

## June 2007 - Learning Activities

### I. A quick look at the contents--find the answers:

1. Where will the immigration reform bill go after the Senate agrees upon a final version?
2. What stopped Augustus T. Dowd in his tracks when he was chasing a grizzly bear?
3. What happened on June 14, 1777?
4. In what Los Angeles neighborhood does the film "Quinceañera" take place?
5. At press time, how many career home runs had Sammy Sosa hit?
6. Look at the list of ten ways to raise a lifetime reader (page 6) and describe two that you like.
7. What are the two summer health tips described on page 6?
8. Choose a proverb or quotation from the list on page 7 (Let's talk about our families) and tell why you like it.
9. According to Teresa Foster, what is the most important thing you should do once you become a U.S. citizen?

### II. Vocabulary quiz: Match the definitions to the phrases found in the sentences below.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| _____ 1. I always <b>lose track of</b> the money I spend on clothes. | a. <i>communication between people</i>       |
| _____ 2. How do you keep <b>in touch</b> with your relatives?        | b. <i>going somewhere, busy &amp; active</i> |
| _____ 3. Never trust a friend who abandons you <b>in a pinch</b> .   | c. <i>result in</i>                          |
| _____ 4. Help your child read <b>on the go</b> .                     | d. <i>not aware of, not pay attention to</i> |
| _____ 5. Fun in the sun can <b>lead to</b> sunburn.                  | e. <i>in a difficult situation or crisis</i> |

### III. More careful reading--find these answers:

#### A. From "The Sierra redwoods in California," pages 1 & 7

1. Where is the Calaveras Big Trees State Park located?
2. What diameters do some of the giant trees have?
3. According to a website, how old is the oldest known giant sequoia?

#### B. From "I was tricked" page 3

1. What did the woman want Laura Mata to be for her baby twins?
2. What did she say she needed to pay?
3. Why did Laura feel embarrassed?

#### C. From "Our readers write about their fathers" pages 1 and 5

1. How long has it been since Marylin Ospina has seen her father?
2. What did Marylin's father and another 25,000 Venezuela workers do on Dec. 2, 2000?
3. What did Laura Mata's father encourage Laura and her siblings to do?

#### D. From "My grandfather" page 4

1. How old was Emilio's wife when they got married?
2. What did Emilio do with a part of his fortune?
3. Why does Erica admire her grandfather?

### IV. Writing Suggestions

1. For July, write about a favorite vacation place. Is there a state or national park near you that you like to visit? Send a photo if you can. (by 6/21)
2. Can you respond to some of the other stories in this issue? For example, tell us about a song that means something to you. Do you know someone who has just graduated or had a quinceañera party? How do you help your children with reading? Have you ever been the victim of a scam?
3. Also send us stories about your job (how you got it, how you like it, etc.) your hometown, a favorite family member, teacher, book, movie or poem.

**Crossword Puzzle answers in alphabetical order: Across: bulk, clumsy, compromise, fortified, hiking, milestone, sniffed, wealthy Down: encouragement, harmful, sewed, stump, succeed**

# Crossword Puzzle

(Words are from VOCABULARY HELP)

# Easy English Times

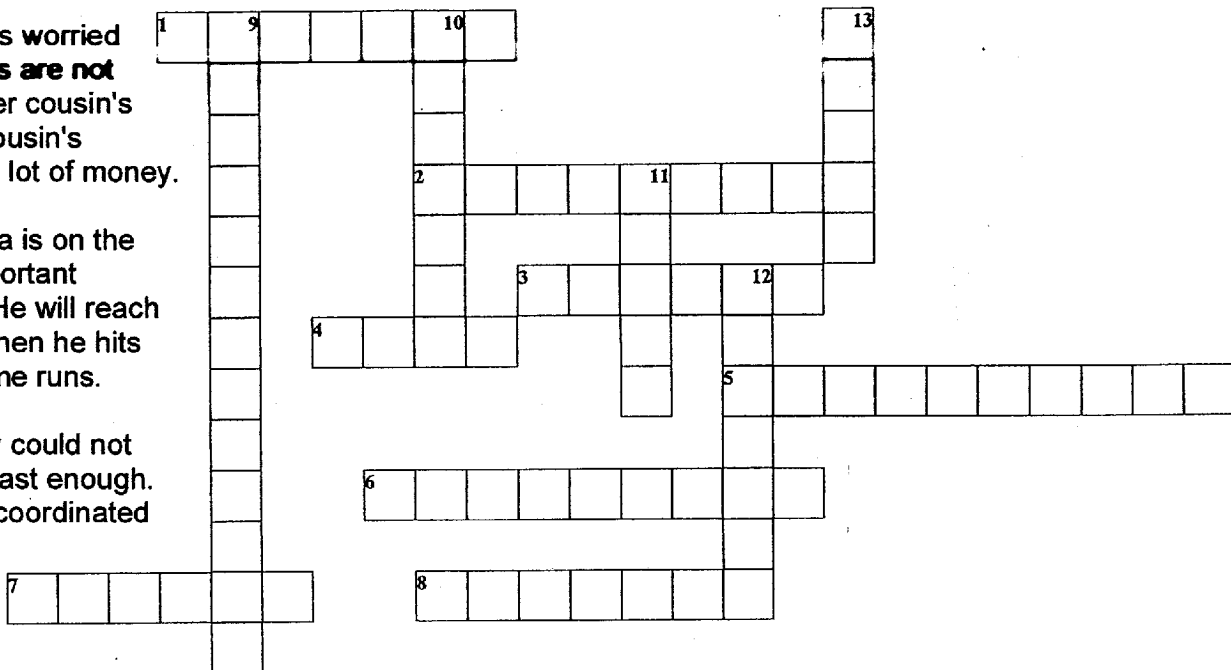
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## Across

1. Magdalena is worried that her parents are not as \_\_\_\_\_ as her cousin's parents. Her cousin's parents have a lot of money.

2. Sammy Sosa is on the verge of an important achievement. He will reach this \_\_\_\_\_ when he hits 600 career home runs.

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ boy could not climb the tree fast enough. He was too uncoordinated and awkward.



4. The real wonder of a Sierra redwood lies in its \_\_\_\_\_. Many of these giant trees are very large in diameter.

5. A \_\_\_\_\_ bill on immigration is before the U.S. Senate for debate. It is an agreement where each side gets some, but not all, of what it wants.

6. In the Book of Proverbs it says that a brother helped by a brother is like a \_\_\_\_\_ city. It's like a city that is strengthened.

7. Take water with you when you go \_\_\_\_\_. It is important to drink water when you take a long walk.

8. The bear came close and \_\_\_\_\_ the boy's legs, back and ears. The bear smelled the boy in a way that could be heard.

## Down

9. According to Matthew Gollub, our attitude toward reading and our \_\_\_\_\_ mean more to our children than our expertise. The activity of encouraging is very important.

10. Take care to protect yourself from the sun's \_\_\_\_\_ rays. The sun's energy and heat can cause hurt or damage which can lead to skin cancer and premature skin aging.

11. At the Calaveras Big Trees State Park you can see a huge \_\_\_\_\_. This is the part of a tree that is left after it has fallen or been cut.

12. Gollub says that when we raise our kids to read, we give them a gift that helps them \_\_\_\_\_ in school. With the gift of reading they can accomplish tasks and reach goals.

13. Betsy Ross \_\_\_\_\_ the first flag. She put it together with a needle and thread.