

# Stevie Wonder

## Review Key Words<sup>6</sup>

- prodigy** A prodigy is a person who is naturally good at something at a young age.
- hit** A hit is something that is liked by many people.
- musician** A musician is a person who plays music.
- albums** Albums are collections of recorded music. They come in different forms, such as CDs, records, and downloads.



## Write a Prediction

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## Read the Story<sup>7-9</sup>

6 Stevie Wonder always had a great  
 13 **talent** for making music. When he was  
 21 only 2 years old, he liked to make  
 27 **rhythms** by banging spoons on the  
 34 table. Stevie taught himself to play the  
 40 drums, piano, and **harmonica**, all before  
 49 he was 10. He had a great singing voice  
 55 too. When Stevie sang and played  
 63 music in front of his house, people from  
 69 the neighborhood would stop and join  
 75 in. Stevie's family and neighbors helped  
 81 him learn more about music. Many  
 88 people said he was a musical **prodigy**.

94 One thing made Stevie's talent even  
 99 more **extraordinary**. Stevie was blind.  
 109 He could not see the notes on a **sheet** of  
 music. He could not see the keys of his

118 piano as he played. Instead, he learned  
 125 by listening. Stevie had a **remarkable**  
 131 **ear for music**.

134 When he was 11, Stevie got his first  
 142 **big break**. The president of Motown  
 148 Records liked the way Stevie made  
 154 music. He thought other people would  
 160 too. He signed Stevie to a **contract**.  
 167 Stevie's first **hit** sold more than a  
 174 million copies.

176 As Stevie grew up, he wrote many  
 183 songs, made many **albums**, and sold  
 189 millions of copies. People around the  
 195 world agreed with Stevie's family and  
 201 neighbors. They thought Stevie Wonder  
 206 was an amazing **musician**.  
 210

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
- number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

# Stevie Wonder

## Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
  - a. Stevie signed a contract with Motown Records when he was 11 years old.
  - b. Stevie became a great musician even though he was blind.
  - c. Stevie taught himself to play the drums, piano, and harmonica.
2. How old was Stevie when he first banged spoons on the table?
  - a. 2
  - b. 10
  - c. 11
3. What does the word **break** mean in this story?
  - a. empty space
  - b. lucky chance
  - c. crack apart
4. Why did people say Stevie was a prodigy?
  - a. He made great music when he was a child.
  - b. He wrote many songs and made many albums.
  - c. He was blind and could not see the keys of his piano.
5. Give two examples that show Stevie had a remarkable ear for music.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Match each word with its definition.

1. contract	a. ___ worth noticing
2. rhythms	b. ___ written agreement
3. remarkable	c. ___ sound patterns
4. sheet	d. ___ something flat and thin

## Parent Tips

Bold or italic type, commas, exclamation marks, and type size are used to signal the reader that the meaning of those words is particularly important. This meaning should be emphasized during oral reading. Encourage your student to pay attention to the italics in this week's story. Ask how the emphasized words help her better understand the text.