

Name:

## Day One

# Camp to Belong

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ Brothers and sisters can connect at a special camp. Read silently.

Shakeema stands next to the camp climbing wall, her smile bright under her helmet. Shakeema’s two sisters watch her grope the wall, find two holds, and start climbing. For these girls, camp is special. Before camp, Shakeema had not seen her sisters in five months.

These girls are campers at Camp to Belong. *The New York Times* told their story in an article about this special camp. Camp to Belong brings together brothers and sisters separated in foster care.

Lynn, the camp’s founder, was a foster child who was separated from her sister. The two girls never had a chance to bond or spend time together. “My sister and I had no memories of when we were little,” said Lynn. At Camp to Belong, siblings drape towels around their shoulders and run down to the beach hand in hand. They play games and relax. They get to know each other.

Seventy percent of foster children have siblings. Many times, siblings are placed in separate families. Experts say that sibling bonds are important. Many foster children have faced grave problems and tough times. Siblings are a prime source of comfort. Foster families try to let siblings visit each other. But the schedules of the families don’t always jibe, and visits don’t always happen.

Shakeema has climbed halfway up the wall. She drops back, and a rope lowers her to the ground. Her sister lifts her into the air, and both girls smile. At camp, the sisters can make memories that will last a lifetime.

Source: “Separated in foster care, siblings reunite in camp,” *The New York Times*, September 16, 2011.



# Day One Camp to Belong

// one minute

## Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Shakeema stands next to the camp climbing wall, her smile bright under her helmet. Shakeema’s two sisters watch her grope the wall, find two holds, and start climbing. For these girls, camp is special. Before camp, Shakeema had not seen her sisters in five months. 45

These girls are campers at Camp to Belong. *The New York Times* told their story in an article about this special camp. Camp to Belong brings together brothers and sisters separated in foster care. 62  
75  
79

Lynn, the camp’s founder, was a foster child who was separated from her sister. The two girls never had a chance to bond or spend time together. “My sister and I had no memories of when we were little,” said Lynn. At Camp to Belong, siblings drape towels around their shoulders and run down to the beach hand in hand. They play games and relax. They get to know each other. 95  
112  
127  
143  
150

Seventy percent of foster children have siblings. Many times, siblings are placed in separate families. Experts say that sibling bonds are important. Many foster children have faced grave problems and tough times. Siblings are a prime source of comfort. Foster families try to let siblings visit each other. But the schedules of the families don’t always jibe, and visits don’t always happen. 163  
176  
190  
206  
212

Shakeema has climbed halfway up the wall. She drops back, and a rope lowers her to the ground. Her sister lifts her into the air, and both girls smile. At camp, the sisters can make memories that will last a lifetime. 229  
247  
253

## Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What is the purpose of Camp to Belong?

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What percentage of foster children have brothers and sisters?

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## Day One

# Camp to Belong

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Shakeema stands next to the camp climbing wall, / her smile bright under her helmet. // Shakeema’s two sisters watch her grope the wall, / find two holds, / and start climbing. // For these girls, / camp is special. // Before camp, / Shakeema had not seen her sisters in five months. //

These girls are campers at Camp to Belong. // *The New York Times* told their story / in an article about this special camp. // Camp to Belong brings together / brothers and sisters separated in foster care. //

Lynn, / the camp’s founder, / was a foster child who was separated from her sister. // The two girls / never had a chance to bond / or spend time together. // “My sister and I / had no memories of when we were little,” / said Lynn. // At Camp to Belong, / siblings drape towels around their shoulders / and run down to the beach / hand in hand. // They play games and relax. // They get to know each other. //

Seventy percent of foster children / have siblings. // Many times, / siblings are placed in separate families. // Experts say / that sibling bonds are important. // Many foster children have faced grave problems / and tough times. // Siblings are a prime source of comfort. // Foster families / try to let siblings visit each other. // But the schedules of the families don’t always jibe, / and visits don’t always happen. //

Shakeema has climbed halfway up the wall. // She drops back, / and a rope lowers her to the ground. // Her sister lifts her into the air, / and both girls smile. // At camp, / the sisters can make memories / that will last a lifetime. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.