

Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas Manual

second grade fluency folder first texas is a vital resource for educators and parents striving to enhance early literacy skills among young learners in Texas. As students transition from learning to read to reading to learn, developing fluency becomes a cornerstone of their overall literacy development. A well-organized second grade fluency folder not only provides a structured approach to daily practice but also serves as a valuable tool for tracking progress, fostering confidence, and encouraging independent reading habits. In this article, we will explore the importance of fluency in second grade, detail what a comprehensive fluency folder should include, and offer practical tips for implementing and maximizing its benefits in a Texas classroom or at home.

Understanding the Importance of Fluency in Second Grade

What Is Reading Fluency?

Reading fluency refers to the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. It is an essential component of reading proficiency because it bridges word recognition and comprehension. When students read fluently, they are better able to understand and enjoy texts, which fosters a love for reading and supports academic success.

Why Fluency Matters in Second Grade

The second grade is a critical period for developing fluency. At this stage:

- Students move from decoding words to reading smoothly and automatically.
- Fluency supports comprehension, allowing students to focus on understanding rather than decoding every word.
- Consistent practice helps build confidence and motivation to read independently.
- Fluency skills laid down in second grade set the foundation for more advanced literacy skills in subsequent grades.

For teachers and parents in Texas, emphasizing fluency aligns with state standards and curriculum goals, ensuring students meet grade-level expectations.

Components of a Second Grade Fluency Folder

A well-structured fluency folder serves as a comprehensive resource that supports daily practice, assessment, and goal setting. Here are key components to include:

1. Reading Passages and Texts

Select texts appropriate for second-grade reading levels. These should be engaging, varied, and aligned with curriculum themes. Include:

- Short stories and passages for timed reading practice
- Poetry and song lyrics for expressive reading
- Informational texts to build content knowledge

2. Fluency Tracking Sheets

Tracking progress is essential to motivate students and inform instruction. Use:

- Charts or logs to record words per minute (WPM)
- Accuracy checklists to note errors
- Notes on expression and phrasing

3. Goal Setting and Self-Assessment Forms

Encourage student ownership by including:

- Personal goal sheets for fluency targets
- Reflection prompts on progress and areas for improvement
- Celebration pages for milestones achieved

4. Practice Activities and Games

Make fluency practice engaging with:

- Pair reading activities
- Choral reading exercises
- Flashcards for sight words
- Interactive games like Bingo or Memory for vocabulary reinforcement

5. Teacher or Parent Notes

A section for feedback, notes on student progress, and suggestions for additional practice or strategies.

Implementing the Fluency Folder in a Texas Classroom or Home Setting

Daily Routine and Structure

Consistency is key. Establish a daily or weekly routine such as:

- Begin with a quick warm-up of sight words or phonics review.
- Read a new passage aloud, timed and recorded on the tracking sheet.
- Reflect on the reading session, noting successes and challenges.
- Set a new goal or adjust strategies as needed.

Tips for Effective Use

- **Keep it engaging:** Use student interests to select texts.
- **Involve parents:** Send home parts of the folder for additional practice.
- **Celebrate progress:** Recognize improvement with certificates or small rewards.
- **Differentiate instruction:** Tailor texts and activities to meet diverse needs.

Addressing Challenges

Some students may face difficulties with fluency. Strategies include:

- Repeated reading of familiar texts to build confidence.
- Modeling expressive reading and encouraging echo reading.
- Using audio recordings for students to listen and mimic.
- Providing extra support during small group instruction.

Resources and Materials for a Second Grade Fluency Folder in Texas

In Texas, educators have access to a variety of resources aligned with state standards. Here are some recommended materials:

Texas-Approved Reading Programs

Programs such as Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) aligned curricula offer ready-made passages and activities.

Online Resources

- Texas Gateway and other state-supported platforms for printable fluency passages
- Free downloadable fluency trackers and assessment tools
- Interactive apps for phonics and sight words practice

Books and Literature

Choose titles that reflect Texas themes or diverse cultures:

- Texas-themed stories
- Authors from Texas or with Texas connections
- Multicultural selections to broaden students' perspectives

Assessing and Monitoring Fluency Progress

Regular assessment helps tailor instruction and celebrate growth. Consider:

- Running records to evaluate accuracy and comprehension
- Timed reading sessions to measure words per minute
- Student self-assessments for metacognition
- Progress reports aligned with Texas standards

Use the data collected to:

- Adjust texts and activities for individual needs
- Set realistic, motivating goals
- Communicate progress with parents and guardians

Conclusion: Supporting Second Grade Readers in Texas

A second grade fluency folder is more than just a collection of papers; it is a dynamic tool that

promotes literacy growth, fosters independence, and builds confidence among young learners. When thoughtfully implemented, it aligns with Texas education standards and addresses the unique needs of students in the state. Whether in a classroom or at home, a well-organized fluency folder empowers students to become fluent, confident readers, setting the stage for academic success and a lifelong love of reading. By integrating engaging activities, consistent practice, and ongoing assessment, educators and parents can make a meaningful impact on each child's literacy journey.

Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas is a widely used educational tool designed to support early elementary students in developing essential reading and fluency skills. As educators and parents seek effective resources to bolster second graders' literacy development, the fluency folder from First Texas emerges as a practical and versatile option. This review explores the features, benefits, and potential limitations of the Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas, offering insights into how it can enhance reading proficiency among young learners.

Overview of the Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas

The Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas is a structured, portable resource aimed at improving students' reading fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary. Crafted specifically for second-grade learners, it aligns with common core standards and curriculum benchmarks, making it a popular choice among teachers in Texas and beyond. The folder typically contains a variety of printed materials, practice exercises, and tracking tools designed to foster confidence and independence in young readers.

This resource is often integrated into daily literacy routines, such as guided reading sessions, independent practice, or homework assignments. Its user-friendly design encourages students to take ownership of their progress, with visual aids and engaging activities that cater to diverse learning styles.

Key Features and Components

1. Fluency Passages

One of the core elements of the folder includes leveled fluency passages. These passages are carefully selected to match second-grade reading levels, ensuring students are challenged yet not overwhelmed. They often feature:

- Age-appropriate topics to engage young learners
- Repeated readings to promote fluency
- Vocabulary support to aid comprehension

2. Practice Worksheets

The folder contains numerous worksheets that target specific skills such as decoding, sight word recognition, and phrasing. These activities are designed to reinforce skills practiced during fluency readings and include:

- Fill-in-the-blank exercises
- Word matching activities
- Sentence construction tasks

3. Progress Tracking and Goal Setting

An integral part of the folder is its tracking system, which allows students and teachers to monitor progress over time. Features include:

- Fluency rate charts
- Checklists for mastery of specific skills
- Goal-setting pages to motivate students

4. Vocabulary and Comprehension Support

To enhance understanding and retention, the folder offers vocabulary lists and comprehension questions related to each passage. These elements encourage critical thinking and deepen comprehension.

5. Visual Aids and Illustrations

Bright, colorful illustrations accompany many activities, making the materials engaging and accessible for young learners. Visual cues help reinforce learning and maintain student interest.

Benefits of Using the Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas

1. Promotes Independent Learning

The folder is designed to foster independence by allowing students to work through activities at their own pace. Clear instructions and visual cues guide students without constant teacher intervention.

2. Supports Differentiated Instruction

With leveled passages and varied activities, the folder accommodates diverse learner needs. Teachers can assign specific sections based on individual student abilities, ensuring targeted support.

3. Encourages Consistent Practice

Daily or weekly use of the folder promotes regular reading practice, which is essential for developing fluency. The tracking system motivates students to improve their reading rates and accuracy.

4. Facilitates Parent Involvement

The portable nature of the folder makes it easy for parents to participate in their child's literacy development at home, providing a bridge between school and home learning environments.

5. Aligned with Curriculum Standards

The materials are aligned with Texas curriculum standards, making it a reliable resource for teachers seeking to meet state requirements while supporting student growth.

Potential Limitations and Considerations

While the Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas offers numerous advantages, it is important to consider some limitations:

- Limited Scope for Comprehensive Literacy: The folder primarily targets fluency and decoding skills, so additional resources may be necessary for a well-rounded literacy program that includes writing and comprehension beyond the provided passages.
- Material Repetition: Some users may find that activities become repetitive over time, potentially reducing engagement if not supplemented with varied literacy activities.
- Teacher Preparation Required: Effective implementation may require teachers to customize or adapt materials to meet specific classroom needs, which could involve additional prep time.
- Variability in Student Engagement: While visual aids and colorful designs appeal to many students, some learners might need more interactive or multisensory activities to stay motivated.

How to Effectively Use the Fluency Folder

To maximize the benefits of the Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas, consider the following strategies:

- Consistent Routine: Integrate folder activities into daily literacy routines to build habits and reinforce skills.
- Individualized Goals: Use the progress tracking sheets to set personalized goals, celebrating improvements to boost motivation.
- Supplementary Activities: Pair the folder work with read-alouds, vocabulary games, and comprehension exercises for a comprehensive approach.
- Parent Engagement: Encourage parents to review and practice with their children at home, fostering a collaborative effort in literacy development.
- Assessment and Adjustment: Regularly assess student progress and adapt activities as needed to address specific challenges or strengths.

Final Thoughts and Recommendations

The Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas is a valuable resource for early elementary educators focusing on developing reading fluency and foundational literacy skills. Its structured approach, visual appeal, and progress tracking features make it particularly effective for young learners who benefit from clear expectations and guided practice.

However, it should be viewed as part of a comprehensive literacy program rather than a standalone solution. Combining the folder with other instructional strategies?such as shared reading, phonics instruction, and comprehension exercises?will provide a balanced and enriching literacy experience for second graders.

Pros:

- User-friendly and engaging design
- Supports independent and differentiated learning
- Promotes consistent practice and progress monitoring
- Aligned with Texas curriculum standards

Cons:

- May require supplementary resources for broader literacy development
- Repetitive activities could impact student engagement over time
- Needs effective implementation and occasional customization

In summary, the Second Grade Fluency Folder First Texas is a practical, targeted tool that can significantly enhance early reading skills when used thoughtfully within a well-rounded instructional framework. Its focus on fluency, combined with engaging visuals and progress tracking, makes it a

recommended resource for teachers aiming to foster confident, fluent readers in their second-grade classrooms.

Question What is the purpose of the second grade fluency folder in First Texas? The second grade fluency folder in First Texas is designed to help students practice and improve their reading fluency skills through daily exercises and assessments. How can parents support their child's fluency practice using the First Texas second grade folder? Parents can support their child's fluency practice by reviewing the daily exercises, providing encouragement, and setting aside dedicated time each day for reading practice with the folder. What types of activities are included in the second grade fluency folder from First Texas? The folder typically includes activities such as timed reading passages, sight word practice, and comprehension questions to enhance fluency and understanding. How often should students use the Second Grade Fluency Folder in First Texas? Students are encouraged to use the fluency folder daily or several times a week to build consistent reading habits and track their progress over time. Are the fluency assessments in the First Texas second grade folder aligned with state standards? Yes, the assessments are designed to align with Texas state standards for second grade reading benchmarks, ensuring students are meeting grade-level expectations. Can teachers customize the activities in the First Texas second grade fluency folder? Some versions of the folder allow teachers to modify or add activities to better fit their classroom needs and individual student goals. Where can I find additional resources or support for using the second grade fluency folder from First Texas? Additional resources and support can often be found on the First Texas website, through teacher training sessions, or by contacting your school's reading specialist.

Related keywords: second grade reading, fluency practice, first grade literacy, Texas curriculum, reading assessment, fluency activities, reading folders, early elementary literacy, literacy centers, reading fluency tools

FOLDER GAMES LIVING NONLIVING

folder games living nonliving

Understanding the fascinating concept of differentiating between living and nonliving objects is a fundamental part of early science education and cognitive development. One engaging way to explore this topic is through "folder games," which are interactive, visual activities designed to help learners classify objects based on their characteristics. These games serve as a bridge between theoretical knowledge and practical understanding, making the learning process both fun and effective. In this article, we delve into the nature of folder games that focus on distinguishing living from nonliving things, their benefits, various types of activities involved, and how to implement them

in educational settings.

What Are Folder Games? An Overview

Definition and Purpose

Folder games are educational activities that utilize foldable materials?such as paper or cardboard?to create interactive charts, charts, or scenes. These games often involve flaps, tabs, or sliding parts that reveal information when manipulated, encouraging active participation from learners. The main purpose of folder games is to enhance understanding of concepts through hands-on engagement, making abstract ideas more concrete.

Why Use Folder Games for Living vs. Nonliving Classification?

- Visual Learning: They provide visual cues that help learners easily differentiate between objects.
- Kinesthetic Engagement: Manipulating flaps or tabs promotes tactile learning.
- Reinforcement of Concepts: Repeated interaction helps solidify understanding.
- Adaptability: They can be tailored to different age groups and learning levels.

Key Characteristics of Living and Nonliving Things

Before designing folder games, it?s essential to understand what constitutes living and nonliving things.

Characteristics of Living Things

Living things typically exhibit:

- Growth and development
- Movement (either voluntary or automatic)
- Reproduction
- Response to stimuli
- Need for food and water
- Possession of cells (basic unit of life)

Characteristics of Nonliving Things

Nonliving objects lack the biological processes associated with life and are characterized by:

- No growth or reproduction
- No movement unless acted upon by external forces
- No response to stimuli
- Do not need food or water
- Composed of nonliving materials like plastic, metal, or wood

Designing Folder Games: Key Elements and Steps

Essential Components

A well-designed folder game for living and nonliving classification should include:

- Clear labels and images
- Interactive flaps or tabs
- Simple, age-appropriate language
- Visual cues (colors, symbols)
- Instructions for use

Steps to Create a Folder Game

- Select Objects: Choose a variety of objects, both living and nonliving, suitable for the learners' age.
- Gather Materials: Use sturdy paper, scissors, glue, and coloring supplies.
- Design Layout: Divide the folder into sections—one for living things, one for nonliving things.
- Create Flaps/Tabs: Attach flaps that can be lifted to reveal information about each object.
- Add Descriptions: Write simple clues or characteristics that help identify the nature of each object.
- Test and Revise: Ensure the game is easy to understand and engaging.

Examples of Folder Games for Living and Nonliving Things

Example 1: Living or Nonliving?

- Objective: Classify objects into living or nonliving categories.
- Activity:
 - The folder has images of objects like a dog, a chair, a flower, and a rock.
 - Each image has a flap that, when lifted, reveals characteristics that help categorize the object.
 - Learners lift flaps and decide whether the object is living or nonliving based on the clues.

Example 2: Guess the Object

- Objective: Identify objects and classify them.
- Activity:
 - The folder contains partially covered images.
 - Learners observe the clues and lift the flap to see the full picture and determine if it's living or nonliving.

Example 3: Sorting Game

- Objective: Sort objects into two groups.
- Activity:
 - The folder has two sections labeled "Living" and "Nonliving."
 - Learners place images or small cut-outs of objects into the correct section by lifting flaps or using stickers.

Benefits of Using Folder Games in Education

Enhances Cognitive Skills

- Critical thinking and decision-making are developed as learners analyze clues and choose the correct category.

Improves Memory Retention

- Hands-on activities reinforce learning through active participation.

Encourages Independent Learning

- Learners can explore and learn at their own pace, fostering confidence.

Supports Different Learning Styles

- Visual, kinesthetic, and tactile learners benefit from these multisensory activities.

Implementing Folder Games in Classroom and Home Settings

Tips for Teachers and Parents

- Start Simple: Begin with basic objects and gradually introduce more complex ones.
- Encourage Discussion: Use the game as a platform for discussion about characteristics.
- Make it Interactive: Ask open-ended questions to promote critical thinking.
- Incorporate Technology: Use digital foldable activities for remote learning.
- Assess Understanding: Observe how learners classify objects to gauge comprehension.

Adapting for Different Age Groups

- For younger children, use colorful images and simple language.
- For older students, include more detailed clues and challenging objects.
- Modify the complexity of the game based on the learners' developmental level.

Conclusion

Folder games living nonliving serve as an effective and engaging educational tool for teaching fundamental biological concepts. By integrating visual, tactile, and cognitive elements, these activities facilitate better understanding of the characteristics that distinguish living from nonliving objects. They are versatile, adaptable, and suitable for a variety of learning environments, from classrooms to home settings. Implementing well-designed folder games can foster curiosity, critical thinking, and a lifelong interest in science among learners. As educators and parents continue to seek innovative teaching methods, folder games remain a valuable resource in making science education accessible and enjoyable for learners of all ages.

Folder Games Living Nonliving

In the realm of educational tools and interactive activities, folder games have gained remarkable popularity among educators, parents, and children alike. Their versatility, portability, and engaging nature make them ideal for teaching a wide range of concepts, especially in foundational subjects like science and social studies. Among the most intriguing categories within folder games is the "Living and Nonliving" theme—a fundamental concept in biology that helps young learners differentiate between entities that are alive and those that are not.

This article delves into the intricacies of folder games centered on living versus nonliving things. We will explore what makes these games effective, how they are designed, and their pedagogical significance. Whether you're an educator seeking innovative classroom resources or a parent

looking to enhance your child's understanding of the natural world, this comprehensive review aims to provide valuable insights.

Understanding the Concept of Living and Nonliving Things

Before exploring the specifics of folder games, it's essential to understand the core concept they aim to teach.

What Are Living Things?

Living things, also known as organisms, exhibit characteristics that distinguish them from nonliving objects. These include:

- Growth and Development: Living things grow and change over time.
- Reproduction: They can produce offspring or new members of their species.
- Response to Stimuli: Living entities react to environmental changes (e.g., plants bending toward light).
- Metabolism: They carry out chemical processes to sustain life.
- Homeostasis: Maintenance of a stable internal environment.
- Cellular Structure: All living things are made up of one or more cells.

Common examples:

- Animals (dogs, birds, fish)
- Plants (trees, flowers, grasses)
- Microorganisms (bacteria, fungi)

What Are Nonliving Things?

Nonliving things do not exhibit the characteristics listed above. They do not grow, reproduce, respond actively, or undergo metabolic processes. They are inanimate objects or substances.

Examples include:

- Rocks
- Water
- Air
- Chairs

- Plastic toys

Educational Significance: Teaching children to distinguish between these categories forms the foundation for understanding biological sciences and environmental awareness.

Design and Structure of Folder Games: Living vs. Nonliving

Folder games are a type of interactive, reusable resource that typically involve visual cues, matching, sorting, or categorization activities. When designed around the living/nonliving dichotomy, they serve as dynamic tools to foster classification skills, critical thinking, and scientific vocabulary.

Core Components of Living/Nonliving Folder Games

- Visual Cards or Flaps: Featuring images or illustrations of various objects, plants, animals, and inanimate items.
- Sorting Sections: Clearly labeled areas or pockets where children can place or sort cards.
- Interactive Elements: Flaps, pull-outs, or sliders that reveal information or prompt responses.
- Guidance Notes: Instructions for educators or parents on how to facilitate the activity.
- Reusability: Laminated materials or durable paper to withstand repeated handling.

Common Design Features

- **Color Coding:** Using colors to differentiate between living (e.g., green) and nonliving (e.g., gray or brown) to reinforce learning.
- **Engaging Illustrations:** Bright, age-appropriate images that attract children's attention.
- **Clear Labels:** Precise wording for easy understanding.
- **Hands-on Activities:** Tasks like matching, categorizing, or explaining why an object belongs to a category.

Types of Folder Games in Living/Nonliving Theme

- Matching Games: Children match pictures of living things with their names or characteristics.
- Sorting Activities: Sorting images into two categories?living or nonliving.
- Question-and-Answer Flaps: Revealing facts or prompting reasoning questions.
- Classification Charts: Visual organizers that help children see the differences and similarities.

Benefits of Using Folder Games for Living vs. Nonliving Concepts

Implementing folder games in educational settings offers numerous advantages, especially when teaching abstract concepts like the difference between living and nonliving things.

Enhanced Engagement and Motivation

Interactive components make learning enjoyable, encouraging children to participate actively. The tactile nature of folder games appeals to kinesthetic learners and keeps attention high.

Visual Learning Support

Colorful images and visual cues help children associate words with pictures, reinforcing memory and comprehension.

Development of Critical Thinking Skills

Sorting and categorization activities require children to analyze and make decisions based on characteristics, fostering higher-order thinking.

Reinforcement of Scientific Vocabulary

Using specific terms like "reproduce," "growth," or "responds" helps build scientific literacy.

Flexibility and Adaptability

Folder games can be used in various settings—classrooms, homeschool environments, or even individual study sessions—and can be tailored to different age groups or learning levels.

Cost-Effective and Reusable

Designed for repeated use, folder games are economical and environmentally friendly, especially when laminated.

Implementing Living/Nonliving Folder Games: Best Practices

To maximize educational impact, consider the following strategies:

Preparation and Setup

- Laminate materials for durability.
- Clearly label sorting sections.

- Prepare prompts or guiding questions.

Instructional Techniques

- Start with a discussion about what makes something living or nonliving.
- Use real objects alongside images to connect theory with tangible examples.
- Encourage children to explain their reasoning.
- Incorporate storytelling or scenarios to deepen understanding.

Assessment and Feedback

- Observe children's sorting accuracy.
- Ask open-ended questions to assess comprehension.
- Provide immediate positive feedback to reinforce correct understanding.

Extensions and Variations

- Include more categories, such as "once living" vs. "never alive."
- Introduce characteristics like "needs air" or "can move."
- Incorporate technology by blending physical folder activities with digital quizzes.

Sample Content and Ideas for Living/Nonliving Folder Games

Here are some ideas to inspire the creation or selection of folder games:

Sample Cards for Sorting:

- Living: Dog, Tree, Fish, Flower, Bird
- Nonliving: Rock, Chair, Water, Toy Car, Pencil

Activity Prompts:

- "Place all the animals in the living category."
- "Which objects are nonliving? Why?"
- "Can a plant be considered living? Explain."

Additional Features:

- Flaps revealing interesting facts:
- "Did you know? Plants grow towards sunlight."
- "Nonliving things do not respond to touch."

Creative Extensions:

- Have children draw their own examples.
- Incorporate a scavenger hunt where children find real objects matching the images.

Conclusion: The Value of Folder Games in Science Education

Folder games focusing on living and nonliving things serve as powerful tools to simplify complex biological concepts for young learners. Their interactive, visual, and hands-on nature makes abstract ideas concrete, fostering curiosity and understanding. When thoughtfully designed and effectively implemented, these games not only improve classification skills but also lay a strong foundation for scientific inquiry and environmental literacy.

In a digital age, where screens often dominate, tangible educational resources like folder games provide a refreshing and impactful alternative. They encourage active participation, cater to diverse learning styles, and cultivate a love for learning about the natural world.

Whether in a classroom, homeschool setting, or as part of an educational game kit, living/nonliving folder games are invaluable assets that make science fun, accessible, and meaningful for children across all age groups.

Question What are folder games involving living and nonliving objects? Folder games involving living and nonliving objects are educational activities where children sort or categorize items into 'living' and 'nonliving' groups, often using folders or visual aids to enhance understanding. **Answer** How can I create a folder game to teach kids about living and nonliving things? You can create a folder game by assembling pictures or small objects of plants, animals, and humans for living things, and rocks, chairs, or toys for nonliving things. Children then sort these into labeled folders, helping them differentiate between the two. Why is it important for children to learn about living and nonliving things? Understanding the difference between living and nonliving things helps children grasp basic biological concepts, develop observation skills, and foster curiosity about the natural world. What are some fun activities to reinforce the concept of living vs nonliving in folder games? Activities include scavenger hunts, where kids find living and nonliving objects around the classroom or home, or matching games using pictures, which reinforce their ability to classify objects correctly. At what age

can children start understanding the concept of living and nonliving things through folder games? Children around ages 3 to 5 are typically able to grasp basic concepts of living and nonliving things, making this a suitable age for introducing folder games on this topic. Can technology be incorporated into folder games about living and nonliving things? Yes, digital apps and interactive online games can supplement traditional folder activities, allowing children to sort and categorize objects virtually, which can enhance engagement and understanding. How do folder games support early science education? Folder games promote hands-on learning, critical thinking, and classification skills, forming a foundation for more complex scientific concepts as children grow. What are some common mistakes to avoid when using folder games to teach about living and nonliving things? Avoid using ambiguous images or objects that can be confusing, ensure activities are age-appropriate, and provide clear explanations to help children understand the differences effectively.

Related keywords: folder games, living nonliving, educational activities, biology games, life sciences, classification games, biology education, living things, nonliving objects, science activities

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