NOVEMBER

Differentiated Passages

LEXILE®



4th & 5th Grade

MagCORE

NOVEMBER PASSAGES

4th & 5th grade

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*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. At the Car Wash (770L, 950L) *Focus on Inferencing*
2. A Tale of Two Thanksgivings (760L, 900L) *Focus on Compare and Contrast*
3. People First (760L, 960L) *Focus on Author's Perspective*
4. World Kindness Day (780L, 960L) *Focus on Theme*
5. Two Ways to Learn (800L, 940L) *Focus on Compare and Contrast*
6. The First Thanksgiving (720L, 910L) *Focus on Misconceptions*

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS

MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1385L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."

770L November Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

At the Car Wash

"My dad said we could use his market's parking lot for the car wash. He's got three spots to hook up hoses," Alvaro said. "We can also hand out flyers to customers."

"The entire baseball team is ready to help wash cars," Luis said. "All our infielders are bringing soap, buckets, and sponges. Our outfielders are bringing drying towels and window-washing supplies."

"And the three of us will bring the hoses." Carlos put a checkmark next to *hoses* on the list the boys had made when they first started organizing this Veterans Day Car Wash.

"We should be all set up to make a good amount of money to donate to the veteran's hospital in town," Alvaro said.

Since Alvaro's brother, Marco, had come home injured from his time in the Marines, Alvaro had been trying to think of ways to raise money for veterans. Marco had lost a leg and had gone through many surgeries. He had a prosthetic leg now, but he rarely left the house. Dad said Marco needed time to adjust to living with his injury, but Alvaro worried about his brother. Proper care for veterans was expensive. People like Marco put their lives on the line to protect everyone. They deserved help when they could no longer serve in the military.

"Let's finish making the signs." Luis uncapped a red marker and got busy.

The boys hung the signs near the market where the car wash would take place this Saturday. When Saturday finally came, the baseball team scurried around. They washed car after car.

Alvaro couldn't believe how many people had come out to support veterans. Most people paid more than the few dollars Alvaro and the team were asking for washing the cars. All that extra money was going to make the veterans hospital so happy!

Alvaro's sneakers were so wet by the end of the day. They made a squishy sound every time he took a step. "My arms are sore from all that scrubbing."

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"Does that mean you don't have the strength to wash one more vehicle?"

Alvaro turned around to find Marco in the parking lot, leaning on a cane. Behind him, Marco's jeep was parked. Mud was caked on the wheels and splattered on the sides.

"I got her really dirty so you boys would have a challenge." Marco's lips turned up in a small smile – the first smile Alvaro had seen since his brother had returned home.

Alvaro was stunned to see Marco out of the house, driving his jeep, *and* smiling. All he could do was stand there with his mouth opened.

"Well," Marco finally said, "are you going to stare at my jeep or get her clean?"

That snapped Alvaro out of his shock. "C'mon, guys!" he called to his teammates. "We've got one more car to wash!"

The team descended on Marco's jeep. In no time, it was gleaming in the late afternoon sunshine. Marco walked a circle around the vehicle. His steps were slow and careful as he used the cane to steady himself.

"Excellent work, boys." Marco slung an arm around Alvaro's shoulders. He looked at the team, the puddles and suds still on the pavement, and the big pile of money Carlos was counting. "Thank you for what you did here today for veterans."

"Thank you for your service, Marco." Alvaro gave his brother a hug. He hoped this car wash helped Marco with more than just getting a clean jeep.

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950L November Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

At the Car Wash

"My dad said we could use his market's parking lot for the car wash, and he's got three spots for us to hook up hoses," Alvaro said. "We can also hand out flyers to customers."

"The entire baseball team is ready to help wash cars," Luis said. "All our infielders are bringing soap, buckets, and sponges, and our outfielders are bringing drying towels and window-washing supplies."

"And the three of us will bring the hoses." Carlos put a checkmark next to *hoses* on the list the boys had made when they first started organizing this Veterans Day Car Wash.

"We should be all set up to make a good amount of money to donate to the veteran's hospital in town," Alvaro said.

Since Alvaro's brother, Marco, had come home injured from his time in the Marines, Alvaro had been trying to think of ways to raise money for veterans. Marco had lost a leg and had gone through many surgeries. He had a prosthetic leg now, but he rarely left the house. Dad said Marco needed time to adjust to living with his injury, but Alvaro worried about his brother. Proper care for veterans was expensive, and people like Marco put their lives on the line to protect everyone. They deserved help when they could no longer serve in the military.

"Let's finish making the signs." Luis uncapped a red marker and got busy as did Carlos and Alvaro.

The boys hung the signs around the neighborhood, especially near the market where the car wash would take place this Saturday. When Saturday finally came, the baseball team scurried around, washing car after car. Alvaro couldn't believe how many people had come out to support veterans. Most people paid more than the few dollars Alvaro and the team were asking for washing the cars. All that extra money was going to make the veterans hospital so happy!

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By the end of the day, Alvaro's sneakers were so wet they made a squishy sound every time he took a step. "My arms are sore from all that scrubbing."

"Does that mean you don't have the strength to wash one more vehicle?"



Alvaro turned around to find Marco in the parking lot, leaning on a cane. Behind him, Marco's jeep was parked, mud caked on the wheels and splattered on the sides.

"I got her really dirty so you boys would have a challenge." Marco's lips turned up in a small smile – the first smile Alvaro had seen since his brother had returned home from the Marines.

Stunned to see Marco out of the house, driving his jeep, *and* smiling, all Alvaro could do was stand there with his mouth opened.

"Well," Marco finally said, "are you going to stare at my jeep or get her clean?"

That snapped Alvaro out of his shock. "C'mon, guys!" he called to his teammates. "We've got one more car to wash!"

The team descended on Marco's jeep, and in no time, it was gleaming in the late afternoon sunshine. Marco walked a circle around the vehicle, his steps slow and careful as he used the cane to steady himself.

"Excellent work, boys." Marco slung an arm around Alvaro's shoulders. He looked at the team, the puddles and suds still on the pavement, and the big pile of money Carlos was counting. "Thank you for what you did here today for veterans."

"Thank you for your service, Marco." Alvaro gave his brother a hug, hoping this car wash helped Marco with more than just getting a clean jeep.

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November 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. Why are Alvaro and his friends planning a car wash?



2. What happened to Marco?





3. Write a sentence from the text that shows the boys car wash was successful.

4. Read the following sentence from the text. Alvaro is right, how can you tell the car wash helped Marco in other ways?



"Alvaro gave his brother a hug, hoping this car wash helped Marco with more than just ***getting*** *a clean jeep."*

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INFERENCING

Evidence
Details from the text

Schema
Ideas from my brain

Inference or Prediction



Evidence
Details from the text

Schema
Ideas from my brain

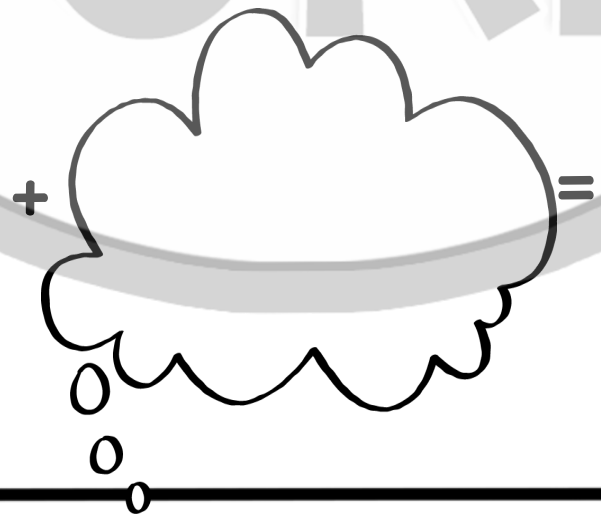
Inference or Prediction



Evidence
Details from the text

Schema
Ideas from my brain

Inference or Prediction



AT THE CAR WASH RESPONSE

At the Car Wash is a story about teamwork and helping others. Think about a time when you have helped someone or worked together with others to accomplish a goal. Write a story about it. Be sure to include characters, a setting, problem and solution.



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Drama November Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

World Kindness Day

Cast: Sami, Matthew, Grace, Alonso, Charley, Charley's mom, volunteers

ACT ONE

Scene I:

Setting: A neighborhood park on a nice autumn day in November

Narrator: Five friends ride their bicycles to the neighborhood park, but they see something they don't like when they arrive.



Sami: *(nudges a plastic cup with her sneaker)* There's trash all over the place.

Matthew: *(points to a trash can on its side)* Someone must have knocked that trash can over.

Grace: *(goes to the picnic tables)* Oh, there's mean writing all over these tables.

Alonso: My dad built these picnic tables. He worked hard on them. *(turns in a circle)* This entire park is such a mess. Those bushes need cutting, and the leaves should be raked.

Charley: I have an idea. Follow me.

(All five friends follow Charley on their bikes.)

©Cute Bitches

Scene 2:

Setting: Charley's house

Narrator: Charley leads his friends to his backyard where there's a beautiful garden full of neatly trimmed bushes. A few mum plants are placed among the bushes. They add pops of yellow and orange to all the green.

Charley: *(points to the garden)* My family built this garden together by all pitching in to help. I think we should do the same at the neighborhood park. We could clean it up and make it look nice for everyone to enjoy.

Sami: This is a great idea, Charley! We could get more volunteers to help us.

Grace: *(leans down to smell one of the mum plants)* Didn't Mr. Carson say November 13th was World Kindness Day during history class?

Alonso: That's today! *(snaps his fingers)* I know something else we can do to improve the park, but we'll need paint, brushes, and some rocks.

Matthew: Let's split up then. Some of us can get the art supplies, and some of us can get what we'll need to clean up the park plus some more volunteers. We'll meet back at the park.
(The friends split up into two teams. They scurry off to get what they need.)

Scene 3:

Setting: Back at the park

Narrator: All the supplies have been gathered. Several volunteers have joined the five friends at the park. Everyone is busy handling a task such as trimming the bushes, picking up trash, and cleaning off the picnic tables.

©Julia Bachosa



Sami: *(puts hands on her hips and looks around)* Wow. Everything looks much better now.

Charley: *(motions to a woman approaching)* Here comes my mom with some mums to brighten up the park.

Matthew, Sami, and Grace: *(rush over to Charley's mom to help with the mums)*

Charley's mom: *(stopping to stand next to Charley)* You kids have done a great job here. It was very kind of you to help the neighborhood like this.

Alonso: *(grabs the paint and brushes)* We're not done yet. Next, we're making kindness rocks. We paint rocks in bright colors and write positive messages on them. Then, we leave them around the park for people to see. Hopefully, it makes them happy or inspires them to be kind. *(holds up a rock to Charley's mom)* Do you want to paint one, too?

Charley's mom: *(takes the rock)* I sure do.

(All the kids, Charley's mom, and the other volunteers gather around to paint kindness rocks. One by one, they come to center stage and show their rock, reading the message. Then, they find a spot to place the rock and walk off stage.)

Narrator: Kindness is always a great decision. With hard work and good hearts, these friends have made a difference in their community.

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Drama November Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

World Kindness Day

Cast: Sami, Matthew, Grace, Alonso, Charley, Charley's mom, volunteers



ACT ONE

Scene I:

Setting: A neighborhood park on a crisp autumn day in November

Narrator: Five friends ride their bicycles to the neighborhood park, but when they arrive, they see something they don't like.

Sami: *(nudges a plastic cup with her sneaker)* There's trash all over the place.

Matthew: *(points to a trash can on its side)* Someone must have knocked that trash can over, and the wind spread the garbage all around the park.

Grace: *(gets off her bike and goes to the picnic tables)* Oh, there's mean writing all over these tables, and that one has deep scratches on the top.

Alonso: My dad built these picnic tables, and he worked hard on them. *(turns in a circle)* This entire park is such a mess. Those bushes need cutting, and the leaves should be raked.

Charley: I have an idea, guys, so follow me.

(All five friends follow Charley on their bikes.)

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Scene 2:

Setting: Charley's house

Narrator: Charley leads his friends to his backyard where there's a beautiful garden full of neatly trimmed bushes. A few mum plants are placed among the bushes, adding pops of yellow and orange to all the green.

Charley: *(points to the garden)* My family built this garden together by all pitching in to help. I think we should do the same at the neighborhood park. We could clean it up and make it look nice for everyone to enjoy.

Sami: This is a great idea, Charley, and we could get more volunteers to help us.

Grace: *(leans down to smell one of the mum plants)* Didn't Mr. Carson say November 13th was World Kindness Day during history class?

Alonso: That's today! *(snaps his fingers)* I know something else we can do to improve the park, but we'll need paint, brushes, and some rocks.

Matthew: Let's split up then. Some of us can get the art supplies, and some of us can get what we'll need to clean up the park plus some more volunteers. We'll meet back at the park in an hour.

(The friends split up into two teams and scurry off to get what they need.)

Scene 3:

Setting: Back at the park

Narrator: All the supplies have been gathered, and several volunteers have joined the five friends at the park. Everyone is busy handling a task such as trimming the bushes, picking up trash, and cleaning off the picnic tables.

©Julia Bachosa



Sami: *(puts hands on hips and looks around)* Wow. Everything looks much better now that it is tidy.

Charley: *(motions to a woman approaching)* Here comes my mom with some mums to brighten up the park even more.

Matthew, Sami, and Grace: *(rush over to Charley's mom to help with the mums)*

Charley's mom: *(stopping to stand next to Charley)* You kids have done a great job here, and it was very kind of you to help the neighborhood like this.

Alonso: *(grabs the paint and brushes)* We're not done yet. Next, we're making kindness rocks where we paint rocks in bright colors and write positive messages on them. Then, we leave them around the park for people to see. Hopefully, it makes them happy or inspires them to be kind. *(holds up a rock to Charley's mom)* Do you want to paint one, too?

Charley's mom: *(takes the rock)* I certainly do.

(All the kids, Charley's mom, and the other volunteers gather around to paint kindness rocks. One by one, they come to center stage and show their rock, reading the message. Then, they find a spot to place the rock and walk off stage.)

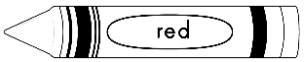
Narrator: Kindness is always a great decision. With hard work and good hearts, these friends have made a difference in their community.

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November 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. Make a prediction. What do you think Charley means when he says, "I have an idea, guys, so follow me."



2. Why did the author separate scene 1 and scene 2?



a. The setting moved from the park to Charley's house
b. The friends were ready to make a plan
c. The setting moved to split up locations to gather materials
d. The friends put their bikes away

3. Why does Charley want to show his friends his backyard?



4. Why does the author include these stage directions?
(rush over to Charley's mom to help with the mums)



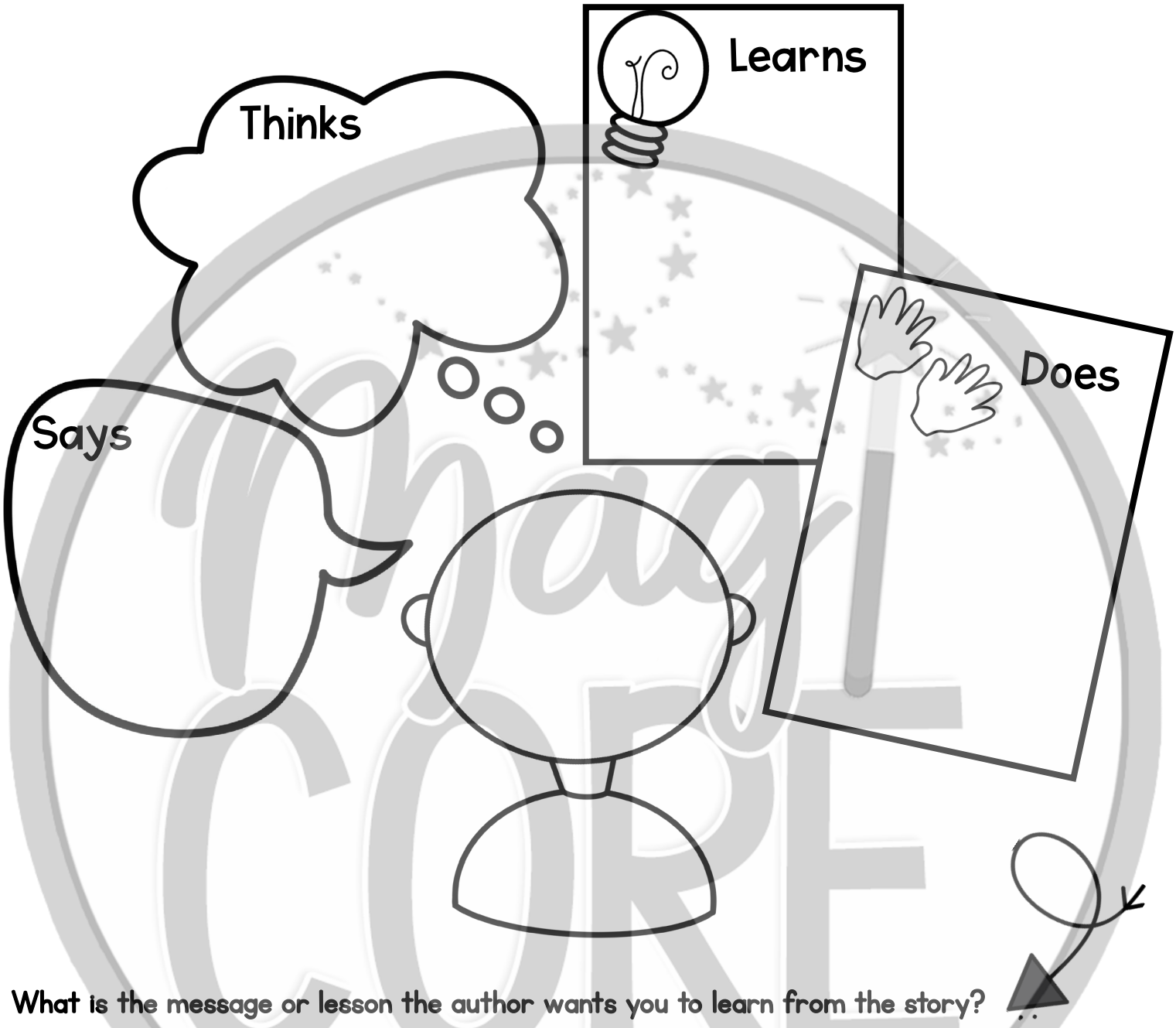
a. To tell that Charley's mom asked for help
b. To show what the characters did on the stage
c. To tell what the characters said to Charley's mom
d. To show how the characters fixed up the park

5. What are kindness rocks and why do the characters make them?



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THEME

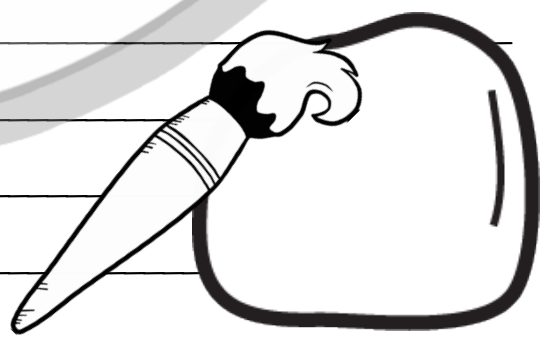


What is the message or lesson the author wants you to learn from the story?

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WORLD KINDNESS DAY RESPONSE

In *World Kindness Day* the friends work together to fix up the park for World Kindness Day. If you were going to celebrate World Kindness Day what would you do?



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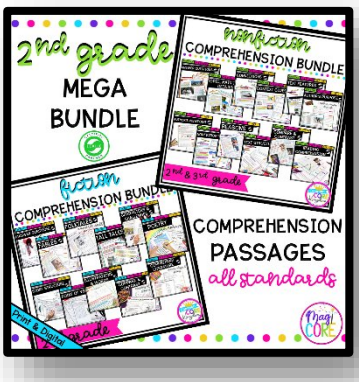
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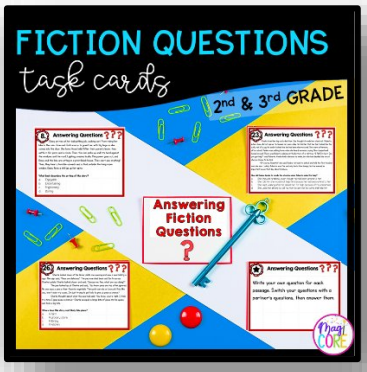
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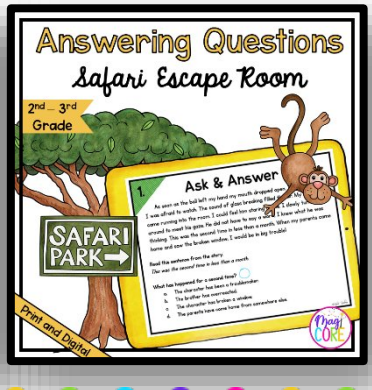
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