

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 687

Hi! This is Part Three of the story about three children. Let's begin.

It was pulled by four horses. Dust flew up round the horses' hooves. The stagecoach pulled up when it saw the children.

"Slow down! Take care!" the driver shouted at the horses.

The driver looked at the children with astonishment. "What are you kids doing out here in the desert?" he gasped.

Alright, that's all for today. See you again next time! Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 687

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1!

Today, you are going to listen to the first part of Daniel's adventure. Let's begin!

Daniel sat among the books at the library and thought about his group projects.

They had to turn it in soon, but he hadn't even started his part! John and Cloe were in his group. They had worked hard. They were also very smart, and Daniel didn't want them to get a bad grade.

John did the report. He wrote a lot of very good sentences and described things with great adjectives. Cloe drew a nice map of the stars. Now, Daniel needed to do his part of the project.

"Well, I suppose I need to start my model," Daniel thought.

That was all for today! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 687

Hello everyone. Welcome to PR2!

Did you know that insects play as well?

Kids everywhere love to play. And they know that a ball is a perfect thing to play with. Now scientists at London's Queen Mary University report that bumblebees seem to know the same thing, making bumblebees the first insects known to play. Lots of animals play. But the behavior is best known in mammals and birds. For many animals, playing is often seen as a kind of training for things they'll have to deal with in later life. But before this, there were no reports of insects playing. Dr. Lars [Chittka] began to wonder if bumblebees played during an earlier experiment. In that experiment, [he] trained bumblebees to roll balls into a goal for food. He noticed that some bees were rolling balls even when they weren't rewarded. He wondered if they were playing.

To test the idea, scientists set up a new experiment. They trained the bees to expect ball-rolling in a container of a certain color. Later, the bumblebees were given a choice between two empty containers of different colors. They were far more likely to choose the color where they had learned to expect ball-rolling. They said it's not clear why the bees roll the balls or whether they enjoy it. But the experiment raises important questions about how the insects' minds work and whether they have feelings

It's always interesting to learn something new isn't it?

Well, that's all for today. See you next time!