

SUMMARIZE FICTION

task cards

* Summarize Fiction Challenge

Pick three cards to summarize the story. Share your summary with a buddy.

SUMMARIZE FICTION



14 Summarize Fiction

Elisabeth's fingers ached from all the candles she'd helped her father light. Surely, they'd be ready for the storm now. Her father had boarded up the windows, making the house dark and spooky. Thunder rumbled in the distance, and rain would start pouring over Mrs. Wells, Lissie." Mama held up a small basket, "I'm giving you extra." Elisabeth thanked her for the candles, but she had already made it home just as the storm

1 Summarize Fiction

Lucien stared at the list of chores his dad had given him. It had everything from "rake the leaves in the yard" to "wash both cars." He'd have to spend his entire Saturday on this list, but it would be worth it when his dad handed over the extra allowance Lucien had begged for. Then, he'd be able to buy the new pair of soccer cleats he wanted so badly.

He worked hard all day. The yard was leafless. The cars were spotless. Lucien had done every chore with care, and his dad was pleased. When that money hit Lucien's palm, he did a victory dance around the driveway. Dad offered to drive him to the sports equipment store to get the cleats.

"Okay," Lucien said. "But don't get the car all dirty. I just cleaned that thing!"

Which shows the correct sequence to summarize the story?

- Lucien does chores, he buys cleats, he earns extra money.
- Lucien buys cleats, he does chores, he earns extra money.
- Lucien has a list of chores, he does the chores, he earns extra money.

Answer Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Card #	Answer	Card #	Answer
1.		16.	
2.		17.	
3.		18.	
4.		19.	
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30 Summarize Fiction

"The river is nearly dried up," Whitman said. "If we don't do something, we'll be out of water in a day or two." He looked at the other villagers gathered around. "Does anyone have any ideas?"

A small girl named Mia stepped forward. "What if we all worked together to dig a well?"

The villagers were out of other options, so they gathered all the shovels they could find. They dug in shifts near the river. After days of hard work, water finally bubbled up from the ground. People filled buckets and jugs, barrels, and troughs. "Thank you, Mia," Whitman said. "Without you, we would have suffered."

27 Summarize Fiction

Astrid adjusted her mask and snorkel. She couldn't believe she was going to swim with dolphins. She'd wanted to do this since she'd studied dolphins in school. She had finally come.

"Ready?" her grandmother asked.

"Definitely!" Astrid followed all the directions their guide had given them and soon, she was surrounded by dolphins. They glided through the water around her as if they were dancing. Astrid swam along with them, pretending to be a dolphin too. She felt so free and as if she belonged with them. This was a wonderful first experience. Astrid knew it wouldn't be her last.

Which shows the correct sequence of events to summarize this story?

- Astrid studies dolphins, she swims with them, she wants to swim with dolphins.
- Astrid swims with dolphins, she wants to do it again, she studies dolphins.
- Astrid belongs with dolphins, she studies them, she swims with dolphins.
- Astrid adjusts her mask, she studies dolphins, she swims with dolphins.

FLORIDA
B.E.S.T.
STANDARDS

3rd Grade

Mag
CORE

Ways to Use Task Cards

1. **Centers**
2. **Scoot:** Pass out one card for each student. Set a timer and say, “scoot!” when the timer goes off. Students move seats to the next card. They continue to rotate until they are back at their original seat.
3. **Scavenger Hunt:** Hide cards around the room. Students search for cards and answer them.
4. **Jenga:** Number Jenga blocks. Students stack the blocks, then take turns pulling blocks. Students answer the corresponding number card.
5. **Whole class practice:** Teacher displays card on the projector. Students answer on mini whiteboards.
6. **Exit Tickets:** Give each student a task card at the end of the lesson. Have them answer on a sticky note.

1 Summarize Fiction

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“Okay,” Lucien said. “But don’t get the car all dirty. I just cleaned that thing!”

Which shows the correct sequence to summarize the story?

- a. Lucien does chores, he buys cleats, he earns extra money.
- b. Lucien buys cleats, he does chores, he earns extra money.
- c. Lucien has a list of chores, he does the chores, he earns extra money.
- d. Lucien has a list of chores, he earns extra money, he does the chores.

2 Summarize Fiction

Anna set her pack down and gazed up to the treetops. A chorus of birds sang a happy morning tune to her. Walking in the woods at sunrise was her favorite thing to do. No other people were around. She had the woods to herself. If she walked quietly, Anna was often treated to a concert from the birds. She lowered to sit on a boulder. She enjoyed the birdsong while writing in her journal. She snapped a few pictures of the morning mist that hung over the lake. A group of ducks rippled the water as they swam. Anna then picked up her pack and continued on her hike. When she came upon a Great Blue Heron on the shore, she watched it until it spread its huge wings and took to the skies. Sometimes, Anna wished she was a bird living in the forest too.

Which sentence best summarizes this story?

- a. Anna gets lost hiking in the woods.
- b. Anna writes in her journal while listening to birdsong.
- c. Anna goes hiking at sunrise to enjoy the birds.
- d. Anna takes pictures of the lake and ducks.

3 Summarize Fiction

“It’s him! It’s really him!” Charlie jumped up and down. The line to meet his favorite author had been all the way out the door. He’d finally made it inside the bookstore and had gotten a quick peek at the author. Charlie couldn’t believe he was in the same space as the man who had written the coolest characters he’d ever read. He had reread the books many times. They were the best stories.

When he finally made it to the table where the author sat, every question Charlie had wanted to ask flew out of his head. He could barely say his name when the author asked. “I like your books,” he finally managed to say.

“I like your shirt.” The author stood and slid off his jacket. He was wearing the same T-shirt as Charlie! That unlocked Charlie’s mind, and his questions tumbled out. The author answered every one, and Charlie made the memory of a lifetime.

What is Charlie’s main challenge in this story?

- a. Charlie can’t stand waiting in lines.
- b. Charlie is too afraid to speak to his favorite author.
- c. Charlie doesn’t know which book to read next.
- d. Charlie can’t find the right section in the bookstore.

4 Summarize Fiction

Christy glared at the peas on her plate. They were tiny things, but they were the reason she was still seated at the table. She had to finish them if she wanted dessert. Dessert was Gran’s brownies – Christy’s favorite. Her brother was already enjoying brownies. He’d inhaled his peas. Why couldn’t she do the same?

Because peas are gross! Their outsides were all wrinkled. Their insides were pure mush. She should have eaten them with the other food.

Her brother let out a yummy noise as he ate a second brownie. If she didn’t act fast, there would be no more brownies left. That made Christy shovel peas into her mouth. She barely chewed and then swallowed. Two more times and the peas were gone. She reached for a brownie and took a huge bite. The nasty taste of peas was replaced by chocolaty goodness.

What is Christy’s problem in this story?

- a. Christy was still seated at the table.
- b. Christy’s brother is making yummy noises.
- c. Christy is too full to finish her dinner.
- d. Christy doesn’t want to eat the peas on her plate.

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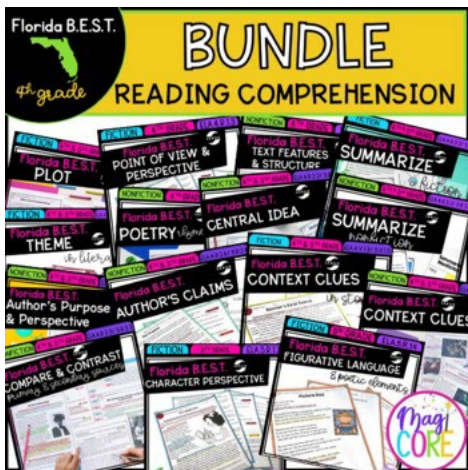


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