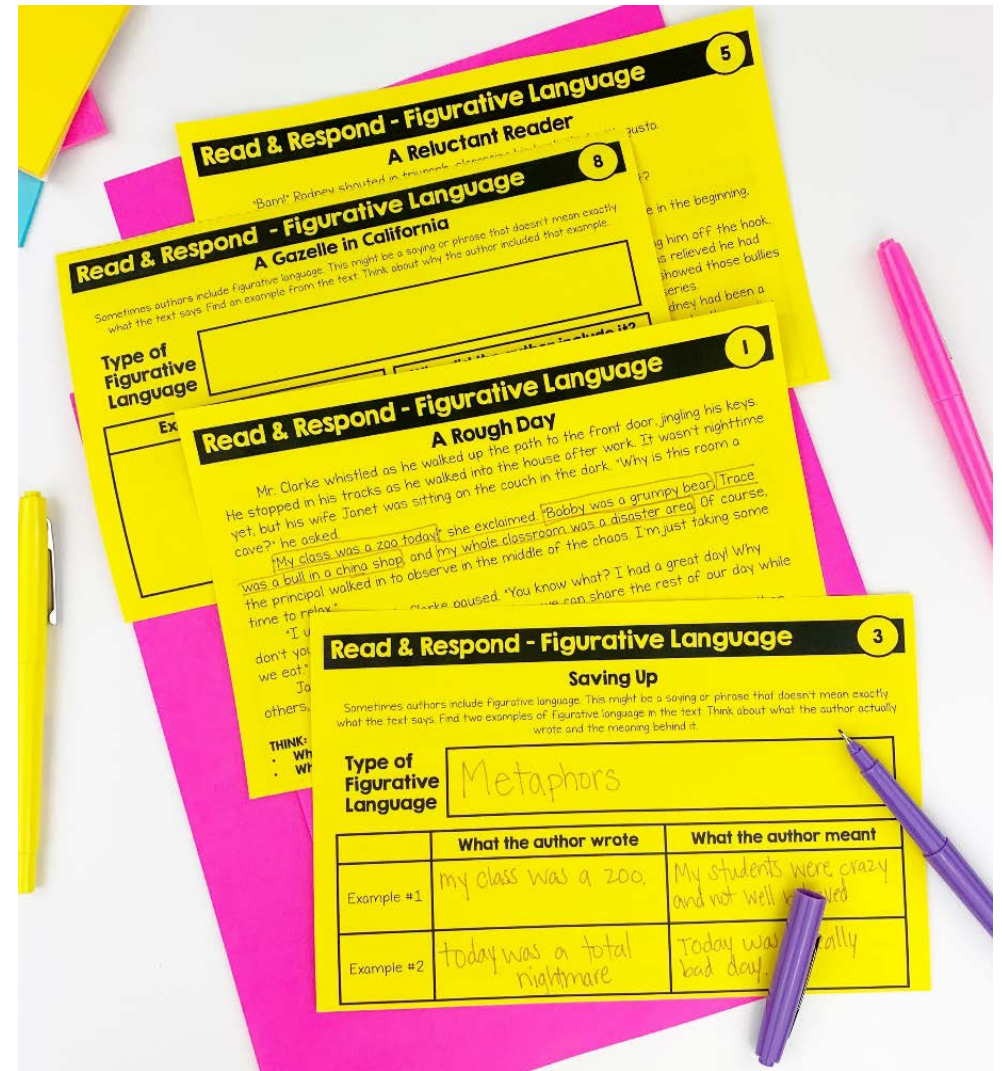
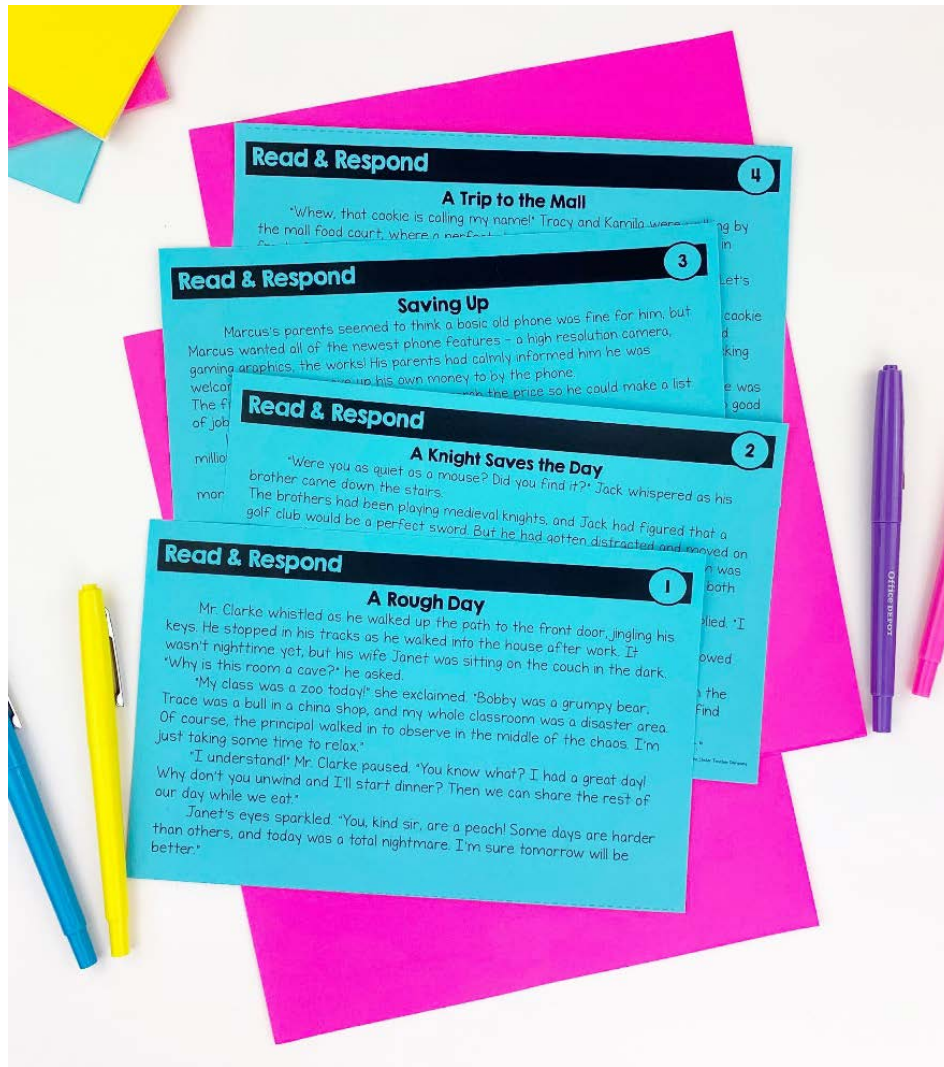


# FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

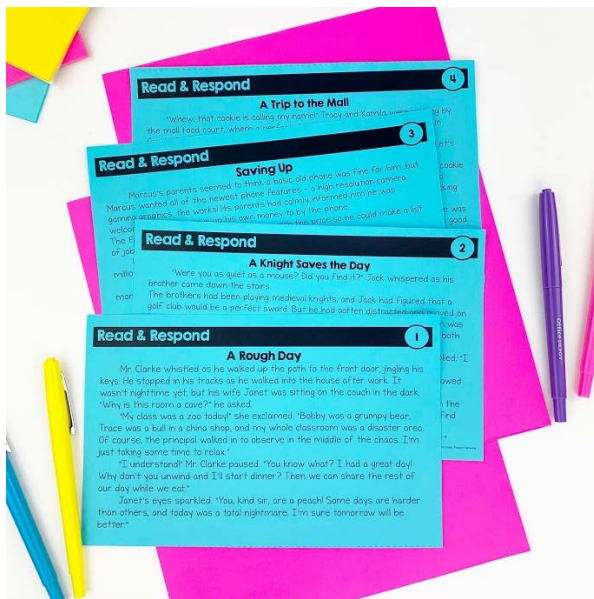
## READ & RESPOND TASK CARDS



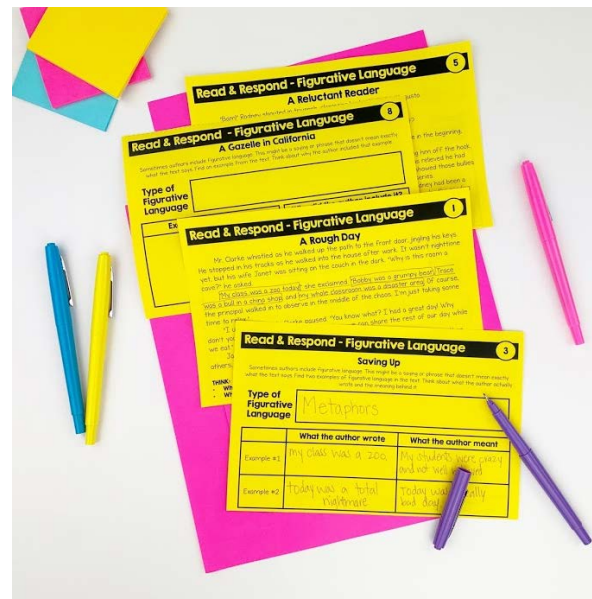
# WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resource includes 24 reading task cards that contain short fiction passages that will help you teach your students to identify and interpret figurative language.

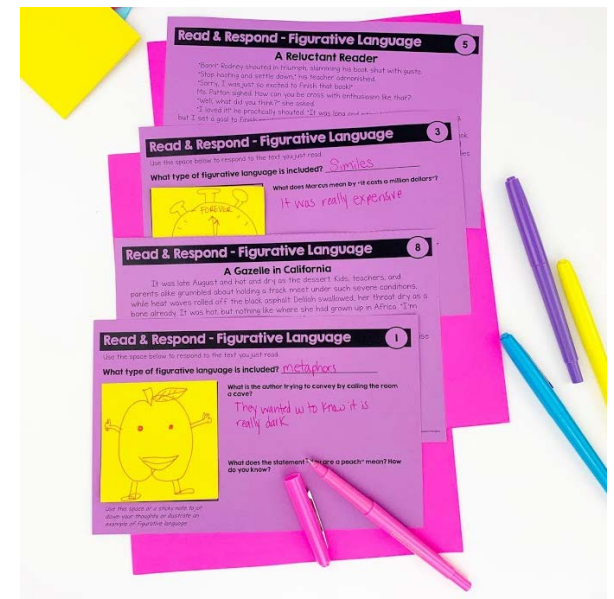
## Task cards can be printed in three different ways.



Option #1 - Just the text



Option #2 - Text and Graphic Organizer Template

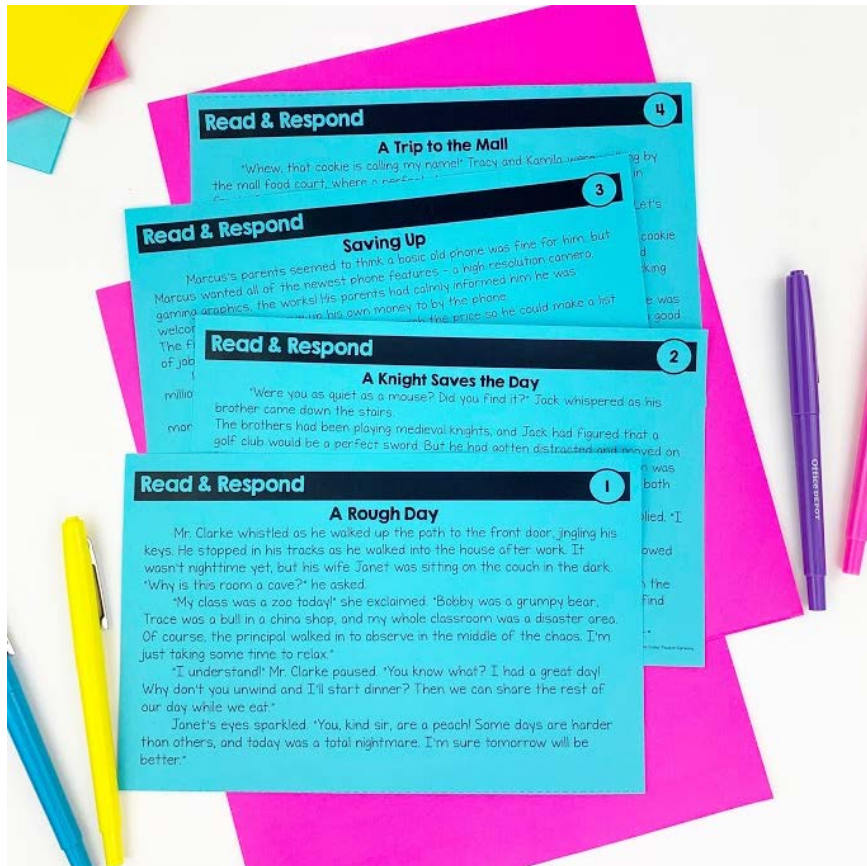


Option #3 - Text and Response Questions

\*Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.\*

# Option #1 - Just the Text

One of the printing options for the task cards is to print JUST the text. Each task card has a short fiction reading passages (takes up half a page). The passages include a variety of figurative language examples, but you really could use them to teach any fiction skill.

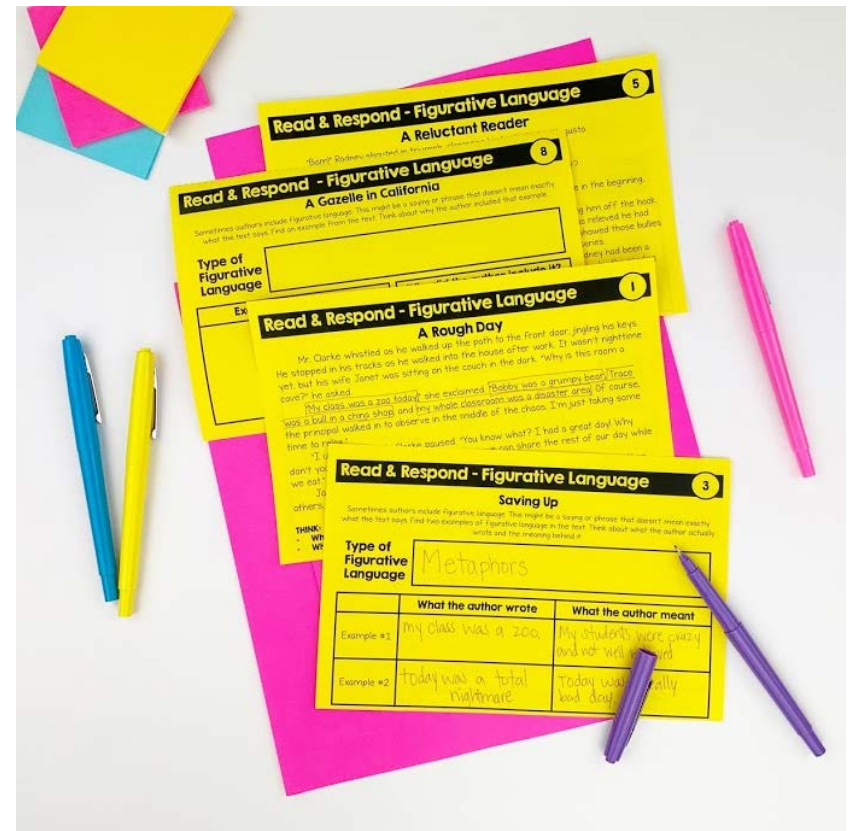


- This set of task cards is ideal if you want to use them in the “traditional” task card way.
- I suggest printing them on cardstock and either putting them all on a book ring or in a photo box.
- There are 3 options of reading response sheets included so students can read the passages and respond on a separate page.

# Option #2 - Passage & Graphic Organizer

One of the printing options includes the passage and a graphic organizer template. These task cards can be printed front and back and work great in a center, as part of your small group instruction, or even for guided practice.

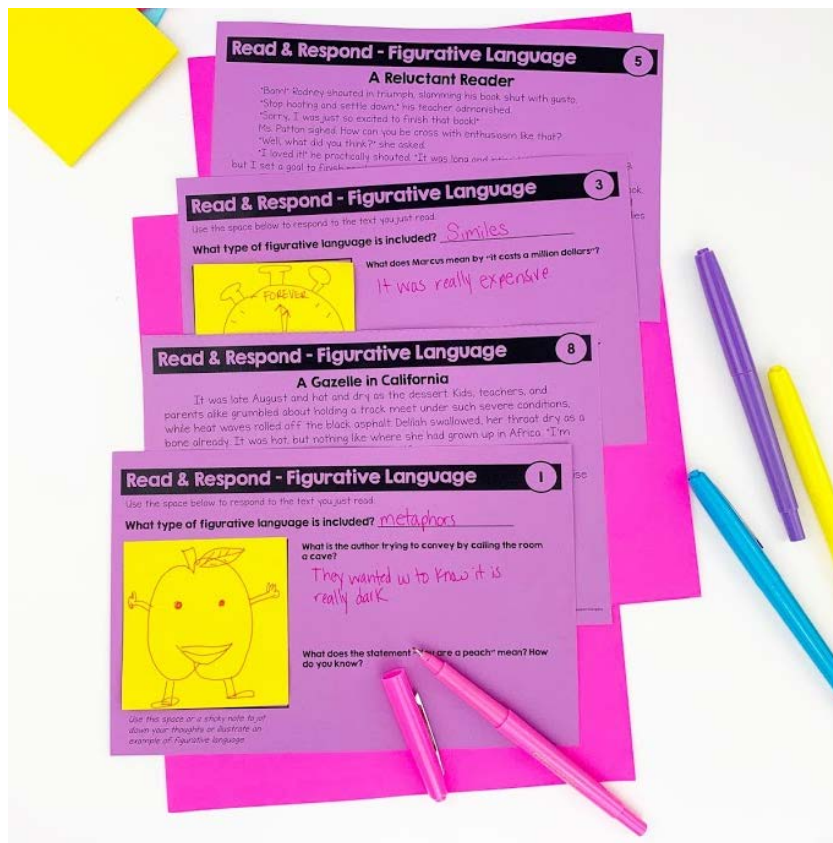
- On the front of each task card is a short reading passage (the same numbers and titles as option #1).
- The bottom of each task card includes a few questions to prompt students to think about why the author included figurative language
- On the back, there is a graphic organizer template that will help students identify and interpret the figurative language included in the text.



**\*Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.\***

# Option #3 - Passage & Response Questions

One of the printing options includes the passage and reading response questions. These task cards can be printed front and back and work great in a center, as part of your small group instruction, or even for guided practice.



- On the front of each task card is a short reading passage (the same numbers and titles as option #1).
- The bottom of each task card includes a few questions to prompt students to think about why the author included figurative language
- On the back, there is space for a sticky note so students can illustrate the figurative or literal meaning. There are also two text-based comprehension questions.

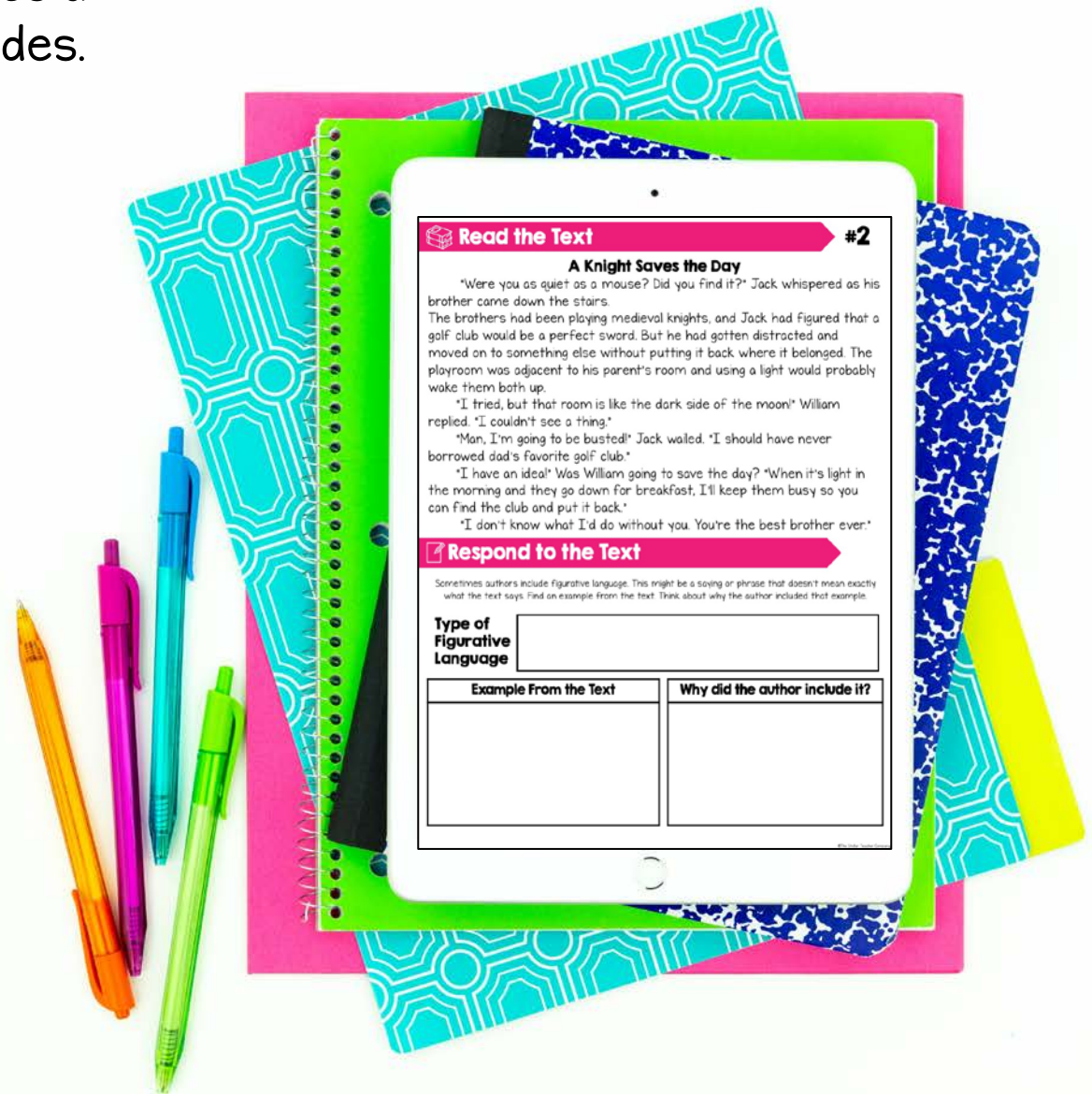
**\*Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.\***

# Includes Digital Versions

I love to provide both print and digital options in my resources. This resource includes a digital version created using Google Slides.

There are three different digital versions included (to match the three different printing options).

- **Option 1:** The text with a generic space for student response.
- **Option 2:** The text with the graphic organizer at the bottom (this one is pictured to the right)
- **Option 3:** The text with the text-based comprehension questions on the bottom.



# A LOOK INSIDE...(option 1)

## Read & Respond

1

### A Rough Day

Mr. Clarke whistled as he walked up the path to the front door, jingling his keys. He stopped in his tracks as he walked into the house after work. It wasn't nighttime yet, but his wife Janet was sitting on the couch in the dark. "Why is this room a cave?" he asked.

"My class was a zoo today!" she exclaimed. "Bobby was a grumpy bear, Trace was a bull in a china shop, and my whole classroom was a disaster area. Of course, the principal walked in to observe in the middle of the chaos. I'm just taking some time to relax."

"I understand!" Mr. Clarke paused. "You know what? I had a great day! Why don't you unwind and I'll start dinner? Then we can share the rest of our day while we eat."

Janet's eyes sparkled. "You, kind sir, are a peach! Some days are harder than others, and today was a total nightmare. I'm sure tomorrow will be better."

## Read & Respond

2

### A Knight Saves the Day

"Were you as quiet as a mouse? Did you find it?" Jack whispered as his brother came down the stairs.

The brothers had been playing medieval knights, and Jack had figured that a

golf club would be a perfect something else with adjacent to his parent's up.

"I tried, but that r couldn't see a thing."

"Man, I'm going to dad's favorite golf club."

"I have an idea!" W morning and they go do the club and put it back

"I don't know wh

## Read & Respond

7

### Literally Starving

Amanda paused for a minute and yelled down the stairs. "Mooooom, where's lunch? I'm starving."

"It's almost ready, dear," her mom called back, "go ahead and clean up and come downstairs."

"Well, I hope you made a ton of food! I feel like I could eat a horse." Lately Amanda just always felt so hungry!

Amanda picked up her room, washed her hands, and raced down to the kitchen. "Where's the fire?" her mom joked.

Amanda rolled her eyes. "Mom, do you even care that I am starving to death?" Her mom lifted an eyebrow and crossed her arms. "Funny, you don't look that close to death! You are in a growth spurt, so your body needs more food than usual. People who are actually starving can hardly run down to their kitchen and order up a nutritious meal."

Amanda looked sheepish. "You're right. Now I feel selfish, taking everything we have for granted. I realize I'm privileged to have so much. But really, can we eat? I really am starving!"

## Read & Respond

8

### A Gazelle in California

It was late August and hot and dry as the dessert. Kids, teachers, and parents alike grumbled about holding a track meet under such severe conditions, while heat waves rolled off the black asphalt. Delilah swallowed, her throat dry as a bone already. It was hot, but nothing like where she had grown up in Africa. "I'm going to run like the wind," she thought to herself.

Delilah had spent her early childhood running free as a gazelle around the African savannah. It was usually hot and dusty, but Delilah had missed the exercise - and the freedom - since they had moved to central California a few years ago.

Glancing around, Delilah couldn't help but think that she had an advantage because of her early experiences in Africa. The unusual circumstances of her childhood often made her feel weird, but today she felt like a million bucks. Sometimes it pays to be unique!

## Read & Respond

3

### Saving Up

Marcus's parents seemed to think a basic old phone was fine for him, but Marcus wanted all of the newest phone features - a high resolution camera, gaming graphics, the works! His parents had calmly informed him he was welcome to work to save up his own money to buy the phone.

The first thing he needed to do was research the price so he could make a list of jobs he could do to earn the money.

Looking at the price of the phone online, Marcus wailed, "But it costs a million dollars!"

His dad rolled his eyes. "Marcus, you are exaggerating! Kids save up their money to buy what they want all the time."

"Ugh!" Marcus stormed, "It will take me forever!"

"Let's sit down and make a saving plan so you can meet your goal in a reasonable amount of time."

"This is the end of the world." Maybe his current phone wasn't so bad after all!

## Read & Respond

4

### A Trip to the Mall

"Whew, that cookie is calling my name!" Tracy and Kanila were walking by the mall food court, where a perfect chocolate chip cookie was displayed in front of the cookie shop.

## Read & Respond

9

### A Winter Night

The stars were diamonds sparkling in the black velvet sky.

Frowning, Roan sighed and turned from the window. She was feeling guilty, warm inside with the crackling fire while the snow was a thick blanket on the ground outside. Temperatures would be freezing tonight.

"Why are you so blue?" her mom asked.

"I'm thinking of the kittens in the barn. They must be cold in that freezer! Can't we bring them in the house to warm up?"

Roan's mother explained, "Barn cats are not pets. The kittens have their mother, and she does not want to come in. The barn has plenty of hay for bedding and is well insulated. I'm sure they're warm and cozy. But your concern for the animals is a ray of sunshine."

"I hope you're right." Roan was still skeptical, but her mother usually knew what she was talking about. Living on a working farm meant their animals all had jobs to do, but Roan still dreamed of a pet to call her own.

## Read & Respond

10

### Not So Fast

Samantha burst into the house, shaking her umbrella. "It is raining cats and dogs out there!" she exclaimed.

"Still?!" Her mom looked up from the vegetables she was chopping. "I need to go to the store for supplies, but this weather is ridiculous."

"Yeah, you might want to wait until things settle down out there."

Samantha hung up her jacket in front of the fire to dry. "This is a good day to stay cozy inside."

"I don't want to rain on your parade, Sam, but we are going to need more firewood in order to do that. I guess we weren't very prepared for this storm!"

Samantha sighed and looked longingly at the soft couch with its pile of blankets and pillows. "I guess I might as well do that now, before I get comfortable!" She put her coat back on, this time putting her hood up since she would need both hands to carry the wood. "I'll be back in a jiffy!"

## Read & Respond

5

### A Reluctant Reader

"Barn!" Rodney shouted in triumph, slamming his book shut with gusto.

"Stop hooting and settle down," his teacher admonished.

"Sorry, I was just so excited to finish that book!"

Ms. Patton sighed. How can you be cross with enthusiasm like that?

"Well, what did you think?" she asked.

"I loved it!" he practically shouted. "It was long and intimidated me in the beginning, but I set a goal to finish reading it and I did!"

"That's great, but what was your favorite part?" She wasn't letting him off the hook.

"When the boy learns he is a wizard and not just an orphan! I was relieved he had somewhere to belong. Also, when he casts his first spell, and ZAP! He showed those bullies who was boss." Rodney chuckled and went to get the next book in the series.

Ms. Patton tapped on her keyboard, updating his reading grade. Rodney had been a tough one to get going, but she felt satisfied he had finally gotten bitten - by the reading bug.

## Read & Respond

6

### Problem Solving in the Dark

Tucker gazed at the rat's nest of wires, wondering where to begin. The power in the house had gone out, and this is what he had found. What a mess!

His brother stood by his side, gazing at the mess. "It will be a piece of cake to fix

## Read & Respond

11

### A New Life

Jolie laid on the grass in her backyard, spread-eagled under an old oak tree. Her yard backed up to a working cattle ranch, making for some interesting neighbors.

"Moooooo." Jolie sat up and looked through the fence.

"Moooooo." She gasped - there was a brand-new calf! He was still wet from being born, and the moaning was his mom being worried about Jolie being too close.

"It's ok mama," Jolie cooed. A babbling brook ran along the division of the two properties, creating a natural barrier. "You're safe with your baby." To make the heifer more comfortable, Jolie retreated to her deck, though she was still able to see the pair through the fence.

The tiny calf hid halfway under his mother, but peered directly at Jolie, interested it seemed in her presence. All of a sudden, the little cow tipped his head back and...bleated. He was copying his mom's moo!

"Good job, little man!" Jolie encouraged the new calf. "You are going to be just fine."

## Read & Respond

12

### Seasons Change

The wind tore through the valley, making the cabin's wind chimes dance happily. The early morning sun made the world sparkle.

Technically, winter starts on December 21<sup>st</sup>, but the Appalachian Mountains hadn't gotten the memo. The trees displayed their magnificent fall colors right up to the end of October, when winter moved in to stay awhile.

Michael sighed as he clutched his comforting cup of hot chocolate. People may prefer the mild summers in the mountains, but he was always elated when Winter came roaring around the corner. Cozy stews, crackling fires, and a lot of family together time were in the forecast for the next several months.

Today was November 1<sup>st</sup>, and the fall wind was announcing the changing of the guard. Fallen leaves flew in the wind, announcing the arrival of Mr. Winter. Michael gazed around at his home and his winter supplies, ready to get him and his family through another spectacular winter. Yes, this was the best time of year.

# A LOOK INSIDE...(option 2)

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 1**

**A Rough Day**

Mr. Clarke whistled as he walked up the path to the front door, jingling his keys. He stopped in his tracks as he walked into the house after work. It wasn't nighttime yet, but his wife Janet was sitting on the couch in the dark. "Why is this room a cave?" he asked.

"My class was a zoo today!" she exclaimed. "Bobby was a grumpy bear, Trace was a bull in a china shop, and my whole classroom was a disaster area. Of course, the principal walked in to observe in the middle of the chaos. I'm just taking some time to relax."

"I understand!" Mr. Clarke paused. "You know what? I had a great day! Why don't you unwind and I'll start dinner? Then we can share the rest of our day while we eat."

Janet's eyes sparkled. "You, kind sir, are a peach! Some days are harder than others, and today was a total nightmare. I'm sure tomorrow will be better."

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 2**

**A Knight Saves the Day**

"Were you as quiet as a mouse? Did you find it?" Jack whispered as his brother came down the stairs. The brothers had been playing medieval knights, and Jack had figured that a golf club would be a perfect sword. He snuck into his brother's room and using a key he had hidden under the rug, he unlocked the door. "I tried, but that rod couldn't see a thing."

"Man, I'm going to be a knight in shining armor!"

"I have an idea!" Jack said. "I'll go down for breakfast and they go down for breakfast. I'll be a knight in shining armor!"

"I don't know what you're talking about."

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 3**

**Saving Up**

Marcus's parents seemed to think a basic old phone was fine for him, but Marcus wanted all of the newest phone features - a high resolution camera, gaming graphics, the works! His parents had calmly informed him he was welcome to work to save up his own money to buy the phone.

The first thing he needed to do was research the price so he could make a list of jobs he could do to earn the money.

Looking at the price of the phone online, Marcus wailed, "But it costs a million dollars!"

His dad rolled his eyes. "Marcus, you are exaggerating! Kids save up their money to buy what they want all the time."

"Ugh!" Marcus stomped. "It will take me forever!"

"Let's sit down and make a saving plan so you can meet your goal in a reasonable amount of time."

"This is the end of the world." Maybe his current phone wasn't so bad after all.

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 4**

**A Trip to the Mall**

"Whew, that cookie is calling my name!" Tracy and Kamila were walking by the mall food court, where a perfect chocolate chip cookie was displayed in front of the cookie shop.

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 5**

**A Reluctant Reader**

"Born!" Rodney shouted in triumph, slamming his book shut with gusto. "Stop hooting and settle down," his teacher admonished.

"Sorry, I was just so excited to finish that book!"

Ms. Patton sighed. How can you be cross with enthusiasm like that?

"Well, what did you think?" she asked.

"I loved it!" he practically shouted. "It was long and intimidated me in the beginning, but I set a goal to finish reading it and I did!"

"That's great, but what was your favorite part?" She wasn't letting him off the hook.

"When the boy learns he is a wizard and not just an orphan! I was relieved he had somewhere to belong. Also, when he casts his first spell, and ZAP! He showed those bullies who was boss." Rodney chuckled and went to get the next book in the series.

Ms. Patton tapped on her keyboard, updating his reading grade. Rodney had been a tough one to get going, but she felt satisfied he had finally gotten bitten - by the reading bug.

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 6**

**Problem Solving in the Dark**

Tucker gazed at the rat's nest of wires, wondering where to begin. The power in the house had gone out, and this is what he had found. What a mess!

His brother stood by his side, gazing at the mess. "It will be a piece of cake to fix once you untangle that mess."

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 1**

**A Rough Day**

Sometimes authors include figurative language. This might be a saying or phrase that doesn't mean exactly what the text says. Find two examples of figurative language in the text. Think about what the author actually wrote and the meaning behind it.

**Type of Figurative Language**

	What the author wrote	What the author meant
Example #1		
Example #2		

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 2**

**A Knight Saves the Day**

Sometimes authors include figurative language. This might be a saying or phrase that doesn't mean exactly what the text says. Find an example from the text. Think about why the author included that example.

**Type of Figurative Language**

Example From the Text	Why did the author include it?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 3**

**Saving Up**

Sometimes authors include figurative language. This might be a saying or phrase that doesn't mean exactly what the text says. Find two examples of figurative language in the text. Think about what the author actually wrote and the meaning behind it.

**Type of Figurative Language**

	What the author wrote	What the author meant
Example #1		
Example #2		

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 4**

**A Trip to the Mall**

Sometimes authors include figurative language. This might be a saying or phrase that doesn't mean exactly what the text says. Find an example from the text. Think about why the author included that example.

**Type of Figurative Language**

Example From the Text	Why did the author include it?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 5**

**A Reluctant Reader**

Sometimes authors include figurative language. This might be a saying or phrase that doesn't mean exactly what the text says. Find two examples of figurative language in the text. Think about what the author actually wrote and the meaning behind it.

**Type of Figurative Language**

	What the author wrote	What the author meant
Example #1		
Example #2		

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 6**

**Problem Solving in the Dark**

Sometimes authors include figurative language. This might be a saying or phrase that doesn't mean exactly what the text says. Find an example from the text. Think about why the author included that example.

**Type of Figurative Language**

Example From the Text	Why did the author include it?



# A LOOK INSIDE...(option 3)

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 1**

**A Rough Day**

Mr. Clarke whistled as he walked up the path to the front door, jingling his keys. He stopped in his tracks as he walked into the house after work. It wasn't nighttime yet, but his wife Janet was sitting on the couch in the dark. "Why is this room a cave?" he asked.

"My class was a zoo today!" she exclaimed. "Bobby was a grumpy bear, Trace was a bull in a china shop, and my whole classroom was a disaster area. Of course, the principal walked in to observe in the middle of the chaos. I'm just taking some time to relax."

"I understand!" Mr. Clarke paused. "You know what? I had a great day! Why don't you unwind and I'll start dinner? Then we can share the rest of our day while we eat."

Janet's eyes sparkled. "You, kind sir, are a peach! Some days are harder than others, and today was a total nightmare. I'm sure tomorrow will be better."

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 3**

**Saving Up**

Marcus's parents seemed to think a basic old phone was fine for him, but Marcus wanted all of the newest phone features - a high resolution camera, gaming graphics, the works! His parents had calmly informed him he was welcome to work to save up his own money to buy the phone.

The first thing he needed to do was research the price so he could make a list of jobs he could do to earn the money.

Looking at the price of the phone online, Marcus wailed, "But it costs a million dollars!"

His dad rolled his eyes. "Marcus, you are exaggerating! Kids save up their money to buy what they want all the time."

"Ugh!" Marcus stomped. "It will take me forever!"

"Let's sit down and make a saving plan so you can meet your goal in a reasonable amount of time."

"This is the end of the world." Maybe his current phone wasn't so bad after all!

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 5**

**A Reluctant Reader**

"Borrrr!" Rodney shouted in triumph, slamming his book shut with gusto. "Stop hooting and settle down," his teacher admonished.

"Sorry, I was just so excited to finish that book!"

Ms. Patton sighed. How can you be cross with enthusiasm like that?

"Well, what did you think?" she asked.

"I loved it!" he practically shouted. "It was long and intimidated me in the beginning, but I set a goal to finish reading it and I did!"

"That's great, but what was your favorite part?" She wasn't letting him off the hook.

"When the boy learns he is a wizard and not just an orphan! I was relieved he had somewhere to belong. Also, when he casts his first spell, and ZAP! He showed those bullies who was boss." Rodney chuckled and went to get the next book in the series.

Ms. Patton tapped on her keyboard, updating his reading grade. Rodney had been a tough one to get going, but she felt satisfied he had finally gotten bitten - by the reading bug.

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 2**

**A Knight Saves the Day**

"Were you as quiet as a mouse? Did you find it?" Jack whispered as his brother came down the stairs.

The brothers had been playing medieval knights, and Jack had figured that a golf club would be a perfect sword.

He went to his parents' room and used it.

"I tried, but that rod couldn't see a thing."

"Man, I'm going to be the best at my favorite golf club."

"I have an idea!" Wasn't that a coincidence? The morning and they go down and put it back.

"I don't know what you're talking about."

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 4**

**A Trip to the Mall**

"Whew, that cookie is calling my name!" Tracy and Kamila were walking by the mall food court, where a perfect chocolate chip cookie was displayed in front of the cookie shop.

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 6**

**Problem Solving in the Dark**

Tucker gazed at the rat's nest of wires, wondering where to begin. The power in the house had gone out, and this is what he had found. What a mess!

His brother stood by his side, gazing at the mess. "It will be a piece of cake to fix once you untangle that mess." Brad said.

**THINK:**

- What examples of figurative language did the author use in the text?
- Why do you think the author chose to use them?

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 1**

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of figurative language is included? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the author trying to convey by calling the room a cave?

What does the statement "You are a peach" mean? How do you know?

Use this space or a sticky note to jot down your thoughts or illustrate an example of Figurative language.

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 3**

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of figurative language is included? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Marcus mean by "it costs a million dollars"?

Is "forever" a realistic time frame to save money for something?

Use this space or a sticky note to jot down your thoughts or illustrate an example of Figurative language.

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 5**

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of figurative language is included? \_\_\_\_\_

How does the use of figurative impact the tone of the passage?

When Rodney uses ZAP to describe the actions of a character in a book, what do you think happened?

Use this space or a sticky note to jot down your thoughts or illustrate an example of Figurative language.

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 2**

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of figurative language is included? \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the context of the passage, why did William need to be "quiet as a mouse"?

What simile does William use to describe the playroom?

Use this space or a sticky note to jot down your thoughts or illustrate an example of Figurative language.

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 4**

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of figurative language is included? \_\_\_\_\_

What inanimate objects do the girls personify during this conversation?

Explain what it means when something is "calling my name".

Use this space or a sticky note to jot down your thoughts or illustrate an example of Figurative language.

**Read & Respond - Figurative Language 6**

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of figurative language is included? \_\_\_\_\_

What is a synonym for the idiom "piece of cake"?

What does Brad mean when he says, "-kill two birds with one stone"?

Use this space or a sticky note to jot down your thoughts or illustrate an example of Figurative language.

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