Suggested levels for Guided Reading, DRA™, Lexile® and Reading Recovery™ are provided in the Pearson Scott Foresman Leveling Guide.

### Genre Comprehension Skills and Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Comprehension Skills and Strategy</th>
<th>Text Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Nonfiction | • Sequence  
• Author’s Purpose  
• Visualize | • Labels  
• Captions  
• Maps  
• Glossary |
Vocabulary

gear
parka
splendid
twitch
willow
yank

Word count: 513
It's a splendid winter day, and your grandfather has invited you to go fishing. So you climb into your warmest boots. You pull on your heavy parka. And you pile your lines, bait, hooks, and chisel onto a sled. Your grandfather leads the way out onto the ice, where you hope to catch tonight's dinner.
Does that sound like a fishing trip you’ve ever been on? It would if you lived in the Arctic. The Inuit people, who are native to the Arctic region, depend on ice fishing during the cold winter months. Catching fish in the wintertime is key to their survival.

For hundreds of years, the Inuit survived in their icy homeland by hunting and fishing. In the winter, the lakes and rivers of the Arctic freeze. The surface of the ocean freezes too.
In the warmer seasons, the Inuit use nets to catch fish. During the winter, the Inuit can no longer fish with nets. They must use special gear to fish because they must catch the fish through the ice.

To ice fish, the Inuit drill a hole in the ice and use a chisel to make the hole wider. Then, they drop a small decoy, or fish lure, through the ice. The lure is attached to a pole or branch. They twitch or jerk the lure to attract a hungry fish. When a fish comes along, they catch it with a spear.
The Inuit may use a fishing line and hook too. This method is popular all around the world. The Inuit might use a willow twig to hold the line. They attach a decoy or bait to the hook and wait for a fish to bite.

When there’s a fish on the hook, the twig will start to bend. Then it’s time to yank the fish out of the water. When they pull up the line, ice fishers hope to find a large fish at the end of the hook.
Waiting for a bite can take a long time. Some ice fishers try to keep warm by staying inside small shelters that block the wind. They also may bring something to sit on so they don’t have to sit on the ice.

The Inuit are able to catch very large fish through the holes in the ice. They usually catch fish that weigh fifteen to twenty pounds. But some fish may weigh almost as much as you do!
The territory of Nunavut in Canada is the Inuit homeland in North America. In Nunavut, there are companies that guide tourists to ice fishing spots. The tourists are interested in learning how to ice fish.

Some Inuit work as ice fishing guides. This has become an important way for people in the Arctic to make money. In other words, ice fishing has become an important industry in the Arctic.

Taking tourists out ice fishing is important in Nunavut. People earn a living as guides. Many companies do this kind of work. Each star on the map shows a different company and where it is located.
Each year Inuit children head out onto the ice to learn how to ice fish. Fishing is important to their survival in the Arctic. And it will continue to be an important part of Inuit life for centuries to come.
Glossary

gear  n. equipment needed for some purpose

parka  n. a heavy waterproof coat or jacket with a hood, originally worn in the Arctic and made of skins

splendid  adj. brilliant or glorious; magnificent; grand

twitch  v. to pull with a sudden tug or jerk; pull at

willow  n. any of numerous trees or bushes with tough, slender branches and narrow leaves

yank  v. to pull with a sudden motion; jerk; tug

Reader Response

1. Reread page 7. What’s the first thing an ice fisher does? What’s the last thing? Use a graphic organizer like the one below to write your answers.

1. _____________________________

2. _____________________________

3. _____________________________

4. _____________________________

5. _____________________________

2. Read page 7 again. Try to picture what the words are describing. What do you see? How does that help you understand what you read?

3. Look up the word twitch in the Glossary. Why would you twitch a fish lure beneath the water while ice fishing?

4. Do you think you would enjoy ice fishing in the Arctic? Why or why not?