

## Punctuation Practice

**Companion Text:** If You See the Moon, by Zia Wells

**Subject Area & Grade Level:** Language Arts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

### **Objectives**

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify and name common punctuation marks in text
- Apply proper punctuation to sentences about the story
- Explain the effect of changing punctuation on sentence meaning

### **Pre-Reading**

Ask students to pair up, and with their partners, to write a list of as many types of punctuation marks as they can recall. Lists should include both the punctuation mark and its name, i.e.: “?, question mark.”

### **During Reading**

Read the story once through without stopping. Then, read the story a second time and ask students to add to their lists any punctuation that they noticed in the story but had not originally included. Complete lists should include: periods, commas, question marks, exclamation points, apostrophes, and quotation marks.

### **Post-Reading**

Have students complete the attached punctuation worksheet with a partner and then check it as a class. Ask for volunteers to share their sentence re-writes and explanations.



## Punctuation Practice

\*Add correct punctuation to the following sentences about the story.

1. Cirra and Nimbu found an octopus a pirate ship and a butterfly in the clouds
2. Nimbu said Cirra caught a fish in the river
3. Wheee cried the moon as he flew back into the sky
4. Would you like to play with us again someday
5. They didn t eat the fish they caught

\*One of the sentences above can be punctuated correctly in more than one way. Find that sentence and rewrite it in the box below with different punctuation than you chose above. Then, on the lines below the box, describe how the punctuation change that you made affected the meaning of the sentence.

---

---

---





Copyright © 2008, Wocto, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Visit us at [www.wocto.com](http://www.wocto.com).

## Punctuation Practice—Answer Key

\*Add correct punctuation to the following sentences about the story.

1. Cirra and Nimbu found an octopus, a pirate ship, and a butterfly in the clouds.
2. Nimbu said Cirra caught a fish in the river.
3. “Wheee!” cried the moon as he flew back into the sky.
4. Would you like to play with us again someday?
5. They didn’t eat the fish they caught.

\*One of the sentences above can be punctuated correctly in more than one way. Find that sentence and rewrite it in the box below with different punctuation than you chose above. Then, on the lines below the box, describe how the punctuation change that you made affected the meaning of the sentence.

“Nimbu,” said Cirra, “caught a fish in the river.”

Changing the punctuation changes the speaker, so that it’s Cirra talking about Nimbu rather than Nimbu talking about Cirra.

