NONFICTION TEXT STRUCTURE
Student Sorting Activity

	Cause & Effect	Compare & Contrast	Description	Problem & Solution	Sequence
Explanation		In this type of text, authors find similarities and differences in the people, places, or things they are writing about.	In this type of text, authors provide in depth and specific details about a person, place, or topic.		In this type of text, authors write about a series of events, steps, or a process that the reader can follow.
Visual Cue					
Key Words		like, unlike, both, also, most, but, whereas, however, similar, as well as, too, same, different, on the other hand,			
Example		Leatherbacks and Kemp's Ridley are both endangered sea turtles. But other than that, they don't have too many similarities. Leatherbacks are the largest of sea turtles and can weigh over 2,000lbs, whereas the Kemp's Ridley is the smallest and only weighs in around 70lbs.	first, next, then, finally, before, after, second, third, meanwhile, during, listed in		Most female sea turtles will begin nesting at night. First she will crawl out of the ocean and begin searching for her ideal location. Next she begins constructing her nest and digging the egg cavity. Then she will lay and bury her eggs. When she is all finished she will return to the ocean.

for instance, features include, in particular, to show, to illustrate, another example is, let me explain, such as, most important,

since, then, because, if, when, so, therefore, as a result, without, reason, due to, consequence

Leatherbacks are the largest of all the sea turtles. They can grow up to 10 ft in length and can weigh over 2,000lbs. The are the only sea turtle that does not have a hard shell. In fact, their name comes from their rubbery leather. There is over 100 million tons of plastic floating in the ocean. This debris can cause physical harm to many marine animals. Many sea turtles have been ... One of the ...

because, since, the issue is, resolved by, dilemma, challenge, this led to, the answer to, one way, it is possible, the difficulty is
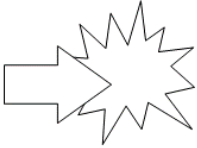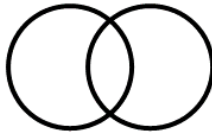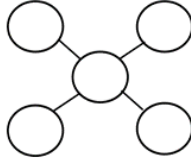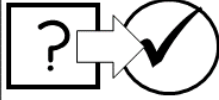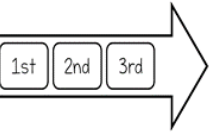
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

In this resource you get a hands-on engaging sorting activity that will help your students understand the difference between all the nonfiction text features.

→ Students will match the definition of each text structure to the correct header.

→ Students will identify and match the visual cue that corresponds to each text structure.

→ Students will be given a set of key words and will match them to the correct text structure.

→ There is also a short example of each text structure that students will read and then identify the correct text structure.
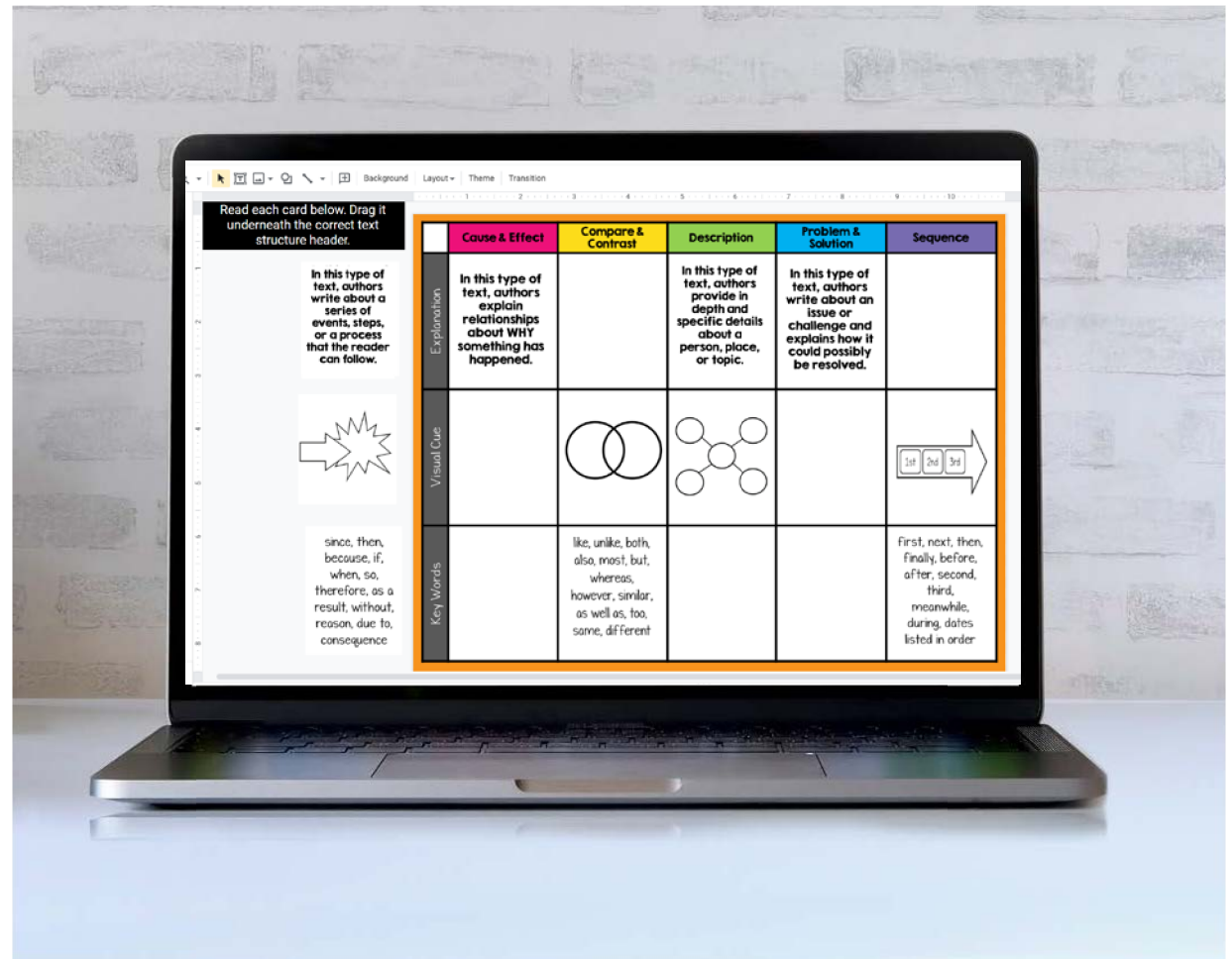
	Cause & Effect	Compare & Contrast	Description	Problem & Solution	Sequence
Explanation	In this type of text, authors explain relationships about WHY something has happened.	In this type of text, authors find similarities and differences in the people, places, or things they are writing about.	In this type of text, authors provide in depth and specific details about a person, place, or topic.	In this type of text, authors write about an issue or challenge and explains how it could possibly be resolved.	In this type of text, authors write about a series of events, steps, or a process that the reader can follow.
Visual Cue					
Key Words	since, then, because, if, when, so, therefore, as a result, without, reason, due to, consequence	like, unlike, both, also, most, but, whereas, however, similar, as well as, too, same, different,	for instance, features include, in particular, another example is, let me explain, most important,	because, since, the issue is, dilemma, challenge, concerns, this led to, the answer to, one way, the difficulty is	first, next, then, finally, before, after, second, third, meanwhile, during, dates listed in order
Example	There is over 100 million tons of plastic floating in the ocean. This debris can cause physical harm to many marine animals. Many sea turtles have been killed by consuming this floating plastic. The plastic gets stuck in their stomachs and prevents them from properly swallowing food.	Leatherbacks and Kemp's Ridley are both endangered sea turtles. But other than that, they don't have too many similarities. Leatherbacks are the largest of sea turtles and can weigh over 2,000lbs, whereas the Kemp's Ridley is the smallest and only weighs in around 70lbs.	Leatherbacks are the largest of all the sea turtles. They can grow up to 10 ft in length and can weigh over 2,000lbs. The are the only sea turtle that does not have a hard shell. In fact, their name comes from their rubbery, leather-like skin. Leatherbacks are endangered.	One of the biggest threats to Hawksbill sea turtle is the illegal trading of their beautiful shells to make jewelry and other luxury items. Many groups such as the Sea Turtle Conservancy are trying to raise awareness about illegal shell trade to protect these animals.	Most female sea turtles will begin nesting at night. First she will crawl out of the ocean and begin searching for her ideal location. Next she begins constructing her nest and digging the egg cavity. Then she will lay and bury her eggs. When she is all finished she will return to the ocean.

Digital version of this sort is also included

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Digital Version

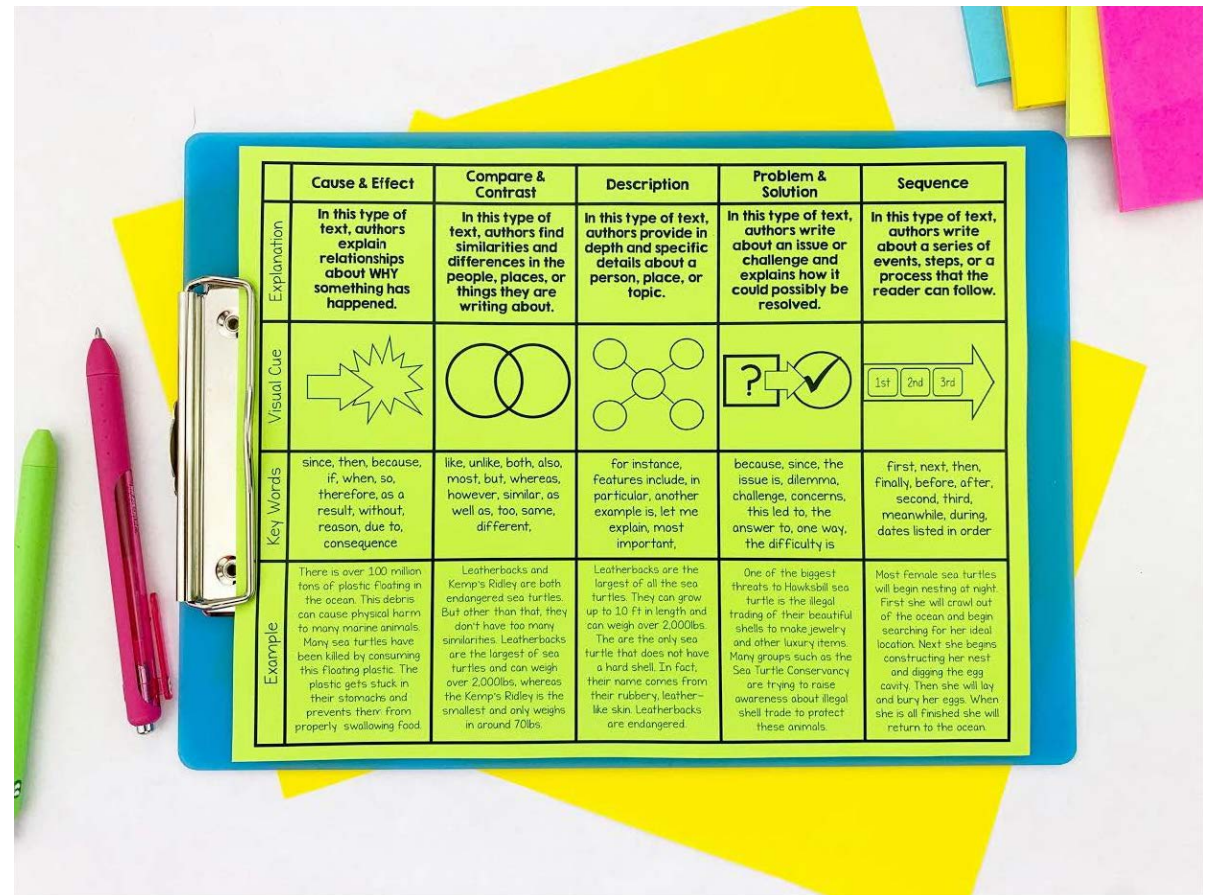You can also access a digital version of this resource created using Google Slides.

If you incorporate digital resources into your instruction, you can also access this text structure sort as a Google Slides. It includes movable images so students can drag each card to the correct place on the sorting mat.

Student Reference Sheet

You have the option of printing the nonfiction text structure table already filled out with all of the information.
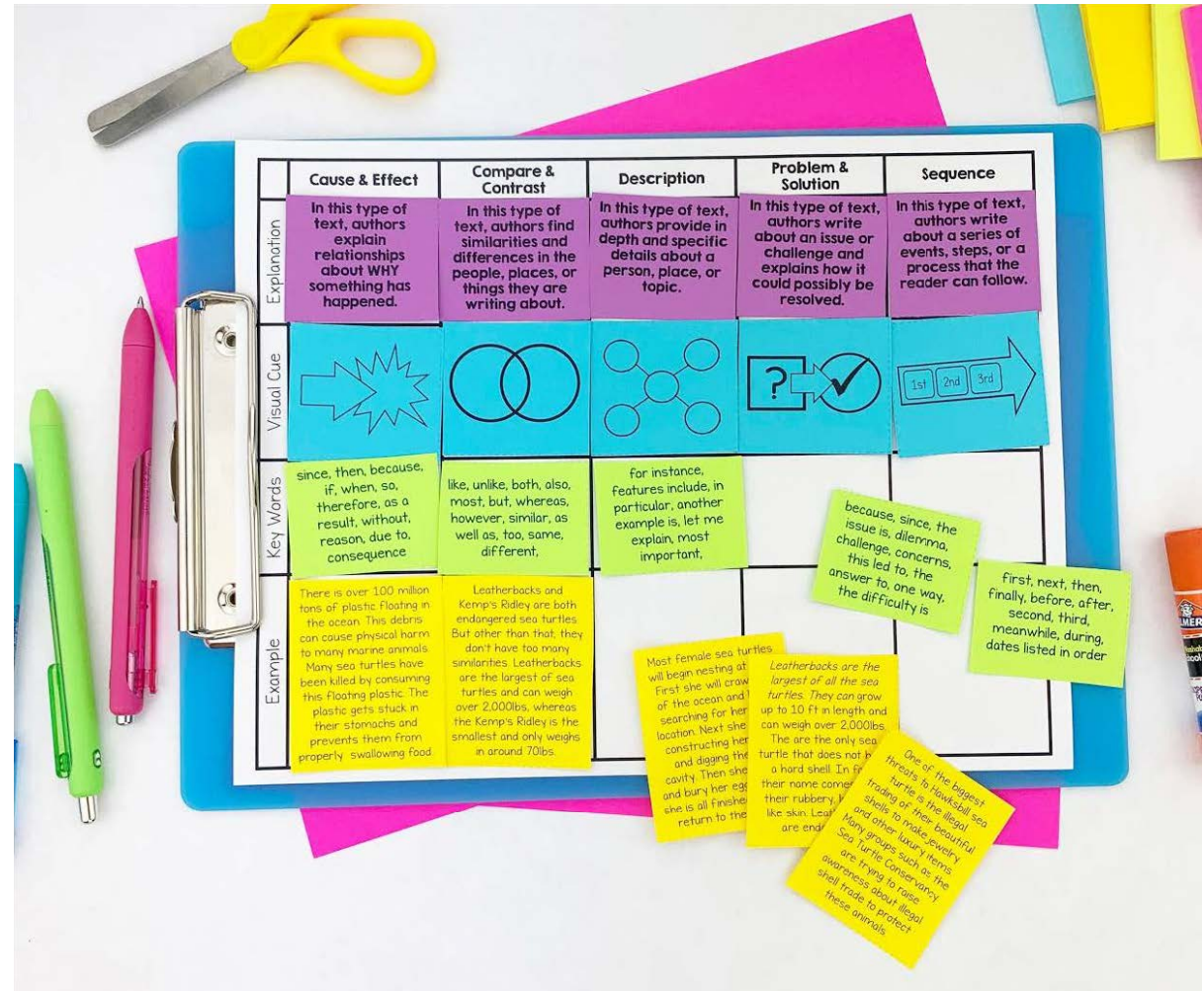
This is a great reference sheet for students to keep in their reading folders or journals. They can easily refer back to this sheet and have all the information about nonfiction text structure on page page.

Student Sorts - Individual

You can print the nonfiction text structure sorts as a single page which works great for individual students.
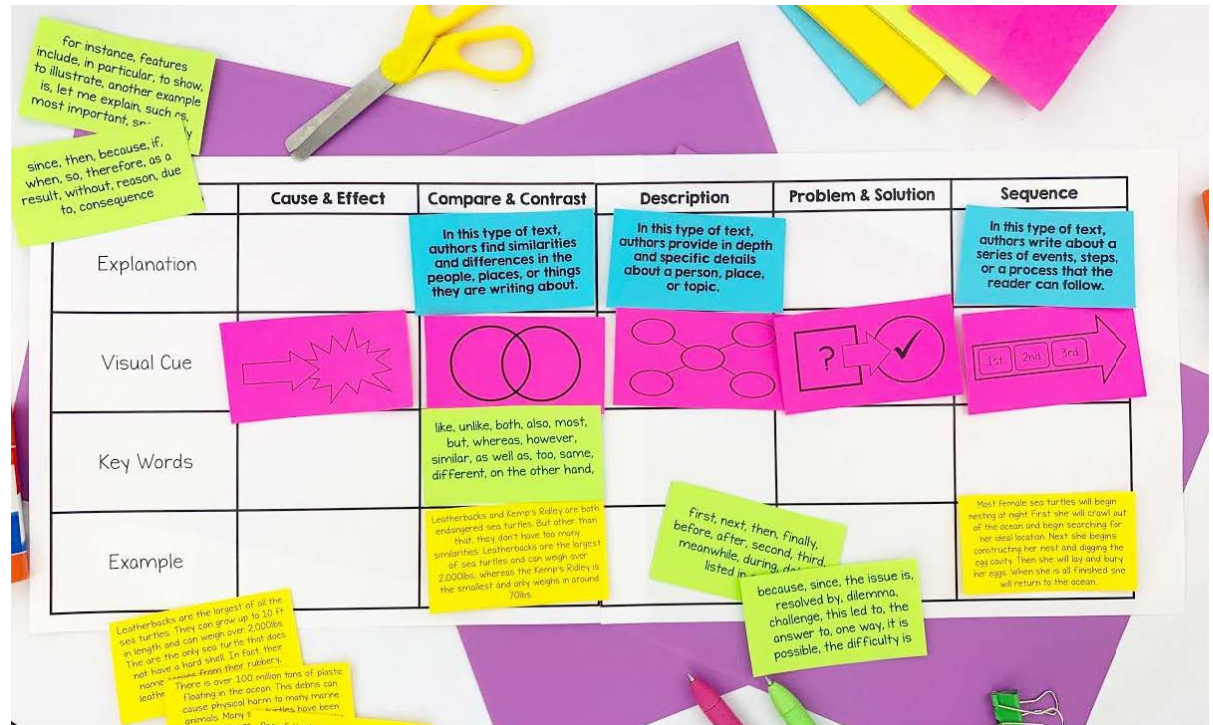
This is a great activity to use when you are introducing text structure, or if you are wanting to assess your students in an engaging/hands on way. You can print the sorting mats and the sorting cards for each student and they can either glue the cards on the sorting mat or you can laminate them and use them year after year.

Student Sorts - Group

You can print a larger version of the sort on two pages. This large size works great for groups or for workstations.

This is the exact same sort, but the sorting mat and cards are a little bit larger so it works well if you want your students to complete it in groups or if you wanted to use it as part of a center. You'll have to print two pages and glue them together to create the sorting mat. I highly suggest printing this version on cardstock and laminating.

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