions below should be answered using a complete sentence and with textual evidence from the reading. The questions for the Preface are answered as examples.**

### *Preface*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.5.

1. How deep, wide, and long is the Grand Canyon?

**Sample Answer:** The Grand Canyon is very big and “is a mile deep, ten miles wide, and 277 miles long.”

2. What is one way that visitors can enjoy the Grand Canyon?

**Sample Answer:** Visitors to the Grand Canyon “can take a helicopter ride” to see the canyon if they like.

## *Chapter One*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.5

1. Why is hiking in the Grand Canyon like having a time machine?
2. Study the illustration on page 7: what conclusions can you draw about the lives of ancient people by looking at this image? Make a reference to something in the illustration in your answer.
3. How did the cotton wood trees get their name?

## *Chapter Two*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4.

1. What is one thing that hikers can do at the Phantom Ranch?
2. What is something a hiker would see at the Trail of Time?
3. What role did Clarence Dutton play in naming some of the Grand Canyon’s peaks?

## *Chapter Three*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4.

1. How many rapids are on the Colorado River?
2. What is one way that kids can enjoy the Colorado River?

3. Examine the illustration on page 26, from what you have read, why were John Wesley Powell's boats not ideal for exploring the Colorado River? Make a reference to the illustration in your answer.

## *Chapter Four*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.5.

1. What is one type of boat that can be found on the Colorado River?
2. What is one thing that a visitor might see in Vasey's Paradise?
3. Study the illustration of Lava Falls on p. 34; do you think rafting on Lava Falls would be fun or scary? Make a reference to the illustration in your answer.

## *Chapter Five*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3.

1. Study the illustration on p. 38 and read the text right above it. What is special about the image? Make a reference to the illustration in your answer.
2. What is the most dangerous animal in the Grand Canyon and why?
3. Since the 1980's, wildlife biologists have been working to save the California Condor. What has been the result of their efforts?

## *Chapter Six*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.8.

1. What could Native American farmers in the Grand Canyon do that other farmers could not?
2. What is one accomplishment of the Puebloans?
3. What is special about the size of the Navajo tribe?

## *Chapter Seven*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3.

1. Who were the first European explorers to the Southwest?
2. What is one reason why Americans in the 1800's were interested in the Grand Canyon?
3. What is one of the accomplishments of Mary Colter?

## *Chapter Eight*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.8.

1. What did Ellsworth and Emery end up doing in order to make a living in the Grand Canyon?
2. What was special in all of world history about the movie the Kolbs made about their adventures in the Colorado River?
3. What did President Roosevelt do for the Grand Canyon in 1908?

## *Chapter Nine*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6.

1. What was one reason why not many people went to the Grand Canyon during the time of the Wild West?
2. Why are mules used instead of horses to explore the Grand Canyon?
3. Why is the Grand Canyon such a good place to gaze at the stars?

## *Chapter Ten*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6.

1. Give one detail about the lives of the park rangers who live in the Grand Canyon.
2. How did Eddie McKee catch a rattlesnake?
3. How can kids get involved in the job of being a ranger?

## *Chapter Eleven*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6.

1. What is one thing that might happen to the Grand Canyon if it wasn't a national park?
2. What is one of the goals of a National Park?
3. Study the illustration on page 100; what is the first thing that you would want to do if you drove up to that sign in real life and were about to enter the park? (No textual evidence is necessary for this answer.)

### *Text Analysis Questions*

**Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.9, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.8.

**Prompt:** Read the excerpt below from a website advertisement about an adventure trip on the Colorado River. Look up the definitions of words you don't understand. What are three things you would pack if you were going on an adventure trip on the Colorado River? Use one quote from the advertisement and one quote from *All About the Grand Canyon* to explain why you made the choices you did.

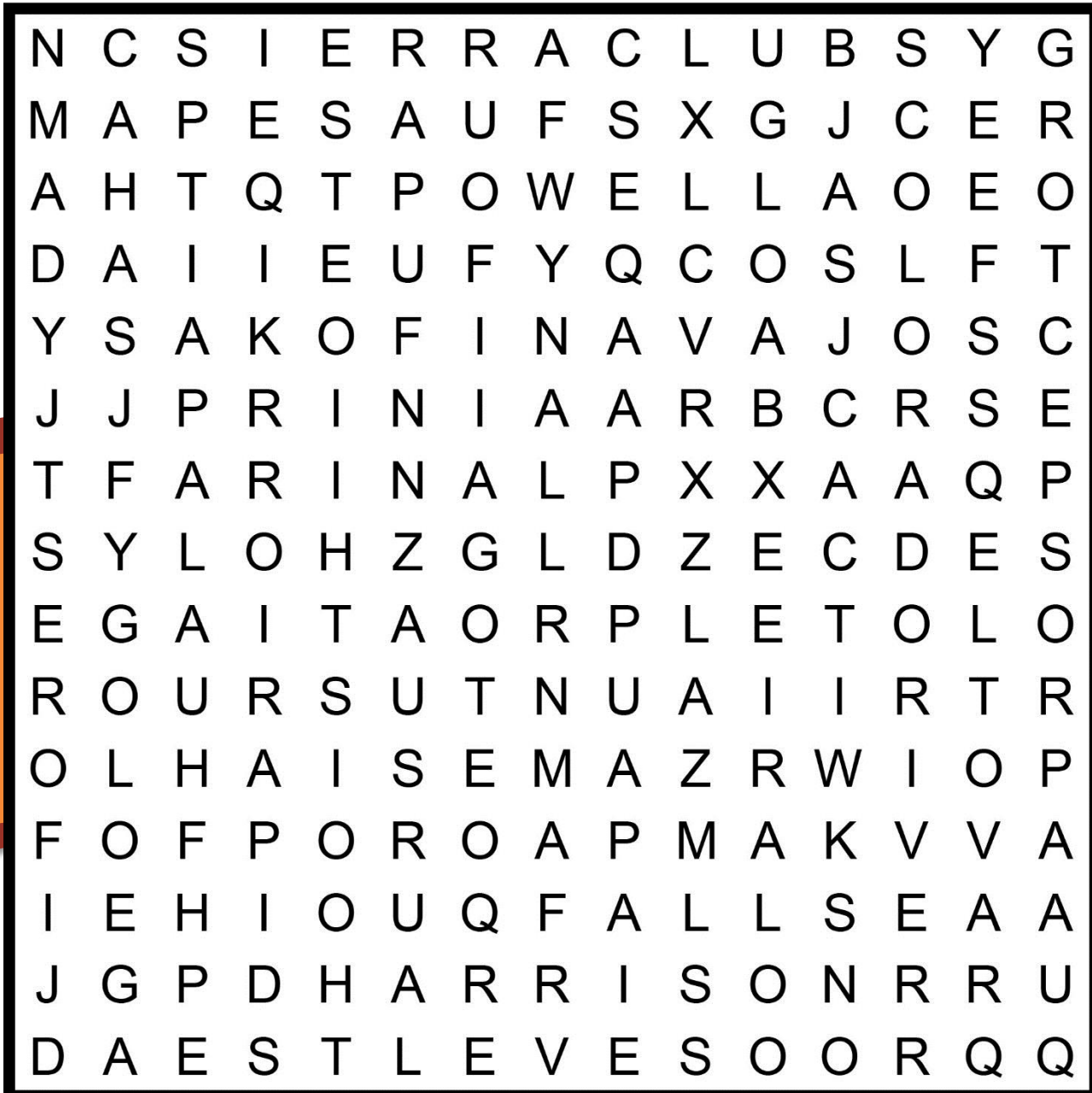
In the grandest canyon of the Colorado River, experience the excitement, serenity, joy and enchanting beauty of the river as it transforms the divine chasm and those who venture down it. Your Grand Canyon rafting vacation covers 188 miles in 6 or 7 days, each day descending deeper into geologic time. The Grand Canyon is ever-changing, with massive walls that step back to expose eons of natural history, at one place dark and narrow, and at another lush with waterfalls thundering hundreds of feet in luminous free fall.

Daily side hikes lead you to sparkling streams, pristine pools, green fern glens, and ancient Anasazi ruins. The astounding scenery through Grand Canyon National Park is enhanced by the thrill of over 60 whitewater rapids where Western's unique J-Rig rafts will give you maximum excitement and comfort.

This is the most famous rafting trip in the world. It is also our most physically demanding and rewarding trip. Spending a week living in the outdoors is a life-changing experience but it requires preparation and physical capability on the part of the participants.

**Source:** <https://www.westernriver.com/grand-canyon-vacation>

# All About the Grand Canyon Word Search



ARIZONA

CACTI

COLORADO RIVER

DAM

EL TOVAR

ERODE

FALLS

FOREST

FOSSIL

GEOLOGY

HARRISON

HIKING

HUALAPAI

MULE

NATIONAL PARK

NAVAJOS

PAIUTES

POWELL

PROSPECTOR

RAFT

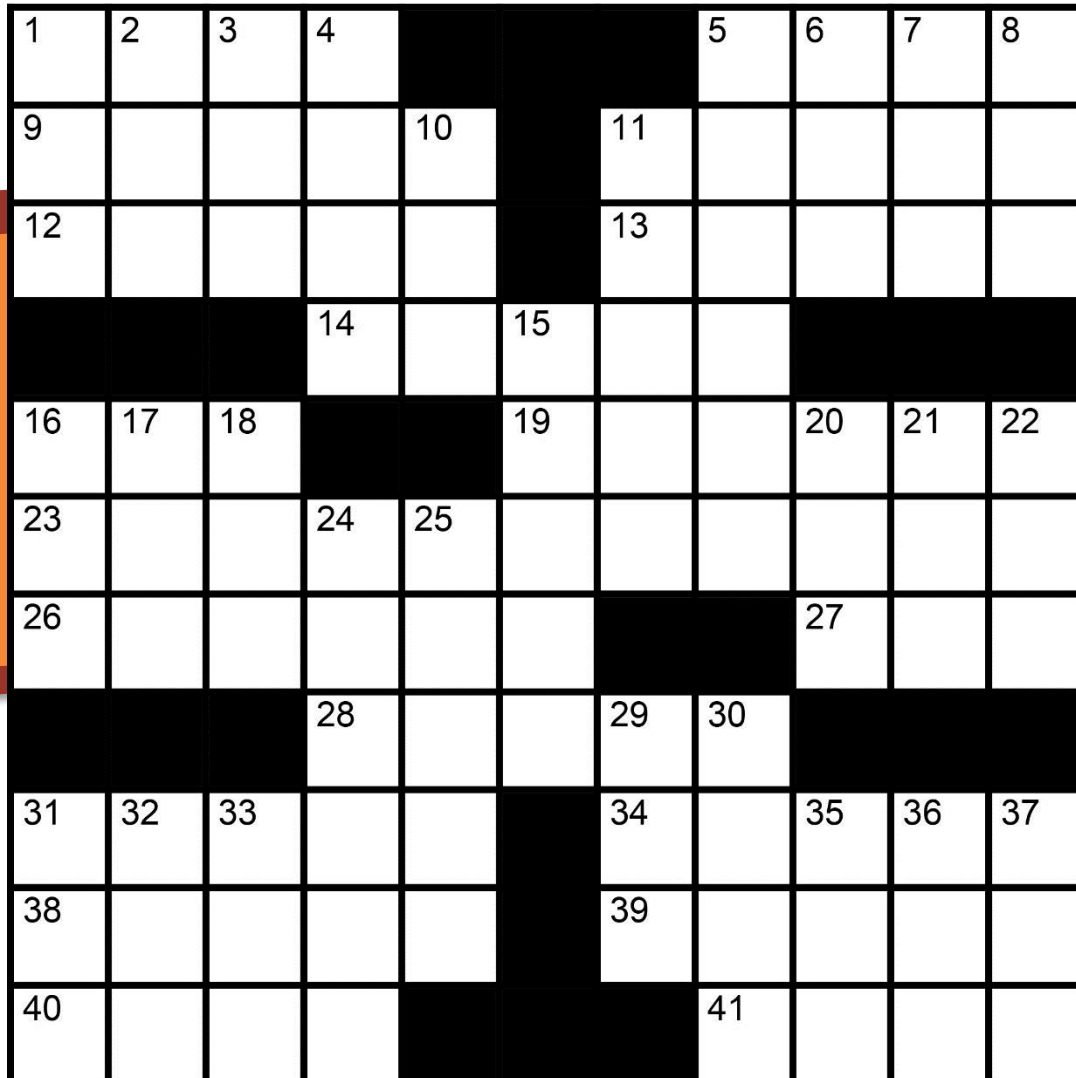
RAPIDS

ROOSEVELT

SIERRA CLUB

WILDLIFE

# All About the Grand Canyon Crossword



## Across

1. Barber's powder
5. "Hold your horses!"
9. Big commotion
11. Capital city of Egypt
12. New York island known for immigration
13. Ancient, like our natural wonders
14. Sound from a hen
16. \_\_\_ and flow
19. Piece of pasta
23. National Park created by the Colorado River and visited by more than 5 million people a year (2 wds.)
26. Difficult task, like hiking steep paths
27. Breakfast food, often
28. Jigsaw puzzle part
31. Urban legends, for example
34. Muscle twitch
38. See 15- and 24-Down
39. Big cat at the zoo

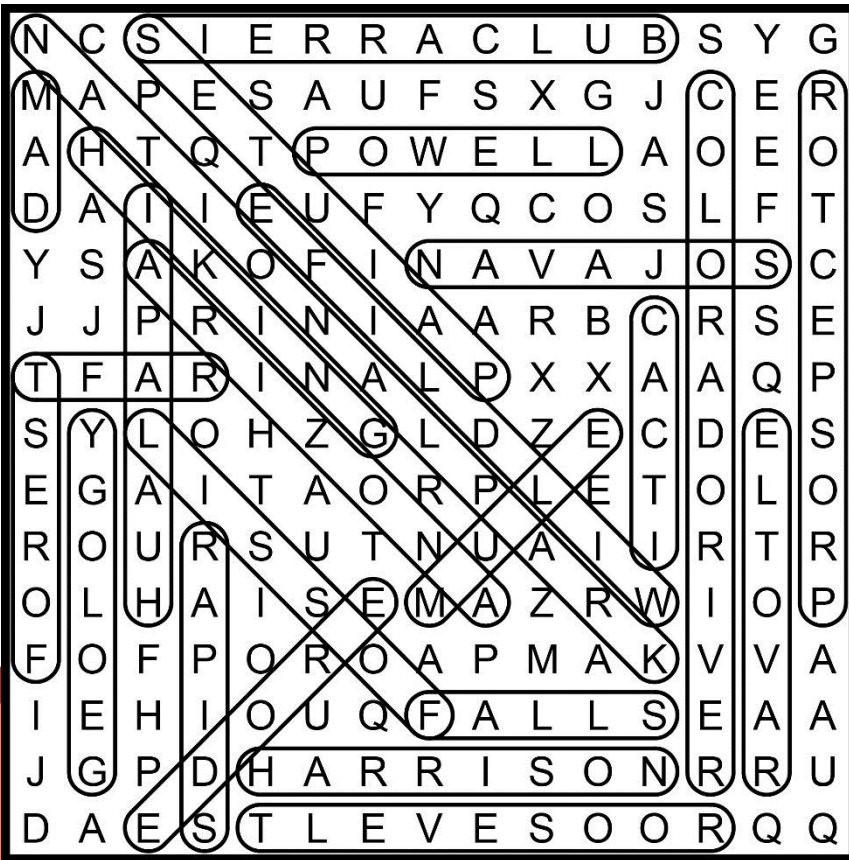
## Down

1. First word of many sentences
2. "You've Got Mail" company
3. "Ha-ha" in a text message (Abbr.)
4. Fashionable
5. Small role in a movie
6. First \_\_\_ kit
7. Anger
8. 2,000 pounds
10. Communication for the deaf (Abbr.)
11. Hot chocolate drink
15. Donald Duck, to 38-Across
16. Alter \_\_\_ (secret identity)
17. "It's c-c-cold!"
18. Rotten
20. Change the color of your hair
21. Campfire wood
22. School subj. that includes reading (Abbr.)
24. 38-Across, to Donald Duck
25. White-petaled flower

## Down

29. Chicago's winter time zone (Abbr.)
30. Larger-than-life story
31. Hospital VIPs (Abbr.)
32. Japanese money
33. 1 + 1
35. "A long time \_\_\_ in a galaxy far, far away..."
36. Ready to go
37. Married woman's title (Abbr.)





## *All About the Grand Canyon Answer Key*

T	A	L	C				W	A	I	T		
H	O	O	H	A			C	A	I	R	O	
E	L	L	I	S			O	L	D	E	N	
				C	L	U	C	K				
E	B	B					N	O	O	D	L	E
G	R	A	N	D	C	A	N	Y	O	N		
O	R	D	E	A	L				E	G	G	
				P	I	E	C	E				
M	Y	T	H	S			S	P	A	S	M	
D	E	W	E	Y			T	I	G	E	R	
S	N	O	W					C	O	T	S	