

Misty's Moment



Misty Copeland, who led the way for others to follow in her graceful footsteps, has retired from the American Ballet Theatre.

LEXILE: 950L

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Individual Development and Identity

COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.2, W.6-8.2

ENGAGE THE READER

Ask students to think about what their dream job is. Have them write down how many years they think they'll be working in that job and at what age they'd like to retire. Tell students they'll be reading about ballet dancer Misty Copeland and her retirement. Ask students to guess how long Misty Copeland has been part of the American Ballet Theatre. Have them read the article and take note of how long Copeland has been dancing, and what other work she's involved in.

QUESTIONS FOR CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

- What makes Misty Copeland's story newsworthy?
- What does Copeland plan to do in her retirement?
- How would you describe Copeland? Explain your choices.

EXTEND LEARNING

Ask students if they think 25 years is a long time to be dancing. Have volunteers share their opinion. Work as a class to chart her path as a dancer. Then talk about what Copeland will do now that she's finished with ballet. Include this as part of her career journey.

Have students consider their own path to a career. Is their dream job something they've been interested in since they were little, or something they've just discovered? Pass out copies of "My Career Path" from the Your Hot Job platform at ti.me/CareerPath. Have students fill out the worksheet to the best of their ability. Remind students that Copeland did not start dancing until she was 13, while most dancers start when they are young. Reinforce the idea that it's never too late to start something new, but it's always good to consider what you like doing and how that can become a job.

COVER STORY QUIZ + ANSWER KEY

The cover quiz can be found on page 2 of this guide.
To create a digital quiz, you can use our template [here](#).

1. C (RI.1) **2. A** (RI.4) **3. B** (RI.8) **4. D** (RI.6) **5. B** (RI.2)
6. B (RI.1) **7. Answers will vary.** (W.2)

Name _____ Date _____

Use this week's cover story, "Misty's Moment," to answer the questions below. For questions 1–6, circle the letter next to the best answer. If you need more space to write your response to question 7, you may use the back of this page.

1. What is notable about Misty Copeland's dance training? A. She started at 3 years old. B. She never took formal lessons. C. She did not start lessons until she was 13. D. She learned to dance from reading books.	4. How does Copeland think dancing and writing are similar? A. They are both ways of telling stories. B. They are both ways of expressing yourself. C. They both help kids who are shy. D. both A and B
2. What is a synonym for <i>principal</i> in the phrase "principal dancer"? A. lead B. professional C. group D. supporting	5. Which detail would not be included in a summary of the article? A. On October 22, Misty Copeland took her final bow on stage at the David H. Koch Theater, in New York City. B. Misty's 3-year-old son was in the audience. C. Copeland starred in ABT productions around the world. D. Copeland will continue her work advocating for the arts.
3. Why does the author include Copeland's quote from 2016? A. The quote shows how Copeland has changed. B. The quote shares an important lesson that is still relevant. C. The quote explains how Copeland began her dance career. D. The quote highlights her other goals.	6. Which detail best explains Copeland's importance in ballet history? A. She was one of the youngest female ballerinas of her time. B. She was the first Black female principal dancer in ABT's 75-year history. C. She had a 25-year dancing career. D. She wrote a best-selling book.

7. Misty Copeland used writing to express her feelings before she became a dancer. Think about an activity that helps you express yourself. Write a paragraph explaining what the activity is and how it helps you express your feelings.
