

NONFICTION

4TH & 5TH GRADE

RI.4.4/5.4

CONTEXT CLUES LEXILE

TRUSTED BY OVER
3,000
TEACHERS

Paragraph 4 states, "Colonies can be from a few bats to hundreds of bats." Explain the word *colonies* means as it is used in the passage. Support your definition with context clues from the passage.

Colonies are groups of a few bats to hundreds of females, their young.

6. What does the word *scarce* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. limited
b. plentiful
c. generous
d. challenging

7. Read this sentence from paragraph 2 of the text: "A common vampire bat is a liquid." In your own words, write a definition for the word *liquid* that helped you define it.

Liquid means that the bat still has its body...

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

1. What does the word *sanguivorous* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. similar
b. species
c. different
d. feeding on blood

2. Read this sentence from paragraph 2 of the text: "They use their sharp front teeth to *puncture* the skin of their prey." What is the meaning of *puncture* as it is used in the text?

a. eat
b. jump
c. feed
d. break

3. What does the word *dwell* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. live
b. dark
c. hunt
d. countries

...be scarce, a hungry bat will often beg another bat for food. A donor bat regurgitates some of the blood it consumed for the hungry bat. This ensures that the colony survives. Donor bats will also offer food to starving bats.



Vampire bats drink blood to quickly digest the blood so they can urinate two minutes after they have consumed it. They return to their roosts to rest.

Vampire bats are the only mammals that can fly. They survive.



Food
Vampire bats are common in complete darkness. They feed on the blood from mammals.

Anatomy
Unlike other bats, vampire bats have short muzzles. They also have naked nose pads. Common vampire bats have thermoreceptors on their noses. Vampire bats also use infrared radiation to find blood hotspots on their prey. Part of their brains is called the inferior colliculus. This helps them detect breathing of the sleeping animals they prey on. They use their sharp front teeth to puncture the skin of their prey. Unlike most other bats, vampire bats can walk, run, and fly.

Habitat
Vampire bats live in dark places like caves, hollow trees, and buildings. They live between Central and South America.



790L

Context Clues

Name: _____ Date: _____

Vampire Bats

Vampire bats are sanguivorous. They only consume blood. There are three species of vampire bats. These are the common vampire bat, the hairy-legged vampire bat, and the white-winged vampire bat. The three species of vampire bats are similar to each other. This tells us that they once evolved from a common ancestor.

Anatomy

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WHAT'S INSIDE?

PRINTABLE PDFs and **DIGITAL** Google Slides covering the 4th and 5th grade text complexity band with Certified Lexile Levels.

- 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



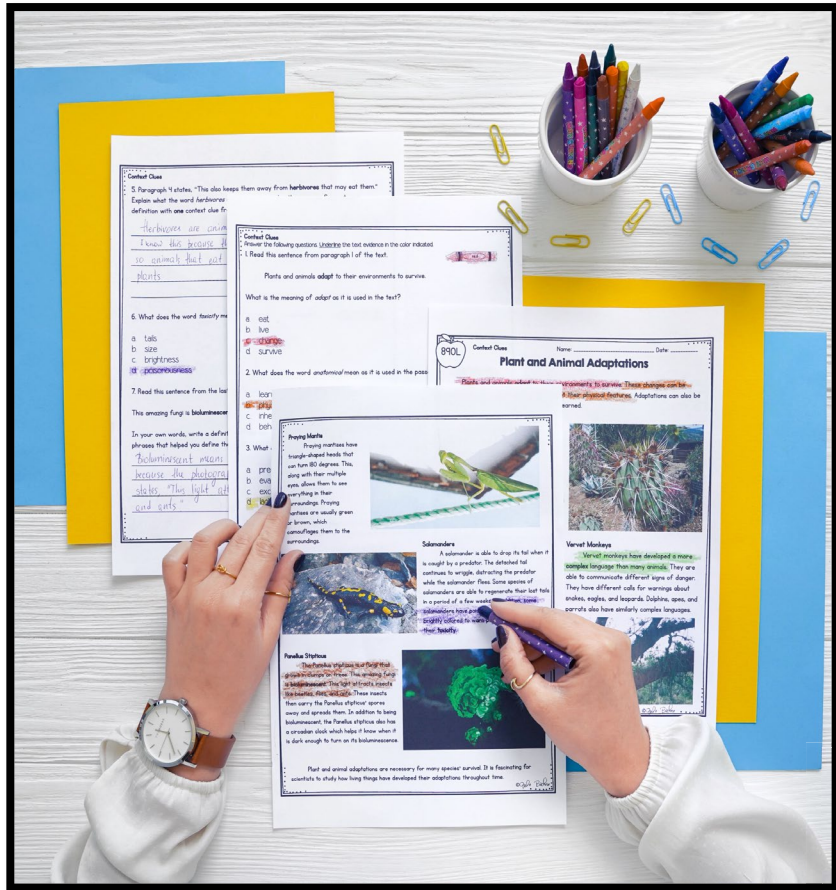
The image shows a sample of a context clues worksheet and a digital tablet displaying a table of contents. The worksheet, titled 'Context Clues' with a Lexile level of 780L, is for a 'Jazz Music' passage. It includes a 'Table of Contents' on the left side of the tablet, listing 14 items with their Lexile levels. The main text on the worksheet discusses the origins of jazz music in New Orleans, Louisiana, and its key elements like improvisation and call and response. It also mentions the 'Jazz Age' of the 1920s and features a photograph of the Bolden Band (1905) and a portrait of Louis Armstrong.

Table of Contents

- 1. Be a Word Detective anchor chart/ journal p.
- 2. Types of Context Clues anchor Chart/ journa
- 3. Historical Text Anchor Chart/Journal Page
- 4. Jazz Music- 780L
- 5. Vampire Bats- 790L
- 6. The New England Puritans- 790L
- 7. Tupac Shakur- 860L
- 8. All About Pickles- 870L
- 9. Plant and Animal Adaptations- 890L
- 10. Gabby Douglas- 900L
- 11. Peer Pressure- 920L
- 12. The Inuit Culture- 930L
- 13. World Wrestling Entertainment- 10C
- 14. Test
 - The Sunshine State- 790L
 - Piranhas- 880L

OO-# The Google Slid
a copy
[CLICK HERE TO](#)
* You MUST have a
need help setting!

10 NONFICTION PASSAGES



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



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

QUESTIONS

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

Word Detectives Use Context Clues

Definition (meaning)
The concept, or idea, was new to her.

Examples
• Like: The data, such as reading level growth, can be found in student binders.
• Such as
• Or

Synonyms (Same)
The turtle slowly sauntered through the grass.

Antonyms (Opposite)
The plate wasn't brittle since it did not break when she dropped it on the floor.

Word Parts
Is there a helpful prefix, suffix, or root word?
helpful rewrite
prewrite

Plant and Animal Adaptations

890L Context Clues Name: _____ Date: _____

Plants and animals adapt to their environments to survive.

What is the meaning of *adapt* as it is used in the text?

a. eat
b. live
c. change
d. survive

2. What does the word *anatomical* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. learned
b. physical
c. inherited
d. behavioral

3. What does the word *drought* mean as it is used in the passage?

a. predators
b. evaporation
c. excess water
d. lack of water

4. Paragraph 3 says, "Vervet monkeys have developed a more complex language than many animals." What is the meaning of *complex* as it is used in the text?

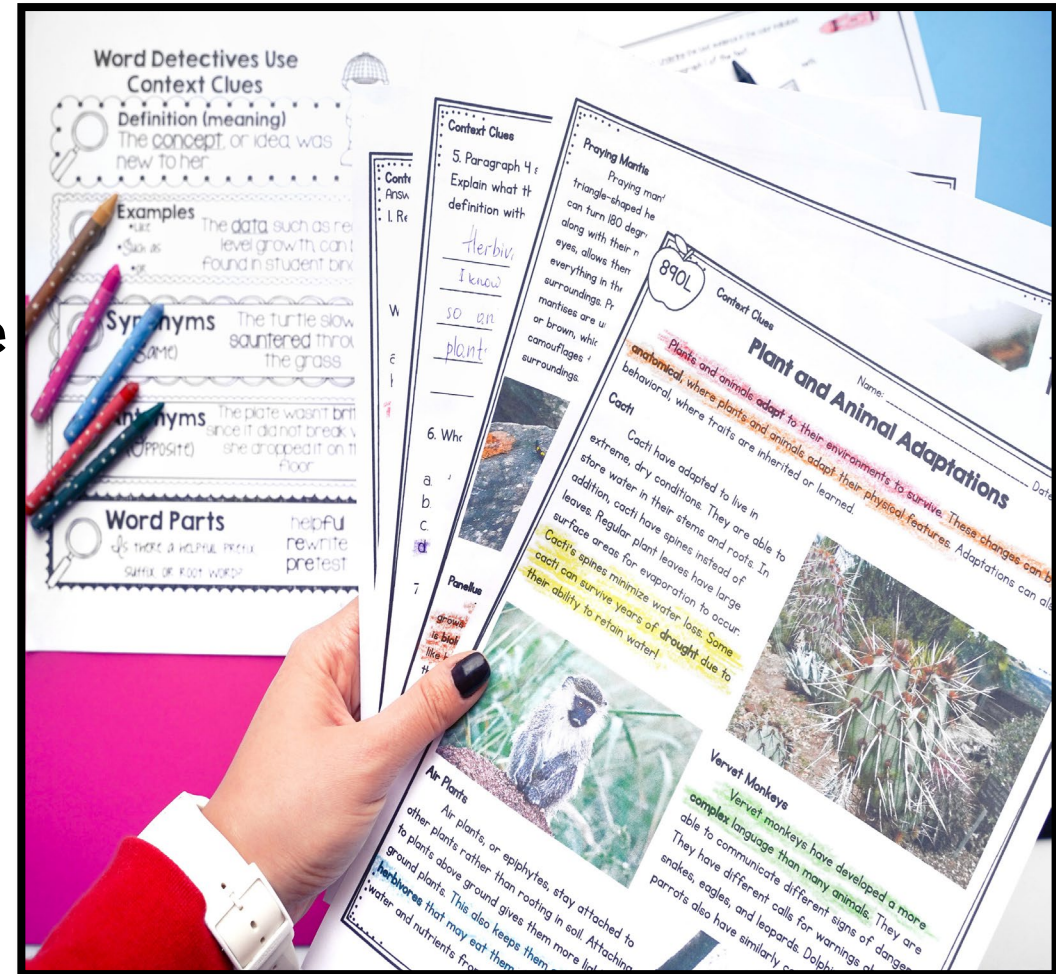
a. easy
b. simple
c. similar
d. complicated

Salamanders
A salamander is able to drop its tail when it is caught by a predator. The detached tail continues to wriggle, distracting the predator. Salamanders are able to regenerate their lost tails over a period of a few weeks. Salamanders also have poisonous skin. Their skin is covered in warts to warn potential predators of their toxicity.

Magi CORE

ANCHOR CHARTS

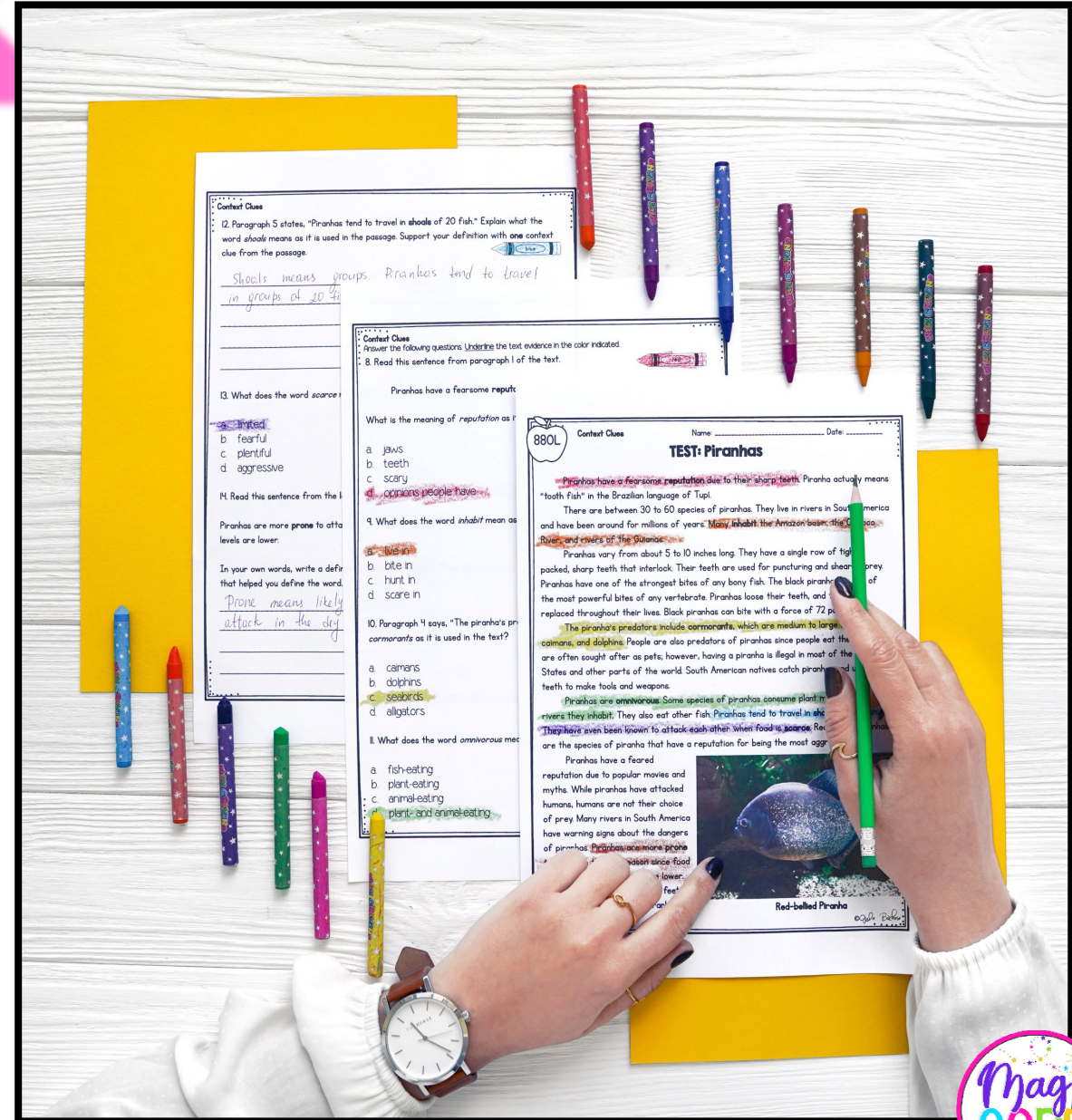
- Anchor charts
- Use to introduce the skill
- Students reference throughout the unit



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

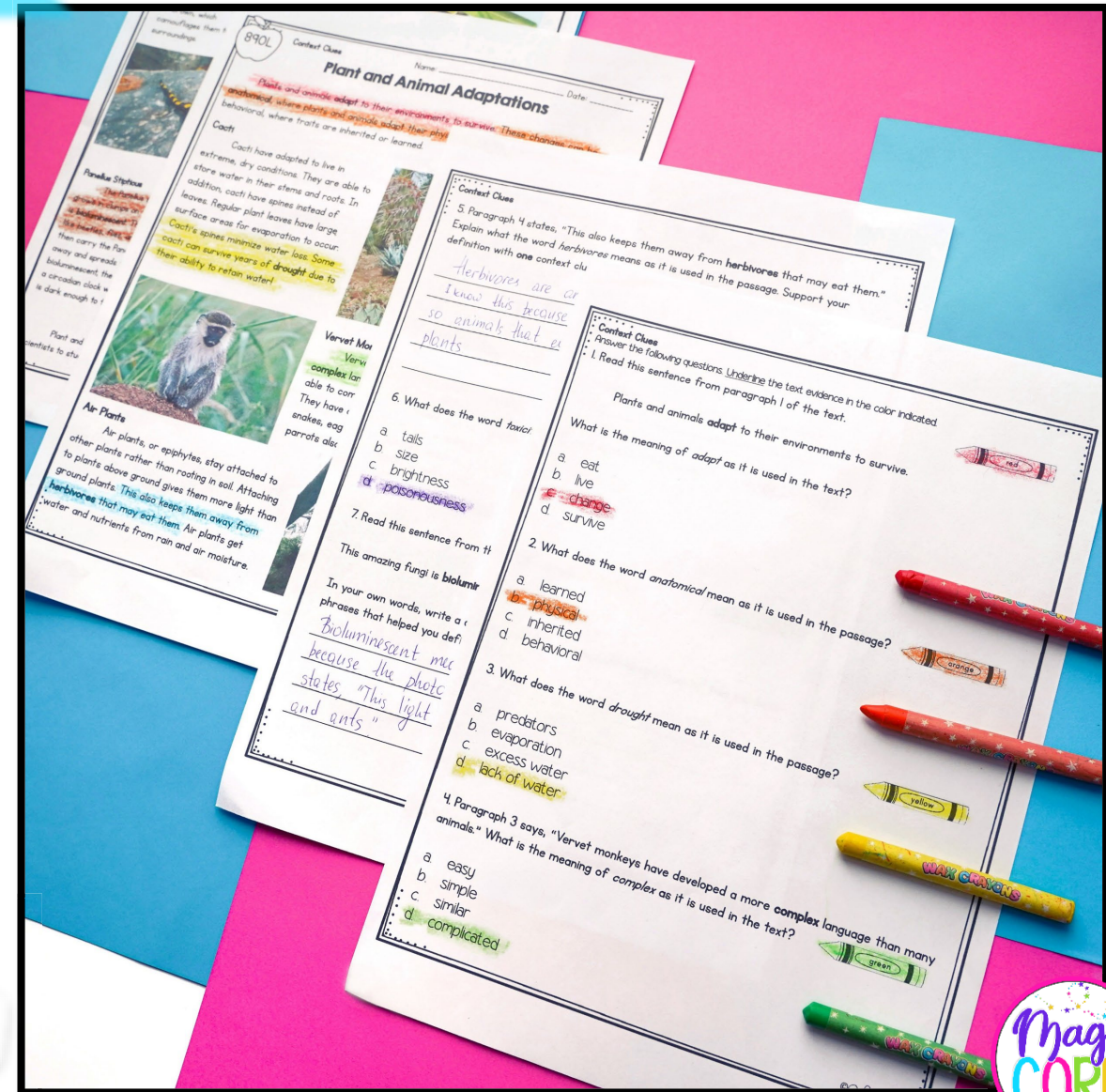
ASSESSMENTS

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



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 3,000 teachers... and counting!



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

CERTIFIED LEXILE PARTNER

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

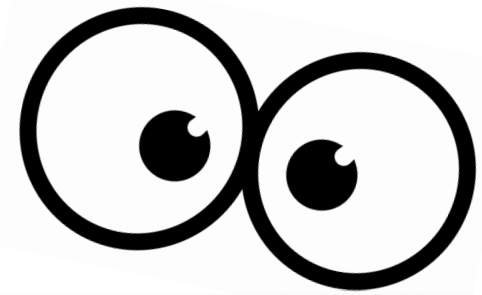
The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for 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 that 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	190L-530L
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1140L
6-8	1060L-1460L

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

TAKE A PEEK



CONTEXT CLUES

4th & 5th grade

Table of Contents

*This product includes 12 Lexile® leveled stories in the 4th-5th Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 4th-5th grade is 740L-1010L).

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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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4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1185L

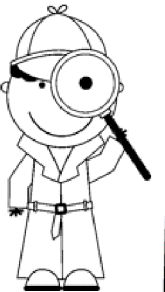
Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding 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."

Be a Word Detective!

Context Clues- Clues in a text that can help me figure out what a word means

Where Are Context Clues?

- Look right **after** the word.
- Look in the sentence **after** the word.
- Look in the sentence **before** the word.

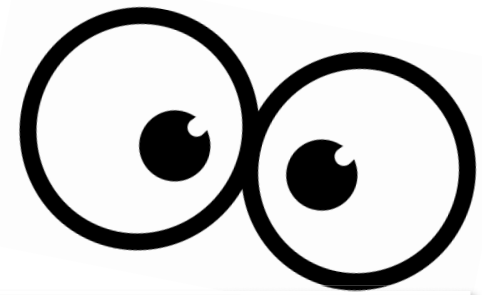


Next...

- **Replace** the unknown word with the new word.
- Ask yourself, "Does the new word make sense?"



AND ANOTHER PEEK



790L

Context Clues

Name: _____ Date: _____

The New England Puritans

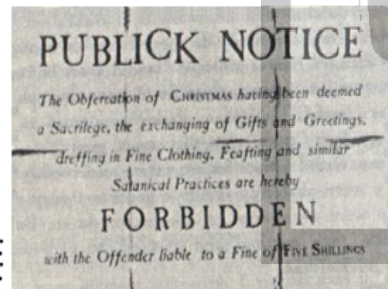
The Puritans were a group of people that practiced a sect of the Protestant religion. They sought to purify the church of England from practices in the Catholic Church. From 1630 to 1641, 21,000 Puritans **immigrated** from England to New England. They journeyed to New England after 1630 to support the Massachusetts Bay Colony and other new settlements.

Education

New England Puritans valued education. Unlike some Puritans in England, they believed that everyone should be educated. One of the leaders, John Winthrop, founded the school that later became Harvard College. In school, children learned about the Bible. By the 1670s, all New England colonies except Rhode Island had laws that required that children learn to read. Girls usually only attended reading schools. Boys would attend grammar schools. Women taught reading to children. Men taught higher education to boys. Women were forbidden to attend a university.

Rules

Plymouth Colony Puritans did not **permit** Christmas celebrations. Celebrations were outlawed in Boston from 1659 to 1681. Many colonies also **banned** entertainment such as drama and gambling. The Puritans were **intolerant** of other religions. They would banish people of other religions who entered their colonies. If they returned, they would execute them.



Notice Posted in Boston Stating that Christmas Is Illegal

©John Bachor

People Who Made Change

The rules of the Puritans were **harsh** and often unforgiving to people who broke them. Despite this, there were a few heroic people who stood against the **injustices** they witnessed.

Ann Hutchinson

Ann Hutchinson was a Puritan spiritual adviser. She was also a mother to 14 children. She hosted meetings at her house in which she commented on recent sermons. Hutchinson criticized local ministers at her popular meetings. Because of her **outspoken criticism**, Ann was put on trial. She was convicted and banished from the colony in 1637. Hutchinson and her supporters started their own settlement called Portsmouth. Hutchinson is remembered for being an important person who helped develop religious freedom in American colonies.



Ann Hutchinson on Trial



Roger Williams with Narraganset Indians

Roger Williams

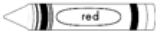
Roger Williams was a Puritan who was banned from the colony of Massachusetts. They thought he was spreading new and dangerous ideas. Williams fled from Massachusetts to escape his arrest. He began his own settlement called Providence Plantation. His settlement was a **refuge** for others who wanted religious freedom. He originated the idea of the separation of church and state. Roger Williams became the founder of the First Baptist Church in America. He was one of the first **abolitionists** in North America. He attempted to prohibit slavery in the colonies.

©John Bachor

Context Clues

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

1. Read this sentence from paragraph 1 of the text.

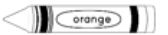


From 1630 to 1641, 21,000 Puritans **immigrated** from England to New England.

What is the meaning of *immigrated* as it is used in the text?

- a. lived
- b. visited
- c. vacationed
- d. moved permanently

2. What does the word *permit* mean as it is used in the passage?



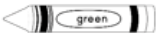
- a. forbid
- b. allow
- c. agree
- d. celebrate

3. What does the word *banned* mean as it is used in the passage?



- a. played
- b. allowed
- c. tolerated
- d. disallowed

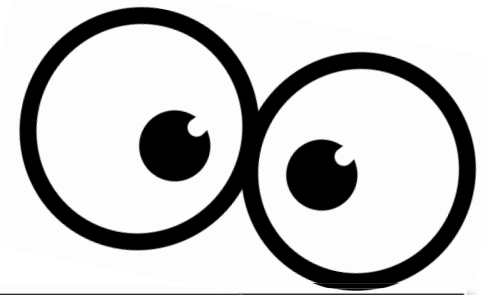
4. Paragraph 3 says, "The Puritans were **intolerant** of other religions." What is the meaning of *intolerant* as it is used in the text?



- a. friendly
- b. accepting
- c. welcoming
- d. unaccepting

©John Bachor

CHECK THIS OUT TOO!



860L

Context Clues

Name: _____ Date: _____

Tupac Shakur



Lesane Parish Crooks was born on June 16, 1971. He was born in East Harlem in Manhattan in New York City. In 1972, Lesane was renamed Tupac after Túpac Amaru II, a Peruvian revolutionary. Tupac had an older stepbrother and a half-sister. His stepbrother, Mopreme, performed in many of Tupac's recordings later on.

Tupac's mother and father were members of the **Black Panther Party** in New York during the late 1960s and early 1970s. The Black Panthers were a group of people who fought against racism. Tupac was born a month after his mother was **acquitted** and found not guilty of over 150 charges of destructing US and New York landmarks.

Multiple people who were close to Tupac were in the Black Liberation Army. Some of them were **convicted** of serious crimes and spent time in jail. Tupac's stepfather was on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list for helping his godmother escape from jail.

In 1986, Tupac and his family moved to Baltimore, Maryland. Tupac attended Baltimore School for the Arts. He studied acting, poetry, jazz, and ballet. He acted in Shakespearean plays and played the Mouse King in the *The Nutcracker*. He was inspired by Shakespeare. He won many rap competitions at his school. Tupac was one of the most popular kids because of his talent and humorous personality.

In 1988, Tupac and his family moved to Marin City, California. Tupac continued to act and perform. He had a talent for writing poetry and rap that connected to people. Tupac wrote in a school paper, "Our raps, not the sorry story raps everyone is so tired of. They are about what happens in the real world. Our goal is to have people relate to our raps, making it easier to see what is really happening out there. Even more important, what we may do to better our world."

©John Becker

Tupac began recording his raps in 1987. In 1990, Tupac was noticed at a concert. He signed a contract with Atron Gregory. Tupac became a backup dancer for Digital Underground, the hip hop group. Tupac made his **debut** in 1991 in the movie *Nothing but Trouble*. He appeared in the film and had a song on the soundtrack to the movie.

In November 1991, Tupac released his first solo album, *2Pacalypse Now*. Many rappers consider this album to be a great inspiration. This album was very **controversial**. While the raps were poetic, they discussed **social injustices** such as police brutality and racism. Tupac continued to release albums and raps that were controversial, poetic, violent, and emotional. Tupac also starred in numerous movies.

Tupac had many legal issues throughout his life. On November 30, 1994, Tupac was robbed and shot five times at Quad Recording Studios in New York City. Tupac accused Sean Combs, Biggie, and others of setting up the shooting. Tupac spent time in jail for committing crimes. While in jail, he released his album *Me Against the World*. This album became number one on the Billboard 200. After he was released from jail, friends noticed that he became dark and troubled.

On September 7, 1996, Tupac went to a boxing match in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the match, a gang member who had previously robbed one of Tupac's friends was spotted. Tupac and his entourage got into a huge fight with the gang member. On his way to a club, Tupac and his entourage were shot at. Tupac was hit four times. He was taken to the hospital. Days later, Tupac died in the hospital.

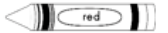
Despite his death, Tupac's **legacy** lives on. He has influenced many modern rappers. Tupac's mother started a foundation in his honor to support students in arts. He has been called one of the most influential rappers of all time.

©John Becker

Context Clues

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

1. Read this sentence from paragraph 1 of the text.



Tupac's mother and father were members of the **Black Panther Party** in New York during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

What is *the Black Panther Party*?

- a. Tupac's family
- b. Tupac's first band
- c. the Black Liberation party
- d. a group of people who fought against racism

2. What does the word *acquitted* mean as it is used in the passage?



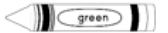
- a. committed a crime
- b. charged of a crime
- c. to find someone guilty
- d. to find someone not guilty

3. What does the word *convicted* mean as it is used in the passage?



- a. set free
- b. sent to jail
- c. found guilty
- d. found innocent

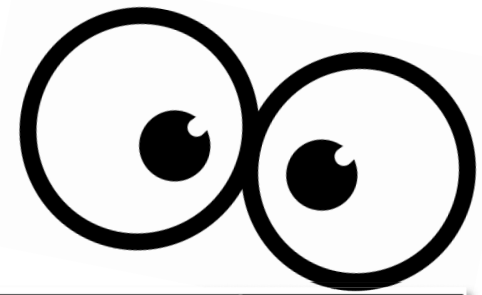
4. Paragraph 1 on page 2 says, "Tupac made his **debut** in 1991 in the movie *Nothing but Trouble*." What is the meaning of *debut* as it is used in the text?



- a. music
- b. video
- c. awards
- d. first appearance

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UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!



790L


Context Clues Name: _____ Date: _____

TEST: The Sunshine State

Florida is located in the Southeastern United States. Florida is the third most **populous** state in the United States. There are over 20 million people. Florida is a **peninsula**. It is surrounded by water on three sides and land to the north. The Atlantic Ocean is to the east. The Gulf of Mexico is to the West. The states Georgia and Alabama border Florida to the north. The climate is tropical in the southern part of the state and subtropical in the northern part of the state.

History


In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León landed in Florida. He named the land "La Florida". This means "land of the flowers". At the time, the state was occupied by Native Americans. Some native tribes included the Apalachee, Timucua, Ais, Tocobago, Calusa, and the Tequesta. Later on, numerous colonies were set up throughout Florida. Florida became the 27th state in 1845.



Juan Ponce de León

Weather

Florida is nicknamed the "Sunshine State". Despite this nickname, Florida has severe weather. Florida has one of the highest **precipitation** levels of any state. The average annual rainfall is 59.2 inches. Afternoon storms occur almost daily from late spring until early fall. Central Florida is the lightning capital of the United States. Florida has the most tornadoes per area of any state. These tornadoes do not tend to be as strong as ones that occur in the Midwest. Due to the tropical climate and long coastline, Florida also is the state that is most **susceptible** to hurricanes. Hurricane season lasts from June 1 through November 30.




Tornado in Miami in 1997

©Julie Bacher

Fauna

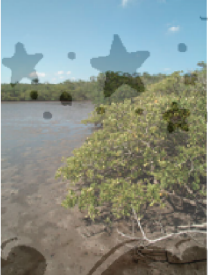
Amazing wildlife lives in Florida. Bottlenose dolphins, North Atlantic right whales, and West Indian manatees live in the oceans. Florida panthers can be found in swamplands. Many reptiles live in Florida. Some include American alligators, American crocodiles, eastern diamondback and pygmy rattlesnakes, and green and leatherback sea turtles. Many fascinating types of **fauna** inhabit the Everglades National Park.



West Indian Manatees

Flora

The **flora** in Florida is expansive, as well. Florida has about 3,000 types of wildflowers. **Mangroves** are prevalent in Florida marshes, including in the Everglades. These hardy shrubs and trees grow in salt or brackish water. Orange and other citrus trees are also grown in Florida. Florida produces the majority of citrus grown in the United States.



Mangroves

Tourism

Tourism is very important to Florida's economy. Over a million people are employed in the tourist industry. Florida beaches are popular tourist destinations. People visit the calm and shelly shores of the Gulf in Clearwater Beach. They also visit the waves of the Atlantic in Miami Beach. Theme parks are another huge tourist destination. Walt Disney World Resort is located in Orlando. Disney has over 50 million visitors annually. There are other popular theme parks including Universal Orlando Resort, SeaWorld Orlando, and Busch Gardens Tampa.

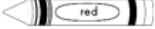
Florida is a state with a lot of things to see. If you pay a visit to this amazing state, you can learn about the history, look for interesting plants and animals, and see amazing beaches and theme parks.

©Julie Bacher

Context Clues

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

1. Read these sentences from paragraph 1 of the text.




Florida is the third most **populous** state in the United States. There are over 20 million people.

What is the meaning of *populous* as it is used in the text?


- a. sunny
- b. empty
- c. popular
- d. full of people

2. What does the word *peninsula* mean as it is used in the passage?




- a. land next to an ocean
- b. land that borders two states
- c. land surrounded by water on three sides
- d. land with the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Gulf of Mexico to the west

3. What does the word *precipitation* mean as it is used in the passage?



- a. snow
- b. thunder
- c. hurricanes
- d. rain, snow, hail, or other forms of condensation

4. Paragraph 3 says, "Due to the tropical climate and long coastline, Florida also is the state that is most **susceptible** to hurricanes." What is the meaning of *susceptible* as it is used in the text?

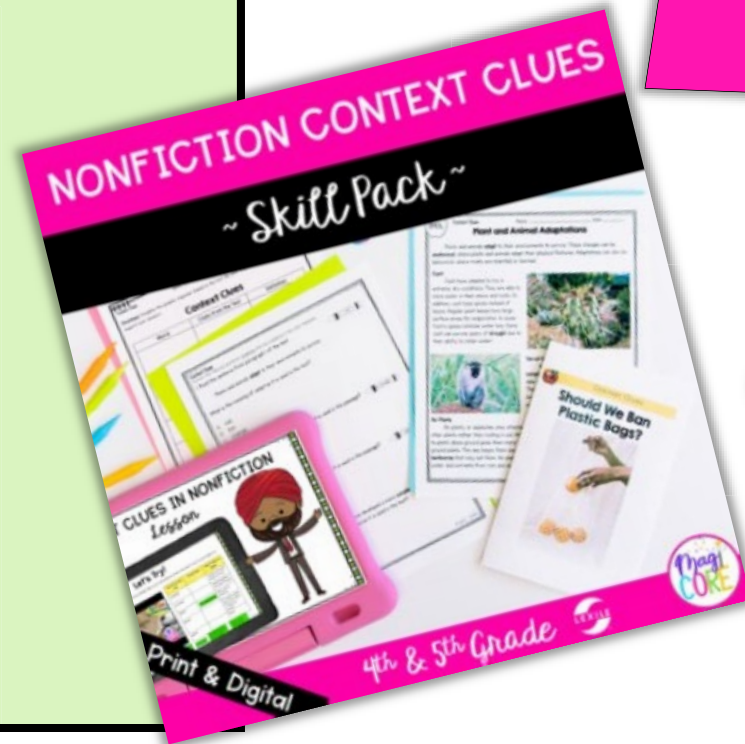


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UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS!

The [CONTEXT CLUES IN NONFICTION SKILL PACK](#) Contains:

- Reading Comprehension Passage Unit
- Skill Focused Lesson Plans
- Digital Mini-Lessons
- Guided Reading Packet
- Printable Task Cards
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