

NONFICTION

2ND & 3RD GRADE

RI.2.3 / 3.3

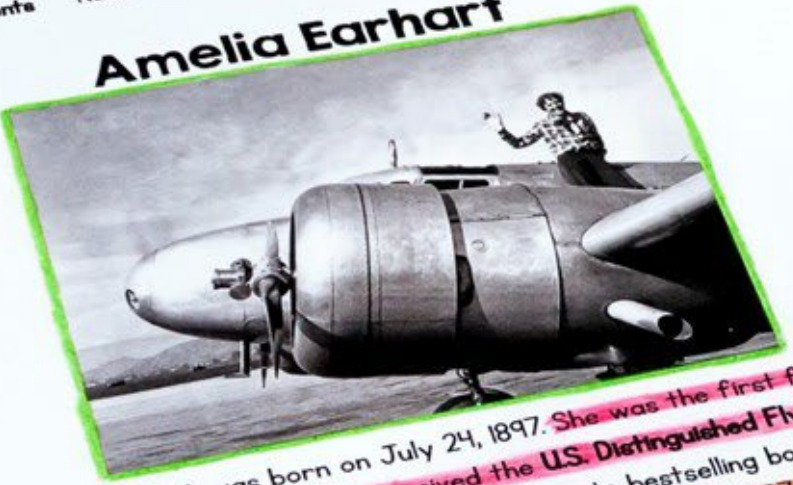
CONNECTIONS



TRUSTED BY OVER
6,000
TEACHERS

Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

Amelia Earhart



Amelia Mary Earhart was born on July 24, 1897. She was the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She received the U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross since she broke this record. She set many other records and wrote bestselling books about her flying experiences. Earhart made an attempt to fly around the earth in 1937. She disappeared over the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island. To this day, Amelia Earhart's disappearance remains a fascination with her life, career, and disappearance continues to this day.

attempt- try fascination- award

2. What happened to Amelia when she attempted to make a flight around the

Amelia disappeared over the central Pacific Ocean near Howland Island.

What is Amelia Earhart remembered today?

Amelia Earhart is remembered today because people are fascinated with her life, career, and disappearance.

What does the photograph show?

The photograph is showing Amelia and an airplane.

What is the effect event below:

effect

Amelia disappeared over the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island.



WHAT'S INSIDE?

PRINTABLE PDFs and **DIGITAL** Google Slides covering the 2nd and 3rd grade text complexity band with Certified Lexile Levels.

CONNECTIONS IN NONFICTION
2nd & 3rd grade
790L

Historical Events
Name: _____ Date: _____

The Salem Witch Trials

A witch hunt began in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692. It began when a group of young girls gathered with a slave named Tituba. They listened to stories and played forbidden fortune-telling games. The girls became fearful of getting caught for playing these games. Since they were scared of getting caught, the girls told the townspeople that three witches were haunting them.

Tituba and the girls

As a result, the three women were put on trial for being witches. The women denied being witches. Even so, they were found guilty by the townspeople. The three girls and other townspeople began to accuse other women of being witches. By the end of 1693, 24 people died because they were accused of being witches.

1. Why did the girls tell the townspeople that witches were haunting them?

- By the end of 1693, 24 people died.
- A slave named Tituba scared the girls.
- Three women were put on trial for being witches.
- They listened to stories and played forbidden fortune-telling game and were scared of getting caught.

- Anchor charts and question sets
- Color coding to encourage students to use text evidence
- AND two assessments on nonfiction reading passages

Printable and Google Slides Included



10 NONFICTION PASSAGES

Level: 810 Scientific Ideas Name: _____ Date: _____

Ocean and Wetland Habitats

Oceans and wetlands are **habitats** for animals. Both habitats have many animals in common. These animals include fish, crabs, sea otters, and sea jellies. Oceans and wetlands also have some similar plants, like seaweed.

Oceans and wetlands also have different animals. Oceans have sharks, dolphins, whales, and starfish. Unlike oceans, wetlands have land animals. These include raccoons, eagles, brush rabbits, and dragonflies. An ocean is always salt water, whereas a wetland can have salt water or fresh water. Unlike oceans, wetlands are swampy areas that have some land.

Ocean Habitat
Wetland Habitat

1. How are oceans and wetlands alike? (Compare)
The ocean and wetlands are similar because they are both habitats for animals. Similar animals live in the wetlands, such as fish, crabs, sea otters, and sea jellies. Oceans and wetlands also have similar plants like seaweed.

2. How are oceans and wetlands different? (Contrast)
Oceans and wetlands have different animals. Oceans have sharks, dolphins, whales and starfish. Wetlands have raccoons, eagles, brush rabbits, and dragonflies.

- Learn in color! Visual cues reinforce text evidence
- Teachers can quickly check student work.

Level: 710 Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

Amelia Earhart

Amelia Mary Earhart was born on July 24, 1897. She was the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She received the US Distinguished Flying Cross since she broke this record. She set many other records and wrote bestselling books about her flying experiences. Earhart made an attempt to fly around the world in 1937. She disappeared over the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island. To this day, Amelia Earhart's disappearance remains a mystery. Fascination with her life, career, and disappearance continues to this day.

2. What happened to Amelia when she attempted to make a flight around the globe?
She disappeared over the Pacific Ocean and an airplane.

Historical Texts

Historical texts are informational texts about people, places, and events in history. Historical texts often explain why events happened. People read historical texts to learn about the past and how it affected the future.

You can understand how historical events are connected through cause and effect relationships.

Cause and Effect Relationships

Cause: WHY something happens
• Something happens **BECAUSE** of something else.
Effect: WHAT happens
• The end result.

To explain relationships between historical texts, ask yourself:
1. What happened?
2. Why did this happen?

Effect: What happened NOW? **Cause: Why it happened**

On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. and others participated in the March on Washington to stand up for and rights for African Americans.

African Americans were discriminated against. They did not have the same rights as white Americans.

- Variety of text structures to spark comprehension AND curiosity.
- Dive into informational historical, scientific, and technical texts.

QUESTIONS

- Skill-focused, scaffolded questions
- Multiple choice and short answer
- Preps students for state testing
- Rigorous and research-based approach to questioning



Procedural Steps Name: Date:

6. What would happen if you skipped step 6?
If you skipped step 6, your dog would be dripping wet since you didn't towel. Also, your materials you

Procedural Steps Name: Date:

1. What task do these directions tell you how to do?
These directions tell me how to bathe a dog.

2. How do you know when to do these steps?
The step numbers tell me when to do these steps. Also key words such as first, next, and finally, help me.

3. What should you do before you bring your dog into the tub? Why?
Gather all of your materials so they are close at hand and turn the water on.

4. What should you do as you bring your dog into the tub?
the tub encourage

AS
the
5. Wh
A
in

Level: 570

Procedural Steps Name: Date:

How to Bathe a Dog

Is your dog stinky? Is your dog constantly tracking dirt and mud into the house? Follow these simple steps to clean your pooch.

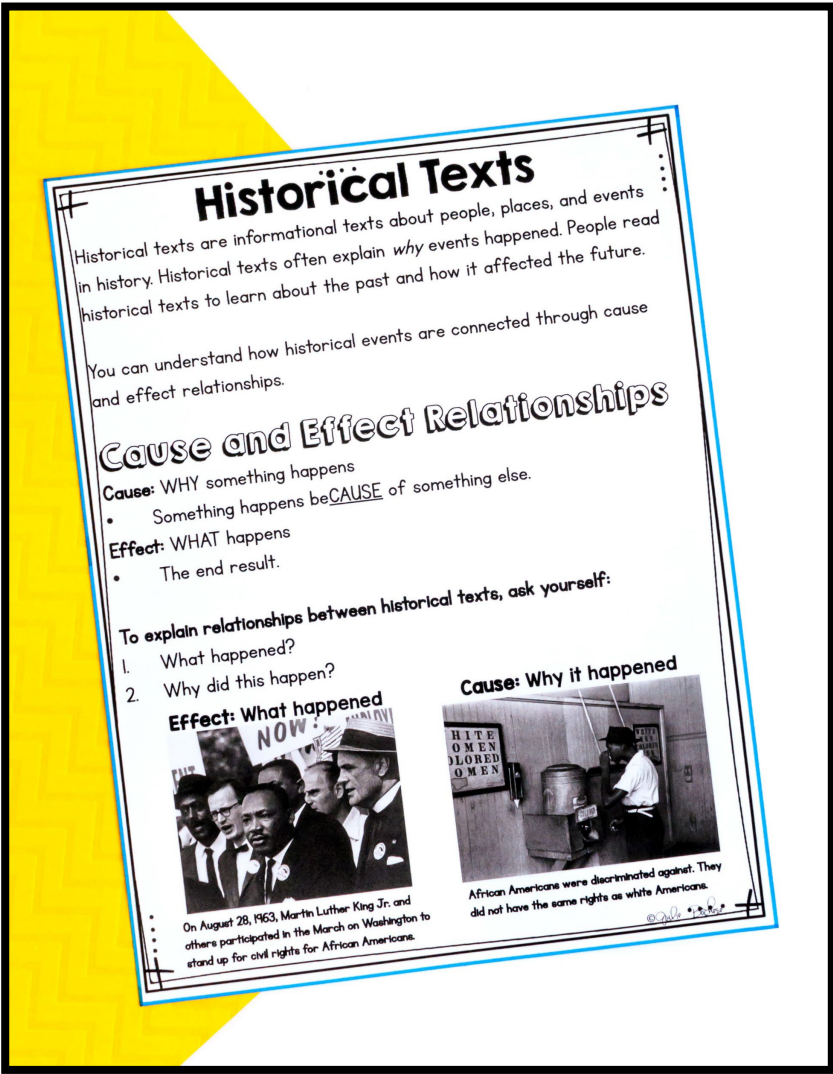
Materials

- dog shampoo
- towel
- bathtub
- dog treats

1. First, gather all of your materials so that they are close at hand. Turn the water on for a few minutes to get it to a warm temperature.
2. Next, bring your dog into the tub. Encourage him or her with a treat.
3. After that, wet your dog's fur thoroughly. Be sure to wet his or her face, but avoid getting water in their eyes.
4. Then, gently massage shampoo into your dog's fur. Don't forget his or her ears and paws!
5. Finally, rinse your dog with water until there is no soap left.

ANCHOR CHARTS

- 3 Anchor charts
- Use to introduce the skill
- Students reference throughout the unit



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Cause and Effect Relationships

Cause: WHY something happens

- Something happens because of something else.


Effect: WHAT happens

- The end result.

To explain relationships between historical texts, ask yourself:

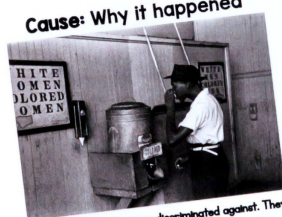
1. What happened?
2. Why did this happen?

Effect: What happened

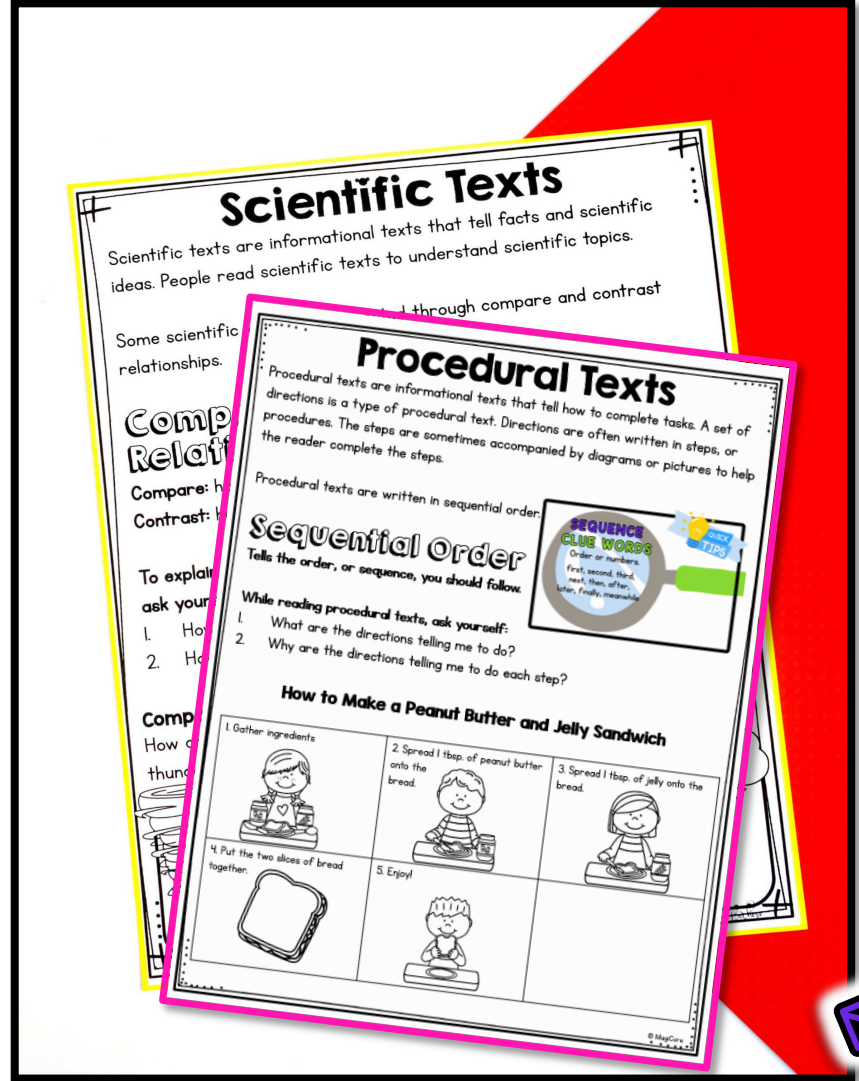


On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. and others participated in the March on Washington to stand up for civil rights for African Americans.

Cause: Why it happened



African Americans were discriminated against. They did not have the same rights as white Americans.



Scientific Texts

Scientific texts are informational texts that tell facts and scientific ideas. People read scientific texts to understand scientific topics.

Some scientific relationships.

Compare and Contrast

Compare: h

Contrast: h

To explain ask your

1. Ho
2. Ho

Procedural Texts

Procedural texts are informational texts that tell how to complete tasks. A set of directions is a type of procedural text. Directions are often written in steps, or the reader complete the steps.

Procedural texts are written in sequential order.

Sequential Order

Tells the order, or sequence, you should follow.

While reading procedural texts, ask yourself:

1. What are the directions telling me to do?
2. Why are the directions telling me to do each step?

How to Make a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich

1. Gather ingredients	2. Spread 1 tbsp. of peanut butter onto the bread.	3. Spread 1 tbsp. of jelly onto the bread.
4. Put the two slices of bread together.	5. Enjoy!	

SEQUENCE CLUE WORDS

Order or numbers: First, second, third, next, then, after, later, finally, meanwhile.

TIPS

Your students can refer to the anchor charts throughout the unit.



MODEL PASSAGES & TEACHER DIRECTIONS

Unpacking Connections in Nonfiction

Standard RI.3.3: Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.

Scaffold Instruction With This Resource

Scaffolding instruction is a highly effective approach in supporting students' reading comprehension and skill learning outcomes. Research has consistently demonstrated the positive impact of scaffolding techniques on students' ability to tackle challenging tasks and achieve higher levels of understanding.

- Familiarize Yourself with the Resource:** Review the included passages, anchor charts, and assessments thoroughly. Pay special attention to how the texts demonstrate cause and effect, compare and contrast, and sequence.
- Introduce the Skill with Anchor Charts:** Use the anchor charts provided in the resource to introduce and clarify the concepts of cause and effect, compare and contrast, and sequencing. Display these charts in the classroom during read-alouds and content lessons to reinforce learning. Ensure students have copies of these charts in their reading journals for quick reference.
- Model and Think Aloud:** Select a passage that exemplifies connections through cause and effect, compare and contrast, or sequence. Read the passage aloud to the class, pausing to think aloud about how you identify these linguistic cues that indicate these types of connections.
- Guided Practice:** Organize students into small groups or pairs to analyze specific passages from the resource. Instruct them to use the anchor charts to identify and discuss the types of connections present in the text. Encourage them to use evidence from the text to support their reasoning.
- Collaborative Discussions:** Facilitate collaborative discussions where students can share their findings and reasoning with their peers. Encourage them to explain their thinking and how they used text evidence to identify cause and effect, compare and contrast, or sequence.
- Independent Practice:** Gradually transition students to independent practice using the remaining passages from the resource. Encourage them to continuously refer to the anchor charts and rely on text evidence to support their answers and deepen their understanding of the connections.
- Differentiation:** Differentiate instruction based on students' needs. Provide additional support to students who struggle through targeted small group interventions, sentence frames, or additional practice passages. Offer more complex passages to students who have mastered the skills to challenge their analytical abilities further.
- Assessment:** Use the assessments provided in the resource to gauge students' progress and understanding of how to identify and describe connections in texts.
- Review and Reteach:** Use the data from assessments to identify areas where students may need further instruction or reinforcement. Organize these students into strategy groups focused on specific skills or types of connections.

- Unpack the standard
- Prerequisite skills
- How to use this resource.



680L Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

The American Civil War

The American Civil War was a war fought from 1861 to 1865. It took place in the United States. Seven southern slave states, known as the **Confederacy**, wanted to separate from the United States. The states that stayed part of the United States were known as the **Union** or the "North". The war began because of slavery. After four years of fighting, over 600,000 soldiers died. As a result, the Confederacy collapsed, and slavery was **abolished**.

REMEMBER!
Cause is **WHY** something happens.
Effect is **WHAT** happens.

CLUE WORDS
These words MIGHT give you hints about the cause and effect relationships.
• because
• so
• since
• as a result
• due to

Confederacy: southern states where slavery was legal
Union: northern states where slavery was illegal
abolished: ended

1. What happened during the Civil War?

2. Why did the Civil War begin? (Hint: look for clue words.)

3. What happened after the Civil War?

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Model text and questions



ASSESSMENTS

- Same format as practice
- Two tests with different Lexile levels
- Color-coding
- Follows best practices for standardized assessments



The image displays two sample assessment pages. The top page is titled "Amelia Earhart" and includes a photograph of her in a biplane. The text is color-coded: pink for her birth date, blue for her first flight, green for her record, yellow for her disappearance, and orange for her disappearance location. A question asks what happened to her when she attempted to make a flight around the globe. The bottom page is titled "Historical Texts" and explains cause and effect relationships. It includes a section on "Cause and Effect Relationships" with definitions and examples. Two photographs illustrate the cause and effect of the March on Washington: one showing the march itself and another showing a sign that reads "WHITE WOMEN FLOORED WOMEN".

Amelia Earhart

Amelia Mary Earhart was born on July 24, 1897. She was the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She received the U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross since she broke this record. She set many other records and wrote bestselling books about her flying experiences. Earhart made an attempt to fly around the earth in 1937. She disappeared over the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island. To this day, Amelia Earhart's disappearance remains a mystery. Fascination with her life, career, and disappearance continues to this day.

aviator- pilot
interest

U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross- award
attempt- try
fascination-

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Cause and Effect Relationships

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To explain relationships between historical texts, ask yourself:

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2. Why did this happen?

Effect: What happened

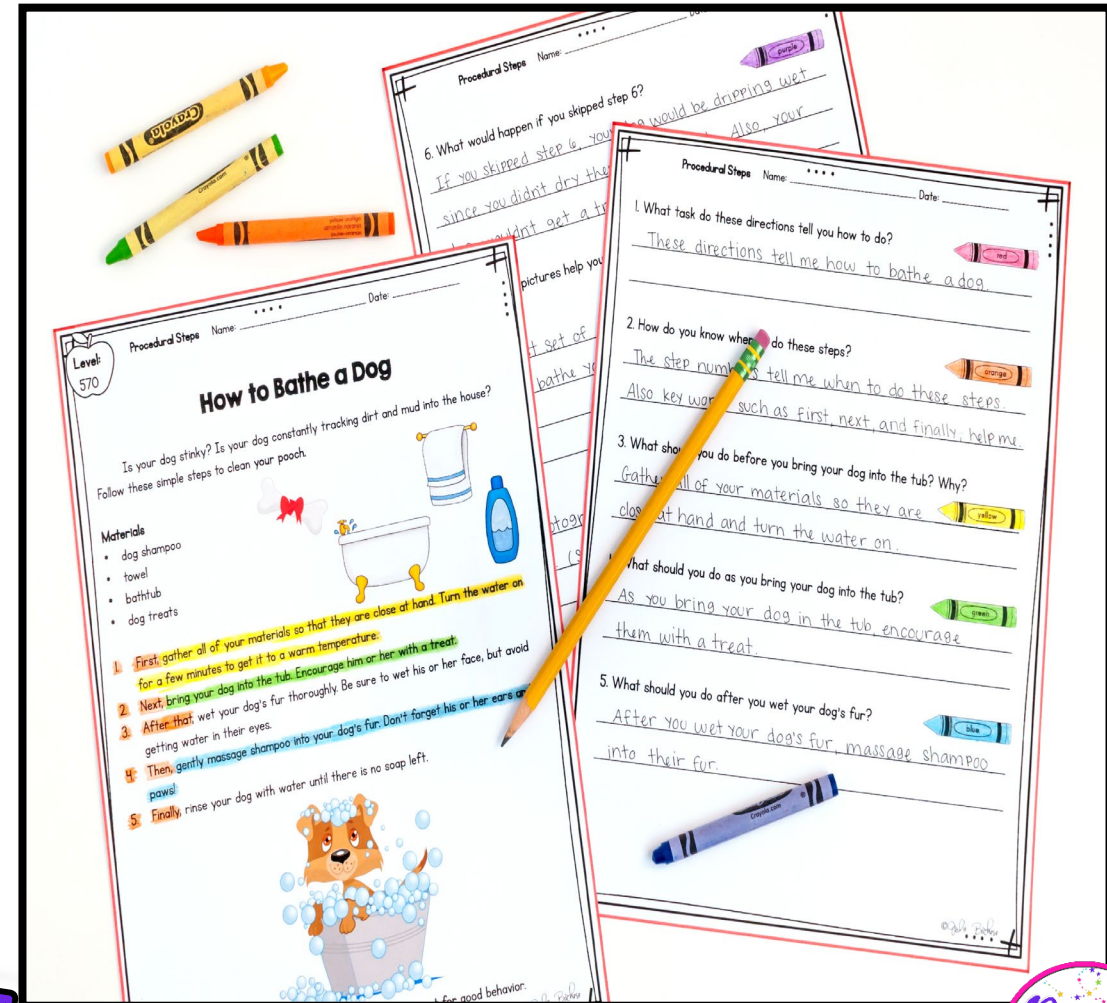
Cause: Why it happened

On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. and others participated in the March on Washington to stand up for civil rights for African Americans.

African Americans were discriminated against. They did not have the same rights as white Americans.

WHY IT WORKS

- Certified Lexile measures
- High - interest texts to motivate readers
- Cross - curricular topics
- Scaffold approach will help your students meet grade level expectations.
- Classroom tested! Trusted by over 6,000 teachers... and counting!... To help students grow their reading skill



ALIGNS TO SCIENCE OF READING

Research shows that wide reading has the biggest impact on student reading progress.

Our passages provide that essential variety of nonfiction structures and topics.

Students need scaffolded instruction to access grade level texts. Without it, students are not exposed to linguistic and textural features, putting them further behind.

Our texts help students grow full-steam ahead. With certified Lexile levels in the Common Core text complexity band, students will 100% engage with appropriate text and sentence structures, vocabulary, and more. Plus, every passage provides teachers with opportunities to scaffold instruction.

Fun fact! From 2nd grade on, students make greater reading gains when taught from texts that are as much as two grade levels above their "instructional" reading level.

Lead the way! Our texts are leveled to master grade-level expectations and set students up for success.

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



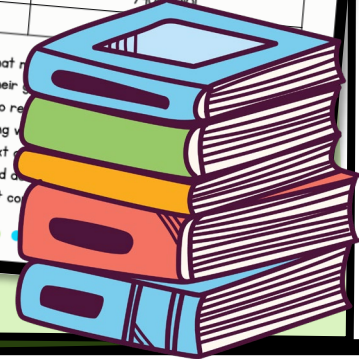
Common Core Kingdom, LLC DBA MagiCore™ is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

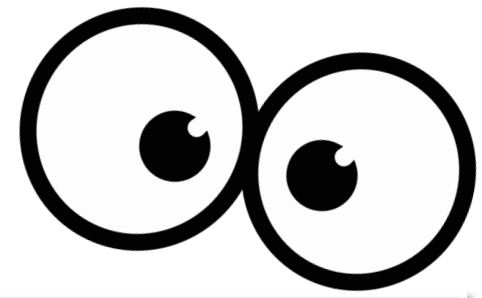
Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that support to reach text at the high end of their Common Core Standards, "It is important to re appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text general movement, however, should be toward independence both within and across the text co



TAKE A PEEK



CONNECTIONS IN NONFICTION

2nd & 3rd grade

*This product includes 15 leveled passages in the 2nd-3rd Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 2nd-3rd grade is 420-820).

1. Connecting Historical Events

- The American Civil War- 680L
- The History of Memphis Tennessee- 520L
- Amelia Earhart- 660L
- The Salem Witch Trials- 790L

2. Connecting Scientific Ideas

- States of Water- 470L
- Bees vs. Ants- 540L
- Woolly Mammoths- 690L
- Ocean and Wetland Habitats- 790L

3. Procedural Text

- How to Bathe a Dog- 580L
- How to Build a Bird Feeder- 740L
- How to Make a Grilled Cheese- 760L
- How to Plant a Seed- 790L

4. Assessment on each area

- Historical: Anne Frank- 670L
- Scientific Ideas: Spring and Autumn- 750L
- Procedural Text: Witch Hat Cookies- 640L

The Google Slides version of this resource requires that you make a copy of the resource to your own Google Drive.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO MAKE A COPY OF THIS RESOURCE TO YOUR GOOGLE DRIVE.

* You MUST have a Google account in order to access this resource. [Click HERE](#) if you need help setting up a Google account.



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K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	1185L-1385L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."

Historical Texts

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You can understand how historical events are connected through cause and effect relationships.

Cause and Effect Relationships

Cause: WHY something happens

- Something happens because of something else.

Effect: WHAT happens

- The end result.

To explain relationships between historical texts, ask yourself:

1. What happened?
2. Why did this happen?

Effect: What happened



On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. and others participated in the March on Washington to stand up for civil rights for African Americans.

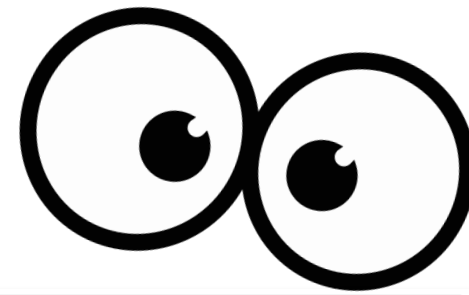
Cause: Why it happened



African Americans were discriminated against. They did not have the same rights as white Americans.



AND ANOTHER PEEK



680L Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

The American Civil War


Cause: Why something happens


Effect: -what happens -End result


Clue words: because, so, since, as a result, due to

The American Civil War was a war fought from 1861 to 1865. It took place in the United States. Seven southern slave states, known as the **Confederacy**, wanted to separate from the United States. The states that stayed part of the United States were known as the **Union** or the "North". The war began because of slavery. After four years of fighting, over 600,000 soldiers died. As a result, the Confederacy collapsed, and slavery was **abolished**.

Confederacy: southern slave states
Union: northern states
abolished: ended

1. What happened during the Civil War? 

2. Why did the Civil War begin? (Hint: look for clue words.) 

3. What happened after the Civil War? 

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520L Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____


The History of Memphis, Tennessee

Memphis is a city in Tennessee. Its history began thousands of years ago. It was settled by the Mississippian Culture. The Mississippian Culture was a Native American tribe.


In 1541 the Europeans began exploring this area. Hernando de Soto was one of the first explorers to visit this area.

Memphis became a city in 1819. The founders named this city after the ancient capital of Egypt. The land was fertile. Large plantations were built. These plantations used slaves to keep up with their demands. As a result, the city became a major trading center for cotton.

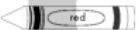
In 1878 and 1879 a horrible disease called Yellow Fever spread through Memphis. Thousands of residents left the city. More than 5,000 people died. Because of this, the city became broke. The city eventually recovered. Memphis is thriving city today.




Memphis is located where the dot is on the map.



A slave working on a cotton plantation


1. Which event caused Memphis to become a city? 


a. Europeans began exploring the area.
b. Yellow fever killed thousands of people.
c. It was settled by the Mississippian culture.
d. The city was named after the ancient capital of Egypt.

2. Why were large plantations built? 

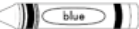
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Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

3. What caused Memphis to become a major trading center for cotton? 

4. What happened as a result of yellow fever? (Choose all that apply.) 

a. Large plantations were built.
b. Thousands of residents left.
c. More than 5,000 people died.
d. The city became a major trading center for cotton.

5. Why did Memphis become broke? 

6. Fill in one cause and effect event below: 

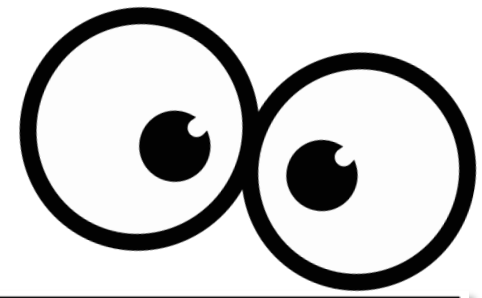
Cause

→

Effect

©Tara Baker


CHECK THIS OUT TOO!



680L


Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

Amelia Earhart



Amelia Mary Earhart was born on July 24, 1897. She was the first female **aviator** to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She received the **U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross** since she broke this record. She set many other records. She also wrote bestselling books about her flying experiences. Earhart made an **attempt** to fly around the earth in 1937. She disappeared over the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island. Amelia Earhart's disappearance remains a mystery. **Fascination** with her life, career, and disappearance continues to this day.


aviator—pilot **U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross**—award **attempt**—try **fascination**—interest


1. Why did Amelia Earhart earn the Distinguished Flying Cross? 

- She set many records.
- Amelia Mary Earhart was born on July 24, 1897.
- She also wrote bestselling books about her flying experiences.
- She was the first female **aviator** to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.


© Julie Barber


Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

2. What happened to Amelia when she attempted to make a flight around the globe? 

3. Why is Amelia Earhart remembered today? 

- She visited Howard Island.
- Earhart made an **attempt** to fly around the earth in 1937.
- People are fascinated with her life, career, and disappearance.
- She also wrote bestselling books about her flying experiences.


4. What does the photograph show? 


5. Fill in one cause and effect event below: 

Cause	Effect

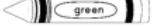
© Julie Barber


Historical Events Name: _____ Date: _____

2. What happened to the three women accused of haunting the girls? 

3. What happened after the three women were found guilty of being witches? 

- The women were set free.
- The girls were afraid of being caught playing forbidden games.
- The girls and other townspeople accused other women of being witches.
- The girls listened to more stories that Tituba told them.

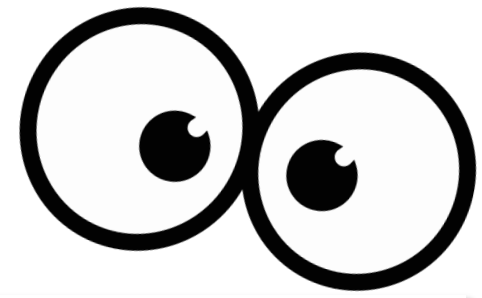
4. Why did 24 people die in Salem during 1692-1693? 

5. Fill in one cause and effect event below: 

Cause	Effect

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UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!




540L Scientific Ideas Name: _____ Date: _____

Bees vs. Ants

Bees and ants have many similarities and differences. Both insects live in colonies with others of their species. Similarly, they both have queens. The queens lead the colonies and workers. Also, both insects have six legs. In addition bees and ants hatch from eggs as larva. After, it becomes a pupa. Eventually they molt. They become full-grown bees or ants. Both of these bugs may be considered pests, but they actually help people. Ants clean up the environment. They eat harmful insects, and help plants grow. Bees pollinate flowers. They also make honey.




Queen Bee




Queen Ant

On the contrary, bees and ants have some differences. They look different. Bees are typically yellow and black, but ants are often black or red. Bees make their own food, while ants find their food. Bees live in hives, whereas ants live in the ground. There are about 15,000 species of ants. There are about 1,000 species of bees.

1. How are bees and ants alike? (Compare)



2. How are bees and ants different? (Contrast)




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690L Scientific Ideas Name: _____ Date: _____

Woolly Mammoths


Animals that exist today evolved from animals from long ago. One of the animals from long ago is the woolly mammoth.

Woolly mammoths look very similar to elephants. They are about the same size, as African elephants. Both elephants and woolly mammoths have trunks and tusks. Both animals used their trunks and tusks for fighting and gathering food. Like elephants, woolly mammoths were herbivores.




Elephants and woolly mammoths also have differences. Elephants tend to live in tropical climates. Woolly mammoths lived during the Ice Age. The Ice Age was very cold. Unlike elephants, woolly mammoths were covered in fur and long hair. This fur helped them survive the harsh cold.

1. How are elephants and woolly mammoths alike? (Compare)



2. How are elephants and woolly mammoths different? (Contrast)




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790L Scientific Ideas Name: _____ Date: _____


Ocean and Wetland Habitats

Oceans and wetlands are **habitats** for animals. Both habitats have many animals in common. These animals include fish, crabs, sea otters, and sea jellies. Oceans and wetlands also have some similar plants, like seaweed.




Ocean Habitat

Oceans and wetlands also have different animals. Oceans have sharks, dolphins, whales, and starfish. Unlike oceans, wetlands have land animals. These include raccoons, eagles, brush rabbits, and dragonflies. An ocean is always salt water, whereas a wetland can have salt water or fresh water. Unlike oceans, wetlands are swampy areas that have some land.

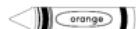


Wetland Habitat

1. How are oceans and wetlands alike? (Compare)



2. How are oceans and wetlands different? (Contrast)

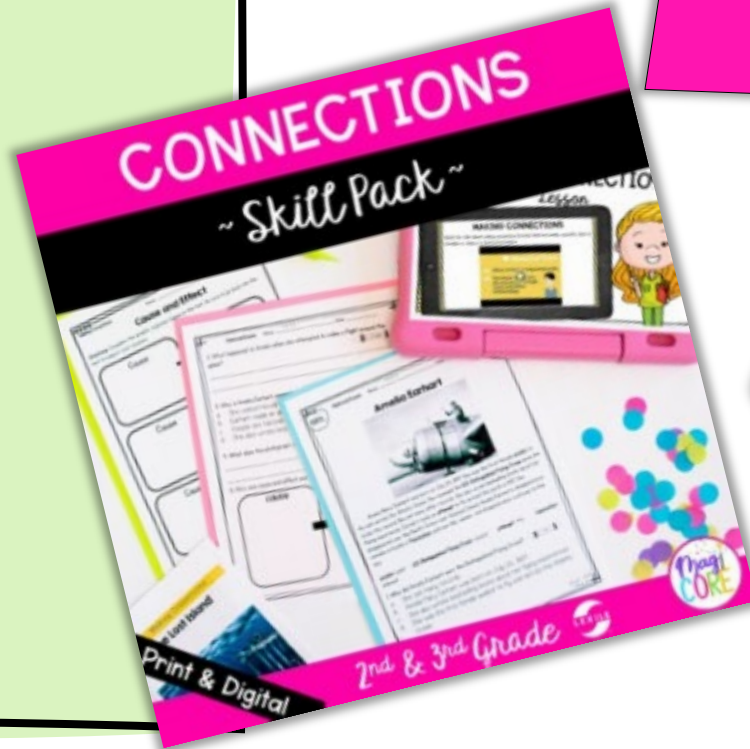


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