



Differentiated Passages

Fiction AND Nonfiction

Only Takes 5 Minutes a Day!

**Close
Reading
Quickies**

Back to School

A Letter to the Teacher...

Hello there! Thank you SO much for purchasing this little packet. I hope you find it helpful.

These engaging passages are designed to be a 'quick' daily close read practice. As a teacher, I find it quite hard to get everything in I need and want to do. With small groups, centers, RTI, etc. there's never enough time. I LOVE close reading and see its power but that's just another thing on the list. So I designed these to be close reading at a faster pace. They can be done in small groups, morning work, centers (but not the entire time), and whole group. I use them after my centers are over. The students know to get this page out of their folder when center time is up and immediately get started.

This allows me to help anyone at centers who is struggling to finish, and the other students are not waiting on me! One page is designed to be used the entire week. That's

ONE page to copy for a whole week! I spend about 5-10 minutes each day on the questions/activity. I also ask my own questions verbally as we discuss the text. The best thing about these passages is that you can go as deep as you want. Add on, take off, and make it work for YOU! Please let me know if you have any questions! You can

email me at adventuresofroom129@gmail.com

Thanks, Ciera

Text Marking Symbols



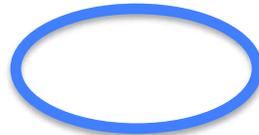
Something in the text I really enjoyed reading



Something in the text I thought was very important



Something in the text I thought was interesting or surprising
Something in the text I don't understand or have a question about.



A word in the text that I think is important or I don't understand.



Something in the text that I made a connection to

School Bus Safety

Going back to school is exciting. But going back also means being safe on your way to and from school. There are many important rules to remember when riding a school bus.

School bus safety starts when you go to your bus stop. First, walk to the bus stop. Running could be dangerous. Always stay on the sidewalk to stay safe. When you get to the bus stop, stay calm and watch for the bus. Don't run around cars. Make sure you don't have an accident.

When you get onto the bus, say hello to the driver! Turn on your seat and stay seated. Face forward so you can see the driver. Try to speak softly so you don't bother the driver. You need to think about driving. Throwing items or getting out of your seat, both will bother the driver too.

Finally, walk to the door and watch your step. When off, go straight to the school or home. Don't stop and talk to friends. There will be time for that later! If you can remember all of these easy rules, riding the bus can be easy and safe!



Close Reading

Day One

Do your first read completely without stopping. Then answer question #1 in a complete sentence.

Day Two

Do your second read. While you read mark up your text using the close reading symbols.

Day Three

Do your third read. Fill in the organizer with information from the text.

Day Four

Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

School Bus Safety

Going back to school is always an exciting time; seeing old friends, meeting your new teacher, and buying brand new school supplies. But going back to school also means being safe on your **commute** to and from school. There are many important things to remember when riding a school bus.

School bus safety doesn't start when you're on the bus, it starts when you begin walking to your bus stop. Always walk to the bus stop. Running could cause you to slip and fall. When walking, always stay on the sidewalk to stay out of vehicles' way. Finally, when at the bus stop, stand on the sidewalk and be focused and watch for the bus. Putting on headphones and looking at your phone can have an **accident**.

When you get onto the bus, say hello to your driver. When you get on, walk directly to your seat and stay seated. Always face forward so you can see and hear your driver. Try to speak quietly so you don't **distract** the driver. The driver needs to concentrate on driving. Throwing items or getting out of your seat both will distract the driver too.

Finally, when exiting the bus, walk to the door and watch your step when getting off. When off, go straight to the school or home. Don't stop and talk to friends. There will be time for that later! If you can remember all of these simple rules, riding the bus can be easy and safe!



Close Reading

Day One

Do your first read completely without stopping. Then answer question #1 in a complete sentence.

Day Two

Do your second read. While you read mark up your text using the close reading symbols.

Day Three

Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using information from the text.

Day Four

Do your fourth read. Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

School Bus Safety

Name: _____

Day One: What is the main idea of the text?

Day Three: What rules follow before, during, and after riding the bus

Before Riding	While Riding	After Riding

Day Four:

2. What could cause me to get hurt while I'm at the bus stop?

What is another reason the driver not a good idea while you're on the bus?

How was the story organized? Explain why you think the author organized it this way.

Day Five: Response to Text Imagine you are going on a field trip to a zoo. Write a short paragraph to convince your teacher to allow you to visit the snake exhibit. Use information from the passage in your answer.

SAMPLE

Being a Good Friend

Back to school means a lot of changes. You have a new teacher and you are going to make new friends! Having friends is important. Friends are people who you trust and can be people who listen when you need to talk. But to have good friends, you need to be a good friend.

Being a good friend isn't always easy, but you have to be trustworthy. This means you must keep your promises and be a person they can count on. If you're telling secrets, you are a dependable person.

To be a good friend you also have to own up to your mistakes. It takes a good friend to speak up and apologize when they have made one. This means you have to be honest to your friends too. Your friends need someone who is loyal. Remember the Golden Rule? Treat others the way you want to be treated! If you can remember this and be this person for others, you'll end up having the best friend to others and have the best friends in return!



Close Reading

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Do your first read completely without stopping. Then answer question #1 in a complete sentence.

Day Two

Do your second read. While you read mark up your text using the close reading symbols.

Day Three

Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using information from the text.

Day Four

Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

Being a Good Friend

Back to school means a lot of changes are happening. You have a new classroom, a new teacher, and you are going to make new friends! Having friends is very important. Friends are people who you trust, can count on when you are scared or sad, and can be really helpful. You need to talk about to have good friends. You need to be a good friend.

Being a good friend isn't always easy. You have to be trustworthy and dependable. This means you must keep secrets and do what you say you will do. You have to be the person they can count on. If you are the only person doing things you've told your friends you would, then you are not being a dependable person.

To be a good friend you also have to own up to your own mistakes. Everyone makes mistakes, but it takes a good friend to speak up and apologize when they have made one. This means you have to be honest to your friends too. Your friends need someone who is loyal and respectful to them. Remember the Golden Rule? Treat others the way you want to be treated! If you can remember this and be this person for others, you'll end up having the best friend to others and have the best friends in return!



Close Reading

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Do your first read completely without stopping. Then answer question #1 in a complete sentence.

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Day Three

Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using information from the text.

Day Four

Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

Being a Good Friend

Name: _____

Day One: What is the genre of the text?

Day Three: Write some causes and effects to being a good friend? Use information from the text to complete the organizer below.

Effect	Cause
→	
→	

Day Four:

2. What is one trait of being a good friend? What does that trait mean?

1. Which trait in the text you think is the hardest to be? Explain.

1. How does the Golden Rule help to make new friends?

Day Five: Response to Text It's your first day of school and you are trying to make friends with someone who isn't so nice. Write a letter to them explaining why they are having a hard time making friends. Give them a few tips in the letter on how to better to make friends.

Why Homework?

Don't groan yet! Yes, homework is something that most students hate, but have you thought about why teachers give homework? Homework is a part of your education. There are many benefits to homework other than just the extra practice. So, why homework?

First, homework creates a bridge between your school life and your home life. It allows parents a chance to see what you're learning in school and help. Without homework, it would be hard for parents to know what you're learning in school. Homework is a way for the student to communicate to parents about what you're doing well and what you're struggling with.

Second, homework helps cement ideas into your brain that you were taught in school. It is proven that practice makes perfect. That is what homework is designed to do. With this extra help, your teacher can move faster through their lessons at school. Your teacher can also help give you more feedback on how you're doing on your independent work to help you grow even more!

So this year, try giving homework a chance!



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Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

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Why Homework?

Don't groan yet! Yes, homework is something that most students usually hate doing, but have you ever stopped and thought about why teachers assign homework? Homework is a necessary part of your education. There are many benefits to homework other than just the extra practice it provides you. So why homework?

First, homework creates a bridge between your school life and your home life. It allows parents a chance to see what you're learning in school and help you in any way they can. Without homework, it would be hard for parents to know what you're learning in school or for you to ask your teachers to communicate to parents about what you're learning and what you're struggling with.

Second, homework helps cement ideas into your brain that you were taught during the school day. It is proven that practice makes perfect. This is what homework is designed to do; give you the extra practice you need to master a specific skill. With this extra help, your teacher can move faster through their lessons at school. Your teacher can also help give you more feedback on how you're doing on your independent work to help you grow even more!

So this year, try giving homework a chance!



Close Reading

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Do your third read. Fill in the organizing tool with information from the text.

Day Four

Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

Why Homework?

Name: _____

Day One: What is the author's perspective about homework?

Day Three: _____ in the 7-2-1 organiz...

...ts I learn...

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2 questions I could answer are...

1. _____
2. _____

1 question I still have is...

1. _____

Day Four:

2. What does the word 'cement' mean in this article?

What benefit the article mentions about giving and doing

new... you... explain

1. What might happen to a student if the teacher doesn't assign homework for the year?

Day Five: Response to Text Knowing the facts about why teachers assign homework, what are your thoughts about homework? Do you agree or disagree with the article? Do you think teachers should assign homework? Give your perspective on the topic.

Just Right Books!

Reading can take you anywhere. It can be an fun ride, but it all depends on what book you pick. Picking the 'just right book' means knowing about how to find books that are perfect for you. This includes books you're interested in and books that are on your level. Here are some great tips to remember when picking a 'just right book'!

When you have a friend or book that interests you, use the finger rule to see if it is too hard. Use the finger rule on the first page of the book. Each time you come to a word that you don't know, you put up 1 or more fingers on the page. If you put up 5 or more fingers on the page, the book may be too hard. Try picking an easier book and try the finger rule again.

Another tip is to ask yourself some questions about the book you're picking. Some questions could be:

- * Do I understand what I'm reading?
- * When I read out loud, can I read it smoothly?
- * Will this topic interest me?

Using the finger rule and keeping these question in mind will help you find that 'just right book' every time! Where will you let reading take you?



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Day Three

Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using information from the text.

Day Four

Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

Just Right Books!

Reading can take you anywhere in the world. It can be an adventurous ride, but it all depends on whether or not you choose the right book. Picking the 'just right book' takes some knowledge about how to find books that are perfect for you. This includes books you're interested in and books that are on your level. Here are some great tips to remember when picking a 'just right book'!

When you have a book that you think would interest you, use the finger rule to see if it will be too easy or too hard to read. Read the first or second page of the book. Every time you come to a word you are unsure of, put a finger up. If you put up two or more fingers on the first page, that book may be too difficult for you. If you pick up another book and try the finger rule again.

Another tip is to ask yourself some questions about the book you're

picking. Some questions could be:

- * Do I understand what I'm reading?
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Using the finger rule and keeping these questions in mind will help you find that 'just right book' every time! Where will you let reading take you?



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Day Three

Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using information from the text.

Day Four

Answer questions 2-4 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence!

Day Five

Answer your response to text question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer!

Just Right Books

Name: _____

Day One: What is the author's purpose of the text?

Day Three: Fill in the organizer with tips on how to pick the just right book.

Day Four:

2. How does choosing a 'just right book' benefit you?

What are some of the rules of picking a 'just right book'?

Why might a student not be using these tips when picking a book?

Day Five: Response to Text You're in the library with a friend who is taking a test on his library book, but they are struggling and don't know why. Write your conversation below between you and your friend on why they might not be doing well on the test and what they should do next time when picking out a book.

SAMPLE