

Differentiated Reading Passages

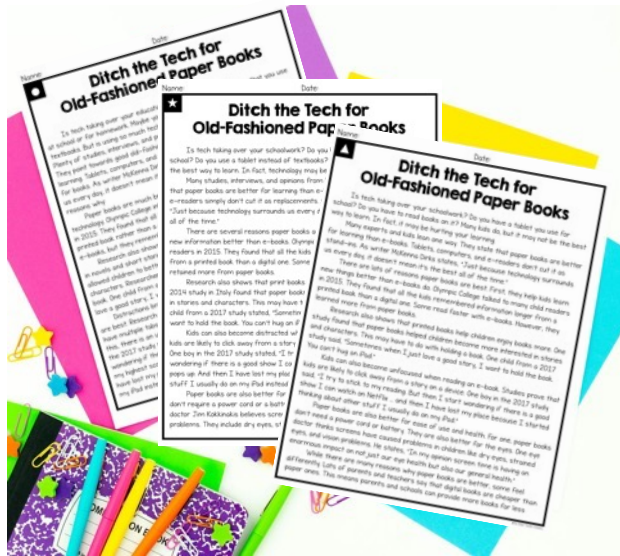
ARGUMENTATIVE TEXTS

Same Text Topic, 3 Different Reading Levels



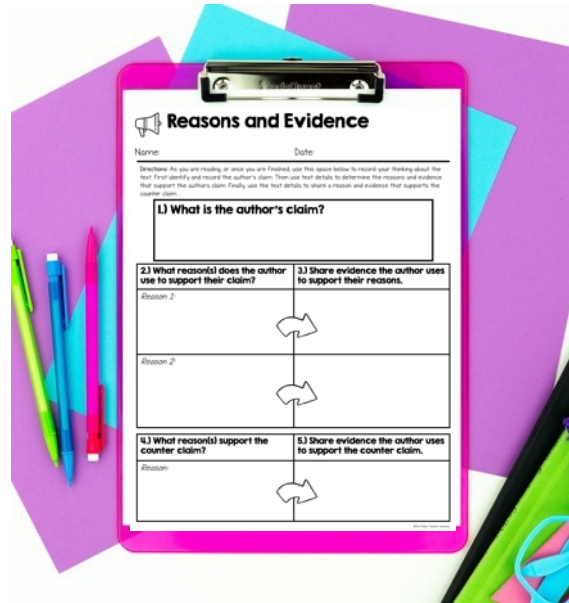
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

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



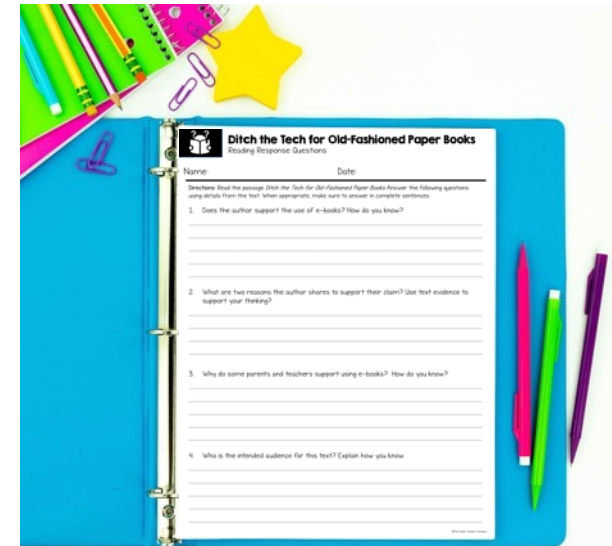
3 Sets of Differentiated Reading Passages

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.



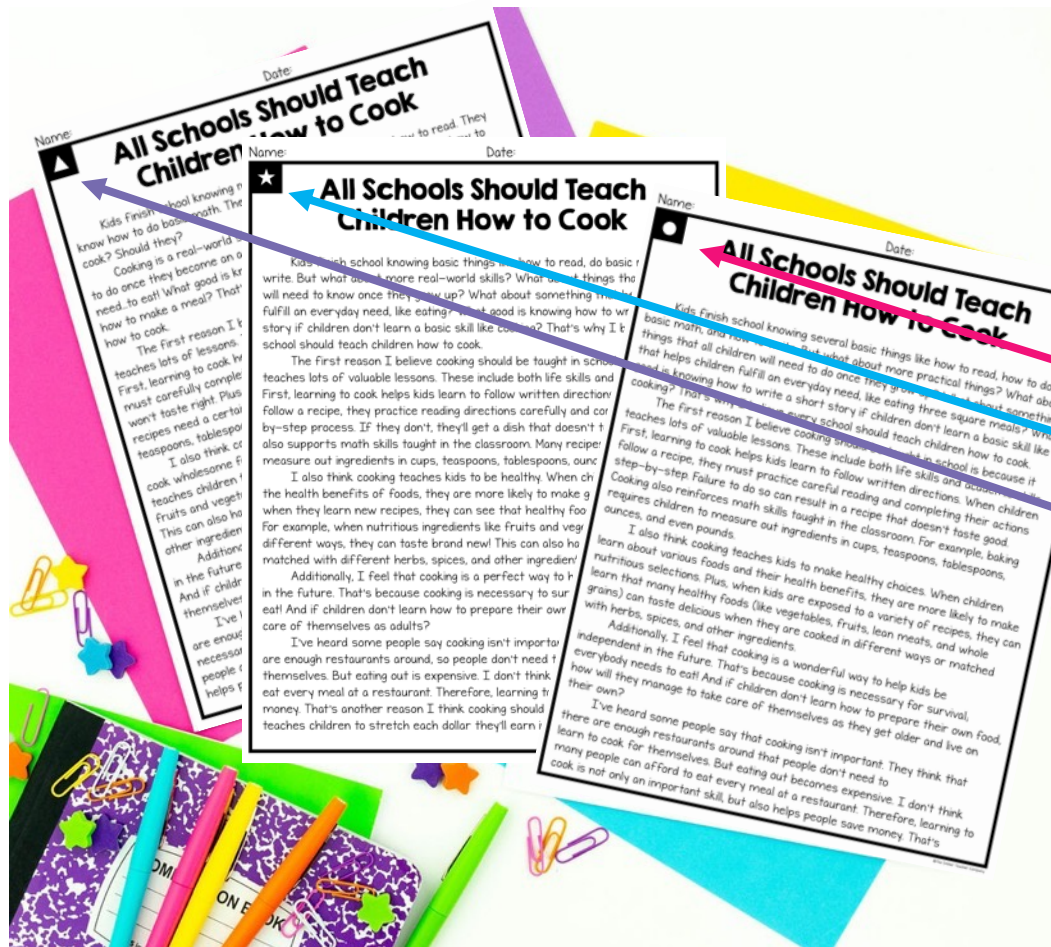
Reading Response Questions

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

Finding Reasons & Evidence to Support an Author's Claim

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

2019. But before he did, he talked to kids about the dangers of tackle football. He suffered from memory loss and a brain disease called CTE. He was sure that many brain injuries from football led to these problems. He said back in 2018, "I made the mistake of starting tackle football at 9 years old. Now, CTE has taken my life away. Youth tackle football is all risk with no reward."

In 2021, Hall of Fame quarterback Brett Favre also spoke out against tackle football for kids. He encouraged them not to play until at least age 14. He said that

It's not just doctors and scientists that think tackle football is dangerous for children. It's some former NFL players too. Before he passed away in 2019, Super Bowl champ Nick Buoniconti suffered from memory loss and a brain disease called CTE. He believed repeated brain injuries from football led to these problems. He warned kids back in 2018, "I made the mistake of starting tackle football at 9-years-old. Now, CTE has taken my life away. Youth tackle football is all risk with no reward." And in 2021, Hall of Fame quarterback Brett Favre encouraged high school

years old. Now, CTE has taken my life away. Youth tackle football is all risk with no reward." And in 2021, Hall of Fame quarterback Brett Favre urged kids to delay playing tackle football before high school. "It is just not worth the risk."

Those on the other side of the argument see tackle football as a great way to teach kids skills they'll need when they're older. In fact, many supporters say tackle football is the best way to learn the strategy of the game. However, the fundamentals of the game can still be taught in a way that is much safer for growing and developing

Name: _____ Date: _____

Kids! Tackle Football is Not Worth the Risk!

Tackle football is a popular sport. The NFL is the most-watched sport in the country. Many kids are viewers. Tons of young people want to play tackle football as early as possible. Are you one of them?

Maybe you want to join the NFL one day. Maybe you just want to play with your friends. Or maybe you want to act like the tough NFL players you see on TV. These may seem like good goals. In fact, tackle football may seem like a harmless sport. But that isn't the case. The sport is actually full of dangers that kids need to know about. In fact, the sport is so risky that kids shouldn't play it at all before high school. So, before signing up for a tackle football team, keep reading.

Many doctors have been worried about kids playing tackle football for years. That's because it is a sport with lots of crashes and rough contact. Too many crashes can lead to repeated hits to the head. With these hits come risks of brain injuries.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Kids! Tackle Football is Not Worth the Risk!

Kids know tackle football is a popular sport. In fact, the National Football League is the most-watched sport in the country. Many kids are viewers. As a result, tons of young people want to play tackle football as early as possible. Maybe you're one of them.

Perhaps you have hopes of joining the NFL one day. Maybe you just want to play with your friends. Or perhaps you want to act like the strong NFL players you see on TV. These may seem like good goals, and tackle football may seem like an innocent sport. But that isn't the case. The sport is actually full of dangers that kids need to know about. In fact, it is so risky that kids shouldn't play it at all before high school. Plenty of doctors, scientists, and even former NFL players agree. So, before signing up for a local tackle football team, keep the following in mind.

Many doctors have been worried about kids playing tackle football for years. That's because it is a high-contact sport which can result in repeated hits to the head. With these hits come risks of brain injuries. Boston Children's Hospital states that when a child gets more than one brain injury, the chance for long-term problems increases. These include brain swelling, brain damage, memory problems, and even depression. Plus, kids that suffer one brain injury are more experience more. This means that the risk for problems only goes up with injury. Although not all children who play tackle football will get a brain injury, the high-contact nature of the sport increases the danger.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Kids! Tackle Football is Not Worth the Risk!

All kids know tackle football is a popular sport. In fact, the National Football League is the most-watched sport in the country with many kids as viewers. As a result, tons of young people want to play tackle football as early as possible. Maybe you're one of them.

Perhaps you have hopes of joining the NFL one day. Maybe you just want to play with your friends and learn about teamwork. Or perhaps you want to act like the big, strong NFL players you see on TV. While these may seem like noble goals, there are other aspects of tackle football that aren't discussed much with kids. But they should be. They have to do with the sport's dangers.

Tackle football is very risky. In fact, it is so risky that you shouldn't play it at all if you're not in high school. Even though tackle football may seem like an exciting activity, plenty of doctors, scientists, and even former NFL players warn against it before age 14. So, before signing up for a local tackle football team, keep the following in mind.

Many doctors have been worried about kids playing tackle football for years. That's because it is a high-contact sport which can result in repeated hits to the head. With these hits come risks of brain injuries like concussions. Boston Children's Hospital states that when a child gets more than one concussion, the chance for long-term problems increases. These include brain swelling, brain damage, memory problems, and even depression. Plus, kids that suffer one concussion are more likely to experience more in each injury. Although the high-contact nature of the sport increases the danger, scientists have worked to understand the impacts of tackle football on kids. A 2020 study by Cambridge University followed 200 tackle football players aged 9-13. The kids wore sensors during their games so researchers could see how hits impacted their brains. The study found that every 9- and 10-year-old in the study had negative brain changes that could not be reversed. While some of these changes were minor, some were severe. But they were present in EVERY 9- and 10-year-old player.

Kids! Tackle Football is Not Worth the Risk!
Answer Key

REFERENCES
• <https://www.bostonchildrens.org/healthcare/brain-injury>
• <https://www.cambridge.org/core>

Reasons and Evidence
Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Kids! Tackle Football is Not Worth the Risk!* and answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

1. What is the author's viewpoint or stance on playing tackle football? What details from the text helped you identify the author's claim?
Kids should not sign up to play tackle football. They also share that the sport is that kids should not play the sport are taking.
2. What is one reason the author uses to support their claim? Share the evidence the author uses to support this reason.
Answers may vary. Below is a possible reason: Many doctors, scientists & before the age of 14. Evidence: Boston Children's Hospital says many brain injuries.
3. What is one reason that supports the counter argument? Share the evidence used to support the counter argument.
Answers may vary. Below is a possible reason: Opponents say tackle football is a harmless sport. Evidence: Flag football can be a safe alternative.
4. Do you agree with the author's claim? Why or why not? Explain your thinking.
Answers may vary. Students should state their position with evidence from the text.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Kids! Tackle Football is Not Worth the Risk!* and answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

1. What is the author's viewpoint or stance on playing tackle football? What details from the text helped you identify the author's claim?
2. What is one reason the author uses to support their claim? Share the evidence the author uses to support this reason.
3. What is one reason that supports the counter argument? Share the evidence used to support the counter argument.
4. Do you agree with the author's claim? Why or why not? Explain your thinking.

Reasons and Evidence
Answer Key

Directions: As you are reading, or once you are finished, use this space below to record your thinking about the text. First identify and record the author's claim. Then use text details to determine the reasons and evidence that support the author's claim. Finally, use the text details to share a reason and evidence that supports the counter claim.

- 1.) What is the author's claim?
Kids under the age of 14 should not play tackle football.
- 2.) What reason(s) does the author use to support their claim?
Reason 1: Tackle football is a high-contact sport. Hits to the head can cause brain injuries.
Reason 2: Playing tackle football increases the chances of having brain problems.
- 4.) What reason(s) support the counter claim?
Reason: Kids can play flag football to learn how to play tackle football.

Reasons and Evidence

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: As you are reading, or once you are finished, use this space below to record your thinking about the text. First identify and record the author's claim. Then use text details to determine the reasons and evidence that support the author's claim. Finally, use the text details to share a reason and evidence that supports the counter claim.

- 1.) What is the author's claim?
- 2.) What reason(s) does the author use to support their claim?
- 3.) Share evidence the author uses to support their reasons.
- 4.) What reason(s) support the counter claim?
- 5.) Share evidence the author uses to support the counter claim.

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

A LOOK INSIDE... SET #2

Facts that are For or Against an Argument

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

money. But writer Linda McMaken says e-book sales have gone down. She states, "Print books are still a little more expensive...but not all that much." And a slight price increase is worth it since paper books allow kids to learn better, be less distracted, and have better health.

The next time you feel like tech is talking over your learning, just ask for a paper book! Notice if you have a better or easier time reading. Then, ditch the screens as often as you can.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books

Is tech taking over your schoolwork? Do you have a tablet you use for school? Do you have to read books on it? Many kids do, but it may not be the best way to learn. In fact, it may be hurting your learning.

Many experts and kids lean one way. They state that paper books are better for learning than e-books. Tablets, computers, and e-readers don't cut it as stand-ins. As writer McKenna Dirks states, "Just because technology surrounds us every day, it doesn't mean it's the best all of the time."

There are lots of reasons paper books are best. First, they help kids learn new things better than e-books do. Olympic College talked to many child readers in 2015. They found that all the kids remembered information longer from a printed book than a digital one. Some read faster with e-books. However, they learned more from paper books.

Research also shows that printed books help children enjoy books more. One study found that paper books helped children become more interested in stories and characters. This may have to do with holding a book. One child from a 2017

include dry eyes, strained eyes, and even vision problems. Not only that, he sees screens as a reason children have poor posture. This can lead to muscle problems down the road. He states, "In my opinion screen time is having an enormous impact on not just our eye health but also our general health."

While there are many reasons why paper books are better, some feel differently. Several parents and teachers say that digital books are cheaper than paper ones. This means parents and schools can provide more books for less money. But down, she says, "not all that much." This is especially true for kids who are distracted. So, the paper version is so, ditch the

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books

Is tech taking over your schoolwork? Do you have a laptop that you use at school? Do you use a tablet instead of textbooks? Many kids do, but it may not be the best way to learn. In fact, technology may be hurting your learning.

Many studies, interviews, and opinions from kids lean one way. They state that paper books are better for learning than e-books. Tablets, computers, and e-readers simply don't cut it as replacements. As writer McKenna Dirks states, "Just because technology surrounds us every day, it doesn't mean it's the best all of the time."

There are several reasons paper books are best. First, they help kids learn new information better than e-books. Olympic College talked to many child readers in 2015. They found that all the kids remembered information longer from a printed book than a digital one. Some read faster with e-books, but they retained more from paper books.

Research also shows that print books help children enjoy books more. A 2014 study in Italy found that paper books helped children become more involved in stories and characters. This may have to do with the act of holding a book. One child from a 2017 study stated, "Sometimes when I just love a good story, I want to hold the book. You can't hug an iPad."

Another simple reason paper books are better than tech has to do with ease of use and health. For one, paper books don't require a charge or a power outlet. They are also better for growing and developing eyes. Optometrist Jim Kokkinakis is convinced that screens have caused a stark rise in his child patients having dry eyes, strained eyes, and even vision problems. Not only that, he sees screens contributing to children having poor posture, which can lead to muscular or skeletal issues down the road. He states, "In my opinion screen time is having an enormous impact on not just our eye health but also our general health."

While there are many reasons why paper books are better, some feel differently. Several parents and teachers say that digital books are cheaper than paper ones. This means parents and schools can provide more books for less money. But down, she says, "not all that much." This is especially true for kids who are distracted. So, the paper version is so, ditch the

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books

Is tech taking over your education? Perhaps you have a laptop that you use at school or for homework. Maybe you use a tablet or e-reader instead of textbooks. But is using so much technology helping your education or hurting it? Plenty of studies, interviews, and personal opinions from students lean one way. They point towards good old-fashioned paper books as being the best format for learning. Tablets, computers, and e-readers simply don't cut it as replacements for books. As writer McKenna Dirks states, "Just because technology surrounds us every day, it doesn't mean it's the best all of the time." Here are just a few reasons why:

Paper books are much better for learning new information rather than technology. Olympic College interviewed and studied multiple young adult readers in 2015. They found that all the children retained information longer from a printed book rather than a digital format. Many of the students read faster with e-books, but they remembered more content from paper books.

Research also shows that printed books help children become more engaged in novels. One study found that children who read physical books were more likely to allow characters to become part of their lives. One child from a 2017 study stated, "Sometimes when I just love a good story, I want to hold the book. You can't hug an iPad."

Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books

Answer Key

REFERENCES:

- <https://www.springs.com>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>

REFERENCES:

- <https://www.springs.com>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>
- <https://www.olympic.edu>

For or Against

Answer Key

- Name: _____ Date: _____
- Directions: Read the passage *Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books* using details from the text. When appropriate, use the text to support your answer.
- Does the author support the use of e-books? **No, the author prefers the use of paper books because it helps students learn better and is less distracting.**
 - What are two reasons the author shares to support their claim? **1. The author supports the use of paper books because they help kids learn new things better. 2. Kids enjoy printed books more than e-books. 3. Kids become unfocused when using e-books. 4. Paper books are easier to use than e-books.**
 - Why do some parents and teachers support using e-books? **They say e-books are cheaper than paper books.**
 - Who is the intended audience for this text? **Possible answers may include: Students, parents, teachers.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books

Reading Response Questions

Directions: Read the passage *Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Does the author support the use of e-books? How do you know?

- What are two reasons the author shares to support their claim? Use text evidence to support your thinking?

- Why do some parents and teachers support using e-books? How do you know?

- Who is the intended audience for this text? Explain how you know.

Kids can also become distracted when reading an e-book. Studies agree that it's likely to click away from a story to another app when reading on a tablet. One child from the 2017 study stated, "I try to stick to my reading, but if there is a good show I can watch on Netflix or I get bored. And then I have lost my place because I started thinking about what I usually do on my iPad instead of reading."

Paper books are also better for ease of use and health. For one, you don't need a power cord or a battery. They are also better for your eyes. As Jim Kokkinakis believes screens have caused a rise in children having dry eyes, strained eyes, and even vision problems.

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

Name: _____ Date: _____

For or Against

Directions: Think about and write what the author's claim is in the text. Look back at the facts the author shared in the text. Create a bulleted list to sort the facts that are for and against the author's claim.

Author's Claim: _____

Facts For:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Facts Against:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *Ditch the Tech for Old-Fashioned Paper Books* using details from the text. When appropriate, use the text to support your answer.

Author's Claim: _____

Facts For:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Facts Against:

- Printed books are a little bit more expensive than e-books.
- Parents and teachers can provide more books to students for less money.
- _____
- _____

A LOOK INSIDE... SET #3

Evaluate the Effectiveness of an Author's Argument

Passage A - Easy Level

Passage B - Middle Level

Passage C - Challenge Level

in school. It teaches children to use their money well. Don't you think cooking is important enough to learn about in school? I certainly do! It teaches kids to follow directions. It helps children learn math. It even helps kids make healthy choices and teaches them how to be responsible. Plus, cooking even helps kids learn to save money! If that isn't an important thing to learn in the classroom, what is!

Don't you think cooking is important enough to learn about in school? I certainly do! It teaches kids to follow directions. It builds upon math concepts. It even helps children make healthy choices and teaches them how to be responsible adults. Plus, cooking will even help kids learn to save a few dollars as adults! If cooking isn't an important thing to learn in the classroom, I don't know what is!

another reason I think cooking should be taught in school, it teaches children to stretch each dollar they'll earn in the future. Don't you think cooking is important enough to learn about in school? I certainly do! It teaches kids to follow directions, reinforces math concepts, helps children make healthy choices, and teaches them how to be independent adults. Plus, cooking will even help kids save a few dollars in adulthood too! If cooking isn't an important topic to learn about in the classroom, I don't know what is!

Name: _____ Date: _____

All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook

Kids finish school knowing many basic things. They know how to read. They know how to do basic math. They know how to write. But do they know how to cook? Should they?

Cooking is a real-world skill. It's something every child will need to know how to do once they become an adult. It's also something that meets a basic human need... to eat! What good is knowing how to write a short story if kids don't know how to make a meal? That's why I believe every school should teach children how to cook.

The first reason I believe cooking should be taught in school is because it teaches lots of lessons. These are lessons that are important in school and in life. First, learning to cook helps kids follow directions. Reading a recipe means a child must carefully complete each step one at a time. If a step is skipped, the meal won't taste right. Plus, cooking also helps children learn math skills. Plenty of recipes need a certain amount of ingredients. They must be measured in teaspoons, tablespoons, cups, and ounces.

Name: _____ Date: _____

All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook

Kids finish school knowing basic things like how to read, do basic math, and write. But what about more real-world skills? What about things that all children will need to know once they grow up? What about something that helps children fulfill an everyday need, like eating? What good is knowing how to write a short story if children don't learn a basic skill like cooking? That's why I believe every school should teach children how to cook.

The first reason I believe cooking should be taught in school is because it teaches lots of valuable lessons. These include both life skills and school skills. First, learning to cook helps kids learn to follow written directions. When children follow a recipe, they practice reading directions carefully and completing a step-by-step process. If they don't, they'll get a dish that doesn't taste good. Cooking also supports math skills taught in the classroom. Many recipes require children to measure out ingredients in cups, teaspoons, tablespoons, ounces, and pounds.

I also think cooking teaches kids to be healthy. When children learn about the health benefits of foods, they are more likely to make good choices. Plus, when they learn new recipes, they can see that healthy foods can be delicious. For example, when nutritious ingredients like fruits and vegetables are cooked in different ways, they can taste brand new! This can also happen when they are cooked with different herbs, spices, and other ingredients.

Name: _____ Date: _____

All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook

Kids finish school knowing several basic things like how to read, how to do basic math, and how to write. But what about more practical things? What about things that all children will need to do once they grow up? What about something that helps children fulfill an everyday need, like eating three square meals? What good is knowing how to write a short story if children don't learn a basic skill like cooking? That's why I believe every school should teach children how to cook.

The first reason I believe cooking should be taught in school is because it teaches lots of valuable lessons. These include both life skills and academic skills. First, learning to cook helps kids learn to follow written directions. When children follow a recipe, they must practice careful reading and completing their actions step-by-step. Failure to do so can result in a recipe that doesn't taste good. Cooking also reinforces math skills taught in the classroom. For example, baking requires children to measure out ingredients in cups, teaspoons, tablespoons, ounces, and even pounds.

I also think cooking teaches kids to make healthy choices. When children

All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook
Answer Key

Evaluate a Claim
Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook* using details from the text. When appropriate, use the space below to explain your thinking.

1. What claim does the author make in the text?

The author makes the claim that...
2. What reasons does the author share to support your thinking?
 1. Cooking teaches lots of lessons.
 2. Cooking teaches students to follow directions.
 3. It will help kids to be responsible.
3. Evaluate the author's claim. Is this an effective argument? Explain your thinking.

Student answers will vary, but the argument and then explain why.

One possible answer is: No, this is a variety of reasons, the majority of which are not facts or statistics. They do not share any facts or statistics about cooking in schools. The argument was not supported by evidence.
4. Are you convinced of the author's claim? Be sure to explain your thinking.

Student answers will vary but should include...

All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook
Reading Response Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage *All Schools Should Teach Children How to Cook*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

1. What claim does the author make in the text?
2. What reasons does the author share to support their main point? Use text evidence to support your thinking.
3. Evaluate the author's claim. Is this an effective argument? Explain your thinking.
4. Are you convinced of the author's claim? Be sure to explain your thinking.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Think about and write what the author's claim is. Think about the reasons and evidence the author used to support their claim. Use the questions below to reflect and record your thinking. Look at your answers to guide you in evaluating the effectiveness of the author's claim. Use the space at the bottom of the page to explain if why or why not the argument was effective.

Evaluate a Claim

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Think about and write what the author's claim is. Think about the reasons and evidence the author used to support their claim. Use the questions below to reflect and record your thinking. Look at your answers to guide you in evaluating the effectiveness of the author's claim. Use the space at the bottom of the page to explain if why or why not the argument was effective.

Author's Claim:	
1. Am I convinced?	2. Is it a clear argument?
3. Are the facts strong and convincing?	4. Did the author give reasons to support and counter their main point?

Evaluate: Was the argument effective? Explain why or why not.

Think about the reasons and evidence the author used to support their claim. Use the space at the bottom of the page to explain if why or why not the argument was effective.

Does the author do clearly that they want cooking to be taught in school?

Do the author give reasons to support their main point?

Do they share that others think cooking is not as important. If there are enough arguments around that cooking isn't necessary.

Do they explain why or why not.

Do they say that the lack of facts in this

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