Ticking-clock quicksand

Worksheet 1: Phonics

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Word sort

Use a highlighter to highlight the /ur/ or /ar/ vowel sounds in the words below. Then read the words aloud.

surf	barks
turn	smart
bark	start
starts	harder
turns	further
hard	fur
far	arms

2. Sort the words into the correct list and then read them to a partner.

ur	ar

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Worksheet 1: Phonics - continued

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

3. Write words with /ur/ and /ar/.

Fill in the spaces with either /ur/ or /ar/.
Write the word again underneath and read it out loud. Draw a picture in the space below the word to show you understand what the word means.

Fill in the space with 'ur'

f _ _ _____	t _ _ n _____	s _ _ f _____

Fill in the space with 'ar'

b _ _ k _____	sm _ _ t _____	h _ _ d _____

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Worksheet 2: Comprehension

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

1. Fill in the story framework below.

Title: _____

Characters: _____

_____

Setting: _____

Problem

What happened first?

Next?

Next?

Next?

Solution

How was the problem solved?

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Worksheet 2: Comprehension - continued

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

2. Vocabulary

Find out the meaning of these words (you can use a dictionary or go online) and write your own definition. Draw a small picture next to the definition to show what the word means.

Word	Meaning	Picture
inch		
object		
oozing		
quicksand		
gripping		

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Worksheet 3: Science

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

1. Learn about quicksand

Read the following information with a friend or listen to your teacher read it aloud.

Quicksand
Real quicksand is hard to get out of, but according to current studies it is impossible for a person to be completely drawn under by quicksand. In fact, humans can float in it!

What is quicksand made of?
Quicksand is made of a combination of fine sand, clay and salt water.

The science of quicksand
If you move your body quickly quicksand turns to liquid very fast. The faster you move the more liquid it becomes. This is why our body begins to sink if we move fast and panic in quicksand. We will never go all the way under though because the quicksand is denser (thicker, more compact) than our bodies. We will get stuck, but we won't get sucked all the way to the bottom. Our lungs also help keep us afloat because they are filled with air.

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Worksheet 3: Science - continued

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

2. Do a quicksand experiment

Cornstarch quicksand

This is a quick and easy science experiment.
The cornstarch fluid gets thicker when force is applied (e.g. if you stir it fast) and more fluid when that force is removed. The fluid simulates real quicksand. It is easy to sink into but more difficult to pull free from.

Experiment

You will need:

A large bowl
Cornstarch
Water
Food colouring (optional)
Wooden spoon

Instructions:

1. Find an area that can get a little messy and is easy to clean up.
2. Mix 2 measures of cornstarch with 1 measure of water. For example, if you have 2 cups of cornstarch, mix it with 1 cup of water.
3. Add a few drops of food colouring just for fun (optional).
4. You can use the wooden spoon to stir the mixture, but it can be difficult. Use your hands to enjoy the oozy quicksand feeling.
5. Have fun exploring the Cornstarch Quicksand.
6. Make it into balls, let it flow through your fingers.
7. Store the Cornstarch Quicksand in a lidded container to enjoy later.
8. When you are finished, put it in a rubbish bin as it can clog up your sink.

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Worksheet 4: Geography

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

1. Where does quicksand occur?

Read the following information with a friend or listen to your teacher read it aloud.

Although quicksand can occur anywhere in the world, it is most likely to form in areas with natural springs, coastal areas, riverbanks, marshes and swamps.
These areas usually have loose sandy soil which can become saturated with water. When the loose sand particles mix with the water it causes a mixture known as quicksand.

2. Match the location to the definition

Draw a line to connect the location to its correct definition. If you are unsure, you can discuss with a partner or do some research on the internet.

Natural springs	An area of low-lying ground which is flooded in the wet season or high tide.
Coastal areas	An area of natural land where water collects.
River banks	A place where water from under the ground flows to the surface.
Marshes	The land along the edge of a river.
Swamps	Land or sea areas that border the shoreline.

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Worksheet 4: Geography - continued

Name: _____ **Date:**_____

3. Escaping from quicksand

Work with a partner to read the following pairs of suggestions for escaping from quicksand.
One of the suggestions is true and one is false. Discuss with your partner or do some research to work out which suggestion you think is true. Tick the suggestion you think is correct.

When you are free, roll onto your side and roll free of the quicksand.
OR
When you are free, get to your feet and jump across the quicksand.

Try and push yourself deeper into the quicksand.
OR
Allow your feet to become free and loose.

Breathe deeply to relax and fill your lungs with air.
OR
Hold your breath for as long as you can.

Move your body quickly, wiggle fast to escape.
OR
Relax and don't panic!

Try and take off your shoes.
OR
Keep your shoes on and put on extra heavy clothing.