Comprehension Skill: Steps in a Process

Complete the following items to practice the comprehension skill for this unit.

The instructions for building a milk carton sailboat are all mixed up. Read the steps below and use signal words to determine the correct sequence for the instructions. Then write the steps in the correct order on the lines numbered 1–8. Circle the signal word or words in each sentence that helped you determine the correct order.

Once the paint is dry, put a small ball of clay into the bottom of the milk carton.

When your boat is ready, fill a small tub with water.

Then paint the outside and the inside of the milk carton.

Finally, set your milk carton boat in the water to test its sailing abilities!

Then glue the construction paper sail to a small straw and set it aside to dry.

First, cut one side off an empty milk carton.

Then stick the straw into the clay so that it stands straight up from the bottom of the carton.

While the paint dries, cut out and decorate a triangular piece of construction paper, which will be used as the sail.
The instructions below explain how to brush your teeth, but they are missing signal words and are in the wrong order. First, choose the correct signal word from the word bank and write it in the blank in each sentence. Then, put the instructions in the correct order.

Word Bank

Then
First
Next
Finally

1. ____________ spit out the toothpaste and rinse your toothbrush and your mouth with water.
2. ____________ squeeze a small amount of toothpaste onto your toothbrush.
3. ____________ brush your teeth for two minutes. Be sure to scrub each and every tooth carefully!
4. ____________ take the cap off of the tube of toothpaste.