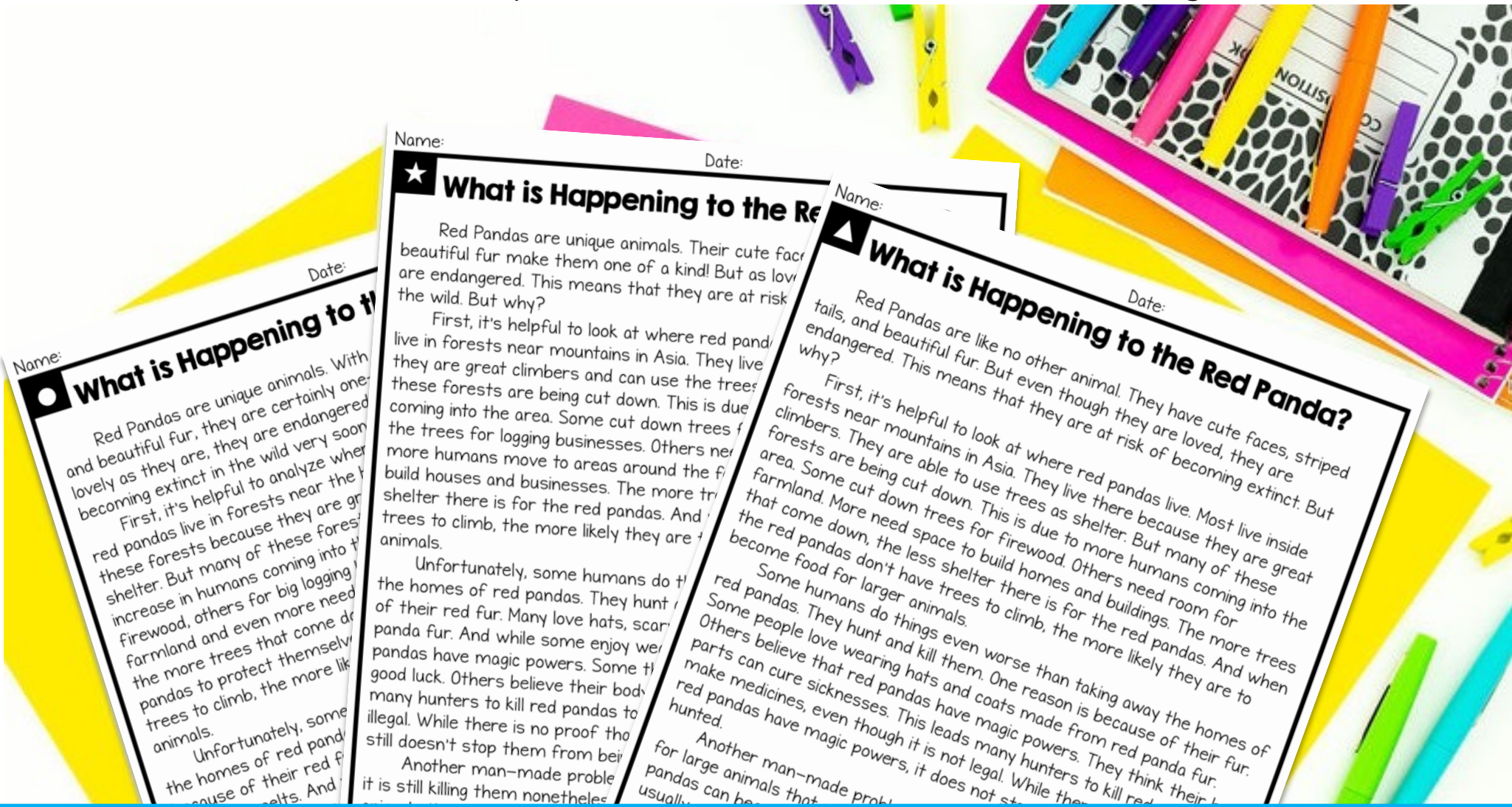


Differentiated Reading Passages

CAUSE & EFFECT

Same Text Topic, 3 Different Reading Levels



Name: _____ Date: _____

What is Happening to the Red Panda?

Red Pandas are unique animals. With their cute faces and beautiful fur, they are certainly one of the most lovely animals in the world. But as lovely as they are, they are endangered. This means that they are at risk of becoming extinct in the wild very soon.

First, it's helpful to look at where red pandas live. They live in forests near mountains in Asia. They live in these forests and can use the trees for shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to the trees for logging businesses. Others need more humans move to areas around the forests to build houses and businesses. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And the more trees are cut down, the more likely they are to become extinct.

Unfortunately, some humans do things that are bad for the homes of red pandas. They hunt for their red fur. Many love hats, scarves, and coats made from red panda fur. And while some enjoy wearing these items, others believe their bodies have magic powers. Some think that if they wear a red panda hat, they will have good luck. Others believe their bodies have magic powers, even though it is not legal. While there is no proof that wearing red panda fur will help them, many hunters to kill red pandas to make medicines, even though it is not legal. While there is no proof that wearing red panda fur will help them, many hunters to kill red pandas to make medicines, even though it is not legal.

Another man-made problem is that some people are cutting down trees for large animals that need space to live. This is bad for red pandas because they need space to live in the forests near mountains in Asia. They live in these forests and can use the trees for shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to the trees for logging businesses. Others need more humans move to areas around the forests to build houses and businesses. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And the more trees are cut down, the more likely they are to become extinct.

Name: _____ Date: _____

What is Happening to the Red Panda?

Red Pandas are unique animals. Their cute faces and beautiful fur make them one of a kind! But as lovely as they are, they are endangered. This means that they are at risk of becoming extinct in the wild. But why?

First, it's helpful to look at where red pandas live. They live in forests near mountains in Asia. They live in these forests and can use the trees for shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to the trees for logging businesses. Others need more humans move to areas around the forests to build houses and businesses. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And the more trees are cut down, the more likely they are to become extinct.

Unfortunately, some humans do things that are bad for the homes of red pandas. They hunt for their red fur. Many love hats, scarves, and coats made from red panda fur. And while some enjoy wearing these items, others believe their bodies have magic powers. Some think that if they wear a red panda hat, they will have good luck. Others believe their bodies have magic powers, even though it is not legal. While there is no proof that wearing red panda fur will help them, many hunters to kill red pandas to make medicines, even though it is not legal.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

What is Happening to the Red Panda?

Red Pandas are like no other animal. They have cute faces, striped tails, and beautiful fur. But even though they are loved, they are endangered. This means that they are at risk of becoming extinct. But why?

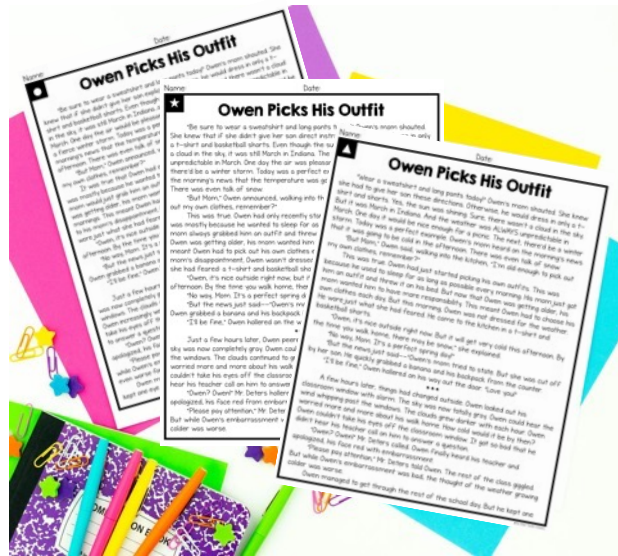
First, it's helpful to look at where red pandas live. Most live inside forests near mountains in Asia. They live there because they are great climbers. They are able to use trees as shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to the trees for logging businesses. Others need more humans coming into the area. Some cut down trees for farmland. More need space to build homes and buildings. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And when the red pandas don't have trees to climb, the more likely they are to become food for larger animals.

Some humans do things even worse than taking away the homes of red pandas. They hunt and kill them. One reason is because of their fur. Some people love wearing hats and coats made from red panda fur. Others believe that red pandas have magic powers. They think their parts can cure sicknesses. This leads many hunters to kill red pandas to make medicines, even though it is not legal. While there is no proof that wearing red panda fur will help them, many hunters to kill red pandas to make medicines, even though it is not legal.

Another man-made problem is that some people are cutting down trees for large animals that need space to live. This is bad for red pandas because they need space to live in the forests near mountains in Asia. They live in these forests and can use the trees for shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to the trees for logging businesses. Others need more humans coming into the area. Some cut down trees for farmland. More need space to build homes and buildings. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And when the red pandas don't have trees to climb, the more likely they are to become food for larger animals.

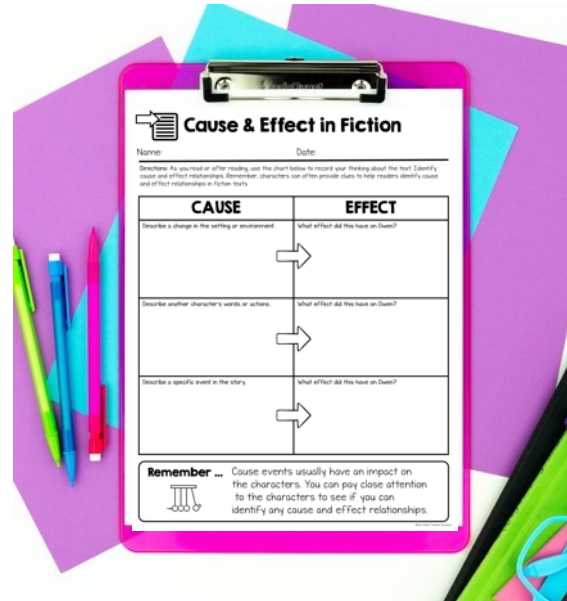
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resources includes differentiated reading passages, skill-based graphic organizers, and comprehension passages based on the passages.



3 Sets of Differentiated Reading Passages

Each set includes the same text written at three different levels for a total of 9 passages.



Graphic Organizer

Each text set has a graphic organizer students can use in response to that text, OR, it can be used with any text to practice the same skill.



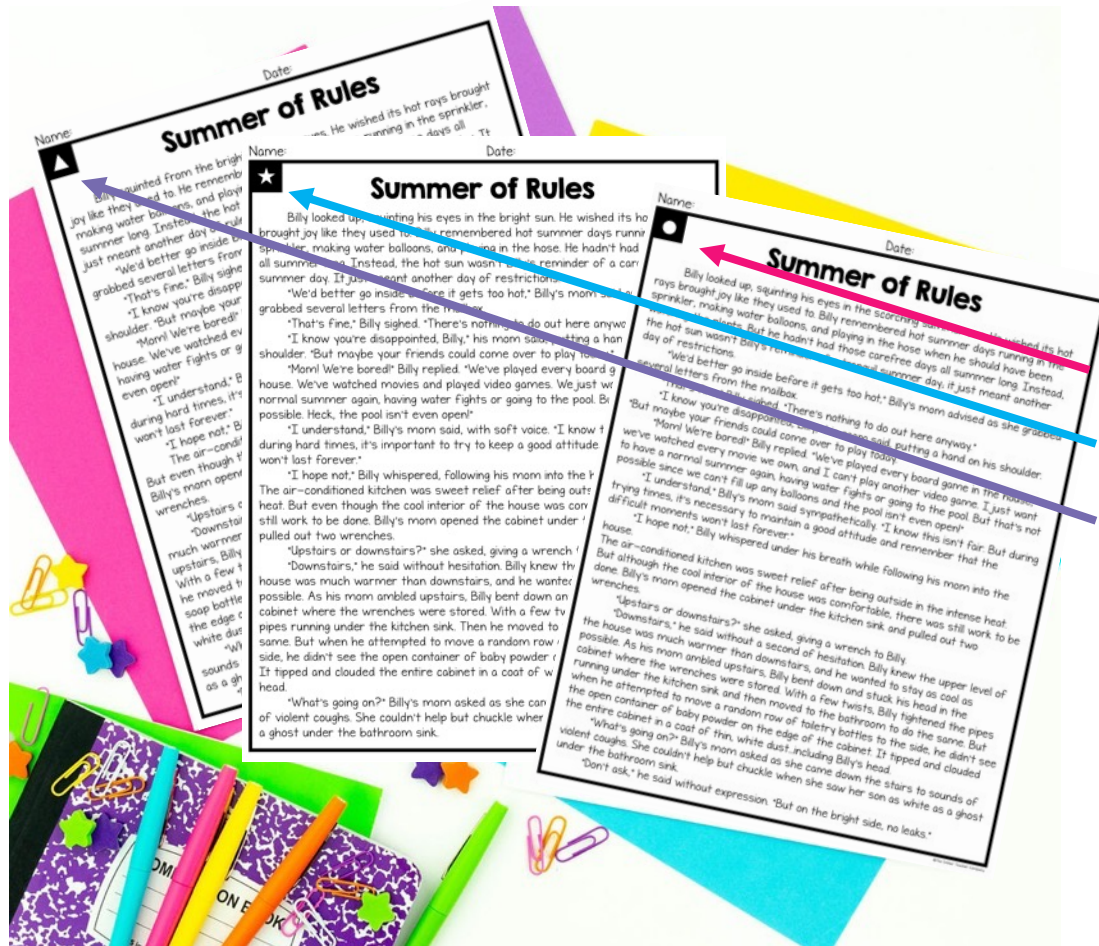
Reading Response Questions

Each text set also includes a set of reading response questions that could be answered using any level of passages, so it doesn't matter if your students are reading level A, B, or C, the answer to the questions will still be the same.

Digital versions are included for all templates.

EASY TO DIFFERENTIATE

Each story is written at three different levels. You can select the level that is best for your entire class, or you can let students choose the level they want to read. This makes discussing the same text whole group so much easier.



Each text is written at 3 different levels to make it easy to differentiate.

- ▲ Level A: 420L - 610L
- ★ Level B: 6:10L - 810L
- Level C: 810L - 1100L

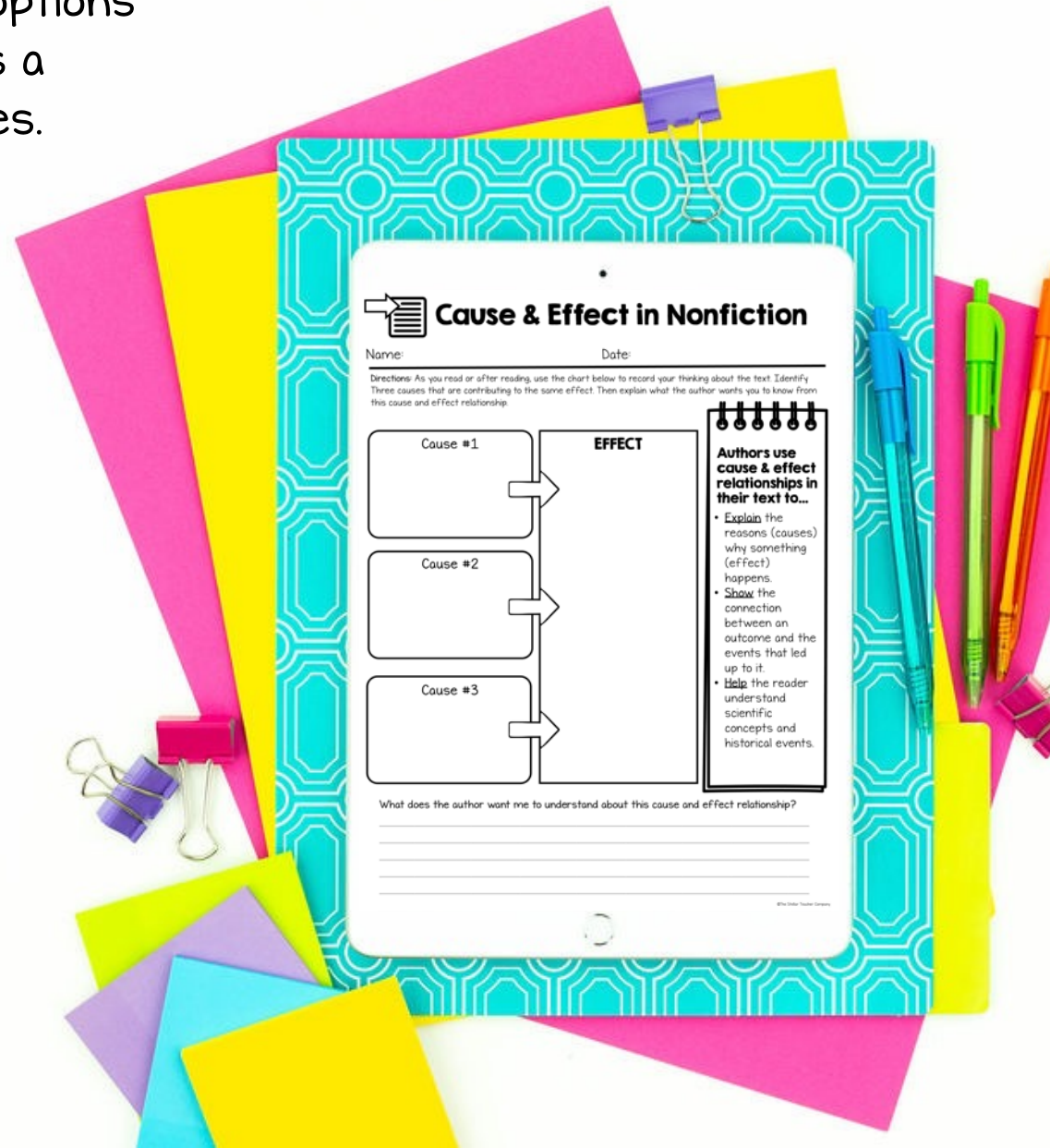
Digital versions are included for all passages and response pages.

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.

In addition to the print version, you get a digital version created using Google Slides for all the passages, response pages, and graphic organizers.

Rest assured, you can use this resource in both face-to-face and virtual classrooms.



A LOOK INSIDE... SET #1

Identifying Cause & Effect Relationships in Nonfiction

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

get the proper care. It is not hard to see that humans have caused problems for red pandas. First, they are cutting down their forests. Second, some are hunting them. Others are being trapped. Even more are dying in people's homes. This has led to under 10,000 red pandas remaining in the wild. Instead of harming the red panda population, it's time for humans to help them before they disappear forever.

this is a very bad idea. Red pandas cannot be house-trained like dogs or cats. They must have a special diet and plenty of room to climb. The things they need can't be found inside a home. This can cause red pandas a lot of stress. Sometimes the stress can lead them to become very aggressive towards humans. Most red pandas simply cannot survive in a home and die because they don't receive proper care. While it is sad, it's not hard to see that humans have caused the

this is a very bad idea because red pandas cannot be house-trained like dogs or cats. They must have a special diet and plenty of room to climb. Simply put, the things they need can't be found inside a home. This can cause red pandas a lot of stress, which can lead to them becoming quite aggressive towards humans. Most red pandas just cannot survive in a home and die because they don't receive proper care. While it is sad, it's not hard to see that humans have caused the

Name: _____ Date: _____

What is Happening to the Red Panda?

Red Pandas are like no other animal. They have cute faces, striped tails, and beautiful fur. But even though they are loved, they are endangered. This means that they are at risk of becoming extinct. But why?

First, it's helpful to look at where red pandas live. Most live inside forests near mountains in Asia. They live there because they are great climbers. They are able to use trees as shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to more humans coming into the area. Some cut down trees for firewood. Others need room for farmland. More need space to build homes and buildings. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And when the red pandas don't have trees to climb, the more likely they are to become food for larger animals.

Some humans do things even worse than taking away the homes of red pandas. They hunt and kill them. One reason is because of their fur. Some people love wearing hats and coats made from red panda fur. Others believe that red pandas have magic powers. They think their body

Name: _____ Date: _____

What is Happening to the Red Panda?

Red Pandas are unique animals. Their cute faces, striped tails, and beautiful fur make them one of a kind! But as lovely as they are, they are endangered. This means that they are at risk of becoming extinct in the wild. But why?

First, it's helpful to look at where red pandas live. Most red pandas live in forests near mountains in Asia. They live in these forests because they are great climbers and can use the trees as shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down. This is due to the increase in humans coming into the area. Some cut down trees for firewood. Others need the trees for logging businesses. Others need room for farmland. And, as more humans move to areas around the forests, trees are cut down to build houses and businesses. The more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas. And when the red pandas don't have trees to climb, the more likely they are to become prey for larger animals.

Unfortunately, some humans do things even worse than taking away the homes of red pandas. They hunt and kill them. One reason is because of their red fur. Many love hats, scarves, and coats made from red panda fur. And while some enjoy wearing them, others believe that red pandas have magic powers. Some think that wearing red panda fur brings luck. Others believe their body parts can cure diseases. This leads hunters to kill red pandas to make medicines, even though it is illegal. While there is no proof that red pandas have any healing powers, it doesn't stop them from being hunted.

Name: _____ Date: _____

What is Happening to the Red Panda?

Red Pandas are unique animals. With their cute faces, striped tails, and beautiful fur, they are certainly one-of-a-kind creatures. But as lovely as they are, they are endangered, meaning they are at risk of becoming extinct in the wild very soon. But why?

First, it's helpful to analyze where red pandas naturally live. Most red pandas live in forests near the Himalayas in Asia. They reside in these forests because they are great climbers and can use the trees as shelter. But many of these forests are being cut down due to the increase in humans coming into the area. Some cut down trees for firewood, others for big logging businesses. Some need room for farmland and even more need space to build homes and buildings. But the more trees that come down, the less shelter there is for the red pandas to protect themselves. And when the red pandas don't have trees to climb, the more likely they are to become prey for larger animals.

Unfortunately, some humans do things even worse than taking away the homes of red pandas: they hunt and kill them. One reason is because of their red fur. Many love hats, scarves, and coats made from red panda fur. And while some enjoy wearing them, others believe that red pandas can cure diseases, bring red panda fur to make medicines, and elixirs.

What is Happening to the Red Panda?
Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *What is Happening to the Red Panda?* from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- What did the author describe is happening to red pandas? Support your thinking with text evidence.
 - 1. There are under 10,000 red pandas remaining in the wild.
 - 2. Red pandas are an endangered species.
- List reasons why red pandas are in danger of becoming extinct? Support your thinking with text evidence.

Answers will vary but should refer to disappear from the wild. Possible answers:

 - Deforestation
 - Red pandas are hunted and killed.
 - Humans taking them as pets.
- After reading the text, what ideas do you have to help red pandas? Explain your thinking.

Student answers will vary but should include becoming endangered. Some possible answers:

 - Deforestation
 - Red pandas are hunted and killed.
 - Humans taking them as pets.
- What is the author's purpose for writing this text? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

To inform that audience that red pandas are disappearing from the wild.

What is Happening to the Red Panda?
Reading Response Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *What is Happening to the Red Panda?* Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- What did the author describe is happening to red pandas? Support your thinking with text evidence.
- List reasons why red pandas are in danger of becoming extinct? Support your thinking with text evidence.
- After reading the text, what ideas do you have to help red pandas? Explain your thinking.
- What is the author's purpose for writing this text? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

Cause & Effect in Nonfiction

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: As you read or after reading, use the chart below to record your thinking about the text. Identify three causes that are contributing to the same effect. Then explain what the author wants you to know from this cause and effect relationship.

Cause & Effect in Nonfiction

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: As you read or after reading, use the chart below to record your thinking about the text. Identify three causes that are contributing to the same effect. Then explain what the author wants you to know from this cause and effect relationship.

Cause #1 Humans destroy forests where red pandas live.	EFFECT
Cause #2 Red pandas are hunted and killed.	
Cause #3 Humans take red pandas as a pet.	

What does the author want me to understand about this cause and effect relationship?

What does the author want me to understand about this cause and effect relationship?

Authors use cause & effect relationships in their text to...

- Explain the reasons (causes) why something (effect) happens.
- Show the connection between an outcome and the events that led up to it.
- Help the reader understand scientific concepts and historical events.

The Response Sheet and Graphic Organizer work with ALL 3 Passages!

A LOOK INSIDE... SET #2

Identifying Cause & Effect in Fiction

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

eye on the window at all times. Ten minutes before school was over, snowflakes started to fall. That's when Owen became very flustered.

He wanted to get home as fast as possible. He couldn't wait to curl up under a blanket or maybe sip on some hot cocoa. Owen packed his backpack quickly before Mr. Deters wrote the last of the day's homework on the board. As soon as the final bell rang, Owen flew out of the classroom and RAN towards home.

Owen's teeth started chattering only a few paces into his run. He squinted to

Owen managed to appear alert throughout the rest of the school day. However, he kept one eye on the window at all times. Once the first snowflakes began to fall, only ten minutes before the school dismissed, Owen started panicking. He wanted to get home as fast as possible - to curl up under a blanket or maybe sip on some hot cocoa - so he packed his backpack before Mr. Deters wrote the last of the day's homework on the board. As soon as the final bell rang, Owen streaked out the classroom door and RAN towards home.

Owen squinted to

from the ominous clouds, only ten minutes before the school dismissed. Owen began to panic. He wanted to get home as fast as possible - to curl up under a blanket or maybe sip on some hot cocoa - so he packed his backpack before Mr. Deters wrote the last of the day's homework on the board. As soon as the final bell rang, Owen dashed out of the classroom door and RAN towards home.

Owen felt his teeth begin to chatter only a few paces into his run. He squinted to keep the snow - now falling rapidly - out of his eyes. His backpack bounced up and

Name: _____ Date: _____

Owen Picks His Outfit

"Wear a sweatshirt and long pants today!" Owen's mom shouted. She knew she had to give her son these directions. Otherwise, he would dress in only a t-shirt and shorts. Yes, the sun was shining. Sure, there wasn't a cloud in the sky. But it was March in Indiana. And the weather was ALWAYS unpredictable in March. One day it would be nice enough for a picnic. The next, there'd be a winter storm. Today was a perfect example. Owen's mom heard on the morning's news that it was going to be cold in the afternoon. There was even talk of snow.

"But Mom," Owen said, walking into the kitchen, "I'm old enough to pick out my own clothes, remember?"

This was true. Owen had just started picking his own outfits. This was because he used to sleep for as long as possible every morning. His mom just got him an outfit and threw it on his bed. But now that Owen was getting older, his mom wanted him to have more responsibility. This meant Owen had to choose his own clothes each day. But this morning, Owen was not dressed for the weather. He wore just what she had feared. He came to the kitchen in a t-shirt and basketball shorts.

"Owen, it's nice outside right now. But it will get very cold this afternoon. By the time you walk home, there may be snow," she explained.

"No way, Mom. It's a perfect spring day!"

Owen Picks His Outfit
Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____

Owen Picks His Outfit

"Be sure to wear a sweatshirt and long pants today!" Owen's mom shouted. She knew that if she didn't give her son direct instructions, he would dress in only a t-shirt and basketball shorts. Even though the sun was shining and there wasn't a cloud in the sky, it was still March in Indiana. The weather was ALWAYS unpredictable in March. One day the air was pleasant enough for a picnic. The next, there'd be a winter storm. Today was a perfect example. Owen's mom heard on the morning's news that the temperature was going to plummet in the afternoon. There was even talk of snow.

"But Mom," Owen announced, walking into the kitchen, "I'm old enough to pick out my own clothes, remember?"

This was true. Owen had only recently started choosing his own outfits. This was mostly because he wanted to sleep for as long as possible every morning. His mom always grabbed him an outfit and threw it on his bed. However, now that Owen was getting older, his mom wanted him to gain more responsibility. This meant Owen had to pick out his own clothes each day. But this morning, to his mom's disappointment, Owen wasn't dressed appropriately. He wore just what she had feared: a t-shirt and basketball shorts.

"Owen, it's nice outside right now, but it's supposed to get cold this afternoon. By the time you walk home, there may even be snow," she explained.

"No way, Mom. It's a perfect spring day!"

"But the news just said--" Owen's mom stammered, but she was cut off as Owen grabbed a banana and his backpack from the counter.

"Be fine." Owen hollered on the way out the door. "Love you!"

At a few hours later, Owen peered out the classroom window in dread. Now completely gray, Owen could hear the wind whipping harshly against the windows. The clouds continued to grow darker with each passing hour. Owen

Name: _____ Date: _____

Owen Picks His Outfit

"Be sure to wear a sweatshirt and long pants today!" Owen's mom shouted. She knew that if she didn't give her son explicit instructions, he would dress in only a t-shirt and basketball shorts. Even though the sun was shining and there wasn't a cloud in the sky, it was still March in Indiana, and the weather was ALWAYS unpredictable in March. One day the air would be pleasant enough for a lovely picnic. The next, there'd be a fierce winter storm. Today was a perfect example. Owen's mom heard on the morning's news that the temperature was going to drastically plummet in the afternoon. There was even talk of snow.

"But Mom," Owen announced, walking into the kitchen, "I'm old enough to pick out my own clothes, remember?"

It was true that Owen had only recently started choosing his own outfits. This was mostly because he wanted to sleep for as long as possible every morning, so his mom would just grab him an outfit and throw it on his bed. However, now that Owen was getting older, his mom wanted him to gain more responsibility, particularly in the mornings. This meant Owen had to pick out his own clothes each day. But this morning, to his mom's disappointment, Owen wasn't dressed appropriately for the weather. He wore just what she had feared: a t-shirt and basketball shorts.

"Owen, it's nice outside right now, but it's supposed to get quite cold this afternoon. By the time you walk home, there may even be snow," she explained.

"No way, Mom. It's a perfect spring day!"

Cause & Effect in Fiction

Name: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Owen Picks His Outfit*. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why does Owen wear a t-shirt and shorts?

In the morning, the weather was warmer weather even though his afternoon.
- How does Owen feel about his outfit in the beginning of the story?

Owen shores with his mom that he is confident and even change.
- What causes Owen's feelings to change about his outfit in the story?

Owen looks out the window of school and gets very worried and distracted by the shorts.
- Based on what you read, what will Owen do differently in the future? What might be another suggestion you would give him so he is prepared for the weather? Explain your thinking.

The story states he will watch the weather.

-Students might suggest that Owen pack his backpack in case the weather changes.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Owen Picks His Outfit

Reading Response Questions

Directions: Read the passage *Owen Picks His Outfit*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why does Owen wear a t-shirt and shorts to school? Use details from the text.
- How does Owen feel about his outfit in the beginning of the story?
- What causes Owen's feelings to change about his outfit in the story?
- Based on what you read, what will Owen do differently in the future? What might be another suggestion you would give him so he is prepared for the weather? Explain your thinking.

At a few hours later, Owen peered out the classroom window in dread. Now completely gray, Owen could hear the wind whipping harshly against the windows. The clouds continued to grow darker with each passing hour. Owen took his eyes off the classroom window, to the point where he didn't hear his teacher call on him to answer a question.

"Owen?" Mr. Deters hollered. Owen finally heard his teacher's cries, his face red from embarrassment.

"Owen's embarrassment was bad, the thought of the weather growing worse."

The Response Sheet and Graphic Organizer work with ALL 3 Passages!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cause & Effect in Fiction

Directions: As you read or after reading, use the chart below to record your thinking about the text. Identify cause and effect relationships. Remember, characters can often provide clues to help readers identify cause and effect relationships in fiction texts.

CAUSE	EFFECT
Describe a change in the setting or environment.	What effect did this have on Owen?
Describe another character's words or actions.	What effect did this have on Owen?
Describe a specific event in the story.	What effect did this have on Owen?

Remember ... Cause events usually have an impact on the characters. You can pay close attention to the characters to see if you can identify any cause and effect relationships.

your thinking about the text. Identify the clues to help readers identify cause and effect relationships in fiction texts.

EFFECT

did this have on Owen?

he is distracted all day and worried about not being properly dressed for his walk home.

did this have on Owen?

he is embarrassed and face turns red.

did this have on Owen?

he promises to be more responsible and check the weather before getting dressed in the morning.

have an impact on the characters. You can pay close attention to the characters to see if you can identify any cause and effect relationships.

A LOOK INSIDE... SET #3

Inferring Cause & Effect Relationships

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

"Hopefully soon," he replied softly. "Hopefully very soon."
 "I'll clean up the bathroom," his mom said, trying not to laugh too loud. "You go take a shower." Then she straightened up and warned, "But that's your only one for the day. You'll have to stay clean until bedtime. And remember..."
 "Only five minutes," Billy said, cutting her off. "But don't get mad if it's six. It may take a bit to get the powder out of my ears."
 Even with the extra grime all over his head, Billy still managed to get in and out of the shower in under five minutes. It wasn't hard to limit his shower time.

"Don't ask," he said. "But on the bright side, no leaks."
 "I'll clean up the bathroom," his mom said, trying not to laugh too loud. "You go take a shower." Then she straightened up and warned, "But that's your only one for the day. You'll have to stay clean until bedtime. And remember..."
 "Only five minutes," Billy said, cutting her off. "But don't get mad if it's six. It may take a bit to get the powder out of my ears."
 Even with the extra grime all over his head, Billy still managed to get in and out of the shower in under five minutes. It wasn't hard to limit his shower time as Billy had practiced speed-showering over the past few weeks. His best time was two and a half minutes.

"I'll clean up this mess," his mom said, trying not to be overcome with laughter. "You go take a shower." But suddenly, she straightened up and warned, "But that's your only one for the day, so you'll have to stay clean until bedtime. Just remember..."
 "Only five minutes," Billy announced, cutting her off. "But don't get mad if it's six. It may take a bit to get the powder out of my ears."
 Even with the extra grime covering his whole head, Billy still managed to get in and out of the shower in under five minutes. It wasn't hard to limit his shower time as Billy had practiced speed-showering over the past few weeks. His best time was two and a half minutes.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer of Rules

Billy squinted from the bright sun in his eyes. He wished its hot rays brought joy like they used to. He remembered hot summer days running in the sprinkler, making water balloons, and playing in the hose. He hadn't had those days all summer long. Instead, the hot sun didn't remind Billy of a fun summer day. It just meant another day of rules.

"We'd better go inside before it gets too hot," Billy's mom said as she grabbed several letters from the mailbox.

"That's fine," Billy sighed. "There's nothing to do out here anyway."

"I know you're disappointed, Billy," his mom said, putting a hand on his shoulder. "But maybe your friends could come over to play today."

"Mom! We're bored!" Billy replied. "We've played every board game in the house. We've watched every movie. We just want to have a normal summer again, having water fights or going to the pool. But that's not possible. Heck, the pool isn't even open!"

"I understand," Billy's mom said with a soft voice. "I know this isn't fair. But during hard times, it's important to try to keep a good attitude. Remember, this won't last forever."

"I hope not," Billy whispered, following his mom into the house.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer of Rules

Billy looked up, squinting his eyes in the bright sun. He wished its hot rays brought joy like they used to. Billy remembered hot summer days running in the sprinkler, making water balloons, and playing in the hose. He hadn't had those days all summer long. Instead, the hot sun wasn't Billy's reminder of a carefree summer day. It just meant another day of restrictions.

"We'd better go inside before it gets too hot," Billy's mom said as she grabbed several letters from the mailbox.

"That's fine," Billy sighed. "There's nothing to do out here anyway."

"I know you're disappointed, Billy," his mom said, putting a hand on his shoulder. "But maybe your friends could come over to play today."

"Mom! We're bored!" Billy replied. "We've played every board game in the house. We've watched movies and played video games. We just want to have a normal summer again, having water fights or going to the pool. But that's not possible. Heck, the pool isn't even open!"

"I understand," Billy's mom said, with soft voice. "I know this isn't fair. But during hard times, it's important to try to keep a good attitude. Remember, this won't last forever."

"I hope not," Billy whispered, following his mom into the house.

The air-conditioned kitchen was sweet relief after being outside in the sweltering heat. But even though the cool interior of the house was comfortable, there was still work to be done. Billy's mom opened the cabinet under the kitchen sink and pulled out two wrenches.

"Upstairs or downstairs?" she asked, giving a wrench to Billy.

"Downstairs," he said without hesitation. Billy knew the upper level of the house was much warmer than downstairs, and he wanted to stay as close to his mom as possible. As much warmer than downstairs, and he wanted to stay as close to his mom as possible. As much warmer than downstairs, and he wanted to stay as close to his mom as possible.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer of Rules

Billy looked up, squinting his eyes in the scorching summer sun. He wished its hot rays brought joy like they used to. Billy remembered hot summer days running in the sprinkler, making water balloons, and playing in the hose when he should have been watering the plants. But he hadn't had those carefree days all summer long. Instead, the hot sun wasn't Billy's reminder of a tranquil summer day, it just meant another day of restrictions.

"We'd better go inside before it gets too hot," Billy's mom advised as she grabbed several letters from the mailbox.

"That's fine," Billy sighed. "There's nothing to do out here anyway."

"I know you're disappointed, Billy," his mom said, putting a hand on his shoulder. "But maybe your friends could come over to play today."

"Mom! We're bored!" Billy replied. "We've played every board game in the house, we've watched every movie, and I can't play another video game. I just want to have a normal summer again, having water fights or going to the pool. But that's not possible since we can't fill up any balloons and the pool isn't even open!"

"I understand," Billy's mom said sympathetically. "I know this isn't fair. But during trying times, it's necessary to maintain a good attitude and remember that the difficult moments won't last forever."

"I hope not," Billy whispered under his breath while following his mom into the house.

Summer of Rules Answer Key

- Name: _____ Date: _____
- Directions: Read the passage "Summer of Rules." When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.
- What are some of the rules does Billy have to follow in the story? Use examples from the text.
 - 1. Can't have water balloon fights.
 - 2. Can only take a 5 minute shower.
 - 3. He cannot go to the pool anymore.
 - How would you describe Billy? Use examples from the text.

He misses not being able to do normal activities and is frustrated that the activities he wants to do are not possible.
 - Why do you think Billy cannot use water balloons? Use examples from the text.

Students will most likely infer that the cause of Billy not being able to part with his balloons is that the pool is closed.
 - Describe a connection you can make to Billy or his experience in the text.

Student answers will vary. Students may connect to a time when they experienced a similar situation or a time when they experienced a similar situation.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Summer of Rules Reading Response Questions

Directions: Read the passage "Summer of Rules." Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- What are some of the rules does Billy have to follow in the story? Use examples from the text.

- How would you describe Billy? Use examples from the text.

- Why do you think Billy cannot use water balloons? Use examples from the text.

- Describe a connection you can make to Billy or his experience in the text.

Inferring Cause & Effect

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage. Think about why Billy has so many rules and restrictions. Make an inference that explains the cause of those rules. Then share the background knowledge and text evidence that helped you make your inference.

My Inference

Share or write your inference.

Background Knowledge

Explain the background knowledge or personal connection that helped you make the inference.

Text Evidence

Share the text evidence that helped you make the inference.

Inferring Cause & Effect

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage. Think about why Billy has so many rules and restrictions. Make an inference that explains the cause of those rules. Then share the background knowledge and text evidence that helped you make your inference.

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Share the text evidence that helped you make the inference.

The Response Sheet and Graphic Organizer work with ALL 3 Passages!