APRIL

Differentiated Passages

LEXILE®



THEME

Characters

Setting

Problem

Summary of the st

Lesson learned by a

April 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 prompted the students to want to play a prank on their teacher?

red

orange

yellow

green

780L

April Passages Name: _____ Date: _____

The Perfect Prank

It was the morning of April Fool's Day. Three best friends, Jack, Emma, and Mia, were eagerly hatching a plan. They wanted to find the perfect prank for their teacher, Mrs. Jones.

"I know! Let's put silly string in her desk!" exclaimed Jack. He rubbed his hands together naughtily.

The girls looked at each other before bursting into laughter. "That would be so funny! But I think we should go bigger than that...," said Mia. She had a twinkle in her eye.

Finally, they agreed. The perfect prank was to wrap Mrs. Jones' desk in aluminum foil. They knew it would take some time. They decided to skip lunch and head straight to the classroom.



When the bell rang for recess, Jack and Emma snuck into their teacher's room. Mia kept a lookout outside the door. They carefully covered Mrs. Jones' desk with foil.

They held their breath when Mrs. Jones walked into the room.

Mrs. Jones saw the gleam of the foil. She couldn't help but laugh out loud at the si... She quickly deduced who had perpetrated this prank. Mrs. Jones decided to get back at... students.

Mrs. Jones waited until recess was over before calling her class back into the ... "I have a surprise for you," she said with a twinkle in her eye.

Jack and Emma exchanged a worried glance. They slowly made their way ... classroom. When they arrived, they were shocked. Mrs. Jones had covered the ... minum foil, as well!

4th & 5th Grade

MagiCORE

APRIL 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. The Perfect Prank - *Focus on Theme* (780L, 950L)
2. Bumblebee Life Cycle - *Focus on Sequencing* (770L, 930L)
3. Celebrating Spring - *Focus on Structure* (Poem)
4. Ramadan - *Focus on Main Idea* (740L, 950L)
5. How Fisher Went to the Skyland - *Focus on Story Elements* (770L, 900L)
6. Autism Awareness - *Focus on Summarizing* (800L, 1000L)

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."

780L

April Passages

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Perfect Prank

It was the morning of April Fool's Day. Three best friends, Jack, Emma, and Mia, were eagerly hatching a plan. They wanted to find the perfect prank for their teacher, Mrs. Jones.

"I know! Let's put silly string in her desk!" exclaimed Jack. He rubbed his hands together naughtily.

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They held their breath when Mrs. Jones walked into the room.

Mrs. Jones saw the gleam of the foil. She couldn't help but laugh out loud at the sight. She quickly deduced who had perpetrated this prank. Mrs. Jones decided to get back at her students.

Mrs. Jones waited until recess was over before calling her class back into the room. "I have a surprise for you," she said with a twinkle in her eye.

Jack and Emma exchanged a worried glance. They slowly made their way back to the classroom. When they arrived, they were shocked. Mrs. Jones had covered their desks with aluminum foil, as well!

©Julie Brochado

April Passages

The class erupted in laughter as they peeled the foil off their chairs and desks. Jack, Emma, and Mia had pulled off the perfect prank, and everyone was in on the joke.

Mrs. Jones smiled at her students and clicked her tongue. "Pranks are only funny when they're pulled off safely," she said with a mischievous grin.

The three friends exchanged a smile, relieved that their prank had been successful, and Mrs. Jones wasn't too mad at them. They all laughed as they worked together to clean up the mess they had made.

The perfect April Fool's Day prank was a success, and it taught Jack, Emma, and Mia an important lesson: with a little bit of creativity, you can pull off the best prank ever!

At the end of the day, as Jack, Emma, and Mia walked home, they couldn't help but smile at the memory of their perfect April Fool's Day prank. Little did they know that it was only the beginning of a lifetime of pranking adventures.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

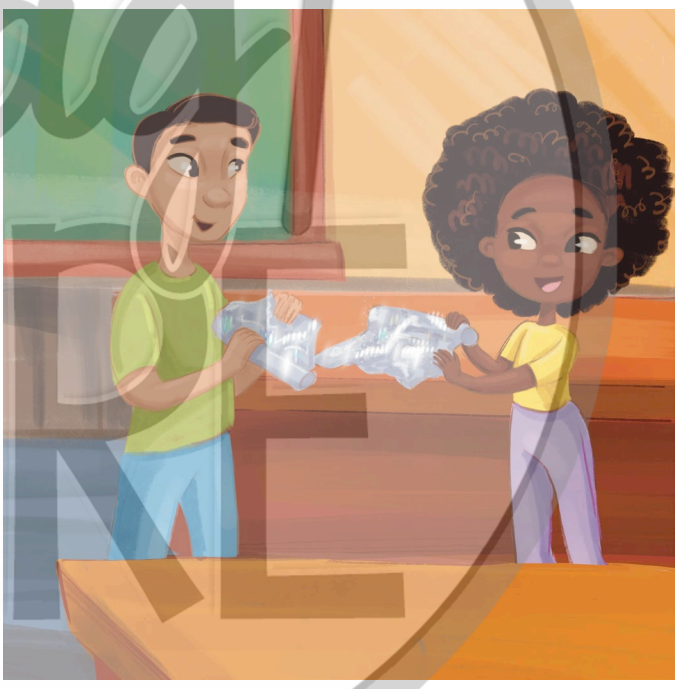
The Perfect Prank

It was the morning of April Fool's Day, and three best friends, Jack, Emma, and Mia, were eagerly hatching a plan. They wanted to find the perfect prank for their teacher, Mrs. Jones, at school that day.

"I know! Let's put silly string in her desk drawer!" exclaimed Jack as he rubbed his hands together mischievously.

The girls looked at each other before bursting into laughter. "That would be so funny! But I think we should go bigger than that…," said Mia with a twinkle in her eye.

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When the bell rang for recess, Jack and Emma snuck into their teacher's room while Mia kept a lookout outside the door. With great precision, they carefully covered Mrs. Jones' desk with foil.

They held their breath when Mrs. Jones walked into the room.

Mrs. Jones saw the gleam of the foil and couldn't help but laugh out loud at the sight. She quickly deduced who had perpetrated this prank and decided to get back at her students.

Mrs. Jones waited until recess was over before calling her class back into the room. "I have a surprise for you," she said with a twinkle in her eye.

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©Julie Rosso

April Passages

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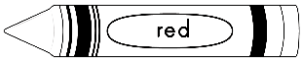
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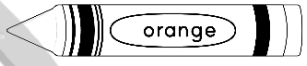
April Comprehension Questions

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.

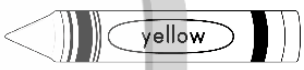
1. What prompted the students to want to play a prank on their teacher?



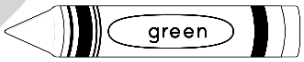
2. How did the three students, Jack, Emma, and Mia, prank their teacher? Who did what?



3. How did Mrs. Jones get back at her students? What did she do?

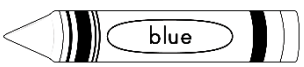


4. What does the author mean when they write, "She quickly deduced who had perpetrated this prank . . ." ?



   a. She quickly became upset.
   b. She quickly decided to call the principal.
   c. She found herself confused by the prank.
   d. She quickly figured out who had pulled the prank.

5. Why were the students relieved at the end of the story?



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THEME

Characters



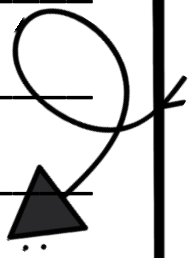
Setting



Problem



Summary of the story:



Lesson learned by a character

The message you can learn



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THE PERFECT PRANK RESPONSE

Jack, Emma, and Mia pulled a silly prank on their teacher, Mrs. Jones. Imagine it is April Fool's Day at your school! What kind of prank would you pull on your teacher? How do you think your teacher would react to your prank?

©Julie Barbosa

770L

April Passages

Name: _____ Date: _____

Bumblebee Life Cycle

Bumblebees are fascinating creatures. They spend their entire lives on the hunt for nectar and pollen.

The life cycle of a bumblebee begins with an egg. The egg is laid by the queen bee in a nest or burrow. From the egg hatches a larva. The larva looks like a tiny grubworm. The larva spends its days eating. Then, it is ready to create a cocoon-like structure. This structure is called a pupa.

In the pupa, the bee undergoes an incredible transformation. This takes several weeks. Its body rearranges and grows larger. Finally, it emerges as an adult bee. This process has been referred to as metamorphosis. It is an essential part of the life cycle of all insects.

Adult bumblebees spend their days foraging. They are looking for nectar and pollen from flowers. They are collecting it in their special pockets on their legs. These pockets are called corbiculae. They also use their long tongues to reach into floral tubes. They are searching for nectar. This makes them one of the most important pollinators in many ecosystems.

Once they have enough food for themselves and their colony, they return home. They need to feed larvae or store nectar away in cells within the nest. A single bumblebee may visit 50-100 flowers. They can do this each day in peak season! Bumblebees can fly up to 15 miles per hour. They can do this even while carrying heavy loads of pollen.

At night, bumblebees sleep among the flowers or burrows they live in during the day. They often form large clusters. They cluster around the queen bee. The bees try to keep her warm during cold nights. Bumblebees are known to huddle together inside nests at night, as well. They don't truly hibernate during winter months as some bees do.

In summer months, male drones are produced from eggs laid by queens. The queens mate with males from another nest before returning home. Once drones have mated with new queens from other colonies, they die soon after. This leaves behind new queens who will establish new nests or revive old ones later that year.

Eventually, these new queens will begin laying eggs again. Then, they start a whole new life cycle for another generation of bumblebees. As amazing creatures go, there are few quite as remarkable as these hardworking pollinators we know so well - our beloved bumblebees.



Adult Bumblebee

930L

April Passages

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Adult bumblebees spend their days foraging for nectar and pollen from flowers. They are collecting it in the special pockets on their legs called corbiculae or "pollen baskets." They also use their long tongues to reach into floral tubes for nectar. This makes them one of the most important pollinators in many ecosystems.

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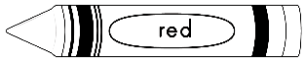
Adult Bumblebee

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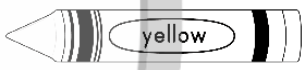
1. What is the main purpose of a bumblebee's life?



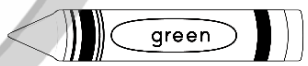
2. How many stages are in a bumblebee's life cycle? What are they?



3. What do bumblebees do at night? What behavior do they exhibit?



4. What is the purpose of drone bees?



   a. To send out scouting missions.
   b. To mate with queen bees.
   c. To watch for enemies.
   d. None of the above.

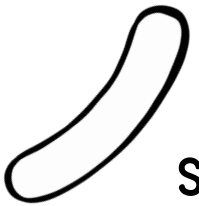
5. What are some reasons a bumblebee is considered hardworking?



©

SEQUENCING

Identify and describe each phase in the lifecycle of a bumblebee.





Stage 1: _____

Stage 2: _____

Stage 3:

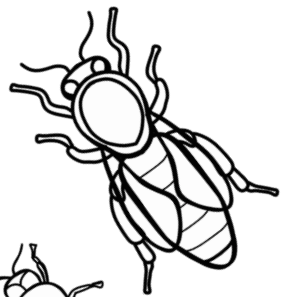
_____

_____

Stage 4:

_____

_____

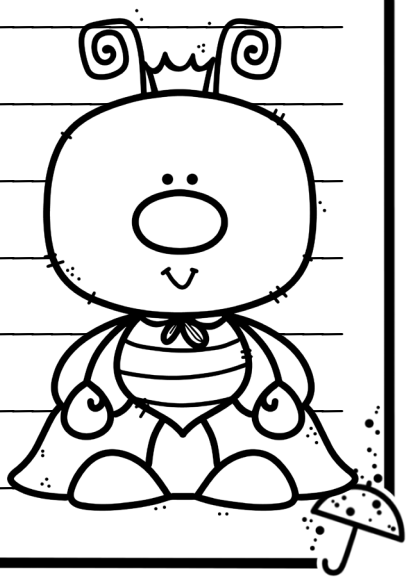




©Jodie Bookout

BUMBLEBEE RESPONSE

Think about the life cycle of the bumblebee. Does it sound familiar? Can you think of any other life cycles that have some similarities? Write a paragraph comparing the life cycle of a bumblebee to another life cycle you know. How are they similar? How are they different?



©Julie Bachose

740L

April Passages

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ramadan

Ramadan is a special month for Muslims. Muslims are expected to use this month as a time of self-reflection and spiritual growth. Ramadan is celebrated in the ninth month. This is based on the Islamic lunar calendar. This can occur at different times throughout the year. It depends on when the moon is sighted. This marks the beginning of Ramadan.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast from dawn until sunset for 30 days. This is done as a form of discipline. It is also done to remember the suffering of those less fortunate. During the fasting period, Muslims abstain from eating and drinking. Muslim people focus on their spirituality through prayer, charity, and reflection. They use this time to become closer to Allah, or God.

Ramadan is not just about fasting. It is also about giving back to the community and strengthening bonds with friends and family. During this month, people come together to break their fasts at sunset (known as Iftar). People also take part in nighttime prayers. This is known as Taraweeh.

At the end of Ramadan, Muslims celebrate with a three-day festival called Eid al-Fitr. People visit family and friends. They give gifts and donations to those in need. They also enjoy lots of delicious traditional food. Eid al-Fitr marks the end of fasting and celebrates the hard work done throughout the month.

Ramadan is seen as a blessed month for Muslims around the world. It encourages people to be more mindful and generous towards others. Even if you are not Muslim, recognizing this celebration can be a great way to learn about different cultures and traditions from around the world.



Decorations for the celebration; Eid al-Fitr

©Julia Rosso

950L

April Passages

Name: _____ Date: _____

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At the end of Ramadan, Muslims celebrate with a three-day festival called Eid al-Fitr. People visit family and friends, give gifts and donations to those in need, and enjoy lots of delicious traditional food. Eid al-Fitr marks the end of fasting and celebrates the hard work done throughout the month.

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Decorations for the celebration; Eid al-Fitr

©Julia Rosso

April 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 isn't Ramadan on the same date each year?

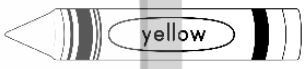


   a. Because the Islamic calendar is based on the sun.
   b. Because it is in a new month every year.
   c. Because the Islamic calendar is based on the moon.
   d. None of the above.

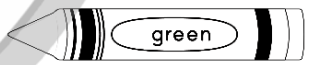
2. What kinds of things do Muslims do during Ramadan? How do they behave?



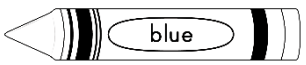
3. What does the month of Ramadan encourage people to do?



4. What is the purpose of fasting during Ramadan?



5. What do Muslims do during Eid al-Fitr ?



©Julie Rose

MAIN IDEA

Complete the graphic organizer to determine the main idea and supporting details. After you determine the details, come up with one main idea sentence that states what the whole passage is about.



©Julie Faulkner

RAMADAN RESPONSE

During Ramadan, those that celebrate do so by doing kind and generous acts. They help others, raise money, and support their community. How does your community of friends and family support you? What are generous acts you could do for the friends and family in your community?

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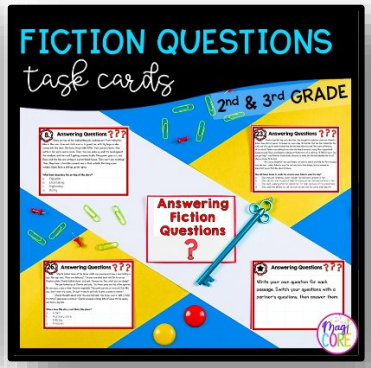
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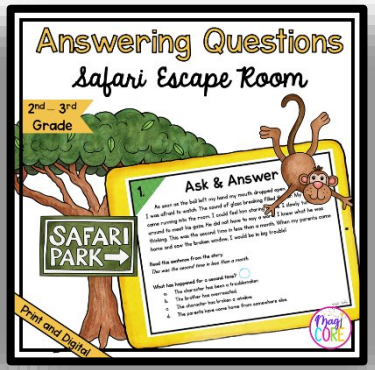
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