

# WHAT IS THIS?

## It's a low-prep room transformation!



Use the 10 reading stations, included decor, and more for a fun & easy room transformation!

**WELCOME TO IRELAND**

The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history. It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused starvation across the country. The famine happened because of a disease called potato blight. It's a plant disease that makes potatoes rot and turn black. Since potatoes were the main food source for many families, the loss of the crop meant people had little to eat.

The blight appeared in 1845, and by the next year, most of the potato crops had rotted out. Families struggled to survive. Soon, people were dying of starvation. Over 1 million people died, and another 2 million left Ireland to escape the terrible conditions. Many people tried to avoid the problem by moving to other countries for a better life.

During the famine, Ireland was ruled by Great Britain. The British's response was not helpful. Some food was sent but not enough to feed everyone. Some farmers grew wheat or barley while others grew potatoes. Since Britain owned land in Ireland, the food grown there was sent to Britain and sold for profit instead of feeding the hungry. Many people died if this food was not sent to Britain; the famine could have been avoided.

The famine changed Ireland forever. The population never recovered. Today, there are Irish communities in places like Boston, New York, and Chicago because of the famine caused by the famine.

**#1 description** The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history. **E.**

**#2 sequencing** It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused widespread starvation across the country. **G.**

**#3 description** It's a plant disease that makes potatoes rot and turn black. **B.**

This themed learning day has 10 stations that all review nonfiction text structures in a variety of ways. You can use 1, 5, or all 10--it's flexible!

Room transformations can be stress-free and low-prep.

Keep scrolling to learn how!



# Let's start with the basics...

## What is a classroom transformation?

A classroom transformation changes your room into a certain setting or theme to engage students in their own learning with rigorous content.



Donut Shop Day



Rock Star Day



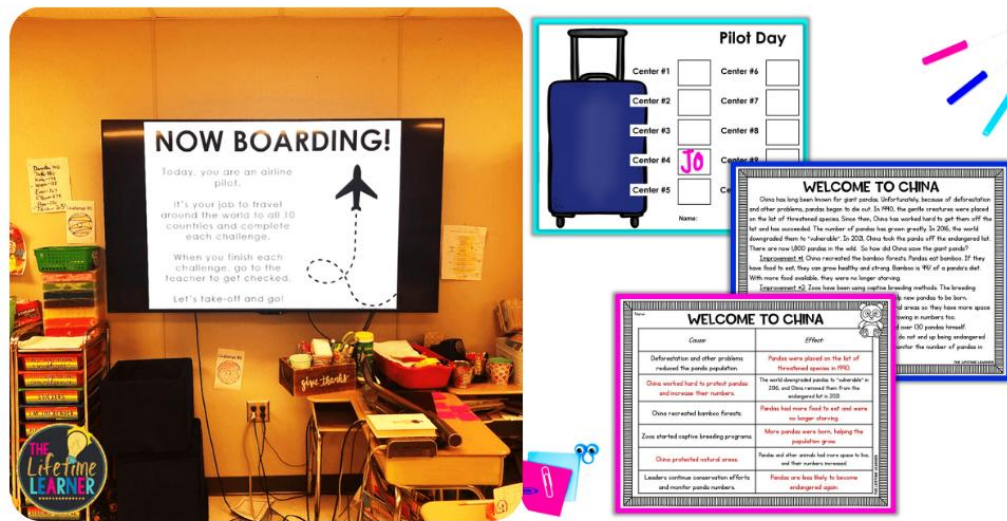
Camping Day

You don't have to spend hours of your time setting up a room transformation or spend lots of money to make it **SO MUCH FUN!**

# STEP 1:

Tell your class they are pilots today!

They will complete text structure activities set up around the room. You can do this for a day, a few days, or over the course of a week!



Flexibility is key.

Need to modify? No problem!  
Choose how many centers students will need to complete and what time frame they have to meet YOUR needs.



Set-up is quick and easy.

Simply print the posters, 10 activities, and a recording sheet for each student. Place them around your room and you're ready to begin!



# STEP 2:

Let students move around the room and complete each station. They read a passage and then complete an activity to go with it. They can be completed in any order. All stations include a variety of text structure activities. You can choose just a few for students to complete or use all 10. This is up to the teacher and the amount of time you'd like to fill.

## Optional Recording Sheet

When a student finishes a center, you sign that spot on their recording sheet to keep track of what they've completed.

## Freedom to choose.

Students can work in partners, rotations, groups, or independently. Your choice!

**Pilot Day**

Center #1 ☐ Center #6 ☐  
Center #2 ☐ Center #7 ☐  
Center #3 ☐ Center #8 ☐  
Center #4 ☒ Jo Center #9 ☐  
Center #5 ☐ Center #10 ☐

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

**WELCOME TO CHINA**

China has long been known for giant pandas. Unfortunately, because of deforestation and other problems, pandas began to die out. In 1990, the gentle creatures were placed on the list of threatened species. Since then, China has worked hard to get them off the list and has succeeded. The number of pandas has grown greatly. In 2016, the world downgraded them to "vulnerable". In 2021, China took the panda off the endangered list. There are now 1,800 pandas in the wild. So how did China save the giant panda?

**Improvement #1:** China recreated the bamboo forests. Pandas eat bamboo. If they have food to eat, they can grow healthy and strong. Bamboo is 99% of a panda's diet. With more food available, they were no longer starving.

**Improvement #2:** Zoos have been using captive breeding methods. The breeding programs help new pandas to be born. Zoos also have created natural areas so they have more space to grow in numbers too. Over 130 pandas have been born in captivity, helping to increase the number of pandas in the wild.

**WELCOME TO CHINA**

Cause:	Effect:
Deforestation and other problems reduced the panda population.	Pandas were placed on the list of threatened species in 1990.
China worked hard to protect pandas and increase their numbers.	The world downgraded pandas to "vulnerable" in 2016, and China removed them from the endangered list in 2021.
China recreated bamboo forests.	Pandas had more food to eat and were no longer starving.
Zoos started captive breeding programs.	More pandas were born, helping the population grow.
China protected natural areas.	Pandas and other animals had more space to live, and their numbers increased.
Leaders continue conservation efforts and monitor panda numbers.	Pandas are less likely to become endangered again.

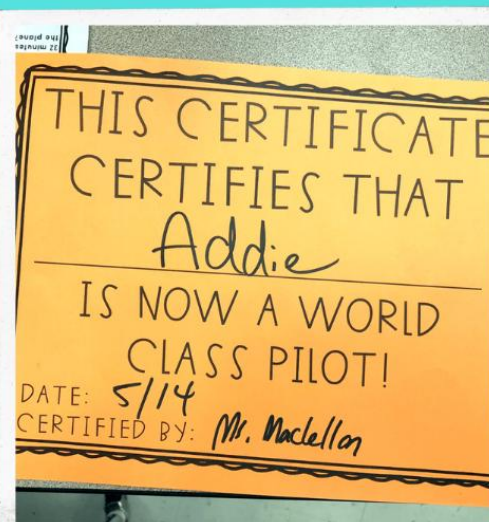
# STEP 3:

When students finish all activities you've assigned, they win! You can give them the included certificate, coloring page, or a small prize of your choice.

A shopping guide is also included to give you suggestions of optional "extras" you could add in.

## Remember:

Anything different from a "normal" day in the classroom is special to students! A reward at the end isn't required during a classroom transformation.



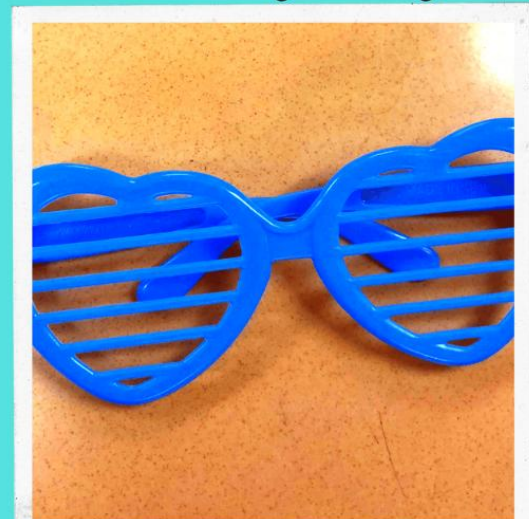
Certificate



Coloring Page



In Action Pic



Prize

# STEP 4:

Most of the time, there are early finishers. These kiddos get to go around the room and read fun facts about the topic! No one is ever bored.

## Choose from 3 versions!

### 1 Digital Scavenger Hunt

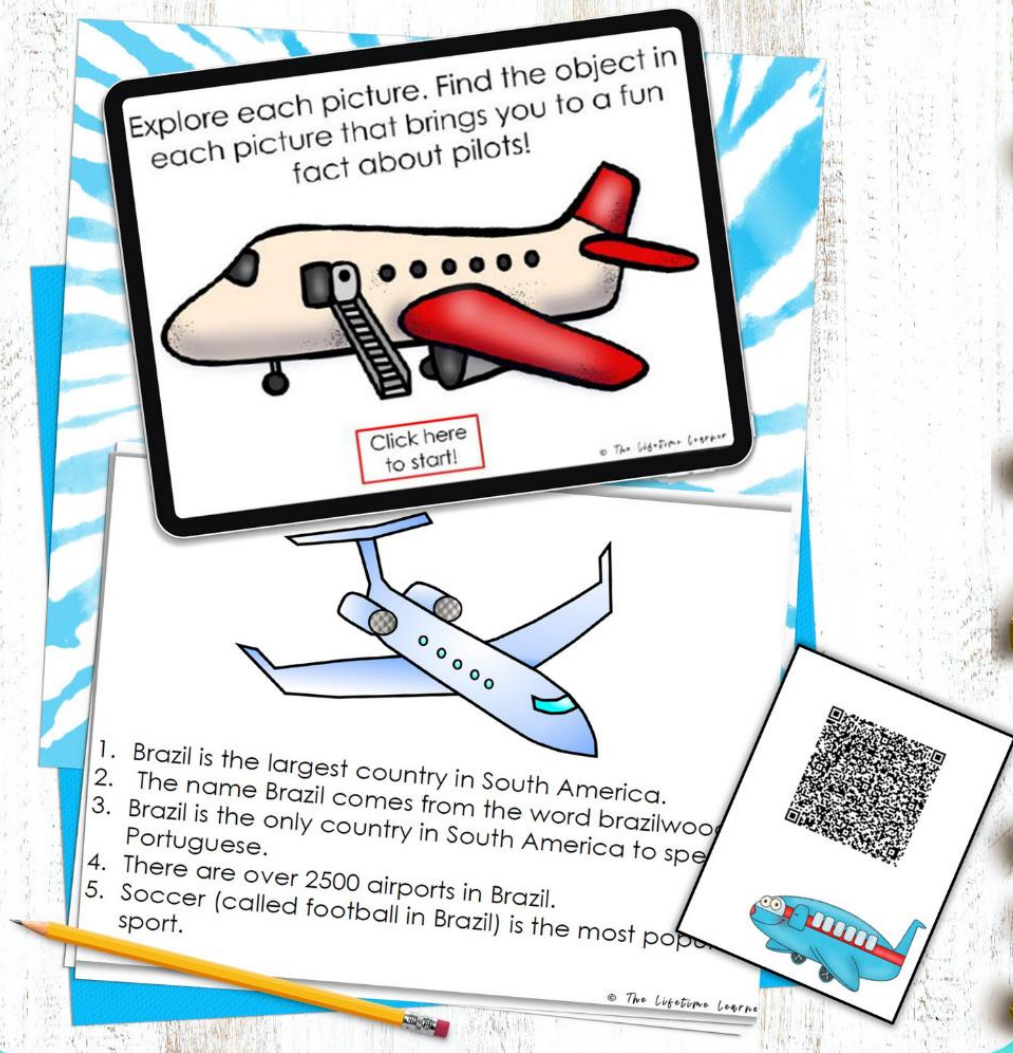
Let students "find" the facts on Google Slides

### 2 Printable Facts

Hang facts around room

### 3 QR Codes

Students scan to read fun facts




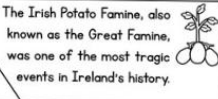

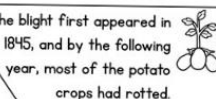
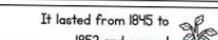

# 10 READING COMPREHENSION PASSAGES/ACTIVITIES:

## WELCOME TO IRELAND

The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history. It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused starvation across the country. The famine happened because of a disease called potato blight. It's a plant disease that makes potatoes rot and turn black. Since potatoes were the main food source for many

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

## WELCOME TO IRELAND

 #1	 The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history.	 #7	 The blight first appeared in 1845, and by the following year, most of the potato crops had rotted.
 #2	 It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused	 #8	 Some farmers grew

## WELCOME TO INDIA

India is dealing with a pesticide problem. Pesticide is a substance used to help control insect infestations, the spread of disease, or to control weeds. In India, farmers struggle to keep insects from eating crops. When farmers use pesticides, insects eating the crops stay away. Pesticides helps farmers grow, collect, and sell the crop without worrying bugs are going to ruin their harvest. The cost of pesticide spray has gotten higher lately. Farmers are struggling to buy pesticides because they are expensive.

An unusual solution has become popular recently. Some farmers are using soda as an

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

## WELCOME TO INDIA









Decide if each sentence is a problem or solution.

Glue each sentence on the side it belongs on.



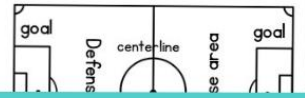
**Problem:**

**Solution:**

## WELCOME TO BRAZIL

Soccer is the country's most popular sport. It was introduced in 1894 by Charles Miller. He was a Brazilian who brought soccer back from England. By 1902, Brazil had its first championship since the sport was so popular.



## WELCOME TO BRAZIL

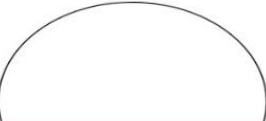

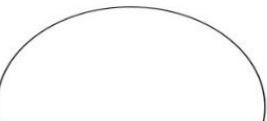
First, read the passage. Then, put the events in order below from #1 to #8 by writing a number at the top of each box. Put a #1 in the box that comes first and a #8 in the box that comes last.

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## WELCOME TO CANADA

Canada is a large country with a cold climate. This makes it perfect for hockey. Ice hockey was created in 1875 in Montreal and is played in winter. It is a contact sport where two teams use sticks to pass, control, and shoot a puck into a net to score. Players wear heavy equipment and skate on a marked rink. The game is simple: each

## WELCOME TO CANADA

		
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**focuses on:  
text structures**

# 2 Versions of Every Passage Included for Students

## WELCOME TO GERMANY

Germany and France are both European countries. Germany is famous for its castles and France for its Eiffel Tower. Both have rivers and cities. However, Germany is known for cars and France for art. Despite their differences, they are both fun to visit.

Germany is a country in Europe with a mix of cities and countryside. The capital is Berlin. This is also where the remains of the Berlin Wall are. Germany has many rivers. Germany is also home to the Black Forest, where people hike and can see amazing views.

Germany has highways called the Autobahn. In some areas, there is no speed limit! Because of this, drivers must follow safety rules. This has led to better car technology to reduce accidents. As a result, Germany is famous for making the safest cars.

Germany once had a big problem when the country was divided into two parts: East Germany and West Germany. Families were separated, and people in East Germany were not allowed to travel. To keep them from leaving, a large wall (the Berlin Wall) was built. Many people were unhappy, and protests began. In 1989, the wall was torn down.

## WELCOME TO GERMANY

Germany and France are both European countries with years of history and lots of famous landmarks. Germany is known for its castles, forests, and Oktoberfest. France is famous for its Eiffel Tower, fashion, and delicious pastries. Both countries have beautiful rivers, exciting cities, and strong economies. However, Germany is known for its engineering and car production, while France is known for its art and yummy restaurants. Despite their differences, these two countries share a love for culture.

Germany is a country in Europe with a mix of modern cities and beautiful countryside. The capital of Germany is Berlin. This is also where the remains of the Berlin Wall are. Germany has many rivers, like the Rhine and the Elbe, which flow through green valleys and past old castles. Germany is also home to the Black Forest. It's the largest forest in Germany where people love to hike and can see a scene like something out of a storybook with houses on the sloped countryside. In winter, snow covers the mountains, making it a perfect place for skiing.

Germany has many highways called the Autobahn. In some areas of the highways, there is no speed limit! Because of this, drivers must be extra careful and follow strict safety rules. This has led to advanced car technology and road planning to reduce accidents. As a result, Germany is famous for making some of the safest and best-performing cars in the world (like BMW, Mercedes-Benz, and Audi).

Germany once had a big problem when the country was divided into two parts: East Germany and West Germany. Families were separated, and people in East Germany were not allowed to travel freely. To keep them from leaving, a large wall (called the Berlin Wall) was built. Many people were unhappy with this, and protests began. In 1989, the Berlin Wall was torn down. Germany was able to become one united country again.

Germany's history has many important events. First, Germany declared itself a country in 1871 after three long wars. Later on, Germany was involved in World War II. After the war ended in 1945, Germany was divided into East and West Germany. For many years, the Berlin Wall separated the two sides. In 1989, the wall was torn down. In 1990, Germany became one unified country again. Today, Germany is one of the strongest economies in Europe.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## WELCOME TO JAPAN

Japan is well-known for its martial arts. Let's explore the similarities and differences between two of them: karate and jujutsu. Both are used for self-defense and have been practiced for years, but they are quite different.

Karate developed from the Chinese martial art kung fu and was adapted in Okinawa. The word karate means "empty hand" so there are no weapons used. Karatekas (karate martial artists) use kicks, punches, and blocks to attack and defend. They focus on precise strikes and using the whole body's strength to powerfully hit. Karate also teaches fighting back which helps fighters use opponents' weaknesses. Karate requires discipline and training to master movements. Today, around 60 million people practice karate and it became an Olympic sport in 2020.

Jujutsu evolved from samurai combat techniques. Samurai used jujutsu when they lost their weapons in battle. Unlike karate's powerful strikes, jujutsu relies on grabbing arms to block attacks, locking opponents in place, and throwing them to the ground.

## WELCOME TO JAPAN

The country of Japan is well-known for its martial arts. Let's learn about the similarities and differences between two of these sports: karate and jujutsu. Both were created as ways to defend oneself and have been practiced for many years. However, while some people may think they are the same, they are definitely different! Karate was first developed from the Chinese martial art kung fu during early trade between China and Japan. Over time, kung fu was adapted into karate in Okinawa. This is where it became a well-known form of self-defense. The word karate means "empty hand" in Japanese. It's a martial art focused on unarmed combat with no weapons. Karate martial artists, or karatekas, use a combination of kicks, punches, and blocks to attack and defend themselves. Karate focuses on delivering precise blows and uses the entire body's strength to land one powerful hit. It also teaches counterattacks, allowing fighters to respond to an opponent's weaknesses. Karate requires discipline and training to perfect the movements. Today, around 60 million people practice karate worldwide. In 2020, karate was included as an official sport in the Tokyo Summer Olympics. This increased its popularity around the globe.

Another important self-defense sport in Japan is jujutsu. It evolved from samurai combat techniques. Samurai

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

# THE CONTENT:

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

### Hands-On Centers

 **TRUE** 

**#2** True or false? Pizza in Italy is best when made fresh. But a common challenge is not everyone has a wood-fired oven at home. Without it, the crust doesn't get the right texture. To solve this, many Italians use a pizza stone in their oven to create a crispy crust. Another problem is traditional pizza dough takes hours to rise. Some chefs let it rise overnight to save time. The text structure used in the paragraph above is problem and solution.

**#4** True or false? Pizza in Italy has a long history. The most famous type is Neapolitan pizza. It has a chewy crust. The pizza is topped with tomato sauce, cheese, and basil. It's cooked in a wooden oven to give it a smoky taste. Italians also enjoy Roman-style pizza. This has a thinner crust. Pizza is served as a whole pie and is not sliced. It's eaten with a knife and fork by Italians. Each bite is packed with simple ingredients that make Italian pizza yummy. The text structure used in the paragraph above is description.

 **FALSE** 

**#1** True or false? Pizza became famous in Italy because of Naples. In the 18th century, people in Naples needed a cheap meal. So, they started baking flatbreads topped with tomatoes, cheese, and herbs. Because it was easy to eat, pizza became popular. When Queen Margherita tried it, pizza's popularity grew more. Because of its flavors, pizza is one of the most famous Italian food worldwide. The text structure used in the paragraph above is compare and contrast.

**#3** True or false? Making traditional Italian pizza is an easy process. The first thing to do is prepare the dough. Mix flour, water, yeast, and salt. Then, let it rest for several hours. Next, roll your dough into a thin circle and top with tomato sauce, mozzarella, and basil. After that, bake it in a wood-fired oven for a few minutes until the crust is crispy. The last step is to serve it fresh. The text structure used in the paragraph above is cause and effect.

### No-Prep Printables

#### WELCOME TO ITALY

Write true or false in each box. If it's false, write the correct text structure too.

1. Pizza became famous in Italy because of Naples. In the 18th century, people in Naples needed a cheap meal. So, they started baking flatbreads topped with tomatoes, cheese, and herbs. Because it was easy to eat, pizza became popular. When Queen Margherita tried it, pizza's popularity grew more. Because of its flavors, pizza is one of the most famous Italian food worldwide. The text structure used in the paragraph above is compare and contrast.	2. Pizza in Italy is best when made fresh. But a common challenge is not everyone has a wood-fired oven at home. Without it, the crust doesn't get the right texture. To solve this, many Italians use a pizza stone in their oven to create a crispy crust. Another problem is traditional pizza dough takes hours to rise. Some chefs let it rise overnight to save time. The text structure used in the paragraph above is problem and solution.	3. Making traditional Italian pizza is an easy process. The first thing to do is prepare the dough. Mix flour, water, yeast, and salt. Then, let it rest for several hours. Next, roll your dough into a thin circle and top with tomato sauce, mozzarella, and basil. After that, bake it in a wood-fired oven for a few minutes until the crust is crispy. The last step is to serve it fresh. The text structure used in the paragraph above is cause and effect.
False: Cause and Effect	True	False: Sequencing
4. Pizza in Italy has a long history. The most famous type is Neapolitan pizza. It has a chewy crust. The pizza is topped with tomato sauce, cheese, and basil. It's cooked in a wooden oven to give it a smoky taste. Italians also enjoy Roman-style pizza. This has a thinner crust. Pizza is served as a whole pie and is not sliced. It's eaten with a knife and fork by Italians. Each bite is packed with simple ingredients that make Italian pizza yummy. The text structure used in the paragraph above is description.	5. Pizza in Italy is unlike pizza in other countries. Italian pizza is made with simple, fresh ingredients. There's just tomato sauce, cheese, and basil. Meanwhile, pizza in the USA has many toppings like pepperoni, mushrooms, and extra cheese. Also, pizza in Italy is thin and crispy. In America, the pizzas are thick and doughy. Another difference is Italians eat pizza with a knife and fork, while Americans eat it with their hands. The text structure used in the paragraph above is sequencing.	False: Compare and Contrast

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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!

# CENTER 1





## Multiple Choice

**WELCOME TO ENGLAND**

England is home to many famous castles built long ago to protect kings, queens, and nobles. These castles had thick walls, towers, and moats to keep enemies out. Inside, they had great halls for feasts, sleeping chambers, and training areas for knights. Over time, wooden forts were replaced with stronger stone structures, making them harder to attack. Knights defended castles and fought battles. They wore heavy armor, carried swords and shields, and rode horses. Training took years as they learned combat, horseback riding, and the code of chivalry, which required bravery, loyalty, and protecting the weak. Castles were built to keep invaders out. During attacks, knights fought from castle walls.

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

**WELCOME TO ENGLAND**

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

What text structure is used in the sentence: "Over time, wooden forts were replaced with stronger stone structures, making them harder to attack?"

A. Description  
B. Compare and Contrast  
C. Sequence  
D. Cause and Effect



Which sentence best shows compare and contrast?

A. "During attacks, knights fought from castle walls using bows and arrows."  
B. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer."  
C. "Castles were often built near rivers or had underground tunnels to bring in fresh resources."  
D. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills."



2.

Hands-On Center:

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

**WELCOME TO ENGLAND**

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

1. What text structure is used in the sentence: "Over time, wooden forts were replaced with stronger stone structures, making them harder to attack?" A. Description B. Compare and Contrast C. Sequence D. Cause and Effect	2. Which sentence best shows compare and contrast? A. "During attacks, knights fought from castle walls using bows and arrows." B. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer." C. "Castles were often built near rivers or had underground tunnels to bring in fresh resources." D. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills."	3. What text structure is used in the paragraph about how boys become knights? A. Cause and Effect B. Problem and Solution C. Sequence D. Compare and Contrast	4. Which sentence best shows cause and effect? A. "Knights defended castles and fought battles." B. "The weapons improved, castles became easier to invade, leading to changes in warfare." C. "They were to follow the code of chivalry." D. "Today, many English castles still stand and are a reminder of their history."
5. Which text structure is used in the paragraph that explains the difficulties of living in castles and how people overcame them? A. Description B. Compare and Contrast C. Problem and Solution D. Sequence	6. Which sentence is an example of a description? A. "These castles had thick walls, towers, and moats to keep enemies out." B. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills." C. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer." D. "During a siege, supplies could run out."	7. How are the ideas in the sentence "Castles were built to keep invaders out. During attacks, knights fought from castle walls using bows and arrows." connected? A. Compare and Contrast B. Cause and Effect C. Problem and Solution D. Sequence	8. Which choice best represents the sequence text structure? A. "Castles were old, dark, and hard to live in, so they were often built near rivers or had underground tunnels to bring in fresh resources." B. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer." C. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills. And then, they became knights, used battle skills, and fought battles. By 21, they became knights in armor." D. "The weapons improved, castles became easier to invade, leading to changes in warfare."

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 2

## Fill in the Chart

**WELCOME TO CHINA**

China is home to giant pandas. Unfortunately, because of deforestation and poaching, pandas began to die out. In 1990, the gentle creatures were placed on the endangered list. Since then, China has worked hard to protect them. The number of pandas has grown greatly. In 2016, China took the pandas off the endangered list. They are now 1,800 pandas in the wild. So how did China save the pandas? Here are some ways.

**Improvement #1:** China recreated the bamboo forests. Pandas eat bamboo to eat, they can grow healthy and strong. Bamboo is 99% of their food. With more food available, they were no longer starving.

**Improvement #2:** Zoos have been using captive breeding methods. This means zoos help new pandas be born. This means zoos help new pandas be born.

**Improvement #3:** The country has protected natural areas so the pandas can live. Because of these efforts, other animals are growing in number.

**Improvement #4:** Pan Pan the Giant Panda fathered over 130 pandas.

**Improvement #5:** Leaders make sure giant pandas do not end up in the world so the numbers do not drop to a low level.

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

**WELCOME TO CHINA**

Cause:	Effect:
Deforestation and other problems reduced the panda population.	Pandas were placed on the list of threatened species in 1990.
China worked hard to protect pandas and increase their numbers.	The world downgraded pandas to "vulnerable" in 2016, and China removed them from the endangered list in 2021.
China recreated bamboo forests.	Pandas had more food to eat and were no longer starving.
Zoos started captive breeding programs.	More pandas were born, helping the population grow.
China protected natural areas.	Pandas and other animals had more space to live, and their numbers increased.
Leaders continue conservation efforts and monitor panda numbers.	Pandas are less likely to become endangered again.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Hands-On Center:

Students fill in the chart using what they learned in the text.

**WELCOME TO CHINA**

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

Cause:	Effect:
Deforestation and other problems reduced the panda population.	Pandas were placed on the list of threatened species in 1990.
China worked hard to protect pandas and increase their numbers.	The world downgraded pandas to "vulnerable" in 2016, and China removed them from the endangered list in 2021.
China recreated bamboo forests.	Pandas had more food to eat and were no longer starving.
Zoos started captive breeding programs.	More pandas were born, helping the population grow.
China protected natural areas.	Pandas and other animals had more space to live, and their numbers increased.
Leaders continue conservation efforts and monitor panda numbers.	Pandas are less likely to become endangered again.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 3

## Puzzles

### WELCOME TO IRELAND

The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history. It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused starvation across the country. The famine happened because of a disease called potato blight. It's a plant disease that makes potatoes rot and turn black. Since potatoes were the main food source for many families, the loss of the crop meant people had little to eat. The blight appeared in 1845, and by the next year, most of the potato crops had rotted out. Food, families struggled to survive. Soon, people were dying of starvation. Over 1 million people died, and another 2 million left Ireland to escape the terrible conditions. Many people tried to avoid the problem by moving to other countries for a better life. During the famine, Ireland was ruled by Great Britain. The British's response was not helpful. Some food was sent but not enough to feed everyone. Some farmers grew wheat and barley while others grew potatoes. Since Britain owned land in Ireland, the food grown there was sent to Britain and sold for profit instead of feeding the hungry. Many people died if this food was not sent to Britain, the famine could have been avoided. The famine changed Ireland forever. The population never recovered. Today, there are Irish communities in places like Boston, New York, and Chicago because of the starvation caused by the famine.

#1 description	The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history. E.
#2 sequencing	It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused widespread starvation across the country. G.
#3 description	It's a plant disease that makes potatoes rot and turn black. B.

### Hands-On Center:

Students put each 2-piece puzzle together.

WELCOME TO IRELAND

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

E	The Irish Potato Famine, also known as the Great Famine, was one of the most tragic events in Ireland's history.	C	The blight first appeared in 1845, and by the following year, most of the potato crops had rotted.
G	It lasted from 1845 to 1852 and caused widespread starvation across the country.	F	Some farmers grew wheat and barley while others grew potatoes.
B	It's a plant disease that makes potatoes rot and turn black.		
D	Without food, families struggled to survive.		
A	Many Irish people tried to avoid the problem by moving to other countries like the United States, Canada, and Australia in search of a better life.		
H	Today, there are large Irish communities in places like Boston, New York, and Chicago because of the starvation caused by the famine.		

Write the correct letter in each box.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 4

## Compare & Contrast

### WELCOME TO JAPAN

Two of the most popular martial arts are karate and jujitsu. Both are used for self-defense and have been practiced for years, but they are quite different. Karate (from the Chinese martial art kung fu and was adapted in karate means "empty hand" so there are no weapons used. Karate artists use kicks, punches, and blocks to attack and defend. Jujitsu (from the Japanese word for "soft" and "art") uses strikes and using the whole body's strength to powerfully hit. Jujitsu fighting back which helps fighters use opponents' weaknesses. Both martial arts focus on discipline and training to master movements. Today, around 60 million people practice karate and it became an Olympic sport in 2020. Jujitsu came from samurai combat techniques. Samurai used jujitsu when they fought in battle. Unlike karate's powerful strikes, jujitsu relies on grabbing, locking opponents in place, and throwing them to the ground. Jujitsu fighters use an opponent's strength against them. The goal is to take down an opponent with low effort to defend yourself. In modern jujitsu into "judo," now a global sport. Both martial arts focus on taking different approaches to do so.

Karate	Jujitsu	Both
This martial art became an Olympic sport in 2020. A.	This martial art has fighters use their opponent's strength against. D.	This martial art has been practiced for many years. B.
This martial art has fighters use their whole-body strength to land strong hits. C.	This martial art requires training and discipline. E.	

### Hands-On Center:

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

WELCOME TO JAPAN

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

KARATE	BOTH	JUJITSU
G, C, J, A	B, L, E, I	H, D, K, F
This martial art has become an Olympic sport in 2020. A.	This martial art has fighters use their whole-body strength to land strong hits. C.	This martial art has been practiced for many years. B.
This martial art requires training and discipline. D.	This martial art was modified into judo in 1882. F.	This martial art focuses on powerful strikes like punches and kicks. H.
This martial art has become popular worldwide. E.	This martial art teaches fighters to use their opponent's weaknesses. J.	This martial art requires low effort and is good for self-defense. K.
		This martial art is used for self-defense and to help people protect themselves. L.

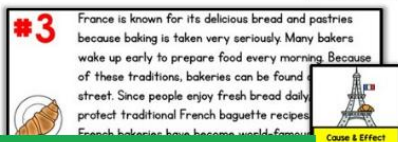
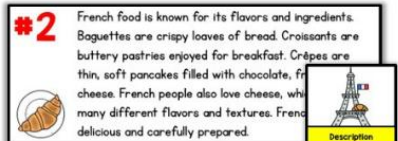
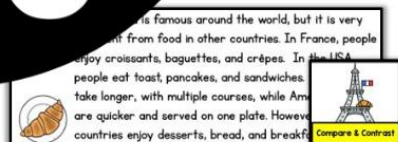
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 5

## Task Cards



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

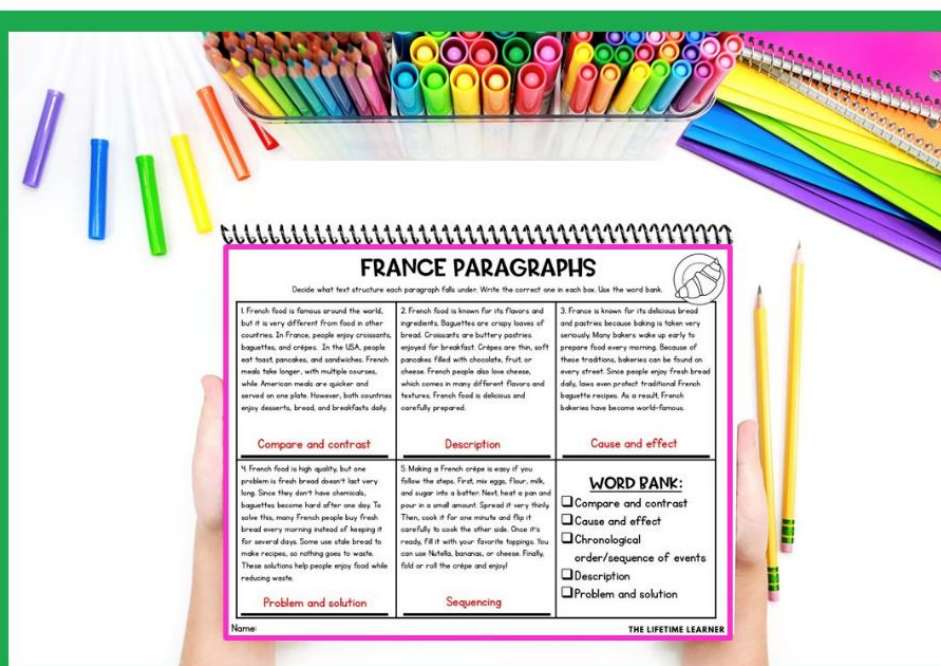
### WELCOME TO FRANCE

- Text Structure Used: **Compare and contrast**  
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: \_\_\_\_\_  
French food is "different" from other countries. France foods are compared to USA foods. French people "take longer" to eat than Americans, "both countries enjoy desserts"
- Text Structure Used: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: \_\_\_\_\_
- Text Structure Used: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: \_\_\_\_\_
- Text Structure Used: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hints From the Text to Show Proof: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 by Code



### Hands-On Center:

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



## No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 7

## Cut and Paste

**WELCOME TO INDIA**

India is a pesticide problem. Pesticide is a substance used to help control the spread of disease, or to control weeds. In India, farmers struggle to keep their crops from eating crops. When farmers use pesticides, insects eating the crops stay away. Pesticides help farmers grow, collect, and sell the crop without worrying bugs are eating to ruin their harvest. The cost of pesticide spray has gotten higher lately. Farmers are struggling to buy pesticides because they are expensive.

An unusual solution has become popular recently. Some farmers are using soda as an option. These farmers say the liquid helps attract good insects for plants. At keeping harmful insects away. By spraying soda on plants, ants come to and eat insects that can ruin crops. Farmers have also noticed less pesticides kept the soil nutrient-rich.

So, why soda? Soda is much cheaper to purchase. In India, pesticides cost per acre. When mixing soda with water, farmers can spray an acre for 10¢. spread so many farmers have tried soda. Thus, soda sales have increased. Many soda companies have said it does not work because they do not want to pesticides. However, not enough research has been done to show if it is. Still, many farmers are using this method as a temporary solution. This will make more money, grow more crops, and save money by not having to buy pesticides.

**WELCOME TO INDIA**

Decide if each sentence is a problem or solution.

Glue each sentence on the side it belongs on.

Problem:	Solution:
India is dealing with a pesticide problem.	The cost of pesticide spray has gotten higher lately.
Farmers are struggling to buy pesticides because they are expensive.	An unusual solution has become popular recently.
By spraying soda on plants, ants come to the sugar, small and eat insects that can ruin crops.	This will help them to make more money, grow more crops, and save money by not having to buy pesticides.
The cost of pesticide is higher lately.	Some farmers are using soda as an option.
	India is dealing with a pesticide problem.
	In India, farmers struggle to keep insects from eating crops.

Hands-On Center:

Cut and paste each box where it belongs.

**WELCOME TO INDIA**

Decide if each sentence is a problem or solution.

Glue each sentence on the side it belongs on.

Problem:	Solution:
India is dealing with a pesticide problem.	The cost of pesticide spray has gotten higher lately.
Farmers are struggling to buy pesticides because they are expensive.	An unusual solution has become popular recently.
By spraying soda on plants, ants come to the sugar, small and eat insects that can ruin crops.	This will help them to make more money, grow more crops, and save money by not having to buy pesticides.
	Some farmers are using soda as an option.
	In India, farmers struggle to keep insects from eating crops.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 8

## Description

**WELCOME TO CANADA**

Canada is a country with a cold climate. This makes it perfect for hockey. Ice hockey was created in 1875 in Montreal and is played in winter. It is a contact sport where players use sticks to pass, control, and shoot a puck into the goal. Players wear heavy equipment and skate on a marked rink. The game is fast-paced and has six players, including a goalie. Players try to score while the goalie blocks shots. Each goal is worth one point. Games consist of three periods. But with breaks and player substitutions, they can last up to two hours.

Penalties are a key part of hockey. When players commit minor offenses (hitting with stick above shoulder, tripping, or holding, they are in the penalty box. This gives the other team a power play (more players on the ice). Major penalties, like boarding (slamming another player into the wall, the head, or fighting, result in five minutes in the box.

Hockey has grown in popularity. The Stanley Cup was introduced in 1893 to honor the best amateur team. It later became the top prize in the National Hockey League (NHL) and remains one of the most respected trophies in sports. Hockey is a national sport. Many families passionately support their favorite team. In a country with a cold climate and long winters, Canada is the perfect place for hockey!

**WELCOME TO CANADA**

Answers vary

Ice hockey was created in 1875 in Montreal and is played in winter.

You play ice hockey by having six players on each side and try to shoot pucks into the other team's goal.

Games consist of three 20-minute periods. But with breaks and player substitutions, they can last up to two hours.

Penalties are a key part of hockey. When players commit minor offenses, they spend two minutes in the penalty box.

The Stanley Cup was introduced in 1893 to honor the best amateur team. It later became the top prize in the National Hockey League (NHL).

Hockey is Canada's national sport. Many families passionately support their favorite teams.

**All About Ice Hockey**

Fill in the circles with details about ice hockey in Canada.

Hands-On Center:

Students fill in the circles with details using what they learned in the text.

**WELCOME TO CANADA**

Answers vary

Ice hockey was created in 1875 in Montreal and is played in winter.

You play ice hockey by having six players on each side and try to shoot pucks into the other team's goal.

Games consist of three 20-minute periods. But with breaks and player substitutions, they can last up to two hours.

Penalties are a key part of hockey. When players commit minor offenses, they spend two minutes in the penalty box.

The Stanley Cup was introduced in 1893 to honor the best amateur team. It later became the top prize in the National Hockey League (NHL).

Hockey is Canada's national sport. Many families passionately support their favorite teams.

**All About Ice Hockey**

Fill in the circles with details about ice hockey in Canada.

No Prep Printable Worksheet!

# CENTER 9

## Sequencing Puzzles

**WELCOME TO BRAZIL**

Country's most popular sport. It was introduced to Brazil by Charles Miller. He was a Brazilian who brought soccer back from England. By 1902, Brazil had its first championship since the sport was introduced.

In 1914, the Brazilian team played against the English. By 1930, Brazil played the World Cup in Uruguay. In 1950, Brazil won the World Cup. Unfortunately, they lost in the final. In 1958, Brazil won its first World Cup in France. Pelé, who became a star. They won a second World Cup in 1962. In 1970, Brazil won another one, ending a 20-year drought. In 1994, Brazil won their fifth World Cup, becoming the most successful team in World Cup history.

**BRAZIL PUZZLE MAT**

Place the puzzle pieces in order here on the mat.

Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4
D. Soccer was introduced to Brazil by Charles Miller after he learned about it in England.	G. Brazil had its first soccer championship game.	E. The Brazilian national team played its first global match.	
Event 5	Event 6	Event 7	Event 8

A. Brazil won a World Cup after twenty-four years of no wins.

B. Brazil hosted its first World Cup.

C. Brazil won their 5th World Cup, making them the most successful team in history.

**Hands-On Center:**

Students put the puzzle pieces in chronological order.

**WELCOME TO BRAZIL**

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.

7 A. Brazil won a World Cup after twenty-four years of no wins.	5 B. Brazil hosted its first World Cup.	8 C. Brazil won their 5th World Cup, making them the most successful team in history.	1 D. Soccer was introduced to Brazil by Charles Miller after he learned about it in England.
3 E. The Brazilian national team played its first global match.	6 F. Brazil won their first World Cup title.	2 G. Brazil had its first soccer championship game.	4 H. Brazil participated in the FIFA World Cup in Uruguay.

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

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**No Prep Printable Worksheet!**

# CENTER 10

## True or False

**TRUE** ✓

**FALSE** ✗

**#2 True or False?**

Pizza in Italy is best when made fresh. But a common challenge is not everyone has a wood-fired oven at home. Without it, the crust doesn't get the right texture. To solve this, many Italians use a pizza stone in their oven to create a crispy crust. Another problem is traditional pizza dough takes hours to rise. Some chefs let it rise overnight to save time.

The text structure used in the paragraph above is problem and solution.

**#4 True or False?**

Pizza in Italy has a long history. The most famous type is Neapolitan pizza. It has a chewy crust. The pizza is topped with tomato sauce, cheese, and basil. It's cooked in a wooden oven to give it a smoky taste. Italians also enjoy Roman-style pizza. This has a thinner crust. Pizza is served as a whole pie and is not sliced. It's eaten with a knife and fork by Italians. Each bite is packed with simple ingredients that make Italian pizza yummy.

The text structure used in the paragraph above is description.

**#3 True or False?**

Making traditional Italian pizza is an easy process. The first thing to do is prepare the dough. Mix flour, water, yeast, and salt. Then, let it rest for several hours. Next, roll your dough into a thin circle and top with tomato sauce, mozzarella, and basil. After that, bake it in a wood-fired oven for a few minutes until the crust is crispy. The last step is to serve it fresh.

The text structure used in the paragraph above is cause and effect.

**#1 True or False?**

Pizza became famous in Italy because of Naples. In the 18th century, people in Naples needed a cheap meal. So, they started baking flatbreads topped with tomatoes, cheese, and herbs. Because it was easy to eat, pizza became popular. When Queen Margherita tried it, pizza's popularity grew more. Because of its flavors, pizza is one the most famous Italian food worldwide.

The text structure used in the paragraph above is compare and contrast.

**Hands-On Center:**

Students decide if each card is true or false.

**WELCOME TO ITALY**

Write true or false in each box. If it's false, write the correct text structure too.

1. Pizza became famous in Italy because of Naples. In the 18th century, people in Naples needed a cheap meal. So, they started baking flatbreads topped with tomatoes, cheese, and herbs. Because it was easy to eat, pizza became popular. When Queen Margherita tried it, pizza's popularity grew more. Because of its flavors, pizza is one the most famous Italian food worldwide. The text structure used in the paragraph above is compare and contrast.	2. Pizza in Italy is best when made fresh. But a common challenge is not everyone has a wood-fired oven at home. Without it, the crust doesn't get the right texture. To solve this, many Italians use a pizza stone in their oven to create a crispy crust. Another problem is traditional pizza dough takes hours to rise. Some chefs let it rise overnight to save time. The text structure used in the paragraph above is problem and solution.	3. Making traditional Italian pizza is an easy process. The first thing to do is prepare the dough. Mix flour, water, yeast, and salt. Then, let it rest for several hours. Next, roll your dough into a thin circle and top with tomato sauce, mozzarella, and basil. After that, bake it in a wood-fired oven for a few minutes until the crust is crispy. The last step is to serve it fresh. The text structure used in the paragraph above is cause and effect.
False: Cause and Effect	True	False: Sequencing
4. Pizza in Italy has a long history. The most famous type is Neapolitan pizza. It has a chewy crust. The pizza is topped with tomato sauce, cheese, and basil. It's cooked in a wooden oven to give it a smoky taste. Italians also enjoy Roman-style pizza. This has a thinner crust. Pizza is served as a whole pie and is not sliced. It's eaten with a knife and fork by Italians. Each bite is packed with simple ingredients that make Italian pizza yummy. The text structure used in the paragraph above is description.	5. Pizza in Italy is unlike pizza in other countries. Italian pizza is made with simple, fresh ingredients. There's just tomato sauce, cheese, and basil. Meanwhile, pizza in the USA has many toppings like pepperoni, mushrooms, and extra cheese. Also, pizza in Italy is thin and crispy. In America, the pizza is thick and doughy. Another difference is Italians eat pizza with a knife and fork, while Americans eat it with their hands. The text structure used in the paragraph above is sequencing.	6. False: Compare and Contrast

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

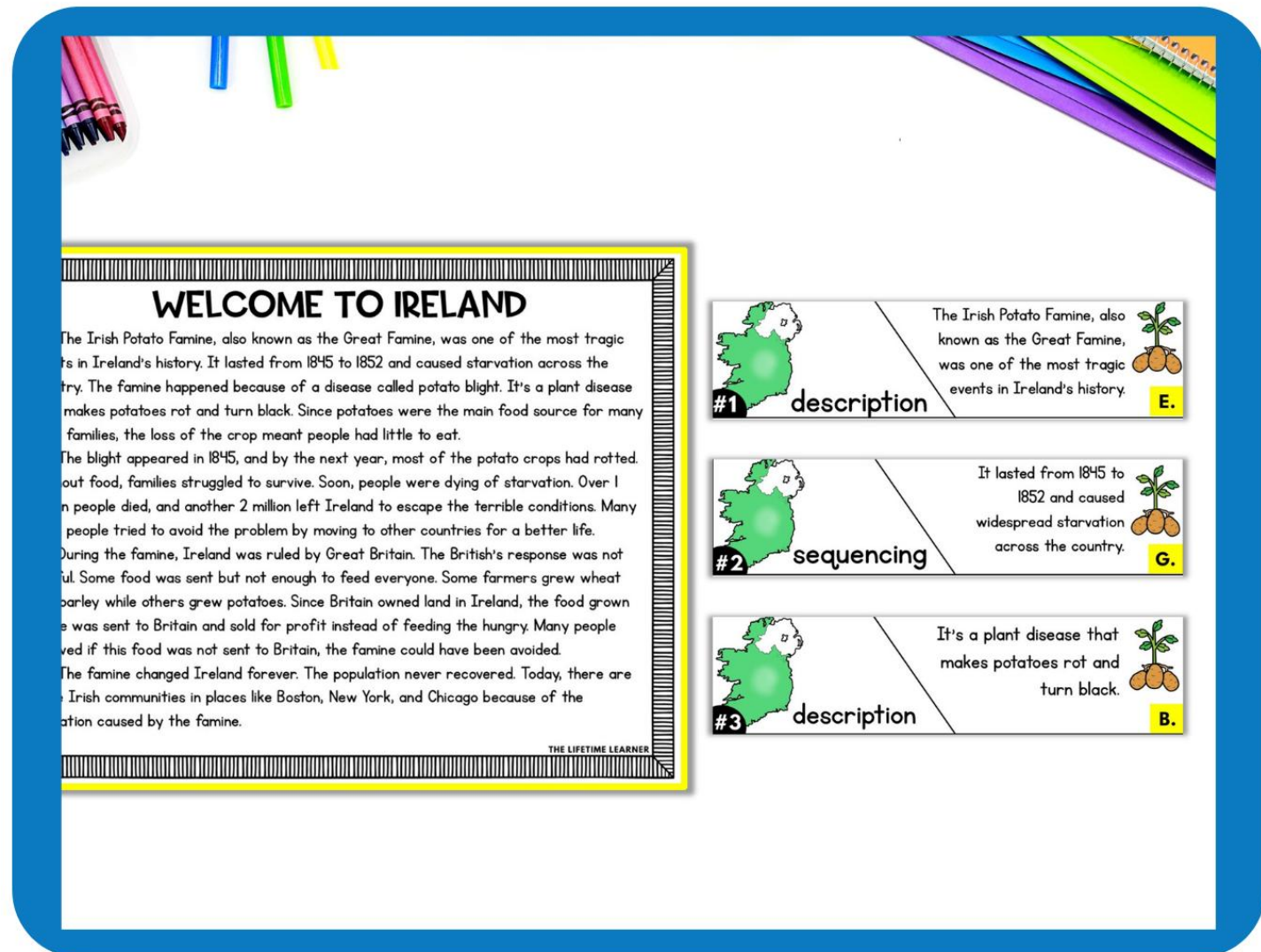
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

**No Prep Printable Worksheet!**

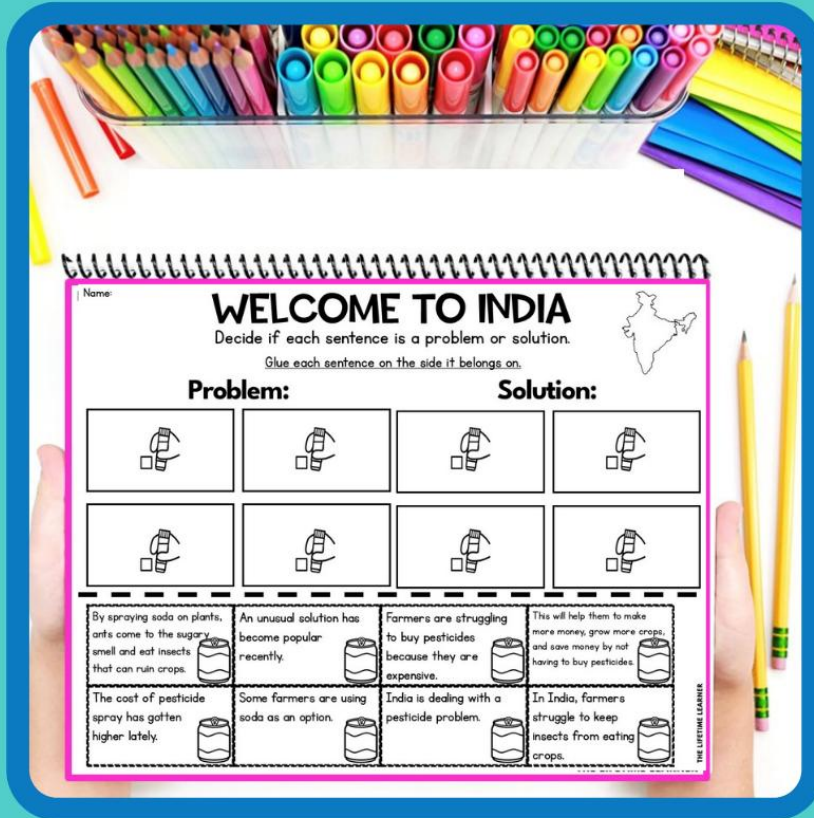
# HOW TO USE THIS:

## 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



# PRINT & DIGITAL



Print & Go



Google Slides

There is a digital version of the  
no-prep printables!

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

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

## WELCOME TO ENGLAND




1. What text structure is used in the sentence "Over time, wooden forts were replaced with stronger stone structures, making them harder to attack?" A. Description B. Compare and Contrast C. Sequence D. Cause and Effect	2. Which sentence best shows compare and contrast? A. "During attacks, knights fought from castle walls using bows and arrows." B. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer." C. "Castles were often built near rivers or had underground tunnels to bring in fresh resources." D. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills."	3. What text structure is used in the paragraph about how boys became knights? A. Cause and Effect B. Problem and Solution C. Sequence D. Compare and Contrast	4. Which sentence best shows cause and effect? A. "Knights defended castles and fought battles." B. "As weapons improved, castles became easier to invade, leading to changes in warfare." C. "They seemed to follow the code of chivalry." D. "Today, many English castles still stand and are a reminder of their history."
5. Which text structure is used in the paragraph that explains the difficulties of living in castles and how people overcame them? A. Description B. Compare and Contrast C. Problem and Solution D. Sequence	6. Which sentence is an example of a description? A. "These castles had thick walls, towers, and moats to keep enemies out." B. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills." C. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer." D. "During a siege, supplies could run out."	7. How are the ideas in the sentence "Castles were built to keep invaders out. During attacks, knights fought from castle walls using bows and arrows" connected? A. Compare and Contrast B. Cause and Effect C. Problem and Solution D. Sequence	8. Which choice best represents the sequence text structure? A. "Castles were cold, dark, and hard to clean, so they were often built near rivers or had underground tunnels to bring in fresh resources." B. "Unlike wooden forts, which burned easily, stone castles could withstand attacks longer." C. "Boys started as pages to learn basic skills. Around 16, they became squires to assist knights and practice combat. By 21, they became knights in a ceremony." D. "As weapons improved, castles became easier to invade, leading to changes in warfare."

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

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

## WELCOME TO ENGLAND




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

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

## Center #1



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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

10 Pre-Made  
Centers  
(Print & Go)

10 Pre-Made  
Centers:  
Editable Version

10 Blank Centers  
To Add Your  
Own Content

# 3 Versions Included

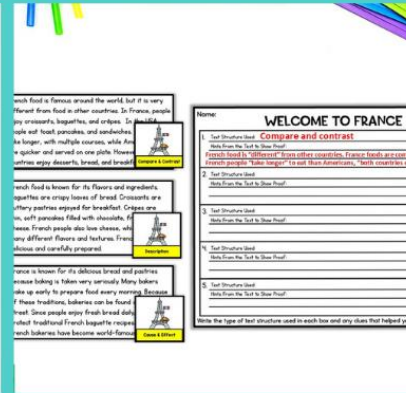
# WHAT'S INCLUDED?



10 Color  
& B/W Posters



Recording  
Sheets



10 Hands On  
Centers



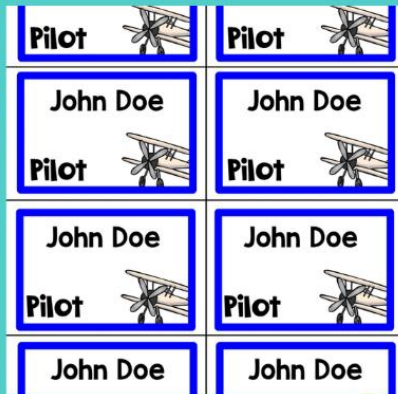
10 No Prep  
Printables



2 Versions of  
Passages &  
Activities



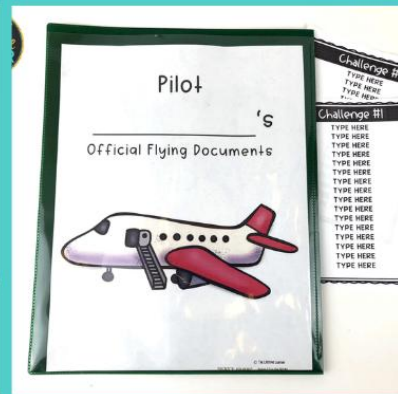
Printable  
Hats



Name  
Tags



Coloring  
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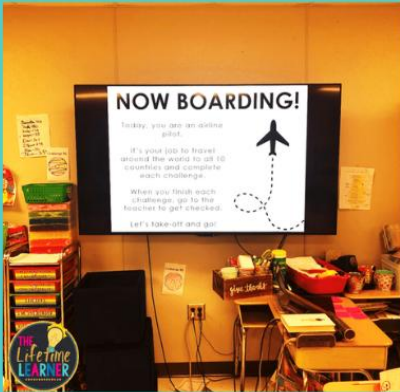
Folder  
Insert



Decor  
Posters

keep scrolling to see more!

# WHAT'S INCLUDED?



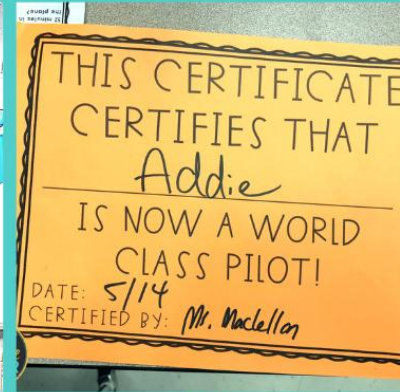
Welcome Slide



Editable Versions



Banner



Certificate



Shopping Guide



Admission Tickets



Digital Version



Answer Keys



QR Codes



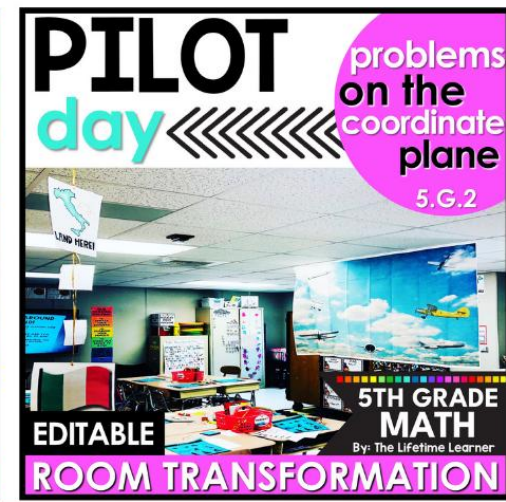
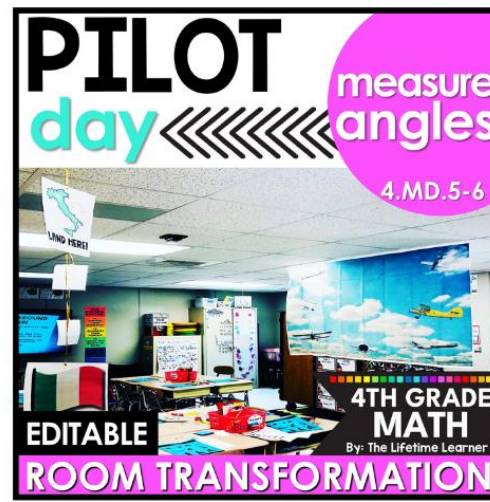
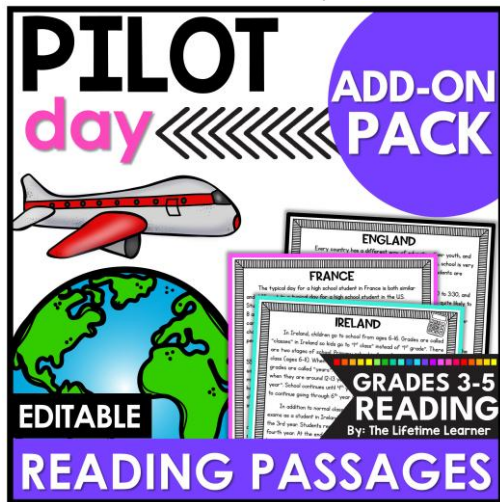
Fun Facts

jam-packed with fun, rigor, and engagement!

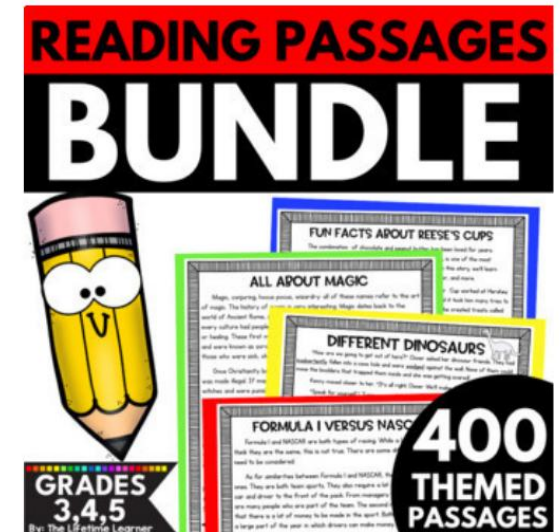
# other resources this pairs well with:

Add in even more reading passages with an add-on pack!

Or, mix some math into your themed learning day!



When you purchase a Mega Bundle, you save 50% off the price of the individual resources!



Add On Pack Bundle!

# classroom transformations

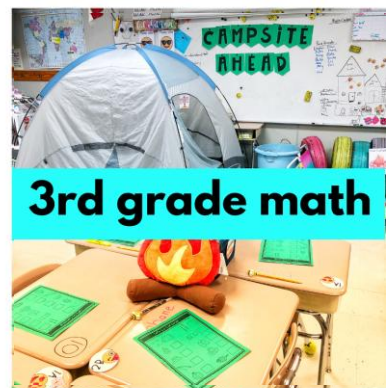
## low prep, fun, and engaging!



1st grade math



2nd grade math



3rd grade math



4th grade math



5th grade math



kindergarten math

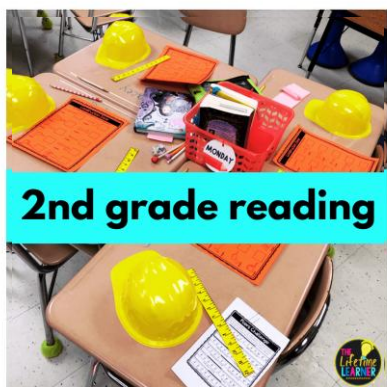
# K-5 MATH & READING



kindergarten reading



1st grade reading



2nd grade reading



GR 3-5 reading  
comprehension



3-5 reading  
add-on packs



alphabet letters

# THE LIFETIME LEARNER'S CLASSROOM TRANSFORMATIONS ARE:

1. Engaging to Students
2. Classroom Tested (and Student-Approved)
3. Print and Digital Compatible
4. Jam-Packed with Content
5. Aligned to Reading Standards
6. Easy to Implement
7. Flexible for Every Classroom
8. Versatile Ways to Reward Students
9. Rigorous Student Learning Activities

**All content is included** so you can simply **print**  
**and get ready** for an **AMAZING** experience  
**with your students!**



# Please Note:

- There are 10 reading challenges provided as well as décor, a fast finisher activity, and additional extras.
- The digital version is provided in Google Slides.
- **Nervous about trying your first room transformation? You'll be hooked once you try one! I promise!**
- Feel free to contact me if you have questions or want to chat about room transformations. You can email me at [lindsaythelifetimelearner@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaythelifetimelearner@gmail.com)