

BETTER Than Basal:
Complete No Prep
READING & WRITING UNITS
for 40 Popular
Mentor Texts

COMMON CORE Aligned

100+ ORGANIZERS with Answer Keys!

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Kissing Hand

Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: What is a kissing hand?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: It is a secret kiss in your hand from the person you love.
Question During: When does Chester kiss his mom?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: Chester goes to school every day because he is nocturnal.
Question After: Where is Chester's school?	Was your question answered? YES (in pictures) NO	Answer: Chester's school is in a big tree.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Kissing Hand

Retell the story.

First, Chester didn't want to leave his mom to go to school.

Next, Mrs. Raccoon gave him a kissing hand for whenever he feels lonely.

Then, Chester gave Mrs. Raccoon a kissing hand too.

Last, Chester ran into school and felt better about leaving his mom.

Chester learned: his mom loves him even when they can't be together.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Kissing Hand

Describe Chester:

Name: **Possible Answers**
If You Take a Mouse to School

What did the mouse want next? students draw and/or write

lunchbox	sandwich and snack
blocks	build a mouse house
writes book	paper and pencils
wait for the bus	play soccer
snack	lunchbox

Name: **Possible Answers**
If You Take a Mouse to School

Describe the mouse:

Name: **Possible Answers**
Poppleton: Neighbors

Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Who is Poppleton's neighbor?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: His neighbor is Cherry Sue.
Question During: Why doesn't Poppleton want oatmeal?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: He wants to sleep.
Question After: What did Poppleton and Cherry Sue eat?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: They ate oatmeal, toasted cheese, and spaghetti.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Poppleton: Neighbors

Retell the story.

First, Poppleton moved to a small house in a small town.

Next, his neighbor, Cherry Sue, invited him over all the time for meals.

Then, Poppleton didn't want to go to Cherry Sue's all the time.

Last, Poppleton told Cherry Sue he liked to be alone sometimes.

Poppleton learned: he should use his words to share his feelings.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Memoirs of a Goldfish

Retell the story.

First, the fish swam around his bowl alone.

Next, new creatures were added, and plants, too and the bowl got too crowded.

Then, the goldfish was moved to his own bowl, but he was sad.

Last, he was put in a bigger tank with all of his friends again.

The fish learned: it's better to be surrounded by family and friends.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Memoirs of a Goldfish

How do you think the fish felt?

When he said... I think he felt...

I don't like the looks of him one bit.	scared
I want my bowl back!	angry
What had happened to everyone?	lonely

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Memoirs of a Goldfish
Draw the setting and describe it.

drawings will vary
could be the crowded bowl

The fish bowl was getting too crowded. There were too many fish and plants. There was gunk on the side of the bowl.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Relatives Came
Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Where did the relatives come from?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: They came from Virginia.
Question During: When did all those people sleep?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: Some slept on the beds but lots of them slept on the floor.
Question After: Why did they go back home so early in the morning?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: It was a long drive home.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Relatives Came
Retell the story.

First, the relatives left Virginia and drove a long way.

Next, they arrived and everyone hugged for hours.

Then, the house was so crowded as they ate and slept and helped in the garden.

Last, after a long time, the relatives packed up the car and headed back to Virginia.

What was the story mostly about?
It was mostly about relatives that don't live close but still love each other a lot.

The relatives didn't have their own beds so they slept on the floor. There were too many people!

Name: **Possible Answers**
Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!
Why did the pigeon want to stay up late? Give three reasons.

1. He wanted to have a hot dog party.
2. He wanted to watch a TV show about birds.
3. He wanted to count the stars.

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!
Draw the pigeon, then describe him.

bird
silly
sleepy
excited
talkative
blue

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Important Book
What are the important things about these items?

spoon	eat with it, like a shovel, hollow
daisy	white, yellow in the middle, long petals
rain	wet, falls out of the sky, shiny

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Important Book
What are the important things about these items?

grass	green, it grows, tender
snow	white, cold, falls out of the sky
apple	round, red, white inside

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Important Book
Compare these two things.

RAIN

fall from the sky

SNOW

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Important Book
Compare these two things.

SNOW

white

DAISY

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Curious George
Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Where does George live?	Was your question answered? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Answer: First he lived in Africa, then he lived in a house.
Question During: Why does George get into so much trouble?	Was your question answered? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Answer: He is curious.
Question After: Who finds George and takes him from Africa?	Was your question answered? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Answer: The man in the yellow hat finds George.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Curious George
Describe three things George did to get into trouble.

1. George tried to fly like the seagulls and jumped overboard.

2. He used the telephone and called them in a station.

3. George tried to take one balloon and took them all instead.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Curious George
Describe George.

curious monkey
sad brown
tired happy
troublemaker forgetful

Name: **Possible Answers**
Goldilocks and the Three Bears
Describe what belonged to each bear.

Papa Bear
hot porridge
hard stool
high bed

Mama Bear
cold porridge
soft chair
low bed

Baby Bear
just right porridge
just right chair
just right bed

Name: **Possible Answers**
Goldilocks and the Three Bears
What did the speakers in the story say?

Goldilocks
I don't mind if I do!

Baby Bear
Somebody has been lying in my bed and she's still there!

Papa Bear
Now see here!

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Goldilocks and the Three Bears
Describe Goldilocks.

naughty girl
bad blonde
tired scared
troublemaker

Name: **Possible Answers**
Skippyjon Jones in the Dog House
Retell the story.

First, Skippyjon was in trouble for coloring on the walls and was sent to his room.

Next, Skippyjon went into his closet and imagined he went into a house full of Chihuahuas that needed his help.

Then, he imagined that he saved the Chihuahuas from the Bobble-ito.

Last, Mama and his sisters found him in his room, playing with a bobble-head toy.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Skippyjon Jones in the Dog House
Describe Skippyjon Jones.

creative naughty
cat silly
playful brave
imaginative

Name: **Possible Answers**
A Color of His Own
Describe the chameleon.

colorful cheerful
sad friendly
unique

Name: **Possible Answers**
A Color of His Own
What are the differences in these two books?

FICTION	NONFICTION
A Color of His Own	
tells a story	gives information
drawings/illustrations	photographs
talking animals	learn from it

Name: **Possible Answers**

George and Martha: The High Board

Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before:	Was your question answered?	Answer:
What is a high board?	YES NO	It is a tall diving board you jump off into a pool.
Question During:	Was your question answered?	Answer:
Why doesn't George want to jump?	YES NO	He is scared.
Question After:	Was your question answered?	Answer:
Where did George go?	YES NO	He climbed down behind Martha's splash.





Name: **Possible Answers**

George and Martha: The High Board

Describe George and Martha.

	adjectives	actions
George	nervous scared	knees were shaking climbed down
Martha	brave helpful	jumped off the high board made a splash

Name: **Possible Answers**

Snowmen All Year

What would the boy do with the snowman in each place?

at the zoo	see the tigers
amusement park	go on the rides
at the pool	swim and dive
in the woods	camp/sleep under stars
at the beach	play in the sand

Name: **Possible Answers**

Snowmen All Year

Draw one of the settings and describe it.

drawings will vary
could be the boy's yard


The boy and his snowman would go outside in the yard at night and catch fireflies.

Name: **Possible Answers**

Snowmen All Year

Where can we find this in the story?

The boy would teach him to fly a kite.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
There were elephants and giraffes at the zoo, too.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
They would sleep in hammocks under the stars.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
They'd bring home lots of candy on Halloween.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both






Name: **Possible Answers**

The Grouchy Ladybug

What were these animals going to do to the ladybug?

sparrow	eat it with its sharp beak
lobster	snap it with its claws
elephant	whack it with its trunk

Name: **Possible Answers**

The Grouchy Ladybug

Retell the story.

First, the grouchy ladybug was going to fight the friendly ladybug for the aphids.

Next, it flew off looking for someone bigger to fight.

Then, when the animal the grouchy ladybug ran into, it said, "you're not big enough."

Last, the grouchy ladybug ended up back on the leaf, tired and hungry, and the friendly ladybug still shared the aphids.

The ladybug learned: being rude to others doesn't get you anything.

Name: **Possible Answers**

The Grouchy Ladybug

Describe the ladybug.

grouchy red and black

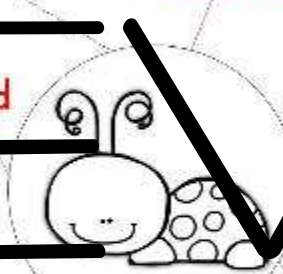
tired

hungry

bully

spotted

rude



Name: **Possible Answers**

A Bad Case of Stripes

Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before:	Was your question answered?	Answer:
Why does she have stripes?	YES NO	She didn't want to eat lima beans because of what other people would think.
Question During:	Was your question answered?	Answer:
Who found the cure for Camilla?	YES NO	A little old lady found the cure.
Question After:	Was your question answered?	Answer:
What was the cure for her stripes?	YES NO	Camilla had to eat lima beans.

Name: **Possible Answers**

A Bad Case of Stripes

Retell the story.

First, Camilla didn't eat lima beans because she wanted to fit in. One day she woke up with stripes all over.

Next, the doctor said she was fine, so she went to school, but she was a distraction.

Then, she changed colors and sizes and no one could figure out what was happening.

Last, an old lady found the cure. Camilla ate lima beans and she was back to normal.

Camilla learned: not to worry what others think. You should do what makes you happy.

Name: Possible Answers

A Bad Case of Stripes

Describe Camilla

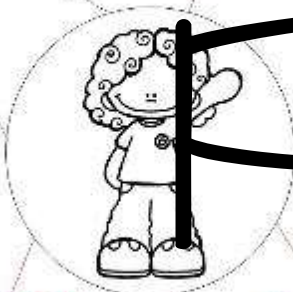
worried striped

girl

colorful

unique

different



© 2009 Scholastic Teaching Resources

Name: **Possible Answers**

Dooby Dooby Moo


Retail the story.

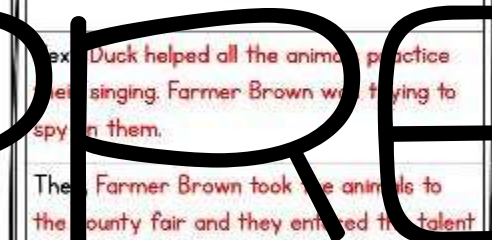
First, Duck saw there would be a talent show in the newspaper.

Duck helped all the animals practice singing. Farmer Brown was trying to spy on them.

Then, Farmer Brown took the animals to the county fair and they entered the talent show without him knowing.

Last, the animals won the talent show but Farmer Brown never knew.







Name: Possible Answers

Dooby Dooby Moo

Describe the Duck

snooty smart white boy nervous singer winner

© 2009 by Linda Ward Beech

Name: Possible Answers

How I Became a Pirate

List three things you don't have to do if you're a pirate.

1. You don't have to eat vegetables.
2. You don't have to take a bath or brush your teeth.
3. You don't have to go to bed at a certain time.



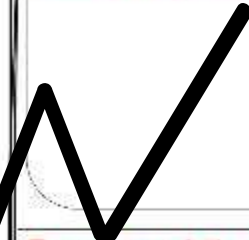
JUN 2018

Name: Possible Answers

How I Became a Pirate

Draw the setting and describe it.

drawings will vary
could be the cabin where they slept



Jeremy and the pirates were
cramped in a tiny cabin to go to
sleep in hammocks.

© 2013 by Linda Ward Beech

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
How I Became a Pirate	
Jeremy was building a sand castle on the beach.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
The pirate's treasure had crowns and necklaces in it.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
Pirates don't get tucked in at bedtime.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
The treasure was buried in Jeremy's backyard.	text (words) pictures (illustrations) both

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
Biggest, Strongest, Fastest	
What did you learn about these animals?	
	elephant largest land animal eats 300 pounds of grass
	ant strongest animal for its size carries five times its weight
	giraffe tallest animal 19 feet tall

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
Biggest, Strongest, Fastest	
What did you learn about these animals?	
blue whale	biggest animal ever weighs 168 tons
sun jellyfish	largest animal 300 feet long tentacles
bird spider	largest spider traps birds in its web

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
Biggest, Strongest, Fastest	
What did you learn about these animals?	
land snail	slowest animals 8 inches per minute
anaconda	biggest snake 25 feet long
tortoise	lives longest over 150 years old

© July 2010

Name: Possible Answers

Biggest, Strongest, Fastest


Compare these two things

blue whale

biggest

elephant

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend	
Retell the story.	
First, Scaredy Squirrel doesn't have any friends because he is afraid.	
Next, he decides a goldfish would make a good friend because he is safe.	
Then, Scaredy Squirrel makes a plan to get to his new friend.	
Last, he plays with a dog and realizes he made a new friend with him!	
Scaredy Squirrel learned: you might find friends where you don't expect them!	



Name: Possible Answers

Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend

Describe Scaredy Squirrel

afraid
careful
brown
safe
creative
fast
friendly

PRE

© 2008 Scholastic Teaching Resources

Possible Answers	
Name:	
Retell the story	
First, the boy saw fireflies outside while he was eating dinner.	
Next, he poked holes in a jar to take outside with his friends to watch fireflies.	
Then, he caught many fireflies.	
Last, he had to let the fireflies go so they wouldn't die.	
The boy learned: fireflies were fun to look at for a while, but needed to be free to live.	

Name: Possible Answers

Fireflies!


What was the problem and solution in the story?

The problem was...

The fireflies were dying in the jar.

The problem was solved when...

The boy let the fireflies go so they could breathe and fly freely.



Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
Fireflies!	
Identify sensory words in the story.	
sight and sound  	dark black shape flickered banged crickets glowed
tastes and smells  	meat corn potatoes
touch 	dusty barefoot in the grass catching fireflies
emotions 	joy sadness happiness

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>		
Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel Ask questions before, during, and after the story.		
Question Before: What is a steam shovel?	Was your question answered? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Answer: A machine that can dig deep holes.
Question During: Why were Mike Mulligan and Mary Anne sad?	Was your question answered? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Answer: Better machines came along and no one needed them anymore.
Question After: Where do Mike Mulligan and Mary Anne stay?	Was your question answered? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Answer: They stay in the cellar they dug of the town hall.




© July 2010

Name: Possible Answers

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel

What are three things that Mike Mulligan and Mary Anne did together?

1. They dug canals for big boats to sail through.
2. They cut through the high mountains so trains could go through.
3. They dug deep holes for cellars.




© 2003 Scholastic Teaching Resources

Name: Possible Answers

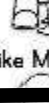
Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel

What did the speakers in the story say?




Mike Mulligan

We are going to dig the cellar of that town hall.



Henry B. Swap

It would take a hundred men at least a week to dig that cellar.



little boy

Do you think you will finish by sundown?

Possible Answers	
Name:	
Peter's Chair	
Retell the story.	
First,	Peter built a tower that crashed down and his mom told him to play quietly because of his baby sister, Susie.
Next,	he noticed all of his old things from when he was a baby were Susie's now.
Then,	he decided to run away and realized that his chair was too small for him now.
Last,	he asked his father if they could paint the chair for Susie.
Peter learned: he had outgrown all of his baby things, so it was okay that Susie had them.	

Name: Possible Answers

Peter's Chair

Describe Peter

brother

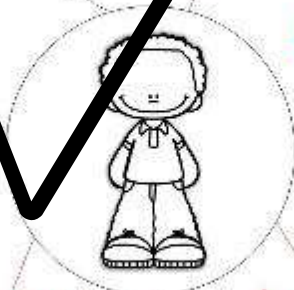
boy

helpful

big

playful

sad



© 2009

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Peter's Chair
How do you think Peter felt?
When he said... I think he felt...
That's my cradle, and they painted it pink!
Let's run away, Willie.
Let's paint the little chair pink for Susie.
confused
mad
upset
proud

Name: **Possible Answers**
When Sophie Gets Angry
Retell the story.
First, Sophie was playing and her sister grabbed her stuffed gorilla, but she didn't want to share with her.
Then, her mom told her it was her sister's turn and then Sophie fell, which made her even more mad.
Then, she was so angry that she ran to her calming spot.
Last, she went back home after she felt better.
What was the story mostly about?
Sophie got very angry, but she knew where to go to calm herself down.

Name: **Possible Answers**
When Sophie Gets Angry
What words in the story told you Sophie was angry?
kicks screams
smash the world to smithereens
roars a red, red roar volcano, ready to explode runs

Name: **Possible Answers**
When Sophie Gets Angry
Where can we find this in the story?
Sophie kicks and screams when she...
Sophie slams the door as she runs from her house.
Sophie climbs a tree to help calm herself.
Sophie enjoys spending time with her family.
text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
text (words) pictures (illustrations) both
text (words) pictures (illustrations) both

Name: **Possible Answers**
Owl Moon
Retell the story.
First, late one night, Pa and the child went out into the snow to find an owl.
Next, they reached the pine trees and Pa called out for the owl.
Then, they didn't hear anything so they kept going into the woods, quietly.
Last, Pa called again, and the owl answered. They saw the owl in a tree.
What did the main character learn?
You have to be patient and quiet if you want to find an owl.

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Owl Moon
Draw the setting and describe it.
drawings will vary
could be the trees with the owl
In the middle of the woods, they saw the owl high on the branch of a tall tree.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Owl Moon
Identify sensory words in the story.
sights and sounds
trees moon
train whistle dogs
crunch snow
footprints long shadow
quiet Pop! call
shadows owl's tail
great wings branch
woolen cap mitten
cold
furry scarf
excited
brave
hope

Name: **Possible Answers**
What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?
Write one fact you learned about an animal and its features.
nose
Elephants give themselves a bath.
ears
Bats "see" with their ears.
tail
A scorpion can sting.

Name: **Possible Answers**
What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?
Write one fact you learned about an animal and its features.
eyes
Eagles see animals from up high.
feet
Geckos walk on the ceiling.
mouth
Mosquitoes suck blood.

Name: **Possible Answers**
What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?
Compare these two things.
eagle
have wings fly
elephant

Name: Possible Answers
I Wanna Iguana
Tell three reasons why Alex wants the iguana.

1. He doesn't want Stinky's dog, Lurch, to eat it.
2. He wants a new friend.
3. He wants to teach it tricks.

Name: Possible Answers
I Wanna Iguana
What were the problems Mom tells Alex about and his solutions?

Iguanas can grow to be over six feet long.
It takes fifteen years for that to happen.

Alex didn't do his job taking care of the class fish.
Iguanas don't like spaghetti.

Mom wonders if Alex will take care of the iguana.
He will feed him, give him water, and feed his cage.

Name: Possible Answers
I Wanna Iguana
Describe Alex.

responsible brother
loving boy
funny excited
creative

Name: Possible Answers
Tops and Bottoms
Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Why is Bear asleep?
Was your question answered? YES NO
Answer: He is a lazy bear.

Question During: What does Hare plant?
Was your question answered? YES NO
Answer: He plants carrots, radishes, beets, lettuce, broccoli, celery, and corn.

Question After: What did Hare do to trick Bear?
Was your question answered? YES NO
Answer: He gave him the parts of the plants you don't eat.

Name: Possible Answers
Tops and Bottoms
Describe Bear and Hare.

	adjectives	actions
Bear	lazy	sleeping
	angry	growing
Hare	smart	weeded
	sneaky	planted
	hard worker	watered

Name: Possible Answers
Tops and Bottoms
How do you think Bear felt?
When he said... I think he felt...

I'll take the top half, Hare.
glad he will have to work

But, Hare, all the best parts are in your half!
confused

You plant this field again, Hare.
angry

Name: Possible Answers
The Teacher from the Black Lagoon
Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Does the boy have a scary teacher?
Was your question answered? YES NO
Answer: No, he just imagines.

Question During: What does the monster, Mrs. Green, do for punishment?
Was your question answered? YES NO
Answer: She breathes fire and eats kids.

Question After: Who is the boy's real teacher?
Was your question answered? YES NO
Answer: She is a pretty woman who is not a monster at all.

Name: Possible Answers
The Teacher from the Black Lagoon
Retell the story.

First, the boy wonders who his teacher will be. When he gets to school, he sees Mrs. Green is a monster.
Next, she punishes kids that act up by breathing fire on them and eating them.
Then, he puts his head down for naptime and the bell rings.
Last, he wakes up to see he had been dreaming and that the real Mrs. Green is a nice woman.

Name: Possible Answers
The Teacher from the Black Lagoon
Draw and describe the monster, Mrs. Green.

green monster
mean strict
hungry scary
magic scaly

Name: Possible Answers
There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat
What did she swallow next? students draw and/or write.

bat owl
cat ghost
goblin bones
Last, she swallowed the: wizard

Name: Possible Answers

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat

Describe the lady

hungry

crazy

cute

fat

dizzy

full

© jay 2010

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>		
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Turk and Runt</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Ask questions before, during, and after the story.</p>		
<p>Question Before:</p> <p>Is Turk a performer?</p>	<p>Was your question answered?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO</p>	<p>Answer:</p> <p>Yes, he is a dancer and an athlete.</p>
<p>Question During:</p> <p>Why does Runt keep getting into his side?</p>	<p>Was your question answered?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO</p>	<p>Answer:</p> <p>He is trying to keep his brother from being chosen for dinner.</p>
<p>Question After:</p> <p>Who wanted Runt for dinner?</p>	<p>Was your question answered?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO</p>	<p>Answer:</p> <p>A little old lady who thought he was the perfect size.</p>

Name: Possible Answers

Turk and Runt


Retell the story.

First, Turk's parents were so proud of him and hoped he would get chosen to be a dancer or athlete.

Next, Runt knew turkeys got chosen to be eaten, so he tried to keep people from choosing his brother, Turk.

Then, a little old lady came and said she wanted Runt, so Turk helped in the way Runt had.

Last, the turkeys realized Runt was right all along and they hid from people instead of hoping to be chosen.



© JUNE 2020

Name: Possible Answers

Turk and Runt

Describe Runt

smart

turkey

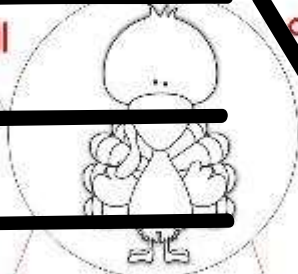
clever

actor

worried

scared

mall



A cartoon turkey character is centered within a large circle. A large, bold, black letter 'E' is superimposed over the turkey, covering its body and head. The turkey has a small head with a beak, two eyes, and a small tuft of feathers on top. It has a large, rounded body with many feathers, and two small legs. The background is white with a black border. The words 'smart', 'turkey', 'clever', 'actor', 'worried', 'scared', and 'mall' are written in red around the circle, with lines pointing to the turkey. The word 'Possible Answers' is written in a box at the top, and 'Describe Runt' is written below it.

Name: Possible Answers

Bear Stay Up For Christmas

Draw the setting and describe it.

drawings will vary
could be Bear's cave

Bear's cave is small and cozy.
All his friends are there around
the Christmas tree.

© 2013

Name: Possible Answers

Bear Stay Up For Christmas

What are the differences in these two books?

FICTION	NONFICTION
Bear Stays Up For Christmas	
tells a story	gives information
drawings/illustrations	photos/maps
talking animals	learn from it

© 2014 by Linda Ward Beech

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
Bear Stays Up For Christmas Where can we find this in the story? 	
The bear's friends keep him awake.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)
Bear and Hare hang the popcorn strings on the tree.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)
Bear bakes while everyone naps.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)
Bear falls asleep under his new quilt.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)

Name: Possible Answers

The Biggest, Best Snowman

Retell the story

First, Little Nell's family told her she couldn't help because she was too small.

Next, Little Nell went to play with her animal friends. They wanted to build a snowman, but she said she was too small.

Then, her and her friends built a great big snowman.

Last, Little Nell showed her family, and her. Mama said she could help with lunch.

Little Nell learned: nothing is impossible if you have help from good friends.





Name: _____

The Biggest, Best Snowman


Follow the animals helped little Nell build the snowman.

 Hare kicked the snow balls
to build the base,
middle, and head.

 Reindeer rolled and nudged
the snow balls
to build the snowman.

 Bear stacked the
snow balls to create
the body.

 The birds got materials
for the face and arms
of the snowman.

Name: <u>Possible Answers</u>	
<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Biggest, Best Snowman</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Where can we find this in the story?</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>	
Big Mama, Big Sarah, and Big Lizzie thought Nell was too small.	<p>text (words)</p> <p>pictures (illustrations)</p> <p>both</p>
Little Nell saw a hole in the tree.	<p>text (words)</p> <p>pictures (illustrations)</p> <p>both</p>
The animals and Little Nell built a snowman.	<p>text (words)</p> <p>pictures (illustrations)</p> <p>both</p>
Big Mama pulled Big Sarah and Big Lizzie on a sled.	<p>text (words)</p> <p>pictures (illustrations)</p> <p>both</p>

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Mitten
What happened after the mole burrowed into the mitten?

1 A rabbit came by and wiggled in feet first.	2 A hedgehog came and moved into the mitten.
3 An owl swooped down and went into the mitten.	4 A badger climbed in.
5 A fox trotted by and he poked his muzzle in, then got in.	6 A bear wandered by and nudged his way into the mitten.
7 Along came a mouse who wriggled in and she tickled the bear's nose.	8 The bear sneezed and all the animals scattered out of the mitten.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Mitten
Draw the setting and describe it.

drawings will vary
could be the mitten full of animals in the snow.

The white mitten lay in the snow with a mole, a rabbit, a hedgehog, and an owl inside!

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Night Before the 100th Day of School
What were all of the students bringing in for the 100th day?

photos	pencils	cars
jelly beans	gold stars	marbles
	dots	names on her cast

The boy decided to bring...

ants.

Name: **Possible Answers**
The Night Before the 100th Day of School
What was the problem and solution in the story?

The problem was...

The boy didn't know what he would bring to school for the 100th day and everyone else already had their items.

The solution was...

The boy counted many things in his room until he finally came upon his ant farm.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Olive My Love
Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: Does Olive have a valentine?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: Yes, it is Dexter.
Question During: How will they get the heart back to Dexter?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: Weaver made a slingshot with his web.
Question After: Why was Olive confused?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: He was singing to Olive, but she thought he said "all of."

PREVIEW

Name: **Possible Answers**
Olive My Love
Retell the story.

First, Olive was making dog biscuits at her house when she heard something outside. She found a giant heart on her doorstep.

Next, she wanted to return the heart to Dexter, but she needed help. Handler helped her with his car.

Then, they almost lost the heart over the cliff, but Weaver's web caught it. He helped her fly over to Dexter's house.

Last, Dexter told Olive it was a gift for her. They all had a picnic and shared the candy inside of the heart.

Name: **Possible Answers**
Olive My Love
Where can we find this in the story?

A huge heart was sitting on Olive's step.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)
Handler's car was orange and shiny.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)
Weaver's web caught the heart in mid-air.	text (words) pictures (illustrations)
Dexter didn't lose his heart. It was a gift!	text (words) pictures (illustrations)

Name: **Possible Answers**
That's What Leprechauns Do
Ask questions before, during, and after the story.

Question Before: What do leprechauns do?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: They play tricks on people.
Question During: Where do the leprechauns hide their gold?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: They play it at the end of the rainbow.
Question After: Why do they get into mischief?	Was your question answered? YES NO	Answer: They get into mischief because that's what leprechauns do!

Name: **Possible Answers**
That's What Leprechauns Do
Retell the story.

First, the leprechauns see rain is coming, so they must go put their gold at the end of the rainbow.

Next, they get into mischief along the way to trick some people.

Then, they put their gold at the end of the rainbow and wait, but no one comes.

Last, they bury the gold again and go off to see what confusion their mischief made.

What was the story mostly about?
Leprechauns get into mischief as they do their job of hiding gold.

Name: **Possible Answers**
That's What Leprechauns Do
Draw the setting and describe it.

drawings will vary
could be the bog where the rainbow ends

The leprechauns place the gold at the end of the rainbow for someone lucky, but no one comes.

EVERY BOOK HAS:

Last Day Blues By Julie Danneberg



Mentor Sentence Focus: Standard L.1 (plurals)

Reading Lesson Ideas

R.1: Students can ask and answer questions using details from the story. (Remember to discuss returning to a text to help them remember specific details.)

R.2: Students retell the story.

R.3: Read and discuss the story.

R.4: Study the story and discuss the story and Mrs. Hartwell's.

R.6: Identify the main characters and the story's main speakers in the story.

Writing Lesson Ideas

W.3: Students tell about what they'll miss from their class.

List of lesson activity ideas aligned with Common Core Anchor Standards

Last Day Blues

Name: _____
What are some things the students think of to cheer up Mrs. Hartwell?

1.

2.

3.

What are some things the students will miss about Mrs. Hartwell?

1.

2.

3.



Name: _____

Last Day Blues

Describe Mrs. Hartwell.

teacher



Last Day Blues

What did Mrs. Hartwell feel?

she said...

to miss...

I think she felt...



Last Day Blues

What will you miss about your class?

Writing Prompt based on the theme of the book