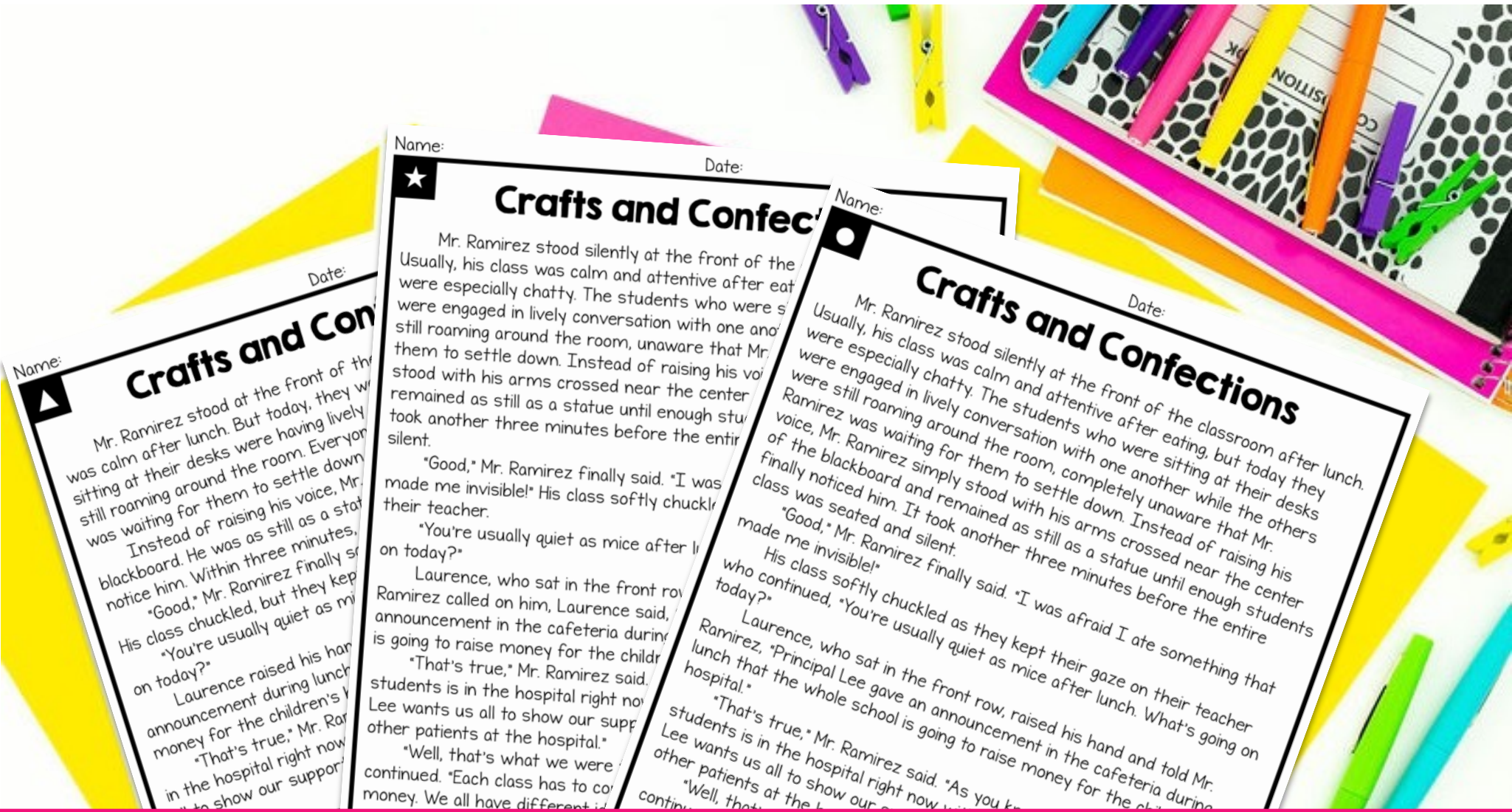


Differentiated Reading Passages

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Same Story, 3 Different Reading Levels



Name: _____ Date: _____

Crafts and Confections

Mr. Ramirez stood at the front of the classroom after lunch. Usually, his class was calm and attentive after eating, but today they were especially chatty. The students who were sitting at their desks were still roaming around the room. Everyone was engaged in lively conversation with one another, completely unaware that Mr. Ramirez was waiting for them to settle down. Instead of raising his voice, Mr. Ramirez simply stood with his arms crossed near the center of the blackboard and remained as still as a statue until enough students took another three minutes before the entire class was seated and silent.

"Good," Mr. Ramirez finally said. "I was made me invisible!" His class softly chuckled at their teacher.

"You're usually quiet as mice after lunch on today?"

Laurence, who sat in the front row, raised his hand and told Mr. Ramirez, "Principal Lee gave an announcement in the cafeteria during lunch that the whole school is going to raise money for the children's hospital."

"That's true," Mr. Ramirez said. "As you know, students is in the hospital right now. Lee wants us all to show our support for other patients at the hospital."

"Well, that's what we were doing," Mr. Ramirez continued. "Each class has to contribute money. We all have different jobs to do."

Name: _____ Date: _____

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WHAT'S INCLUDED?

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



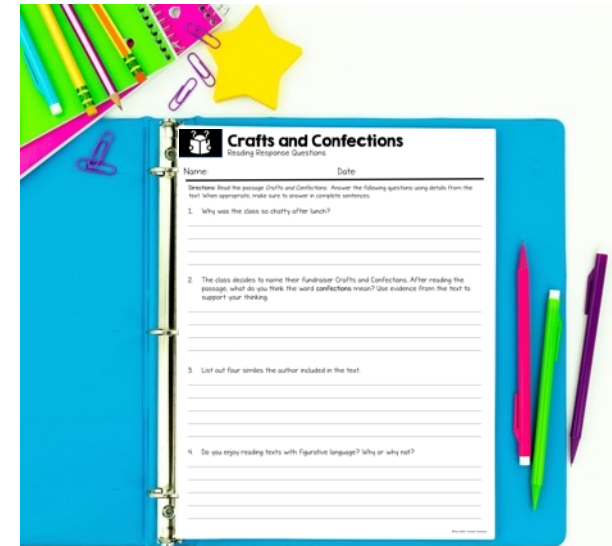
3 Sets of Differentiated Reading Passages

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



Graphic Organizer

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



Reading Response Questions

Each story also includes a set of reading response question 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

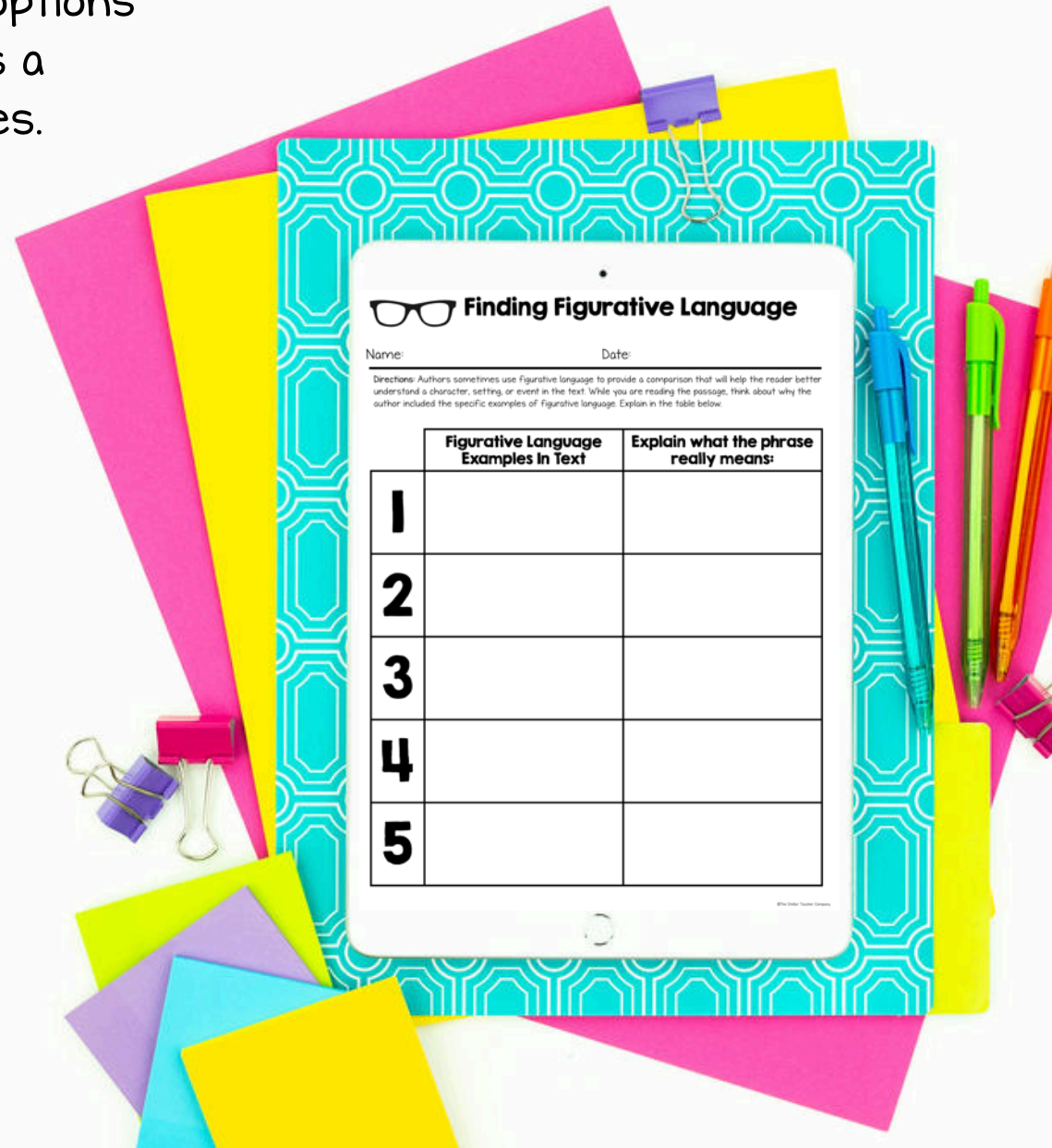
Digital versions are included for all passages and response pages.

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... STORY #1

Graphic organizer focuses on similes.

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

Mr. Ramirez wrote Cal's idea on the board. Then he heard a few voices say, "What?" and "No way!" More chatter filled the classroom. Through the noise, Mr. Ramirez heard more ideas. One was a cake walk. Another was making greeting cards. A girl's voice suggested a cookie walk. A boy's voice mentioned making holiday decorations.

Mr. Ramirez wrote as fast as he could. When the ideas stopped, he waved his hand to settle the class down. "I think we should do crafts and confections," Mr. Ramirez said. "We can make holiday cards, greeting cards, and more. Who says we can't do more than just reading?" Mr. Ramirez said. "All in favor of crafts and confections?"

Mr. Ramirez stood at the front of the classroom. Usually, his class was calm after lunch. But today, they were very chatty. The students sitting at their desks were having lively conversations. The others were still roaming around the room. Everyone was unaware that Mr. Ramirez was waiting for them to settle down.

Instead of raising his voice, Mr. Ramirez just stood by the blackboard. He was as still as a statue. Finally, his students began to notice him. Within three minutes, the whole class was quiet and seated.

"Good," Mr. Ramirez finally said. "I thought I turned invisible!" His class chuckled, but they kept their eyes on their teacher.

"You're usually quiet as mice after lunch," he continued. "What's going on today?"

Laurence raised his hand. He said, "Principal Lee gave an announcement during lunch. She said the whole school is going to raise money for the children's hospital."

"That's true," Mr. Ramirez said. "One of the first-grade students is in the hospital right now with a spinal cord tumor. Principal Lee wants us all to show our support for our fellow student and all the other students in the hospital."

Mr. Ramirez turned around and wrote Molly's idea on the board. When he turned to face the class again, Cal raised his hand and said, "Speaking of pie, I think we need to sell exactly that: PIE! Kids always spend their allowance on sweets. Plus, I make the best pie crust in the city!"

Mr. Ramirez turned around and wrote Molly's idea on the board as he heard Cal say, "Speaking of pie, I think we need to sell exactly that: PIE! Kids always spend their allowance on sweets. Plus, I make the best pie crust in the city!"

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"Good," Mr. Ramirez finally said. "I was afraid I ate something that made me invisible!" His class softly chuckled as they kept their gaze on their teacher.

"You're usually quiet as mice after lunch," he continued. "What's going on today?"

Laurence, who sat in the front row, raised his hand. When Mr. Ramirez called on him, Laurence said, "Principal Lee gave an announcement in the cafeteria during lunch. She told us the whole school is going to raise money for the children's hospital."

"That's true," Mr. Ramirez said. "As you know, one of the first-grade students is in the hospital right now with a spinal cord tumor. Principal Lee wants us all to show our support for our fellow student and all the other students in the hospital."

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Crafts and Confections - Key

Reading Response Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Crafts and Confections* and answer the questions below. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why was the class so chatty after lunch?

The students were discussing a school-wide fundraiser. Students were excited to share their ideas.
- The class decides to name their fundraiser. What do you think the word *confections* means? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

I think confections means the idea of having a craft so you can combine their talents and make something sweet.
- List out four similes the author included in the text.

Include four of the following:

 - As still as a statue
 - As quiet as mice
 - As different as night and day
 - As easy as pie
 - Clear as a bell
- Do you enjoy reading texts with figurative language? Why or why not?

Answers will vary.

Crafts and Confections

Reading Response Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Crafts and Confections*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why was the class so chatty after lunch?

- The class decides to name their fundraiser *Crafts and Confections*. After reading the passage, what do you think the word *confections* mean? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

- List out four similes the author included in the text.

- Do you enjoy reading texts with figurative language? Why or why not?

Crafts and Confections

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Crafts and Confections*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

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Crafts and Confections

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Crafts and Confections*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why was the class so chatty after lunch?

- The class decides to name their fundraiser *Crafts and Confections*. After reading the passage, what do you think the word *confections* mean? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

- List out four similes the author included in the text.

- Do you enjoy reading texts with figurative language? Why or why not?

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

Fun Comparisons

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Select three of the similes the author used in the text. Write each one in one of the tables below. Then think about the two things that the author is comparing using that simile. Finally, explain why you think that is a good comparison.

SIMILE USED IN THE TEXT:	
WHAT TWO THINGS IS THE AUTHOR COMPARING?	EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A GOOD COMPARISON:

SIMILE USED IN THE TEXT:	
WHAT TWO THINGS IS THE AUTHOR COMPARING?	EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A GOOD COMPARISON:

SIMILE USED IN THE TEXT:	
WHAT TWO THINGS IS THE AUTHOR COMPARING?	EXPLAIN WHY THIS IS A GOOD COMPARISON:

A LOOK INSIDE... STORY #2

Graphic organizer focuses on metaphors.

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

Claire and Victor stared at one another for a few seconds. Then Claire broke the silence.
"Wow. She's a peach, huh?" she said sarcastically.
Victor smiled. Then a serious look came back to his face. He said, "Are you sure you want to deal with her, Claire? Maybe you should take your name off the list."
"No way!" Claire nearly shouted. "I'm not a scaredy cat. Plus, I think

spelling bee to have fun and learn. It's ok if I don't win."
"We'll see if you feel that way after I mop the floor with you," Avery said before walking away.
Claire and Victor stared at one another before Claire broke the silence.
"Wow. She's a peach, huh?" Claire said sarcastically.
Victor smiled before the serious expression returned to his face. He

his assistance as she stood up tall and retorted, "Who says I'm wasting my time? I'm entering the spelling bee to have fun and learn, so it's ok if I don't win."
"I hope you still feel that way after I mop the floor with you," Avery taunted before walking away from the shocked pair. Claire and Victor stared at one another before Claire finally broke the silence with a shriek of laughter.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Spelling Bee

Claire and Victor walked past the bulletin board by their classroom door. In the center was a sign-up sheet with 'School Spelling Bee' at the top. But there was only one name on the sheet.
"Why hasn't anyone signed up for the spelling bee besides Avery?" Claire asked Victor.
"People are afraid of her," Victor explained. "Avery is a walking dictionary. There isn't a word she doesn't know. She's won the spelling bee for the past three years!"
"Maybe it's time for someone else to have a shot," Claire said confidently. She took a pencil from her back pocket and put her name on the list.
Claire was the new girl at school, but she and Victor became fast friends. Claire liked Victor's heart of gold. She appreciated how he looked out for her. Victor liked Claire's heart of a lion. He had never met anyone so assured or eager for new experiences. He admired that she wasn't bothered hearing about Avery. But he still felt he needed to warn Claire.
"I just don't want you to be disappointed if you don't win," he said to his friend.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Spelling Bee

Claire grabbed Victor's arm as they passed the bulletin board by their classroom door. In the center was a sign-up sheet with 'Annual School Spelling Bee' at the top. However, there was only one name on the sheet.
"Why hasn't anyone signed up for the spelling bee besides Avery?" Claire asked Victor.
"Because people are afraid of competing against her," Victor explained. "Avery is a walking dictionary. There isn't a word she doesn't know. That's why she's won the school spelling bee for the past three years!"
"Well, maybe it's time for someone else to have a shot," Claire said confidently as she grabbed a pencil from her back pocket and added her name to the list.
Claire was the new girl at school, but she and Victor became fast friends. Claire liked Victor's heart of gold. She appreciated how he looked out for her. Victor liked Claire's heart of a lion. He had never met anyone so self-assured or eager for new experiences. He admired that she wasn't bothered hearing about Avery's past spelling accomplishments. However, he still felt he needed to warn Claire not to get her hopes up.
"I just don't want you to be disappointed if you don't win," he said to his friend.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Spelling Bee

Claire grasped Victor's arm as they passed the bulletin board by their classroom door. In the center was a sign-up sheet with 'Annual School Spelling Bee' printed at the top, however only one name was signed below: Avery Taylor.
"Why hasn't anyone signed up for the spelling bee besides Avery?" Claire asked Victor.
"Because people are terrified of competing against her," Victor explained. "Avery is a walking dictionary. There isn't a word she doesn't know how to spell, which is why she's won the school spelling bee for the past three years!"
"Well, maybe it's time for someone else to have a shot," Claire stated confidently as she grabbed a pencil from her back pocket and added her name to the list.
Claire was the new girl at school, but she and Victor were fast friends. Claire liked Victor's heart of gold and appreciated how he looked out for her as the new kid in town. On the contrary, Victor liked Claire's heart of a lion. He had never met anyone so self-assured or eager for new experiences and he admired that Claire wasn't bothered hearing about Avery's winning ways. However, he still felt he needed to warn Claire not to get her hopes up.

The Spelling Bee - Key

Reading Response Questions


Name: _____ Date: _____

The Spelling Bee

Directions: Read the passage *The Spelling Bee*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why were students afraid to compete with Avery in the school spelling bee?
Avery was known as the walking dictionary for the past three years and she was confident she would win. They didn't want to be outperformed.
- Why does Claire keep encouraging her classmates to sign up for the spelling bee?
Claire told her classmates it would be a fun, cool experience and that they should sign up and not worry about being outperformed.
- List out 4 examples of metaphors the author used in the text.
Include 4 of the following:
 - Avery is a walking dictionary
 - Victor's heart of gold
 - Claire's heart of a lion
 - I'm bulletproof
 - She's a peach
 - I'm not a scaredy cat
- What did Avery mean when she told Claire "I hope you feel that way after I mop the floor with you." Was she really planning on mopping the floor with Claire? Explain what you think that phrase means.
Avery was trying to intimidate Claire by using a metaphor. She was really planning on mopping the floor with Claire, but she let Claire know that she planned to enter the spelling bee.

"I just don't want you to be disappointed if you don't win," he said to his friend.
"I'm bulletproof!" Claire responded. "I just like trying new things and I don't care about losing."
"That's good," a voice chimed in from over Victor and Claire's heads. "Because my fourth victory is already in the bag."
They turned and saw Avery standing with her hands on her hips. She chuckled and said, "Victor, haven't you told your new friend that she stands a chance against me? She shouldn't waste her time." Victor nervously opened his mouth, unsure of what to say or do. Fortunately for him, Claire didn't need his help.
"Who says I'm wasting my time?" Claire said. "I'm entering the spelling bee to have fun and learn. It's ok if I don't win."

 **Finding Figurative Language**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Authors sometimes use figurative language to provide a comparison that will help the reader better understand a character, setting, or event in the text. While you are reading the passage, think about why the author included the specific examples of figurative language. Explain in the table below.

	Figurative Language Examples In Text	Explain what the phrase really means!
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

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

A LOOK INSIDE... STORY #3

Focuses on identifying all types of figurative language.

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

canopy was heavier. The trail was rockier. The hills were steeper. Nala noticed the roughness of the trail first.
 "My legs feel like lead!" she complained. "Plus, this backpack is a boulder!"
 "No pain, no gain," Cece responded with a smile.
 "I mean it, Cece," Nala continued. "I'm beat. Can't we turn around? We've hiked a million miles already."

"My legs feel like lead!" she complained once the sisters reached a particularly steep stretch. "Plus, this backpack is a boulder!"
 "Hey, no pain, no gain," Cece responded with a smirk.
 "I mean it, Cece," Nala continued. "I'm exhausted. Can't we turn around? We've hiked a million miles already."
 "No way!" Cece said. "We've already come so far. And look," she went on pointing to the top of the incline. "I think there's flat ground up there."

the intense shift in terrain got to Nala.
 "My legs feel like lead!" she complained once the sisters reached a particularly steep stretch of trail. "Plus, this backpack is a boulder on my spine!"
 "Hey, no pain, no gain," Cece responded sarcastically with a smirk, but Nala wasn't having it.
 "I mean it, Cece," she continued sternly. "I'm exhausted. Can't we turn around? I'm beat. Can't we turn around? We've hiked a million miles already."

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cece & Nala's Hike

Cece and Nala loved special weekends at their grandpa's house. He lived near the a wooded hiking trail. He always told the girls that the end of the trail was magical. But they had never made it that far.

When the sisters were younger, they could only hike for about ten minutes. As they got older, they made it farther and farther. But they never got to the end.

Unfortunately, their grandpa now had to use a walker. He wasn't able to join the girls on the trail anymore. But he always encouraged them to make it to the end. This weekend, Cece and Nala were determined to do it.

"Do you have water?" their grandpa asked stepping outside with the girls.

"Check!" they said together.
 "What about sun screen? And your cell phones in case you need me?" he continued.
 "Yes, Grandpa," Cece said. "Remember? You packed them in our backpacks before breakfast!"

Cece & Nala's Hike - Key
 Reading Response Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cece & Nala's Hike

Cece and Nala loved special weekends at their grandpa's house. He lived near the entrance to a densely wooded hiking trail. He always told the girls that the end of the trail was one of the most magical places he'd ever been. But when the sisters were younger, they never wanted to hike longer than five or ten minutes. However, as they got older, they continued to make it farther and farther. Unfortunately, their grandpa now had to use a walker, so he wasn't able to accompany the girls on the trail anymore. But he always encouraged them to make it to the end. This weekend, Cece and Nala were determined to finally do it.

"Do you have water?" their grandpa asked stepping outside with the girls.

"Check!" they said in unison.
 "What about sunscreen? And your cell phones in case you need me?" he continued.
 "Yes, Grandpa," Cece said. "Remember? You packed them in our backpacks before breakfast."
 "Yeah," Nala continued, "along with the rest of the kitchen. We have snacks to last us a week!"
 "I guess I went a little overboard, huh?" their grandpa admitted.
 "But you have a big goal today. I just want you to be prepared."
 The girls smiled and Cece said, "I guess backpacks that weigh a ton will always be more of a challenge on our hike!"

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cece & Nala's Hike

Cece and Nala loved spending weekends at their grandpa's house. He lived near the entrance to a densely wooded hiking trail and always told the girls that the end of the trail was one of the most magical places he'd ever seen. But the girls had never been able to see it for themselves. When the sisters were younger, they got exhausted on hikes longer than five or ten minutes. However, as they got older, they continued to make it farther and farther down the trail. Unfortunately, their grandpa now had to use a walker, so he wasn't able to accompany the girls on their hikes anymore, but he always encouraged them to make it to the end. This weekend, Cece and Nala were determined to finally accomplish the task.

"Do you have water?" their grandpa asked stepping outside with the girls as they prepared to take off.

"Check!" they said in unison.
 "What about sunscreen? And your cell phones in case you need me?" he continued.
 "Yes, Grandpa," Cece said. "Remember? You packed them in our backpacks before breakfast."
 "Yeah," Nala continued, "along with the rest of the kitchen. I'm pretty sure we have enough snacks to last us a week!"
 "Yeah, maybe I did go a little overboard, huh?" their grandpa admitted.
 "But you have a big goal today, so I just want you to be absolutely prepared."

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Cece & Nala's Hike*. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- What did the girls pack to take with them on their hike?
Water, sunscreen, cellphone, snacks
- How did the trail change after they crossed over the stream?
The trail became more challenging and the trees were taller and thicker.
- What was so magical about the end of the trail?
Once they reached the end of the trail, they saw thousands of yellow butterflies.
- List out 4 examples of figurative language used in the text. Bonus if you can identify the type of figurative language.
Answers will vary. Possible answers:
 - We have snacks to last us a week!
 - Backpacks that weigh a ton!
 - Bobbling stream - personification
 - My backpack is a boulder - metaphor
 - Covered the grass like a blanket - simile

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cece & Nala's Hike

Reading Response Questions

Directions: Read the passage *Cece & Nala's Hike*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- What did the girls pack to take with them on their hike?

- How did the trail change after they crossed over the stream?

- What was so magical about the end of the trail?

- List out 4 examples of figurative language used in the text. Bonus if you can identify the type of figurative language.

The girls chuckled as the girls trudged through the yard towards the trail. They turned, waved to their grandpa, and set out on their adventure.

The start of the hike was recognizable. The girls passed the same pine bushes and pine trees they came to know since they were on their last hike. But as soon as they stepped over it, they saw a new landscape. The trees were taller. The canopy was heavier. The trail was rockier. After just ten minutes, the shift in terrain got to

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

Name: _____ Date: _____

Figurative Language Rewrite

Directions: Read the passage. Think about all the examples of figurative language the author included. Rewrite the three examples below to eliminate the figurative language. Be sure to replace the figurative language with enough descriptive examples to be able to still communicate the author's point.

Example #1 Rewrite the text.	"Yeah," Nala continued, "along with the rest of the kitchen. I'm pretty sure we have enough snacks to last us a week!"
Example #2 Rewrite the text.	"My legs feel like lead!" she complained. "Plus, this backpack is a boulder!"
Example #3 Rewrite the text.	They fluttered through the sky like a big group of kids playing tag at recess.