

BETTER Than Basal:

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY COMPANION GRADES 1-2

COMMON CORE ALIGNED READING & WRITING UNITS



Name: **Possible Answers**
My Name Is Yoon
 How did Yoon's life change when she moved from Korea? Give 3 reasons.

1. She had to write her name in English.
2. She had to learn a new language.
3. She had to attend a new school and make new friends.

Name: **Possible Answers**
My Name Is Yoon
 Why did Yoon write other words instead of her own name?

Yoon wanted to be CAT.	She wanted to hide in
Yoon wanted to be BIRD.	Yoon wanted to fly back to Korea.
Yoon wanted to be CUPCAKE.	She wanted people to clap when they saw her.

Name: **Possible Answers**
My Name Is Yoon
 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 Yoon wanted to be something else because she was not happy about being in a new place.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Chocolate Milk, Por Favor!
 How did others show kindness to Gabe? Give three examples.

1. The boy behind him at lunch helped him order his milk.
2. His classmates motioned for him to come play with them.
3. Johnny brought him chocolate milk because he knew Gabe liked it.

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Chocolate Milk, Por Favor!
 Describe Johnny and Gabe.

	adjectives	actions
Johnny	rude	he hid his book from Gabe
	kind	he brought Gabe his favorite milk.
Gabe	nervous	he was starting a new school
	friendly	he taught Johnny a trick

Name: **Possible Answers**
Chocolate Milk, Por Favor!
 How do you think Johnny felt?

When he thought... I think he felt...

I'm not sharing with him.

he thinks he's so cool.

I finally got the tricky move!

grumpy

left out

proud

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Invisible Boy
 Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Is the boy really invisible?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: No, but he feels invisible because other students leave him out.
Question During: Will Justin want to be Brian's friend?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: Yes, Justin made friends to include Brian after Brian gave him a picture.
Question After: Why did the students make fun of Justin's food?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: We can infer that it's because it was different than their food.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Invisible Boy
 Retell the story.

First, Brian feels invisible because the other students leave him out.

Next, a new student, Justin, comes, and everyone wants to be his friend.

Then, Brian gives Justin a picture to show he wants to be his friend.

Last, Justin helps Brian feel included with his classmates and they become friends.

What did you learn? answers may vary
 It's important to make others feel included and visible.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Invisible Boy
 Describe events from the story.

Event	How did Brian respond?	How would you have responded?
Mich and JT picked kids for their teams.	Brian was hoping to get picked, but felt sad and invisible when he wasn't.	Answers will vary
The kids made fun of Justin's lunch.	He drew Justin a picture of himself eating bulgogi to make him feel visible.	
Justin invites Brian to come sit at lunch with him and Emilio.	Brian sat with them and felt included.	

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**

Same, Same But Different

Answer the 5 Ws.

Who does Kailash live with?	He lives with his twenty-three family members and their animals.
What is in Kailash's village?	There is a river, peacocks, and umbrella-shaped trees.
When can Kailash be anything?	He can be anything if he practices yoga.
Where does Elliot live?	He lives in a city in America.
Why are there differences in the way they live?	Elliot and Kailash live in two different countries.

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Same, Same But Different

Compare the lives of the two boys.

	Elliot	Kailash
Lives with...	his mom, his sister, dog, and fish	his big family (23 people) and their animals
Lives in...	a city in America	a village in India
Loves the class of...	art	yoga

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Same, Same But Different

Where can we find this in the story?

The boys love to climb trees.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) bath
Elliot has a dog and fish for pets.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) bath
Traffic in Kailash's village is just cars, but animals, too.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) bath
Elliot and Kailash have different alphabets.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) bath

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Crow Boy

How did Chibi waste time in class?
Give three examples.

1. He crossed his eyes when he didn't want to see something.
2. He watched the ceiling, his desk, and a patch on a boy's shirt.
3. He stared out the window.

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Crow Boy

Describe Chibi.

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Name: _____

Crow Boy

Compare these stories.

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Lost and Found Cat

Answer the 5 Ws.

Who was the family scared from?	Smugglers help the family escape.
Who was the family looking for?	They only take food and water, and Kunkush.
When was the family scared of Kunkush?	They were scared when a boat ended. Hakam put the canes down to help others, and Kunkush ran away.
Where does Amy find Kunkush?	Amy finds him in a fishing village.
Why did Amy think the family was in Germany?	Many refugee families traveled to Germany.

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Lost and Found Cat

Describe the family's feelings.

At the beginning...
the family was worried about staying in that dangerous country.

In the middle...
the family was sad they could not find Kunkush.

At the end...
the family felt safe in their new home and joyful to be reunited with Kunkush.

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Lost and Found Cat

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 crowded boat in the water. It was dangerous to escape.

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Name: **Possible Answers**

Ada Twist, Scientist

What was a problem and its solution in the story?

A problem was...
Ada smelled a horrible stench and didn't know what it was.

The solution was...
Ada performed research to discover the source of the smell.

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Name: **Possible Answers**
Ada Twist, Scientist
 Describe Ada:

curious smart special messy
 quiet scientific misunderstood

Name: **Possible Answers**
Ada Twist, Scientist
 List more words that rhyme with each word given in the box:

rose
 toes nose
 hose blouse
 hat scarf
 mat rug
 socks
 rocks knocks
 box tocks

Name: **Possible Answers**
I Love My Hair!
 Draw the different ways that Keyona loves to wear her hair:

- puffy bun
- rows of braids
- braids with beads
- Afro
- two ponytails on the side

Name: **Possible Answers**
I Love My Hair!
 Describe Keyona's hair:

tangled beautiful soft puffy
 thick curly noisy

Name: **Possible Answers**
I Love My Hair!
 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 Keyona is proud of her Afro and who she is!

Name: **Possible Answers**
A Bike Like Sergio's
 Retell the story:

First, Ruben wishes he had a bike like Sergio's.

Next, he picks up money that doesn't belong to him.

Then, Ruben thinks of spending the money on a bike, but he knows the money is not his to spend.

Last, Ruben returns the money to the lady who dropped it.

What did you learn? answers may vary.
 Being honest is more important than having a bike.

Name: **Possible Answers**
A Bike Like Sergio's
 Describe events from the story:

Event	How did Ruben respond?	How would you have responded?
A dollar bill fell out of the lady's purse.	Ruben picks it up and keeps it.	Answers will vary.
The money that was in his backpack is gone.	Ruben retraces his steps to look for it again.	
The lady in the blue coat is at the store again.	Ruben chases after her to return the money.	

Name: **Possible Answers**
Latke, The Lucky Dog
 What did Latke do that broke the rules?
 Give 3 examples.

- He ate the Hanukkah food.
- He opened the presents.
- He chewed on the dreidel and candles, and slobbered on the gelt.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Latke, The Lucky Dog
 Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story:

- Latke ate all of the latkes!
- Zoe and Zach took Latke home from the shelter.
- Latke ate all of the gelt.
- Latke chewed Zoe's dreidel.
- Latke chewed the candles from the menorah.
- Latke unwrapped all of the presents.
- Latke ate the gelt.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Latke, The Lucky Dog
 Describe Latke's feelings.

At the beginning...
 he was excited to go home with Zoe and Zach- picked as a Hanukkah present.

In the middle...
 he felt worried and hid when he realized he did things wrong.

At the end...
 he felt lucky that the family still loved him, and even gave him his own present.

EVERY BOOK HAS:

My Name Is Yoon
By Helen Recorvits



Mentor Sentence Focus Standard: L.1 (nouns)

Reading Lesson Ideas:

R.1: Students answer the question, "How did Yoon's life change when she moved from Korea?"

R.2: Students read the story.

R.3, R.4: Students explain how Yoon responds to her challenges (being homesick, for example).

R.3, R.7: Students describe Yoon using the

R.6: Identify that the story is told by Yoon (first person point of view).

R.9: Compare this book to *The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi.

Writing Lesson Ideas:

W.3: Students can identify something they can relate to the way Yoon did and explain why their name could be that thing. (For example, Yoon wanted to fly to Korea, so she wrote her name as BIRD.)

List of lesson
activity ideas

aligned with

Common Core

Anchor Standards

Name: _____
My Name Is Yoon
How did Yoon's life change when she moved from Korea?
Give 3 reasons.

1.

2.

3.

Name: _____

My Name Is Yoon

Why did Yoon write other words instead of her own name?

Yoon wanted
to be CAT.

Yoon wanted
to be BIRD
to Korea.

Yoon wanted
to be CUPCAKE.

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

Name: _____
My Name Is Yoon
Write about the importance of your name
from the story and tell about its importance.

Name: _____

My Name Is Yoon

What would you be if you could be something else? Why?

Writing Prompt
based on the
theme of the book