

PRINT & DIGITAL

Hey!

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!

Squeeze in some close reading practice with these daily themed close reading quickies!

Colonial Close Reads

A COLONIAL TOWN

Have you ever wondered what life was like in colonial America? A lot of colonists lived on farms, but many lived in towns. In a colonial American town, there were many interesting things to see and do. People lived in small houses made of wood or brick and had a close-knit community where everyone knew each other.

One important place in a colonial town was the town square. The square was an open space where people would gather for meetings and events. The town square was also where people would buy and sell goods at a weekly market.

Colonial towns had different kinds of stores. There was a general store where you could buy all kinds of things, like clothes, tools, and food. There was also a blacksmith's shop where a blacksmith would make and fix things out of metal. A mill was another important place where grains like wheat were ground into flour.

Another building in a colonial town was the schoolhouse. Children would go there to learn basic reading and writing. Some children would also learn a trade, like farming or carpentry.

ENSLAVED PEOPLE IN COLONIAL AMERICA

During the colonial period in the American South, many people's lives were marked by hardship. Enslaved people, who were brought to the Southern colonies from Africa, went through immense suffering and challenges. Enslaved people worked from sunrise to sunset. They were forced to work on plantations, tending to crops such as cotton, tobacco, and rice. Their labor was physically demanding, often under the scorching sun. They plowed fields, planted seeds, harvested crops, and performed various other tasks necessary for plantation life.

Families of enslaved people were often torn apart. Many people were sold and separated from their loved ones. Enslaved people usually lived in crowded quarters that were often poorly built. They suffered from lack of food, clothing, and shelter. Some were even punished for minor offenses.

THE 13 COLONIES

Have you ever heard of the 13 original colonies? Before 1776, 13 colonies existed that would eventually become the first states of the United States of America. These colonies were located along the east coast of North America.

Each of the 13 colonies had their own unique characteristics and reasons for being founded. Some of the colonies, like Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island, were founded for religious reasons. People wanted to have the freedom to practice their own religion without being told what to do.

Other colonies, like Virginia and Maryland, were founded for economic reasons. People wanted to start farms and grow crops to make money. They also discovered important resources like tobacco and lumber within these colonies.

The 13 colonies were divided into three regions: New England, Middle, and Southern. The New England colonies were located in the north. They included places like Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. The Middle colonies were in the middle and included New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The Southern colonies were in the southern part and included places like Virginia, Georgia, and South Carolina.

WOMEN IN COLONIAL AMERICA

During colonial times, women's lives differed from those of women today. They had roles to fill in their families and communities. In colonial times, women were mainly responsible for caring for their families. They cooked, sewed, cleaned the house, and looked after the children. They also sewed clothes and made candles and soap. These tasks kept the household running smoothly.

Education for women during colonial times was not the same as it is today. Most girls did not go to school. Instead, they learned important skills from their mothers, like cooking, sewing, and caring for the home. Women did not have many job opportunities outside the house. Their main job was supporting their families and ensuring everything was taken care of at home.

Getting married and starting a family was what colonial women were expected to do. Once married, they were supposed to be good wives and mothers by helping their husbands with their work, like farming or running a business. Women did not have many rights back then and often had to follow their husband's decisions.

Colonial women wore very different clothes than women do today. They wore long dresses with many layers of skirts underneath, called petticoats. They also wore aprons and bonnets to protect themselves while working. The clothes were usually made from fabrics like linen or wool, and they were sewn by hand.

Colonial women did not have much free time, but when they did, they enjoyed activities like singing, dancing, and playing simple games. They would sometimes gather with other women in the community to socialize and share news. Although their lives differed from those of women today, colonial women played a big role in building their communities and passing down traditions.

CLOSE READING				
Day One	Day Two	Day Three	Day Four	Day Five
Do your first read without stopping. Then answer questions 1-4 in a complete sentence.	Do your second read. While you read, mark up your text using the close reading symbols.	Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using the information from the text. Make sure to use evidence.	Answer questions 5-8 in complete sentences. Make sure to use evidence.	Answer your response to the last question. Make sure to use evidence from the text in your answer.

DAILY LIFE ON A COLONIAL AMERICAN FARM

Do you think that it would be fun to live on a farm? Farms are filled with fun, but living on one is a lot of hard work, even with modern machines and farming methods. Daily life on a colonial American farm was filled with even more hard work and important tasks. Families lived on farms and worked together to care for their land and animals.

One important task on a farm was growing crops. Farmers would plant seeds by hand in the spring and care for the plants throughout the summer as they grew. All of the water for the crops, except the rain, would have to be hauled from a well or a river. Then, in the fall, it was time to harvest the crops. This meant picking the fruits and vegetables and gathering them to be stored or sold.

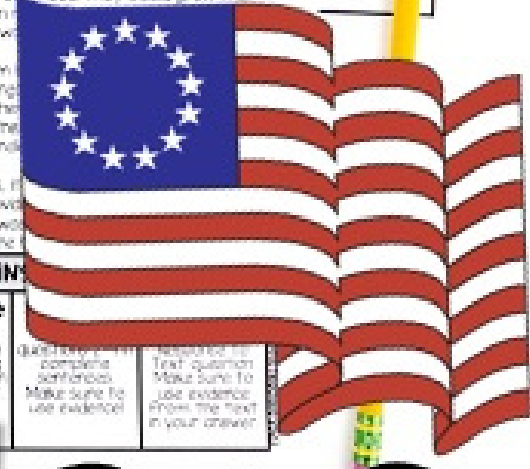
Another important task on a farm was taking care of the animals. Farmers would have cows, pigs, chickens, and sometimes even horses. They would feed the animals and ensure they had clean water. They would also care for their health by giving them medicine when sick.

On a colonial farm, everyone had a role to play. Even young children would help with chores like feeding the animals or collecting eggs from the chickens. Older children might help with tasks in the house, like cooking and cleaning. Teenagers and adults would do heavier work, like plowing the fields or fixing fences.

Farmers would almost always make their own food. They would grow their own vegetables and sometimes raise their own animals. From the wheat they grow, sometimes they would make their own flour and then use it to make bread. Life on a colonial farm was different from life in a town. There were no big stores to buy things. From so farmers had to be self-sufficient. They had to make many things themselves, like clothes and tools. They would even make their own candles to light their homes at night.

Even though life on a farm was hard work, it also had its rewards. Families were able to provide for themselves and live off the land. Farming was a big part of life in colonial times and played a big role in shaping the new nation.

CLOSE READING		
Day One	Day Two	Day Three
Do your first read without stopping. Then answer questions 1-3 in a complete sentence.	Do your second read. While you read, mark up your text using the close reading symbols.	Do your third read. Fill in the organizer using the information from the text. Make sure to use evidence.



Why?

Colonial America Close Reads!



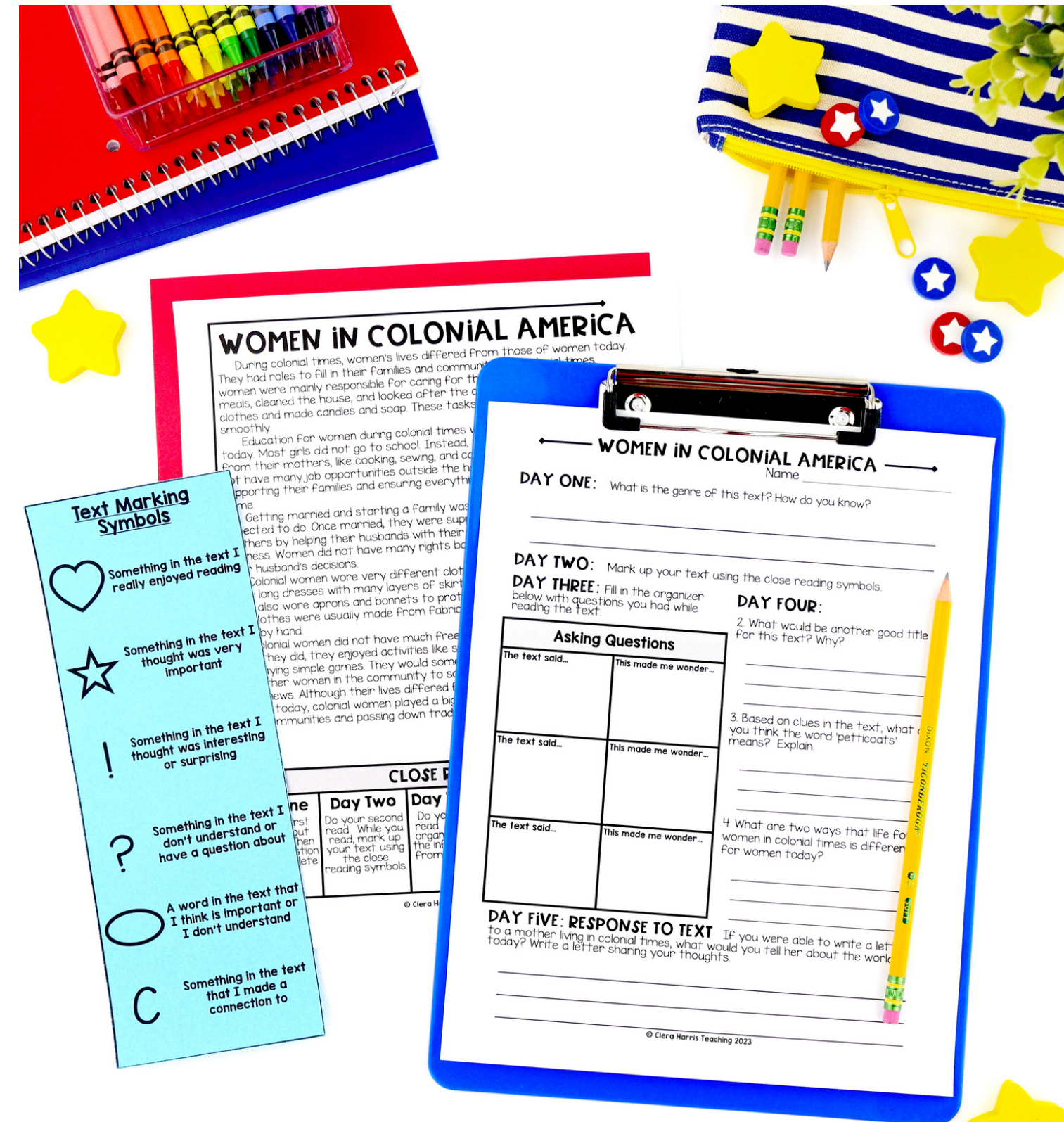
Practice comprehension skills with daily close reading passages.



Students are engaged in nonfiction texts.



These make it easy to save time and get more out of the close read!

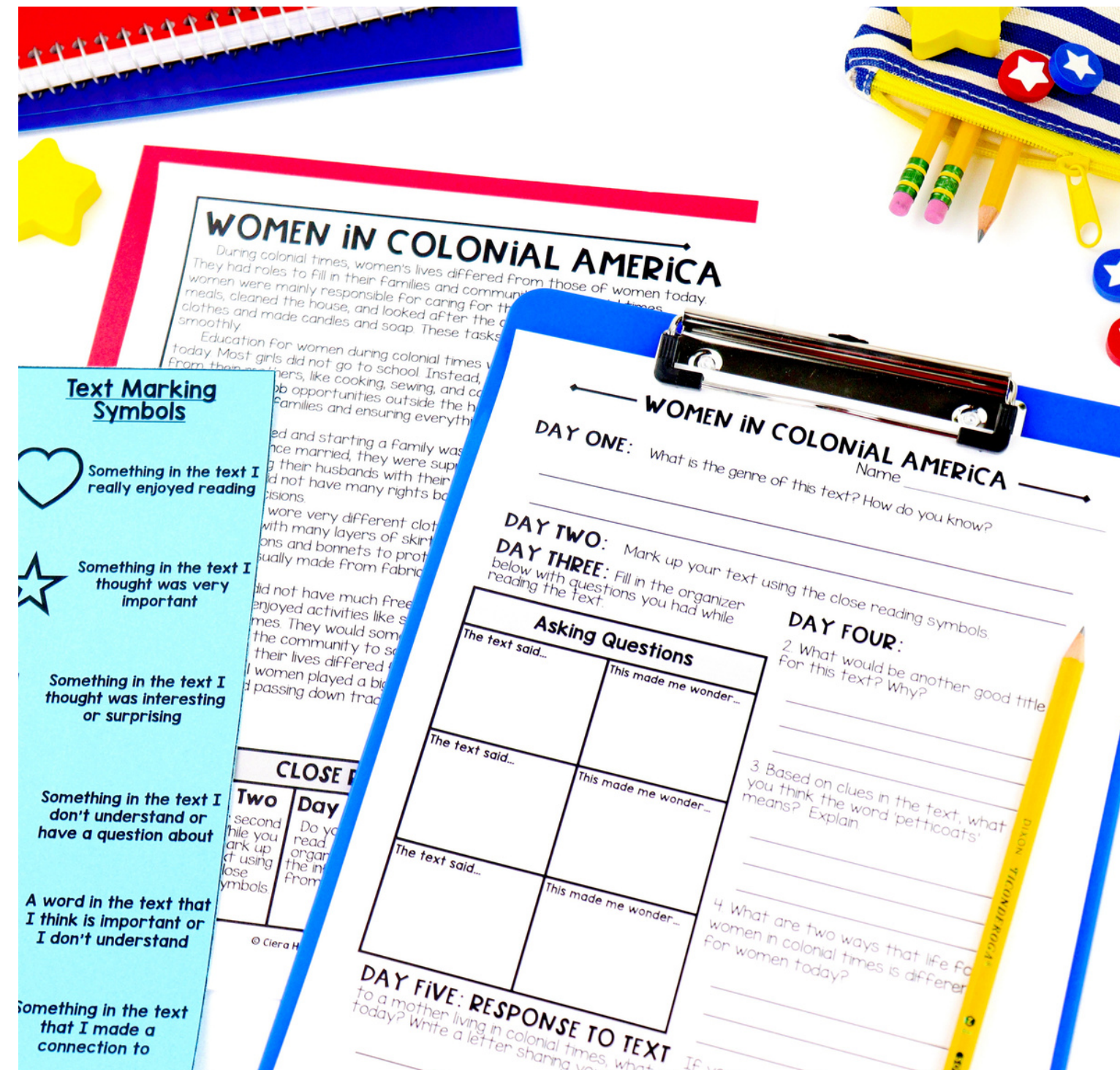


Resource

Includes

- Women in Colonial America
- The 13 Colonies
- Enslaved People in Colonial America
- Daily Life on a Colonial American Farm
- A Colonial Town
- Close reading codes
- Text evidence questions
- Answer Keys
- Print and digital!

“ A MUST HAVE FOR EVERY CLASSROOM! ”

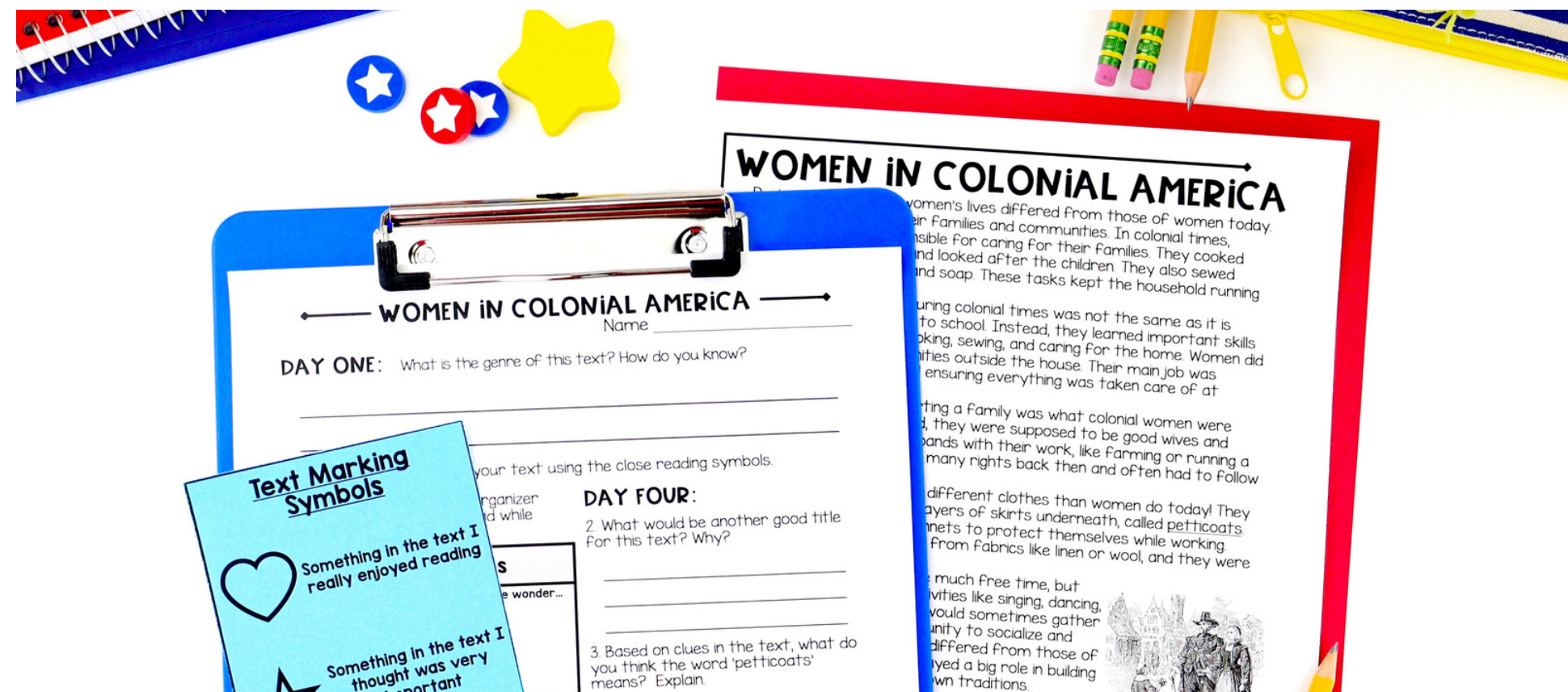




Practice using evidence to answer questions:

- Text evidence practice
- Using close reading codes
- Responding to questions

Perfect for whole group or small group practice!

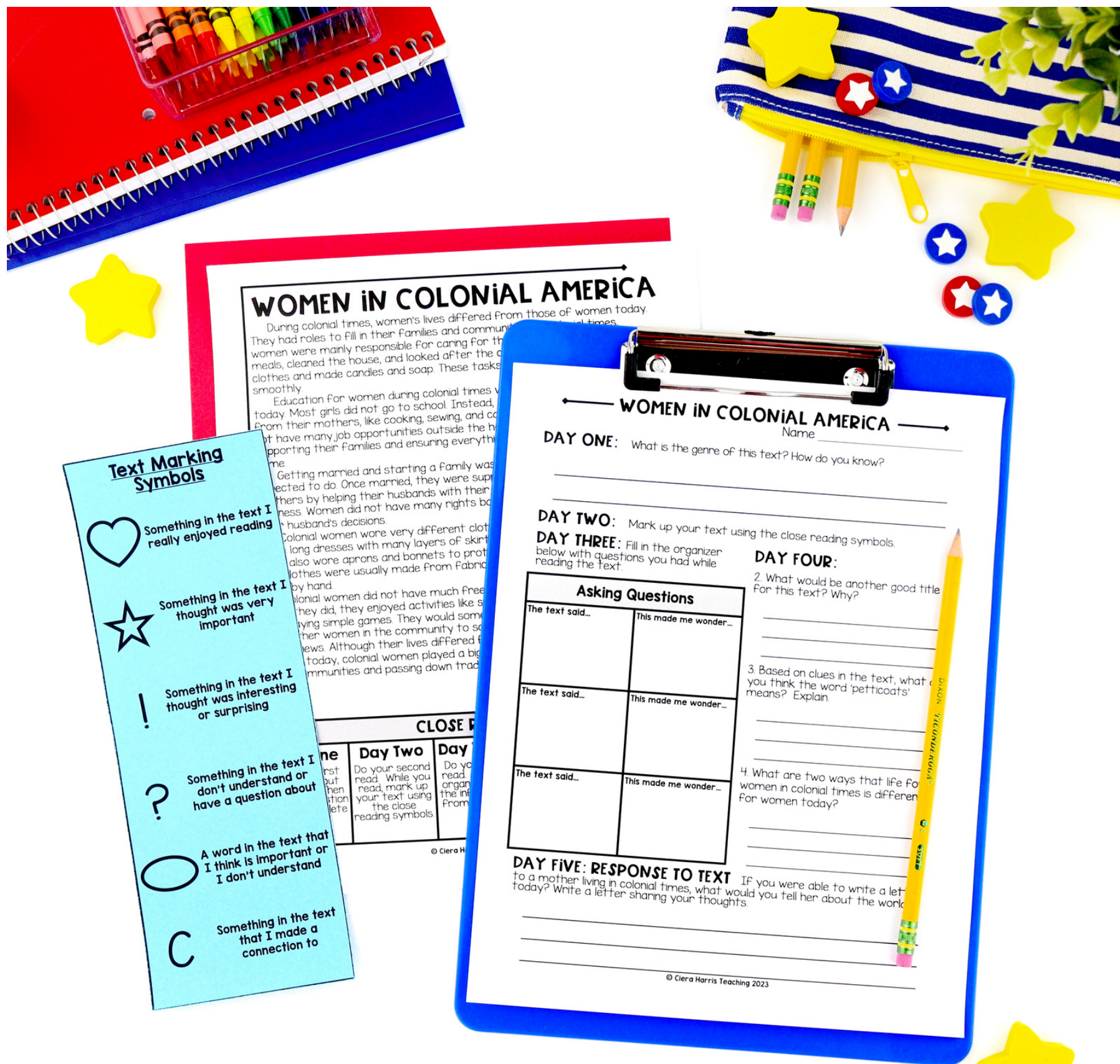


ONE PAGE LASTS ALL WEEK!

Perfect for Grades 2-4!

Each passage is broken down into one activity per day.

These help students expand their reading skills!



A little more...



These help students think critically and comprehend.

Without spending hours, they can dig deep into the passage.

Perfect for learning how to use close reading codes!

GO GRAB THE RESOURCE TODAY!