

**GAAR Practice**  
**Grade 3**

**Ross Needs Help**

(Foundations Planning Kit 2, Unit 14 Story)

When Ross was in second grade he was having some problems with reading and spelling. He was working very hard and trying to do his best, but he thought the work was very hard. Sometimes he could not finish his papers or understand how to read or spell a word. He felt tired and stressed much of the time.

Each day seemed to get harder and harder. When his mother asked him how his day went, Ross wanted to shout, "Lousy!" Many days he came home with a frown. His mother wanted to see his big smile again, so she asked his teacher what she could do to help. His teacher thought that if he could get some more help after school the work would not seem so hard. She knew Ross was a smart kid and did not want him to get further behind.

Ross's mother found a teacher who could help Ross after school. Her name was Robin. Robin and Ross hit it off right from the start. Ross would go to her house three times a week and work on reading and spelling. Robin showed Ross how to tap out the sounds to make reading and spelling easy!

It was not long before Ross became a whiz at reading and spelling. He learned the rules quickly and knew all of the sounds of the vowels. He did not mind working after school. He seemed to enjoy it. He always came with a smile and worked very hard; even if he had to miss part of his soccer team, he never quitted or complained. He was happy to get the help.

Robin thinks Ross is an outstanding student and a great kid. As a matter of fact, he is one of the best students she has ever had. They have a fine time working together. Even with all of the hard work Ross does, they still find time to joke around and chat about sports. Before long, Ross will not need any help. He will do fine in school on his own. Robin will miss seeing Ross, but is glad that he is doing so well. She thinks she will always stay in touch.

5. The main idea of the story is that Ross needs extra help to become a better reader and speller. List three details from the story that support the main idea.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_