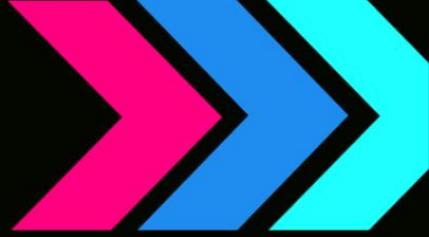


MAKE LEARNING FUN!



10 high-interest passages & activities themed to make learning engaging!

OLD FRIENDS ARE THE BEST FRIENDS
Sam the Lumberjack had a special hand saw. Together, they cut trees, built cabins, and tackled projects in the forest. After each outing, Sam carefully cleaned the saw and hung it on a special hook in the garage. The saw, in its own way, appreciated Sam's care.

MULTIPLE CHOICE
Name: _____

THE UNHELPFUL HAMMER
Roger was on a mission of destruction. One day, he spotted his dad's hammer lying on the ground. Having watched his dad hang pictures and tackle small chores around the house, Roger thought he knew exactly how to use it. First, he wandered to the garden and decided to hammer the tomato plants into the ground. But with each pound, the tomatoes squished into juice. Next, Roger headed to the

TRUE OR FALSE?
Put a T for true or an F for false in each box.

MALLET MANIA
Xavier was a perfectionist. And in his business, he had to be. Who else could take a raw piece of wood and turn it into a masterpiece? But it came at a price. Xavier was not very patient with people who wanted to draw his attention to something else. Xavier was using his chisel to create a mallard duck, when his friend Benedict came to the door.

MALLET MANIA: CHARACTER TRAITS
Each character needs 8 boxes colored in 4 character traits and 4 sentences proving evidence of the character traits.

RED Xavier	Dedicated He waits half an hour for his friend to acknowledge him. A. _____ B. _____	Persistent He refuses to take a break, even when it's clear he needs one. C. _____ D. _____
YELLOW Benedict	Perfectionist He leaves the sandwich and chips, showing care for his friend. E. _____ F. _____	Supportive He strives for excellence and works hard to turn wood into masterpieces. G. _____ H. _____
	Stubborn He snaps, using harsh tones and dismissive language. I. _____ J. _____	Encouraging He spends hours working on his craft, showing his strong commitment. K. _____ L. _____
	Patient He doesn't give up on his friend, staying even after being told to leave multiple times. M. _____ N. _____	Rude He is disappointed in him and was responsible for damage. O. _____ P. _____

You can use these passages:

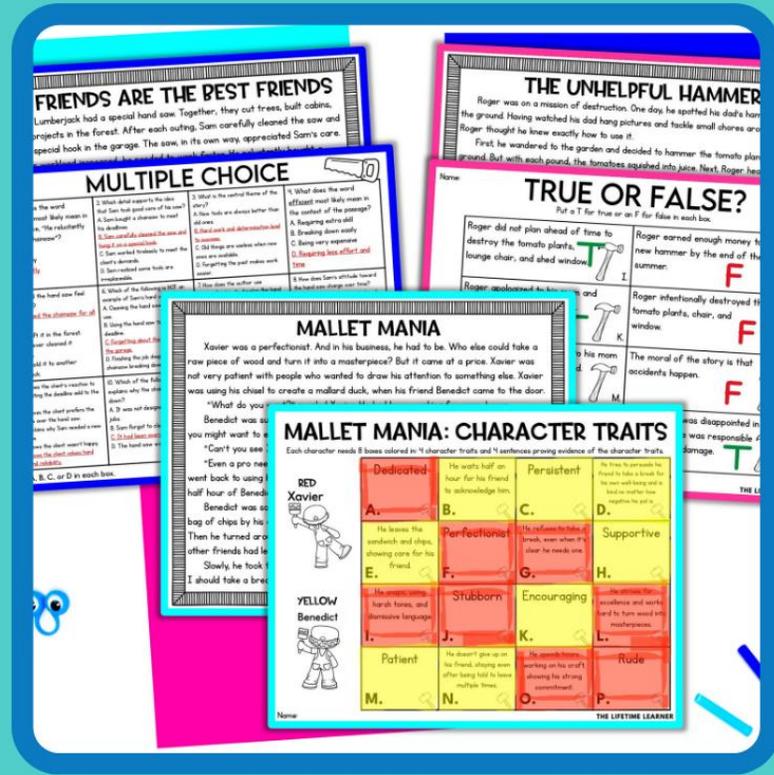
- for classroom transformations
- during your ELA block
- as partner/small group activities
- skill practice
- as assessments
- for test prep
- remediation
- enrichment
- themed days
- fast finisher activity
- and more!

WHAT'S AN ADD-ON PACK?

You can use this resource two ways:



Use the reading passages to supplement your Construction 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

TAPE MEASURE TRASH TALKING

Max loved to talk. His mouth was like a running faucet. Once it started, it just wouldn't stop. Along with his constant chatter, he had a habit of bragging. One sunny morning at work, Max was up to his usual tricks. He was boasting about his skills to his coworker, Jack. "I am the best carpenter in the world," he declared. The two spent the morning teasing each other as they worked on putting up drywall. "This wall is a beast," Jack said, wiping his brow. "It'll take all day to finish it." "I could finish it single-handedly," Max replied smugly, puffing up his chest. More. Max's pride swelled like a balloon ready to pop. Jack told him to stop. Max grabbed the tape measure and got to work. He marked the board, scratching the surface like a squeaky door. "This is as easy to cut as was said. He pounded like he was trying to hammer them to the center of the Earth. When he stepped back to admire his work, his confidence cracked like glass. Max's cheeks turned red, but he chuckled. "I guess so," he admitted. Jack grinned, handing Max another board. "Let's do this right. But we'll do it together this time."

CUT AND PASTE

Glue each definition where it belongs below.

Confidence cracked like glass	Easy to cut as warm butter	Put the cart before the horse	This wall is a beast
			Something hard to build.
Scratching the surface like a squeaky door	Mouth running like a faucet	Trying to hammer to the center of Earth	Pride swelled like a balloon
			
Someone feels very proud, almost too much.	Someone is hammering way too hard.	High-pitched and squeaky sound.	
Someone is doing things in the wrong order or too fast to work correctly.	Someone keeps talking without stopping.	Someone's confidence broke quickly and completely.	

No-Prep Printables

CUT AND PASTE

Glue each definition where it belongs below.

Confidence cracked like glass	Easy to cut as warm butter	Put the cart before the horse	This wall is a beast
Someone's confidence broke quickly and completely.	Something is so soft or simple to cut.	Someone is doing things in the wrong order or too fast to work correctly.	Something hard to build.
Scratching the surface like a squeaky door	Mouth running like a faucet	Trying to hammer to the center of Earth	Pride swelled like a balloon
High-pitched and squeaky sound.	Someone keeps talking without stopping.	Someone is hammering way too hard.	Someone feels very proud, almost too much.

With this version, students read the passage. Then, they complete a hands-on center 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

OLD FRIENDS ARE THE BEST FRIENDS

Sam the Lumberjack had a special hand saw. Together, they cut trees, built cabins, and tackled projects in the forest. After each outing, Sam carefully cleaned the saw and hung it on a special hook in the garage. The saw, in its own way, appreciated Sam's care.

As Sam's workload increased, he needed to work faster. He reluctantly bought a chainsaw. Sam knew it would be more efficient for big jobs and would require less work to meet his deadlines. From then on, the chainsaw became his go-to tool. Meanwhile, the hand saw hung unused in the garage, feeling forgotten.

One day, with an urgent deadline looming, disaster struck. The chainsaw broke down. Sam panicked. His client demanded the lumber by the next day, and there wasn't time to fix the chainsaw. Then, Sam remembered his old friend.

He rushed to the garage, grabbed the hand saw, and got to work. Even though it took some extra effort, Sam and his trusty saw finished the job on time. This impressed his client. The man ordered double the amount of lumber for the following month.

OLD FRIENDS ARE THE BEST FRIENDS

Sam the Lumberjack had a very special hand saw. Sam and his saw were inseparable, working together to cut trees, build log cabins, and tackle projects deep in the forest. After every outing, Sam meticulously cleaned the saw, rubbing away every bit of debris before hanging it on its special hook in the garage. The saw, in its own way, came to appreciate Sam's tender care.

As time passed, Sam's workload increased. He was busier than ever. The demand for his lumber made it hard to keep up. Eventually, Sam realized he needed more efficiency to handle all his orders. He knew his saw could not handle the amount of work he had to complete. Reluctantly, he bought a chainsaw. A chainsaw would allow him to do more work since it had more power and took less physical effort.

From that day forward, the chainsaw became his go-to tool. He brought it along on every job. Meanwhile, the hand saw hung quietly in the garage, unused and forgotten. The hand saw felt a pang of sadness as it watched Sam and the chainsaw tackle the forest together.

But one day, disaster struck. With an important deadline looming, the chainsaw suddenly broke down. Sam was frantic and didn't know what to do. Sam's client demanded the lumber by the next day, and he couldn't repair the chainsaw in time.

Sam remembered his old friend, the hand saw. He rushed to the garage and grabbed the hand saw. He was determined to get the job finished for his client. With sweat on his brow and his trusty saw in hand, Sam worked tirelessly. Together, they cut enough lumber to meet the deadline, impressing his client. His client put in an order for double the amount of lumber for the following month.

As he finished the last plank of wood, Sam smiled. He realized his old saw had never let him down. While the chainsaw might be necessary for busier days, he would never forget the reliability and history he shared with his hand saw. From that day on, Sam made sure the hand saw was used in the forest again whenever possible. Some tools, he thought, are too special to leave behind.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

THE HELPFUL DRILL

Mark and Mandy had just moved into their first home together.

"This is heaven!" Mandy exclaimed, spinning around the living room.

"I am as happy as a pig in mud," Mark said with a hearty laugh.

The day was filled with unpacking boxes and arranging furniture. By the time evening rolled around, they were exhausted. Mark and Mandy were ready to call it a night.

But Mandy paused on the stairs. She looked at the largest wall in the living room.

"Wait," she said. "We're missing something. This wall looks like an empty street."

Mark stopped and nodded. "You're right. It's a blank white canvas."

"Let's hang up our pictures," Mandy said, her face lighting up with excitement.

Mark yawned and stretched. "Can't we do it tomorrow? I'm beat."

"It will be a piece of cake," Mandy insisted. "Let's give it a shot."

Reluctantly, Mark agreed. After rummaging through moving boxes, they unearthed the toolbox. Mandy grabbed the electric drill and created the holes. Mark nailed in each

THE HELPFUL DRILL

Mark and Mandy had just moved into their first home together, brimming with excitement at having a place to call their own. They loved living by themselves.

"This is heaven!" Mandy exclaimed, spinning around the living room.

"I am as happy as a pig in mud," Mark said with a hearty laugh.

The day was filled with unpacking boxes, arranging furniture, and transforming the empty house into their cozy haven. By the time evening rolled around, they were utterly exhausted. Both Mark and Mandy were ready to call it a night.

As Mark headed toward the bedroom, Mandy paused. She looked at the largest wall in the living room.

"Wait," she said. "We're missing something here. This wall looks like an empty street."

Mark stopped and nodded. "You're right. It's a blank white canvas."

"Let's hang up our pictures," Mandy said, her face lighting up with excitement.

Mark yawned and stretched. "Can't we do it tomorrow? I'm beat."

"It will be a piece of cake," Mandy insisted. "Let's give it a shot."

Differentiate and give your students the version best for them!

CENTER 1

Multiple Choice

BEST FRIENDS ARE THE BEST FRIENDS
 Lumberjack had a special hand saw. Together, they cut trees, built cabins, and completed projects in the forest. After each outing, Sam carefully cleaned the saw and hung it on a special hook in the garage. The saw, in its own way, appreciated Sam's care. As Sam's workload increased, he needed to work faster. He reluctantly bought a chainsaw. Sam knew it would be more efficient for big jobs and would require less work to meet his deadlines. From then on, the chainsaw became his go-to tool. Meanwhile, the hand saw hung unused in the garage, feeling forgotten.

Name: _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

1. What does the word **reluctantly** most likely mean in the sentence, "He reluctantly bought a chainsaw"?

A. Happily
 B. Carefully
 C. Hesitantly
 D. Quickly



2. Which detail best supports the idea that Sam took good care of his hand saw?

A. Sam bought a chainsaw to meet his deadlines.
 B. Sam carefully cleaned the saw and hung it on a special hook.
 C. Sam worked tirelessly to meet the client's demands.
 D. Sam realized some tools are irreplaceable.



Hands-On Center:

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

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Name: _____

1. What does the word reluctantly most likely mean in the sentence, "He reluctantly bought a chainsaw"?	2. Which detail supports the idea that Sam took good care of his hand saw?	3. What is the central theme of the story?	4. What does the word efficient most likely mean in the context of the passage?
A. Happily B. Carefully C. Hesitantly D. Quickly	A. Sam bought a chainsaw to meet his deadlines. B. Sam carefully cleaned the saw and hung it on a special hook. C. Sam worked tirelessly to meet the client's demands. D. Sam realized some tools are irreplaceable.	A. New tools are always better than old ones. B. Old tools are useless when new ones are available. C. Old things are useless when new ones are available. D. Forgetting the past makes work easier.	A. Requiring extra skill B. Breaking down easily C. Being very expensive D. Requiring less effort and time
5. Why did the hand saw feel forgotten?	6. Which of the following is NOT an example of Sam's hard work?	7. How does the author use personification to describe the hand saw's role in the story?	8. How does Sam's attitude toward the hand saw change over time?
A. Sam used the chainsaw for all his jobs. B. Sam left it in the forest. C. Sam never cleaned it anymore. D. Sam sold it to another lumberjack.	A. Cleaning the hand saw after each use. B. Using the hand saw to meet a tight deadline. C. Forgetting about the hand saw in the garage. D. Finding the job despite the chainsaw breaking down.	A. He talks it from the start and never changes his mind. B. He forgets about it but later appreciates its reliability. C. He loves it at first but decides it is useless. D. He thinks it's too old and never uses it again.	A. He dislikes it from the start and never changes his mind. B. He forgets about it but later appreciates its reliability. C. He loves it at first but decides it is useless. D. He thinks it's too old and never uses it again.
9. How does the client's reaction to Sam meeting the deadline add to the story?	10. Which of the following best explains why the chainsaw broke down?	11. Which character trait best describes Sam based on his actions in the story?	12. Why does the author compare the hand saw to "a friend"?
A. It shows the client prefers the chainsaw over the hand saw. B. It explains why Sam needed a new chainsaw. C. It shows the client values hard work and reliability. D. It shows the client values hard work and reliability.	A. It was not designed for tough jobs. B. Sam forgot to clean it. C. It had been overused. D. The hand saw was more reliable.	A. Careless B. Loyal C. Lazy D. Forgetful	A. To suggest that tools can work without human help. B. To explain why the chainsaw was better. C. To highlight the saw's age and appearance. D. To show that Sam treated it with care and valued it.

Write A, B, C, or D in each box.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 2

Sorting Game

THE HELPFUL DRILL
 Mandy had just moved into their first home together. "Wow!" Mandy exclaimed, spinning around the living room. "I am as happy as a pig in mud!" Mark said with a hearty laugh. The day was filled with unpacking boxes and arranging furniture. By the time evening rolled around, they were exhausted. Mark and Mandy were **ready to call it a night**. But Mandy paused on the stairs. She looked at the largest wall in the living room. "What?" she said. "We're missing something. This wall looks like an empty street." Mark stepped and nodded. "You're right! It's a blank white canvas!" "Let's hang up our pictures," Mandy said, her face lighting up with excitement. Mark yawned and stretched. "Can't we do it tomorrow? I'm beat." "It will be a piece of cake," Mandy insisted. "Let's give it a shot." Reluctantly, Mark agreed. After rummaging through moving boxes, they unearthed the toolbox. Mandy grabbed the electric drill and created the holes. Mark nailed in each picture. As he stepped back to admire his work, Mandy **burst out crying like a fountain**. "It's perfect!" she said. "This is a gold medal victory! I love our new house." Mark smiled, wrapping an arm around her. "We did it. Together." They went to bed, knowing their house wasn't just a place anymore. It was their home.

SIMILES	B. "Mandy burst out crying like a fountain."
METAPHORS	A. "This is heaven."
IDIOMS	E. "It will be a piece of cake."

C. "This is a gold medal victory"	H. "This wall looks like an empty street."
-----------------------------------	--

Hands-On Center:

Students sort each card onto the correct mat.

THE HELPFUL DRILL SORT
 Color each box the same color as the figurative language type it goes with.

RED SIMILES	A. "This is heaven."	B. "Mandy burst out crying like a fountain."	C. "This is a gold medal victory"
YELLOW METAPHORS	D. "I am as happy as a pig in mud."	E. "It will be a piece of cake."	F. "Let's give it a shot."
ORANGE IDIOMS	G. "They were ready to call it a night."	H. "This wall looks like an empty street."	I. "It's a blank white canvas."

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER

3

Compare & Contrast

NOT AS EASY AS IT LOOKS

Greg was excited to work on the set for *The Wizard of Oz* to build Dorothy's house. I cannot wait!" Katie said. She had worked on and felt comfortable with power tools. But they weren't going to use today. They would only be using hammers and nails. When Greg came in biting his nails because of nerves. This was the first time Katie had a hammer and nails ready at her side. "Help show you." Katie said. "You hold the nail like this and tap lightly to feel her carefully so he could imitate what she did. When Katie tapped gently into the wood. Then, she was able to pound it flat against the wood as fully inside and could no longer be seen. "Greg thought. But when he tried it himself, he realized it was hard. It was coming out of his hands. When he did tap it, the nail bent. "Hold it with your other hand, so it doesn't move around," Katie said. "Follow Katie's instructions. Unfortunately, his finger was caught just as the nail Greg ended up scratching himself with a nail by mistake. "It hurt so much out in pain. It was a common newbie mistake, but it still had hurt. The doctor got Greg a tetanus shot. Katie took Greg over to the med center. "You should do the nailing," Greg joked as the doctor gave him a shot.

GREG	KATIE	BOTH
Was new at working with tools A.	Felt comfortable using tools C.	Willing to work together B.
Took on more of a learning role F.		Excited to work on the set for <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> E.

Hands-On Center:

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

NOT AS EASY AS IT LOOKS

Read each letter and decide where it belongs. Write each letter where it belongs in the diagram.

KATIE	BOTH	GREG
C J L D	E I P H	A G F K

Was new at working with tools A.	Willing to work together B.	Felt comfortable using tools C.	Was encouraging and kind to their friend D.
Excited to work on the set for <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> E.	Took on more of a learning role F.	Bent the nail G.	Shared a positive attitude H.
Went to the med center I.	Took on more of a teacher role J.	Had a good sense of humor throughout the story K.	Successfully hammered nails into the wood L.

Name: _____

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER

4

Word Search

WRENCH TO THE RESCUE

It was a normal day. But when she stepped into the kitchen, she saw cascading water from the sink, flooding the floor. She got closer, drenching her pants. She saw the broken pipe under the sink. Her attempts to stop it failed. After a long delay, Maria called a plumber, who arrived promptly with his tool bag. "Good morning, ma'am. What seems to be the problem?" he asked. Maria gestured to the sink. "I don't worry," he assured her. The plumber crouched under the sink. "There's a fissure in the pipe. How long will it take? I can't be sure. This won't take long," he replied. "I'll try to replace the pipe efficiently." When she returned, he held up a pipe. "This can cause so much trouble," she replied.

WORD SEARCH

A W G E S T U R E F F Z
 D R E N C H O R T I X N
 I A V T M P F R X P S R
 A E F F I C I E N T B W
 G Y R J V B S Z K U H B
 N J A J R G S Q F M I W
 O L G D F P U J C Y V L
 S V R D T P R V N L K A
 E W O G N J E C Q L E Y
 I M P E R F E C T I O N
 X G E A S S U R E F E V
 C A S C A D E W X U X I

WORD BANK

EFFICIENT	FISSURE
CASCADING	DIAGNOSED
GESTURED	DRENCHING
ASSURED	IMPERFECTION

- When something flows down in large amounts.
- A small mistake or flaw that makes something not perfect.
- Figuring out what is wrong with something.
- Doing something quickly and well without wasting time or energy.

Hands-On Center:

Students find each word in the word search.

WRENCH TO THE RESCUE: WORD SEARCH

1. When something flows down in large amounts. cascading	2. A small mistake or flaw that makes something not perfect. imperfection	3. Figuring out what is wrong with something. diagnosed	4. Doing something quickly and well without wasting time or energy. efficient
5. A small crack or split in something. fissure	6. Soaking something completely with water. drenching	7. Comforting someone by saying everything will be okay. assured	8. When you make a movement with your hands or body to show something. gestured

Write the answer in each box. Then, go find it in the word search.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 5

Sorting Game

MALLET MANIA

Xavier is a perfectionist. And in his business, he had to be. Who else could take a piece of wood and turn it into a masterpiece? But it came at a price. Xavier was not very patient with people who wanted to draw his attention to something else. Xavier was using his chisel to create a mallet head, when his friend Benedict came to the door. "What do you want?" asked Xavier. He had been working for many hours. Benedict was surprised by the harsh tone of his voice but dismissed it. "I thought you might want to eat lunch with me. You've been working hard. Let's take a break!" "Can't you see I'm busy?" Xavier frowned. "Even a pro needs to stop for nourishment!" Benedict replied encouragingly. Xavier went back to using his rubber mallet to strike the chisel. He didn't answer. After another half hour of Benedict waiting around, Xavier was frustrated. "I said to leave." Benedict was saddened how Xavier was treating him, but he placed a sandwich and bag of chips by his artist friend. "Friends are supposed to be there for each other." Then he turned around to leave. Shunned, Xavier stopped working on the duck. All his other friends had left when he was rude to them. But not Benedict. Slowly he took the sandwich and stopped his friend. "Hey, wait! Thanks. You're right I should take a break, and maybe I should also be a better friend."

Place 4 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these eight boxes.

Trait	Dedicated	Trait	Trait
Trait	A.	Trait	Trait
Proof	O.	Proof	Proof

Xavier

Place 4 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these eight boxes.

Trait	Trait	Patient	Trait
Trait	Trait	C.	Trait
Proof	Proof	N.	Proof

Benedict

He waits half an hour for his friend to acknowledge him.

B.

He tries to persuade his friend to take a break for his own well-being and in kind no matter how negative he put it.

D.

He leaves the sandwich and chips, showing care for his friend.

E.

Perfectionist

F.

He refuses to take a break, even when it's clear he needs one.

G.

Supportive

H.

Hands-On Center:

Students sort each card onto the correct mat.

MALLET MANIA: CHARACTER TRAITS

Each character needs 8 boxes colored in 4 character traits and 4 sentences proving evidence of the character traits.

RED Xavier	Dedicated	Persistent	YELLOW Benedict	
	A.	B.		C.
	E.	F.		G.
	I.	J.		K.
M.	N.	O.	P.	

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 6

Color by Code

What did Mikey's mom say when she saw him walk into the house?

1. Color the answer red.

BROKEN BIKE

MIKEY happily rode his bike on a sunny day, heading toward his favorite spot: **Heartbreak Hill**. Known for its crashes, **side loved zooming down with their hands in the air**. Mikey was no exception, thinking he was a pro. As he flew downhill, hands raised, disaster struck. **He lost control, sending his bike one way and himself the other**. Scratched but okay, Mikey picked himself up and inspected his twisted bike. **Breaching the trouble he'd be in, he hobbled home**. Walking into the house, Mikey met his mom, who looked up in alarm. **What happened?** she asked. **How would Heartbreak Hill Mikey respond?** "I'm sorry I ruined everything. You should see my bike." Just then, his dad walked in, having seen the bike in the driveway. His concern turned to relief when he realized Mikey was okay. **I ruined my bike!** Mikey said tearfully. "Nonsense," his dad replied. **All we need is a little time and some pliers!** After washing up, Mikey joined his dad in the garage to bend the chain back in place. Then, the bike was as good as new. **Where are you going?** his dad chuckled. "Heartbreak Hill. **This time with my hands down!**" Mikey grinned as he rode off.

What did Mikey's dad ask him as he was leaving?

2. Color the answer light blue.

Where was Mikey heading on his bike?

4. Color the answer yellow.

Hands-On Center:

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

BROKEN BIKE

MIKEY happily rode his bike on a sunny day, heading toward his favorite spot: **Heartbreak Hill**. Known for its crashes, **side loved zooming down with their hands in the air**. Mikey was no exception, thinking he was a pro. As he flew downhill, hands raised, disaster struck. **He lost control, sending his bike one way and himself the other**. Scratched but okay, Mikey picked himself up and inspected his twisted bike. **Breaching the trouble he'd be in, he hobbled home**. Walking into the house, Mikey met his mom, who looked up in alarm. **What happened?** she asked. **How would Heartbreak Hill Mikey respond?** "I'm sorry I ruined everything. You should see my bike." Just then, his dad walked in, having seen the bike in the driveway. His concern turned to relief when he realized Mikey was okay. **I ruined my bike!** Mikey said tearfully. "Nonsense," his dad replied. **All we need is a little time and some pliers!** After washing up, Mikey joined his dad in the garage to bend the chain back in place. Then, the bike was as good as new. **Where are you going?** his dad chuckled. "Heartbreak Hill. **This time with my hands down!**" Mikey grinned as he rode off.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 7

Cut and Paste

MEASURE TRASH TALKING

Max's mouth was like a running faucet. Once it started, it just wouldn't stop. With his constant chatter, he had a habit of brogging. One morning at work, Max was up to his usual tricks. He was boasting about his coworker, Jack. "I am the best carpenter in the world," he declared. The two spent the morning teasing each other as they worked on putting up drywall. "This wall is a beast," Jack said, wiping his brow. "It'll take all day to build." "I could finish it single-handedly," Max replied smugly, puffing up his chest. More Max's pride swelled like a balloon ready to pop. Jack told him to stop. Max grabbed the tape measure and got to work. He marked the board, scratching the surface like a squeaky door. "This is as easy to cut as water." He pounded like he was trying to hammer them to the center of the Earth. When he stepped back to admire his work, his confidence cracked like glass. "The drywall was too short. Jack burst into laughter. "Looks like someone before the horse! You can't build a wall by yourself. It's impossible!" Max's cheeks turned red, but he chuckled. "I guess so," he admitted. Jack grinned, handing Max another board. "Let's do this right. But we'll do it together this time."

CUT AND PASTE

Glue each definition where it belongs below.

Confidence cracked like glass	Easy to cut as water butter	Put the cart before the horse	This wall is a beast
Someone's confidence broke quickly and completely	Something hard to build	Someone is doing things in the wrong order or too fast to work correctly	Something hard to build
Scratching the surface like a squeaky door	Mouth running like a faucet	Trying to hammer to the center of Earth	Pride swelled like a balloon
High-pitched and squeaky sound	Someone keeps talking without stopping	Someone is hammering way too hard	Someone feels very proud, almost too much
Someone is doing things in the wrong order or too fast to work correctly	Someone keeps talking without stopping	Someone's confidence broke quickly and completely	

Hands-On Center:

Cut and paste each box where it belongs.



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

CENTER 8

Write a Sentence

What character trait best describes Adrian? Explain in a sentence using text evidence from the story below.

Adrian patiently encourages Paul when he's nervous, reassuring him to stay calm and focus on the reward.

Write the answer on the blank lines.

2. What character trait best describes Laura? Explain in a sentence using text evidence from the story below.

Laura silently supports Candice's rude comment about inexperienced bakers with a smug nod. This shows she is unkind or mean spirited.

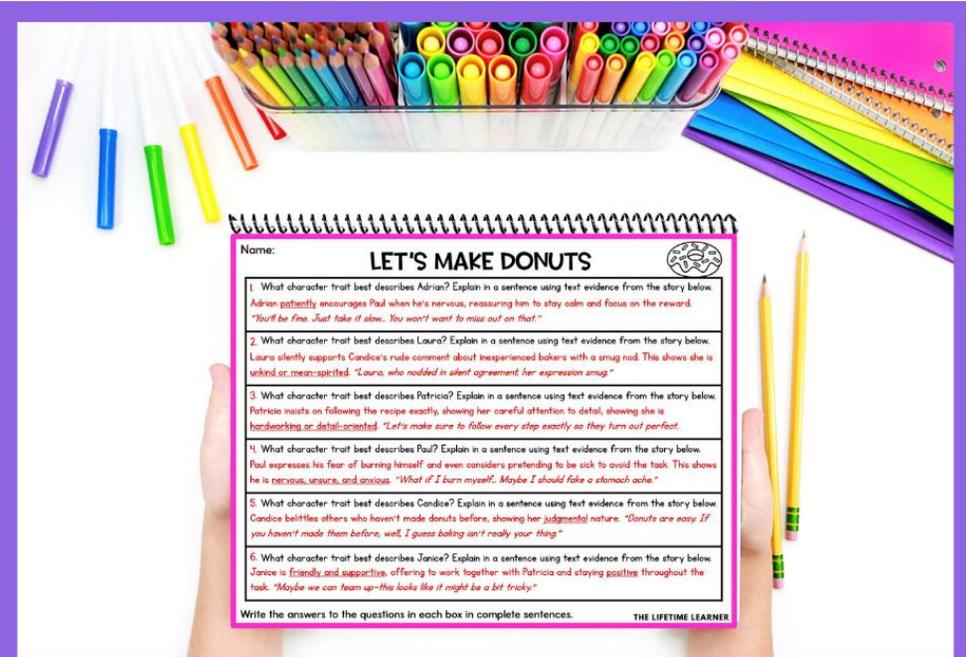
Write the answer on the blank lines.

LET'S MAKE DONUTS

One day afternoon in home economics class, and today was baking day. The class learned how to make donuts. Most students were enthusiastic. Candice made sure to follow every step exactly so they turn out perfect. Her instructions were clear; she wasn't going to let anything go wrong. "Keep working forward to it!" Janice added with her usual cheerful grin. "And I mean team up! Maybe we can team up...this looks like it might be a bit tricky," said Patricia, always quick to make things easier for others. "I guess baking isn't really your thing." "Donuts are easy. If you agree, her expression smug. Janice chose to ignore it. Paul was fidgeting as he nervously eyed the fryer. "What if I burn them? Maybe I should eat this one out," he muttered, worried. "You'll be fine," he reassured him. "Just take it slow. The donuts will taste afterward you won't want to miss out on." Patricia seemed to ease Paul's anxiety, even if just a little. The class worked, following the instructions. Despite a few hiccups, every student managed to finish.

Hands-On Center:

Students write the answer to each prompt on the lines.



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CENTER

9

Sequencing Puzzles

GRANDFATHER'S AXE

Martin was waiting for this as long as he could remember. His grandpa's axe had been in the garage for years as a symbol of strength and skill. Every time he asked to use it, his mother reminded him, "Not until you're 12." Today, the wait was finally over.

"Mom!" Martin called, bounding down the stairs. "I want to use the axe!"

His mom didn't need to ask what he was talking about. There was something special about the axe. "Alright, let's go get it," she said. "I will!" Martin assured her, his eyes wide with excitement.

Together, they went to the garage. The tree was waiting for the first time. It felt important. In the backyard, they approached the tree. The tree was misplaced thanks to so many years of use. It was the perfect chance for Martin and his mom to watch closely. "I think you should plant your feet, grip with the tree. It took five swings before you were able to cut it down." "You know what? Your grandpa was right. Thanks, Mom," Martin said, his eyes shining.

AXE PUZZLE MAT

Place the puzzle pieces in order here on the mat.

Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4
E. Martin had been waiting to use his grandpa's axe for years, but his mom always told him he had to wait until he was 12.	C. On his 12th birthday, Martin excitedly called out to his mom, "I'm ready!"	H. Martin and his mom went to the garage to get the axe.	

A. Martin swung the axe at the sapling. After five solid swings, the tree finally fell.

B. His mom demonstrated how to hold the axe properly.

F. Martin lifted the axe from its hooks, feeling its weight for the first time.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Hands-On Center:

Students put the puzzle pieces in chronological order.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

First, read the story. 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.

7 A. Martin swung the axe at the sapling. After five solid swings, the tree finally fell.	6 B. His mom demonstrated how to hold the axe properly.	2 C. On his 12th birthday, Martin excitedly called out to his mom, "I'm ready!"	5 D. In the backyard, they approached a sapling in the middle of the garden.
1 E. Martin had been waiting to use his grandpa's axe for years, but his mom always told him he had to wait until he was 12.	4 F. Martin lifted the axe from its hooks, feeling its weight for the first time.	8 G. His mom warmly told him, "Your grandpa would've been proud of you," and Martin was proud.	3 H. Martin and his mom went to the garage to get the axe.

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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10

True or False

UNHELPFUL HAMMER

Roger was in a mood. He was in a mood because he had just finished a mission of destruction. One day, he spotted his dad's hammer lying on the floor. He picked it up and watched his dad hang pictures and tackle small chores around the house. He knew exactly how to use it.

He wandered to the garden and decided to hammer the tomato plants into the ground. But with each pound, the tomatoes squished into juice. Next, Roger headed to the deck, where he thought he might hammer the lounge chair into place. Instead, the chair splintered. Finally, he went to the shed and swung the hammer at the glass window. It shattered into a million tiny pieces.

"ROGER!" his mom shouted, running outside. Roger hid the hammer in the bushes and shuffled over to his mom. "Young man, what were you thinking?" she asked. "I... I don't know," Roger mumbled, his face red with guilt.

Together, they walked around the yard. His mom took a moment to survey the trail of destruction. With each broken item, his mom's frown grew bigger and bigger. "Roger, you are responsible for cleaning this all up. I'm very disappointed." "I'm sorry, Mom," Roger said earnestly. "I'll fix it. I promise."

He worked all summer long. He replanted the tomatoes, glued the chair together, and worked on other chores to make money so the shed's window could be replaced. By the end, Roger thought, "I will never destroy anything again!"

TRUE ✓ **FALSE** ✗

Roger worked all summer to make amends for the damage he caused. **C.**

Roger's mom immediately forgave him and paid someone to fix his mistake by herself. **A.**

The central message of the story is about taking responsibility for one's actions and learning from mistakes. **T.**

Roger's mom fixed all the damage herself while Roger watched. **B.**

Roger thought his actions were funny and showed no remorse for what he had done. **E.**

Roger felt guilty after his mom confronted him about the destruction. **F.**

The story teaches that it's okay to use tools without knowing how to properly handle them. **G.**

By the end of the story, Roger realized the consequences of his actions and vowed never to destroy anything again. **H.**

Hands-On Center:

Students decide if each card is true or false.

TRUE OR FALSE?

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

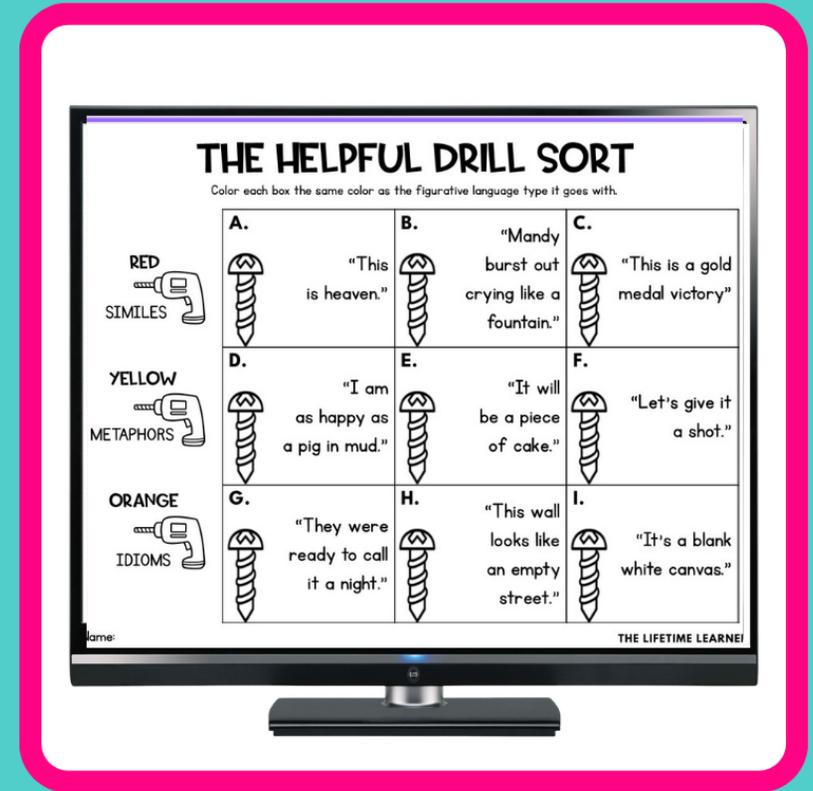
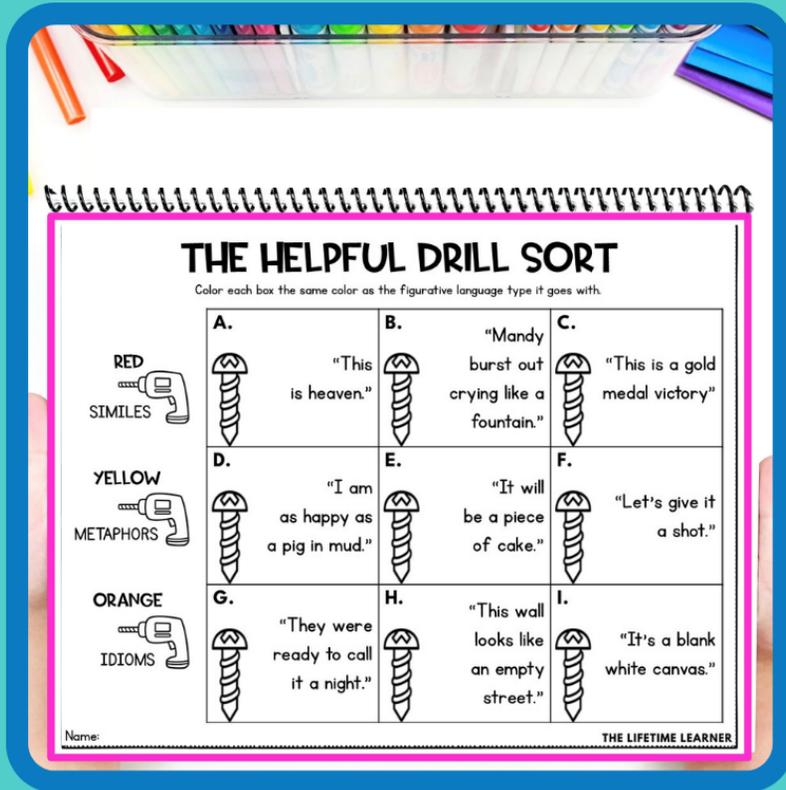
Roger's mom immediately forgave him and paid someone to fix his mistake by herself. F	Roger's mom fixed all the damage herself while Roger watched. F
Roger worked all summer to make amends for the damage he caused. T	The central message of the story is about taking responsibility for one's actions and learning from mistakes. T
Roger thought his actions were funny and showed no remorse for what he had done. F	Roger felt guilty after his mom confronted him about the destruction. T
The story teaches that it's okay to use tools without knowing how to properly handle them. F	By the end of the story, Roger realized the consequences of his actions and vowed never to destroy anything again. T

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

PRINT & DIGITAL



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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

MALLET MANIA

Xavier was a perfectionist. And in his business, he had to be. Who else could take a raw piece of wood and turn it into a masterpiece? But it came at a price. Xavier was not very patient with people who wanted to draw his attention to something else. Xavier was using his chisel to create a mallard duck, when his friend Benedict came to the door. "What do you want?" snarled Xavier. He had been working for many hours. Benedict was surprised by the harsh tone of his voice but dismissed it. "I thought you might want to eat lunch with me. You've been working hard. Let's take a break!" "Can't you see I'm busy?" Xavier frowned.

"Even a pro needs to stop for nourishment," Benedict replied encouragingly. Xavier went back to using his rubber mallet to strike the chisel. He didn't answer. After another half hour of Benedict waiting around, Xavier was frustrated. "I said to leave."

Benedict was saddened how Xavier was treating him, but he placed a sandwich and bag of chips by his artist friend. "Friends are supposed to be there for each other." Then he turned around to leave. Stunned, Xavier stopped working on the duck. All his other friends had left when he was rude to them. But not Benedict.

Slowly, he took the sandwich and stopped his friend. "Hey, wait! Thanks. You're right. I should take a break, and maybe I should also be a better friend."

Character Analysis Grids:

Xavier: Place 4 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these eight boxes.

Trait	Dedicated A.	Trait	Trait
Proof	He spends hours working on his craft, showing his strong commitment. O.	Proof	Proof

Benedict: Place 4 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these eight boxes.

Trait	Trait	Persistent C.	Trait
Proof	Proof	He doesn't give up on his friend, staying even after being told to leave multiple times. N.	Proof

Character Trait Cards:

- B.** He waits half an hour for his friend to acknowledge him.
- D.** He tries to persuade his friend to take a break for his own well-being and is kind no matter how negative his pal is.
- E.** He leaves the sandwich and chips, showing care for his friend.
- F.** Perfectionist
- G.** He refuses to take a break, even when it's clear he needs one.
- H.** Supportive

What Skills are Included?

Fiction Skills:

- Character Traits
- Figurative Language
- Compare & Contrast
- Moral/Lesson
- Context Clues
- Text Evidence
- Idioms
- Pages Reviewing Multiple Skills

THE HELPFUL DRILL

Mark and Mandy had just moved into their first home together.

"This is heaven!" Mandy exclaimed, spinning around the living room.

"I am as happy as a pig in mud," Mark said with a hearty laugh.

The day was filled with unpacking boxes and arranging furniture. By the time evening

THE HELPFUL DRILL SORT

Color each box the same color as the figurative language type it goes with.

A.	B.	C.
RED 	"This 	"Mandy burst out  "This is a gold

MALLET MANIA

Xavier was a perfectionist. And in his business, he had to be. Who else could take a raw piece of wood and turn it into a masterpiece? But it came at a price. Xavier was not very patient with people who wanted to draw his attention to something else. Xavier was using his chisel to create a mallard duck, when his friend Benedict came to the door.

MALLET MANIA: CHARACTER TRAITS

Each character needs 8 boxes colored in: 4 character traits and 4 sentences proving evidence of the character traits.

RED
Xavier

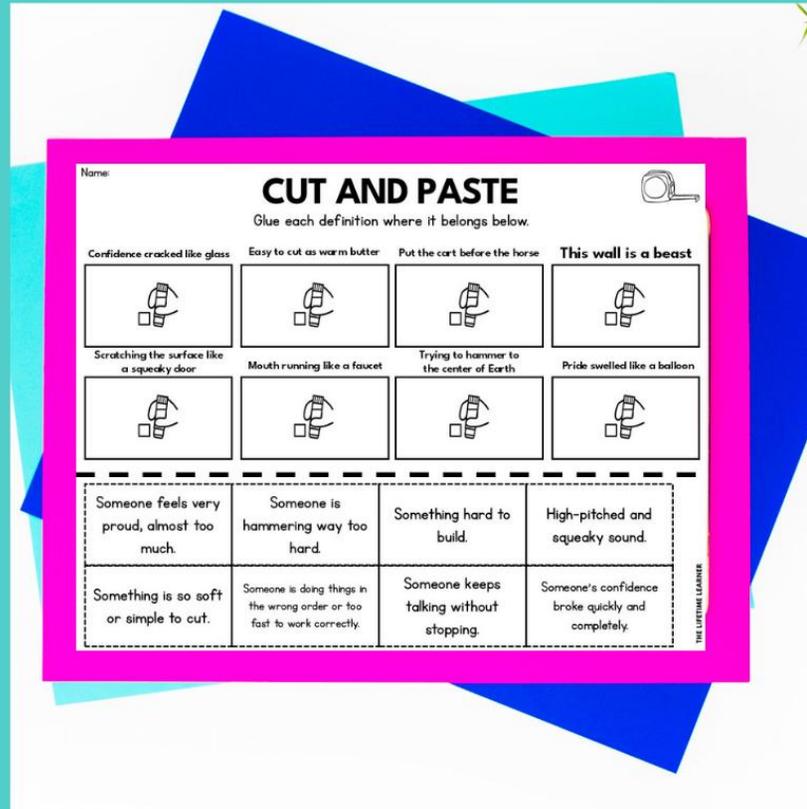


YELLOW
Benedict

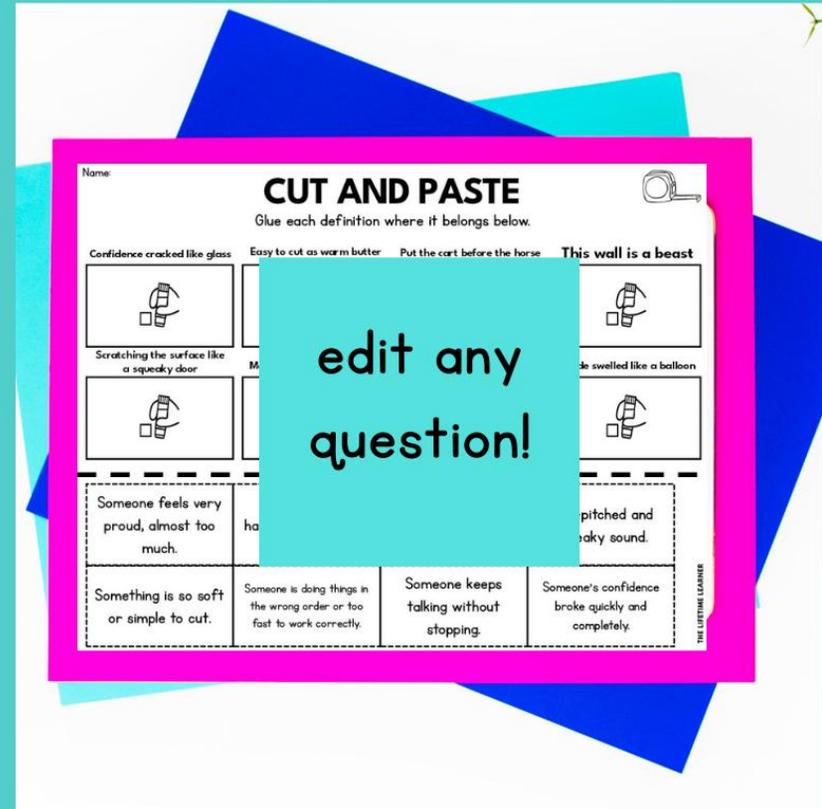


Dedicated	He waits half an hour for his friend to acknowledge him.	Persistent	He tries to persuade his friend to take a break for his own well-being and is kind no matter how negative his pal is.
A. 	B. 	C. 	D. 
He leaves the sandwich and chips, showing care for his friend.	Perfectionist	He refuses to take a break, even when it's clear he needs one.	Supportive
E. 	F. 	G. 	H. 
He snaps, using harsh tones, and dismissive language.	Stubborn	Encouraging	He strives for excellence and works hard to turn wood into masterpieces.
I. 	J. 	K. 	L. 

The no prep printable questions are **100% editable!**



10 Pre-Made
Centers
(Print & Go)



10 Pre-Made
Centers:
Editable Version

2 Versions Included

other resources this pairs well with:

Grab the 3-5 reading room transformation for additional passages!

Or, add in some math to your themed learning day!



CONSTRUCTION site nonfiction context clues

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

GRADES 3-5 READING

By: The Lifetime Learner



CONSTRUCTION site measure with rulers

3.MD.4

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

3RD GRADE MATH

By: The Lifetime Learner



CONSTRUCTION site measurement WORD PROBLEMS

4.MD.2

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

4TH GRADE MATH

By: The Lifetime Learner



CONSTRUCTION site measurement problems

5.MD.1

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

5TH GRADE MATH

By: The Lifetime Learner



reading MEGA BUNDLE

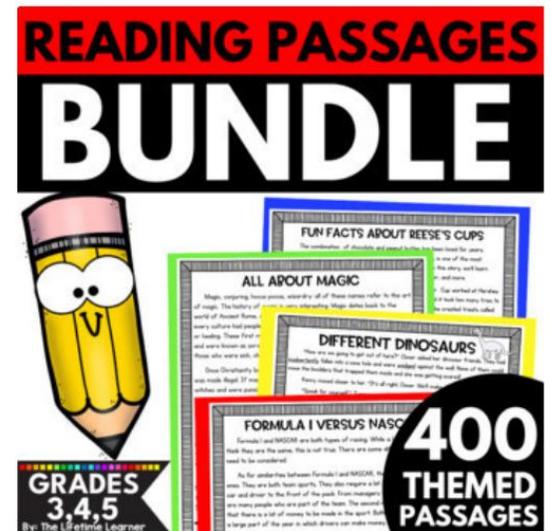
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GRADES 3,4,5

By: The Lifetime Learner

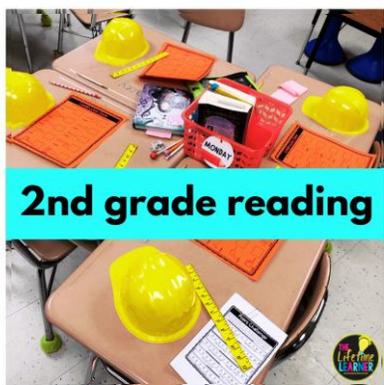
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K-5 MATH & READING



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**