

# Easy English Times

"A world of information for English language learners"

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## March 2015 Learning Activities

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

1. Cesar Chavez \_\_\_\_\_ are held in many places in the U.S. (p. 1)
2. The National Park Service will celebrate its \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2016. (p. 1)
3. President Obama announced the creation of \_\_\_\_\_ new National Monuments across the country. (p. 1)
4. The cherry trees originated as a gift of friendship from the people of \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 1)
5. One of the most popular board games was and still is \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 2)
6. The names of the Obamas' pet dogs are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 3)
7. To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, people like to wear the color \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 5)
8. How many women were sworn in as members of the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress in January? \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 5)
9. "March Madness" refers to a \_\_\_\_\_ basketball tournament of the NCAA. (p. 7)
10. Two famous boxers will fight on May 2 in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 7)

### II. Vocabulary quiz: Match the definitions to the phrases on the left.

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| ___ 1. Students learn best when they <b>tap into</b> what they already know. | a. test or audition |
| ___ 2. J.B. <b>comes up with</b> an idea.                                    | b. use              |
| ___ 3. The boys are nervous and the <b>try-out</b> is a disaster.            | c. thinks of        |

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

#### A. From "Fourth graders invited to visit National Parks" (pages 1 and 2)

1. The program will provide all fourth graders and their families with \_\_\_\_\_ to the parks.
2. The parks provide opportunities to build critical skills through \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ activities.

#### B. From "Learning quickly with *Easy English Times*" (page 2)

1. Students in B.J. Kowal's English Learners class first talk about what they see in the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The students also write paragraphs about the \_\_\_\_\_ for the next month's student writing pieces.

#### C. From "What is 'March Madness'? Basketball words" (page 7)

1. A benchwarmer is a person who \_\_\_\_\_ for most if not all of a game.
2. A 'slam dunk' is a hard shot to miss and can mean something that is easily \_\_\_\_\_.

#### D. From "Young readers learn by reading to dogs" (page 8)

1. Reading to dogs began in 2006 at a \_\_\_\_\_ in Minnesota.
2. After reading to dogs for a year, most of the children raised their reading levels by at least \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. What is your favorite photograph in this issue of Easy English Times? Why?

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**V. Writing suggestions: The deadline for the April 2015 issue is March 20.** Send stories about your ideas for Earth Day 2015. Do you enjoy playing board games? Tell us about your pets. Also tell us about your hobbies, your home country or hometown or any other topic of general interest.

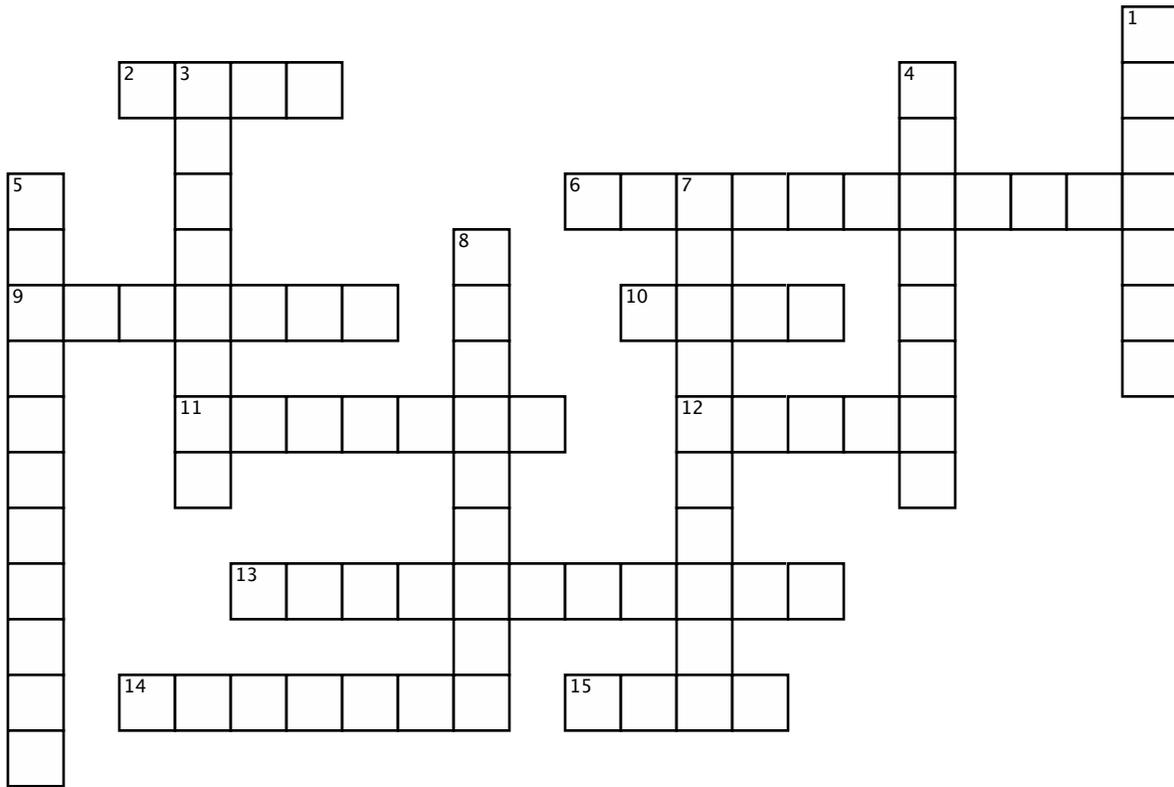
**Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order:** accuracy, awareness, bark, blessing, compare, lawn, mischievous, outnumbered, puppies, shed, suggestions, smartphone, teasing, therapy, train

See our website [www.easyenglishtimes.com](http://www.easyenglishtimes.com) for the Answer Key

# Easy English Times Crossword Puzzle

## March 2015

All words are from  
**VOCABULARY HELP**



### Across

2. Does your dog \_\_\_\_\_ at strangers? Does he or she make noise when an unknown person comes to your house?
6. A person who likes to have fun by playing harmless tricks on people is said to be \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Dogs that are trained to listen to child readers are called \_\_\_\_\_ dogs. They help the child feel happy.
10. The dogs are lying on the \_\_\_\_\_. They are lying on an area of cut grass.
11. You \_\_\_\_\_ when you put two things side by side to see how they are the same and how they are different.
12. Did you \_\_\_\_\_ your dog? Did you teach him or her to be obedient?
13. She gives her students \_\_\_\_\_ about how to improve their writing. She gives them ideas.
14. Most people agree that \_\_\_\_\_ are adorable. People like young dogs.
15. The Obamas wanted dogs that do not \_\_\_\_\_ as much hair as some other types of dogs. Their dogs do not lose very much hair.

### Down

1. If a person is 'pulling your leg', it means he or she is \_\_\_\_\_ you. They are making fun of you.
3. In the competition, the boys had to pitch the baseball with speed and \_\_\_\_\_. The ball had to land with precision.
4. The couple was happy to receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of their parents. The parents asked for God's favor and protection for them.
5. Four out of five members of Congress are men. This shows that Congressional women are \_\_\_\_\_ by men.
7. Do you have a \_\_\_\_\_? Do you have a cell phone that can use the internet?
8. Chavez brought a national \_\_\_\_\_ to the dangers of pesticides to the health of the farm workers. He brought an understanding of the problem.