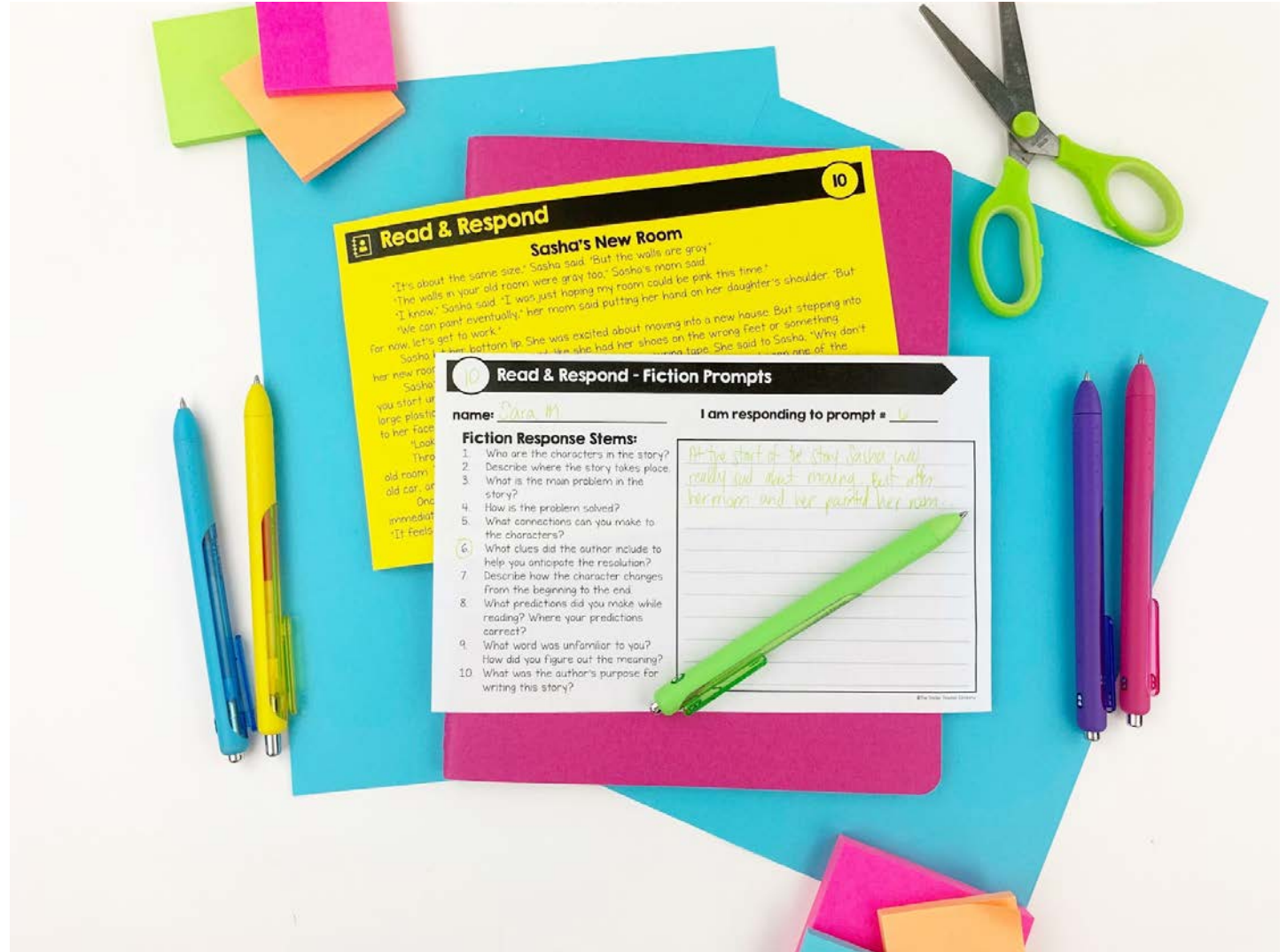
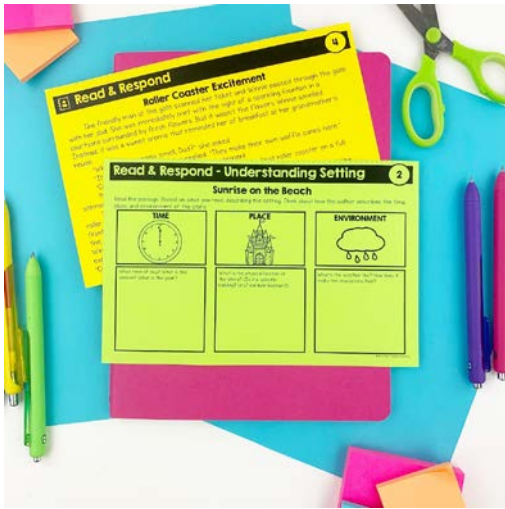


UNDERSTANDING SETTING

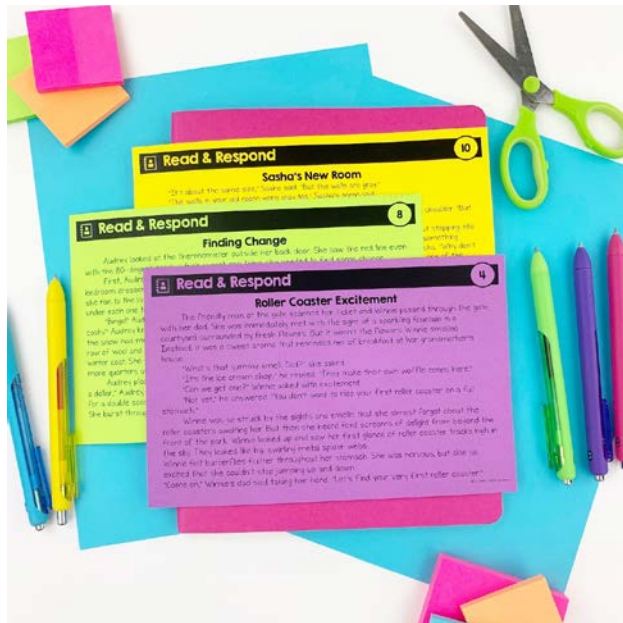
READ & RESPOND TASK CARDS



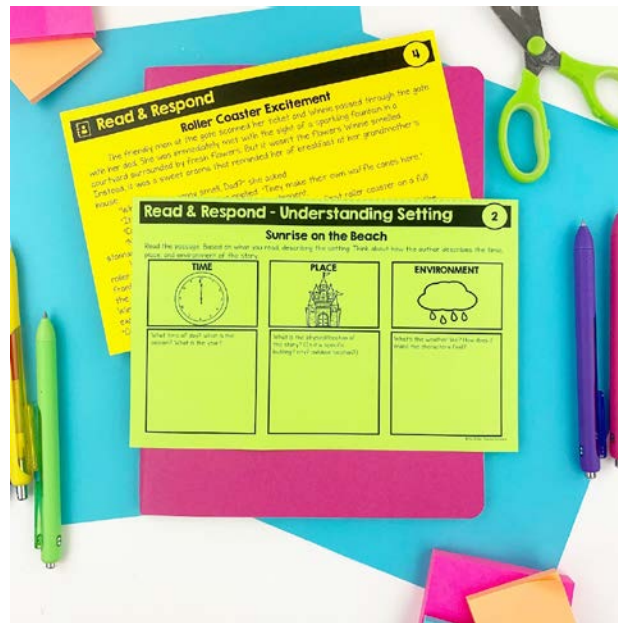
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resource includes 20 reading task cards that contain short fiction passages that will help you teach, practice, and reinforce how to understand the setting of a story.

Task cards can be printed in three different ways.



Option #1 - Just the text



Option #2 - Text and Graphic Organizer Template

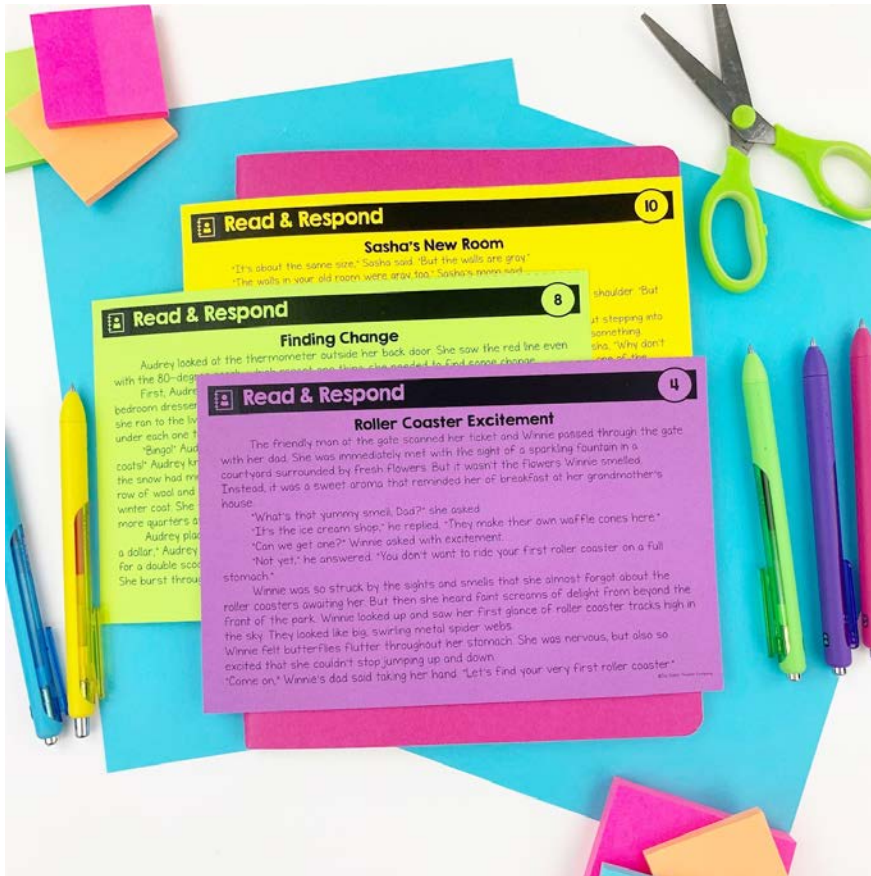


Option #3 - Text and Response Questions

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 lend themselves to focus on the story setting, but you really could use them to teach any fiction skill.

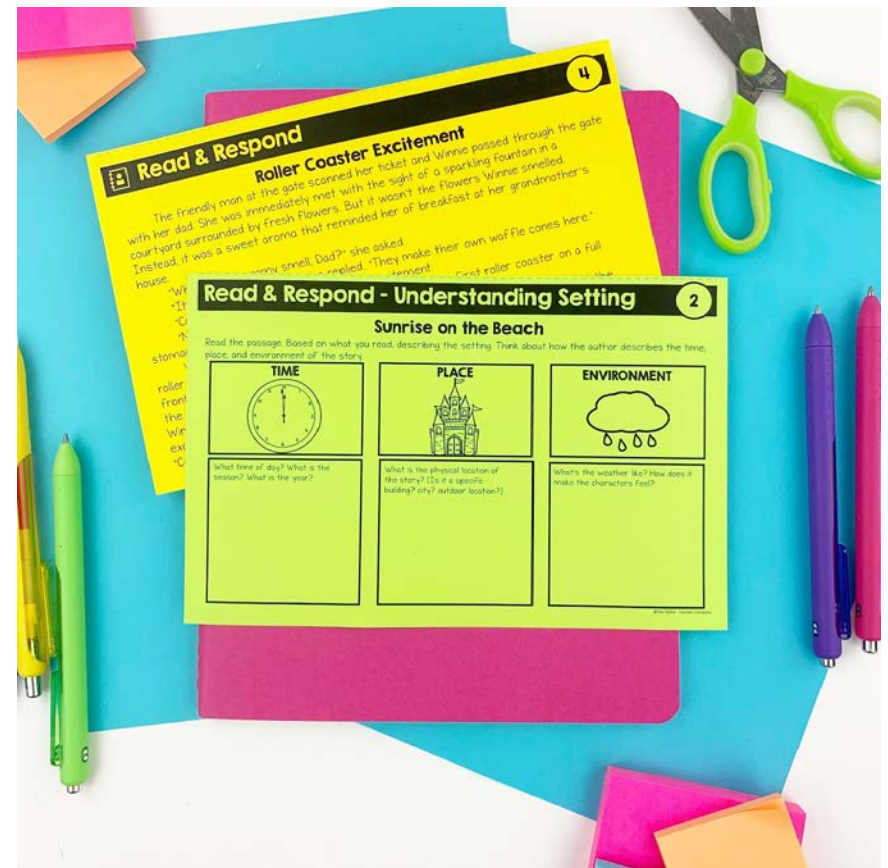


- This set of task cards is ideal if you want to use them in the “traditional” task card way.
- I suggest printing them on cardstock and either putting them all on a book ring or in a photo box.
- There are 3 options of reading response sheets included so students can read the passages and respond on 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).
- On the back, there is a graphic organizer template that will help students think about the setting in the story.



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 thinking about the setting.
- On the back, there is space for a sticky note so students can jot down their thinking about the text. There are also two text-based comprehension questions.

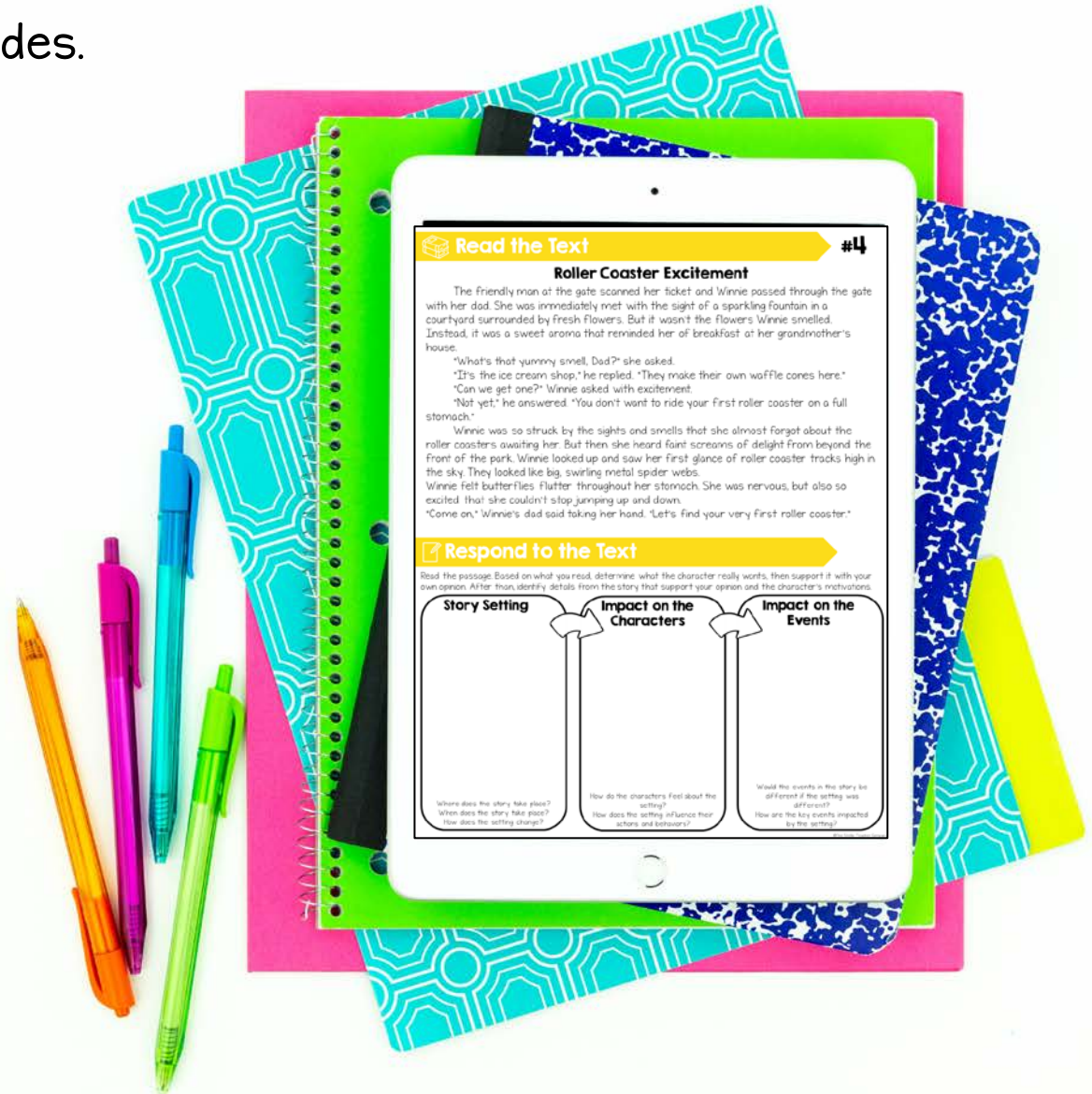
Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.

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

Lily's First Pro Baseball Game

"Wow," I gasped.
 "It's pretty overwhelming, huh Lily?" my dad said.
 Although the sun was setting, everything before us was glowing. Huge sets of lights illuminated every inch of the stadium. My eyes darted between the green grass of the outfield and the smooth dirt of the infield. Then my gaze wandered into the stands where dozens of fans were filling the rows. They juggled hot dogs and sodas, while searching for their seats.
 "POPCORN!" someone shouted, surprising me. I turned and saw a man waving bags of popcorn in the air, looking for customers.
 "I'll take two!" my dad hollered.
 The smell of butter immediately filled my nose, but I nearly screamed before taking a bite. Some players emerged from the dugout to warm up from my seat. I could actually hear the baseball snap in their gloves as they played catch. I could see their cleats kick up the infield dirt. As a soft summer breeze flowed through the stands, I smiled uncontrollably. I couldn't believe that some of my favorite baseball players were right in front of me.
 "This is amazing," I said.
 "Wait until the game starts," my dad replied with a smile. "Then you'll really see something special!"

Read & Respond 2

Sunrise on the Beach

Alex yawned as she followed her grandpa over the swamp bridge. The sky was dark and the air was chilly. Although it was June in South Carolina, the morning breeze was sharp. Alex rubbed her arms over her sweatshirt to keep warm.
 "Let's hurry!" Alex's grandpa said. "The bridge is closing in five minutes."
 Alex's grandpa whispered, "Be careful, the bridge is old and the other side is crumbling."
 "Grandpa!" she groaned.
 "But never at sunrise!" he said.
 Reaching the other side of the bridge, Alex's grandpa pointed to the horizon, but it glowed like fire. The green gemstones, as more and more people arrived, were about to be painted in the sky. The beauty was so otherworldly that Alex never seen anything so peaceful.

Read & Respond 3

First Dumplings of the Season

Andrew's eyes opened wide as soon as the sweet aroma hit his nose. Even though it was Saturday and he was allowed to sleep in, he sprang out of his warm bed. He raced down the stairs and into the kitchen. Just as he suspected, his dad was standing in front of the oven in his pajamas holding a mixing bowl and spoon. A pile of apple cores sat on the counter next to open containers of flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and brown sugar.
 Andrew and his dad exchanged smiles as Andrew pulled a kitchen chair right next to the oven.
 "Don't get too close," his dad said. "The oven is hot. The first batch is already baking."
 "I know!" Andrew exclaimed with a smile before taking a big whiff. "I just need to get closer to my favorite smell!"
 "It's mine too," his dad agreed. "There's no fragrance quite like the year's first batch of apple dumplings. I love how it fills the house."
 "It's what woke me up," Andrew exclaimed.
 Just then, the oven timer buzzed. Andrew's dad put on his oven mitts and raised his eyebrows in excitement. "In fact," he said, "the only thing better than smelling the first batch of the season is eating one. Grab a plate!"

Read & Respond 4

Roller Coaster Excitement

The friendly man at the gate scanned her ticket and Winnie passed through the gate with her dad. She was immediately met with the sight of a sparkling fountain in a courtyard surrounded by fresh flowers. But it wasn't the flowers Winnie smelled. Instead, it was a sweet aroma that reminded her of breakfast at her grandmother's.

Read & Respond 5

Ezra's Favorite Spot in the Zoo

The sun beat down on Ezra's face. His pace slowed as he dripped with sweat. After walking around the zoo for three hours in the sweltering July sun, he needed a break. He nudged his mom and looked up at her with tired eyes. Fortunately for Ezra, she knew what that look meant.
 "You lead the way," she said to her son with a smile.
 Ezra's face immediately brightened and his steps quickened. Ezra's mom followed him to his favorite exhibit: a huge building with a gray stone exterior and big glass doors leading inside. As soon as Ezra placed his hand on the door handle, he grinned from ear to ear.
 Ezra pulled the door open and immediately felt an invigorating blast of cold air rush all over his body. As hot as he was a second ago, he was now perfectly refreshed. As Ezra and his mom walked further into the building and turned the corner, the temperature decreased even more. Ezra smiled and said, "Hi guys!"
 Dozens of short, flightless, white-bellied birds cooed and squawked back at him. Some swam gracefully in their makeshift indoor pool. Others perched on rocks that were built into the walls. Ezra grinned, enjoying watching the penguins as much as cooling off in their chilly zoo home.

Read & Respond 6

Sydney in the City

Sydney stared out the car window while her dad was busy weaving through traffic. Sydney's eyes were fixed on the skyline in the distance. She loved the beautiful cluster of steel, glass, and concrete.
 "We'll get there soon," Sydney's dad sighed.

Read & Respond 7

Preparing for the Pool

"Do you have a towel?" Oliver's mom asked. "What about goggles?"
 "I have both, Mom," Oliver said back.
 Oliver was standing by the front door in his swim trunks, a t-shirt, and flip-flops. His arms were completely full. He was ready for opening day of the neighborhood pool, or so he thought.
 "What about sunscreen?" she asked.
 "I think so," Oliver said. But he wasn't sure. Oliver put down the purple pool noodle from under his right arm and unsling the overstuffed beach bag from his left shoulder. He rifled through the contents of the bag: goggles, pool rings, a water bottle, flippers, a towel, and a few dollars for a snack at the concession stand. At the very bottom, Oliver felt a smooth, plastic bottle.
 "Yep. I've got sunscreen," he announced.
 Oliver felt like Santa Claus as he hurled the huge bag back over his shoulder. He practically tripped over as he reached down for the pool noodle and towel. Once he had them, he regained his balance and opened his front door. A blast of hot air hit Oliver's face, while the bright sun made his eyes immediately water.
 "Wait!" Oliver shouted, blinking hard from the sunshine. "I need my sunglasses."
 Oliver's mom chuckled, which made him ask, "What's so funny?"
 "They're on top of your head, silly!" she laughed.

Read & Respond 9

Great Grandmother's Garden

Stella stood on the front porch and took a deep breath. Scents of fresh-cut grass, roses, lemon balm, and lilacs mixed in her nose. It created her favorite smell in the world, which meant she was in her favorite place: her great-grandmother's garden.
 Stella only got to see her for one week every summer. But when Stella was with her, she made every moment count, especially outside. Stella's great-grandmother had turned her small lawn into a perfect English garden. Stella thought it was the most magical place on Earth.
 One front corner featured tall grasses and wildflowers where butterflies visited frequently. Sometimes they would perch on Stella's outstretched finger and tickle her skin. The other front corner featured a small man-made pond, complete with actual lily pads. Stella often saw real frogs sunbathing on them. In between the front corners were stone paths bordered by thousands of pink, yellow, orange, and purple flowers.
 The back yard is where Stella's great-grandmother grew delicious treats. Raspberry bushes grew in tidy rows underneath baskets of sweet strawberries. Fresh herbs grew in oblong containers around the patio while tall planters overflowed with lettuces and beans. And all along the fence line were grapevines, hanging heavy from the juicy green fruits they produced.
 As Stella strolled around the garden, she took another deep breath. As the fragrant air filled her nose, she whispered, "This really is the best place in the world."

Read & Respond 11

Too Smooth Snow

Joshua turned off his alarm and stretched out in his bed. Although his curtains were closed, he noticed a soft glow outside his window. As he yawned and slowly crawled out from under his covers, he jolted awake once his bare toes hit the chilly wood floor of his bedroom.
 He went to his window ported the curtains. Then Joshua gasped. Yesterday, all was brown outside. But this morning, everything was covered in a blanket of bright, white snow. The blanket was so bright, he had to squint his eyes as he looked out upon his backyard.
 Large, fat flakes were still coming down as Joshua gazed at the landscape. They looked as round and fluffy as cotton balls falling from the clouds. Joshua watched one as it fell, then blended into the smooth, untouched covering below.
 Not a footprint, tire track, or other imprint had found its way into the snow outside Joshua's window. As clean and flawless as the scene was, another thought came to Joshua's mind.
 "I need to get dressed and run around outside," he said aloud. "It's way too smooth out there!"

Read & Respond 8

Finding Change

Audrey looked at the thermometer outside her back door. She saw the red line even with the 80-degree mark, which meant one thing she needed to find some change.
 First, Audrey grabbed her pile of dimes and nickels from the porcelain bowl on her bedroom dresser. The small metal pieces jingled like Christmas bells in her jeans pocket as she ran to the living room. She lifted all of the couch cushions in a fury, reaching her arm under each one to feel for some copper or zinc.
 "Bingo!" Audrey said as she pulled a quarter from under the last cushion. "Now, to the coats!" Audrey knew her winter coat was good for a few coins that were forgotten once the snow had melted for the year. She opened the hall closet and leaned against the soft fur of wool and nylon. She dug one hand into the warm, fleece-lined pocket of her pink winter coat. She felt a jolt of cold metal as she reached the bottom and pulled out three more quarters and two dimes.
 Audrey placed all the shiny coins in her palm for a quick count. "Four quarters makes a dollar," Audrey whispered. "Plus eight dimes, plus four nickels is... two dollars! Just enough for a double scoop!" Just then, Audrey heard faint chimes and a rumbling engine outside. She burst through the front door just as the ice cream truck turned down her street.

Read & Respond 10

Sasha's New Room

"It's about the same size," Sasha said. "But the walls are gray."
 "The walls in your old room were gray too," Sasha's mom said.
 "I know," Sasha said. "I was just hoping my room could be pink this time."
 "We can paint eventually," her mom said putting her hand on her daughter's shoulder. "But for now, let's get to work."
 Sasha bit her bottom lip. She was excited about moving into a new house. But stepping into her new room, Sasha felt awkward, like she had her shoes on the wrong feet or something.
 Sasha's mom grabbed the power drill and a measuring tape. She said to Sasha, "Why don't you start unpacking while I put up your shelves?" Sasha reluctantly popped open one of the large plastic tubs stacked in the corner of the room. As she did, a familiar sight brought a smile to her face.
 "Look, Mom!" Sasha said. "It's all my pictures!"
 Through a thin layer of bubble-wrap, Sasha saw framed photos that were displayed in her old room. There were photos of her and her parents, one of her and her grandpa working on his old car, and another of her and her two best friends.
 Once Sasha unwrapped them, her mom had finished putting up the first shelf. Sasha immediately placed the photos on it, stepped back, and smiled.
 "It feels more like home already," she whispered.

Read & Respond 12

Caught in the Rain

Joy and Ryan pedaled as fast as they could. After biking their favorite trail of the local state park, dark clouds formed overhead. The clear sky suddenly became gray and gloomy. The hot summer air was replaced with a cool breeze. The air also developed a sweet scent, something Joy immediately recognized.
 "Ryan, rain is coming fast. It's going to pour on us at any second!" she yelled as Ryan pedaled ahead of her.
 Just one second later, Joy felt the first cool drops of water plop upon her knuckles as she gripped her handlebars. As soon as she saw the drops on her hands, more continued to fall, sitting upon her shoulders, arms, and knees. Soon, the drops fell faster and harder, dampening Joy's clothes and bouncing off her helmet. As she looked ahead, Joy could barely make out the picnic shelter at the start of the trail.
 "We're almost there!" she heard Ryan shout.
 By the time the friends reached the shelter, water was dripping from their chins, ears, fingers, and noses. As they pointed to catch their breaths, they took off their helmets and felt their hair plastered to their foreheads from sweat and rain. Then they started laughing.
 "That was close!" Joy finally said.
 "What do you mean close?" Ryan said. "We're totally soaked!"

A LOOK INSIDE...(option 2)

1 Read & Respond

Lily's First Pro Game

"Wow," I gasped.
 "It's pretty overwhelming, huh Lily?" my dad said.
 Although the sun was setting, everything before us was glowing. Huge sets of lights illuminated every inch of the stadium. My eyes darted between the green grass of the outfield and the smooth dirt of the infield. Then my gaze wandered into the stands where dozens of fans were filling the rows. They juggled hot dogs and sodas, while searching for their seats.
 "POPCORN!" someone shouted, surprising me. I turned and saw a man waving bags of popcorn in the air, looking for customers.
 "I'll take two!" my dad hollered.
 The smell of butter immediately filled my nose, but I nearly screamed before taking a bite. Some players emerged from the dugout to warm up. From my seat, I could actually hear the baseball snap in their gloves as they played catch. I could see their cleats kick up the infield dirt. As a soft summer breeze flowed through the stands, I smiled uncontrollably. I couldn't believe that some of my favorite baseball players were right in front of me.
 "This is amazing," I said.
 "Wait until the game starts," my dad replied with a smile. "Then you'll really see something special!"

2 Read & Respond

Sunrise on the Beach

Alex yawned as she followed her grandpa over the swamp bridge. The sky was dark and the air was chilly. Although it was June in South Carolina, the morning breeze was sharp. Alex rubbed her arms over her sweatshirt to keep warm.
 "Let's hurry!" Alex's grandpa whispered. "Reaching the other side of the bridge. They were crashing on the other side." Alex's grandpa whispered.
 "Grandpa!" she groaned.
 "But never at sunrise!"
 Reaching the other side of the bridge, the sun was just above the horizon, but it blazed like fire. The green gemstones. As more sunbeams came down, the sky was painted in shades of orange and red. The beauty was so overwhelming that Alex finally broke her gaze and never seen anything so peaceful.

3 Read & Respond

First Dumplings of the Season

Andrew's eyes opened wide as soon as the sweet aroma hit his nose. Even though it was Saturday and he was allowed to sleep in, he sprang out of his warm bed. He raced down the stairs and into the kitchen. Just as he suspected, his dad was standing in front of the oven in his pajamas holding a mixing bowl and spoon. A pile of apple cores sat on the counter next to open containers of flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and brown sugar.
 Andrew and his dad exchanged smiles as Andrew pulled a kitchen chair right next to the oven.
 "Don't get too close," his dad said. "The oven is hot. The first batch is already baking."
 "I know!" Andrew exclaimed with a smile before taking a big whiff. "I just need to get closer to my favorite smell."
 "It's mine, too," his dad agreed. "There's no fragrance quite like the year's first batch of apple dumplings. I love how it fills the house."
 "It's what woke me up," Andrew exclaimed.
 Just then, the oven timer buzzed. Andrew's dad put on his oven mitts and raised his eyebrows in excitement. "In fact," he said, "the only thing better than smelling the first batch of the season is eating one. Grab a plate!"

4 Read & Respond

Roller Coaster Excitement

The friendly man at the gate scanned her ticket and Winnie passed through the gate with her dad. She was immediately met with the sight of a sparkling fountain in a courtyard surrounded by fresh flowers. But it wasn't the flowers Winnie smelled. Instead, it was a sweet aroma that reminded her of breakfast at her grandmother's house.
 "What's that?" Winnie asked.
 "That's the smell of the fountain," her dad said.
 "But it smells like breakfast!" Winnie exclaimed.
 "That's because it does," her dad said. "The fountain is made of fresh fruit and flowers. It's a special treat for everyone who visits the park."

5 Read & Respond

Esra's Favorite Spot in the Zoo

The sun beat down on Esra's face. His pace slowed as he dripped with sweat. After walking around the zoo for three hours in the sweltering July sun, he needed a break. He nudged his mom and looked up at her with tired eyes. Fortunately for Esra, she knew what that look meant.
 "You lead the way," she said to her son with a smile.
 Esra's face immediately brightened and his steps quickened. Esra's mom followed him to his favorite exhibit: a huge building with a gray stone exterior and big glass doors leading inside. As soon as Esra placed his hand on the door handle, he grinned from ear to ear.
 Esra pulled the door open and immediately felt an invigorating blast of cold air rush all over his body. As hot as he was a second ago, he was now perfectly refreshed. As Esra and his mom walked further into the building and turned the corner, the temperature decreased even more. Esra smiled and said, "Hi guys!"
 Dozens of short, flightless, white-bellied birds cooed and squawked back at him. Some swam gracefully in their makeshift indoor pool. Others perched on rocks that were built into the walls. Esra grinned, enjoying watching the penguins as much as cooling off in their chilly zoo home.

6 Read & Respond

Sydney in the City

Sydney stared out the car window. While her dad was busy weaving through traffic, Sydney's eyes were fixed on the skyline in the distance. She loved the beautiful cluster of steel, glass, and concrete.
 "We'll get there soon," Sydney's dad sighed.
 Sydney looked out the window and saw the city skyline. She loved the beautiful cluster of steel, glass, and concrete. She loved the beautiful cluster of steel, glass, and concrete.

Read & Respond - Understanding Setting

Lily's First Pro Game

Read the passage. Use this space below to practice visualizing the setting. Pay attention to the text clues the author uses to describe the setting. Jot down those clues and then take time to explain or draw how you see the setting of the text.

TEXT CLUE	TEXT CLUE	TEXT CLUE
Specific words or phrases the author used to describe the setting.	Specific words or phrases the author used to describe the setting.	Specific words or phrases the author used to describe the setting.

HOW I VISUALIZE THE SETTING

Read & Respond - Understanding Setting

First Dumplings of the Season

Read the passage. Use this space below to focus on identifying details the author uses to describe the setting. Then use those details to identify the mood of the story.

How does the author describe the setting?




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How does the setting make me feel as a reader?

Read & Respond - Understanding Setting

Esra's Favorite Spot in the Zoo

Read the passage. Based on what you read, describe the setting. Think about how the author describes the time, place, and environment of the story.




TIME	PLACE	ENVIRONMENT
		
What time of day? What is the season? What is the year?	What is the physical location of the story? (Is it a specific building? city? outdoor location?)	What's the weather like? How does it make the characters feel?

How does the setting make me feel as a reader?

Read & Respond - Understanding Setting

Sunrise on the Beach

Read the passage. Based on what you read, describe the setting. Think about how the author describes the time, place, and environment of the story.

TIME	PLACE	ENVIRONMENT
		
What time of day? What is the season? What is the year?	What is the physical location of the story? (Is it a specific building? city? outdoor location?)	What's the weather like? How does it make the characters feel?

How does the setting make me feel as a reader?

Read & Respond - Understanding Setting

Roller Coaster Excitement

Read the passage. Based on what you read, determine what the character really wants, then support it with your own opinion. After that, identify details from the story that support your opinion and the character's motivations.

Story Setting	Impact on the Characters	Impact on the Events
Where does the story take place? When does the story take place? How does the setting change?	How do the characters feel about the setting? How does the setting influence their actions and behaviors?	Would the events in the story be different if the setting was different? How are the key events impacted by the setting?

Read & Respond - Understanding Setting

Sydney in the City

Read the passage. Use this space below to focus on identifying details the author uses to describe the setting. Then use those details to identify the mood of the story.

How does the author describe the setting?

--	--	--

How does the setting make me feel as a reader?

A LOOK INSIDE...(option 3)

Read & Respond 1

Lily's First Pro Game

"Wow," I gasped.
"It's pretty overwhelming, huh Lily?" my dad said.
Although the sun was setting, everything before us was glowing. Huge sets of lights illuminated every inch of the stadium. My eyes darted between the green grass of the outfield and the smooth dirt of the infield. Then my gaze wandered into the stands where dozens of fans were filling the rows. They juggled hot dogs and sodas while searching for their seats.
"POPCORN!" someone shouted, surprising me. I turned and saw a man waving bags of popcorn in the air looking for customers.
"I'll take two!" my dad hollered.
The smell of butter immediately filled my nose, but I nearly screamed before taking a bite. Some players emerged from the dugout to warm up. From my seat, I could actually hear the baseball snap in their gloves as they played catch. I could see their cleats kick up the infield dirt. As a soft summer breeze flowed through the stands, I smiled uncontrollably. I couldn't believe that some of my favorite baseball players were right in front of me.
"This is amazing," I said.
"Wait until the game starts," my dad replied with a smile. "Then you'll really see something special!"

THINK: How does the author describe the setting? How is the setting important to the story?

Read & Respond 2

Sunrise on the Beach

Alex yawned as she followed her grandpa over the swampy bridge. The sky was dark and the air was chilly. Although it was June in South Carolina, the morning breeze was sharp. Alex rubbed her arms over her sweatshirt to keep warm.
"Let's hurry!" Alex's grandpa said. They hustled towards the sand dunes at the end of the bridge. They were too crashing on the other side. Alex's grandpa whispered, "Grandpa!" she groaned. "But never at sunrise. Reaching the other side but it blozed like fire. It lit gemstones. As more of the pointed in the sky. The scene water. The beauty was so ov broke her gaze and smiled d seen anything so perfect."

THINK: How does the author

Read & Respond 3

First Dumplings of the Season

Andrew's eyes opened wide as soon as the sweet aroma hit his nose. Even though it was Saturday and he was allowed to sleep in, he sprang out of his warm bed. He raced down the stairs and into the kitchen. Just as he suspected, his dad was standing in front of the oven in his pajamas holding a mixing bowl and spoon. A pile of apple cores sat on the counter next to open containers of flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and brown sugar.
Andrew and his dad exchanged smiles as Andrew pulled a kitchen chair right next to the oven.
"Don't get too close," his dad said. "The oven is hot. The first batch is already baking."
"I know!" Andrew exclaimed with a smile before taking a big whiff. "I just need to get closer to my favorite smell!"
"It's mine too," his dad agreed. "There's no fragrance quite like the year's first batch of apple dumplings. I love how it fills the house."
"It's what woke me up," Andrew exclaimed.
Just then, the oven timer buzzed. Andrew's dad put on his oven mitts and raised his eyebrows in excitement. "In fact," he said, "the only thing better than smelling the first batch of the season is eating one. Grab a plate!"

THINK: How does the author describe the setting? How is the setting important to the story?

Read & Respond 4

Roller Coaster Excitement

The friendly man at the gate scanned her ticket and Winnie passed through the gate with her dad. She was immediately met with the sight of a sparkling fountain in a courtyard surrounded by fresh flowers. But it wasn't the flowers Winnie smelled. Instead, it was a sweet aroma that reminded her of breakfast at her grandmother's house.

Read & Respond 5

Ezra's Favorite Spot in the Zoo

The sun beat down on Ezra's face. His pace slowed as he dripped with sweat. After walking around the zoo for three hours in the sweltering July sun, he needed a break. He nudged his mom and looked up at her with tired eyes. Fortunately for Ezra, she knew what that look meant.
"You lead the way," she said to her son with a smile.
Ezra's face immediately brightened and his steps quickened. Ezra's mom followed him to his favorite exhibit: a huge building with a gray stone exterior and big glass doors leading inside. As soon as Ezra placed his hand on the door handle, he grinned from ear to ear.
Ezra pulled the door open and immediately felt an invigorating blast of cold air rush all over his body. As hot as he was a second ago, he was now perfectly refreshed. As Ezra and his mom walked farther into the building and turned the corner, the temperature decreased even more. Ezra smiled and said, "Hi guys!"
Dozens of short, flightless, white-bellied birds cooed and squawked back at him. Some swam gracefully in their makeshift indoor pool. Others perched on rocks that were built into the walls. Ezra grinned, enjoying watching the penguins as much as cooling off in their chilly zoo home.

THINK: How does the author describe the setting? How is the setting important to the story?

Read & Respond 6

Sydney in the City

Sydney stared out the car window. While her dad was busy weaving through traffic, Sydney's eyes were fixed on the skyline in the distance. She loved the beautiful cluster of steel, glass, and concrete.
"We'll get there soon!" Sydney's dad sighed.

Read & Respond - Setting 1

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

What is the setting of the story?

- How does Lily feel about the setting of the story? How do you know?
- List three of your senses the author appealed to and give examples from the text of each.

How did the author describe the setting? Use the space above to jot down text clues related to the setting or sketch a picture of how you visualize the setting.

Read & Respond - Setting 2

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

What is the setting of the story?

- Why were Alex and her grandpa going to the beach?
- What words did the author use to help you visualize the sunrise?

How did the author describe the setting? Use the space above to jot down text clues related to the setting or sketch a picture of how you visualize the setting.

Read & Respond - Setting 3

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

What is the setting of the story?

- How is Andrew feeling in this story?
- Which of your senses did the author appeal to? Give examples from the text.

How did the author describe the setting? Use the space above to jot down text clues related to the setting or sketch a picture of how you visualize the setting.

Read & Respond - Setting 4

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

What is the setting of the story?

- What smell reminded Winnie of her grandmother's house?
- How was Winnie feeling at the end of the story?

How did the author describe the setting? Use the space above to jot down text clues related to the setting or sketch a picture of how you visualize the setting.

Read & Respond - Setting 5

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

What is the setting of the story?

- What season did this story take place in? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.
- What does word invigorating mean in paragraph 3?

How did the author describe the setting? Use the space above to jot down text clues related to the setting or sketch a picture of how you visualize the setting.

Read & Respond - Setting 6

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

What is the setting of the story?

- How does Sydney feel about the setting of the story?
- What did Sydney compare the buildings in the city to?

How did the author describe the setting? Use the space above to jot down text clues related to the setting or sketch a picture of how you visualize the setting.

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