

I Collect That!

A Reading A-Z Level N Leveled Book
Word Count: 622

Connections

Writing and Art

If you could collect anything, what would it be and why? Draw a picture and write about it.

Math

Read and solve the Math Minute in the book. Then, write your own Math Minute for a partner to solve.



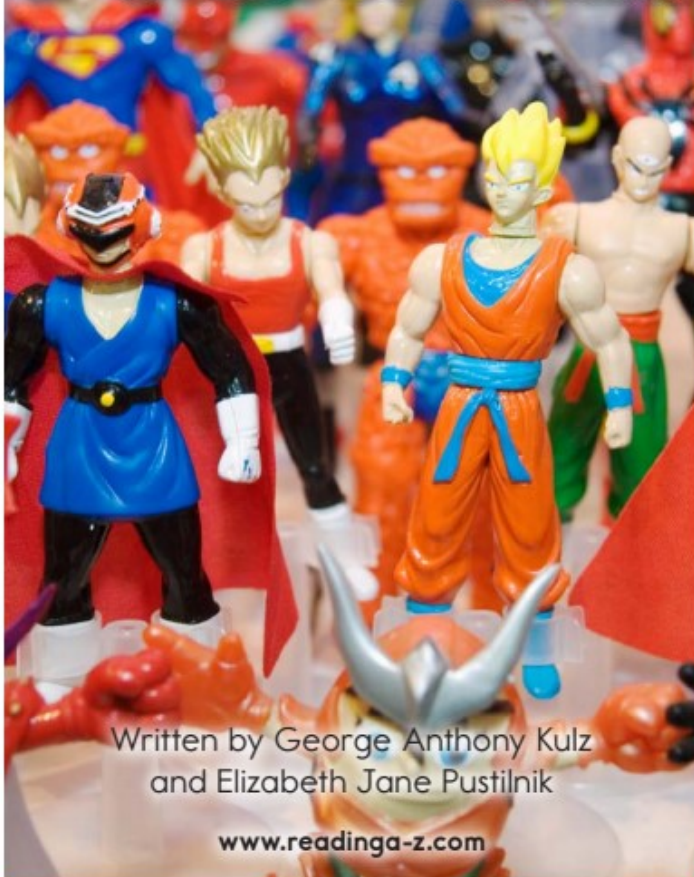
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I Collect That!



Written by George Anthony Kulz
and Elizabeth Jane Pustilnik

www.readinga-z.com

Focus Question

What is a collection, and what kinds of things can be found in a collection?

Words to Know

alike	rewarding
collection	similar
hobby	souvenir
material	type
popular	

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Correlation

LEVEL N

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Stuffed animals are one of the most popular items collected by kids—and adults!

Introduction

Do you own a few stuffed animals, video games, or other items that are **similar** to one another? Then you have a **collection** and can call yourself a collector!

A collection is a group of objects that are **alike**. People collect all sorts of things, such as rocks, stickers, cars, and even dirt from different places!



It can be fun to count how many items you have in your collection.



Some kids keep their collection in a book, such as this one with different plants and leaves.

Collecting Is Cool

Collecting things is a great **hobby**. People collect things that excite them and keep their interest. Different people have different interests. Some people are interested in action figures, while others prefer leaves.

Collections can be big or small. You might have one hundred trading cards or ten comic books.

This girl and her father gather leaves for her collection.





Two boys choose stamps to add to their collections at the 2016 World Stamp Convention in New York City.

Collecting can bring people together. Meeting and talking to people who collect the same things can help you learn more about your collection. You can also buy, sell, and trade parts of your collection.

Do You Know?

Collectors often get together at meetings called *conventions* to learn more about what they collect. Huge conventions happen all over the world for collectors of all kinds of things—from dollhouses to toy trains.



You can collect sports cards of athletes who play now or those who played in the past.

Keeping a collection can be hard work. Many collectors keep count of their items and take care of them. Collectors usually sort their objects in some way—by age, size, **type**, or **material**.

Common Collections

Stamps, coins, masks, and dolls are some of the most **popular** things people collect. These items are easy to find, and there are many different kinds. People can collect coins or stamps from one country or from many countries around the world.



As his father looks on, a boy uses a magnifying glass to look closely at a stamp.

$5 = 3 + 5 + 2 = 10 - 4 + 10 \div 2 = 14 \times 2 - 3 = 25 - 5 - 5$
 $\times 2 = 17 + 3 \times 2$
 $\div 2 = 10 \div 2 - 7 = 3 + 5 + 2 = 10 - 4 + 10 \div 2 = 14 \times 2 - 3$
 $\div 5 - 5 - 2 = 18 - 7$

Math Minute

Emma counts 34 bookmarks in her collection. She gets 11 more for her birthday. How many bookmarks are in her collection now?

Answer: 45



Snow globes often show a famous place. This girl holds a snow globe with seals from San Francisco, California.

Some people collect things from places they have visited. When they travel somewhere new, they buy a **souvenir**. It might be a plate, key chain, or snow globe with the name or picture of the place.



It can take a lot of time to find seashells, but it can be worth the effort.

Other people collect things they find in nature, such as sticks or shells. They search for items to collect while hiking in the woods or exploring a beach.

Many people use their collections to create new things. Some collectors turn their finds into things they can wear, such as a necklace made from collected sea glass.

Others make works of art. Bottle caps are used to make anything from maps to magnets. Driftwood can be turned into wind chimes.



Instead of being thrown away, these bottle caps were turned into art.

You Collect *What?*

Some people collect objects based on a specific theme, such as a type of animal. One woman set the world record for owl collectibles. She owns more than eighteen thousand things related to owls—owl toys, owl T-shirts, and more.

Wowser!

Barney Smith's collection of toilet seats became so large that he decided to make a museum. These aren't regular toilet seats—they're works of art! Stop by the Toilet Seat Art Museum in San Antonio, Texas, to check out his collection of more than one thousand toilet seats.





This man shows one of the 750 locks in his collection. His locks are from India and are between one hundred and six hundred years old.

It takes time to build a collection. It can be **rewarding** to find an item that you've been looking for, such as a particular lunch box. Some people enjoy having to work hard to add to their collection.

Other people prefer to collect things that are easy to find or make. A woman even made a museum to house her collection of burnt food.

Start Your Own Collection

If you want to start a collection, you don't have to look far. You can start in your own house with common



Fruit stickers come in many shapes, colors, and sizes.

items, such as bars of soap or hats. Do you have fruit in your fruit bowl? Check out the sticker labels.

One woman has over 10,000 fruit sticker labels in her collection, including more than 8,500 banana labels!

The next time you eat at a restaurant, grab some sugar packets. One man has a collection of more than 14,000 sugar packets. If you start now, you might have an even bigger collection one day.

Collections can also be really strange. Some people collect air sickness bags and shopping lists other people have left behind in supermarkets.

Collecting things is a fun way to spend your time, meet friends, and learn new things. If you don't already have a collection, maybe it's time to start one.



Dieter Kapsch has collected 1,760 spoons from 447 different airlines.

Glossary

alike (<i>adj.</i>)	like someone or something else; similar (p. 5)
collection (<i>n.</i>)	a group of similar items that belong together or that someone chooses to save (p. 4)
hobby (<i>n.</i>)	an activity done for fun and relaxation (p. 6)
material (<i>n.</i>)	any kind of object that is used to make things (p. 8)
popular (<i>adj.</i>)	accepted, liked, or enjoyed by many people (p. 9)
rewarding (<i>adj.</i>)	giving a good feeling (p. 13)
similar (<i>adj.</i>)	sharing many characteristics without being exactly the same (p. 4)
souvenir (<i>n.</i>)	a thing that serves as a reminder of a place or experience, often bought during a vacation (p. 10)
type (<i>n.</i>)	a group of things that have something in common (p. 8)

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What can you tell about a person based on his or her collection?
 - (A) that he or she really likes to count
 - (B) what he or she finds boring and uninteresting
 - (C) that he or she likes to work with other people
 - (D) what interests and excites him or her
2. Meeting and talking to people who collect the same thing _____.
 - (A) is the only way people meet others who collect the same things
 - (B) is a way people learn more about their collection
 - (C) is something people must do if they have a collection
 - (D) is the only way people learn how to take care of their collection
3. Having a collection can be hard work because _____.
 - (A) many people keep their collection clean and sort their objects
 - (B) all collections are heavy and hard to carry around
 - (C) people must learn about and study their collection
 - (D) people must travel a lot to collect more objects
4. Some people collect things from places they visit _____.
 - (A) because those things make the best art projects
 - (B) because they want things to give to other collectors
 - (C) because it reminds them of those places
 - (D) because they cannot find things to collect in their home

Name _____ Date _____

5. People have collections because it is a *fun activity*, or _____.
- Ⓐ a keepsake
 - Ⓑ a hobby
 - Ⓒ a challenge
 - Ⓓ a job
6. Stamps, coins, and dolls are common for people to collect because _____.
- Ⓐ they do not cost a lot of money
 - Ⓑ they are unusual
 - Ⓒ they come from other countries
 - Ⓓ they are easy to find
7. A bumper sticker bought on a summer trip is an example of _____.
- Ⓐ a type
 - Ⓑ a souvenir
 - Ⓒ a convention
 - Ⓓ a reward
8. The author includes facts about strange collections to _____.
- Ⓐ persuade the reader to visit a place with strange collections
 - Ⓑ entertain the reader about strange collections
 - Ⓒ persuade the reader to start a strange collection
 - Ⓓ entertain the reader with a story about how some students started a strange collection
9. Why does the author state that the reader can start a collection from household items such as bars of soap or hats?
- Ⓐ to inform the reader about different kinds of things that people collect
 - Ⓑ to entertain the reader with interesting things that people collect
 - Ⓒ to inform the reader about how easy it can be to start a collection
 - Ⓓ to entertain the reader about how a woman's collection of household items began

Quick Check continued on following page

