

Read this story about Crow and how she solves a problem. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Crow and the Water Jug

an Aesop fable

retold by Roseann Francis

1 One day, a thirsty crow found a jug with some water at the bottom of it. “How lucky I am!” thought Crow. “Now I can have a drink of water.” She bent her head and put her beak into the jug. But the water was so low in the jug that Crow’s beak could not reach it.

So Crow bent over a little farther. She still could not reach the water. She bent over even farther. She stretched her neck and flapped her wings. But still she could not get a single drop of water to drink.

Then Crow decided to try to make the jug lie on its side. “This will make the water run out of the jug. Then I will be able to drink from it,” she thought. She pushed at the jug with all her strength. But no matter how hard she tried, the jug did not fall over. And the water stayed at the bottom of the jug, too low for Crow to reach.

“I may as well give up,” Crow thought. She was very thirsty and very tired. She would have flown away to look for water right then. But suddenly she had an idea.

Crow scratched in the dirt until she dug up a pebble. She dropped the pebble into the jug. She could see that the pebble made the water a little higher. So she scratched for another pebble and another and another. She dropped every single pebble that she could find into the jug. As each pebble went in, the water rose a little bit higher. At last, the jug held many pebbles. The water had reached the top of the jug.

6 “Caw, caw!” Crow said. “I did it!” The water rose to the top of the jug. Crow took a drink out of the jug.

“I could have flown away without getting a drink,” she thought. “I am so glad I found a way to reach the water.”

Crow thought she wasn’t strong enough to get at the water. But she learned that strength doesn’t always matter. Sometimes, the only thing on which you need to depend is good thinking.

Crow flapped her wings and flew away. She wasn’t thirsty any longer.

NECAP Practice Test

Grade 3

Reading

Sample Constructed-Response Item (4 points)

- 12 Words can describe a character in a story.

Crow is black and strong.

In the chart, write **four** words from the Word Box that describe Crow.

Words from the Word Box that describe Crow:	Word Box
1. _____	thirsty
2. _____	found
3. _____	lucky
4. _____	drink
	bent
	reach
	tired
	glad

NECAP Practice Test

Grade 3

Reading

Sample Constructed-Response Item (4 points)

Scoring Guide

Score	Description
4	Response includes 4 words from the Word Box that describe Crow.
3	Response includes 3 words from the Word Box that describe Crow.
2	Response includes 2 words from the Word Box that describe Crow.
1	Response includes 1 word from the Word Box that describes Crow.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	Blank/no response.

Training Notes:

Words from the Word Box that describe Crow:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• thirsty• lucky• tired• glad

NECAP Practice Test
Grade 3
Reading

Sample 4-Point Response

thirsty

tired

glad

lucky

**NECAP Practice Test
Grade 3
Reading**

Sample 3-Point Response

lucky _____

glad _____

thirsty _____

drink _____

NECAP Practice Test
Grade 3
Reading

Sample 2-Point Response A

lucky
glad
drink
found

Sample 2-Point Response B

she was thirsty.
She wanted a drink
She was tired.
She reach for
the water.

**NECAP Practice Test
Grade 3
Reading**

Sample 1-Point Response

bent

reach

thirsty

found