

# MAKE LEARNING FUN!

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

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!

**THE TWO SHOPPERS**  
Leo and Maya's mom usually handled the grocery shopping. But she wasn't free today so the twins had to. Their mom said they needed to shop for the family's dinner together, stick to a budget, and make sure they got everything on the list.

**THE TWO SHOPPERS: TRUE OR FALSE?**  
Put a T for true or an F for false in each box.

**BAKERY BONANZA**  
One of the best parts of a grocery store is the bakery. The bakery employees arrive at the store very early. Sometimes they get there at 3-4 AM. The bakers start their day early so pastries like muffins, croissants, and bagels are ready for shoppers. The bakers measure out ingredients. Then, they mix ingredients in giant mixers to create the treats. Some mixers can hold over 100 pounds of dough. After the

**GROCERY STORE MIX-UP**  
Jason stood at the checkout and watched the cashier. He peeked inside each bag to check nothing was missing. "Grandma, did we get bananas?" he asked. His grandmother nodded. "Yes, dear, they're in the bottom bag." Jason nodded. As they finished up, Mr. Lewis hurried past and grabbed his bags. Jason frowned. Something didn't seem right. The cashier said, "That's all right. You can have a banana. It's on the house." Jason took the banana and thanked the cashier. He turned to his grandmother and said, "Grandma, wait. Outside, Mr. Lewis is reaching for his key. Mr. Lewis turns around and says, 'I think you forgot to pay for the bread.' Mr. Lewis glanced out a loaf of bread. The cashier nodded. Jason said, 'I noticed.' Jason took the bread. Ms. Riley smiled.

**GROCERY STORE MIX-UP**  
Each character needs 4 boxes colored in: 2 character traits and 2 sentences proving evidence of the character traits.

<b>JASON</b> orange	They were in a hurry to leave.	Absent-minded	They notice the bag mix-up before someone mentions it.	Responsible
<b>MR. LEWIS</b> red	A.	B.	When they notice a missing bag, he quickly investigates instead of ignoring it.	Rushed
<b>MS. RILEY</b> green	E.	F.	They stood at the checkout and watched to make sure each bag had nothing missing.	L.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

# WHAT'S AN ADD-ON PACK?

You can use this resource two ways:



Use the reading passages to supplement your Grocery Store 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

**A BOX FROM INDIA**

Aarav's doorbell rang just as he and his friend Noah were finishing a board game. When he opened the door, a large cardboard box sat on the porch. Aarav's face lit up like a Christmas tree. "It's from my grandparents in India!"

Noah watched as Aarav carried the box inside and tore it open in the blink of an eye. The moment he lifted the flaps, a burst of spices and sweetness filled the air.

"They always send me food from home," Aarav said, grinning from ear to ear. He pulled out a bag of basmati rice, mango pickles, masala chai, and a small tin of laddoos.

"What's that?" Noah asked, pointing to the mango pickles.

Aarav said, "It's spicy, tangy, and salty all at once. We eat it with rice or bread."

Noah wrinkled his nose. "Pickles with rice?"

Aarav laughed. "Trust me, it's amazing. It's the best thing since sliced bread." He grabbed the bag of basmati rice. "My grandma says no meal is complete without this."

To give Noah a taste of home, Aarav pulled out the masala chai. "You have to try Indian tea." As the tea boiled, Aarav opened the laddoos and handed one to Noah.

Noah took a bite. His eyes widened. "Whoa, this is good! I could eat this all day long."

"You have a serious sweet tooth," Aarav said, laughing as Noah grabbed another.

Aarav smiled as he poured them cups of chai. "You're getting a taste of India."

As they sipped, Noah nodded. "Your grandma's right. This rice and chai hit the spot."

1. "lit up like a Christmas tree"    Feeling very cold    Very excited    Turning on lots of lights

2. "in the blink of an eye"    Very slowly    Very loudly    Very quickly

3. "from ear to ear"    Smiling happily    Talking a lot    Hearing very well

### No-Prep Printables

**3 CHOICES: A BOX FROM INDIA**

Circle the correct letter to answer each question.

1. "lit up like a Christmas tree"	A. Feeling very cold	B. Very excited	C. Turning on lots of lights
2. "in the blink of an eye"	A. Very slowly	B. Very loudly	C. Very quickly
3. "from ear to ear"	A. Smiling happily	B. Talking a lot	C. Hearing very well
4. "the best thing since sliced bread"	A. A new kind of food	B. Something really great	C. Something very old
5. "a taste of home"	A. Eating or drinking something that reminds you of the place where you grew up	B. Trying a new food from another country	C. Cooking food for the first time
6. "hit the spot"	A. Dropping food all over the floor	B. When you eat too much and feel sick afterward	C. When food or a drink is exactly what you wanted and makes you feel satisfied
7. "eat this all day long"	A. Eating very slowly	B. Really enjoying the food	C. Not wanting to eat at all
8. "sweet tooth"	A. Has a cavity	B. Loves sweets	C. Likes eating spicy food

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

## EXPIRED FOOD

Every day, grocery stores sell thousands of food items, but not everything gets purchased before it reaches its expiration date. Have you ever wondered what happens to that food? Stores can donate it, mark the price down, or dispose of it in the trash.

One way grocery stores manage this is through markdowns. When products like dairy, meat, and bakery items get close to their "sell by" date, stores reduce the price to encourage customers to buy them. Some stores have clearance sections for cheaper foods on sale that are still safe to eat but won't last much longer.

Another way to handle unsold food is through donations. Many stores partner with food banks to give them fruits, vegetables, and bread that are still safe but can't be sold. These help feed people in need and reduce food waste.

However, this can not be done with all food. Some products that are perishable (like spoiled dairy, rotten produce, and expired meats), must be thrown away for safety reasons. Stores follow strict health regulations to be sure unsafe food is removed from shelves and thrown away.

## EXPIRED FOOD

Every day, grocery stores sell thousands of food items, but not everything gets purchased before it reaches its expiration date. Have you ever wondered what happens to food that is no longer fresh? Stores have different ways to handle unsellable food. They can donate it, mark the price down, or dispose of it in the trash.

One way grocery stores manage food nearing its expiration date is through markdowns. When products like dairy, meat, and bakery items get close to their "sell by" date, stores reduce the price to encourage customers to buy them. Some stores have special clearance sections for discounted foods that are still safe to eat but won't last much longer. People will buy the food since the price is cheaper.

Another common way to handle unsold food is through donations. Many stores partner with local food banks and charities to give them fruits, vegetables, bread, and packaged goods that are still safe but can no longer be sold. These donations help feed people in need and reduce food waste. Some stores also donate food scraps, like old produce, to farms for animal feed.

However, this can not be done with all food. Some products that are perishable (like spoiled dairy, rotten produce, and expired meats), must be thrown away for safety reasons if it is not eaten in a certain amount of time or refrigerated. Stores follow strict health regulations to be sure unsafe food is removed from shelves and properly thrown away. Many stores use compactors to reduce waste, while others send food scraps to composting facilities instead of landfills.

Some grocery stores have started using food recycling programs to cut down on waste. For example, stores might turn old cooking oil into biofuel or use food waste to create energy through anaerobic digestion. This is a process that breaks down food and turns it into natural gas or electricity.

Grocery stores play a big role in managing food waste. By using smart disposal methods, they help reduce waste and support the community. Although food waste is still a challenge, many stores are working toward better solutions to make sure less food goes to waste.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## GROCERY STORE MIX-UP

Jason stood at the checkout and watched the cashier. He peeked inside each bag to check nothing was missing. "Grandma, did we get bananas?" he asked.

His grandmother nodded. "Yes, dear, they're in the bottom bag." Jason nodded.

As they finished up, Mr. Lewis hurried past and grabbed his bags. Jason frowned. Something didn't seem right. He scanned the counter. Their bag of milk and bread was missing. He turned toward the door. There it was... in Mr. Lewis's hand.

"Grandma, wait here!" Jason said, jogging toward the exit.

Outside, Mr. Lewis tossed his bags into the backseat of his car and was already reaching for his keys. Jason stepped forward. "Excuse me, sir!"

Mr. Lewis turned, looking distracted. "Huh? What's wrong?"

"I think you took one of our bags by mistake." Jason gestured to his hand.

Mr. Lewis glanced down. "Oh, I must not have noticed." He opened the bag and pulled out a loaf of bread. "Yeah, this isn't mine. Sorry about that."

## GROCERY STORE MIX-UP

Jason stood at the checkout counter and carefully watched the cashier bag groceries. He peeked inside each bag to make sure nothing was missing. "Grandma, did we get the bananas?" he asked, shifting the bags into the cart.

His grandmother nodded. "Yes, dear, they're in the bottom bag."

Jason smiled, satisfied. He liked making sure everything was right. As they finished up, a man named Mr. Lewis hurried past, grabbing his bags (and one of theirs). But neither Jason nor Mr. Lewis realized the mistake.

Jason frowned. Something didn't seem right. He scanned the counter. Their bag of milk and bread was missing. He turned toward the door. There it was... in Mr. Lewis's hand.

"Grandma, wait here!" Jason said, jogging toward the exit.

Outside, Mr. Lewis tossed his bags into the backseat of his car and was already reaching for his keys. Jason stepped forward. "Excuse me, sir!"

Mr. Lewis turned, looking distracted. "Huh? What's wrong?"

**Differentiate and give your students the version best for them!**

# CENTER 1

## Multiple Choice

### BAKERY BONANZA

The best parts of a grocery store is the bakery. The bakery employees at the store vary early. Sometimes they get there at 3-4 AM. The bakers start their day early so pastries like muffins, croissants, and bagels are ready for shoppers. The bakers measure out ingredients. Then, they mix ingredients in giant mixers to create the treats. Some mixers can hold over 100 pounds of dough at once! After the breads are shaped, they are baked in industrial ovens with windows so the bakers can monitor their progress. These ovens can bake multiple trays at a time. Then, they are

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### BAKERY BONANZA

1. <b>B</b>	2. <b>C</b>	3. <b>D</b>	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

What is the main idea of the passage?  
 A) Bakers enjoy decorating cakes.  
 B) Grocery store bakeries make and sell fresh baked goods daily.  
 C) Most baked goods have sprinkles and icing.  
 D) Bread is the most important item in a bakery.

1.

Why do bakers start their day so early?  
 A) So they can have time to decorate the bakery.  
 B) To make sure the bakery stays clean.  
 C) So breakfast pastries like muffins and croissants are ready for customers.  
 D) To deliver fresh bread to other stores.

2.

Hands-On Center:

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



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 2

## Pairs Activity

### EXPIRED FOOD

Grocery stores sell thousands of food items, but not everything gets before it reaches its expiration date. Have you ever wondered what happens to food? Stores can donate it, mark the price down, or dispose of it in the trash. One way grocery stores manage this is through markdowns. When products like dairy, meat, and bakery items get close to their "sell by" date, stores reduce the price to encourage customers to buy them. Some stores have clearance sections for cheaper foods on sale that are still safe to eat but won't last much longer. Another way to handle unsold food is through donations. Many stores partner with food banks to give them fruits, vegetables, and bread that are still safe but can't be sold. These help feed people in need and reduce food waste. However, this can not be done with all food. Some products that are perishable (like spoiled dairy, rotten produce, and expired meats), must be thrown away for safety reasons. Stores follow strict health regulations to be sure unsafe food is removed from shelves and thrown away. Some stores have using recycling programs to cut down on waste. For example, they might turn old cooking oil into biofuel or use food waste to create energy through anaerobic digestion. This is a process that breaks down food and turns it into natural gas or electricity. Grocery stores constantly try to find new ways to not waste food.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

1.	B.
<b>expiration</b>	The date when food is no longer good to use or eat.
2.	F.
<b>dispose</b>	To throw something away or get rid of it.
3.	C.
<b>clearance</b>	A sale where items are sold at lower prices to make room for new things.

Hands-On Center:

Students put the two sides together to match each question with the correct answer.



No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER

## 3

### Compare & Contrast

#### FRESH VERSUS FROZEN FOOD

When it comes to fruits and vegetables, people wonder whether fresh or frozen is best. It depends on nutrition, cost, convenience, and taste. Fresh produce is picked at peak ripeness and has the most vitamins and minerals. Frozen foods are picked and frozen quickly to lock in the nutrients for longer periods of time.

There are also differences in taste. Fresh fruits and vegetables are crisp and flavorful, while frozen options can still be high quality and taste good if stored properly.

Price is also usually cheaper. Fresh produce spoils quickly, leading to waste. Frozen foods can be bought in bulk. Fruits and veggies that are fresh can be out of season. On the other hand, frozen versions are available all year long at lower prices. Convenience matters too. Fresh food requires more preparation, while frozen food is easy to store, pre-cut, and ready to use anytime. Fresh works well for salads, while frozen is great for cooking. The choice depends on budget and convenience. There's no wrong answer!

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Fresh Food	Frozen Foods	Both
They do not need to be frozen or packaged. B.	They are usually cheaper in price. A.	They can be tasty depending on how they are cooked. C.
They taste crisper and have more flavor. D.		They are used in cooking. G.

#### Hands-On Center:

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

#### FRESH VERSUS FROZEN FOOD

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

They are usually cheaper in price. A.	They do not need to be frozen or packaged. B.	They can be tasty depending on how they are cooked. C.	They taste crisper and have more flavor. D.
They work well for salads, snacks, and foods that need a firm texture. E.	They are easy to store, pre-cut, and quick to cook. F.	They are used in cooking. G.	They do not spoil as quickly and reduce food waste. H.
They can be nutritious. I.	They are picked at peak ripeness so they contain the most vitamins and minerals. J.	They preserve vitamins and minerals for a longer time. K.	They cost more at the grocery store. L.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER

## 4

### Sorting Game

#### GROCERY STORE MIX-UP

Jason and watched the cashier. He peeked inside each bag to see if his grandma, did we get bananas?" he asked. "Yes, dear, they're in the bottom bag." Jason nodded. "Grandma, wait here!" Jason said, jogging toward the exit. Outside, Mr. Lewis tossed his bags into the backseat of his car and was already digging for his keys. Jason stepped forward. "Excuse me, sir!" Mr. Lewis turned, looking distracted. "Huh? What's wrong?" "I think you took one of our bags by mistake." Jason gestured to his hand. Mr. Lewis glanced down. "Oh, I must not have noticed." He opened the bag and pulled a loaf of bread. "Yeah, this isn't mine. Sorry about that." The cashier named Ms. Riley walked out. "Oh, good! I was about to call after you," she said. "I noticed the extra bag and thought something was off." Jason took the bag, relieved. "Thanks," he said. Ms. Riley smiled at Jason. "You've got a sharp eye, young man."

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

	Place 2 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these four boxes.	Trait E.	Attentive
	Place 2 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these four boxes.	Proof B.	Proof
	Place 2 character traits and proof for each one from the story in these four boxes.	Trait J.	Observant
		Proof C.	They notice the bag mix-up before someone mentions it.

#### Hands-On Center:

Students sort each card onto the correct mat.

#### GROCERY STORE MIX-UP

Each character needs 4 boxes colored in 2 character traits and 2 sentences proving evidence of the character traits.

	They were in a hurry to leave. A.	Absent-minded B.	They notice the bag mix-up before someone mentions it. C.	Responsible D.
	Attentive E.	Helpful F.	When they notice a missing bag, he quickly investigates instead of ignoring it. G.	Rushed H.
	They step in to assist with the situation and acknowledge Jason's effort. I.	Observant J.	They stood at the checkout and watched to make sure each bag had nothing missing. K.	They don't realize their mistake until someone points it out. L.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 5

## 3 Choices

### A BOX FROM INDIA

Arav's doorbell rang just as he and his friend Noah were finishing a board game. When he opened the door, a large cardboard box sat on the porch. Arav's face lit up like a Christmas tree. "It's from my grandparents in India!"

Noah watched as Arav carried the box inside and tore it open in the blink of an eye. The moment he lifted the flaps, a burst of spices and sweetness filled the air.

"They always send me food from home," Arav said, grinning from ear to ear. He pulled out a bag of basmati rice, mango pickles, masala chai, and a small tin of laddoos.

"What's that?" Noah asked, pointing to the mango pickles.

Arav said, "It's spicy, tangy, and salty all at once. We eat it with rice or bread."

Noah wrinkled his nose. "Pickles with rice?"

Arav laughed. "Trust me, it's amazing. It's the best thing since sliced bread." He grabbed the bag of basmati rice. "My grandma says no meal is complete without this."

To give Noah a taste of home, Arav pulled out the masala chai. "You have to try Indian tea." As the tea boiled, Arav opened the laddoos and handed one to Noah.

Noah took a bite. His eyes widened. "Whoa, this is good! I could eat this all day long."

"You have a serious sweet tooth," Arav said, laughing as Noah grabbed another.

Arav smiled as he poured them cups of chai. "You're getting a taste of India."

As they sipped, Noah nodded. "Your grandma's right. This rice and chai hit the spot."

1. "lit up like a Christmas tree"    Feeling very cold    Very excited    Turning on lots of lights

2. "in the blink of an eye"    Very slowly    Very loudly    Very quickly

3. "from ear to ear"    Smiling happily    Talking a lot    Hearing very well

### Hands-On Center:

Students put a finger on the correct answer for each question.

### 3 CHOICES: A BOX FROM INDIA

Circle the correct letter to answer each question.

1. "lit up like a Christmas tree"	A. Feeling very cold	B. Very excited	C. Turning on lots of lights
2. "in the blink of an eye"	A. Very slowly	B. Very loudly	C. Very quickly
3. "from ear to ear"	A. Smiling happily	B. Talking a lot	C. Hearing very well
4. "the best thing since sliced bread"	A. A new of kind of food	B. Something really great	C. Something very old
5. "a taste of home"	A. Eating or drinking something that reminds you of the place where you grew up	B. Trying a new food from another country	C. Cooking food for the first time
6. "hit the spot"	A. Dropping food all over the floor	B. When you eat too much and feel sick afterward	C. When food or a drink exactly what you needed and makes you feel better
7. "eat this all day long"	A. Eating very slowly	B. Really enjoying the food	C. Not wanting to eat at all
8. "sweet tooth"	A. Has a cavity	B. Loves sweets	C. Likes eating spicy food

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 6

## Color by Code

### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT GROCERY STORES

Grocery shopping is more interesting than you might think! One surprising fact is grocery stores are designed to make you spend more time inside. Stores place the most important items (like milk and bread) in the back so customers must walk past others. Bright colors, music, and free samples also encourage shoppers to buy more.

Another interesting fact is bananas are the most popular item in the world. Stores sell more bananas because they are affordable, nutritious, and easy to eat. In some grocery stores, bananas even have their own storage area to keep them fresh longer.

Expiration dates don't always mean food is bad. Many products can last far beyond their printed dates if stored properly. The "sell by" date is for stores to know when to rotate products and put fresh food out. It doesn't always mean the food is unsafe.

Another fact is **most grocery stores lose thousands of dollars due to shopping cart abandonment**. Many carts are taken, which is why some stores now use coin-operated carts. Stores also use science to control how fresh food looks. Apples are coated with wax to keep them shiny. Mist sprayed over vegetables makes them look yummy.

Lastly, self-checkout was first introduced in 1992, but it didn't become popular until the 2000s. Many stores today use self-checkout lanes to speed up shopping. Some are even testing checkout-free stores where sensors track purchases or using robots.

1. When was self-checkout first introduced, and when did it become popular?

2. Color the answer light blue.

4. What does the "sell by" date on food really mean?

4. Color the answer yellow.

1. Color the answer red.

### Hands-On Center:

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

### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT GROCERY STORES

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Another fact is **most grocery stores lose thousands of dollars due to shopping cart abandonment**. Many carts are taken, which is why some stores now use coin-operated carts. Stores also use science to control how fresh food looks. Apples are coated with wax to keep them shiny. Mist sprayed over vegetables makes them look yummy.

Lastly, self-checkout was first introduced in 1992, but it didn't become popular until the 2000s. Many stores today use self-checkout lanes to speed up shopping. Some are even testing checkout-free stores where sensors track purchases or using robots.

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 7

## Puzzles

### FRESH VERSUS FROZEN FOOD

When shopping for fruits and vegetables, people wonder whether fresh or frozen is better. Both have pros and cons depending on nutrition, cost, convenience, and taste. Fresh produce is picked at peak ripeness and has the most vitamins and minerals. These nutrients fade over time as the food spoils. Frozen foods are picked and frozen quickly. This can lock in the nutrients for longer periods of time. Taste and texture also differ. Fresh fruits and vegetables are crisp and flavorful, while frozen ones can soften after thawing. Meats, seafood, and bread often taste better fresh. But frozen options can still be high quality and taste good if stored correctly.

Frozen foods are also usually cheaper. Fresh produce spoils quickly, leading to waste. Frozen foods last longer and can be bought in bulk. Fruits and veggies that are fresh can be expensive when they are not in season. On the other hand, frozen versions are available year-round at lower prices. Convenience matters too. Fresh food requires more trips to the store, while frozen food is easy to store, pre-cut, and ready to use anytime. Both fresh and frozen foods can be healthy and tasty. Fresh works well for salads and snacks. Meanwhile, frozen is great for cooking. The choice depends on budget, lifestyle, and preference. There's no wrong answer!

	#1 Konbini	A small Japanese convenience store for snacks on the go	
	#2 Wasabi	A spicy flavor	
	#3 Matcha	A green tea flavor	

Hands-On Center:

Students put each 2-piece puzzle together.

### SHOPPING IN TOKYO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Konbini 	2. Wasabi 	A. A spicy flavor <b>2</b>	B. Triangular rice balls filled with tuna, pickled plum, or salmon <b>4</b>
3. Matcha 	4. Onigiri 	C. A small Japanese convenience store for snacks on the go <b>1</b>	D. A bag you can use over and over again <b>6</b>
5. Ramune 	6. Reusable tote 	E. A green tea flavor <b>3</b>	F. A clear bottle of Japanese soda <b>5</b>

Write the correct number on each grocery bag.

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 8

## Write a Sentence

### A ROUGH DAY FOR THE CASHIER

Miranda was exhausted from her shift. The day before a holiday as a cashier was always a struggle for her. One day, a customer's cart had exploded, shooting liquid high into the air. She had barely wiped it off when another customer rushed in and tapped his foot. "Can you move any slower?" he snapped. Later, a man tossed his eggs onto the belt. The carton flipped and landed on the floor. "Great," he muttered, rolling his eyes as if it were her fault. Miranda grabbed paper towels and knelt to clean it up. Her back protested as she pushed through the chaos. When the manager approached, she said, "Miranda, can you cover for Jake tomorrow morning?" Her heart sank. She had the day off. "I-um, I really need to go home. We're short-staffed," her manager cut in. "Let me know if you can't cover. I'll make sure you already knew she'd say yes. Stifling a yawn, she forced a smile. "I'll try to cover for you. The customer's groceries. She couldn't wait to go home, get on the bus, and get to bed. After he paid, he picked up the candy bars and placed them in his bag. "Looks like you've had a long day," he said. "Maybe these candy bars will help." Miranda blinked, surprised. "Wait... you got these for me?" He nodded. "You've been working hard. I figured you deserved a little reward. A lump formed in her throat. No one else noticed. "Thank you. Miranda's feet still ached and she had an hour to go. But she knew she'd be home in time for bed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### A ROUGH DAY FOR THE CASHIER

- Miranda is patient, hardworking and selfless. She stays calm when customers are rude to her, even when one rushes her and another makes a mess with eggs.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Write the answers to the questions in each box in complete sentences.

1. What character traits does Miranda show throughout her shift? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Hands-On Center:

Students write the answer to each prompt on the lines.

### A ROUGH DAY FOR THE CASHIER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- What character traits does Miranda show throughout her shift? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. Miranda is patient, hardworking, and selfless. She stays calm when customers are rude to her, even when one rushes her and another makes a mess with eggs. She also agrees to cover for her coworker, even though she really wanted to rest. This shows she is willing to put others' needs before her own.
- Why do you think Miranda agrees to cover for Jake even though she really wanted the day off? What does this reveal about her? Miranda likely agrees to cover for Jake because she is responsible and doesn't want to leave her workplace short-staffed. This shows that she is dedicated to her job and cares about helping others, even when it means sacrificing her own rest.
- If the kind stranger had not bought Miranda the candy bars, how might her day have ended differently? If the kind stranger hadn't shown kindness, Miranda likely would have finished her shift feeling exhausted and unappreciated. The simple gesture changed her attitude and made her feel a little better, showing how even a small action can improve someone's day.
- What does the story suggest about how small acts of kindness can impact others? The story shows that even a small gesture, like buying someone a candy bar, can completely change their day. Miranda had been feeling exhausted and unappreciated, but the stranger's kindness lifted her spirits and made her feel valued.
- How does the way Miranda is treated by others throughout the day make the stranger's act of kindness even more meaningful? Earlier in the day, Miranda faced rude and impatient customers, which made her shift feel even harder. Because she had been treated poorly, the kindness of the stranger stood out even more. It showed that while some people are thoughtless, others are kind and appreciative.
- How does Miranda's mood change from the beginning of the story to the end? What event causes this change? At the beginning of the story, Miranda is exhausted, frustrated, and discouraged because of the difficult shift and rude customers. By the end, she feels surprised, appreciated, and uplifted because the kind stranger bought her candy bars and recognized her hard work. His kindness makes her shift feel a little easier.

Write the answers to the questions in each box in complete sentences.

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER

# 9

## Sequencing Puzzles

**FROM COW TO STORE**

Through a detailed process before reaching grocery stores. It begins at a farm where cows are milked twice a day by machines. They can produce up to 8 gallons of milk every day!

The fresh milk is stored in refrigerated tanks until it is stirred to prevent separation. Scientists at a laboratory check for safety and quality before the milk is thrown away.

At the processing plant, the milk is pasteurized. Next, homogenization happens. The process breaks up clumps of fat particles that would rise to the top. A centrifuge then spins the milk into whole, 2%, 1%, or skim milk. After packaging into plastic jugs or cartons, workers make sure it is fresh.

The packaged milk is stored in refrigerated tanks until it reaches grocery stores, schools, and restaurants. From start to finish takes place over several days.

### FROM COW TO STORE PUZZLE MAT

Place the puzzle pieces in order here on the mat.

Step 1 F. Dairy cows are milked by machines twice a day.	Step 2 A. The milk flows through sanitized tubes into giant, cold vats kept at 39F.	Step 3 D. Large tanker trucks collect the milk and transport it after it is tested in a laboratory.	Step 4
Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8

B. A high-pressure machine breaks up fat particles, so the cream stays evenly mixed instead of floating to the top.

C. Refrigerated trucks transport the milk to customers and stores all over.

E. The milk is piped into jugs or cartons, labeled with a sell-by date, and prepared for distribution.

Hands-On Center:

Students put the puzzle pieces in chronological order.

**FROM COW TO STORE PUZZLE MAT**

First, read the passage. Then, put the steps 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. The milk flows through sanitized tubes into giant, cold vats kept at 39F.	5 B. A high-pressure machine breaks up fat particles, so the cream stays evenly mixed instead of floating to the top.	8 C. Refrigerated trucks transport the milk to customers and stores all over.	3 D. Large tanker trucks collect the milk and transport it after it is tested in a laboratory.
7 E. The milk is piped into jugs or cartons, labeled with a sell-by date, and prepared for distribution.	1 F. Dairy cows are milked by machines twice a day.	4 G. The milk is heated and quickly cooled to kill bacteria and keep it safe to drink.	6 H. A centrifuge spins the milk to separate the fat, and the right amount is added back in.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER

# 10

## True or False

**THE TWO SHOPPERS**

Leo's mom usually handled the grocery shopping. But she wasn't free to do it this time. Leo had to go to the grocery store with his mom. They had to stick to a budget, and make sure they got everything on the list.

As they entered, Leo grabbed a cart. "Let's get this done!" he said. Maya shook her head. "We should go slow so we don't forget anything." They both had the same shopping list, budget, and goal... but that was where the similarities ended.

Leo spoke up. "How about a competition? Who can tackle this task better?" Maya nodded. Leo took off. He tossed items into the cart without checking labels. He ignored brands and didn't check for sales. He even grabbed the wrong kind of pasta because he didn't stop to read. Leo just wanted this done as soon as possible.

Maya compared prices carefully, checked for sales and coupons, and read ingredient labels. She made sure to organize the cart so items wouldn't get crushed.

They both ended up with a grocery cart filled with different items. Leo thought his cart would be the best. Maya thought the same. They had a cashier ring up both carts to see. Leo's total was over budget. He had grabbed a box of cereal instead of rice, forgot the garlic, and wilted lettuce. Maya's cart was neatly packed with everything they needed, all within budget. Leo groaned. "Fine, you win."

**TRUE** ✓ **FALSE** ✗

- This is a Similarity: They had to buy the same ingredients for dinner. (C)
- This is a Similarity: Maya forgot to buy some of the items on the list, while Leo got everything correct. (A)
- This is a Difference: Leo and Maya shopped at the same grocery store. (B)

This is a Similarity: Leo grabbed the first brand he saw while Maya compared brand prices. (E)

This is a Difference: Leo saw shopping as a competition, while Maya saw it as a careful task to complete correctly. (F)

This is a Similarity: Leo and Maya both shopped the same way and ended up with identical carts. (G)

This is a Difference: Leo rushed through the store and Maya took her time. (H)

This is a Similarity: They both compared prices and chose items on sale. (I)

This is a Difference: Leo did not check the labels and expiration dates while Maya did. (J)

Hands-On Center:

Students decide if each card is true or false.

**THE TWO SHOPPERS: TRUE OR FALSE?**

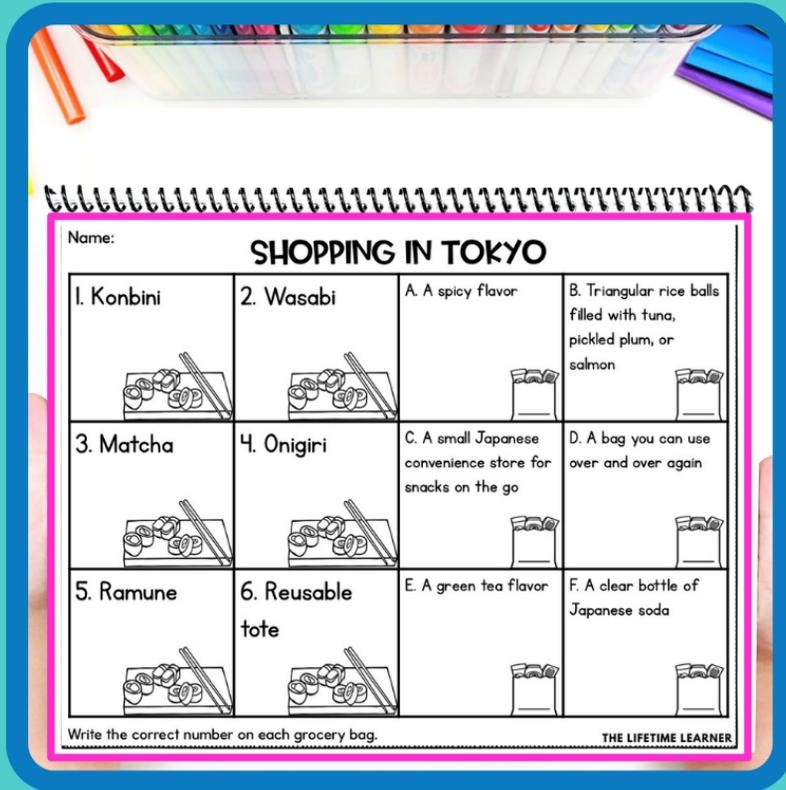
Put a T for true or an F for false in each box.

This is a Similarity: Maya forgot to buy some of the items on the list while Leo got everything correct. (A)	This is a Difference: Leo and Maya shopped at the same grocery store. (B)
This is a Similarity: They had to buy the same ingredients for dinner. (C)	This is a Difference: Maya's cart was neatly packed while Leo's cart was unorganized. (D)
This is a Similarity: Leo saw shopping as a competition, while Maya saw it as a careful task to complete correctly. (E)	This is a Difference: Leo saw shopping as a competition, while Maya saw it as a careful task to complete correctly. (F)
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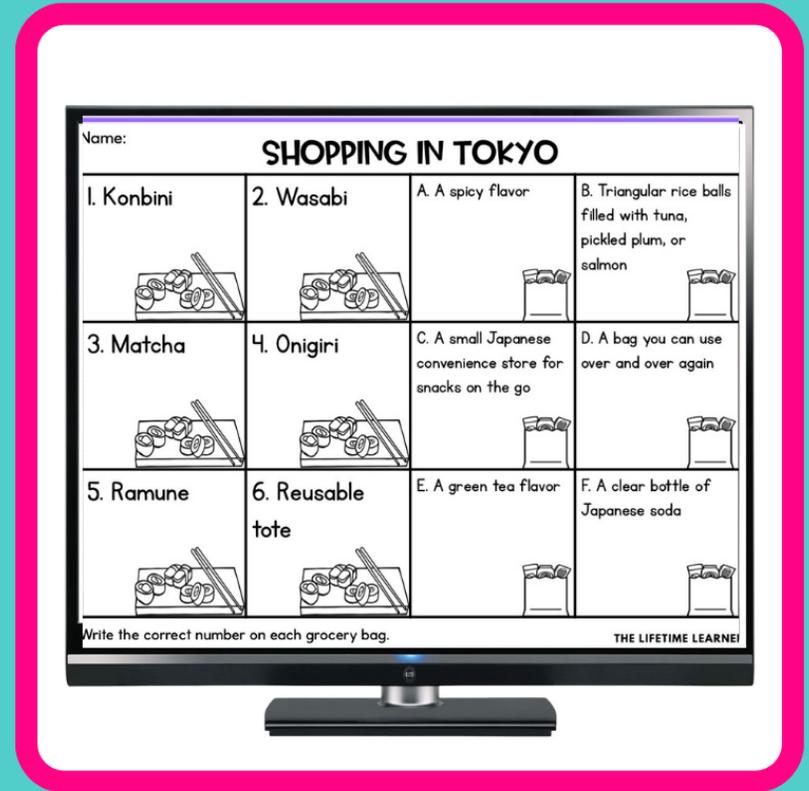
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## 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

**EXPIRED FOOD**

Every day, grocery stores sell thousands of food items, but not everything gets purchased before it reaches its expiration date. Have you ever wondered what happens to that food? Stores can donate it, mark the price down, or dispose of it in the trash.

One way grocery stores manage this is through markdowns. When products like dairy, meat, and bakery items get close to their "sell by" date, stores reduce the price to encourage customers to buy them. Some stores have clearance sections for cheaper foods on sale that are still safe to eat but won't last much longer.

Another way to handle unsold food is through donations. Many stores partner with food banks to give them fruits, vegetables, and bread that are still safe but can't be sold. These help feed people in need and reduce food waste.

However, this can not be done with all food. Some products that are perishable (like spoiled dairy, rotten produce, and expired meats), must be thrown away for safety reasons. Stores follow strict health regulations to be sure unsafe food is removed from shelves and thrown away.

Some stores have using recycling programs to cut down on waste. For example, they might turn old cooking oil into biofuel or use food waste to create energy through anaerobic digestion. This is a process that breaks down food and turns it into natural gas or electricity. Grocery stores constantly try to find new ways to not waste food.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

1.   B.  
**expiration** The date when food is no longer good to use or eat.

2.   F.  
**dispose** To throw something away or get rid of it.

3.   C.  
**clearance** A sale where items are sold at lower prices to make room for new things.

# What Skills are Included?

## Reading Skills:

- Fiction Text Evidence
- Nonfiction Text Evidence
- Sequencing
- Main Idea
- Fiction Context Clues
- Nonfiction Context Clues
- Character Traits
- Compare & Contrast
- Theme/Lesson
- Pages Reviewing Multiple Skills

### THE TWO SHOPPERS

Leo and Maya's mom usually handled the grocery shopping. But she wasn't free today so the twins had to. Their mom said they needed to shop for the family's dinner together, stick to a budget, and make sure they got everything on the list.

As soon as they entered, Leo grabbed a cart. "Let's get this done!" he said.

### THE TWO SHOPPERS: TRUE OR FALSE?

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

This is a Similarity:

Maya forgot to buy some of the items on the list, while Leo got everything correct.



A.

This is a Difference:

Leo and Maya shopped at the same grocery store.



B.

### FROM COW TO STORE

Milk goes through a detailed process before reaching grocery stores. It begins at dairy farms where cows are milked twice a day by machines. They can produce up to 8 gallons of milk every day!

The fresh milk is stored in refrigerated vats at 39°F. In these, the milk is constantly

### FROM COW TO STORE PUZZLE MAT

First, read the passage. Then, put the steps 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.

A. The milk flows through sanitized tubes into giant, cold vats kept at 39°F.	B. A high-pressure machine breaks up fat particles, so the cream stays evenly mixed instead of floating to the top.	C. Refrigerated trucks transport the milk to customers and stores all over.	D. Large tanker trucks collect the milk and transport it after it is tested in a laboratory.

E. The milk is piped into jugs or cartons, labeled	F. Dairy cows are milked by machines twice a day.	G. The milk is heated and quickly cooled to kill	H. A centrifuge spins the milk to separate the fat,
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# The no prep printable questions are **100% editable!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## BAKERY BONANZA



1. What is the main idea of the passage? A) Bakers enjoy decorating cakes. B) Grocery store bakeries make and sell fresh baked goods daily. C) Most baked goods have sprinkles and icing. D) Bread is the most important item in a bakery.	2. Why do bakers start their day so early? A) So they can have time to decorate the bakery. B) To make sure the bakery stays clean. C) So breakfast pastries like muffins and croissants are ready for customers. D) To deliver fresh bread to other stores.	3. What does the word "perishable" mean in the passage? A) Something that can last for months without spoiling. B) A type of decoration used in baking. C) A way to package baked goods. D) Food that needs to be eaten within a certain time before it goes bad.	4. Why is cooling baked goods important? A) It helps them cook faster. B) It prevents the icing from melting and the bread from becoming soggy. C) It makes them taste sweeter. D) It keeps them fresh for months.
5. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a baked good made in the grocery store bakery? A) Cupcakes B) Muffins C) Pies D) Croissants	6. Which sentence from the passage best supports the idea that bakeries make special treats for holidays? A) "Holiday and seasonal treats are baked as well." B) "Each item is labeled with an expiration date and a price tag." C) "Keeping the bakery clean is an important part of following health regulations." D) "After the breads are shaped, they are baked in industrial ovens with windows."	7. Why do bakers clean everything at the end of the day? A) To make sure customers do not see a messy bakery. B) To follow health regulations and make sure food is safe. C) To make it easier to find ingredients. D) So the bakery looks nice for pictures.	8. What can customers do if they need a special cake for a celebration? A) Pick a cake from the shelf and decorate it themselves. B) Go to the bakery and bake it themselves. C) Wait until the baker makes one and hope it's what they want. D) Call ahead and order a cake with their choice of flavor and filling.

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## BAKERY BONANZA



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THE LIFETIME LEARNER

edit any question!

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!

**GROCERY store** sequence of events

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

GRADES 3-5 READING

By: The Lifetime Learner

Includes: SHOPPING LIST, A DAY IN THE GARDEN, DELICIOUS SCONES

**GROCERY store** MULTIPLICATION properties

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

3RD GRADE MATH

By: The Lifetime Learner

Includes: 3.OA.5,  $3 \times 5 = 5 \times 3$ ,  $(2 \times 5) \times (9 \times 5) =$

**GROCERY store** long division

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

4TH GRADE MATH

By: The Lifetime Learner

Includes: 4.NBT.6,  $333 \div 9$ ,  $410 \div 5$ ,  $85 \div 5$

**GROCERY store** order of operations

EDITABLE ROOM TRANSFORMATION

5TH GRADE MATH

By: The Lifetime Learner

Includes: 5.OA.1,  $(49 \div 7) + 68$ ,  $5 \times (6 + 4)$ ,  $8 \times (8 - 6)$

reading **MEGA BUNDLE**

CLASSROOM TRANSFORMATIONS

40 THEME DAYS! GRADES 3-5

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Includes: WEATHER, FALL, SCIENTIST, CIRCUS, SPACE, BELIEVERS, COFFEE, BEACH, PILOT, FARMER, ATHLETE, RESTAURANT, PIRATE, BONDAGE, ROYALTY, MARSHALL, PARTY, BROCERY, ROCK STAR, FISHING, ICE CREAM, DONUT, MATHS, FAMILY, CANDY, SPORTS, GARDEN, BOWLING, SURGERY, SUPERHERO, AFRICAN, ICE CREAM SHOP, ARTIST, PREPARATION, MARCH, RACE CAR, BOOT

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GRADES 3, 4, 5

By: The Lifetime Learner

Includes: FUN FACTS ABOUT REESE'S CUPS, ALL ABOUT MAGIC, DIFFERENT DINOSAURS, FORMULA I VERSUS NASCAR

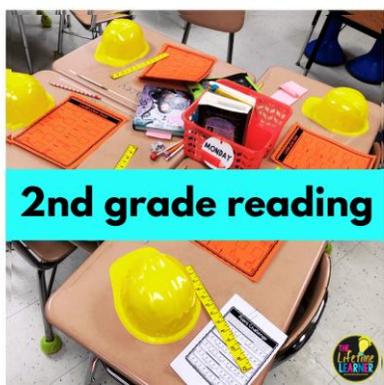
Add On Pack Bundle!

# classroom transformations

## low prep, fun, and engaging!



# 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](mailto:lindsaythelifetimelearner@gmail.com)**