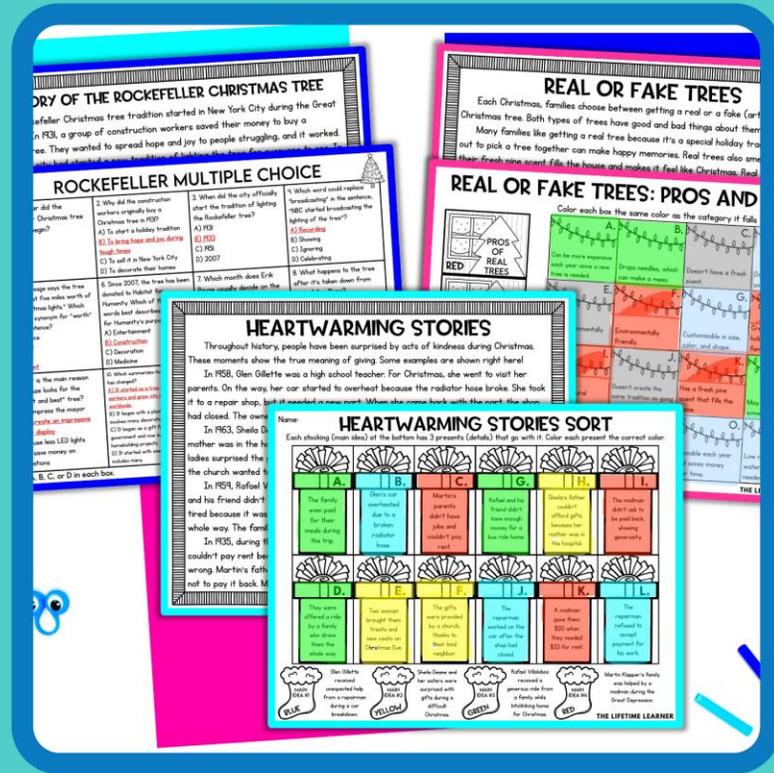


WHAT'S AN ADD-ON PACK?

You can use this resource two ways:



Use the reading passages to supplement your Christmas Room Transformation



OR use these reading passages for students to enjoy during your ELA block on a regular day

You don't have to do a room transformation to use this resource. These 10 passages are no-prep and print & go. Use them anytime during your ELA block!

THE CONTENT:

10 high-interest passages & activities in 2 formats: hands-on & no prep!

Hands-On Centers

THE ORIGIN OF THE CANDY CANE

When you think of Christmas candy, you might picture candy canes. Their hook shape and red and white stripes make them prevalent during the holiday season. But where did candy canes originate? How did they first come to be?

Historians believe the idea began in 1670 when a German choirmaster gave sugar sticks to children in the choir. He wanted to keep them quiet and create a tranquil mood during the church service. To make the sticks to have hooks, like the candy canes we know today, he had them resemble a shepherd's crook.

Candy canes are also known for their remedy properties. They help with stomach aches. Because of its popularity as a candy, the flavor became known as peppermint.

Today, we still have some candy canes adorned in red and white. Two billion candy canes are sold each year during the Christmas season. We may not know where they came from, but we know they are a part of holiday traditions.

MYSTERY WORD

resembling	manufactured	conjoining
tranquil	originate	appealing
remedy	fortunate	imitate
renowned	prevalent	adorning

Read each card. Cross the matching word out. Which word is left at the end? Circle it!

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

B.
Very calm and peaceful, with no noise or stress.

A.
Well-known or famous for something.

E.
Made or produced in large amounts.

F.
Something that helps make you feel better.

G.
Decorating or adding something to make it look nicer.

No-Prep Printables

MYSTERY WORD

resembling	manufactured	conjoining	<input type="checkbox"/> Well-known or famous for something.
tranquil	originate	appealing	<input type="checkbox"/> Very calm and peaceful, with no noise or stress.
remedy	fortunate	imitate	<input type="checkbox"/> Something that is nice or makes you want it.
renowned	prevalent	adorning	<input type="checkbox"/> To begin or start from a certain place or idea.

Read each card. Cross the matching word out. Which word is left at the end? Circle it!

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

With this version, students read the passage. Then, they complete a hands-on center activity you can laminate and re-use for years to come.

Or in this version, students read the passage. Then, they complete the activity in worksheet form. This version is NO PREP and PRINT & GO! Just as much fun as the hands-on centers!

2 Versions of Every Passage Included for Students

A SNOWSTORM IN SEATTLE

During a big snowstorm in Seattle, Gina Cohen's son was sick with the flu. She couldn't leave the house because of the snow and didn't have enough medicine or a thermometer. In the middle of the night, she asked on Facebook if someone could help. To her surprise, a neighbor she didn't know brought her everything she needed at 4 in the morning!

Ritu Sharma was on Facebook during the storm and saw a girl's post. The girl needed a ride to the airport because her mom had died in India. Ritu saw a man post he could drive anyone to the airport. She connected them, and Ritu later learned he gave the girl a ride.

Morgan Roe had been waiting two days for a bus because of the storm. When one finally came, she was a block away and tried to run through the snow to catch it. The bus driver saw her and stopped to open the doors for her so she could get out of the storm.

Kyleen Junier was driving home when she saw a woman with a cane trying to walk on the snowy sidewalk. She offered the woman a ride and found out the woman had just lost her home and was staying in a hotel. Kyleen was glad to help her get safely back to the hotel.

Stephanie-Kate Bratton was out walking her dogs with her husband when they saw a

A SNOWSTORM IN SEATTLE

During a massive snowstorm in Seattle, Gina Cohen found herself in a difficult situation. Her young son was sick with the flu, and the heavy snowfall made it impossible to leave the house. She was almost out of medicine and didn't have a thermometer to check his temperature. In the middle of the night, Gina turned to Facebook, asking if anyone could go to the store for her. To her surprise, a neighbor she didn't know replied and picked up medicine and a thermometer for her, all at 4 in the morning!

Ritu Sharma was also on Facebook during the storm when she saw a post from a young woman needing a ride to the airport because her mother had just died in India. Ritu quickly remembered seeing another post from a man offering rides to the airport for anyone in need during the snowstorm. She tagged both of them, connecting them. The next morning, she learned that the man had taken the young woman to the airport as well as many others who needed rides during the snowfall.

In another part of Seattle, Morgan Roe had been waiting for a bus for two days as snow covered the streets. The snow made travel difficult. When a bus finally arrived, Morgan was a block away. Due to so much snow on the ground, she struggled to reach the stop as she saw the bus driving off. However, to her surprise, the bus stopped halfway down the street and opened its doors. The driver let her board so she could escape the snowstorm.

Kyleen Junier was driving home through the heavy snow when she noticed a woman with a cane having trouble walking on the icy sidewalks. Kyleen stopped and offered her a ride, finding out that the woman had recently been evicted and was living in a hotel. She was grateful to make the woman's day a little better by giving her a ride in the cold.

While walking her dogs with her husband, Stephanie-Kate Bratton noticed a car slipping and struggling to make it up a snowy hill. Her husband quickly went back home to get towing equipment. Together, they managed to pull the car over the hill. But they didn't stop there! Afterward, they helped two more cars, giving their neighbors some extra help in the middle of the storm. These stories show how a community came together to help one another during a difficult snowstorm in Seattle.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

COMMON CHRISTMAS MISHAPS

The holiday season is full of fun, family, and decorations. But some decorations can lead to injuries if people aren't careful. Between 2007 and 2016, a study found over 173,000 people were hurt by holiday decorations. Christmas trees alone cause many injuries each year. Around 23,000 people were hurt by trees and tree stands. They had injuries like cuts, falls, and back pain. Surprisingly, artificial (fake) trees caused more injuries than real ones.

Christmas lights can also be risky. They make houses look beautiful, but they come with dangers. The study found about 31,855 people in the U.S. were injured by lights. Loose cords and broken wires can cause shocks, trips, and falls. Electrical lights cause more problems than any other type of decoration. In fact, 36,054 people were injured by electrical decorations. People should check wires aren't broken, avoid plugging too many things into an outlet, and make sure cords aren't left on the floor so no one trips.

Even visiting Santa has its risks! Many kids go to see Santa at the mall, but

COMMON CHRISTMAS MISHAPS

The holiday season brings excitement, family gatherings, and lots of decorations. But, it's easy to forget that holiday decorations can sometimes lead to accidents. Each year, people are injured while putting up Christmas trees, hanging lights, and even setting out presents.

From 2007 to 2016, a study found that over 173,000 people were injured by holiday decorations. Christmas trees alone caused a significant number of injuries. Around 23,000 people were hurt while setting up trees and tree stands. These injuries included cuts from sharp branches, falls while placing decorations on tall trees, and even back injuries from lifting heavy tree stands. Both real and artificial trees can cause accidents. Though surprisingly, artificial trees are involved in more injuries than real ones.

One of the most common sources of holiday injuries is Christmas lights. Twinkling lights can make a tree or house look beautiful, but they come with risks. The study found that about 31,855 people were injured by holiday lights across the United States. String lights, loose cords, and light bulbs can pose tripping hazards or cause shocks if not used properly. In fact, all electrical decorations have shown themselves to be potentially dangerous. With almost 36,054 people injured by electrical decorations, it's clear that holiday lights can be a real risk.

Differentiate and give your students the version best for them!

CENTER 1

Multiple Choice

TRADITION OF THE ROCKEFELLER CHRISTMAS TREE
 The Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition started in New York City during the Great Depression. In 1933, a group of construction workers saved their money to buy a Christmas tree. They wanted to spread hope and joy to people struggling, and it worked. By 1933, the city had started a new tradition of lighting the tree for everyone to see. In 1951, the television station NBC started broadcasting the lighting of the tree. Since then, they have continued to show it each year. This event is held the week after Thanksgiving, but you can still visit the tree until the first week of January.

Name: _____

ROCKEFELLER MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. 	2. 	3. 	4. 
5. 	6. 	7. 	8. 
9. 	10. 	11. 	12. 

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

What year did the Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition begin?
 A) 1931
 B) 1933
 C) 1951
 D) 2010



1. Why did the construction workers originally buy a Christmas tree in 1931?
 A) To start a holiday tradition
 B) To bring hope and joy during tough times
 C) To sell it in New York City
 D) To decorate their own homes



2. _____

Hands-On Center:

Students choose A, B, C, or D on each card.

Name: _____

ROCKEFELLER MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What year did the Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition begin? A) 1931 B) 1933 C) 1951 D) 2010	2. Why did the construction workers originally buy a Christmas tree in 1931? A) To start a holiday tradition B) To bring hope and joy during tough times C) To sell it in New York City D) To decorate their homes	3. When did the city officially start the tradition of lighting the Rockefeller tree? A) 1931 B) 1933 C) 1951 D) 2007	4. Which word could replace "broadcasting" in the sentence, "NBC started broadcasting the lighting of the tree?" A) Rescuing B) Showing C) Spurring D) Celebrating
5. The passage says the tree has "almost five miles worth of LED Christmas lights." Which word is a synonym for "worth" in this sentence? A) Distance B) Height C) Need D) Amount	6. Since 2007, the tree has been donated to Habitat for Humanity. Which of the following words best describes Habitat for Humanity's purpose? A) Entertainment B) Construction C) Description D) Medicine	7. Which month does Erik Paaze usually decide on the Rockefeller tree for the year? A) October B) December C) September D) November	8. What happens to the tree after it's taken down from Rockefeller Plaza? A) It is stored until next year. B) It is burned for warmth. C) It is donated for homebuilding. D) It is sold to another city.
9. What is the main reason Erik Paaze looks for the "biggest and best" tree? A) To impress the mayor. B) To create an impressive holiday display. C) To use less LED lights. D) To save money on decorations.	10. Which sentence best describes how the tradition has changed? A) It started as a tree bought by workers and was an event, but now includes many decorations. B) It began as a gift from the government and now includes handmade products. C) It started with one tree and now includes many. D) It started with one tree and now includes many.	11. Why might people think the Rockefeller tree is a "symbol of hope and joy" today? A) It is decorated with lights and ornaments. B) It costs a lot of money. C) It is cut down each year for people to see. D) It was started during hard times to bring happiness.	12. What is the purpose of moving the tree to New York City in October? A) To keep it safe from snow. B) To get it ready for the lighting ceremony. C) To make it grow bigger. D) To add more branches.

Write A, B, C, or D in each box. THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 2

Mystery Word

TRADITION OF THE CANDY CANE
 Candy canes are candy, you might picture candy canes. Their hook shape makes them prevalent during the holiday season. But where did they first come to be?
 The idea began in 1670 when a German choirmaster gave sugar sticks to the choir. He wanted to keep them quiet and create a tranquil mood during the service. To make the sticks to have hooks, like the candy canes are also conjoining sugar with pepper has been a natural remedy help with stomach aches. Because of its popularity as candy. The flavor became lemon. Today, we still have some adorning them in red and white. Two billion candy canes are Christmas season. We may see candy canes as part of holiday traditions.

Name: _____

MYSTERY WORD

resembling	manufactured	conjoining
tranquil	originate	appealing
remedy	fortunate	imitate
renowned	prevalent	adorning

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

B. Very calm and peaceful, with no noise or stress. 

A. Well-known or famous for something. 

E. Made or produced in large amounts. 

F. Something that helps make you feel better. 

G. Decorating or adding something to make it look nicer. 

Hands-On Center:

Read each card. Cross the words off based on the definitions to find which box is left at the end!

Name: _____

MYSTERY WORD

resembling	manufactured	conjoining	Well-known or famous for something.
tranquil	originate	appealing	Very calm and peaceful, with no noise or stress.
remedy	fortunate	imitate	Something that is nice or makes you want it.
renowned	prevalent	adorning	To begin or start from a certain place or idea.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 3

Compare & Contrast

REAL OR FAKE TREES

Families choose between getting a real or a fake (artificial) tree. Both types of trees have good and bad things about them. Like getting a real tree because it's a special holiday tradition. Going together can make happy memories. Real trees also smell wonderful, fill the house and makes it feel like Christmas. Real trees are also an ornament because they can be recycled as mulch after Christmas. Fake trees are unique, with branches that look natural and make decorating fun. And, fake trees have great advantages too. They are a good choice because you can reuse them every year, saving money over time. They are also easy to take care of. Unlike real trees, fake trees don't need to be watered, and they don't drop needles, which makes less mess. You can also choose fake trees in different colors, and shapes. Some even come with lights already on them. Plus, fake trees are a safe choice. When a family picks a real or fake tree, both are good choices. Both types of trees can make the holidays cheer and make decorating with family special. You can make the holidays special any way you like, and enjoy the holiday spirit together. Finding what works best for your family.

Pros of Real Christmas Trees	Pros of Fake Christmas Trees
 H. Creates a special holiday tradition for families. F. Environmentally friendly.	 G. Customizable in size, color, and shape. D. Doesn't drop needles, so there's less mess.
Cons of Real Christmas Trees	Cons of Fake Christmas Trees
 A. Can be more expensive each year since a new tree is needed. B. Drops needles, which can make a mess.	 C. Doesn't have a fresh scent. E. Not environmentally friendly.

Hands-On Center:

Students sort the details where they belong by comparing and contrasting.



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 4

Main Idea & Detail Sort

HEARTWARMING STORIES

Throughout history, people have been surprised by acts of kindness on Christmas. These moments show the true meaning of giving. Some examples are shown right here!

In 1938, Glen Gillette was a high school teacher. For Christmas, she went to visit her parents. On the way, her car started to overheat because the radiator hose broke. She took it to a repair shop, but it needed a new part. When she came back with the part, the shop had closed. The owner stayed late to fix her car and refused to take any money from her.

In 1963, Sheila Deane's father told her family there wouldn't be any presents. Sheila's mother was in the hospital, and her father couldn't afford gifts. But on Christmas Eve, two ladies surprised the girls with treats and new coats. Their neighbor had told her church, and the church wanted to help. Sheila will never forget the kindness of her neighbor.

In 1951, Rafael Villalobos joined the army. He wanted to go home for Christmas, but he and his friend didn't have money for a bus. They tried to hitchhike over 1,000 miles but grew tired because it was hard to find a ride. A kind family picked them up and drove them the whole way. The family even paid for their meals. Rafael is still thankful for their generosity.

In 1936, during the Great Depression, Martin Kipper was 19 years old. His parents couldn't pay rent because they didn't have jobs. A mailman asked Martin's father what was wrong. Martin's father said he needed \$33 for rent. The mailman gave him \$50 and told him not to pay it back. Martin's father could pay rent and buy a Christmas gift for his kids.

#1 MAIN IDEA: Glen Gillette's car overheated due to a broken radiator hose.	#2 MAIN IDEA: Sheila Deane and her sisters were surprised with gifts during a difficult Christmas.	#3 MAIN IDEA: Rafael Villalobos received a generous ride from a family while hitchhiking home for Christmas.	#4 MAIN IDEA: Martin Kipper's father was helped by a mailman during the Great Depression.
			
			

Hands-On Center:

Students sort each detail onto the correct mat.



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 5

Task Cards

1. Reindeer are strong animals that live in snowy, northern regions like the Arctic tundra. They have thick fur that keeps them warm and hooves adapted to walk on snow. Their hooves help them dig through snow to find food like moss and lichen. Both male and female reindeer grow antlers, which they shed and regrow each year. Reindeer are well-suited for survival in the cold.

2. Reindeer face freezing weather during winter, high temperatures during summer, and trouble finding food in between. This is why reindeer migrate. But because of human buildings and roads, it is harder for them to travel. Now, more people are trying to solve this problem and make it easier for reindeer to migrate. With their help, reindeer will have a better chance surviving.

3. As the climate changes, it's difficult for reindeer to adapt and survive. Scientists predict warmer summers could help reindeer find more food. However, it also means an increase in bugs. They can stress and affect reindeer's feeding. Writers will bring more ice, making it harder for them to find food under the snow.

Name: _____

REINDEER PARAGRAPHS

1. Text Structure Used: Description
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: This paragraph describes where reindeer live, how they look, and how they survive. It describes a lot of facts about them.

2. Text Structure Used: _____
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: _____

3. Text Structure Used: _____
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: _____

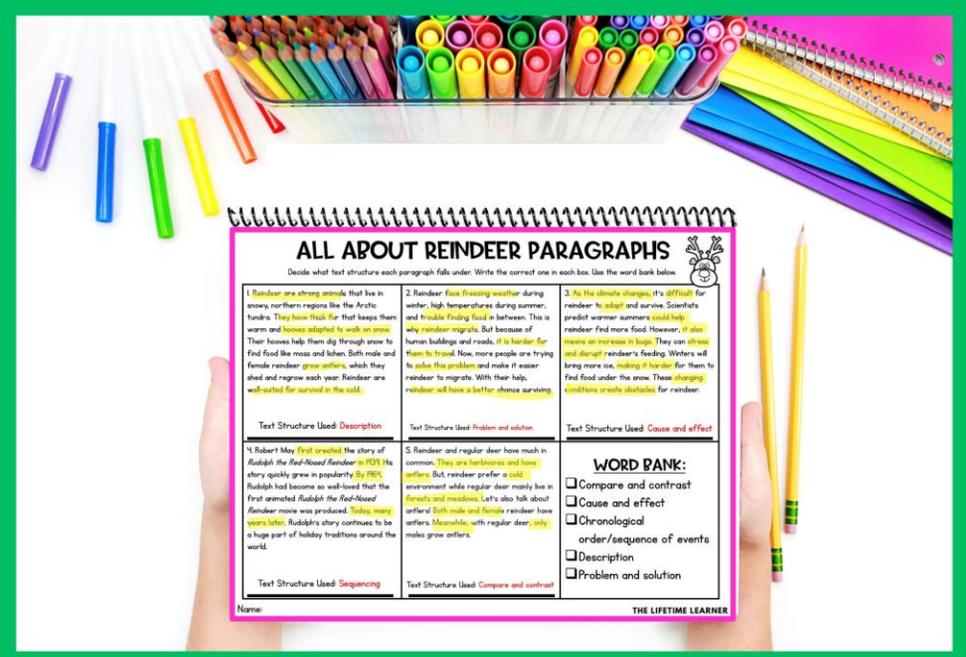
4. Text Structure Used: _____
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: _____

5. Text Structure Used: _____
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: _____

Write the type of text structure used in each box and any clues that helped you figure it out.

Hands-On Center:

Students read each task card and write a response.



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 6

Color in the Text

HOLIDAY WORLD RECORDS: INFOGRAPHIC

1. How many gallons of eggnog were served in the largest serving?
Color the answer red.

2. How many gingerbread houses were in the largest gingerbread village?
Color the answer light green.

3. Who organized the largest Secret Santa gift exchange, and how many people participated?
Color the answer light blue.

4. How many people were served at the largest holiday meal?
Color it yellow.

5. How many festive bangles did Joel Strasser hang in his beard to break his own record?
Color it purple.

6. How many people dressed as Santas in the largest gathering of Santas?
Color it orange.

7. How many gifts were wrapped by volunteers in one hour?
Color it pink.

8. What was the record number of lights on a real Christmas tree and where was it?
Color it dark blue.

9. Where was the most expensive Christmas tree displayed, and what was its value?
Color it gray.

10. Where was the largest group of carolers recorded?
Color it black.

11. What was the record longest wish list given to Santa recorded, and where did it take place?
Color it dark green.

12. What year was the longest wish list given to Santa recorded, and where did it take place?
Color it dark green.

Hands-On Center:

Students use the coloring task card questions to color in answers in the infographic.



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 7

Cut and Paste

CHRISTMAS TREE FIRES

Christmas trees can accidentally catch on fire? They're not common but they can be dangerous. By understanding what causes them, we can keep homes safe. The most common cause of Christmas tree fires is defective electrical equipment. It's responsible for 40% of these fires. Decorative lights are usually the problem. If they have frayed cords, they can spark and catch dry needles on fire. Loose plugs and old extension cords can also overheat. Electrical failures cause about 25% of all Christmas tree fires. Heating equipment is another cause, responsible for around 15% of Christmas tree fires. Trees too close to fireplaces, radiators, or space heaters can cause fires. Studies show 8% of these fires are caused by candles. If one is positioned near the tree, the dry branches can catch on fire. Candles shouldn't be used to decorate the tree. Lastly, people playing with fire are responsible for 6% of incidents. Some adults might play with lighters or matches near the tree. A spark can set a Christmas tree on fire. The effects of Christmas tree fires can be severe. Not only do they cause injury and death, but they cause damage to homes and belongings. Because they burn quickly, flames can spread throughout the house within minutes. This gives little time to escape. These fires can also lead to repairs costing a lot of money. The sentimental value of items can be lost forever in these fires. While you may not be able to replace the items, the memory that you may attach to certain objects will be gone forever.

CUT AND PASTE

There are many causes and effects of Christmas tree fires. Glue each sentence on the side it belongs on.

Causes		Effects	
Defective electrical equipment: Cracked cords or old lights can spark and ignite the tree.	Candles near the tree: Flames from candles placed near or on the tree can easily catch the dry branches.		Extensive smoke damage: Even if the fire is contained, the smoke can run walls, carpets, and furniture throughout the home.
		Costly home damage: Intense flames can destroy electrical systems, floors, ceilings, and require expensive repairs.	
Proximity to heating equipment: Trees placed too close to fireplaces, radiators, or space heaters can ignite.	Playing with fire: Kids or adults using lighters or matches around the tree can accidentally start a fire.		Loss of sentimental items: Ornaments, decorations, and presents are often destroyed in tree fires, causing emotional distress.
Less time to escape: The rapid spread of Christmas tree fires leaves less time for families to safely evacuate.			



Hands-On Center:

Cut and paste each box where it belongs.

CUT AND PASTE

There are many causes and effects of Christmas tree fires. Glue each sentence on the side it belongs on.

Causes		Effects	
Proximity to heating equipment: Trees placed too close to fireplaces, radiators, or space heaters can ignite.	Playing with fire: Kids or adults using lighters or matches around the tree can accidentally start a fire.	Extensive smoke damage: Even if the fire is contained, the smoke can run walls, carpets, and furniture throughout the home.	Loss of sentimental items: Ornaments, decorations, and presents are often destroyed in tree fires, causing emotional distress.
Defective electrical equipment: Cracked cords or old lights can spark and ignite the tree.	Candles near the tree: Flames from candles placed near or on the tree can easily catch the dry branches.	Costly home damage: Intense flames can destroy electrical systems, floors, ceilings, and require expensive repairs.	Less time to escape: The rapid spread of Christmas tree fires leaves less time for families to safely evacuate.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 8

Write a Sentence

A SNOWSTORM IN SEATTLE

A big snowstorm in Seattle, Gina Cohen's son was sick with the flu. She couldn't leave the house because of the snow and didn't have enough medicine or a thermometer. In the middle of the night, she asked on Facebook if a neighbor she didn't know brought her everything she needed. Ritu Sharma was on Facebook during the storm and saw the post. She offered to drive to the airport because her mom had died in India and she had to get to the airport. She connected them, and Ritu Sharma was able to bring her what she needed. Morgan Roe had been waiting two days for a bus to the airport. Finally, she was a block away and tried to run. A driver saw her and stopped to open the doors for her. Kyleen Junier was driving home when she saw a woman struggling to get up a snowy hill. She offered the woman a ride to her home and was staying in a hotel. Kyleen was glad to help. Stephanie-Kate Bratton was out walking her dog when she saw a car struggling to get up a snowy hill. Her husband was with her. They helped the car up the hill. After that, they helped other people who were stuck. Every snowstorm shows how people helped each other. Every snowstorm!

1 Write from the point of view of Gina Cohen during the snowstorm. In your response, explain what she was going through and experiencing.

I was so scared about my son during the snowstorm. We couldn't leave the house because it was snowing so hard. I posted on Facebook asking for help and a neighbor I had never met was able to bring me what I needed at 4:00 in the morning!

2 Write from the point of view of Ritu Sharma during the snowstorm. In your response, explain what she was going through and experiencing.

I was searching Facebook during the snowstorm and I came across a girl who needed a ride to the airport. I had a friend that also posted he was looking to help anyone in the snowstorm that needed a ride to the airport.

Hands-On Center:

Students write the answer to each prompt on the lines.

A SNOWSTORM IN SEATTLE

Write from the point of view of each person in each box.

- Gina Cohen: I was so scared about my son during the snowstorm. We couldn't leave the house because it was snowing so hard. I posted on Facebook asking for help and a neighbor I had never met was able to bring me what I needed at 4:00 in the morning!
- Ritu Sharma: I was searching Facebook during the snowstorm and I came across a girl who needed a ride to the airport. I had a friend that also posted he was looking to help anyone in the snowstorm that needed a ride to the airport. I tagged them in each other's posts and they were able to meet up!
- Morgan Roe: The snowstorm made getting around the city really hard for me. The bus stop was pretty far away from my house and I had to walk through a lot of snow to get there. When the bus saw me walking towards the snow, it didn't go to the bus stop. It stopped half a block away so I could get on early and get out of the snow.
- Kyleen Junier: I was driving home during the snowstorm and I saw a woman in the snow. I gave her a ride. I found out that she had been kicked out of her home the day before the snowstorm and needed a ride to her hotel. I was happy to help!
- Stephanie-Kate Bratton: I was walking my dogs with my husband during the snowstorm. We saw a car struggling to drive up a snowy street. My husband went back to get his towing equipment and we helped tow the car up the hill. We helped more cars after that as well.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER

9

Sequencing Puzzles

HOLIDAY HERO

Postal workers are the ones who deliver presents during the Christmas season. They deliver hundreds of packages each day in order to make Christmas a success. During the Christmas season of 2019, one postal worker's truck caught on fire while he was delivering gifts. The packages inside the truck were scattered all over the road.

The postal worker had to think quickly. He pulled to the side of the road and was able to put it out. So, in order to save the packages, he had to get out of the truck. He raced to rescue the packages.

Because of the postman's quick thinking, the packages were saved. The Osawatimie Volunteer Fire Department came to put the fire out. They did, they took pictures of the fire.

In a Twitter post with pictures, the postman said that he was glad that his Prime delivery may have just lost its Prime status. Word spread and everyone congratulated the postman for putting his own safety at risk so that everyone would still receive their gifts. The packages were delivered in time for Christmas.

HOLIDAY HERO PUZZLE MAT

Place the puzzle pieces in order here on the mat.

Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4
D. During Christmas in 2019, a postal worker's truck caught on fire.	A. Smoke started coming out of the truck.	F. He examined the fire and recognized he could not put it out.	
			
Event 5	Event 6	Event 7	Event 8
			

B. The Osawatimie Fire Department came to put the fire out.



E. All of the packages he saved were delivered to the customers.



G. The postal worker started removing all of the packages from his truck.



Hands-On Center:

Students put the puzzle pieces in chronological order.



HOLIDAY HERO SEQUENCING

First, read the passage. Then, put the events in order below from #1 to #8 by writing a number at the top of each box. Put a #1 in the box that comes first and a #8 in the box that comes last.

2 A. Smoke started coming out of the truck.	5 B. The Osawatimie Fire Department came to put the fire out.	6 C. Pictures were taken and put on Twitter of what happened.	1 D. During Christmas in 2019, a postal worker's truck caught on fire.
8 E. All of the packages he saved were delivered to the customers.	3 F. He examined the fire and recognized he could not put it out.	4 G. The postal worker started removing all of the packages from his truck.	7 H. The public found out what happened on social media and the story spread.

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER

10

True or False

COMMON CHRISTMAS MISHAPS

Christmas is full of fun, family, and decorations. But some decorations can be dangerous. People aren't careful. Between 2007 and 2016, a study found over 36,054 people were hurt by holiday decorations. Christmas trees alone cause many injuries each year. Around 23,000 people were hurt by trees and tree stands. They had cuts, falls, and back pain. Surprisingly, artificial (fake) trees caused more injuries than real ones.

Christmas lights can also be risky. They make houses look beautiful, but they come with dangers. The study found about 31,853 people in the US were injured by lights. Loose cords and broken wires can cause shocks, trips, and falls. Electrical lights cause more problems than any other type of decoration. In fact, 36,054 people were injured by electrical decorations. People should check wires aren't broken, avoid plugging too many things into an outlet, and make sure cords aren't left on the floor so no one trips.

Even visiting Santa has its risks! Many kids go to see Santa at the mall, but sometimes decorations around him can be dangerous. The study found that 277 children were hurt while visiting Santa. Some kids tripped, got caught on decorations, or even fell off Santa's lap. So, while decorating and visiting Santa are fun, it's always important to be safe!

 TRUE ✓

 FALSE ✗

S. People often overlook risks when putting up holiday decorations.



O. Only people setting up lights get injured from holiday decorations.



Q. Frayed wires on lights or cords can be a hazard.



T. Christmas tree stands can also cause injuries.



K. Every holiday injury involved lights or electrical decorations.



R. Visits to Santa were found to be completely safe with no reported injuries.



N. Christmas tree lights are the safest type of electrical decoration.



L. Decorations around Santa caused injuries for some children.



M. Some kids fell off Santa's lap and got injured.



COMMON CHRISTMAS MISHAPS: TRUE OR FALSE?

Put a T for true or an F for false in each box.

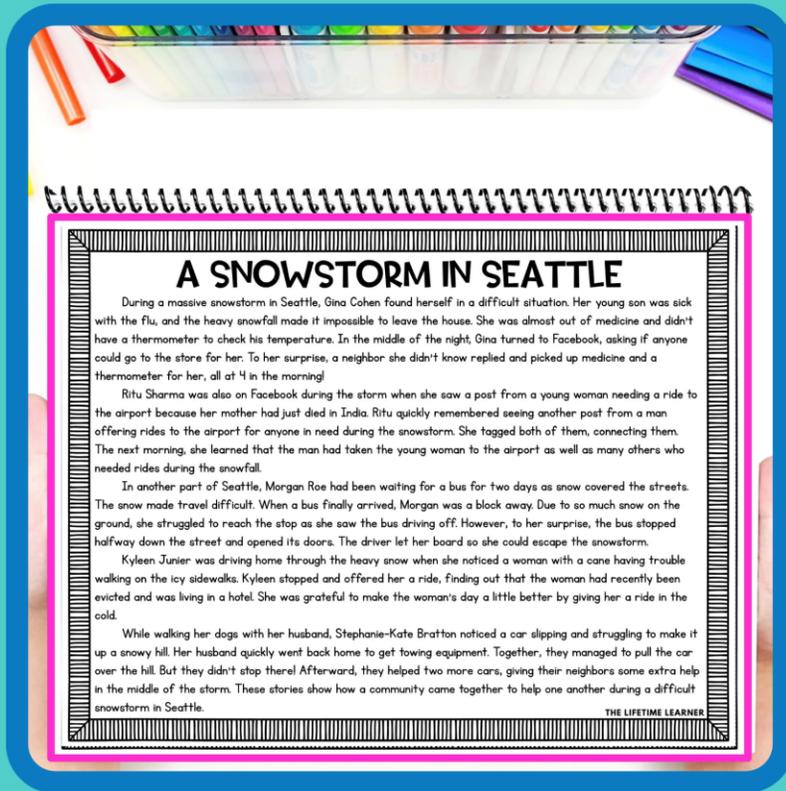
Every holiday injury involved lights or electrical decorations.	K 	Decorations around Santa caused injuries for some children.	L 
Some kids fell off Santa's lap and got injured.	M 	Christmas tree lights are the safest type of electrical decoration.	N 
Only people setting up lights get injured from holiday decorations.	O 	The study included injuries from real trees only, not artificial ones.	P 
Frayed wires on lights or cords can be a hazard.	Q 	Visits to Santa were found to be completely safe with no reported injuries.	R 
People often overlook risks when putting up holiday decorations.	S 	Christmas tree stands can also cause injuries.	T 

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

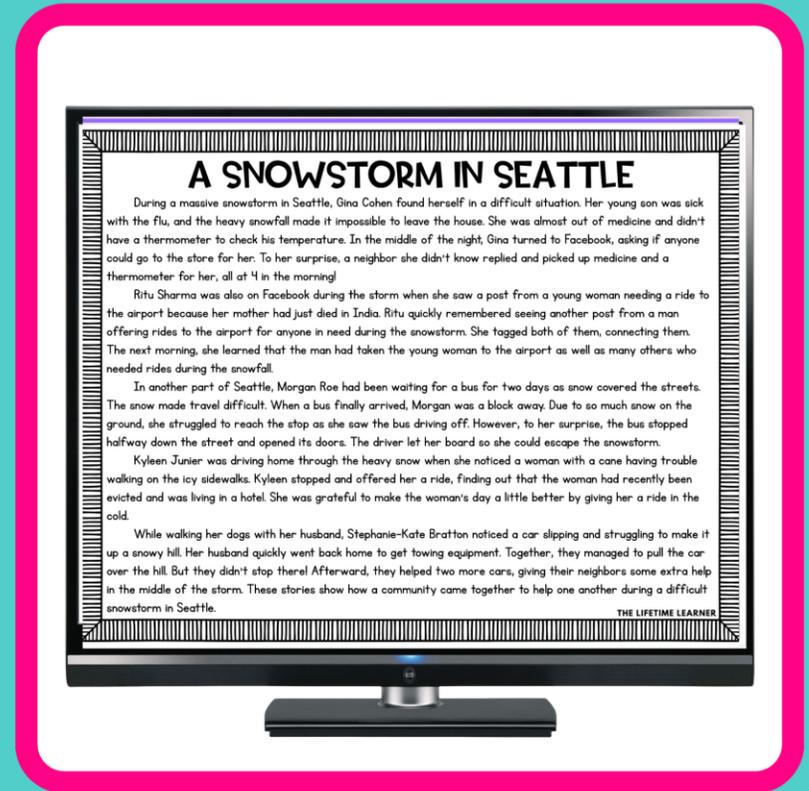
Students decide if each card is true or false.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

PRINT & DIGITAL



Print & Go



Google Slides

Choose the format
that works best for you!

HOW TO USE THIS:

Ideas for Implementation:

- pick and choose the centers you want to use: do what works best for your class!
- give less than 10 centers to students if you are short on time
- give students the whole day to complete all 10 centers/activities OR spread the room transformation out over a couple of days
- use the hands-on centers during your room transformation and the no-prep printables as a review during your reading block

HEARTWARMING STORIES

Throughout history, people have been surprised by acts of kindness during Christmas. These moments show the true meaning of giving. Some examples are shown right here!

In 1958, Glen Gillette was a high school teacher. For Christmas, she went to visit her parents. On the way, her car started to overheat because the radiator hose broke. She took it to a repair shop, but it needed a new part. When she came back with the part, the shop had closed. The owner stayed late to fix her car and refused to take any money from her.

In 1963, Sheila Deane's father told her family there wouldn't be any presents. Sheila's mother was in the hospital, and her father couldn't afford gifts. But on Christmas Eve, two ladies surprised the girls with treats and new coats. Their neighbor had told her church, and the church wanted to help. Sheila will never forget the kindness of her neighbor.

In 1954, Rafael Villalobos joined the army. He wanted to go home for Christmas, but he and his friend didn't have money for a bus. They tried to hitchhike over 1,000 miles but grew tired because it was hard to find a ride. A kind family picked them up and drove them the whole way. The family even paid for their meals. Rafael is still thankful for their generosity.

In 1935, during the Great Depression, Martin Klapper was 10 years old. His parents couldn't pay rent because they didn't have jobs. A mailman asked Martin's father what was wrong. Martin's father said he needed \$33 for rent. The mailman gave him \$50 and told him not to pay it back. Martin's father could pay rent and buy a Christmas gift for his kids.

#1 MAIN IDEA: Glen Gillette received unexpected help from a repairman during a car breakdown.

#2 MAIN IDEA: Sheila Deane and her sisters were surprised with gifts during a difficult Christmas.

#3 MAIN IDEA: Rafael Villalobos received a generous ride from a family while hitchhiking home for Christmas.

#4 MAIN IDEA: Martin Klapper's family was helped by a mailman during the Great Depression.

A. The family even paid for their meals during the trip.

B. Glen's car overheated due to a broken radiator hose.

C. Martin's parents didn't have jobs and couldn't pay rent.

D. They were offered a ride by a family who drove them the whole way.

E. Two women brought them treats and new coats on Christmas Eve.

F. The gifts were provided by a church, thanks to their kind neighbor.

What Skills are Included?

Nonfiction Skills:

- Main Idea
- Supporting Details
- Cause & Effect
- Sequence of Events
- Context Clues
- Compare & Contrast
- Text Structures
- Text Evidence
- Point of View
- Pages Reviewing Multiple Skills

HISTORY OF THE ROCKEFELLER CHRISTMAS TREE

The Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition started in New York City during the Great Depression. In 1931, a group of construction workers saved their money to buy a Christmas tree. They wanted to spread hope and joy to people struggling, and it worked. By 1933, the city had started a new tradition of lighting the tree for everyone to see. To

Name: _____

ROCKEFELLER MULTIPLE CHOICE

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| 1. What year did the Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition begin?
A) 1931
B) 1933
C) 1951 | 2. Why did the construction workers originally buy a Christmas tree in 1931?
A) To start a holiday tradition
B) To bring hope and joy during tough times
C) To sell it in New York City | 3. When did the city officially start the tradition of lighting the Rockefeller tree?
A) 1931
B) 1933
C) 1951 | 4. Which word could replace "broadcasting" in the sentence, "NBC started broadcasting the lighting of the tree"?
A) Recording
B) Showing
C) Teaching |
|---|--|--|---|

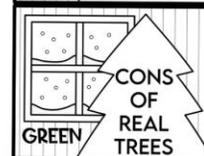
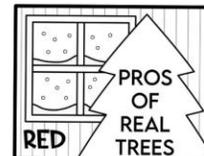
REAL OR FAKE TREES

Each Christmas, families face the decision of whether to get a real or artificial Christmas tree. Both options have their benefits and drawbacks. Ultimately, the choice depends on what suits your family best. Let's explore some of the reasons people might choose one over the other.

Many families choose a real Christmas tree because it's part of a holiday tradition. For them, going out to pick the perfect tree is a special experience that creates memories. In fact, studies show that families who buy real trees are more likely to start a yearly tradition around getting one. Another great reason to get a real tree is the

REAL OR FAKE TREES: PROS AND CONS

Color each box the same color as the category it falls into on the side.



A. Can be more expensive each year since a new tree is needed.	B. Drops needles, which can make a mess.	C. Doesn't have a fresh scent.	D. Doesn't drop needles, so there's less mess.
E. Not environmentally friendly.	F. Environmentally friendly.	G. Customizable in size, color, and shape.	H. Creates a special holiday tradition for families.
I. Unique, natural branches.	J. Doesn't create the same tradition as going out to pick a tree.	K. Has a fresh pine scent that fills the home.	L. May cause allergies in some people.

The no prep printable questions are 100% editable!

Name: _____

ROCKEFELLER MULTIPLE CHOICE



1. What year did the Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition begin? A) 1931 B) 1933 C) 1951 D) 2010	2. Why did the construction workers originally buy a Christmas tree in 1933? A) To start a holiday tradition B) To bring hope and joy during tough times C) To sell it in New York City D) To decorate their homes	3. When did the city officially start the tradition of lighting the Rockefeller tree? A) 1931 B) 1933 C) 1951 D) 2007	4. Which word could replace "broadcasting" in the sentence, "NBC started broadcasting the lighting of the tree"? A) Recording B) Showing C) Ignoring D) Celebrating
5. The passage says the tree has "almost five miles worth of LED Christmas lights." Which word is a synonym for "worth" in this sentence? A) Distance B) Height C) Need D) Amount	6. Since 2007, the tree has been donated to Habitat for Humanity. Which of the following words best describes Habitat for Humanity's purpose? A) Entertainment B) Construction C) Decoration D) Medicine	7. Which month does Erik Paauze usually decide on the Rockefeller tree for the year? A) October B) December C) September D) November	8. What happens to the tree after it's taken down from Rockefeller Plaza? A) It is stored until next year. B) It is burned for warmth. C) It is donated for homebuilding. D) It is sold to another city.
9. What is the main reason Erik Paauze looks for the "biggest and best" tree? A) To impress the mayor B) To create an impressive holiday display C) To use less LED lights D) To save money on decorations	10. Which summarizes how the tradition has changed? A) It started as a tree bought by workers and grew into an event shared worldwide. B) It began with a plant and now includes many decorations. C) It began as a gift from the government and now includes homebuilding projects. D) It started with one tree and now includes many.	11. Why might people think the Rockefeller tree is a "symbol of hope and joy" today? A) It is decorated with lights and ornaments. B) It costs a lot of money. C) It is cut down each year for people to see. D) It was started during hard times to bring happiness.	12. What is the purpose of moving the tree to New York City in October? A) To keep it safe from snow B) To get it ready for the lighting ceremony C) To make it grow bigger D) To add more branches

Write A, B, C, or D in each box. THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Name: _____

ROCKEFELLER MULTIPLE CHOICE



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edit any question!

Write A, B, C, or D in each box. THE LIFETIME LEARNER

10 Pre-Made
Centers
(Print & Go)

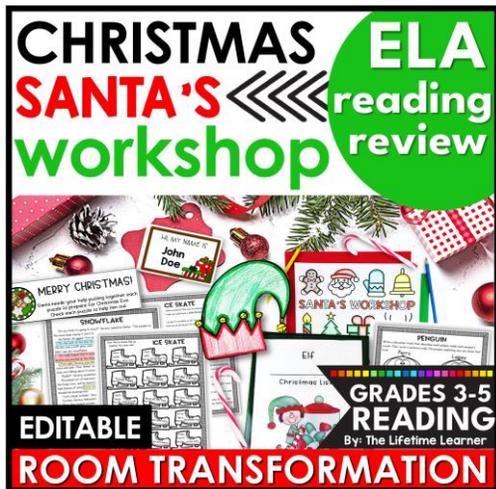
10 Pre-Made
Centers:
Editable Version

2 Versions Included

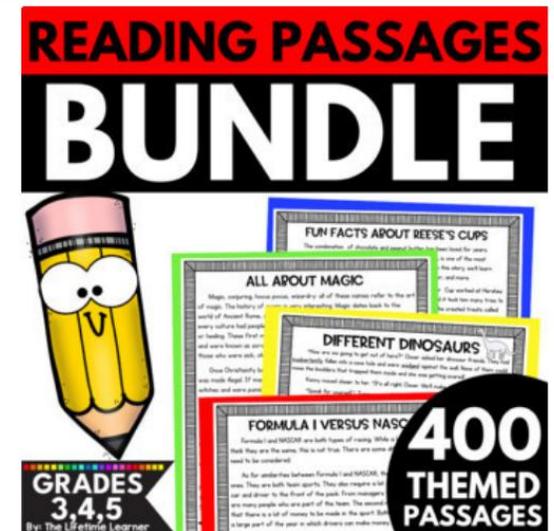
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Add On Pack Bundle!

classroom transformations

low prep, fun, and engaging!



1st grade math



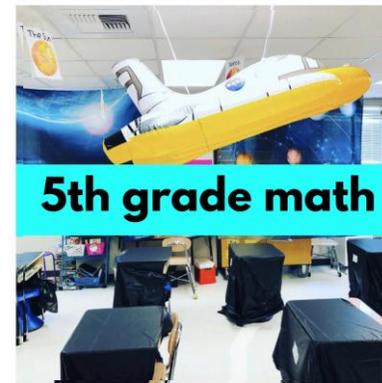
2nd grade math



3rd grade math



4th grade math



5th grade math



kindergarten math

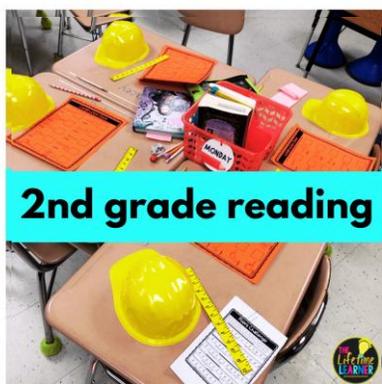
K-5 MATH & READING



kindergarten reading



1st grade reading



2nd grade reading



GR 3-5 reading comprehension



3-5 reading add-on packs



alphabet letters

Please Note:

- **This is not a stand-alone room transformation.**
- **There are no decorations included.**
- **There are 10 reading passages and activities provided.**
- **The questions are editable. The passages are not.**
- **The digital version is provided in Google Slides.**
- **This Add on Pack aligns with my math & reading classroom transformations.**
- **Let me know if you have ANY questions! You can email me at lindsaythelifetimelearner@gmail.com**