NONFICTION | 2ND & 3RD GRADE | RI.2.2 / 3.2

TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, DETAILS

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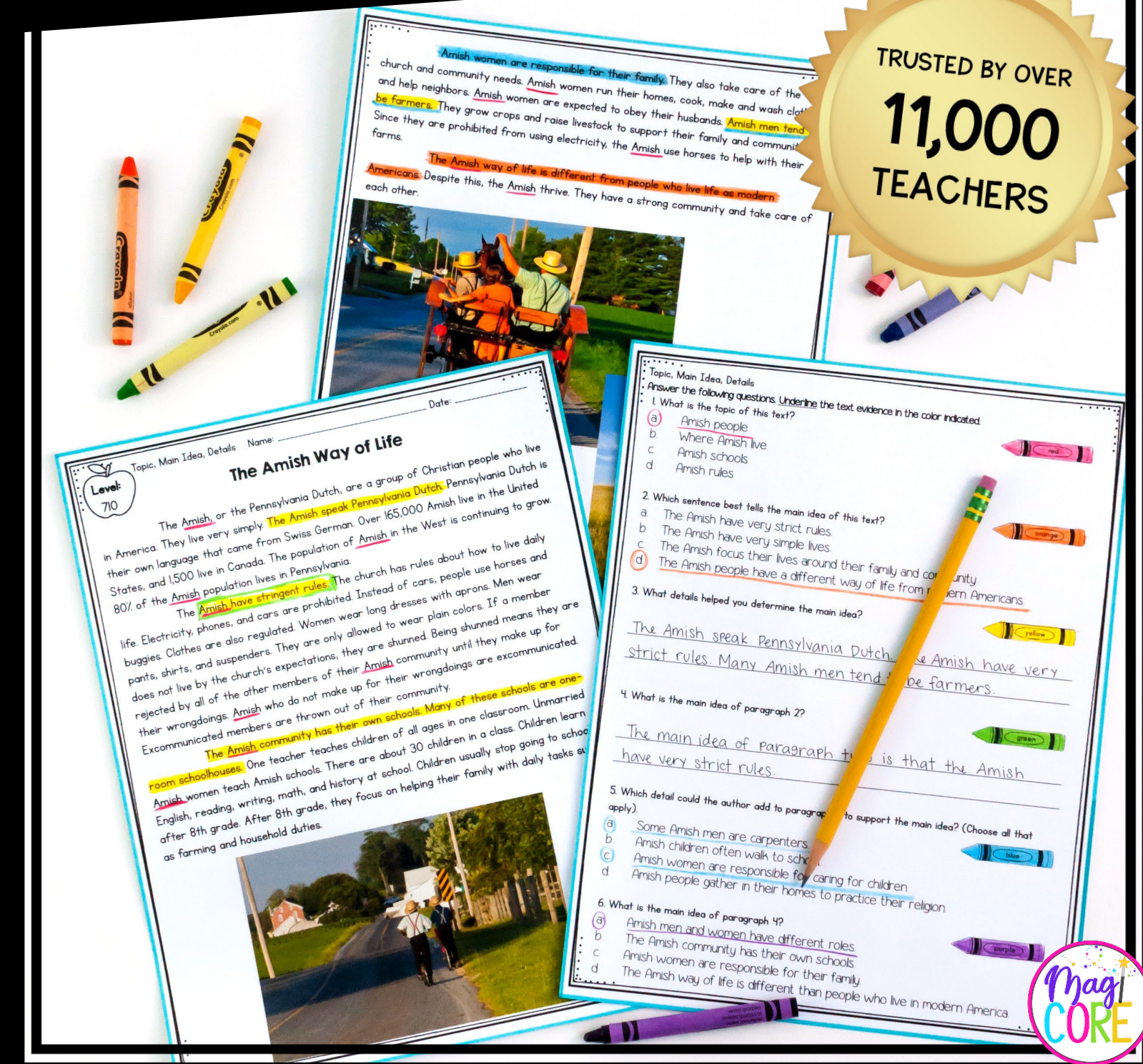
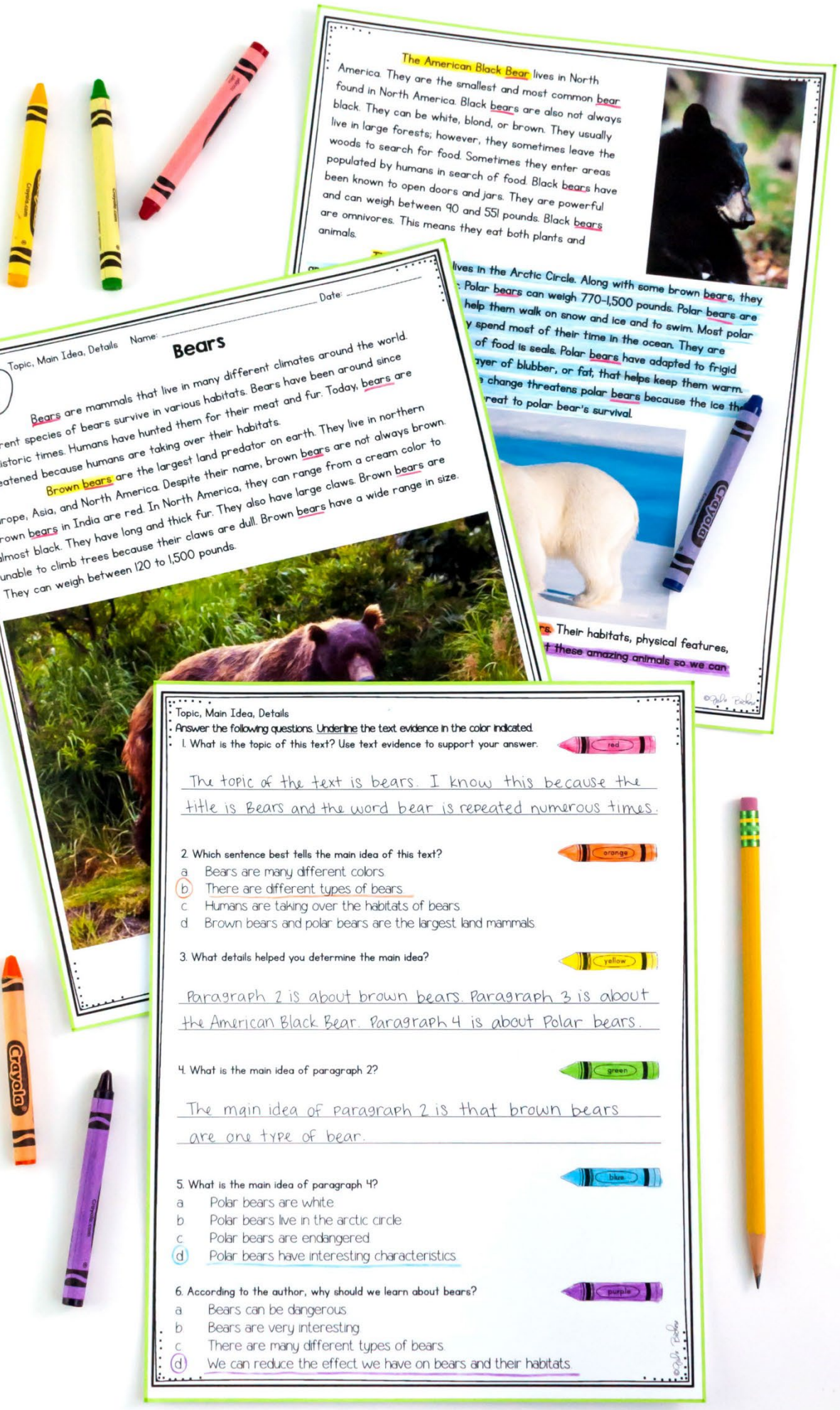




The American Black Bear lives in North America. They are the smallest and most common bear found in North America. Black bears are also not always black. They can be white, blond, or brown. They usually live in large forests; however, they sometimes leave the woods to search for food. Sometimes they enter areas populated by humans in search of food. Black bears have been known to open doors and jars. They are powerful and can weigh between 90 and 551 pounds. Black bears are omnivores. This means they eat both plants and animals.

lives in the Arctic Circle. Along with some brown bears, they
: Polar bears can weigh 770-1,500 pounds. Polar bears are
help them walk on snow and ice and to swim. Most polar
y spend most of their time in the ocean. They are
of food is seals. Polar bears have adapted to frigid
ayer of blubber, or fat, that helps keep them warm.
change threatens polar bears because the ice th
reat to polar bear's survival.

rs. Their habitats, physical features,
t these amazing animals so we can

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: _____ Date: _____

Level: 400

Bears

Bears are mammals that live in many different climates around the world. Different species of bears survive in various habitats. Bears have been around since prehistoric times. Humans have hunted them for their meat and fur. Today, bears are threatened because humans are taking over their habitats.

Brown bears are the largest land predator on earth. They live in northern Europe, Asia, and North America. Despite their name, brown bears are not always brown. Brown bears in India are red. In North America, they can range from a cream color to almost black. They have long and thick fur. They also have large claws. Brown bears are unable to climb trees because their claws are dull. Brown bears have a wide range in size. They can weigh between 120 to 1,500 pounds.

Topic, Main Idea, Details

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

1. What is the topic of this text? Use text evidence to support your answer. (red)

The topic of the text is bears. I know this because the title is Bears and the word bear is repeated numerous times.

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text? (orange)

a. Bears are many different colors.
(b.) There are different types of bears.
c. Humans are taking over the habitats of bears.
d. Brown bears and polar bears are the largest land mammals.

3. What details helped you determine the main idea? (yellow)

Paragraph 2 is about brown bears. Paragraph 3 is about the American Black Bear. Paragraph 4 is about Polar bears.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2? (green)

The main idea of paragraph 2 is that brown bears are one type of bear.

5. What is the main idea of paragraph 4? (blue)

a. Polar bears are white.
b. Polar bears live in the arctic circle.
c. Polar bears are endangered.
(d.) Polar bears have interesting characteristics.

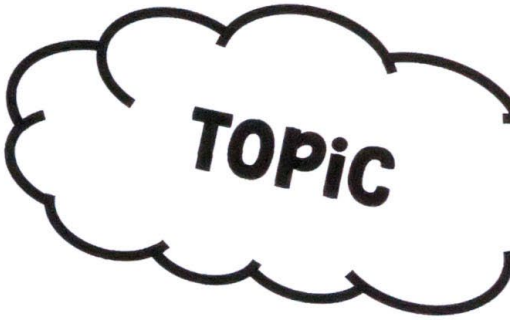
6. According to the author, why should we learn about bears? (purple)

a. Bears can be dangerous.
b. Bears are very interesting.
c. There are many different types of bears.
(d.) We can reduce the effect we have on bears and their habitats.

Topic, Main Idea, and Deta

How do I find the main topic of a text?

Look for words or phrases that are **repeated**. The topic should be a word or short phrase.



How do I find the main idea of a text?

Ask, "What is the **whole** text about?" The main idea should be a sentence.

How do I find details that support the main idea?

1. Find the portion of the text where the author makes the point.
2. Ask, "What **reasons or details** does the author give to support the point?"

TOPIC: What is the whole puzzle about in 1–2 words? _____

Main Idea: What is the whole puzzle about in 1 sentence?

_____

Details: What is each piece of the puzzle showing?

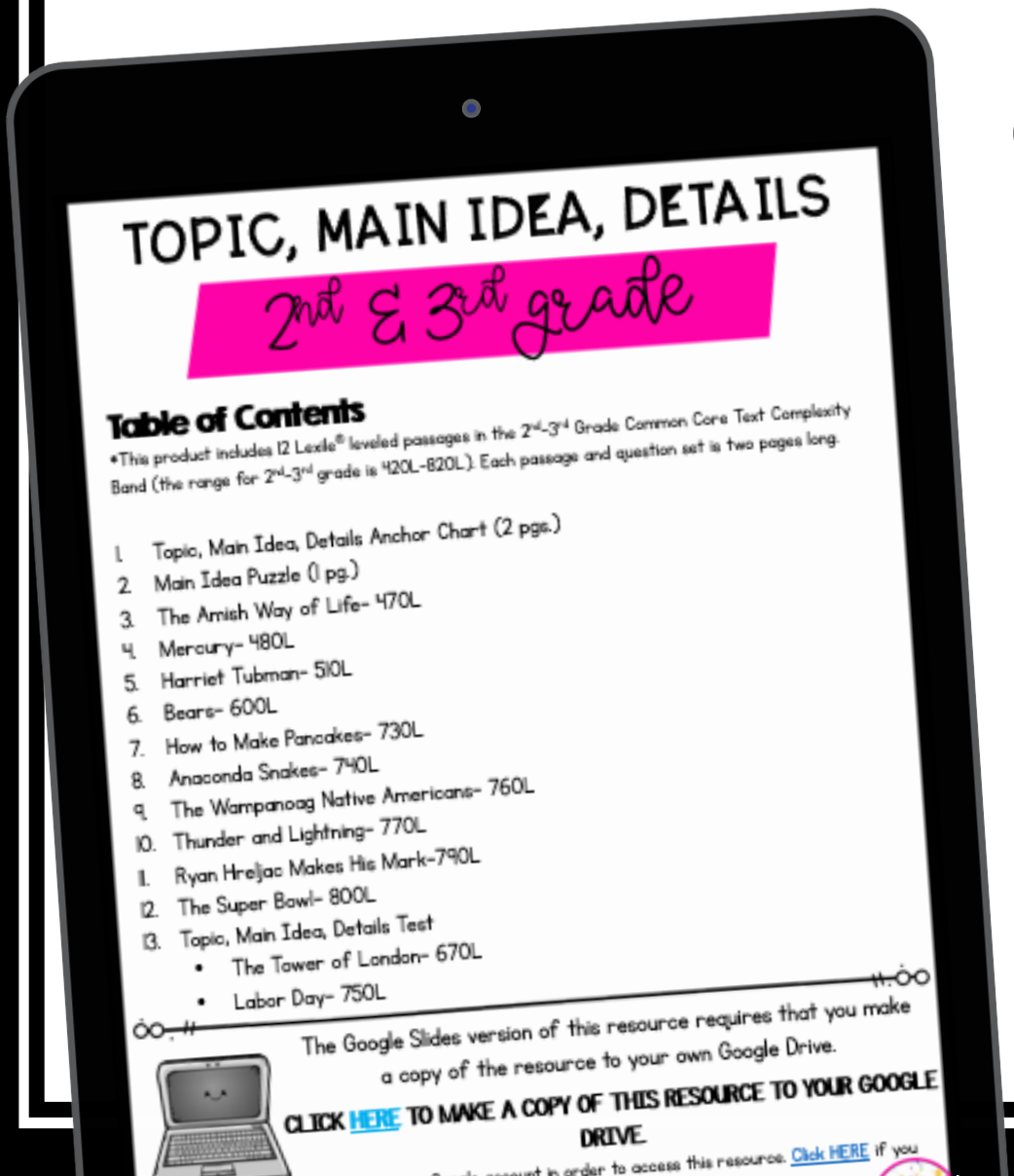
1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

TWELVE 2nd & 3rd Grade DIGITAL and PRINTABLE PDF nonfiction passages & TWO assessments!

- Aligned with 2nd & 3rd Grade Lexile Levels
- Includes an RI.2.2/RI.3.2 Anchor Chart
- Students can highlight the text for easy comprehension



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LEXILE®

NONFICTION PASSAGES

480L

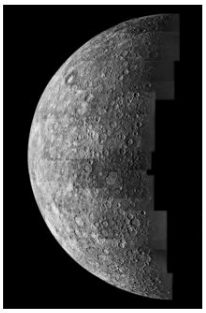
Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: _____ Date: _____

Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. Mercury is named after a Roman god. A year on Mercury lasts 88 earth days. Mercury completes a rotation once every two years. Therefore, Mercury has only one day in two earth years! A day on Mercury is twice as long as a year on Earth!

Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system. Mercury is rocky. The rocks make this planet gray. Mercury has craters. Craters make it look like the moon. The craters are caused by comets and asteroids. Mercury has no rings or moons. The temperature on Mercury varies. It can be as cold as -280 degrees Fahrenheit at night. It can be as warm as 800 degrees Fahrenheit during the day. There is no atmosphere. This means that there is no weather on Mercury.

Two spacecraft have visited Mercury. In 1970, Mariner 10 flew by Mercury. Mariner 10 took pictures. These pictures helped us understand Mercury's surface, atmosphere, and temperature. In 2004, Messenger flew around Mercury more than 4,000 times. It mapped the planet. This spacecraft also discovered ice on Mercury. Messenger ran out of fuel. It crashed into the planet.



View of Mercury from Mariner 10

Mariner 10 laun

We still have a lot to learn about Mercury. You can see Mercury from earth at times. The best times to look are morning evening.

Color-coded highlighting supports student comprehension. In Google Slides, students can highlight as they read!

Topic, Main Idea, Details

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

1. What is the topic of this text? red
   a. Space
   b. Mercury
   c. Planets in our solar system
   d. Mercury and Earth

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text? orange
   a. Mercury is closest to the sun.
   b. Two spacecraft visited Mercury.
   c. There is a lot to learn about Mercury.
   d. Planets are interesting to learn about.

3. What details helped you determine the main idea? yellow

Students type their answers right in the text box.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2? green
   a. What Mercury looks like and its climate.
   b. Mercury looks similar to the moon.
   c. Mercury's temperature can be very cold or very hot.
   d. Mariner 10 took photographs of Mercury.

5. What is the main idea of paragraph 3? blue

6. How did Messenger help us learn about Mercury? (Choose all that apply) purple
   a. Messenger mapped the entire planet.
   b. Messenger discovered ice on Mercury.
   c. Messenger helped us learn about Mercury's temperature.
   d. Messenger orbited around Mercury more than 4,000 times.

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After reading, students type their answers in the text boxes using text evidence.

ASSESSMENTS

Color coded highlighting can also be done on the assessments!

750L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: _____ Date: _____

TEST

Labor Day is a holiday that celebrates the things workers have done to

670L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: _____ Date: _____

TEST: The Tower of London

The Tower of London is an old historic castle. It is next to the River Thames in London. This castle was founded in 1066. It holds a lot of history for the city of London.

The Tower of London used to be a grand palace. There are numerous buildings surrounded by defensive walls and a moat. Royals lived here. Kings Richard the Lionheart, Henry III, and Edward I expanded this palace.

The castle was also used as a fortress. Guns were placed around the castle. Weapons and ammunition were stored here as well.

The Tower of London was used as a prison from 1100 to 1952. Elizabeth I was a prisoner here before she became queen. During World War I and World War II, the tower was used as a prison for spies.

During World War II, bombs damaged the castle and destroyed buildings. After World War II, the castle was repaired and reopened to the public.

Visitors of London flock to the Tower of London. It is one of the most popular tourist attractions. Over 2 million people visit each year! Visitors to the castle can see royal armor and the Crown Jewels. The Crown Jewels are crowns worn by previous and current royalty. The Tower of London is now a protected World Heritage Site.

Outside View
Tower of Lo

Prison in the To

C

Topic, Main Idea, Details

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

1. What is the topic of this text? Use text evidence to support your answer. (red)

Students type their answers right in the text box.

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text? (orange)

a. The Tower of London was used as a prison.
b. The Tower of London houses the Crown Jewels.
c. The Tower of London is a popular tourist destination.
d. The Tower of London is important to the history of London.

3. What details helped you determine the main idea? (yellow)

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2? (green)

5. Which detail could the author add to paragraph 4 to support the main idea that *The Tower of London was used as a prison*? (Choose all that apply) (blue)

a. Six Ravens still live at the tower today.
b. Anne Boleyn was also a prisoner at The Tower.
c. There was once a collection of wild animals at The Tower.
d. Seven people were killed in the tower before World War I.

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 6? (purple)

a. The Tower of London was once a prison.
b. The Tower of London is a popular tourist attraction.
c. The Crown Jewels can be seen at the Tower of London.
d. Bombs struck the Tower of London during World War II.

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This resource also includes TWO tests with different Lexile Levels for student assessment.

TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, DETAILS

2nd & 3rd grade

Table of Contents

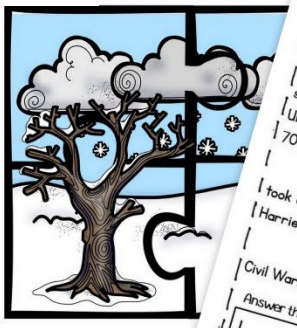
*This product includes 12 Lexile® leveled passages in the 2nd-3rd Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 2nd-3rd grade is 420L-820L). Each passage and question set is two pages long.

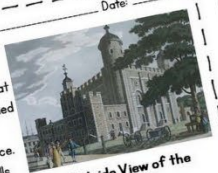
1. Topic, Main Idea, Details Anchor Chart (2 pgs.)
2. Main Idea Puzzle (1 pg.)
3. Mercury- 480L
4. Harriet Tubman- 480L
5. The Amish Way of Life- 500L
6. Bears- 530L
7. How to Make Pancakes- 610L
8. Anaconda Snakes- 740L
9. The Wampanoag Native Americans- 760L
10. Thunder and Lightning- 780L
11. Ryan Hreljac Makes His Mark-790L
12. The Super Bowl- 810L
13. Topic, Main Idea, Details Test
    - The Tower of London- 680L
    - Labor Day- 760L

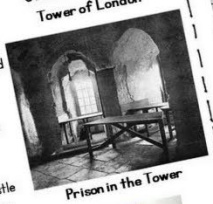
Anchor Charts for Interactive Notebooks

12 Lexile Leveled Non Fiction Passages in 2-nd-3rd Grade Text Complexity Band

Test formatted just like practice passages







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	925L-1185L

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."

480L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman was born in 1822 in Maryland. She was a slave. When Harriet was five years old, her job was to take care of her owner's baby. When she got older, she worked in the fields.

In 1849 Harriet escaped slavery. She fled to Pennsylvania. The journey was 90 miles. Harriet returned to Maryland to rescue her family. After, she continued to help other slaves. She made about thirteen trips. Harriet rescued around 70 slaves. She traveled at night to avoid being caught. Slave owners were furious. They offered rewards for her capture. After she rescued slaves, Harriet helped them find work. She took them as far North as Canada.

During the US Civil War, Harriet worked for the Union Army. The Union Army fought for the northern and southern states to stay together. Northern states were free states. Southern states were slave states. Harriet worked for the Union Army as a cook and nurse. She also guided an attack. The attack freed more than 700 slaves.

After the Union won the Civil War, Harriet moved to New York. She took care of her parents. She worked for women's right to vote. Harriet got very sick. She died in 1913.

Harriet is still remembered for her work during slavery and the Civil War. She was a courageous hero. She risked her life to help others.

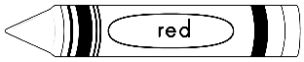
Harriet Tubman in 1880

©Julia Bochoso

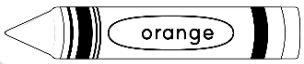
Topic, Main Idea, Details

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

1. What is the topic of this text? Use text evidence to support your answer.



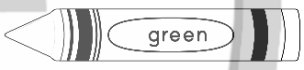
2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text?



a. Harriet Tubman escaped slavery.
b. Harriet Tubman saved many slaves.
c. Harriet Tubman helped the Union Army.
d. Harriet Tubman did many important things throughout her life.

3. What details helped you determine the main idea?

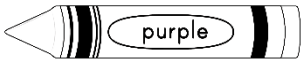
4. What is the main idea of paragraph 1?



5. Based on the text, how could you describe Harriet Tubman? (Choose all that apply).

a. brave
b. heroic
c. fearful
d. daring

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?



a. Harriet led an attack.
b. Harriet freed 700 slaves.
c. Harriet worked for the Union Army.
d. Northern states were free states and southern states were slave states.

©Jodi Backus

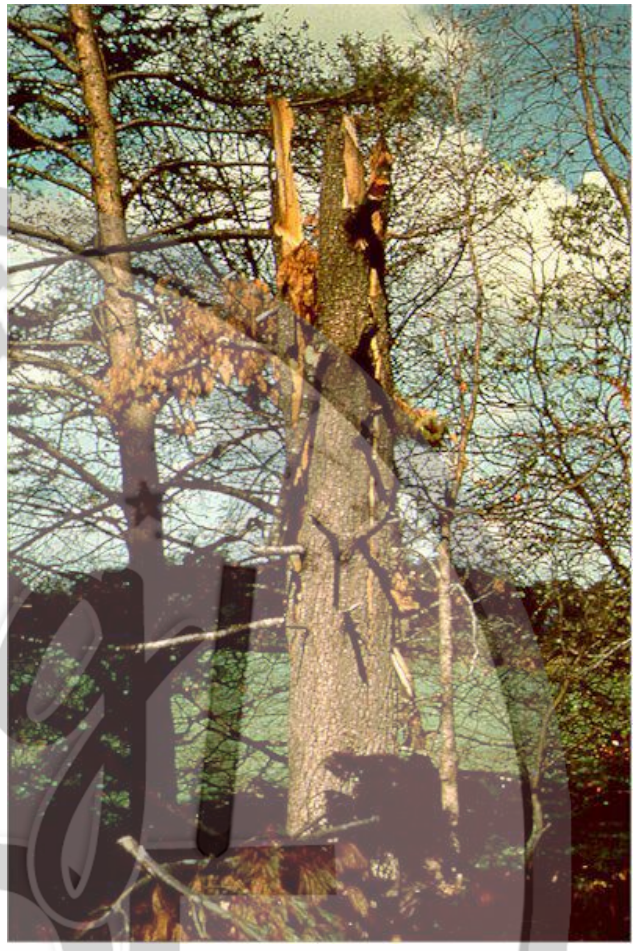
780L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: _____ Date: _____

Thunder and Lightning

Lightning is the flow of electricity between two objects during a storm. Lightning can flow between different parts in a cloud, between two different clouds, or between a cloud and the ground. A strike is when lightning hits an object on the ground. Lightning always comes with thunder; however, you may see lightning without hearing thunder. This is because the lightning is too far away for the thunder to be heard. Lightning is very dangerous. If lightning strikes an object, high heat travels through the object. Lightning can make the sap in a tree evaporate and cause it to explode! Humans that get struck by lightning will usually have a severe injury.

A shock wave that travels along the path of lightning causes thunder. If you see lightning, but do not hear thunder, this means the lightning is far away. If you hear a thunderclap close to the flash of lightning, the lightning is very close. Thunder is a sound that is not harmful. Even so, if you hear thunder, this means lightning is close by. It can strike at any time. This is why it is important to stay inside during a thunderstorm anytime you see lightning or hear thunder!



Tree that was struck by lightning

Cloud to Ground Lightning Strike

©Julia Bochoso

Topic, Main Idea, Details

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

1. What is the topic of this text? Use text evidence to support your answer.

_____

_____

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text?

a. Humans need to be careful of lightning.
b. It is important to learn about thunder and lightning.
c. Lightning is the flow of electricity between two objects.
d. Thunder is caused by a shock wave that travels the path of lightning

3. What details helped you determine the main idea?

_____

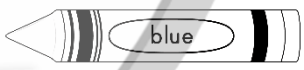
_____

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 1?

_____

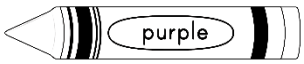
_____

5. What are the different types of lightning? (Choose all that apply).



a. cloud to cloud
b. cloud to ground
c. ground to cloud
d. one part of cloud to another part of cloud

6. What is the topic of paragraph 2?



a. thunder
b. lightning
c. dangers of thunder
d. dangers of lightning

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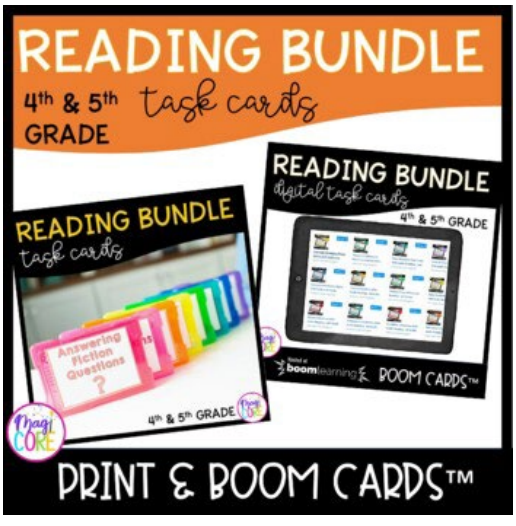

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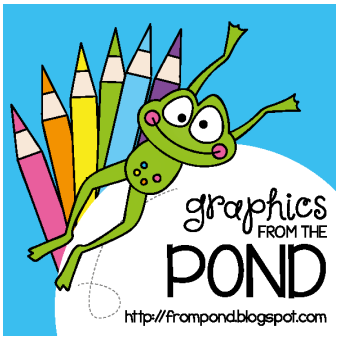
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