

# THE PAPER KINGDOM

LESSONS FOR:

INFERRING

INTERPRETING VISUALS

CREATING DIALOGUE

IRREGULAR VERBS

GRADES 3-5



MENTOR TEXT  
CLUB  
by jivey

# Monthly Mentor Text Club

Using mentor texts is one of the best ways to maximize your teaching time. You are able to teach multiple skills, subjects, and topics with just one book!

You will notice that this unit aligns in best practices with my other resources, so it can easily be incorporated into your plans without breaking stride.

With the monthly mentor text club,  
you'll get a unit just like this one every  
month during the 2021-2022 school year  
for less than \$3 a month!

You'll also get exclusive opportunities like giveaways of the book used for the lessons, surveys to provide input on what books and skills you'd like to see incorporated, and immediate email notifications when each new unit is available. Plus, a bonus lesson is included that won't be available anywhere else!

## JOIN THE CLUB

*If you purchased this as an individual unit, it's not too late to join the club! Purchase the club membership bundle, then email me the receipts for your individual purchase and the bundle purchase at [ideasbyjivey@gmail.com](mailto:ideasbyjivey@gmail.com). I will happily refund you the price you paid for the individual unit!*

Happy reading! -Jivey

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# Digital Learning Links

NOTE: The original purpose of the lessons in the Mentor Text Club were for direct teacher instruction. These lessons don't always translate well to a digital learning environment, but I have converted the activities to Slides and Forms as I was able.

These files are for the use of one classroom only, and should not be placed on public web pages or other sharing forums.

Before clicking any of the links in this file, it is important that you are signed into the Google Drive that you will use to share the files with your students.

Click each of the links below and a screen will open to prompt you to make a copy. The files will be in your own Google Drive account.

(You may want to create a folder for all of these!)

[Inferring: Mentor Text](#)

[Mentor Sentence Student Page](#)

[If Dogs Could Talk](#)

[Mentor Sentence Assessment](#)

[Inferring In Images Photos](#)

[Examining Dialogue](#)

[Inferring In Images Activity](#)

[No More Said!](#)

[Partly Cloudy Inferences](#)

[Imagining Dialogue](#)

[Short Reading Assessment](#)

[Partly Cloudy Dialogue](#)

[Writing Inferences: Mentor Text](#)

You'll need: The Paper Kingdom by Helena Ku Rhee

	READING	GRAMMAR	WRITING
DAY ONE	Read <u>The Paper Kingdom</u> for enjoyment. Students will make inferences about the mentor text.	Show students the mentor sentence. Discuss the great things they notice about the sentence, emphasizing that it includes the irregular verb take/took.	Students will examine dialogue in the mentor text, as well as add punctuation to sentences missing commas and quotations marks.
DAY TWO	Students will make inferences about photographs of dogs and imagine if they could talk what they might say.	Students identify the functions of the words in the sentence. Use the interactive activity to teach/review focus skill of irregular verbs.	Students will write past tense forms of vivid verbs that replace said, then use the verbs to revise sentences with dialogue.
DAY THREE	Students will make inferences about events and people in photographs.	Discuss how the sentence could be revised. Work to revise together, or allow students to revise the sentence and share.	Students will imagine dialogue from images and use quotation marks correctly.
DAY FOUR	Students will make inferences about the wordless Pixar Short, <i>Partly Cloudy</i> .	Discuss how the sentence can be imitated. Share the example and note the differences. Students should imitate the sentence and share.	Students will imagine dialogue that would occur in scenes of <i>Partly Cloudy</i> .
DAY FIVE	Assess the students' understanding of inferring with a short passage.	Practice focus skill more with "Editing Assessment" (or use the page as a "quiz").	Students will infer the phone conversation that happened in the beginning of the mentor text and write it in dialogue.

## MENTOR SENTENCE

Core Anchor Standards: L.1, L.2, L.4, W.5

Duration: 15 MINUTES DAILY

Objectives: Students will notice grammar and conventions, revise, and imitate a mentor sentence and apply to their writing.

Materials needed: \_\_\_\_\_ you are new to us. mentor sentences, encourage

Mentor [The](#) [Kingdom](#) to visit our website to read our articles and videos on

Mentor Sentence Lesson to complement the activities to each grade started with

Student Notebooks

Actions: Each day, students will work with a mentor sentence in a different way in their notebook. Discussion is where the learning happens- this should not be center or independent work! Students will notice what is RIGHT about a sentence (rather than looking at a sentence full of mistakes) to apply what they see to their own writing.

Day 1: Students should share what they notice about the sentence that makes it an excellent sentence. It works with the name all the way through, at point of the irregular verb, though, since this is the focus.

Day 2: Students should identify the function of the words in the sentence and how the words help the reader understand what the author is communicating? Especially focus on the verb since it's the focus, but don't worry if they can't label every single word in the sentence.

Day 3: Students will revise the mentor sentence by adding or changing words without changing the meaning of the sentence.

Day 4: Students will imitate the mentor sentence by keeping the style and structure but writing about what you would write about. Start with the example first and allow the students to notice what is the same/different from the original.

Day 5: Students will now write what they have learned with a media assessment.

**Monday** - possibilities of things to notice  
 \*irregular verb (take/took)  
 possessives  
 simple sentence  
 proper nouns – Daniel and Mama  
 past tense  
 prepositional phrase

**Tuesday** - label the sentence  
 Daniel, canister, cart, plant – nouns  
 took – verb  
 a, the – articles  
 from – preposition  
 Mama's, queen's – possessives  
 to water – infinitive

Daniel took a canister from Mama's cart to water the queen's plant.

complete subject  
 simple subject

complete predicate  
 simple predicate

**Wednesday** - possibility of revised sentence

Daniel took a plastic canister from Mama's cleaning cart to water the queen's plant.

(added adjectives)

**Thursday** - possibility of imitation sentence

Charlotte grabbed a broom from Daddy's closet to sweep the baby's mess.

Daniel took a canister  
 from Mama's cart to

water the queen's plant.

~ The Paper Kingdom

Daniel took a canister from Mama's  
 cart to water the queen's plant.  
 ~ The Paper Kingdom

Daniel took a canister from Mama's  
 cart to water the queen's plant.  
 ~ The Paper Kingdom

Daniel took a canister from Mama's  
 cart to water the queen's plant.  
 ~ The Paper Kingdom

Glue down the words in the right order. Write the words in the correct past tense form on the strip, and then glue the words in the correct order on the strip.

regular  
 (just add -ed)

irregular  
 (change the spelling)

Daniel took a canister from Mama's  
 cart to water the queen's plant.  
 ~ The Paper Kingdom

Daniel took a canister from Mama's  
 cart to water the queen's plant.  
 ~ The Paper Kingdom

Use the correct past-tense form of the verb in each sentence below.

1. Papa shook his head no.  
shake
2. They drove to Mama and Papa's work.  
drive
3. They hurried Daniel inside and waved at Sam.  
hurry
4. Mama got brooms from the closet.  
get
5. A tall chair stood behind the door.  
stand
6. Papa emptied the wastebasket.  
empty
7. He threw a canister in the trash.  
throw
8. Daniel sat in the tall chair.  
sit



answer  
 take  
 help  
 drive  
 took  
 hurry



# INFERRING: MENTOR TEXT

Core Anchor Standards: RL.1, RL.3

Duration: 45 MINUTES

Objectives: Students will draw inferences from the text.

Materials needed:

The Paper Kingdom by Helen Heine

Drawing Inference Activity

Actions: Read The Paper Kingdom to students for enjoyment.

Pass out the activity. Return to the events listed on the activity in the book to provide context if necessary. Remind students that when we infer, we are reading between the lines of what the author shares. For example, we can figure out how a character might feel based on things that happen without the author actually naming the emotion.

Define infer as using your knowledge or what you know on the activity. They can sometimes use the same information to make different conclusions from the different inferences than others based on what they know (or don't know) from their own life.

Complete the inferring activity with students as a mini-lesson, or walk through a couple and allow them to work on their own or with a partner to finish.



# Making Inferences

The Author Says...

What I Know...

My Inference

"Then I'll stay home by myself. I'll be okay."

Papa shook his head and helped Daniel change out of his pajamas.

It isn't safe for children to stay home all night alone.

Daniel is too young to stay home alone.

Their old car sputtered as they drove to Mama and Papa's home.

An old car that sputters is not working properly.

The family doesn't have a lot of money and might not be able to afford to fix the car.

"Hello, Daniel!" said Sam.  
"Wow, you've grown! Soon you'll be as tall as me!"

Sam knows Daniel by name and notices he has gotten taller, which means he has met him before.

This is probably not the first time Daniel has had to go to work with his parents.

Papa said, "Let's make sure you're not scared of anything the way you are." "Dragons?" Daniel scooted behind Papa.

When you're not scared of something, it can't hurt you.

Daniel was worried and afraid of the idea that there could be dragons.

# EXAMINING DIALOGUE: MENTOR TEXT

Core Anchor Standards: W.3, L.2

Duration: 30 MINUTES

Objective: Students will use correct punctuation to mark dialogue.

Materials Needed:  
The Paper Bag Story by Helen Hayes  
Examining Dialogue: Using Punctuation

Actions: Return to the mentor text. Reread the first two pages and, if available, project/display the pages so the students can see the formatting of the text.

Point out how the quotation marks are around what the person says, and there are tags noting who the speaker is on the first page ('Mama' and 'she').

Then on the second page, note how it's almost all dialogue without tags, yet we still know who is speaking based on the context. Also, note that each time someone new speaks, it starts with a new line.

Give students the opportunity to do the activity. Complete the top part of the page as a guided lesson, then allow students to complete the bottom part independently using the notes you took together, or with a partner.

Be sure to review the answers as a class so that the students have correct models for their notes. (This page could be glued into a notebook for future reference.)

# Examining Dialogue

What do you notice about this dialogue?

What I notice:

"Hello, Sam!" said Sam. "Wow, you've grown!  
Soon you'll be as big as me!"

Every time a new speaker starts, there is a new line of dialogue.  
Each new line is indented.  
The quotation marks go around what is being said.

Daniel doubted he'd grow to be a giant like Sam.

Punctuation like exclamation points, periods, and question marks go before ending quotation marks.

"I won't tell anyone he's here." Sam winked at  
Mama and Papa.

Tags that come after dialogue are not capitalized (said Sam).

"Thank you, Sam," Papa said as they got into  
the elevator.

A period is used inside quotation marks when there is a full sentence.

Daniel was excited. It felt like crying. "When  
can we leave?"

Sam winked (said, asked, etc. was not used.)  
Commas and periods go inside quotation marks instead of outside.  
A period comes after a tag.

Add appropriate punctuation below:

"The Paper King?" Now Daniel felt awake. "How come I never saw him? Where is he?"

"Let's go see," Papa said. "Maybe he's in his throne room."

"Looks like the king's gone to bed," said Papa. "Let's clean up for him."



# IF DOGS COULD TALK

Core Anchor Standards: RL.1, RL.7, W.3, W.4, L.2

Duration: 25 MINUTES

Objective: Students will make inferences about images to write dialogue.

Materials/Prep:

Dog Images and a speech bubble in the format of the activity

Examining Dialogue Lesson Plan

Notebook/Paper for students to record their responses

Actions: Over the course of the week, students will see several images as well as a short film- all without any words or text. Explain that they will need to do a lot of noticing about the details in these visuals. For each lesson using visuals this week, the amount of inferring they need to do will increase.

In this first visual lesson, there are two options for the format of the activity:

Option A: Split the class into 6 groups and place the images around the room. Give students a "carousel" as a cooperative learning strategy that engages students with movement and discussion. Think of it as a carousel activity, in which, students will be leaving their responses with the picture- that they end up with will be collected at various points. Direct students to move around the room in small groups (setting a timer for a couple of minutes at each "station" is useful with a carousel activity) and imagine what the dog in each picture might say if it could talk. This will require them to pay attention to details in the photo as well as the body language/expression of the dog.

Option B: Split the students into 6 groups and give each group an image with a speech bubble. They should write what they imagine the dog is saying in the picture WITHOUT quotation marks inside the speech bubble. Then place the images around the room.

Students will write their sentences with proper punctuation. The tag, "the dog said," encourages them to use their new image from the previous day as a model for punctuation placement. Allow students to share out their responses and choose a few to write on sentence strips or chart paper as models for the next writing lesson.

A black mouse is standing on a row of books, facing left. The word "PREVIEW" is overlaid in large, bold, grey capital letters.

PREVIEW

A beagle dog is looking up, its head tilted back. The word "PREVIEW" is overlaid in large, bold, grey capital letters.

PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW



PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW



PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW



# NO MORE "SAID!"

Core Anchor Standards: L.1, L.2, L.3, RL.1, RL.7, W.3, W.4

Duration: 30 MINUTES

Objective: Students will revise dialogue tags with "said" for a vivid verb with appropriate formation of the past tense verb.

Materials needed:

Dog Quotes from Module 1, from the dog inferring lesson

No More Said! Verbs List

Actions: Remind students of the sentences that were written as models using quotation marks from the dog inferring lesson. Point out that all of the sentences, per your instruction, are tagged with, "the dog said."

Explain that using said occasionally is okay, but we can often reveal a lot about the way a character is feeling by changing said to a more vivid verb.

Pass out the No More Said! Verbs List and note that all of the verbs provided are in present tense. Go through the list to write the past tense verbs as well as note the irregular verbs, pointing with a star, bring up discussing why they are irregular (how the spelling pattern changes).

Go through the models of dog dialogue and revise each sentence with another word for said from the word list. Remind students that this is another way authors show a character's emotions and help us infer that feeling. If needed, display the images again to make sure to match the word chosen to what the dog may be feeling. The entire tag may also need to be reworded, not just replacing the verb - for example the dog TOLD the mouse (not just, the dog told). If students have an idea for another verb to use, encourage them to do so. This list is just to get them thinking. ☺



# NO MORE SAID!

present tense verb form

past tense verb form

PREVIEW

whisper

whispered

reply

replied\*

joke

joked\*

arowl

arowed

PREVIEW

ask

asked

yell

yelled

laugh

laughed

PREVIEW

think

thought\*

# INFERRING IN IMAGES

Core Anchor Standards: RL.1, RL.7

Duration: 30 MINUTES

Objective: Students will infer what is happening in photographs.

Materials Needed:

The Paper Bag Story Selections

Photographs

Guided Inference Organizer (copied front/back)

Actions: To begin the lesson, turn to the page where the family is driving to the office building. Remind students of their inference about the car from the first day's lesson. (The old sputtering car might need repairs that the family can't afford.) Have students look closely at the illustration. What do they notice? *Papa has a furrowed brow and a frown, and Mama is looking at Papa as though she is concerned.* Ask students if this image also supports the inference. (Yes, because they seem worried, maybe about the car being reliable to get them to work.)

Show one of the photographs and work together on the inference organizer together. Then, allow students to make inferences about the other photos.

You could allow students to work with a partner or in a group and provide them copies of the photographs, project them one at a time, or you could hang the photos around the room and allow them to move to each photo—setting a timer to determine when they should rotate.

Make sure to allow them to share their inferences with the class to hear the thinking of others. Sometimes they will have similar ideas, and sometimes they will be very different, but reinforce that there is not a right or wrong answer when you infer as long as you can support your thinking with evidence from the text.

take a few minutes

Check out more images on the New York Times Learning site: [What's Going On in This Picture!](#)



PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW





# INFERRING IN IMAGES

## What do you notice?

(Pay attention to facial expressions, actions, and objects in the image.)

The children are in a grassy area with trees.

One child is covering his or her face big time while the other two are running away.

## What do you notice?

(Pay attention to facial expressions, actions, and objects in the image.)

The woman is holding a coffee cup and looking at her watch.

Her face is furrowed.  
There is another table behind her and trees in the background.

## What do you think is happening in the picture?

Why do you think that? (Use details as evidence.)

The children are playing hide and seek in the park. The area looks too large to be a backyard. When I play hide and seek, one person hides their face and counts while everyone else runs to a hiding spot.

## What do you think is happening in the picture?

Why do you think that? (Use details as evidence.)

The woman is waiting at an outdoor coffee shop for someone who is late. The woman looks concerned or upset with her furrowed brow. People who look at their watch are checking the time, and since she is upset looking at the time, it probably means the other person is late.

## Conclusion

The woman is having coffee and realizes she must have missed the other person's appointment. She is checking the time on her watch and looks upset, which means she is probably late for something.

# IMAGINING DIALOGUE

Core Anchor Standards: W.3, W.4, RL.1, RL.7, L.2, L.3

Duration: 30 MINUTES

Objective: Students will write dialogue to match an image.

Materials needed:

Photographs

Guided Inference Organizer

Examining Dialogue Notes Page

No More Said! Verb List

Imagining Dialogue activity

Actions: Show students the same photo that you modeled for the guided inference from the previous lesson. Remind them of the inference you made together.

Now ask students to imagine that the person or people in the image are talking. Using quotation marks properly, write at least one line of dialogue that states what the person or people are saying. Refer to the Notes Page and the Verb List for formatting and word variety. Encourage students to take up names for the characters rather than saying "the boy" or "the lady."

Allow students time to write dialogue for the other three photos. This could be done with a partner or independently. Then allow students to share out their dialogue.

# IMAGINING DIALOGUE



# PREVIEW

Kate giggled as she ran off with Randall to hide. "This looks like a good spot!"

"...7, 8, 9, 10! Ready or not, here I come!" shouted Kevin.



Alice checked her watch again. "Always running late," she muttered to herself.

# PREVIEW



"I don't want to eat it," Zak whined.

"You haven't even tried it," said Momma. "Just take one bite!"



"Great job, everyone! Thanks for all your hard work!" Michael exclaimed as he wrapped up his video conference.

# PREVIEW



# INFERRING IN VIDEO

Core Anchor Standards: RL.1, RL.7

Duration: 20 MINUTES

Objective: Students will infer what is happening in a short film.

Materials Needed:

*Partly Cloudy* (Pixar Short) (viewable on Disney+ and on YouTube)

Guiding Questions

Actions: The Pixar Short, *Partly Cloudy*, is a completely wordless film, so the viewer must infer to understand.

Play the film all the way through once (it's only five minutes).

Then:

OPTION 1 - Give students the guiding questions and see if they can answer them on their own. Review the answers together.

OPTION 2 - Pause the film at the end of the questions and let the students answer the guiding questions provided, and allow students to discuss.

## PARTLY CLOUDY



Make inferences about Pixar's short film.

How does the gray cloud feel about the stork at the beginning?

He adores the stork.

What clues help you know this?

He smiles big when the stork lands on him and gives him a big hug.

How does the gray cloud feel when the stork flies to the white cloud?

Angry/Upset/Sad

What clues help you know this?

He "stomps" on his feet and pouting with his arms crossed, then it rains and then he cries (rains).

What is happening during the storm? How do the stork and the gray cloud feel?

They are hurting him/beating him up!

What clues help you know this?

Every time he returns to the cloud, he is missing feathers and his knees hurt.

Does the gray cloud want to continue working with the white cloud?

Yes!

What clues help you know this?

He has another cloud make him protective gear for his true color and the white cloud cries.

# PARTLY CLOUDY DIALOGUE

Core Anchor Standards: W.3, W.4, RL.1, RL.7, L.2, L.3

Duration: 25 MINUTES

Objective: Students will write dialogue to match scenes in the short film.

Materials Needed:

*Partly Cloudy* (watch on YouTube) (You might consider playing each scene again and then

Scenario Activity

Examining Dialogue Notes Page

No More Said! Verb List

Actions: Provide students the Partly Cloudy Scenario activity- students should imagine the dialogue that might have occurred in each scene had the short film not been wordless. They should use their notes page and their verb list for assistance with formatting and word variety. (You might consider playing each scene again and then giving them a set amount of time to write about it. All of the scenes occur after the 3 minute mark.)

Students should work with a partner or independently and then take turns for students to share their ideas with the class.

# PREVIEW

# PARTLY CLOUDY



If the characters talked, what might they say in each of these scenes?

The stork flies away from the gray cloud to the white cloud above. What did the gray cloud have to say to the stork?

"Oh dear!" the cloud exclaimed as he pulled the quills from the stork's head. The cloud noticed that several feathers came out with the quills.

"Oh, uh," the cloud stammered, "here, let me put these back."

The stork flies away from the gray cloud to the white cloud above. What did the stork say to the white cloud?

"Excuse me, can you help?" the stork asked nervously.

"What can I do for you?" the white cloud replied.

"My dear, I am flying away from you often because you are so angry. Do you think you might be able to create something to help?" pleads the stork.

The stork flies away from the gray cloud to the white cloud above. The gray cloud makes light rain. What would the gray cloud say?

The gray cloud stomped and raged.

"It's not my fault that I can only make animals with teeth and quills and horns!" Suddenly, he sees the white cloud give the stork a bundle to deliver. He is filled with sadness. "My friend doesn't want to be with me anymore!" the gray cloud raged.

The stork flies to the white cloud his protective gear. What do you think they say to each other?

"You came back! You mean, you DO want to keep helping me?" the cloud wondered.

"Of course," he exclaimed the stork. "You are my friend, and I would never leave you alone."



# ASSESS COMPREHENSION

Core Anchor Standards: RL.1, RL.3

Duration: 15 MINUTES

Objective: Students will draw inferences from a text and image.

Materials Needed:

Inference Task Assessment

Actions: Give students the inference questions.

## Answer Key

1. Circle the words that Clive and Lillie were on.

2. How did Lillie feel about going on the ride? Use evidence to support your answer.

She was nervous. She had butterflies that felt more like birds as she waited in the line. Her hands were also clammy with sweat. Her legs wobbled and her fingers tingled, too. These are things that happen to your body when you feel worried or scared to do something.

3. How does Chloe feel about going on the ride? Use evidence to support your answer.

She was thrilled. She screamed when it went through the turn. People scream when they are very excited. She also looked Lillie forward, which showed she couldn't wait to go.

**Amusement Park**

The butterflies in my stomach were feeling more like birds as we inched closer and closer to the front of the line. Everyone on the ride laughed with glee, so I knew it was going to be a lot of fun... but knowing how high I'd be in the air made my hands clammy with sweat.

"It's so fun!" Chloe squealed as she nudged me forward onto the ride. My legs wobbled as I leaned forward and sat quickly down onto the seat. Then I grasped the lap bar tightly with my tingling fingers. I closed my eyes as the ride took us up into the sky.

"Open your eyes, Lillie! Look around! You can see the whole town from here!" Chloe said as she grabbed my hand.

I slowly opened my eyes just as we started to descend. It felt like my stomach dropped all the way to my toes, but she was right: it WAS beautiful from up here! I left my eyes open as we made our way back around to the top, and finally, I was smiling.

1. Circle the words that Chloe and Lillie were on.

2. How did Lillie feel about going on the ride? Explain using evidence from the text.

3. How does Chloe feel about going on the ride? Explain using evidence from the text.

# WRITING INFERENCES: MENTOR TEXT

Core Anchor Standards: RL.1, W.3, W.4, W.9

Duration: 30 MINUTES

Objective: Students will infer about an event in the mentor text.

Materials needed:

The Paper Bag by Deborah Heisterkamp

Examining Dialogue: Julia's Poem

No More Said! Verb List

Phone Call Inferring activity

Actions: Re-read the first page of the book. Ask students to infer what Clara said on the other end of the phone. Point out that we know she usually kept Daniel while his parents worked because Daniel expected her to come (based on evidence on the next page), but that night, she called to say she can't.

Brainstorm with the students what Clara might be trying to say to keep Daniel.

*few ideas*  
*her husband broke down*  
*she is sick*  
*she got hurt*

*she was called in to work*

*her husband was called into work and they have a child who would be home alone*

Have students write (using proper punctuation for dialogue- they should refer to their notes page) what the phone conversation might have been. They should also vary the verb in their tags (using the verb list if necessary). Remind them that a conversation between two people needs to have one line where one person speaks.

You might want to point out that Mama and Clara are sisters, and write down that she probably feels terrible for calling last minute and leaving him out to be all by himself when writing Clara's dialogue.

Name: Example

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# PHONE CALL INFERRING

Write the conversation Auntie Clara and Mama might have had:

"Hi, Mama. I called the phone  
number you gave me. I'm sorry to tell you, but I think there  
was something wrong with the food I ate."

"Oh, I see." Mama frowned.

"I really hate to do this, but I don't think I can come sit with Daniel  
tonight," Clara explained. "I am just too sick to drive."

"That's okay. We'll work it out. Get some rest, Clara. Let me know if  
you aren't better tomorrow." As Mama said goodbye and hung up the  
phone, her shoulders slumped.







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