ASKING QUESTIONS NONFICTION TASK CARDS











WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resource includes 20 reading task cards that contain short nonfiction passages that will help your students practice asking questions while reading.

Task cards can be printed in three different ways.



Option #1 - Just the text



Option #2 - Text and Graphic Organizer Template



Option #3 - Text and Response Questions

Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.

Option #1 - Just the Text

One of the printing options for the task cards is to print JUST the text. Each task card has a short nonfiction reading passages (takes up half a page). While the focus of this set is on asking questions, you could really use this set to teach ANY non-fiction skill.



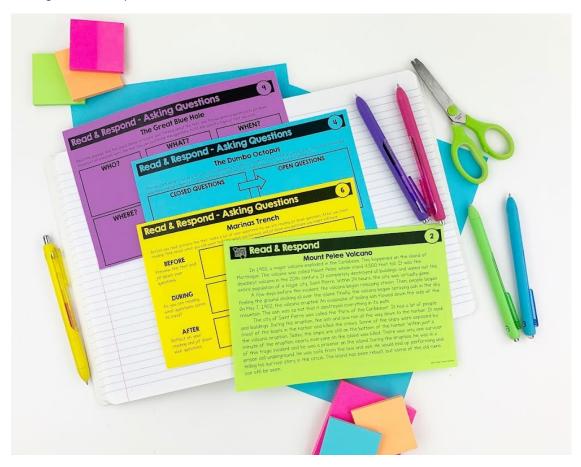
- This set of task cards is ideal if you want to use them in the "traditional" task card way.
- I suggest printing them on cardstock and either putting them all on a book ring or in a photo box.
- There are 3 options of reading response sheets included so students can read the passages and respond on a separate page.



Option #2 - Passage & Graphic Organizer

One of the printing options includes the passage and a graphic organizer template. These task cards can be printed front and back and work great in a center, as part of your small group instruction, or even for guided practice.

- On the front of each task card is a short reading passage (the same numbers and titles as option #1).
- On the back, there is a graphic organizer template that will help students think about a variety of questions they can ask while reading the text.



Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.

Option #3 - Passage & Response Questions

One of the printing options includes the passage and reading response questions. These task cards can be printed front and back and work great in a center, as part of your small group instruction, or even for guided practice.



- On the front of each task card is a short reading passage (the same numbers and titles as option #1).
- On the back, there is space for a sticky note so students can jot down any question they had while reading the text. There are also two comprehension questions that you can use to check their overall comprehension of the text.

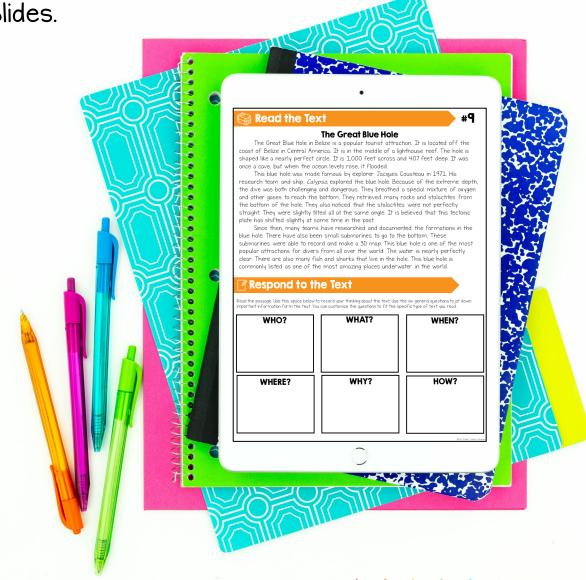
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Includes Digital Versions

I love to provide both print and digital options in my resources. This resource includes a digital version created using Google Slides.

There are three different digital versions included (to match the three different printing options).

- Option 1: The text with a generic space for student response.
- Option 2: The text with the graphic organizer at the bottom (this one is pictured to the right)
- Option 3: The text with the text—based comprehension questions on the bottom.





A LOOK INSIDE...(option I)



The Great Galveston Hurricane

The Great Galveston Hurricane hit Texas in 1900. The hurricane was one the deadliest natural disasters in all of American history. The storm was a category four when it made landfall. The storm destroyed over 3,000 buildings. It killed over 6,000 people. The winds were over 135 miles per hour. One of the main reasons there were so many deaths was because of poor communication systems

The United States had established the U.S. Weather Bureau to predict major weather events, like this hurricane, but the Weather Bureau was only ten years old at the time. They had not established a great way to communicate that a major storm was coming. They predicted that the storm was going to go out to the ocean and not inland to Texas. However, Cuba knew that this prediction would likely be wrong because the storm passed north of them. Cuba tried to warn the U.S. of the massive storm coming. The Bureau did not like that Cuba could predict hurricanes better than they could so they failed to report this data to Washington to issue a hurricane

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Read & Respond

Mount Pelee Volcano

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The Valdivia Earthquake happened in South America in 1960. It occurred in Chile. The earthquake was the most powerful one that has ever been recorded on the continent. The earthquake happened in the afternoon, and while it only lasted ten minutes, the impact of it would be felt long after the shaking stopped.

This powerful earthquake also created many tsunamis. These tsunamis would reach Hawaii, Japan, the Philippines, and even Australia. The waves of some of the tsunamis were over thirtyfive feet tall and over 6,000 miles away. The city of Valdivia sustained the most damage from the earthquake. There is no exact death toll related to the earthquake, but it is believed that there are somewhere between 1,000 and 6,000 deaths.

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Read & Respond

The Dumbo Octopus

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Read & Respond

Barquentine Ships

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A barquentine was a sailing ship that was used in the 1800s. This style of ship was first introduced in the 1830s. It gained popularity and was requested for cargo companies around the

The main purpose of these ships was to transport large amounts of cargo around the world. These ships had three or more masts to hold the sails. This type of vessel dominated the seas at this time. With a smaller crew, the ship could carry more cargo. The ships also had better performance than other ships of the time. The square sails provided more speed from the wind. They could sail faster and longer than a lot of the other ships in the cargo business. Some of these ships were repurposed as expedition vessels.

Ernest Shackleton did the most famous of all adventures on a barquentine. He set off with a crew of twenty-seven men for the Antarctic on an exploratory voyage. Disease struck on this voyage. The ship would end up trapped in thick, heavy ice. The men stayed on board for 281 days before the ship was crushed to pieces by the ice. They abandoned the ship. They dragged the lifeboats across the ice to the sea. Then, they sailed to a nearby island called, Elephant Island. Shackleton sailed another 800 miles, leaving the crew on Elephant Island. He was able to form a rescue party after reaching a whaling town. In a miracle, Shackleton did not lose a single crew member. He would attempt another Antarctic expedition, but he died of a heart attack at the start of the expedition. Today, barquentines are used around the world to train sailors.

Read & Respond

Mount Everest

Mount Everest is the tallest mountain on the planet. It is located along the China-Nepal border. The mountain is 29,031 feet above sea level. The mountain attracts people from all around the world who want to climb it.

Climbing Mount Everest is a dangerous, and often deadly, journey. Access to the mountain is challenging. Climbers are flown to the bottom of the mountain in a helicopter Then, the mountain has several primitive camps set up at different altitudes, or heights. There are several routes to reach the top. The climbers pick the route based on the current weather and snow conditions. There were many attempts to climb the mountain before it was actually conquered. It took several decades of failures before anyone was successful. Several climbers went missing in the early days. The first successful summit was in 1953.

Climbers today are more likely to reach the top. They are able to use technology and special equipment. They are able to use GPS navigation to know their exact location. They also use satellite phones to communicate with the base camp for updates on weather conditions. Most who try to climb Everest will never reach the summit. Many suffer from altitude sickness. The air is so thin that the climbers rely on oxygen tanks. The climbers also cannot escape quickly. If the weather turns, they cannot get to a safe place quickly. Summitting Everest is the ultimate challenge in the world of adventure.

Read & Respond

The Grand Canvon

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The Grand Canyon is located in Arizona. It is 277 miles long. In some parts, it is up to eighteen miles wide and over a mile deep. The Colorado River flows through the canyon. This river is what created the canyon. The river eroded the soft sand over time, creating the canyon. People have lived around the canyon for years. It was first inhabited by American Indians. They built settlements in the canyon and in the caves surrounding the canyon. The first European to visit was in 1540. The Spanish were exploring this area

Over ninety different species of animals live in the canyon. Many are rodents and types of bats. In 1903, President Roosevelt visited the canyon. He wanted to make sure that the canyon was preserved for future generations. He formed a national park for the canyon. He protected the canyon and the land around it. He also fought against mining close to the canyon to protect it. Around the canyon, there are several historic buildings from the last two centuries. The canyon also has tremendous amounts of tourism. Nearly five million tourists visit the canyon each year. There are hiking, rafting, and helicopter tours. People also take mules to the bottom of the canyon and camp.

Read & Respond

The Great Blue Hole

The Great Blue Hole in Belize is a popular tourist attraction. It is located off the coast of Belize in Central America. It is in the middle of a lighthouse reef. The hole is shaped like a nearly perfect circle. It is 1,000 feet across and 407 feet deep. It was once a cave, but when the ocean levels rose, it flooded

This blue hole was made famous by explorer Jacques Cousteau in 1971. His research team and ship, Calypsa, explored the blue hole. Because of the extreme depth, the dive was both challenging and dangerous. They breathed a special mixture of oxygen and other gases to reach the bottom. They retrieved many rocks and stalactites from the bottom of the hole. They also noticed that the stalactites were not perfectly straight. They were slightly tilted all at the same angle. It is believed that this tectonic plate has shifted slightly at some time in

Since then, many teams have researched and documented the formations in the blue hole. There have also been small submarines to go to the bottom. These submarines were able to record and make a 3D map. This blue hole is one of the most popular attractions for divers from all over the world. The water is nearly perfectly clear. There are also many fish and sharks that live in the hole. This blue hole is commonly listed as one of the most amazing places underwater in the world

Read & Respond

The Brazilian Wandering Spider

The Brazillian Wandering Spider is all called an "armed spider". It belongs to the genus Phoneutria. This means "murder" in ancient Greek.

This spider is one of the most dangerous spiders on the planet. The spider is incredibly dangerous to humans. Its venom can kill people, especially small children or the elderly. There has been an antivenom developed that works against these spider bits. If someone is bitten by this spider, it is unlikely that they will die with this modern medicine. Before this, people would die if the spider bit them.

These spiders are mostly found in Brazil. However, they are also in different parts of Latin America and the Caribbean. The spiders are quite large and easy to spot. Their bodies are 2 inches long. Their legs are over 3 inches long. They are mostly brown on top and black on the bottom. These spiders don't build webs. They wander from place to place on the floor of the forest. They hide during the day and hunt at night. They kill by ambushing and attacking their prey. They feed on spiders, insects, amphibians, reptiles, and mice. These spiders live between one and two years. The spider usually gives warning signs that it is about to attack its prey. They typically only bite humans if they are provoked or surprised. The spiders are not aggressive towards humans without reason.

Read & Respond

The Mary Celeste The Mary Celeste is one of the most famous ghost ships in the history of sailing. The ship was heading from New York City to England in 1874.

It was discovered by another ship off the coast of Africa. They approached the ship. It was under partial sail, but there were not any crew members on it. They discovered that the lifeboat was missing Everything else appeared to be intact and operational. The captain had entered in the log ten days before the ship was found empty. The cargo was whole and unopened. The captain's and crew's personal belongings were found as if they just left the ship. The ship was in total seaworthy condition without one single thing wrong. There was no sign of anything out of the ordinary. The ship would return to port and take on a new owner. The ship then sank off the coast of Haiti in 1885

The story of Mary Celeste has been made into movies, books, and plays. While no one knows what happened to the crew, some people have their theories. Some people say that they abandoned the ship for some unknown reason. Some think it was insurance fraud. Others think it was a mutiny. It is also possible that pirates took control of the ship and crew. We will probably never know what happened to the crew of the Mary Celeste in

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A LOOK INSIDE...(option 2)



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Read & Respond

The Dumbo Octopus

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Read & Respond

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Read & Respond

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Ficulty

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What I read...

Read & Respond - Asking Questions

Read & Respond - Asking Questions

Ask yourself WHAT SURPRISED ME?

Mount Pelee Valcano

The Great Galveston Hurricane

Read the passage. Use this space helow to record your thinking about the text. First jot down a few guestions you have

QUESTIONS I HAVE:

WHAT I READ:

How did this question change the

way you read the text? Explain.

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THE IMPACT: impacted the way you

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Read & Respond - Asking Questions The Valdivia Earthauake

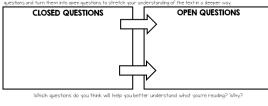
Read the passage. Use this space below to record your thinking about the text. First jot down a few questions you have while

What unanswered questions do you still

Where can you find the answers?

Read & Respond - Asking Questions

The Dumbo Octopus



Read the passage. Use this space below to record your thinking about the text. First jot down a few questions you have before reading the story. Then use the answers to the questions to tell how you better understood the text.

ASK: What does the author expect me to know?

What I already knew...

Questions I still have:

Read & Respond - Asking Questions

Read & Respond - Asking Questions

Marinas Trench

Before you read, preview the text-make a list of your questions! As you are reading, jot down questions. After you finish reading, think about what you still want to know, what you learned, and jot down any questions you might still have.

REFORE

Preview the text and jot down your questions.

DURING

As you are reading what questions come

reading and jot down your questions



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A LOOK INSIDE...(option 3)

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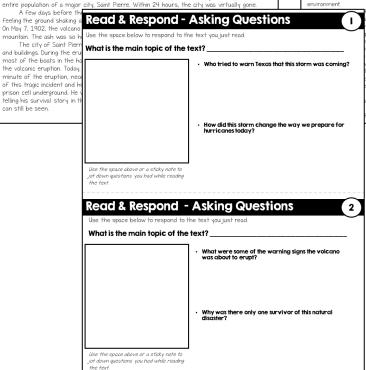


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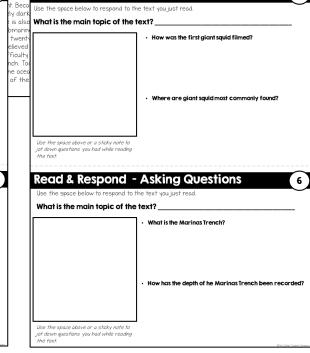


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| Use the space below to re | espond to the text you just read. |
|------------------------------|--|
| What is the main top | ic of the text? |
| | When and where did the Valdivia Earthquake occur? |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | What happened as a result of the Valdivia Earthquak |
| | |
| | |
| Use the space above or a st | icky note to |
| jot down questions you had v | |
| the a should | |
| the text. | |
| | ond - Asking Questions |
| Read & Resp | ond - Asking Questions |
| Read & Resp | respond to the text you just read. |
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| Read & Resp | respond to the text you just read. pic of the text? - What is the most interesting feature of the dumbo octopus? |
| Read & Resp | respond to the text you just read. pic of the text? - What is the most interesting feature of the dumbo octopus? |
| Read & Resp | respond to the text you just read. pic of the text? - What is the most interesting feature of the dumbo actopus? - How did the dumbo actopus get it name? |



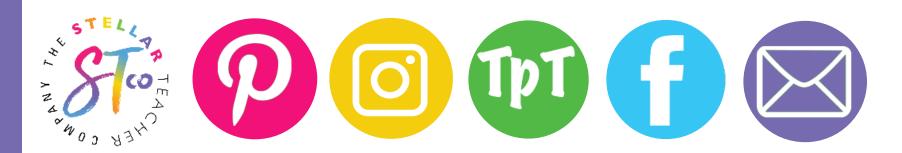
Read & Respond - Asking Questions





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