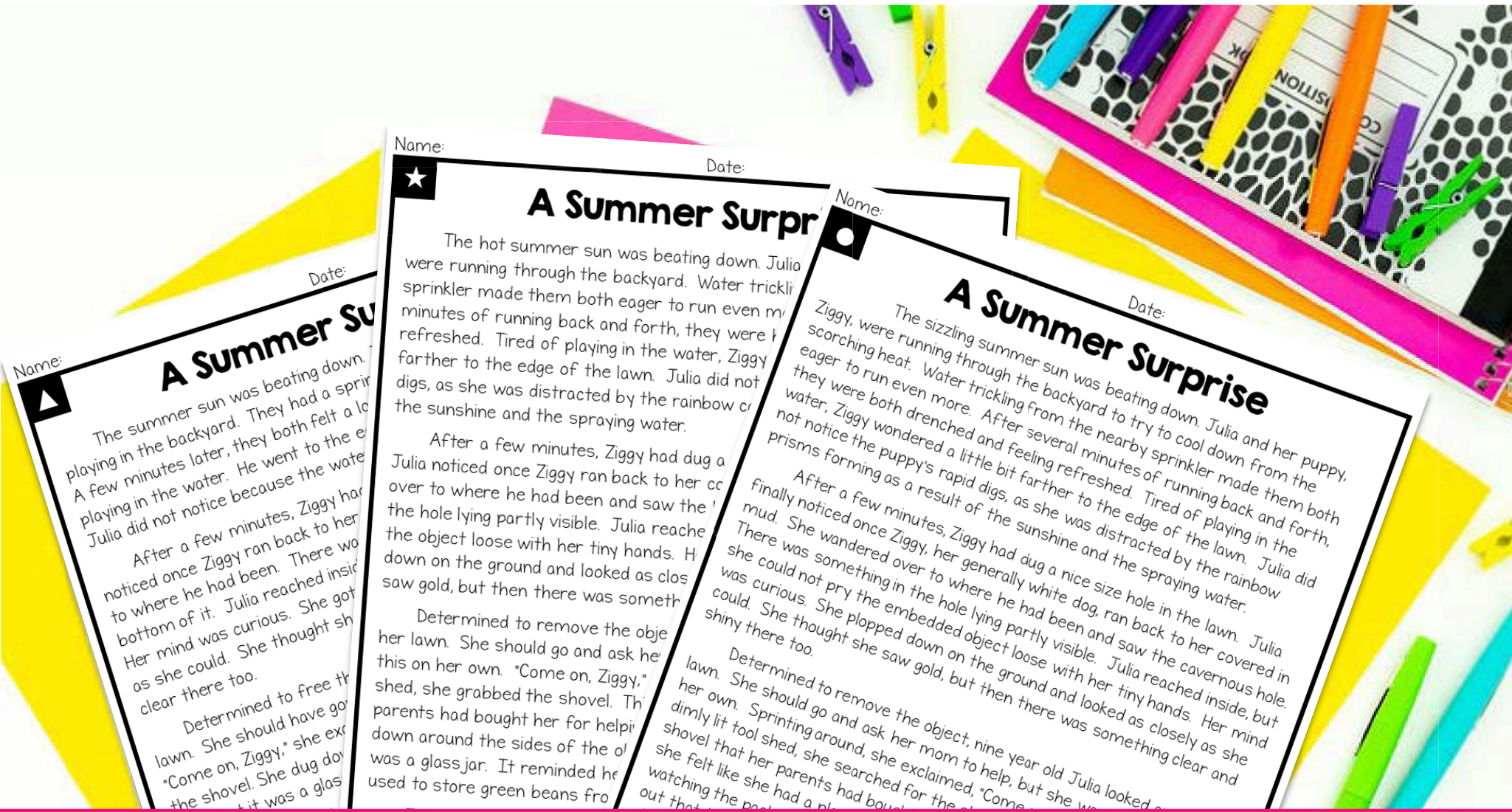


# Differentiated Reading Passages

## SUMMARIZING FICTION

Same Story, 3 Different Reading Levels



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

**A Summer Surprise**

The summer sun was beating down. Julia and her puppy, Ziggy, were running through the backyard. Water trickling from the nearby sprinkler made them both eager to run even more. After several minutes of running back and forth, they were both drenched and feeling refreshed. Tired of playing in the water, Ziggy ran back to her owner, Julia. She reached inside the hole and looked as closely as she could. She thought she saw gold, but then there was something shiny there too.

Determined to remove the object, nine year old Julia looked at her parents for help, but she was dimly lit tool shed, she searched for the shovel that her parents had bought for the garden. She felt like she had a new discovery. She dug down around the sides of the hole and found a glass jar. It reminded her of the jar she used to store green beans from her garden.

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

**A Summer Surprise**

The hot summer sun was beating down. Julia and her puppy, Ziggy, were running through the backyard. Water trickling from the nearby sprinkler made them both eager to run even more. After several minutes of running back and forth, they were both drenched and feeling refreshed. Tired of playing in the water, Ziggy ran back to her owner, Julia. She reached inside the hole and looked as closely as she could. She thought she saw gold, but then there was something shiny there too.

Determined to remove the object, nine year old Julia looked at her parents for help, but she was dimly lit tool shed, she searched for the shovel that her parents had bought for the garden. She felt like she had a new discovery. She dug down around the sides of the hole and found a glass jar. It reminded her of the jar she used to store green beans from her garden.

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

**A Summer Surprise**

The sizzling summer sun was beating down. Julia and her puppy, Ziggy, were running through the backyard to try to cool down from the scorching heat. Water trickling from the nearby sprinkler made them both eager to run even more. After several minutes of running back and forth, they were both drenched and feeling refreshed. Tired of playing in the water, Ziggy ran back to her owner, Julia. She reached inside the hole and looked as closely as she could. She thought she saw gold, but then there was something shiny there too.

Determined to remove the object, nine year old Julia looked at her parents for help, but she was dimly lit tool shed, she searched for the shovel that her parents had bought for the garden. She felt like she had a new discovery. She dug down around the sides of the hole and found a glass jar. It reminded her of the jar she used to store green beans from her garden.

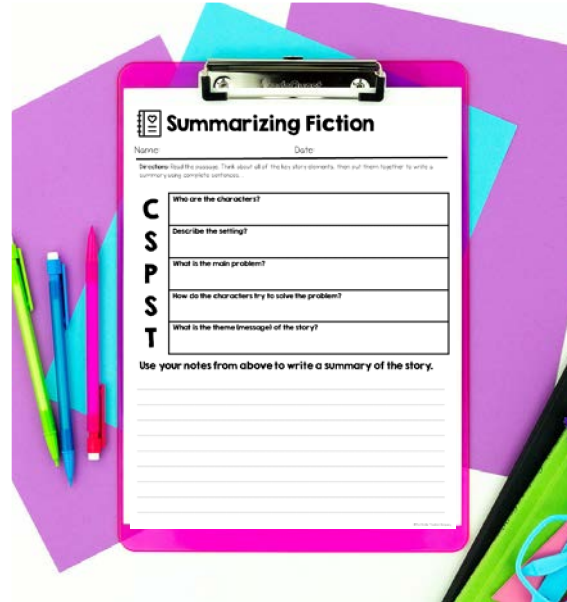
# WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resources includes differentiated reading passages, skill-based graphic organizers, and comprehension passages based on the passages. These resources will help your students practice summarizing fiction texts.



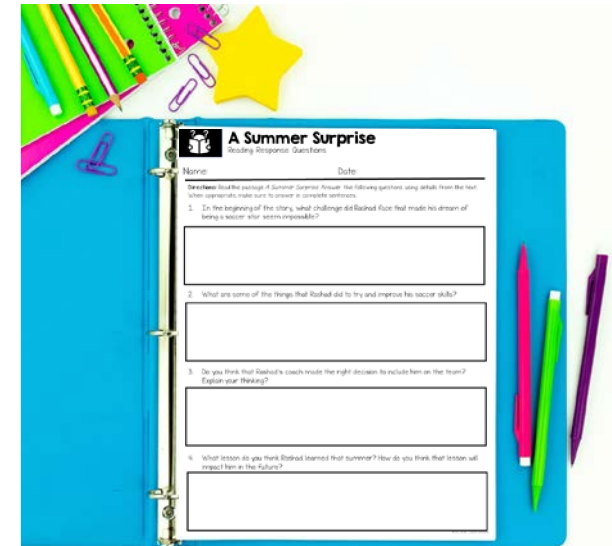
## 3 Sets of Differentiated Reading Passages

Each set includes the same story written at three different levels for a total of 9 passages.



## Graphic Organizer

Each story has a graphic organizer students can use in response to that story, OR, it can be used with any text to practice the same skill.



## Reading Response Questions

Each story also includes a set of reading response questions that could be answered using any level of passages, so it doesn't matter if your students are reading level A, B, or C, the answer to the questions will still be the same.

**\*Digital versions are included for all templates.\***



# EASY TO DIFFERENTIATE

Each story is written at three different levels. You can select the level that is best for your entire class, or you can let students choose the level they want to read. This makes discussing the same text whole group so much easier.



**Each text is written at 3 different levels to make it easy to differentiate.**

- ▲ Level A: 420L - 610L
- ★ Level B: 6:10L - 810L
- Level C: 810L - 1100L

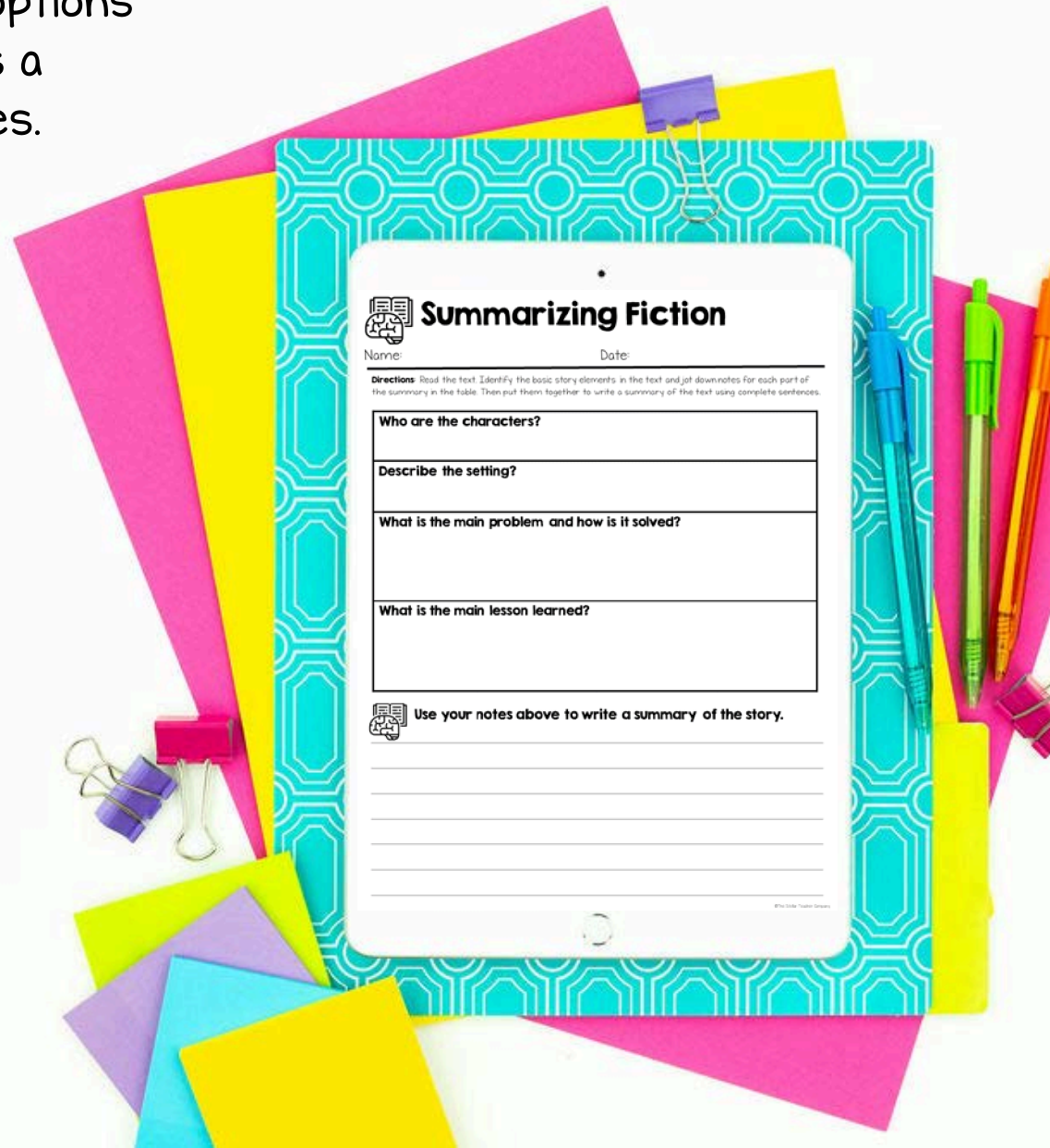
\*Digital versions are included for all passages and response pages.\*

# 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.

In addition to the print version, you get a digital version created using Google Slides for all the passages, response pages, and graphic organizers.

Rest assured, you can use this resource in both face-to-face and virtual classrooms.



# A LOOK INSIDE... STORY #1

Passage A - Level 420L - 610L

She wiped at her eyes. He couldn't tell if she was crying. "You didn't. Not really," she replied.

He wanted to say he didn't understand then. He wanted to say that it made no sense why she would run away if it wasn't something he had said. But he knew that would not be nice.

He did the only thing he knew to do. He sat down beside her.

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

## A Summer Surprise

The summer sun was beating down. Julia and her puppy, Ziggy, were playing in the backyard. They had a sprinkler they were running through. A few minutes later, they both felt a lot cooler. Ziggy was tired of playing in the water. He went to the edge of the lawn and started digging. Julia did not notice because the water had her distracted.

After a few minutes, Ziggy had dug a big hole in the lawn. Julia noticed once Ziggy ran back to her covered in mud. She wandered over to where he had been. There was the hole. She saw something in the bottom of it. Julia reached inside, but she could not get the object loose. Her mind was curious. She got down on the ground and looked as closely as she could. She thought she saw gold. Then she noticed something clear there too.

Determined to free the item, nine year old Julia looked around her lawn. She should have gone and asked her mom to help, but she didn't. "Come on, Ziggy," she exclaimed. Running into the tool shed, she grabbed the shovel. She dug down around the sides of the object. Finally, she saw that it was a glass jar.

At this point, she was holding the jar. She had always been told that she was a feisty little girl with a determined heart. At this point, she was determined to get it. After working for what seemed like hours, she was holding the glass jar in her hands. Inside she could see coins that looked like...

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

## A Summer Surprise

Reading Response Questions

Directions: Read the passage *A Summer Surprise*. Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- In the beginning of the story, what challenge did Rashad face that made his dream of being a soccer star seem impossible?
- What are some of the things that Rashad did to try and improve his soccer skills?
- Do you think that Rashad's coach made the right decision to include him on the team? Explain your thinking?
- What lesson do you think Rashad learned that summer? How do you think that lesson will impact him in the future?

Passage B - Level 610L - 810L

situation, so he walked over to her. She was sitting cross legged on the ground. Her strawberry blonde hair was in pigtails. He liked the way her hair looked. It reminded him of his little sister.

He took a deep breath. "I am really sorry, Josie. I didn't mean to upset you."

She wiped at her eyes. He couldn't tell if she was crying or just trying to playfully teased him.

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

## A Summer Surprise

The hot summer sun was beating down. Julia and her puppy, Ziggy, were running through the backyard. Water trickling from the nearby sprinkler made them both eager to run even more. After several minutes of running back and forth, they were both soaked and feeling refreshed. Tired of playing in the water, Ziggy wondered a little bit further to the edge of the lawn. Julia did not notice the puppy's quick digs, as she was distracted by the rainbow colors forming as a result of the sunshine and the spraying water.

After a few minutes, Ziggy had dug a nice size hole in the lawn. Julia noticed once Ziggy ran back to her covered in mud. She wandered over to where he had been and saw the hole. There was something in the hole lying partly visible. Julia reached inside, but she could not pry the object loose with her tiny hands. Her mind was curious. She got down on the ground and looked as closely as she could. She thought she saw gold, but then there was something clear and shiny there too.

Determined to remove the object, nine year old Julia looked around her lawn. She should go and ask her mom to help, but she wanted to do this on her own. "Come on, Ziggy," she exclaimed. Running into the tool shed, she grabbed the shovel. This was a small green shovel that her mom had bought her for helping with gardening projects. She dug around the sides of the object. Finally, she could make out the top of the glass jar. It reminded her of the ones her great grandmother had stored green beans from the garden.

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

## Summarizing Fiction

Directions: Read the passage. Think about all of the key story elements, then put them together to write a summary using complete sentences.

**C** Who are the characters?

**S** Describe the setting?

**P** What is the main problem?

**S** How do the characters try to solve the problem?

**T** What is the theme (message) of the story?

Use your notes from above to write a summary of the story.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Passage C - Level 810L - 110L

situation, so he walked over to her. She was sitting cross legged on the ground. Her strawberry blonde hair was in pigtails. He liked the way her hair looked. It reminded him of his little sister.

He took a deep breath. "I am really sorry, Josie. I didn't mean to upset you."

She wiped at her eyes. He couldn't tell if she was crying or just trying to playfully teased him.

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

## A Summer Surprise

The sizzling summer sun was beating down. Julia and her puppy, Ziggy, were running through the backyard to try to cool down from the scorching heat. Water trickling from the nearby sprinkler made them both eager to run even more. After several minutes of running back and forth, they were both drenched and feeling refreshed. Tired of playing in the water, Ziggy wondered a little bit further to the edge of the lawn. Julia did not notice the puppy's rapid digs, as she was distracted by the rainbow prisms forming as a result of the sunshine and the spraying water.

After a few minutes, Ziggy had dug a nice size hole in the lawn. Julia finally noticed once Ziggy, her generally white dog, ran back to her covered in mud. She wandered over to where he had been and saw the cavernous hole. There was something in the hole lying partly visible. Julia reached inside, but she could not pry the embedded object loose with her tiny hands. Her mind was curious. She plopped down on the ground and looked as closely as she could. She thought she saw gold, but then there was something clear and shiny there too.

Determined to remove the object, nine year old Julia looked around her lawn. She should go and ask her mom to help, but she wanted to do this on her own. Sprinting around, she exclaimed, "Come on, Ziggy!" Running into the tool shed, she grabbed the shovel. This was a small green shovel that her mom had bought her for helping with gardening projects. She dug around the sides of the object. Finally, she could make out the top of the glass jar. It reminded her of the ones her great grandmother had stored green beans from the garden.

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

## Summarizing Fiction

Directions: Read the passage. Think about all of the key story elements, then put them together to write a summary using complete sentences.

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**P** What is the main problem?

**S** How do the characters try to solve the problem?

**T** What is the theme (message) of the story?

Use your notes from above to write a summary of the story.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Response Sheet and Graphic Organizer work with ALL 3 Passages!





# A LOOK INSIDE... STORY #2

Passage A - Level 420L - 610L

Taking a deep breath, I washed my hands and walked back to class. The teacher noticed I seemed a bit off. "Do you want to call your mom?" asked Mrs. Vance. I didn't. I wasn't sure how to explain my problem. During the final seconds of class, the secretary walked in. I could see her and Mrs. Vance eying me. Did they know? They called me over

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

## The Kayaking Adventure

Jasmine and Jeremiah were excited to try kayaking. They nicknamed their mom "Adventure Mom" because lately she was more open to trying new things. She agreed to go kayaking with them. The family drove to the kayak rental station and checked in. First, they heard some routine safety tips. Then a driver transported them to the Cumberland River. Bruce, the transport driver, helped the three get on their life jackets. Then they walked to the water's edge. The sun was shining brightly. Trees lined the banks. The nine year old girl and her eleven year old brother were excited to get in the water. After some paddling tips, Bruce gave some final instructions. He told them very clear details about the takeout point. Jeremiah was really good at kayaking. He quickly paddled ahead. He waited patiently for his mom and sister to catch up. Jasmine and her mom, Anne, were struggling to paddle together. When one paddled left, the other one paddled right. The two kept ending up going in circles. Finally, Anne exclaimed, "You rest, and I will paddle."

Jasmine grew frustrated. A little later, Jasmine and her mother and daughter teamed up and resting. The family chose the five mile trip. They had been told the trip should take about two hours. The river was practically still. This meant they had to paddle for two hours. The river was practically still. This meant they had to paddle. As they approached the take out point they thought it was a pretty uneventful trip.

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

## The Kayaking Adventure

Reading Response: Questions

Directions: Read the passage "The Kayaking Adventure." Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why did Jeremiah and Jasmine call their mom "Adventure Mom"?
- What was the difference between Jeremiah's experience in the kayak vs. that of his mom and sister?
- Think about the action that Anne took in the kayak when they missed the takeout point. How would you describe her personality based on her actions?
- Do you think Jeremiah, Jasmine, and Anne will go kayaking again?

Passage B - Level 610L - 810L

Was it the money someone was going to use to pay their dance tuition? Had they intended to use it for groceries later that day? Taking a deep breath, I washed my hands and walked back to dance class. The teacher noticed I seemed a bit off and asked if I wanted to call my mom. I didn't. I wasn't sure how to explain my dilemma. During the final seconds of class, the secretary walked in. I could see her and Mrs. Vance eying me. Did they know? They called me over to the edge of the Cumberland River. Loaded on the back of the transport vehicle, they could see the bright yellow kayak and the duller colored tandem kayak. Bruce, the transport driver, helped the three get on their life jackets. Then they walked to the water's edge. The sun was shining brightly on that late April morning. Trees lined the river banks. The nine year old girl and her eleven year old brother were excited to get in the water. After some paddling tips, Bruce gave some final instructions for the takeout point and then the three were off. Jeremiah was a natural. He quickly paddled ahead and paused to rest under some trees. His mom called out, "Shouldn't you move away from those? What if you flip?" He just laughed and continued looking at a crane searching for its breakfast.

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

## The Kayaking Adventure

Jasmine and Jeremiah were excited to go on their first kayaking trip. They had nicknamed their mom "Adventure Mom" because it seemed that lately she was more open to trying new and exciting things. They drove to their destination and checked in at the kayak rental station. First, they heard some routine safety instructions. Then a driver transported them to the Cumberland River. On the back of the transport vehicle, the bright yellow kayak awaited Jeremiah. The drearier colored two-person kayak awaited Jasmine and her mom. Bruce, the transport driver, helped the three get on their life jackets. Then they walked to the water's edge. The sun was shining brightly on that late April morning. Trees lined the river banks. The nine year old girl and her eleven year old brother were excited to get in the water. After some paddling tips, Bruce gave some final instructions for the takeout point and then the three were off. Jeremiah was a natural. He quickly paddled ahead and paused to rest under some trees. His mom called out, "Shouldn't you move away from those? What if you flip?" He just laughed and continued looking at a crane searching for its breakfast.

Jasmine and her mom, Anne, were struggling to paddle together. When one paddled left, the other one paddled right. Somehow they kept repeatedly ending up going in circles. Finally, Anne exclaimed, "You rest, and I will paddle." Jasmine grew frustrated. She agreed to just sit there for a little while. A little later, Jasmine asked, "May I try to paddle again?" The mother and daughter teamed up and resting. The family chose the five mile trip. They had been told the trip should take about two hours. The river was practically still. This meant they had to paddle for two hours. The river was practically still. This meant they had to paddle. As they approached the take out point they thought it was a pretty uneventful trip.

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

## The Kayaking Adventure

Reading Response: Questions

Directions: Read the passage "The Kayaking Adventure." Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why did Jeremiah and Jasmine call their mom "Adventure Mom"?
- What was the difference between Jeremiah's experience in the kayak vs. that of his mom and sister?
- Think about the action that Anne took in the kayak when they missed the takeout point. How would you describe her personality based on her actions?
- Do you think Jeremiah, Jasmine, and Anne will go kayaking again?

Passage C - Level 810L - 110L

Was it the money someone was going to use to pay their dance tuition? Had they intended to use it for groceries later that day? Taking a deep breath, I exhaled, washed my hands, walked back to dance class, and tried to focus. The teacher noticed I seemed a bit off and asked if I wanted to call my mom. I didn't. I wasn't sure how to explain my predicament. During the final seconds of class, the secretary walked in. I could see her and Mrs. Vance eying me. Did they know? They called me over to the edge of the Cumberland River. Loaded on the back of the transport vehicle, they could see the bright yellow kayak and the duller colored tandem kayak. Bruce, the transport driver, helped the three get on their life jackets. Then they walked to the water's edge. The sun was shining brightly on that late April morning. Trees lined the banks and the kids were excited to get in the water. Jasmine and her mom got in the two-person kayak while Jeremiah was in the yellow kayak. After a quick paddling demonstration, Bruce gave some final instructions for the takeout point and then the three were off. Jeremiah was a natural, quickly paddling ahead and pausing to rest under some trees that were growing along the water's edge. His mom called out, "Shouldn't you move away from those? What if you flip?" He laughed and continued admiring a crane searching for its breakfast.

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

## The Kayaking Adventure

Nine-year old, Jasmine, and eleven-year old Jeremiah, were excited to go on their first kayaking trip. They had nicknamed their mom "Adventure Mom" because it seemed that here lately she was more open to trying new and exciting things. They drove to their destination and checked in at the kayak rental station. There they heard some routine safety instructions and then were transported to the Cumberland River. Loaded on the back of the transport vehicle, they could see the bright yellow kayak and the duller colored tandem kayak. Bruce, the transport driver, helped the three get on their life jackets and then they walked to the water's edge. The sun was shining brightly on that late April morning. Trees lined the banks and the kids were excited to get in the water. Jasmine and her mom got in the two-person kayak while Jeremiah was in the yellow kayak. After a quick paddling demonstration, Bruce gave some final instructions for the takeout point and then the three were off. Jeremiah was a natural, quickly paddling ahead and pausing to rest under some trees that were growing along the water's edge. His mom called out, "Shouldn't you move away from those? What if you flip?" He laughed and continued admiring a crane searching for its breakfast.

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

## Summarizing Fiction

Directions: Read the text. Identify the basic story elements in the text and jot down notes for each part of the summary in the table. Then put them together to write a summary of the text using complete sentences.

Who are the characters?
Describe the setting?
What is the main problem and how is it solved?
What is the main lesson learned?

Use your notes above to write a summary of the story.

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

## The Kayaking Adventure

Reading Response: Questions

Directions: Read the passage "The Kayaking Adventure." Answer the following questions using details from the text. When appropriate, make sure to answer in complete sentences.

- Why did Jeremiah and Jasmine call their mom "Adventure Mom"?
- What was the difference between Jeremiah's experience in the kayak vs. that of his mom and sister?
- Think about the action that Anne took in the kayak when they missed the takeout point. How would you describe her personality based on her actions?
- Do you think Jeremiah, Jasmine, and Anne will go kayaking again?

The Response Sheet and Graphic Organizer work with ALL 3 Passages!





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