

COMMON CORE

2nd Grade Reading Passages

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

RL.2.1 RL.2.2 RL.2.3 RL.2.5

RL.2.6 RL.2.7 RL.2.9

RL.2.1 I can ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

RL.2.2 I can identify the main topic and one or two key details, including key details, and demonstrate how they relate to the central message or lesson.

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.

RL.2.9 I can describe how the characters in a story respond to events or challenges.

Name: _____ Date: _____
Pam's New Gift
It was Pam's birthday. Her parents took her to her favorite place for dinner. Pam ordered tacos. After dinner, Pam's parents gave her a blue present with a pink bow on top. She quickly opened it. Pam's eyes grew wide! "Oh, thank you!" she said excitedly. Pam smiled at her new, shiny, black camera. She couldn't wait to go home and take pictures of her friends and her cat. Pam's mom and dad were very glad that she liked her gift. When Pam and her parents stood up to leave, Pam tripped and fell on her untied shoelaces. Her camera fell to the floor and broke. Pam looked at her parents and began to cry. "I am so sorry. It was an accident!" Pam said sadly. Pam's dad helped her up and said, "It's okay, Honey. We know it was an accident. If you do some extra chores around the house this week, we will buy you another one." Pam was so happy to hear that. She gave both of her parents a hug. They walked to their car and drove home.

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RL.2.4 I can compare and contrast two versions of the same story.

RL.2.5 I can describe the overall structure of a story.

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.

RL.2.9 I can describe how the characters in a story respond to events or challenges.

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Take a Closer Look!

1. Name two things that are the same in each story. (Compare)

2. Name two things that are different in each story. (Contrast)

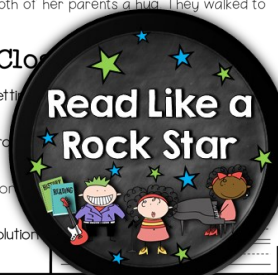
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By: Naomi O'Brien



Dear Teacher,

This product is perfect for second graders that are working on the Common Core Literacy Standards! Each story in this pack will help you teach, assess, or give your students independent practice with standards RL.2.1, RL.2.2, RL.2.3, RL.2.5, RL.2.6, RL.2.7, and RL.2.9.

The standards are listed at the top of each page, so that you can easily identify which standard you are targeting. Students will learn how to take a closer look at what they read, in order to deepen their understanding and prepare themselves for 3rd grade!

These sheets are great to use during small group time or following a mini lesson that targets the standard listed on the page.

The repeated readings will help with your students fluency and drive home the fact that there are multiple ways to analyze a text.

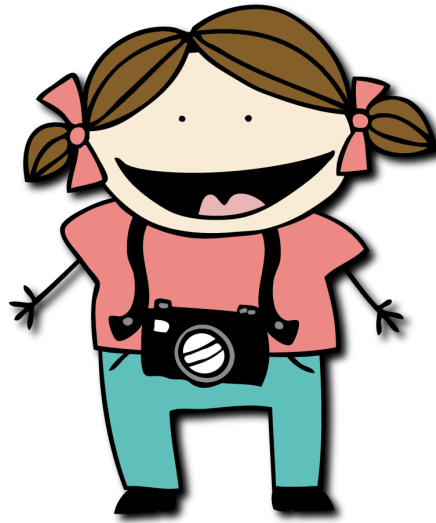


Sincerely,

Naomi O'Brien

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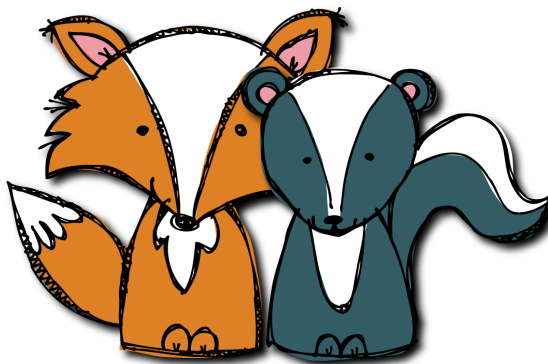
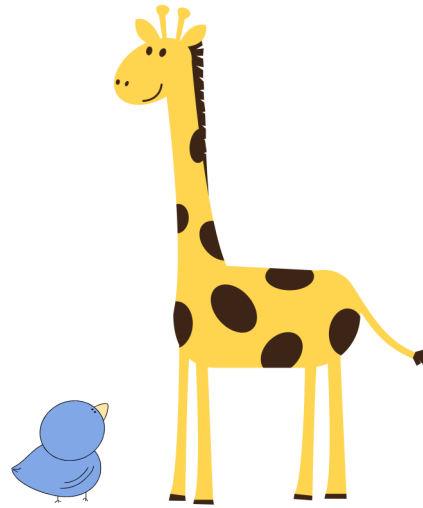


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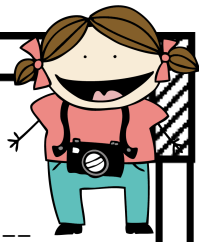
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Name: _____

Date: _____

Pam's New Gift

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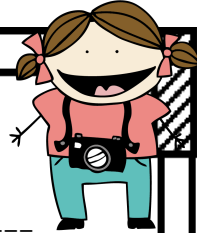
Take a Closer Look!

1. **What** did Pam have for dinner?

2. **Who** did Pam want to use her camera to take pictures of?

3. **How** did Pam's new camera break?

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Pam's New Gift

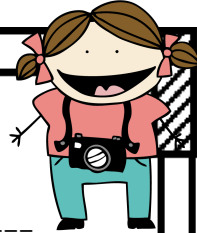
Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Handwriting practice area with multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, dashed middle, bottom) for writing.

 What was the story mostly about? 

Handwriting practice area with multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, dashed middle, bottom) for writing.

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Pam's New Gift

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Setting

Characters

Problem

Solution

Beginning

Middle

End

 What was the story mostly about? 

RL.2.3 I can describe how the characters in the story respond to events or challenges.



Name: _____

Date: _____

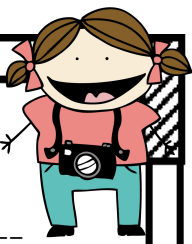
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Take a Closer Look!

1. How did Pam feel when she saw her new gift? Why?

2. How did Pam feel after she tripped and fell? Why?



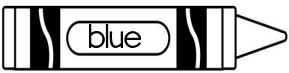
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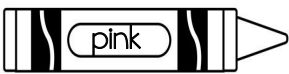
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Take a Closer Look!



Underline the **setting** of the story.



Underline the **problem** that happened.



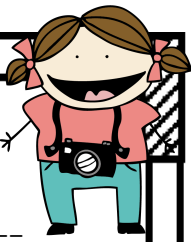
Underline the story's **characters**.



Underline the **solution** to the problem.

What happened in the **middle** of the story?

RL.2.5 I can describe the overall structure of a story.



Name: _____




Date: _____

Pam's New Gift

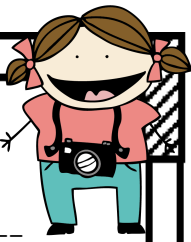
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Take a Closer Look!

Illustrate and label the events from the story in the correct sequence.

Beginning	Middle	End
		

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.



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Date: _____

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Take a Closer Look!

Describe how each character from the story above might have felt when the camera broke. Explain your thinking.

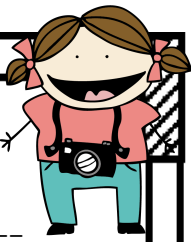


Pam



Pam's
parents

RL.2.7 I can use words and illustrations to better understand the story.



Name: _____

Date: _____

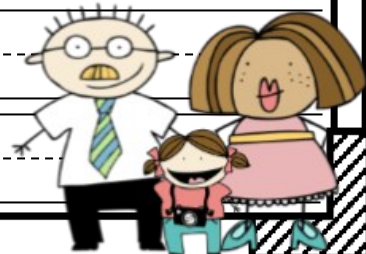
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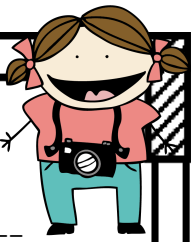
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Take a Closer Look!

1. Is Pam an adult or a little girl? How can you tell?

2. How was Pam **feeling** when she first got her camera?





Name: _____

Date: _____

Pam's New Gift #1

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Pam's New Gift #2

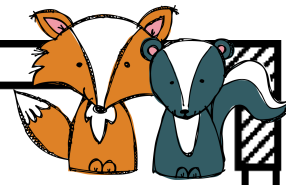
It was Pam's birthday. Her parents took her to her favorite place for lunch. Pam ordered tacos. After lunch, Pam's parents gave her a blue present with a pink bow on top. She quickly opened it. Pam's eyes grew wide! "*Wow! Thanks!*" she said excitedly. Pam smiled at her new, shiny, black camera. She couldn't wait to go home and take pictures of her friends and her dog. Pam's mom and dad were very glad that she liked her gift. When Pam and her parents stood up to leave, Pam bumped into the server and fell. Her camera fell to the floor and broke. Pam looked at her parents and began to cry. "*I am so sorry. It was an accident.*" Pam said sadly. Pam's mom helped her up and said, "*It's okay, Sweetie. We know it was an accident. If you do some extra chores around the house this week, we will buy you another one.*" Pam was so happy to hear that. She gave both of her parents a high-five. They walked to their bikes and rode home.

Take a Closer Look!

Underline or highlight the differences in story #2.

1. Name three things that are the **same** in each story. (Compare)

2. Name two things that are **different** in each story. (Contrast)



Name: _____ Date: _____

Skunk & Fox

One day Fox was running through the woods. Skunk came over and asked if Fox wanted to play. *"I can't play with you."* said Fox. *"You are not a fox and I only play with foxes."* This made Skunk very sad. She walked away. The next day Fox saw Skunk again. Skunk smiled and asked if Fox wanted to play tag. Fox told her that he didn't play with skunks. He only played with other foxes. *"It's okay to have friends that are different!"* yelled Skunk sadly. Then she walked away. Later that day, Fox was all alone. He wished that he had someone to play with, but none of the other foxes would play with him. He sat on a log and cried. Skunk came by with a few of her friends. *"Hey Fox!"* she called out. *"Come and play with us!"* Fox joined Skunk and her friends. They played all afternoon, and it was the most fun he ever had.

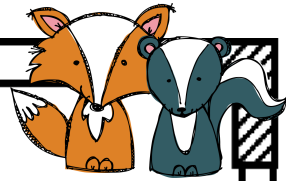
Take a Closer Look!

1. **What** game did Skunk ask Fox to play?

2. **Why** didn't Fox want to play with Skunk?

3. **Why** was Fox crying?

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Skunk & Fox

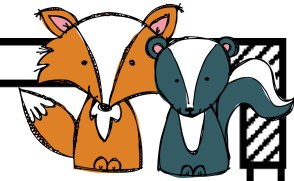
Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

 What lesson did Fox learn? 

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Skunk & Fox

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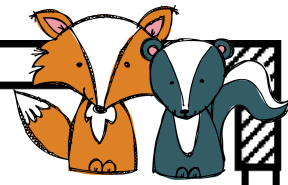
Setting	Characters	Problem
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Solution		
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Beginning	Middle	End
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 What lesson did Fox learn? 

RL.2.3 I can describe how the characters in the story respond to events or challenges.



Name: _____ Date: _____

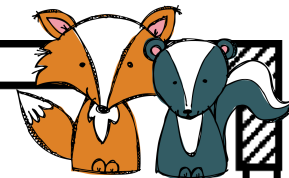
Skunk & Fox

One day Fox was running through the woods. Skunk came over and asked if Fox wanted to play. *"I can't play with you."* said Fox. *"You are not a fox and I only play with foxes."* This made Skunk very sad. She walked away. The next day Fox saw Skunk again. Skunk smiled and asked if Fox wanted to play tag. Fox told her that he didn't play with skunks. He only played with other foxes. *"It's okay to have friends that are different!"* yelled Skunk sadly. Then she walked away. Later that day, Fox was all alone. He wished that he had someone to play with, but none of the other foxes would play with him. He sat on a log and cried. Skunk came by with a few of her friends. *"Hey Fox!"* she called out. *"Come and play with us!"* Fox joined Skunk and her friends. They played all afternoon, and it was the most fun he ever had.

Take a Closer Look!

1. **How** did Skunk feel at the beginning of the story? **Why?**

2. **How** did Fox feel at the end of the story **Why?**






Name: _____ Date: _____

Skunk & Fox

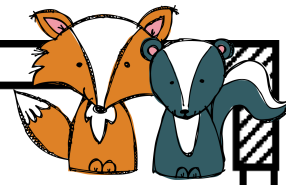
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Take a Closer Look!

Illustrate and label the events from the story in the correct sequence.

Beginning	Middle	End
		

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Skunk & Fox

One day Fox was running through the woods. Skunk came over and asked if Fox wanted to play. *"I can't play with you."* said Fox. *"You are not a fox and I only play with foxes."* This made Skunk very sad. She walked away. The next day Fox saw Skunk again. Skunk smiled and asked if Fox wanted to play tag. Fox told her that he didn't play with skunks. He only played with other foxes. *"It's okay to have friends that are different!"* yelled Skunk sadly. Then she walked away. Later that day, Fox was all alone. He wished that he had someone to play with, but none of the other foxes would play with him. He sat on a log and cried. Skunk came by with a few of her friends. *"Hey Fox!"* she called out. *"Come and play with us!"* Fox joined Skunk and her friends. They played all afternoon, and it was the most fun he ever had.

Take a Closer Look!

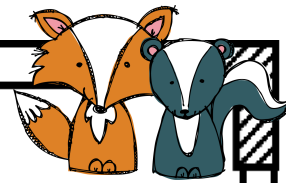
In the beginning of the story, how did each character feel about playing with friends that are different from you?



Fox



Skunk



Name: _____ Date: _____

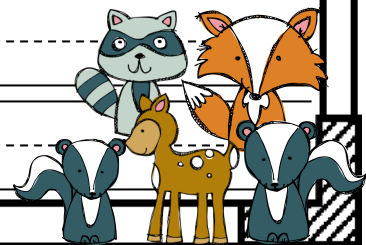
Skunk & Fox

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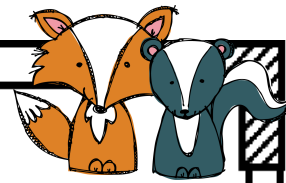
Take a Closer Look!

1. How many **skunks** was Fox playing with?

2. What were the **other** animals that Fox played with?



RL.2.9 I can compare and contrast two versions of the same story.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Skunk & Fox #1

One day Fox was running through the woods. Skunk came over and asked if Fox wanted to play. *"I can't play with you."* said Fox. *"You are not a fox and I only play with foxes."* This made Skunk very sad. She walked away. The next day Fox saw Skunk again. Skunk smiled and asked if Fox wanted to play tag. Fox told her that he didn't play with skunks. He only played with other foxes. *"It's okay to have friends that are different!"* yelled Skunk sadly. Then she walked away. Later that day, Fox was all alone. He wished that he had someone to play with, but none of the other foxes would play with him. He sat on a log and cried. Skunk came by with a few of her friends. *"Hey Fox!"* she called out. *"Come and play with us!"* Fox joined Skunk and her friends. They played all afternoon and it was the most fun he ever had.

Skunk & Fox #2

One day Fox was skipping through the woods. Skunk came over and asked if Fox wanted to play. *"I can't play with you."* said Fox. *"You are not a fox and I only play with foxes."* This made Skunk very mad. She walked away. The next day Fox saw Skunk again. Skunk smiled and asked if Fox wanted to play catch. Fox told her that he didn't play with skunks. He only played with other foxes. *"It's okay to have friends that are different!"* yelled Skunk madly. Then she walked away. Later that day, Fox was all alone. He wished that he had someone to play with, but none of the other foxes would play with him. He sat on a rock and cried. Skunk came by with a few of her friends. *"Hey Fox!"* she called out. *"Come and play with us!"* Fox joined Skunk and her friends. They played all afternoon and it was the most fun he ever had.

Take a Closer Look!

Underline or highlight the differences in story #2.

1. Name three things that are the **same** in each story. (Compare)

2. Name two things that are **different** in each story. (Contrast)



Name: _____

Date: _____

Tall & Small

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of her nest.

"Please help me!" she cried to the tall giraffe. "If you help me now, I will help you later." The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!

1. **How** did the small bird fall out of her nest?

2. **What** did the tall giraffe want to eat?

3. **How** did the small bird help the tall giraffe?

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.





Name: _____ Date: _____

Tall & Small

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Handwriting practice area with multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, dashed middle, bottom) for writing.

 What lesson did the tall giraffe learn? 

Handwriting practice area with multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, dashed middle, bottom) for writing.

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Tall & Small

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Setting

Characters



Problem

Solution

Beginning

Middle

End

 What lesson did the tall giraffe learn? 

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

RL.2.3 I can describe how the characters in the story respond to events or challenges.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Tall & Small

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of her nest. *"Please help me!"* she cried to the tall giraffe. *"If you help me now, I will help you later."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!

1. **How** did the tall giraffe feel about being small in the beginning?

2. **How** did the tall giraffe feel about being small at the end?

RL.2.5 I can describe the overall structure of a story.



Name: _____

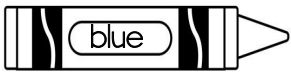
Date: _____

Tall & Small

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of her nest.

"Please help me!" she cried to the tall giraffe. *"If you help me now, I will help you later."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!



Underline the **setting** of the story.



Underline the **problem** that happened.



Underline the **story's characters**.



Underline the **solution** to the problem.

What happened at the **end** of the story?

RL.2.5 I can describe the overall structure of a story.



Name: _____

Date: _____




Tall & Small

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of her nest.

"Please help me!" she cried to the tall giraffe. "If you help me now, I will help you later." The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!

Illustrate and label the events from the story in the correct sequence.

Beginning	Middle	End
		

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Tall & Small

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of her nest.

"Please help me!" she cried to the tall giraffe. "If you help me now, I will help you later." The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!

In the beginning of the story, how did each character feel about being small or being tall? Explain your answers.


Tall
Giraffe


Small
Bird



Name: _____

Date: _____

Tall & Small

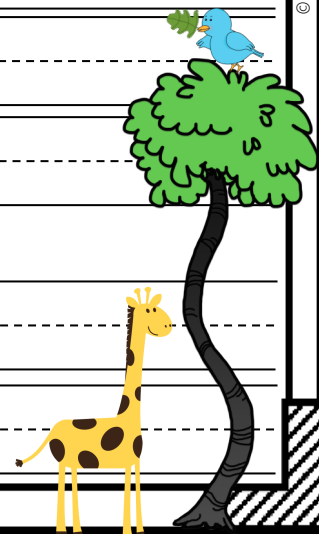
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"Please help me!" she cried to the tall giraffe. "If you help me now, I will help you later." The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!

1. How will the small bird get the tall giraffe the leaves?

2. Why can't the tall giraffe reach the leaves?



RL.2.9 I can compare and contrast two versions of the same story.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Tall & Small #1

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of her nest. *"Please help me!"* she cried to the tall giraffe. *"If you help me now, I will help you later."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me, but I guess I'll help you anyway."* The tall giraffe picked the small bird up and put her back in her nest. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he helped a few months ago flew over and said, *"I can help you! I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Tall & Small #2

Once upon a time there was a very tall giraffe and a very small bird. The small bird was looking around and fell out of his nest. *"Please help me!"* he cried to the tall giraffe. *"If you help me now, I will help you later."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"I am a tall giraffe. You are a small bird. There is nothing you can do for me. I will not help you."* The tall giraffe walked away from the small bird. A few months later the tall giraffe was very hungry and looking for some leaves to eat. He was tall, but the leaves were out of his reach. He was so hungry! The small bird he did not help a few months ago flew over and said, *"Even though you did not help me, I will help you. I will get the leaves for you that you can't reach."* The tall giraffe thought for a second and said, *"Thank you so much! I guess I was wrong. Tall or small, you can still be helpful."*

Take a Closer Look!

Underline or highlight the differences in story #2.

1. Name three things that are the **same** in each story. (Compare)

2. Name two things that are **different** in each story. (Contrast)



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At school she would tell her classmates about all of the pet animals she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her classmates that she had five brothers, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. *"Ally! Friends from school are here!"* her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt sick. Her friends stepped into her house looking confused. *"Where are all of your pets you said you had?"* they asked. *"And where are your brothers?"* Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her classmates smiled at her. *"We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth."* Ally smiled at them. She lied at school to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

Take a Closer Look!

1. **How** many brothers did Ally say she had?

2. **What** was Ally doing right before her friends came over?

3. **Why** did Ally love to lie?

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated multiple times for writing.

 What lesson did Ally learn? 

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated multiple times for writing.

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Setting

Characters

Problem

Solution

Beginning

Middle

End

 What lesson did Ally learn? 

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

RL.2.3 I can describe how the characters in the story respond to events or challenges.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At school she would tell her classmates about all of the pet animals she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her classmates that she had five brothers, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. "Ally! Friends from school are here!" her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt sick. Her friends stepped into her house looking confused. "Where are all of your pets you said you had?" they asked. "And where are your brothers?" Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her classmates smiled at her. "We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth." Ally smiled at them. She lied at school to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

Take a Closer Look!

1. What did Ally do when she got caught lying? Why?

2. How was Ally **feeling** when her friends came over? Why?






Name: _____ Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At school she would tell her classmates about all of the pet animals she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her classmates that she had five brothers, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. *"Ally! Friends from school are here!"* her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt sick. Her friends stepped into her house looking confused. *"Where are all of your pets you said you had?"* they asked. *"And where are your brothers?"* Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her classmates smiled at her. *"We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth."* Ally smiled at them. She lied at school to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

Take a Closer Look!

Illustrate and label the events from the story in the correct sequence.

Beginning	Middle	End
		

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At school she would tell her classmates about all of the pet animals she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her classmates that she had five brothers, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. *"Ally! Friends from school are here!"* her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt sick. Her friends stepped into her house looking confused. *"Where are all of your pets you said you had?"* they asked. *"And where are your brothers?"* Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her classmates smiled at her. *"We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth."* Ally smiled at them. She lied at school to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

Take a Closer Look!

In the beginning of the story, how did each of the characters feel about lying? Explain your answers.



Ally



Ally's friends



Name: _____ Date: _____

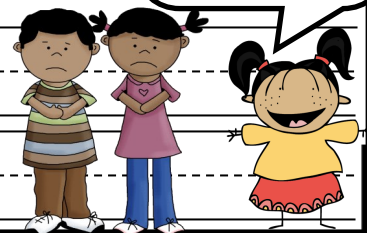
The Girl Who Always Lied

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At school she would tell her classmates about all of the pet animals she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her classmates that she had five brothers, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. *"Ally! Friends from school are here!"* her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt sick. Her friends stepped into her house looking confused. *"Where are all of your pets you said you had?"* they asked. *"And where are your brothers?"* Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her classmates smiled at her. *"We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth."* Ally smiled at them. She lied at school to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

Take a Closer Look!

1. How did it make Ally's friends **feel** when she lied to them?

2. What **types** of pets did Ally lie about having?





Name: _____

Date: _____

The Girl Who Always Lied # 1

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At school she would tell her classmates about all of the pet animals she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her classmates that she had five brothers, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. "Ally! Friends from school are here!" her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt sick. Her friends stepped into her house looking confused. "Where are all of your pets you said you had?" they asked. "And where are your brothers?" Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her classmates smiled at her. "We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth." Ally smiled at them. She lied at school to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

The Girl Who Always Lied #2

There once was a girl named Ally. She loved to lie. She did it to make people like her more. At the park she would tell her friends about all of the candy she had at home, even though she really didn't have any. Ally told her friends that she had seven sisters, but she was really an only child. One day, she was playing in her room and she heard a knock on her front door. "Ally! Friends from the park are here!" her mom called out. Ally's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she felt like she might throw up! Her friends stepped into her house looking upset. "Where is all of the candy you said you had?" they asked. "And where are your sisters?" Ally tried to think of a lie to make her friends think that she wasn't a liar, but she couldn't. She finally told the truth. Her friends clapped for her. "We knew you were lying. We didn't like it. We are glad you finally told the truth." Ally smiled at them. She lied at the park to make them like her, but it turned out they liked her more when she told the truth!

Take a Closer Look!

Underline or highlight the differences in story #2.

1. Name three things that are the **same** in each story. (Compare)

2. Name two things that are **different** in each story. (Contrast)



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Football Twins

Dan and Mark were twins. They both played football every day after school. They played football so much, that everyone who knew them called them The Football Twins. Dan wanted to be a football player when he grew up. Mark hated football. He only played because he thought his brother would be sad if he didn't. Mark secretly wished he could play the drums. He loved music. He never told anyone though. He just played football with his brother, Dan. One day during football practice, Dan threw the ball to Mark. Mark ran to catch it. Mark jumped into the air and caught it. When he landed, he hurt his arm. "Ow! My arm!" Mark yelled. Dan ran over to help his brother. Mark continued to yell. "I don't even like football and now I hurt my arm trying to catch this dumb ball!" Dan looked at Mark with a confused look on his face. "What do you mean you don't even like football?" Dan asked. Mark finally told Dan the truth. "Mark, you should do what makes you happy." Mark smiled and hugged Dan.

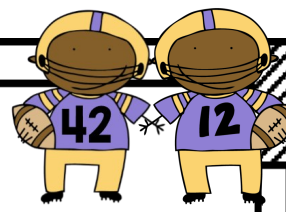
Take a Closer Look!

1. **What** did Mark secretly wish he could do instead of football?

2. **Why** was Mark keeping a secret from his brother?

3. **How** did Mark get hurt?

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Football Twins

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. There are ten sets of these lines for writing the retelling.

 What lesson did Mark learn? 

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. There are five sets of these lines for writing the answer to the question.

RL.2.2 I can retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Football Twins

Retell the story in your own words. Make sure to include transition words and important details from the story.

Setting

Characters

Problem

Solution

Beginning

Middle

End

 What lesson did Mark learn? 

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

RL.2.3 I can describe how the characters in the story respond to events or challenges.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Football Twins

Dan and Mark were twins. They both played football every day after school. They played football so much, that everyone who knew them called them The Football Twins. Dan wanted to be a football player when he grew up. Mark hated football. He only played because he thought his brother would be sad if he didn't. Mark secretly wished he could play the drums. He loved music. He never told anyone though. He just played football with his brother, Dan. One day during football practice, Dan threw the ball to Mark. Mark ran to catch it. Mark jumped into the air and caught it. When he landed, he hurt his arm. *"Ow! My arm!"* Mark yelled. Dan ran over to help his brother. Mark continued to yell. *"I don't even like football and now I hurt my arm trying to catch this dumb ball!"* Dan looked at Mark with a confused look on his face. *"What do you mean you don't even like football?"* Dan asked. Mark finally told Dan the truth. *"Mark, you should do what makes you happy."* Mark smiled and hugged Dan.

Take a Closer Look!

1. How did Dan **react** when he found out Mark didn't like football?

2. How was Mark **feeling** after he got hurt? Why?



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Take a Closer Look!



Underline the **setting** of the story.



Underline the **problem** that happened.



Underline the story's **characters**.



Underline the **solution** to the problem.

What happened at the **end** of the story?

RL.2.5 I can describe the overall structure of a story.






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Take a Closer Look!

Illustrate and label the events from the story in the correct sequence.

Beginning	Middle	End
		

RL.2.6 I know that different characters can have a different point of view.



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Take a Closer Look!

How do you think each character felt about being called The Football Twins? Explain your answers.



Mark



Dan

RL.2.7 I can use words and illustrations to better understand the story.



Name: _____ Date: _____

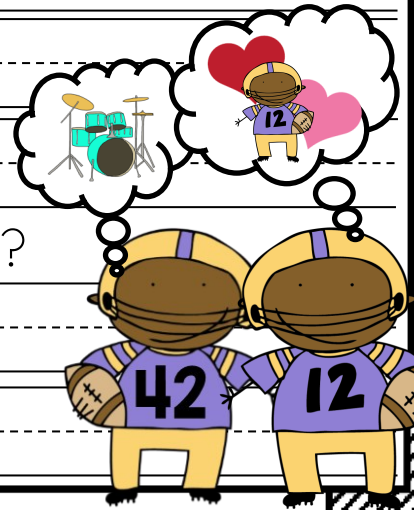
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Take a Closer Look!

1. How did Dan feel about football?

2. What jersey numbers did Mark and Dan wear?



RL.2.9 I can compare and contrast two versions of the same story.



Name: _____

Date: _____

The Football Twins #1

Dan and Mark were twins. They both played football every day after school. They played football so much, that everyone who knew them called them The Football Twins. Dan wanted to be a football player when he grew up. Mark hated football. He only played because he thought his brother would be sad if he didn't. Mark secretly wished he could play the drums. He loved music. He never told anyone though. He just played football with his brother, Dan. One day during football practice, Dan threw the ball to Mark. Mark ran to catch it. Mark jumped into the air and caught it. When he landed, he hurt his arm. "Ow! My arm!" Mark yelled. Dan ran over to help his brother. Mark continued to yell. "I don't even like football and now I hurt my arm trying to catch this dumb ball!" Dan looked at Mark with a confused look on his face. "What do you mean you don't even like football?" Dan asked. Mark finally told Dan the truth. "Mark, you should do what makes you happy." Mark smiled.

The Basketball Twins #2

Dan and Mark were twins. They both played basketball every day after school. They played basketball so much, that everyone who knew them called them The Basketball Twins. Dan wanted to be a basketball player when he grew up. Mark hated basketball. He only played because he thought his brother would be sad if he didn't. Mark secretly wished he could bake cookies. He loved baking. He never told anyone though. He just played basketball with his brother, Dan. One day during basketball practice, Dan passed the ball to Mark. Mark caught it. Mark jumped into the air to shoot it. When he landed, he hurt his ankle. "Ow! My ankle!" Mark yelled. Dan ran over to help his brother. Mark continued to yell. "I HATE basketball and now I hurt my ankle trying to shoot this dumb ball!" Dan looked at Mark with a sad look on his face. "What do you mean you don't even like basketball?" Dan asked. Mark finally told Dan the truth. "Mark, you should do what makes you happy." Mark smiled.

Take a Closer Look!

Underline or highlight the differences in story #2.

1. Name three things that are the **same** in each story. (Compare)

2. Name two things that are **different** in each story. (Contrast)

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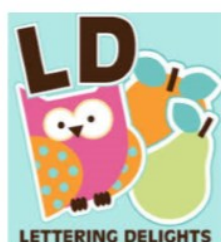
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