

BETTER Than Basal!
 Complete No Prep
 READING & WRITING UNITS
 for 40 Popular
 Mentor Texts

100+ ORGANIZERS
 with Answer Keys!

COTTON CORE Aligned

Name: _____ Date: _____

First Day Jitters

Summarize the story:

What? Sarah, the teacher

When? The first day of school

Where? At her new school

Why? She didn't want to get up early to her new school

Why? She was nervous about, thinking of, a new school

Name: _____ Date: _____

First Day Jitters

Describe how Sarah responded and how you would respond to these events:

Event	How did Sarah respond?	How would you have responded?
Mr. Hartwell tells Sarah it's time to get up and go to school.	She pulled his hair and said she wasn't going. She didn't want to go to a new school.	Answers will vary.
Mr. Hartwell drives Sarah to her new school.	She said she was nervous and she didn't know anyone.	Answers will vary.

Name: _____ Date: _____

First Day Jitters

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance:

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the character(s)?
 Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how nervous Sarah is about her new school, or that we learned how helpful Mr. Hartwell is to Sarah.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Officer Buckle and Gloria

Describe Officer Buckle's feelings during the story:

All the beginning... Officer Buckle was happy to have a friend to help him.

In the middle... Officer Buckle was upset that Gloria got all the attention.

At the end... Officer Buckle was glad to know he was missed, and liked being a team with Gloria.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Officer Buckle and Gloria

Tell about the problem and solution in the story:

Problem: No one was listening to Officer Buckle when he delivered his safety tips.

Solution: Gloria was entertaining, which made the attention.

How would you have solved the problem?
 Answers will vary.
 I would have tried to be more entertaining.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Officer Buckle and Gloria

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance:

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the character(s)?
 Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how Gloria was entertaining in the stories when Officer Buckle didn't know...

Name: _____ Date: _____

Memoirs of a Goldfish

Summarize the story:

Somebody: The goldfish

Wanted: The bowl of his home again

But: When he got his bowl he wanted to miss them

So: He was very happy when his owner put him into a larger tank with his friends.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Memoirs of a Goldfish

Describe events from the story:

Event	How did the goldfish respond?	How would you have responded?
Mr. Bubbles was put into the goldfish bowl.	He didn't like the looks of him and thinks he is creepy.	Answers will vary.
All of the fish were crowding the goldfish bowl.	He lost it and yelled that he wanted his bowl back.	Answers will vary.
The goldfish was put into a tiny, clean bowl.	At first he liked having his own bowl again, but then he missed his friends.	Answers will vary.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Memoirs of a Goldfish

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance:

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the writing?
 Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how the bowl was so crowded, water was splashing out.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Chrysanthemum

Summarize the story.

Sombody
Chrysanthemum

Want
Everyone to love her name as much as she did.

But...
Others made fun of her until her mom.

So
she felt very sad until Mrs. Twinkle complimented her name.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Chrysanthemum

Give details to support the moral of the story.

Moral
You should treat others the way you want to be treated.

Detail
Chrysanthemum would wear a crown and a tiara.

Detail
Chrysanthemum was called "Candy" when she was in kindergarten.

Detail
Chrysanthemum had a nightmare because of the way she was treated.

I learned...
It doesn't make others feel good when you make fun of them!



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Chrysanthemum

Describe the character's challenge and response in the story.

Chrysanthemum's Challenge
People were making fun of her long name.

How did Chrysanthemum respond?
At first, Chrysanthemum felt very sad and didn't like her name, but then she realized her name was perfect when Mrs. Twinkle loved it so much.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Scaredy Squirrel

Summarize the story.

Who?
Scaredy Squirrel

When?
In his nut tree.

What?
is afraid of the unknown.

Why?
He is scared of all the bad things that could happen to him!



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Scaredy Squirrel

Describe the character's challenge and response in the story.

Scaredy Squirrel's Challenge
He fell out of his tree, and he was terrified of leaving his tree.

How did Scaredy Squirrel respond?
At first, he stays head but then he realizes the unknown isn't as dangerous as he thought.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Skippyjon Jones

Give details to support the main idea of the book.

Main Idea
Skippyjon Jones has a great imagination and thinks he is a Chihuahua instead of a Siamese cat.

He plays in his room and imagines as a Chihuahua instead of thinking about being a cat.

Skippyjon was really
bouncing around and his birthday party, but pretending he was in Texas.

He says he is a great sword fighter that can defeat the Bunbun!



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Skippyjon Jones

Describe events from the story.

Event	How did Skippyjon Jones respond?	How would you have responded?
Mama Junebug Jones and Skippyjon Jones had a race to drink milk. Skippyjon was drinking a	He pretended to be a Chihuahua. He was so proud to be a Chihuahua. He played instead of doing what he was told.	My answer will be...
The Bunbun was over at the Chihuahua's.	Skippyjon was afraid but he popped the Bunbun and was a hero.	
Mama Junebug Jones and the girls ran to Skippyjon's room to see what was happening.	He probably thought he was going to be in trouble again because he used a very soft voice.	



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Skippyjon Jones

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the character(s)?
Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how brave Skippyjon Jones is in his imagination.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

cookie → **milk**

napkin → **mirror**

scissors → **broom**

paper and crayons → **pen**

milk → **cookie**

What did you learn about the character(s)?
Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how messy the mouse is, or how kind the boy is trying to keep up with the mouse.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the character(s)?
Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how messy the mouse is, or how kind the boy is trying to keep up with the mouse.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Paperboy

Describe the character's challenge and response in the story.

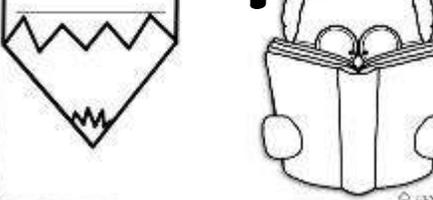
The Paperboy's Challenge

He has to get up early everyday to deliver the papers.

How did the paperboy respond?
He is responsible, and even though it's hard sometimes to get out of bed, he does his job.

Find _____

The boy and his dog returned home and went back to bed while everyone else got up.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Paperboy

Summarize the story.

Beginning:
The boy and his dog wake up before the sun came up because they had a job to do.

Find _____

End:
The boy and his dog returned home and went back to bed while everyone else got up.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Paperboy

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the setting?
Depending on the picture- could be that we learned how dark and quiet it is in his neighborhood when he does his job.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Stellaluna

Describe Stellaluna's feelings during the story.

At the beginning...
Stellaluna felt sad and lonely as she separated from her mother. She began to feel better when she became part of a bird family, but she still felt very different from them.

Find _____

Stellaluna was embarrassed about being different from Pip, Tiller, and Flap.

At the end...
Stellaluna was happy to be reunited with her family and discovering all of the bat things she could do, but still could be friends with the birds.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Stellaluna

Summarize the story.

Beginning:
One night, Mother Bat dropped her baby, Stellaluna, into a forest after an owl knocked them.

Find _____

Stellaluna lived with a family of birds and has to learn to live like a bird, including bugs and sleeping right-side up at night.

End:
Stellaluna is reunited with her bat family, but remains friends with her bird family too.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Stellaluna

Tell how the characters' points of view are different in the story.

Event	Point of View (two characters)	Feelings
eating bugs	Stellaluna birds	disgusted, but hungry satisfied, love bugs
hanging by your feet	Stellaluna Mama Bird	embarrassed worrying, thinks it is dangerous
flying at night	Stellaluna Pip, Tiller, and Flap	felt like she had rays of light shining from her eyes scared, they can't see



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything

Describe the little old lady's feelings during the story.

At the beginning...
She was not afraid of any of the clothes.

Find _____

At the end...
She was happy to have a new summer suit.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything

Draw the items that name in order and tell what they did.

1 Seeds CLONK CLONK	2 Pair of Pants WIGGLE WIGGLE
3 Shoe SHAK SHAKE	4 Socks CLACK CLACK
5 Hat NOD NOD	6 Pumpkin Hat BOO BOO

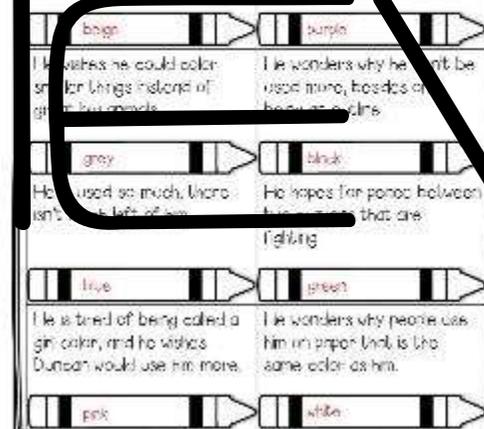


Name: _____ Date: _____

The Day the Crayons Quit

Use evidence from the book to describe which crayon is being described. Write the color in the circle.

He is proud of his color and wishes everyone else liked him just as much.	He wishes Durwin would be more neat and stay inside the lines.
He wishes he could color smaller things instead of giant footprints.	He wonders why he can't be used on the sides of the paper.
He's used so much, there isn't a lot left of me.	He hopes for peace between Durwin and the other crayons that are fighting.
True	green
pink	white



Name: _____ Date: _____

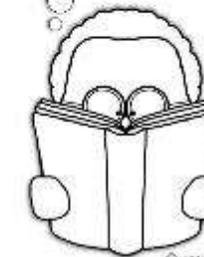
The Day the Crayons Quit

Describe the character's challenge and response in the story.

Durwin's Challenge

All of his crayons write him letters. Some of them want to be used more. Some of them want to be used less.

How did Durwin respond?
He used all the colors equally to make a masterpiece.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Diary of a Worm

Answer the 5 W's



Who does Worm want to work for when he grows up?	He wants to work for the president, as a Secret Service agent.
What happened when Worm tried to teach Spider to dig?	Spider got his head and swallowed dirt when he tried to learn to dig.
When did Worm go to the hockey party?	He did the hokey pokey at night.
Where did Worm and his family go after Christmas?	After it rained, they went on the sidewalk.
Why was hopscotch a dangerous game?	Hopscotch is dangerous for a worm because people are jumping and worms can get stepped on.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Diary of a Worm

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.



Worm snuck up on some kids and made them scream.	Worm tried to teach Spider to dig.
Worm had to write "I will not eat my friends" on his sign.	Worm and his family ate spaghetti and wore necklaces.
Worm and Spider got in a fight.	Worm said good morning to 600 ants.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Diary of a Worm

Describe events from the diary.

Event	How did Worm respond?	How would you have responded?
Worm forgot his lunch.	He ate his homework.	Answers will vary.
Worm was being polite to the ants.	He stood there all day saying good morning.	
Worm and Spider got into a fight about legs being cool.	Worm made Spider laugh the next day.	

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Diary of a Fly

Answer the 5 W's



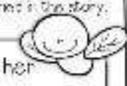
Who does Fly observe for her science assignment?	Fly observes a creepy first grader.
What does Fly learn how to do at school?	She learns how to fly.
What happens to Fly and her siblings at school?	Fly and her siblings got stuck to flypaper when her parents left them with a babysitter.
What does Fly have a time-out in?	Fly has a time-out in the garage.
Why can't Fly have her sister from the worm?	Fly has 327 brothers and sisters, so she has to share.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Diary of a Fly

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.



Fly made a book for her mom.	Fly and her siblings got stuck to flypaper.
Fly, Worm, and Spider looked at each other with a mean fly expression.	Fly learned about the food chain from Worm.
The babysitter brought a frog.	Fly had a time-out in the garage.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving

Use some words that rhyme with each word given in the box.



gobble	bobble	cobble
hobble	wobble	



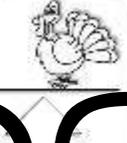
bus	fuss	plus
bay	day	may
lay		

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Name: _____ Date: _____

'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving

Use details to support the main idea of the text.



Main idea: The children do not want the turkeys to be more into Thanksgiving feasts.

They played with the turkeys like they were friends.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving

Describe the children's feelings during the story.

All the beginning... The children were excited to be going on a field trip.

In the middle... The children were excited when they learned that they would have a turkey on the bun.

At the end... The children were thankful they had saved the turkeys.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Snowmen At Night

Answer the 5 W's



Who makes the snowman's clothes?	The snowman mothers make the clothes.
What do the snowmen do after they race?	After racing, the snowmen do skating tricks on the ice pond.
When do the snowmen return to their places?	The snowmen return when they get sleepy and the sun is coming up.
Where does the boy think the snowman go?	The boy thinks they go to the park.
Why does the boy think that snowmen must play at night?	The boy thinks they play at night because he sees that his snowman is not how he left it the day before.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Snowmen At Night

Use some words that rhyme with each word given in the box.



bat	fat
cat	sat



late	gate
skate	date
wait	gate



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Snowmen At Christmas

Answer the 5 W's.



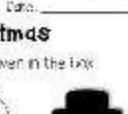
Who plays Freeze tag and Red Rover?	The snow children play Freeze tag and Red Rover.
What do the snowmen do after they have met?	After the snow children, they trim the square and decorate the Christmas tree.
When do the snowmen go out to celebrate?	The snowmen go out to celebrate on the night when the boy is dreaming of Christmas.
Where do the snowmen gather to celebrate?	They gather in the center of town.
Why does someone say "Hush"?	Someone says "Hush" because they think they hear Santa.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Snowmen At Christmas

Put some words that rhyme with each word given in the box.



snow

throw _____ blow _____

show _____ do _____



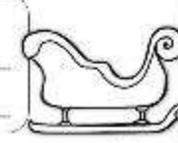
tree _____

bee _____ see _____

three _____ five _____

way _____ may _____

say _____ they _____



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Snowmen At Christmas

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.



Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the setting?
Depending on the picture, could be how beautifully they decorated the town.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Polar Express

Describe events from the story.



Event	How did the boy respond?	How would you have responded?
The boy heard the sounds of a train.	He was excited and unsure, but he decided to get on.	Answers will vary.
The boy for the first gift of Christmas.	The boy chose a bell from Santa's sleigh.	
The boy realized he lost the bell.	It broke his heart to know he lost such a special gift.	

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Polar Express

Summarize the story.

Beginning:
The boy wakes up to a train stirring outside of his house, wanting to take him to the North Pole. He boards the train and travels with other children to see Santa.

Middle:
The boy chooses the bell for the first gift of Christmas. The boy picks a bell off of the sleigh, but it fell out of a hole in the package.



End:
Santa recovered the bell under the boy's tree. He and his sister could hear the bell, but his parents could not.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Polar Express

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem:
The boy loses the bell but Santa gave him, and it was a very special gift.

Solution:
Santa recovers the bell, and the boy is happy for the rest of his life.



How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary.
I would have tried to get off the train and look for it.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

Answer the 5 W's.



Who made the Gingerbread Baby?	Matti and his mother made the Gingerbread Baby.
What did the father do to the Gingerbread Baby?	Matti built him a gingerbread house to hide in.
When did the father find the Gingerbread Baby?	When the mother asked, even though he was supposed to wait eight minutes.
Where did Mattie and Marlene find the Gingerbread Baby?	They found him at the well.
Why do the father and mother think the Gingerbread Baby had met his trick?	The father saw crumbs in the snow, so he thought something ate him.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.



The dog barked at Gingerbread Baby on the wall.	2	Gingerbread Baby ran from the fox.	5
Gingerbread Baby ran by the tabby cat.	1	Gingerbread Baby hid the gingerbread in a kitchen.	3
Gingerbread Baby hid inside the gingerbread house.	6	Gingerbread Baby rode in the wagon with mama pig.	4

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem:
Matti cleaned the oven too soon and the Gingerbread Baby hid away.

Solution:
Matti made a gingerbread house for the Gingerbread Baby to hide in.



How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary.
I would have tried to catch him.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Three Snow Bears

Summarize the problem and solution in the story.

Beginning:
Alto's dogs flooded into on a piece of ice. The bears left home to eat their breakfast food.



Middle:
The bears took the dogs and jump in the water to save them. They stayed on their ice and brought the dogs back to the igloo, where the dogs fell asleep.

End:
The dogs awake as Alto is warm running out of the igloo. The bears all wonder where the vent and where goodbyes.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Three Snow Bears

Describe events from the story.

Event	How did Aloo-ki respond?	How would you have responded?
Aloo-ki came upon an igloo while she was running after her dogs.	She went inside and began eating the food.	Answers will vary
Aloo-ki found a furry blanket and plov just her size.	She fell asleep with them.	
Aloo-ki awoke to three bears very close to her face.	She dove through their legs and ran out of the igloo.	

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Three Cheers for Tacky

Describe the story.

Sombody: Tacky the Penguin

When: To be in the Penguin Chewing Contest.

So, he practiced and practiced, and until he got the cheer right.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Three Cheers for Tacky

Describe events from the story.

Event	How did Tacky respond?	How would you have responded?
The team told Tacky he had to be like the rest of them.	He practiced until he was just like them.	Answers will vary
Tacky practiced and his teammates kept going.	He covered his face with his sweater and didn't get up.	
The crowd clapped and wanted another cheer.	Tacky gave them another very silly cheer.	

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Name: _____ Date: _____

100th Day Worries

Answer the 5 W's.

Who told Jessica to bring 100 kisses of love to school?	Her sister, Louisa, told her to take 100 kisses.
What did Sharon bring for the 100 th day?	Sharon brought paper clips.
What did Ashley bring for the 100 th day?	Ashley brought peppermints on the 98 th day.
What did Jessica find her last ten things she needed?	Jessica found 40 kisses on her note from her mom.
Why did Mr. Martin think Jessica's 100 things were so special?	Mr. Martin thought it was so special because they were all bits of love.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

100th Day Worries

Describe Jessica's feelings using the story.

At the beginning...

Jessica was worried about what 100 items she would bring to school for the 100th day.

In the middle...

Jessica felt sorry because she didn't have 100 things to bring.

At the end...

Jessica felt happy that she had 100 things from her family that showed they loved her.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

100th Day Worries

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem: Jessica didn't know what to bring for the 100th day of school.

Solution: Jessica asked her family and they helped her.

How would you have solved the problem?

Answers will vary.
I would ask for help, like Jessica did.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Substitute Groundhog

Why couldn't these animals be the substitute?

Mole: He can't see well.

Eagle: He didn't want to go underground.

Bear: Bears don't stay awake.

Squirrel: Squirrels like to eat nuts.

Why was Armadillo a good substitute?

She lives in a hole, too, so she likes small spaces. She can see her shadow, and she looked for her shadow.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Substitute Groundhog

Give details to support the main idea of the book.

Main Idea: Groundhog needs to find a substitute for Groundhog Day.

Groundhog wakes up who can't fit.

Many animals try, but only Armadillo can do the job.

Groundhog has to find the perfect animal for the job.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Roses Are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink

Give details to support the moral of the story.

Moral: Treat others the way you want to be treated.

Detail: Robert didn't want to write nice things to those that were not nice to him.

Detail: Robert wrote mean notes for Lewis and Margaret and signed their names instead of his.

Detail: No one wanted to sit or play with him because he had been mean.

I learned...
Answers will vary.
Just because someone is mean to you doesn't make it ok to be mean to them.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Roses Are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink

Describe Robert's feelings during the story.

At the beginning...

Robert felt excited about writing Valentine's poems, except to Lewis and Margaret.

In the middle...

Robert felt sad when he wrote mean notes to sit or play with him because of what he had done with the poems.

At the end...

Robert felt sorry for what he had done. He didn't feel friendly when he gave Lewis and Margaret new Valentines.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Roses Are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem
Gilbert made messy Valentines for Lewis and Margaret and made them feel sad.

Solution
Gilbert told them why he wrote messy Valentines and they all apologized. He made new Valentines for them.

How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary.
I would have apologized, too.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Duck For President

What were Duck's responsibilities in each position?

Duck	Take out the trash Mow the lawn Grind coffee beans
Farmer	Run the farm
Governor	Run the state
President	Run the country



Name: _____ Date: _____

Duck For President

Sketch the story.

Somebody: Duck and the other animals

Wanted: less chores

But... they held an election and Duck won!

So... they held an election and Duck won!



Name: _____ Date: _____

What If You Had Animal Teeth?

What do these animals use their teeth for?

Beaver building homes	Great White Shark tearing flesh
Narwhal maybe finding food or protection	Esquimaux getting water, finding food, and protection
Squirrels protection	Minked Mole Rat building tunnels
Varan Rat tearing flesh	Hippopotamus protection
Bengal Tiger tearing flesh	Crowded tearing flesh
Camel finding food	Snake tearing flesh

Name: _____ Date: _____

What If You Had Animal Teeth?

Answer these questions about the text's purpose.

Why are there photographs in the book?
We can see what the real animal looks like.

Why are there silly drawings of children, too?
We can imagine what it would be like to have those teeth.

Why did the author write this book?
The author wrote this book so we could understand and learn about different animals' teeth.






Name: _____ Date: _____

Sweet Tooth

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.

Stewart got in trouble at school because his tooth talked. 2	Stewart lost his baseball game because of Sweet Tooth. 5
The Sweet Tooth made Stewart eat wedding cake. 1	Stewart ate all of the Easter candy. 3
Stewart put Sweet Tooth under his pillow. 6	Stewart made the decision to stop eating sweets. 4



Name: _____ Date: _____

Sweet Tooth

Tell how the characters' points of view are different in the story.

Event	Point of View (two characters)	Feelings
The tooth talked in class.	Stewart Mrs. Finnegan	He was upset he was getting in trouble. She was frustrated. Stewart was in trouble.
Stewart brushed and flossed.	Sweet Tooth	He was proud that he was being strong. He was mad.
Stewart got out a carrot to eat.	Stewart Stewart's sister	He was angry that the tooth made him lose the game. She was scared Stewart was going to do something bad.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Moosetache

Why don't these antonyms work?

moosescarf He couldn't breathe.	moosetachiod antlers Squirrels moved in and he didn't get any privacy.
moosetachiod antlers	braids There are a lot of braids.
sweater It was too hot.	

Name: _____ Date: _____

Moosetache

Give details to support the main idea of the book.

Main Idea: Moose has a moosetache that is in his way.

He can't see.
He can't see because he can't see.

He can't see because he can't see.

He can't see because he can't see.

He can't see because he can't see.

He can't see because he can't see.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Moosetache

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem
Moose had too big of a moosetache that got in the way.

Solution
Moose helped him use it to keep it out of the way.

How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary.
I would shave it.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs

Answer the 5/5.



Who was telling the tale of Cheesecakeville?	Grandpa was telling the tale.
What do the people make so they don't leave?	They made boats out of bread.
When do eggs, toast, butter, and jelly fall from the sky?	Eggs, toast, butter, and jelly fall after they wake up in the morning.
Where did a giant pancake fall?	A pancake fell on the school.
Why do everyone decide to leave Cheesecakeville?	The town was destroyed and there was too much to clean up.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs

Number the meatballs to show the order things happened in the story.



There was a tomato tornado. 4	There was a pea soup fog. 2
People enjoyed the food that fell from the sky.	A giant pancake covered the school. 3
The people made boats from bread. 5	

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

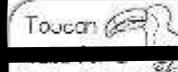
What did you learn about the character(s)?
Depending on the picture, could be that the people were unhappy when the weather started falling body.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Umbrella

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in this story.






Carlos looks out over the trees. 6	A tree frog finds the umbrella on the forest floor. 1
Toucan bird to fall into the umbrella. 2	Everyone moves out of Jaguar's way. 5
Baby Tapir cries for his mama in the umbrella. 3	A monkey tosses the umbrella into the river. 4

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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Umbrella

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the setting?
Depending on the picture, could be how crowded the umbrella is, or what the rainforest looks like.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Michael Recycle

Give details to support the main idea of the book.

Main Idea: Michael Recycle helps save the town.



The town was full of garbage and it was smelly.

The town recycled and they're Greener Cleanup!

Michael Recycle told them to recycle and clean up.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Michael Recycle

List some words that rhyme with each word given in the box.

plane	rain
brain	stain
rain	main
van	can
can	pan
sky	lie
why	fry

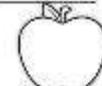



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Name: _____ Date: _____

The Important Book

What is the author describing in each paragraph?



Spoon	You eat with it. It's on a little wheel. You hold it in your hand, then turn it in your mouth. It isn't flat. It's hollow. It is white. It is yellow in the middle. It has long white ribs. And bees sit on it. It has a handle made of wood. It grows in green fields.
Snow	It is white. It is cold, and soft, it falls slowly out of the sky. It is bright, and the shape of tiny stars, and crystals. It is always cold. And it melts.
Apple	It is round. It is red. You bite it, and it is white inside. And the juice splashes in your face, and it falls off a tree.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Parts

Give details to support the main idea of the book.

Main Idea: The boy thinks he is falling apart.



He feels some things falling out, and thinks he is falling apart.

He feels a loose tooth and thinks he is going to lose it, and he loses it. He feels a nose and thinks he is going to lose it, and he loses it.

He sees little bits of skin peeling and thinks all of his skin will peel off.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Parts

List some words that rhyme with each word given in the box.

hair	care
beer	feet
care	feet
nose	suppose
nose	toes
tape	scrape
cape	grape




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Name: Date:

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

Answer the 5 W's.

Who said he wasn't going to be Alexander's best friend anymore?	Paul told Alexander he wasn't his best friend anymore.
What did Alexander's mother forget to put in his lunch?	She forgot to pack a dessert.
When do Alexander and his family go to the shoe store?	They went to the shoe store after school, before visiting Dad at work.
Where does Alexander want to move?	He wants to move to Australia.
Why do Alexander cry?	He cried when Anthony made him fall in the mud.

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Name: Date:

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

Describe events from the story.

Event	How did Alexander respond?	How would you have responded?
Paul said Alexander was his best friend.	He told him he hopes he sits on a lock.	Answers will vary.
Anthony made Alexander fall when it was muddy.	He cried and went home with Nick for calling him a crybaby.	Answers will vary.
They didn't have the shoes Alexander wanted so he had to get plain white ones.	He said they can't make him wear them.	Answers will vary.

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Name: Date:

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

Draw a scene from the story and tell about its importance.

Drawings will vary.

What did you learn about the character(s)?
Depending on the picture, could be how sad he is when he doesn't have a dessert at lunch, or how frustrated Dad is at the office when Alexander makes a mess.

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Name: Date:

Conduroy

Summarize the story.

Somebody: Conduroy
Wanted: someone to take him home.
But... he was messy and dirty.
So... he went to look for it.



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Name: Date:

Conduroy

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.

Conduroy climbed down from his shelf.	2	Conduroy thinks he finds his button.	4
Conduroy also sews a new button on his overalls.	6	Conduroy got on the escalator and thinks it is a mountain.	3
The watchman puts Conduroy back on his shelf.	5	A little girl stops and looks straight into Conduroy's eyes.	1



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PREVIEW

Name: Date:

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type

Answer the 5 W's.

Who brings the letter from Farmer Brown to the cows?	Duck brings the letter from Farmer Brown to the cows.
What do the cows and hens want from Farmer Brown?	They want electric blankets.
When is the farm very cold?	It is very cold at night.
Where do the cows tell Farmer Brown to leave the blankets?	They told him to leave the blankets outside the barn door.
Why was Farmer Brown upset with the cows and hens?	They went on strike and wouldn't give him milk and eggs, so he was upset.

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Name: Date:

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.

The cows went on strike and left a note on the door.	2	Farmer Brown writes a letter to the cows and hens.	5
Farmer Brown gave the cows and hens their blankets.	6	The cows let Farmer Brown know that the hens are cold, too.	3
The cows ask Farmer Brown for electric blankets.	1	The hens went on strike and wouldn't lay any eggs.	4



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Name: Date:

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem: Farmer Brown doesn't want to give electric blankets to the cows and hens.

Solution: The cows and hens go on strike until Farmer Brown gives blankets to the animals.

How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary. I would ask politely.



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Name: Date:

A Chair For My Mother

Summarize the story.

Beginning: A little girl wants to get her mom's dress to help give some money for a new chair.
Middle: The little girl remembers how their house burned up and they lost their belongings, but their community helped them.
End: They finally had enough money saved to buy a new chair as they were shopping for the perfect chair.



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Name: Date:

A Chair For My Mother

Describe events from the story.

Event	How does Mother respond?	How would you have responded?
Some days Mother only has a little money from her sales.	She looks worried.	Answers will vary.
Her family loses their fire engine, smoke, and flames.	She grabs the little girl's hand and runs.	Answers will vary.
The little girl wants to sit in the chair in the back of the truck on the way home.	She says no, but lets her sit in it when they carry it in the house.	Answers will vary.



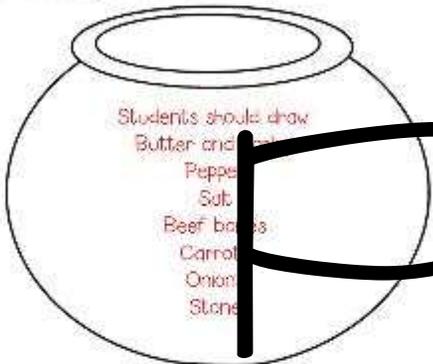
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PREVIEW

Name: _____ Date: _____

Stone Soup

Draw all of the ingredients that went into the soup.



Students should draw
Butter and oil
Pepper
Salt
Beef bones
Carrot
Onion
Stone

Would you like to eat this soup? Why or why not?
Answers will vary.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Stone Soup

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.

The little old lady went to get butter and oil on the way. **5**

The old lady put on thin carrots in the pot. **3**

The young man said it would taste better with beef bones. **4**

The pot boiled with just the stone and the water. **1**

The old lady and the young man ate the soup together. **6**

The old lady got yellow onions from her garden. **2**

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Stone Soup

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem:
The old lady said she didn't have any food to give to the young man.

Solution:
The old lady was making her soup with food she had around her house and in her garden.

How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary.
I would have asked someone that I know, not a stranger.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Smelly Socks

Answer the 5 W's.

Who agrees to save Tina to the big sock store?
Tina's grandfather goes with her.

What did Tina's friends decide to do about her socks?
They took her to the river and washed and scrubbed the socks.

Where is the big sock store?
The big sock store is on the other side of the river.

Why did Tina decide to only wear clean socks after it?
Tina thought they looked, smelled, and felt nicer when they were clean.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Smelly Socks

Describe events from the story.

Event	How does Tina respond?	How would you have responded?
Tina's mom takes her to a store where they only sell black socks.	Tina asks if they can go down the river for good socks.	Answers will vary.
Tina puts on her new socks.	She says she is never going to take them off.	
Tina's friends scrubbed her smelly socks in the river.	Tina loves the way her clean socks look, smell, and feel.	

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Smelly Socks

Tell about the problem and solution in the story.

Problem:
Tina couldn't take off her new socks and they were so smelly.

Solution:
Tina's friends carried her to the river and washed her socks.

How would you have solved the problem?
Answers will vary.
I would have said her I didn't want to be around her with those smelly socks.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Thunder Cake

Summarize the story.

Somebody:
The girl (Petrona)

Wanted:
To make Thunder Cake.

So:
her grandma (Babushka) helped her fix her fears.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Thunder Cake

Give details to support the moral of the story.

Moral:
Sometimes scary things aren't so bad.

Detail:
Babushka teaches Petrona to count between lightning and thunder to see how far away it is.

Detail:
She was scared of thunder, the dark, and lightning, and the night she was staying in the tent.

Detail:
Babushka says brave is afraid of a sound.

Petrona learned...
She was braver than she thought.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!

Give details to support the main idea of the book.

Main Idea:
The pigeon has many reasons why he shouldn't go to bed.

Detail:
He wants to talk and count the stars.

Detail:
There is a good TV show on about bees.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!

Describe Pigeon's feelings during the story.

At the beginning...
Pigeon says he is not tired and wants to have a hot dog party. He is in a great mood.

At the middle...
Pigeon wants to be ignored but he yawns a couple of times and goes to bed.

At the end...
Pigeon is so tired, he falls asleep.



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EVERY BOOK HAS:

Corduroy
By Don Freeman



Mentor Sentence Focus Standard L.1 (adjectives)

Reading Lesson Ideas:

- R.1. Students identify key details in the story.
- R.2. Students describe how the main idea in the story with supporting details.
- R.3. Students describe the beginning, middle, and end of the story, or about specific events.
- R.5. Students compare and contrast a portion of the story.
- R.7. Students explain characters or the setting through illustrations.

Writing Lesson Ideas:

- W.3. Students...

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List of lesson activity ideas aligned with Common Core Anchor Standards

Name _____ Date _____

Corduroy

Summarize the story.

Somebody _____

Wanted... _____

But... _____



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Name _____ Date _____

Corduroy

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.

Corduroy climbed down from his shelf.	Corduroy thinks he finds his button.
Lisa sews a new button on his coat.	Corduroy got on the escalator and he saw a mountain.
The watchman puts Corduroy back on his shelf.	A little girl stops and looks straight into Corduroy's eyes.



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Multiple organizers you can choose from depending on the skill you are teaching (with ANSWER KEYS!)

Name _____ Date _____

Corduroy

rduroy's feelings during the story

ringing...



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Name _____ Date _____

Corduroy

What is your favorite toy? Why?



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writing Prompt based on the theme of the book