AUGUST

LEXILE®

Differentiated Passages

PROCEDURAL WRITING

SEQUENCING

The author of *How to Build a Sandcastle* wrote this text in paragraph format. Summarize the steps needed to make a sandcastle with a numbered list.

780L August Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

How to Build a Sandcastle

No day at the beach is complete without playing in the sand. With sand and water at the shore, you already have most of what you need to build a sandcastle. A pail and a shovel are the two other pieces of equipment you need. Other items that can be helpful are containers to use as molds. Carving tools such as a plastic knife and a plastic spoon are also handy. A sele… rocks, sticks, and seashells can make good decorations. You could also bring some …s from home.

The first s… …ding a sandcastle is to choose your spot. It's best to pick a space close enough to th… That way, you don't have to go far to fill your pail. You also want an area that is fa… …away from the water, so the tide won't wash away your hard work. A place out… …ay of people walking is a smart idea, too.

Next, you … wet the sand you are going to use. Dry sand is not good for building. Wet sand, however, gets sticky enough to form into different shapes. Take your pail to the water and fill it. Dump the water on the sand you want to use. You will need to make many trips depending on the size of the sandcastle. Collect the wet sand in a pile with your …l. Add more water as needed. Test the sand by picking up some with your hand. …eeze the handful to see how well the sand sticks together.



When you have a pile of wet sand that is big enough for your sandcastle plans, you have two choices for building. The first is to work with the mound of wet sand you've made. Make sure the wet sand is firmly packed so it's solid. Then you can use your shovel, your carving tools, and your hands to shape the mound into towers, walls, and whatever else you want.

©…

EMBER RESPONSE

Write a response comparing and contrasting *Ember* and *Cinderella*. Write one paragraph about the similarities between the t…

EMBER

750L August Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

Ember



Ember tightened the belt around her waist. Her pants were oversized because they were her stepsister's old pants. Her shirt had a stain on the front, but it was the best shirt she owned. She finger-combed her long blond hair, deciding a braid would make it look less dirty. She'd wanted to wash it, but both o… stepsisters l… hogged the bathro… this morning wit… ir back-to-scho… outy routines. Th… left an enormo… ess for Ember to cl… o she had no … to get ready herself.

At bre… st, her stepm… and stepsisters demanded blueberry pancakes. Ember had to make … from scra… and by the time she finished serving, the school bus was waiting … ont of the … use.

Ember … obed an ap… and her backpack and rushed out the door. She had to sit alone at the … t of the … because her stepsisters went to the back seats to sit with all their frien…

"Don't … ust lov… e first day of school?"

It took … er a … ment to realize the bus driver was speaking to her. She shrugged in r… onse … pulled at the frayed strings around a hole in her pants.

"I reme… r … I was in school," the driver continued. "My dad always bought me clothes th… stylish and fit all wrong. My hair was always completely wild, but I didn't let th… et me down."

Ember … the driver's kind gaze in the rearview mirror. "You didn't?"

The driver shook her head, her curls still looking wild to Ember.

4th & 5th Grade

Mag CORE

Passages differentiated on two levels

750L August Passages

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ember

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EMBER RESPONSE

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es between the two stories and one paragraph about the differences.
m your graphic organizer to h

MBER

Cinderella

are and contrast these two storie

BOTH	Classic:
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August Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is no crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.

1. Who is the main character? What do you know about her? (red)

The main character is Ember.

2. How does the main character feel about back-to-school? (orange)

Ember feels embarrassed.

3. What does the bus driver tell Ember? Why is this significant? (yellow)

The bus driver tells Ember, "It's what's in your mind and heart that truly counts."

4. What significant event occurs in Mr. Wilcox's classroom? (green)

The bunny is drawn to Ember

5. What is the moral of this story? (blue)

a. Even if your family isn't nice, you can make friends.
b. Your mind and heart are more important than looks.
c. Animals make great companions.
d. School is a great place to be accepted for who you are.

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Standards-Based Questions & Written Response

PROCEDURAL WRITING

August Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is no crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.

1. What tools do you need to build a sandcastle? red

To build a sandcastle you need sand, water, a pail, and a shovel.

780L August Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

How to Build a Sandcastle

No day at the beach is complete without playing in the sand. With sand and water at the shore, you already have most of what you need to build a sandcastle. A pail and a shovel are the two other pieces of equipment you need. Other items that can be helpful are containers to use as molds. Carving tools such as a plastic knife and a plastic spoon are also handy. A selection of rocks, sticks, and seashells can make good decorations. You could also bring some craft supplies from home.

The first step in building a sandcastle is to choose your spot. It's best to pick a space close enough to the water. That way, you don't have to go far to fill your pail. You also want an area that is far enough away from the water, so the tide won't wash away your hard work. A place out of the way of people walking is a smart idea, too.

Next, you need to wet the sand you are going to use. Dry sand is not good for building. Wet sand, however, gets sticky enough to form into different shapes. Take your pail to the water and fill it. Dump the water on the sand you want to use. You will need to make many trips depending on the size of the sandcastle. Collect the wet sand in a pile with your shovel. Add more water as needed. Test the sand by picking up some with your hand. Squeeze the handful to see how well the sand sticks together.



When you have a pile of wet sand that is big enough for your sandcastle plans, you have two choices for building. The first is to work with the mound of wet sand you've made. Make sure the wet sand is firmly packed so it's solid. Then you can use your shovel, your carving tools, and your hands to shape the mound into towers, walls, and whatever else you want.

SEQUENCING

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the ground where you want
Slowly lift off the container
be left with a brick of sand
shape of the container. Rep
the perimeter of your san
Keep going until you have
to shape your castle.

The last step in buil
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Construction paper, too
colorful flags for your
unique. Some people als
fill it with water.



780L

Name: _____

How to Build a S

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LEXILE®

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to build a sandcastle?

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August Passages

The second method is to use containers as molds. Fill them with wet sand. Pack the wet sand. Make sure there are no empty spaces or loose sand. Carefully flip the containers onto the ground where you want to build. Slowly lift off the container. You should be left with a brick of sand in the shape of the container. Repeat this step, first putting sand bricks around to
the perimeter of your sandcastle. Stack another level of sand bricks on top o
Keep going until you have the size you'd like. You can then use your tools and h
to shape your castle.



SAN

AUGUST PASSAGES

4th & 5th grade

Table of Contents

*This product includes 6 differentiated leveled passages in the 4th-5th Grade Text Complexity Band (the range for 4th-5th grade is 740-1010). Each passage is available on two levels and comes with general comprehension questions, a skill-based activity, and a reading response activity.

1. Camping With Grandpa (770L, 920L)
2. Ember (750L, 900L)
3. The Last Game (Poem)
4. How to Build a Sandcastle (780L, 950L)
5. One-Room Schoolhouses (820L, 1000L)
6. A Better Schedule (790L, 930L)

770L August Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

Camping With Grandpa

I've always wanted to go camping, and this summer my dream is finally coming true. My grandpa is taking me to a special lake that his grandfather used to take him to when he was a boy. I've spent all week organizing the camping equipment Mom bought me for my birthday in preparation for this trip. My clothes are packed in my small suitcase. My sleeping bag is tightly rolled, and my fishing pole is ready to catch the biggest fish possible.

Grandpa's old pickup truck finally pulls into my driveway, and I jet out the front door to see him.

"Hey, Camden," Grandpa says as he slides out of the driver's seat. He's wearing a tan vest with a ton of pockets on it, jeans, and a camouflage hat with a wide brim. His waterproof boots make his feet look huge.

"Hi, Grandpa!" My skin barely contains me because I've waited forever to go on this camping trip with my favorite relative. "Should I put my stuff in the back?" I point to the back of the pickup truck where a small inflatable raft sticks up a little.

"Yup. I saved you some room." He follows me into the house and helps me grab everything. "Now say goodbye to your mom so we can hang out with some coyotes."

I turn to hug my mom, but I pause, swivel, and face Grandpa again. "Coyotes?"

"Of course." He picks up my sleeping bag that I let bounce to the kitchen floor. "You didn't think we'd have the woods all to ourselves, did you?" He laughs his deep belly laugh and kisses my mom on the cheek. "Hurry up, now. I'll meet you outside."



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I watch him walk out the front door, hardly able to swallow. *Coyotes?* I didn't know there would be coyotes around this weekend. Grandpa never mentioned coyotes when we were planning this camping trip. Not once. He talked about hiking, swimming and fishing in the lake, birdwatching, campfires, and s'mores. He told me to bring a deck of cards so he could teach me some card games.

Coyotes had *never* come up.

Mom hugs me and drops a kiss on the top of my head. "Be good for Grandpa. I'll see you on Sunday night."

If I survive...

Part of me wants to run up to my bedroom and hide, but Grandpa has the truck all packed, and I really want to do all the things he said we'd do.

Everything *except* hang out with coyotes.

Mom nudges me toward the front door, and I scuffle outside to Grandpa's truck. He stands by the open back passenger door and waves a hand for me to climb in. Once he's in the driver's seat, he twists so he can see me in the back.

"You ready for an adventure?" he asks.

"Not with coyotes!" I squeak as I fasten my seatbelt.

Grandpa lets loose another one of his hearty laughs. "Oh, Camden, I was just fooling with you. There aren't any coyotes where we are camping."

I let out a big gush of air and my heart stops pounding madly in my chest. What a relief! I settle in my seat, assured there won't be any coyotes camping with us.

Grandpa turns back to face the front. His truck starts with a rumble of its engine, and he reverses out of my driveway.

"Absolutely no coyotes to worry about, kid," he says. "It's really the bears that you have to watch out for." He laughs again, and I know he's joking this time.

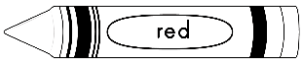
At least I think he is.

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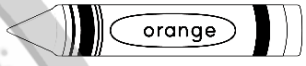
August Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is no crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.

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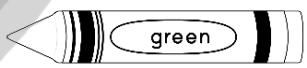
2. How does Camden feel about the camping trip at the beginning of the story? How do his feelings change after grandpa arrives?



3. How does grandpa ease Camden's nerves? How do you know Camden is no longer nervous?

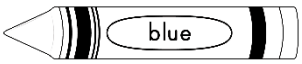


4. What point of view is this story told from?



a. First person: The story is told from the point of view of a character in the story.
b. Second person: The story is told from the point of view of "you".
c. Third person: The story is told from the point of view of someone outside the story.
d. The point of view changes throughout the story.

5. How does the author conclude the story?

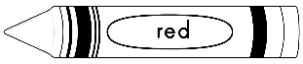


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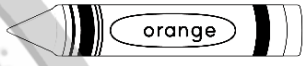
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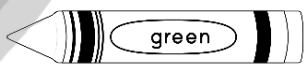
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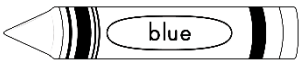


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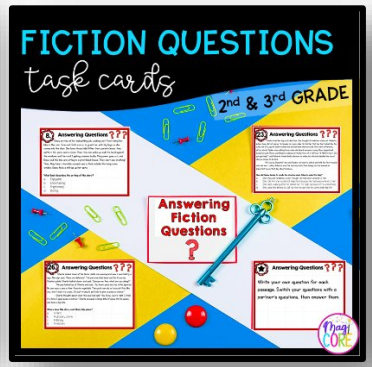
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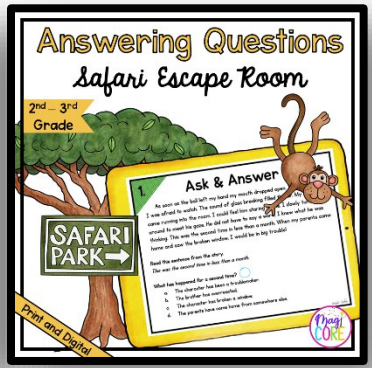
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