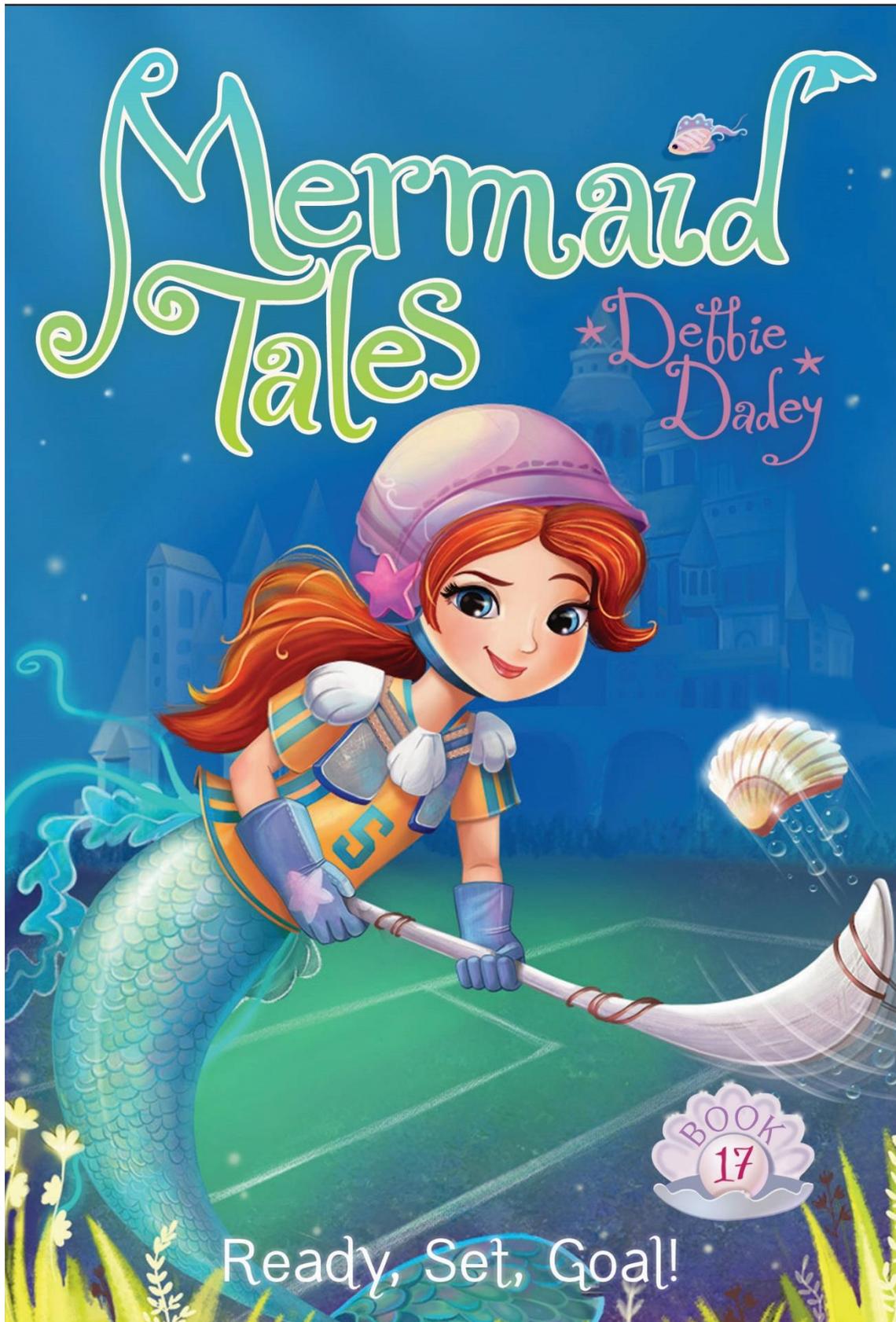


A Teaching Guide for



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www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey

Illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Ready, Set, Goal! was first published by Simon and Schuster in September 2017

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL! TEACHER'S GUIDE

Book Summary:

The Trident City Team is going to the Shell Wars tournament in the famous city of Atlantis. It's all very exciting until she sees a cursed fish. Is there anyway to get rid of the curse?

Meet the author:

Debbie Dadey is the author and co-author of 166 children's books, including *The Mermaid Tales* and *The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids* series.

This former librarian and teacher lives in a Tennessee log cabin with her

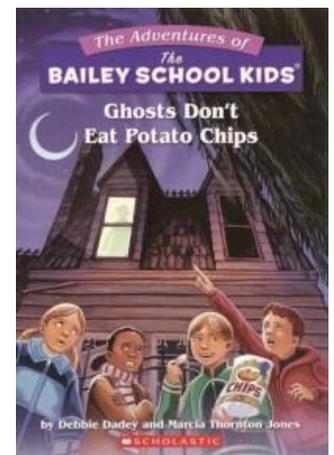
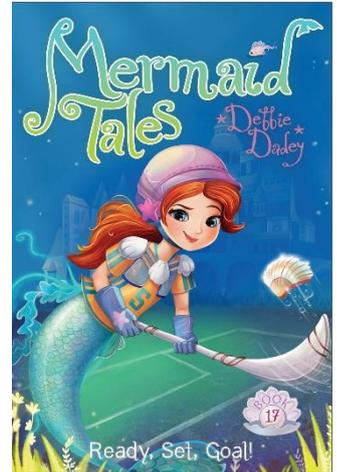
husband, Eric. Her three children live all along the east coast. One of Debbie's other books is *Ghosts Don't Eat Potato Chips*, which she wrote with Marcia Jones. Find out more about Debbie and her stories at

www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey.

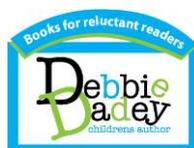
You can also find Debbie on Twitter and Pinterest. Invite her to visit your school today! Kids can write to Debbie on the Kids Talk page of www.debbiedadey.com.



Photo credit to Portrait Innovations



www.debbiedadey.com



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Mermaid Tales

DEBBIE DADEY BOOKLIST

Here is a selected list of books by Debbie Dadey. For a complete list of titles visit www.debbiedadey.com Other books in the Mermaid Tales series from Simon and Schuster include (also available in hardback and digital):

Trouble at Trident Academy ISBN-13: 978-1442429802

Battle of the Best Friends ISBN-13: 978-1442429826

A Whale of a Tale ISBN-13: 978-1442429840

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea ISBN-13: 978-1442429864

The Lost Princess ISBN-13: 978-1442482579

The Secret Sea Horse ISBN-13: 978-1442482609

Dream of the Blue Turtle ISBN-13: 978-1442482630

Treasure in Trident City ISBN-13: 978-1442482661

A Tale of Two Sisters ISBN-13: 978-1481402576

The Polar Bear Express ISBN-13: 978-1481402606

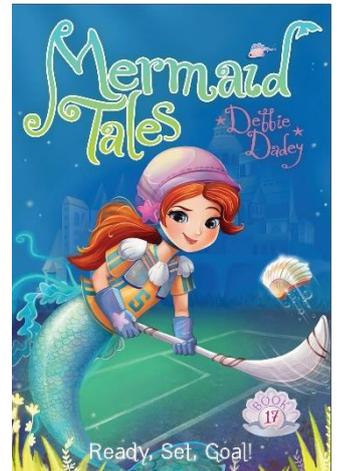
Wish Upon a Starfish ISBN-13: 978-1481402637

The Crook and the Crown ISBN-13: 978-1481440752

Twist and Shout ISBN-13: 978-1481440783-

Books vs Looks ISBN-13: 978-1481440813

Flower Girl Dreams ISBN-13: 978-1481440851



Pre-reading activities: Before reading **Ready, Set, Goal!** complete some or all of the activities below to peak interest in the story, as well as to increase comprehension, reading, and predicting skills.

1. Show students the picture on the next page and ask them to determine what this story is about.
2. **Ready, Set, Goal!** is a sport's story. Ask students what is their favorite sports. Take a survey and make graphs to determine the most popular sport in your classroom.
3. In **Ready, Set, Goal!** the author, Debbie Dadey, made up a game called shell wars. Ask your students to make up a game with rules and directions on how to play. If possible, play the games!

CCSS.Math.Content.2.MD.D.10

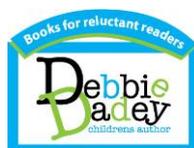
CCSS.ELA-L.RI.4.3

CCSS.ELA-L.RI.3.7

CCSS.Math.Content.3.MD.B.3

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.7

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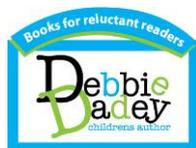


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Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Pre-reading activity/vocabulary

Chapter 1

tentacles	excitement	commemoration
gymnastics	championships	celebration

Chapters 2 and 3

cafeteria	Atlantis	ordinary
equipment	assignments	congratulation

Chapters 4 and 5

Poseidon	original	residential
Neptune	invasion	Kleite's Bridge

Chapters 6 and 7

barrel	engravings	decompression
slithering	Olympians	mysterious

Chapters 8 – 12

practice	magazine	operation	delicious	opponent
weird	banquet	reverse	mushy	barracuda
accident	triangular	fabulous	elimination	announcer

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](#)

Mermaid Tales

FUN WAYS TO LEARN VOCABULARY WORDS

FOR READY, SET, GOAL!

- Play Go Fish! Make two sets of playing cards using index cards or use the flash cards on the following pages. Make sure you can't see through the cards and play by traditional Go Fish rules.
- Challenge students to make up a game using at least three of the vocabulary words. They can teach other students to play the game.
- Have a word race. Call out the word and let students race to find the word in the chapter.
- Play word bingo using the card on the following page.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](#)

Mermaid Tales

Write vocabulary words in the blank spaces. Listen carefully as your teacher calls off each word. Put a marker on the word. If you get five in a row in any direction, you win. Call out Bingo!

B	I	N	G	O
		Free Space		

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 1/suffixes

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Separate the suffixes from the root words. The first one is done for you. Put a star beside words that needed extra letters or lost letters from the root word.

smacked _____smack/ed_____

tentacles _____

slammed _____

announcer _____

excitement _____

embarrassed _____

exciting _____

congratulations _____

fascinating _____

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.a](https://www.illustrations.com/CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.a)

commemoration _____

soared _____

exciting _____

screamed _____

morning _____

glittered _____

celebration _____

trapped _____

glittering _____

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](https://www.illustrations.com/CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4)

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 1/suffixes

NAME: **Answer sheet**

DATE:

Separate the suffixes from the root words. The first one is done for you. Put a star beside words that needed extra letters or lost letters from the root word.

smacked _____smack/ed_____

tentacles _____tentacle/s

* slammed _____slamm/ed

* announcer _____announc/er

excitement _____excite/ment

embarrassed _____embarrass/ed

* exciting _____excit/ing

* Congratulations_____Congratulat/ion/s

* fascinating _____fascinat/ing

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.a](https://www.illustrations.com/CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.a)

* commemoration _____commemorat/ion

soared _____soar/ed

* exciting _____excit/ing

screamed _____scream/ed

morning _____morn/ing

glittered _____glitter/ed

* celebration _____celebrat/ion

trapped _____trapp/ed

glittering _____glitter/ing

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](https://www.illustrations.com/CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4)

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 2/geography

NAME:

DATE:

In the **Ready, Set, Goal!** the merstudents take a trip to Atlantis. In the space below write down the states that you would like to visit. Name at least one thing that you'd like to visit while you are in that state. Use the library to help you find interesting places. Answers will vary.

State:	Place to visit:
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.
8.	8.
9.	9.
10.	10.

Now name two countries you would like to visit and one thing you would see there.

1. _____

2. _____

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 3/place value

NAME:

DATE:

In **Ready, Set, Goal!** Echo and Kiki mix up 15 with 51. The order of numbers is very important-it is called place value. In the space below help Kiki and Echo by writing each digit in the correct place value column. The first one is done for you.

	TENS	ONES
24	2	4
18		
51		
22		
89		
56		
17		
32		
27		
11		
96		
47		

CCSS 2.NBT.1

Bonus: Which is worth more: \$51, \$15, or \$115? _____

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Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 3/place value

NAME: answers

DATE:

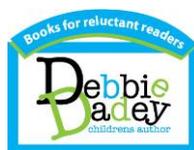
In **Ready, Set, Goal!** Echo and Kiki mix up 15 with 51. The order of numbers is very important-it is called place value. In the **space** below help Kiki and Echo by writing each digit in the correct place value column. The first one is done for you.

	TENS	ONES
24	2	4
18	1	8
51	5	1
22	2	2
89	8	9
56	5	6
17	1	7
32	3	2
27	2	7
11	1	1
96	9	6
47	4	7

CCSS 2.NBT.1

Bonus: Which is worth more: \$51, \$15, or \$115? _____ **\$115**

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Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 4/Greek and Roman myths

NAME:

DATE:

Long ago in a country called Greece, people told stories to explain the world. Often these stories (which we call myths or legends) included fourteen mighty gods and goddesses. The most powerful were Zeus and his brothers, Poseidon and Hades. Poseidon was god of the sea. Hades controlled the underworld and the dead. Zeus ruled the world and Mount Olympus, which is a real mountain in northern Greece that came to be known as the home of the Gods. Later, people known as Romans liked the stories so much they adopted them as their own and often changed the names.

Use the information in the above paragraph to answer the questions below.

1. Name the three most powerful Greek gods.

2. Which came first, the Greek or the Roman gods? _____

3. Why did Greeks tell stories about gods and goddesses? Use the back for your answer. Also, write one interesting thing about Mount Olympus.

4. Which of the Greek gods ruled the sea? _____

Go beyond! Use the library or Internet (make sure your sources are good ones) to do the following:

1. Find Greece on a map. What is one city in Greece? _____

2. Find Rome on a map. In which country is it located? _____

3. What was Poseidon's Roman name? _____

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7](#)

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 4/Greek and Roman myths

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

Long ago in a country called Greece, people told stories to explain the world. Often these stories (which we call myths or legends) included fourteen mighty gods and goddesses. The most powerful were Zeus and his brothers, Poseidon and Hades. Poseidon was god of the sea. Hades controlled the underworld and the dead. Zeus ruled the world and Mount Olympus, which is a real mountain in northern Greece that came to be known as the home of the Gods. Later, people known as Romans liked the stories so much they adopted them as their own and often changed the names.

Use the information in the above paragraph to answer the questions below.

1. Name the three most powerful Greek gods.

Zeus, Poseidon, and Hades

2. Which came first, the Greek or the Roman gods? _____ **Greek**

3. Why did Greeks tell stories about gods and goddesses? Use the back for your answer. Also, write one interesting thing about Mount Olympus. **Answers will vary, but should include something about people explaining the world.**

4. Which of the Greek gods ruled the sea? _____ **Poseidon**

Go beyond! Use the library or Internet (make sure your sources are good ones) to do the following:

1. Find Greece on a map. What is one city in Greece? _____ **answers will vary**

2. Find Rome on a map. In which country is it located? _____ **Italy**

3. What was Poseidon's Roman name? _____ **Neptune**

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7](#)

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 5/creative writing

NAME:

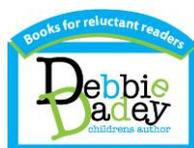
DATE:

In 360 BC, a writer named Plato wrote a story about the Lost City of Atlantis. Many people believe he made it up, but others think there really was a lost city. Robert Ballard, the National Geographic explorer-in-residence who discovered the wreck of the *Titanic* in 1985 says the legend of Atlantis is a "logical" one since about 3,600 years ago, a massive volcanic eruption devastated an island near Greece. Use the space below and the back to write your own story about an amazing city, made-up or real. Be sure to create characters who live there. Who knows? Perhaps thousands of years from now, people will still read it!

Answers will vary [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3](#)

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/archaeology-and-history/archaeology/atlantisl/> for more information.

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Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 6/creative art

NAME:

DATE:

In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, the students see beautiful engravings in the temple of Poseidon, but Shelly sees something that she thinks isn't beautiful at all! She sees a spookfish. Use the library or Internet to find images of a spookfish and draw it below. Use the back of this page to draw a made-up fish of your own.

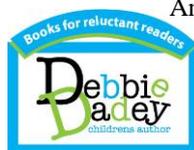
Find another real fish to draw below. Write it's name here: _____

Find another real fish to draw below. Write it's name here: _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1

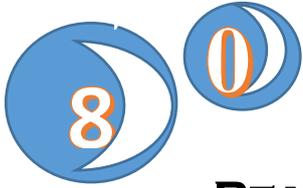
Answers will vary

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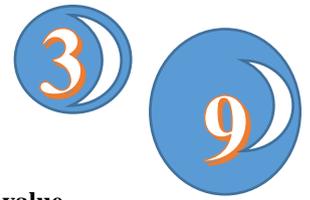


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Mermaid Tales



READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 7/science and place value

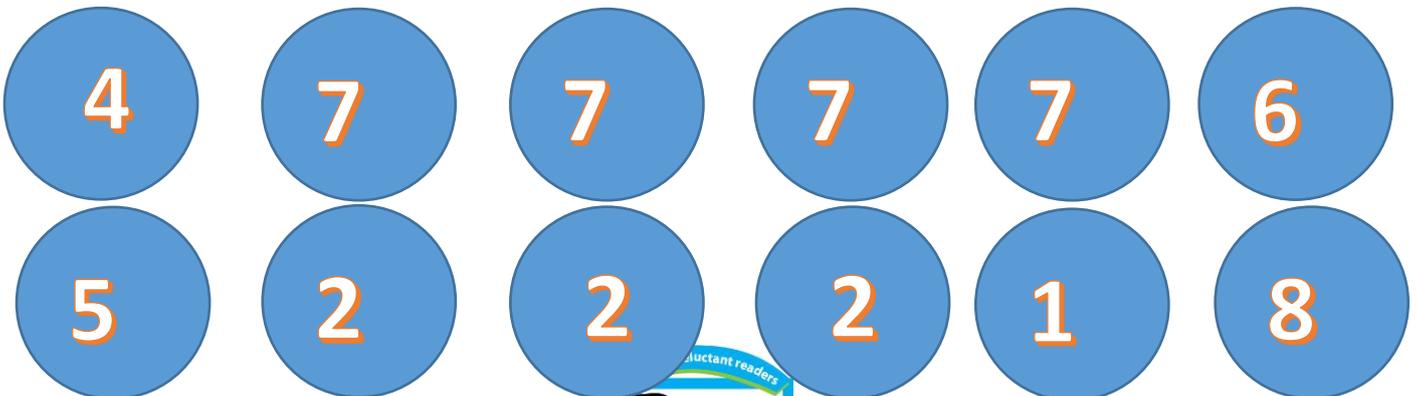
NAME:

DATE:

Water is made up of the elements hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrogen makes water sticky (hydrogen bonding). A bubble is air trapped inside a ball of liquid, often water. Use your knowledge of place value to cut out the bubbles and glue them in the correct place.

	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
47				
652				
1987				
372				
7028				

CCSS 2.NBT.1



Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 7/science and place value

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

Water is made up of the elements hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrogen makes water sticky (hydrogen bonding). A bubble is air trapped inside a ball of liquid, often water. Use your knowledge of place value to cut out the bubbles and glue them in the correct place.

	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
47			4	7
652		6	5	2
1987	1	9	8	7
372		3	7	2
7028	7	0	2	8

CCSS 2.NBT.1

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 8/punctuation

NAME:

DATE:

The following sentences from chapter eight of **Ready, Set, Goal!** are missing some important punctuation marks. Fix what's wrong by marking above for capital letters and filling in for quotation marks, periods, commas, or question marks.

1. kiki patted her arm I m sure the curse isn't real
2. it sounds like you're cursed all right pearl said
3. but what about your tail shelly asked pearl
4. how could you say that kiki said
5. it s not your fault echo told shelly
6. there has to be something we can do kiki said

Write your own sentences below using these words from chapter eight. Don't forget proper punctuation!

whacked

horrible

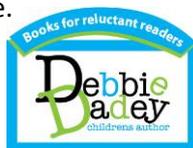
1. _____

2. _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1.e.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1.

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Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 8/punctuation

NAME:

answers

DATE:

The following sentences from chapter eight of **Ready, Set, Goal!** are missing some important punctuation marks. Fix what's wrong by marking above for capital letters and filling in for quotation marks, periods, commas, or question marks.

1. **K**iki patted her arm. "**I**m sure the curse isn't real."
2. "**I**t sounds like you're cursed, all right," **P**earl said.
3. "**B**ut what about your tail?" **S**helly asked Pearl.
4. "**H**ow could you say that?" **K**iki said.
5. "**I**t's not your fault," **E**cho told **S**helly.
6. "**T**here has to be something we can do," **K**iki said.

Write your own sentences below using these words from chapter seven. Don't forget proper punctuation! **Answers will vary**

whacked

horrible

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1.e.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1.

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 9/plurals

NAME:

DATE:

In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, the characters follow steps or rules to break a curse. Sometimes nouns don't follow the rules. Use the word bank to help you figure out the right plural noun for each sentence.

1. The dentist checked my _____ for cavities.
2. _____ are the main food for whales.
3. Dad screamed when he saw four _____ in the kitchen.
4. The _____ wore bright red lipstick.
5. The _____ went to the movies after supper.
6. On the school bus, the _____ sat in the back.
7. She ate the whole plate full of _____.
8. The sky was full of _____ flying north.

Teeth	mice	people	shrimp
Krill	women	children	geese

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1.e.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 9/plurals

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, the characters follow steps or rules to break a curse. Sometimes nouns don't follow the rules. Use the word bank to help you figure out the right plural noun for each sentence.

1. The dentist checked my teeth for cavities.
2. **Krill** are the main food for whales.
3. Dad screamed when he saw four **mice** in the kitchen.
4. The women wore bright red lipstick.
5. The people went to the movies after supper.
6. On the school bus, the **children** sat in the back.
7. She ate the whole plate full of shrimp.
8. The sky was full of geese flying north.

Teeth	mice	people	shrimp
Krill	women	children	geese

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1.e.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1



Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 10/geography

NAME:

DATE:

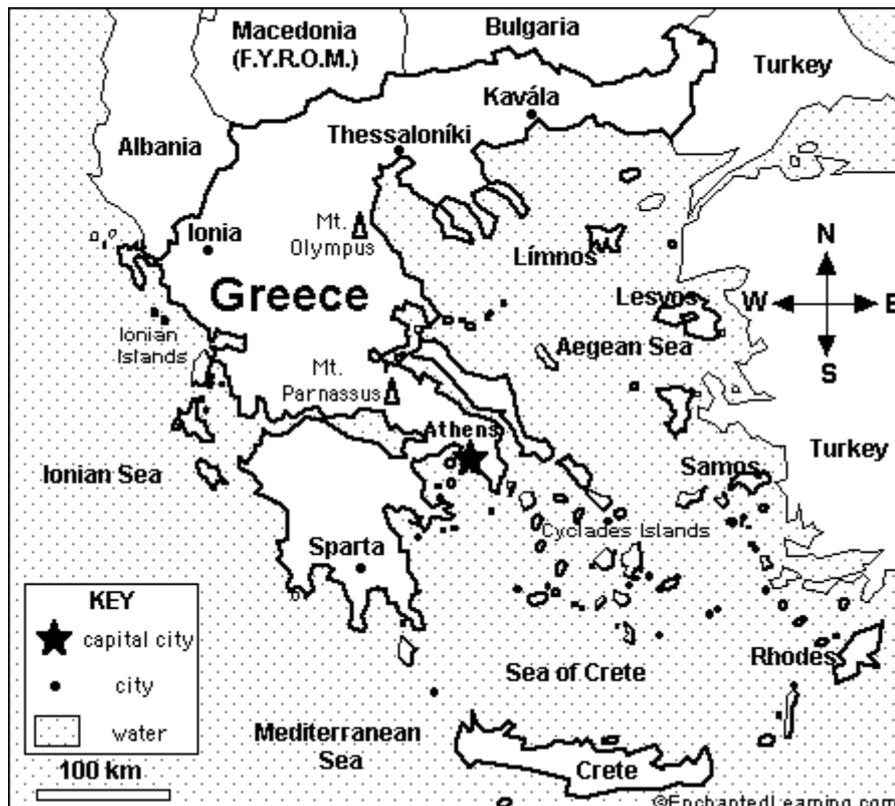
In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, the merkids travel to Atlantis for a sports championship. No one knows for sure if there was a real city of Atlantis, but many guess that it might have been close to Greece. Answer these questions using the map and color Greece light blue. Circle Mt. Olympus.

1. Name three countries that border (touch) Greece. _____

2. Name two islands in the Aegean Sea. _____

3. On the back, list four bodies of water shown on the map.

4. On the back, list a country that begins with the letter T.



Map credit: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/europe/greece/map/printout.shtml>

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1.d](#)

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 10/geography

NAME:

answers

DATE:

In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, the merkids travel to Atlantis for a sports championship. No one knows for sure if there was a real city of Atlantis, but many guess that it might have been close to Greece. Answer these questions using the map and color Greece light blue. Circle Mt. Olympus.

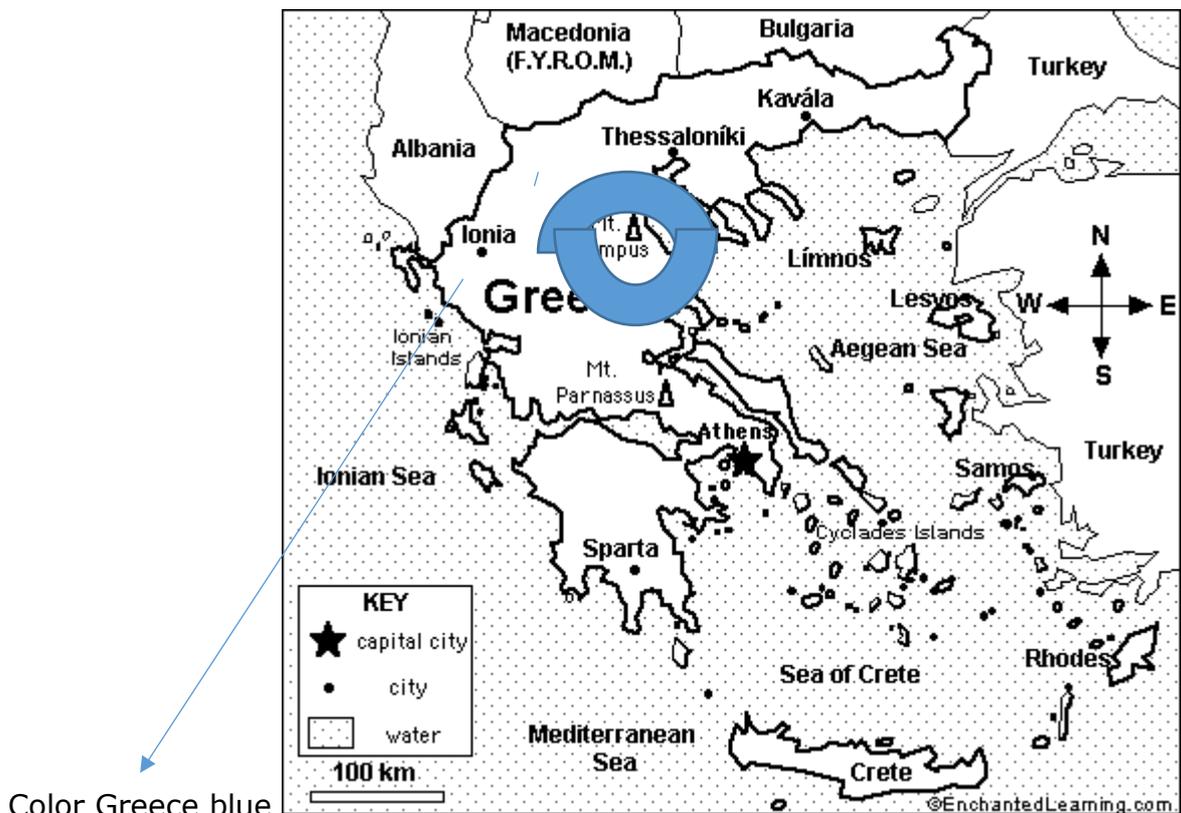
1. Name three countries that border (touch) Greece. **Albania, Macedonia, Bulgaria, or Turkey**

2. Name two islands in the Aegean Sea.

Limnos, Samos, or Levos

3. On the back, list four bodies of water shown on the map. **Ionian Sea, Aegean Sea, Sea of Crete, and Mediterranean Sea.**

4. On the back, list a country that begin with the letter T. **Turkey**



Color Greece blue

Map credit: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/europe/greece/map/printout.shtml>

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1.d](#)



Mermaid Tales

COMPARING AND CONTRASTING STORIES/CHAPTER 1 1

NAME:

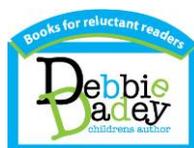
DATE:

Author Debbie Dadey has authored and co-authored 166 traditionally published books. You can find a complete list on her website, www.debbiedadey.com. Select another one of her books and compare it to Flower Girl Dreams in the spaces below.

	The book I selected was:
Theme (What is the story's big idea? Or what belief about life is the author trying to convey?):	Theme:
Setting:	Setting:
Plot (In one sentence, what is the story mostly about?):	Plot:
Characters:	Characters:

Answers will vary.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.9 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10

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Mermaid Tales

Ready, Set, Goal!

Chapter 12/multiplication

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, Shelly and Rocky love to play Shell Wars. Every regular score in Shell Wars is worth five points, but field goals are worth two. Figure out each team's score in these practice games and who won.

Rocky's team's score	Shelly's team's score	Who won?
5 regular scores and one field goal: _____	Four regular scores and three field goals: _____	
1 regular score and five field goals: _____	Two regular scores and three field goals: _____	
0 regular score and four field goals: _____	1 regular score and 1 field goal: _____	
2 regular scores and 1 field goal: _____	2 regular scores and 2 field goals: _____	
3 regular scores and 3 field goals: _____	2 regular scores and 6 field goals: _____	
4 regular scores and 1 field goal: _____	3 regular scores and 1 field goal: _____	

[CCSS.Math.Content.3.OA.A.3](https://www.illustrativemathematics.org/HS-Math/3-Operations-and-Algebraic-Thinking/3.OA.A.3)

Mermaid Tales

READY, SET, GOAL!

Chapter 12/multiplication

Name: answers	Date:
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In **Ready, Set, Goal!**, Shelly and Rocky love to play Shell Wars. Every regular score in Shell Wars is worth five points, but field goals are worth two. Figure out each team's score in these practice games and who won.

Rocky's team's score	Shelly's team's score	Who won?
5 regular scores and one field goal: <u>27</u>	Four regular scores and three field goals: <u>26</u>	Rocky's team
1 regular score and five field goals: <u>15</u>	Two regular scores and three field goals: <u>16</u>	Shelly's team
0 regular score and four field goals: <u>8</u>	1 regular score and 1 field goal: <u>7</u>	Rocky's team
2 regular scores and 1 field goal: <u>12</u>	2 regular scores and 2 field goals: <u>14</u>	Shelly's team
3 regular scores and 3 field goals: <u>21</u>	2 regular scores and 6 field goals: <u>22</u>	Shelly's team
4 regular scores and 1 field goal: <u>22</u>	3 regular scores and 1 field goal: <u>16</u>	Rocky's team

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