

## **Fourth Grade Fluency #3: Student Record Sheet**

### Passage B

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

WCPM \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Fluency Score**

Words Read Per Minute - \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Errors - \_\_\_\_\_

Words Correct Per Minute - \_\_\_\_\_  
(WCPM)

**Say these specific directions to the student:** *When I say “Begin”, start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (demonstrate by moving your finger across the first line of the story). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. (Give the child the correct word after 3 seconds.) Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading. Ready? Begin -*

### **A Festival of Crows**

4

by Anne Kemmerle

7

People everywhere love to celebrate. Across the world 15  
every year, thousands of celebrations occur in festivals or fairs. 25  
In North America alone, there are music festivals, art festivals. 35  
riverboat festivals, sweet-corn festivals, and pumpkin festivals. 43  
One of the largest, best-know festivals is the Crow Indian Fair 55  
and Rodeo in southern Montana. 60  
Late in August every year, the Crow Indians gather in the 71  
valley of the Little Big Horn River. They come from all over 83  
their Montana reservation. About a mile from the site of the 94  
Battle of Little Big Horn took place, the Crow put up their 106  
tepees. Joining the Crow are many Blackfoot, Blood, Cree, and 116  
Shoshone Indians. Other Native Americans join them, too. 124  
Some travel from as far south as Mexico. They all come 135  
together for a week of dancing, parades, and rodeos. 144  
The Crow work hard getting ready for their big fair. In fact, 156  
as soon as each year’s fair ends, they start planning for the next 169  
year’s fair. 171  
The Crow women begin by making native costumes. They 180  
make shirts, dresses, and moccasins. Pieces of buckskin 188  
become hair ties, belts, and purses. Later the women add 198  
colored beads to the costumes. A few women know how to 209  
make shapes with beads. Carefully taking just one bead at a 221  
time, they tie the beads to the buckskin. 229  
In July, Crow families go to the mountains to cut lodgepole 240  
pine trees. These pines have soft, light wood. Before the 250  
trees dry out, the Crow strip the branches. Then they peel off 262

the bark. The wood is then used to make tall, straight poles	274
for tepees.	276
Many of the lodgepoles are used to set up the Crow's camp.	288
First they build a long open-air arbor. Straight posts going up	300
and down make the sides. Poles that cross each other make a	312
flat roof. Leafy branches piled on top finish the arbor. Inside,	323
each family finds a spot for its tables, tubs, and beds.	334
Along the outside of the arbor, the Crow put up their tepees.	346
For each tepee, four of the biggest poles are stood on their	358
ends. A few feet apart. Then the tops of these poles are tied	371
together. Finally the Crow put heavy cloth over the poles. They	382
fix the top so it will open or close. What a sight all these tepees	397
make! In fact, because so many Native Americans camp there	407
each year, the Crow Indian Fair is called the "Tepee Capital of	419
the World."	421
Most mornings at the fair begin with the Parade Dance.	431
Everyone dresses in native costume. The long parade through	440
the camp is a special kind of ceremony. The colors and shapes	452
show the Crows' strong ties to the animal world.	461
Every afternoon brings the all-Indian rodeo. People from	470
almost every tribe in the U.S. and Canada compete in the	481
contests. There is horse racing, too, which has long been a	492
favorite sport of the Crow.	497
At dark, drums and songs call everyone to the dance arbor.	508
The Crow might begin the dance with the Men's and Women's	519
Traditional Dance. Soon members of other tribes are called to	529
join in. Through their costumes and their motion, the dancers	539
show the different ways of their tribes. They dance about ten	550
songs in a row, each song faster than the one before.	561
On the last night of the fair, the dancers, drummers, and	572
singers perform all night long. They finish with the Dance	582
Around the Camps. Only the Crow Indians take part in this	593
special dance. It shows the flight of the eagle, a bird the Crow	606
have always admired. A scout on horseback leads the way,	616
deciding the path the dancers will take. During and after the	627
dance, the Crow give gifts to one another.	635
The Crow Indian Fair and Rodeo lasts just a week. But in	647
that short time, the Crow and other Indian people make lasting	658
friendships. They feel their families grow close together. They	667
keep their customs alive – until the next year.	675