

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## From Mind to Voice

**Directions:** Read the passage **silently** to yourself one time, focusing on understanding the meaning. Immediately reread the same passage **aloud**, paying attention to **pace, smoothness, and expression**. Reflect: Did your aloud reading match the way you understood the passage silently? After practicing, complete the comprehension questions.

The forest path wound through tall pines, their needles whispering in the wind. Sunlight flickered between the branches, painting patches of gold on the mossy ground. A deer leapt gracefully across the trail, pausing for a moment before disappearing into the shadows. From above, a hawk circled, letting out a sharp cry that echoed through the trees. Somewhere nearby, water trickled over stones, forming a stream that wound its way deeper into the woods. The air was fresh and cool, carrying the scent of damp earth and wildflowers. Walking along the path felt like stepping into a secret world, hidden from the noise of towns and busy streets.

1. What animals are described in the passage?
2. Which details show that the forest is peaceful and natural?
3. What senses (sight, sound, smell) are engaged in the description?
4. Why might the author compare walking the path to “stepping into a secret world”?