

Name: _____ Date: _____

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read aloud.

Vocabulary:

"The Children's Blizzard"

1. **bearings (BAIR-ings)** *noun*; Your bearings are your familiarity with a location or situation. If you lose your bearings in the woods, you are lost. If you switch to a new school, it might take you a few weeks to get your bearings—that is, to feel comfortable and understand how things work.
2. **brew (broo)** *verb*; As it is used in the article, *brew* means "to start to form." *Brew* is often used in this way to describe an unpleasant or difficult situation that is developing. If dark clouds are forming and the wind is picking up, a storm is brewing.
3. **encrusted (en-KRUHST-id)** *adjective*; To encrust (en-KRUHST) something is to cover its surface with a layer of something hard, the way a crust covers a pie. An object that is encrusted has a layer of something on its surface. An old jar that you find in the basement might be encrusted with dirt.
4. **ferry (FEHR-ee)** *noun or verb*; A ferry is a boat that transports people, cars, or cargo back and forth across a body of water on a regular schedule. To visit the Statue of Liberty, you need to take a ferry across New York Harbor to Liberty Island.

As a verb, *ferry* means "to carry or move someone or something on a vehicle, usually for a short distance between two places." After a soccer game, your mom might ferry your soccer team to a pizza place in her minivan.
5. **jubilation (joo-buh-LEY-shuhn)** *noun*; Jubilation is a feeling of extreme joy or the act of rejoicing and being noisily happy. Basketball fans might go wild with jubilation after a buzzer-beating three-pointer wins the game.
6. **mobilize (MOH-buh-layz)** *verb*; To mobilize something is to make it mobile—that is, able to be moved. *Mobilize* is often used to describe bringing people or things together, organizing them, and preparing them for action. A government might mobilize troops for war. You might mobilize your classmates to donate canned food to a food bank.

Directions: On the back of this page, list any other words from the article whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the primary meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence using the word.

Vocabulary Practice

"The Children's Blizzard"

Directions: Rewrite each sentence using a form of one of the words in the box. There is one word you will not use.

brew

encrusted

jubilant

ferry

mobilized

1. As the rover touched down on Mars, the NASA control room celebrated.

2. Small airplanes carry tourists back and forth between the many islands of the Caribbean.

3. The princess's tiara was completely covered in diamonds.

4. After the earthquake, volunteers immediately got ready for action, preparing to provide hot meals and help with repairs.

Directions: Underline the boldfaced word in each pair that best completes the sentence.

5. It might take you a moment to get your **jubilant/bearings** after you walk into a dark movie theater.

6. When my little brother and his mischievous friends suddenly got quiet, I knew trouble was **brewing/ferrying**.

7. Weddings are usually full of **jubilant/bearings** and high spirits.

8. We drove our car onto a **ferry/jubilant** that took us from the mainland to a nearby island.