

**Teacher Copy**  
**Universal Screening – Fluency: 30 Week Gr. 6**

**Directions to the teacher:** Have the student read this passage as you time him or her for **one minute**. As the student reads, mark any errors. After one minute, calculate the “words per minute” fluency rate by recording the number of words the student read correctly.

**The Mouse and the Dolphin**

A mouse named Abe lived near the ocean. Being such a small 12  
creature bothered Abe, so he tried to make up for his lack of size by 27  
exaggerating his strengths and even telling tall tales about himself. For 38  
instance, he bragged to others that he had once been governor of a vast 52  
island across the sea and that it was he who'd invented the sailing 65  
compass, but the idea had been stolen from him. 74

One day Abe began constructing a boat on the beach. When 85  
passersby inquired what Abe planned to do with the boat, he explained 97  
proudly that he would sail to Spain to be advisor to the king. 110

The day after Abe set sail, a great storm arose and washed him off 124  
the deck of his boat and into the sea. Abe found himself stranded in the 139  
middle of the ocean, many miles from shore. He began treading water 141  
and was soon feeling desperate and alone. 148

Just as Abe was about to abandon hope, along came a dolphin, who 161  
offered to transport Abe ashore on his back. After the mouse accepted 173  
this proposition, the dolphin reached with a fin under Abe and flipped him 186  
onto his back, and off they went toward shore. 195

Naturally, Abe couldn't resist telling his fantastic stories, and the 205

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dolphin listened intently. “You’re a very distinguished fellow,” said the	215
dolphin with admiration.	218
Just then the two entered a large bay, and the dolphin, referring to the	232
name of the bay, asked, “I suppose you’re familiar with Herring Roads?”	244
Not wishing to appear ignorant, and assuming that Herring Roads was	255
the name of a person, Abe replied, “Do I know Rhodes? Why, of course	269
I do. He’s an old college acquaintance of mine, and related to our	282
family!”	283
The dolphin suddenly realized that the mouse had been telling lies	294
about himself to exaggerate his importance. This made the dolphin so	305
annoyed that he made a great leap out of the water, sending his	318
passenger flying into the air. By the time the mouse splashed down into	331
the water, the dolphin was far from the shore.	340
Moral: A liar deceives no one but himself.	348

**Cut-off:** 130/348

**Score:** \_\_\_\_\_ /348 words

Taken from *DIBELS® Oral Reading Fluency, Benchmark 2*, © 2007 Dynamic Measurement Group

**Student Copy**  
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**The Mouse and the Dolphin**

A mouse named Abe lived near the ocean. Being such a small creature bothered Abe, so he tried to make up for his lack of size by exaggerating his strengths and even telling tall tales about himself. For instance, he bragged to others that he had once been governor of a vast island across the sea and that it was he who'd invented the sailing compass, but the idea had been stolen from him.

One day Abe began constructing a boat on the beach. When passersby inquired what Abe planned to do with the boat, he explained proudly that he would sail to Spain to be advisor to the king.

The day after Abe set sail, a great storm arose and washed him off the deck of his boat and into the sea. Abe found himself stranded in the middle of the ocean, many miles from shore. He began treading water and was soon feeling desperate and alone.

Just as Abe was about to abandon hope, along came a dolphin, who offered to transport Abe ashore on his back. After the mouse accepted this proposition, the dolphin reached with a fin under Abe and flipped him onto his back, and off they went toward shore.

Naturally, Abe couldn't resist telling his fantastic stories, and the dolphin listened intently. "You're a very distinguished fellow," said the dolphin with admiration. Just then the two entered a large bay, and the dolphin, referring to the name of the bay, asked, "I suppose you're familiar with Herring Roads?"

Not wishing to appear ignorant, and assuming that Herring Roads was the name of a person, Abe replied, "Do I know Rhodes? Why, of course I do. He's an old college acquaintance of mine, and related to our family!"

The dolphin suddenly realized that the mouse had been telling lies about himself to exaggerate his importance. This made the dolphin so annoyed that he made a great leap out of the water, sending his passenger flying into the air. By the time the mouse splashed down into the water, the dolphin was far from the shore.

Moral: A liar deceives no one but himself.