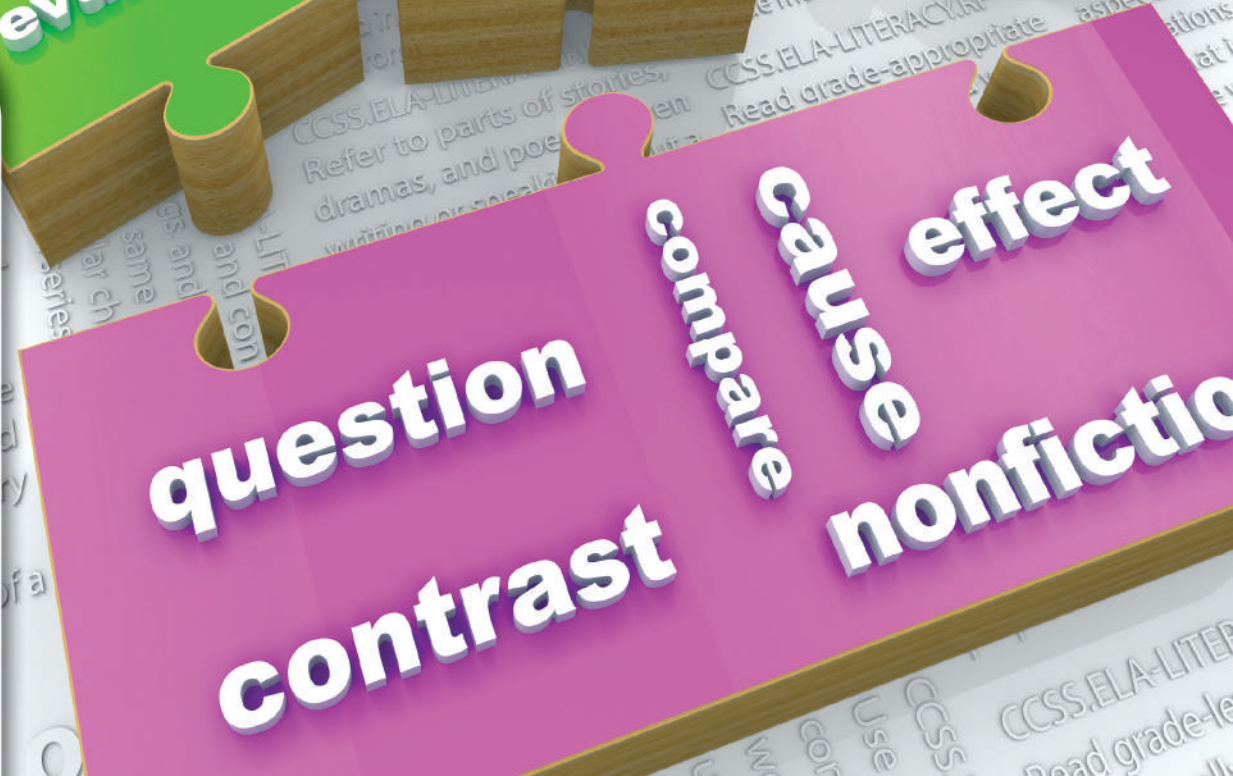
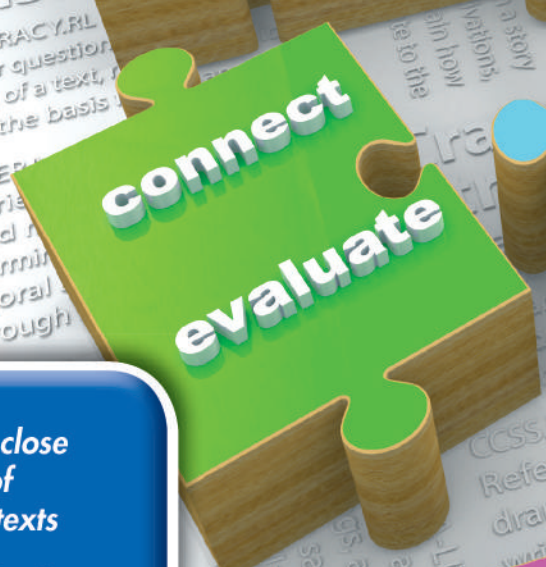


# Evidence-Based

# Reading



- Supports close reading of complex texts
- Provides text dependent questions for careful analysis
- Reinforces higher-order thinking through reflective writing
- Includes Common Core alignment chart and reading rubric

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read. Then, answer the questions.

### The Science Project

Ms. Hagen had insisted that every student enter the science fair this year. Kyle was assigned Seth as a partner, much to Kyle’s disappointment. Everyone knew that Seth was the laziest kid in the class. He never finished his assignments, and he was always doodling rather than listening. The boys decided to meet at Kyle’s house after school to plan their project.

Seth arrived with a backpack bursting with test tubes, magnets, and crystals. Kyle was surprised. Why would this lazy kid have such cool stuff? When Kyle suggested building a model of the solar system, Seth pulled out painted foam balls and rattled off all types of facts about each model planet. Maybe Kyle had been mistaken about Seth.

At last, the boys agreed to experiment to find the best place to store bananas. The boys met each day after school and were confident that their project would be the best. Kyle worked on writing the report, while Seth continued to question and experiment further. They found they made quite a team.

Ms. Hagen told Kyle that she was proud of him for helping Seth with the project. Kyle had to explain that Seth was responsible for much of the work. He went on to ask if Seth could be his partner for next month’s math project.

1. Why was Kyle disappointed to have Seth assigned as his partner for the project?

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2. The author describes Kyle as being *surprised*. What was Kyle surprised about?

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3. How did Kyle’s thinking change through the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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 **Reflect**

The author ends by hinting that Kyle and Seth may work together on a future project. Why? Describe how the story would be different if the last sentence were not included.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read. Then, answer the questions.

### The Bremen-Town Musicians

A long time ago, there lived an old donkey who had faithfully served his master for many years. The donkey had since become too old to carry sacks of grain, and his master planned to do away with him. The donkey developed a plan to run away to the town of Bremen where he would become a musician. The donkey had not gone too far when he came upon an old hunting dog lying in the road. The dog explained that he had become too old to hunt any longer, and that his master had plans to do away with him.

The donkey suggested that the dog join him in Bremen to become a musician. The dog agreed, and the two of them continued their journey. Farther down the road, the friends happened upon an old cat and an old rooster, both fearing for their lives as well. They decided to join the donkey and the dog. As night fell, the four travelers became tired and hungry. They spotted a house in the woods and approached it. Peering in, they found a table full of food and a band of robbers sitting around it. The four friends screeched out their music as loud as they could, scaring the robbers away.

After the animals had eaten their fill and fallen asleep, the robbers came back to the house. They saw the cat's eyes reflecting light and began to run. The dog bit their legs, the donkey kicked them, and the rooster crowed. The robbers were so scared they never returned to the house again.

1. Why did the donkey decide to run away and become a musician?

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2. What trait do all of the animals that journey to Bremen share?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did the author use the word *screeched* to describe how the animals performed their music?

\_\_\_\_\_

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4. How did the animals' unique style of music help them solve a problem?

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\_\_\_\_\_

### Reflect

Would the conflict have been solved the same way if the animals had been able to make traditional music? Why or why not? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read. Then, answer the questions.

### The Vanishing School Supplies

"Mom, I need more pencils for school tomorrow. I think I should get a lot," Timothy said as he jumped in the car.

"Wow, you must really be working hard. You have used so many school supplies already. Last week you needed scissors, and the week before that it was markers," replied Timothy's mother.

The next morning, Timothy put two packs of brand new pencils in his backpack. When his mother picked him up, Timothy said, "Hey, Mom, can we swing by the store to get more colored pencils?"

"What?" Timothy's mother asked. "Timothy Avery, what is going on? You cannot possibly be using all of your supplies this quickly."

"Well, I am sharing them. It all started when Gerardo made fun of Pete's pencil. It was almost completely used up and the eraser was totally gone. It looked pretty bad. Then, Pete said that his family could not buy any more pencils until his dad got paid again. So I started thinking about it and realized that Pete never had his own scissors or markers, so I gave him mine."

"Timothy, I am very proud of you. I have an idea. Let's invite Pete to get ice cream with us after school tomorrow. I think the two of you could learn a lot from each other."

1. At first, why does Timothy's mom think he needs so many supplies?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Timothy's mom react when he asks for more colored pencils?

\_\_\_\_\_

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3. At the end of the story, why is Timothy's mother proud of him?

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### Reflect

Based on the story, what types of things do you think Timothy and Pete can learn from each other?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read. Then, answer the questions on page 9.

## Grandpa Remembers

My grandpa lived just down the lane and around the corner from my family. I loved to go to his house and spend time with him. He taught me how to fish and play checkers. In the wintertime, we would sit by the fire and play games. In the summertime, we would go for long walks. **Time flew** with my grandpa. My favorite times with Grandpa were the “remembering” times. Grandpa loved to tell stories about how things used to be. Grandpa always said he hoped he didn’t **talk my ear off**. But, I loved to listen to Grandpa’s stories.

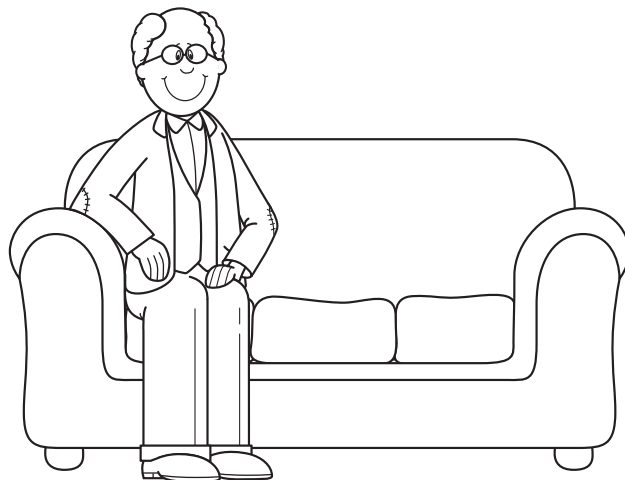
“One cold winter’s day when I wasn’t much older than you,” Grandpa began, “I begged to go with my dad to harvest a crop of ice blocks.”

“A crop of ice blocks? You’re **pulling my leg**, Grandpa,” I interrupted.

“I am not pulling your leg,” stated Grandpa. “Where was I? Oh yes. When I was young, people didn’t have refrigerators like they do now. Gathering ice blocks was the only way to keep foods cold through the spring and summer,” Grandpa explained.

“I helped my dad get the tractor and wagon hooked up. Then, we drove down to the river. When we got there, Dad tested the ice. ‘Looks like we found an excellent stretch of ice,’ he said. Then, he took out the logging saw. A logging saw is a long saw with handles at each end. I watched as my dad put the saw in the water. Pushing and then pulling, he cut a long slab of ice. Then, I helped him move the slab up the bank to the wagon. He let me hold onto one end of the saw, and we worked together to cut the slab into square blocks. Then, my dad used large ice tongs to put the blocks of ice on the wagon. When the ice blocks were loaded, we **hit the road** and headed to the ice shed. The ice shed had three or four inches of sawdust on the floor. We put the blocks on top of the sawdust. Then, we packed more sawdust around the blocks. We stored all of our food that needed to stay cold inside the ice shed.”

The remembering times were some of my favorite times with my grandpa. It was fun to **shoot the breeze** with him and learn about how things were when he was my age. I will always remember our remembering times. Someday, I would like to have remembering times with my grandchildren.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the story on page 8. Then, answer the questions.

1. Choose one of the bold phrases, such as *time flew* or *hit the road*. Explain what the phrase means.

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2. What activities do Grandpa and the narrator do together?

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3. What are “remembering” times? Explain how you know.

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4. How are “remembering” times related to the central message of the story?

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### Reflect

Read the last sentence of the story. Why do you think the narrator ends the story this way?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read. Then, answer the questions on page 11.

### **Left Alone**

Derrick shouted good-bye and waved to his friends as he ran up the front walk. He had come straight home from school today. He was eager to play his new computer game. Derrick turned the knob of the front door. It was locked!

Derrick's mom was always home from work before he got home. She worked at a bookstore and left each day at three o'clock. It was 3:45, and she still wasn't home.

Derrick was worried about his mom, but he decided to try to get into the house. He walked around the house and tried the side door. It was locked. The back door was locked, too. He thought a few minutes about climbing in through a window. Derrick thought his mom might be angry if he bent a screen or broke something while trying to climb in the window.

Derrick felt his throat tighten and tears come to his eyes. He decided he wouldn't cry, and he wiped his eyes. "Think," he said to himself.

Just then, Derrick's neighbor drove up her driveway. He was so relieved. He ran right over to her. "My mom isn't home, and I can't get in the house!" he shouted in one breath.

His neighbor said, "Come on in, Derrick. You can call your mom and wait here for her." Derrick followed Mrs. Park into the house. He sat at the kitchen counter. Mrs. Park gave him two cookies and a glass of water.

Derrick called the bookstore where his mom worked. Her boss said that she had left work on time. As Derrick hung up the phone, he felt his stomach tighten again. He wondered what could have happened to her. Derrick started to dial his grandma's phone number. At that moment, he saw his mom's car pull up in the driveway. He thanked Mrs. Park and raced out the door.

Derrick ran straight to his mom. She stepped out of the car and into his hug. "I'm so sorry," she said. "I was stuck in traffic on the highway. There was a terrible accident. My car didn't move for 20 minutes. All I could think about was you waiting for me. Are you okay?"

Derrick told his mother what he had done. And, he said, "I wasn't worried for a minute."

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the story on page 10. Then, answer the questions.

1. What details made Derrick start to worry about his mom?

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2. How does the author show that Derrick was feeling upset about his mom not being home?

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3. Later in the story, what makes Derrick worry even more?

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4. How was Derrick's mom feeling while she was stuck in traffic? How do you know?

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**Reflect**

At the end of the story, why do you think Derrick tells his mom that he "wasn't worried"? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read. Then, answer the questions on page 13.

## The Family Hike

We started on the trail early in the morning. The sun was rising in the sky, and the air around us was cold and misty. The pine trees looked like arrows pointing our way to the top of the mountain. It was a wonderful morning.

My mom and dad each carried a heavy backpack full of food, tents, water, and other things. Ben and I carried packs too. Mine only had my clothes and sleeping bag in it. I carried a few snacks in my pockets and two water bottles on my belt. Ben is bigger than I am, so he also carried some food and a cookstove in his pack.

We walked quietly at first. My dad says you don't need words to be part of the forest in the morning. I could hear birds singing and chipmunks moving through the leaves on the ground. There was no breeze, so the trees were silent. We walked single file along the trail.

At lunchtime, we stopped by a stream that flowed down the mountain. We could see a small waterfall higher up, but here the water cut through the rock and snaked past flowers and bushes. We took off our shoes and dipped our feet in the water. The sun shone brightly overhead, and we all took off our jackets.

I knew better than to ask how much farther we had to go. My parents always say that our destination is the hike itself. We would be walking for three days on these trails. We would see many beautiful sights and hear and smell things we don't hear or smell at home in the city. My mom and dad are teachers. Every summer, we take a trip as a family. Ben wanted to bring a teenage friend, but my dad said that this was family time. Ben complained, but I know he likes family trips too.

At dinnertime, we stopped and set up our tents on a flat meadow. We could see the next mountain peak from our site. It looked beautiful as the sun set behind it. We built a fire and cooked dinner. We stayed awake a little while longer to watch the stars. My mom pointed out several constellations. I want to be an astronomer someday.

We went to bed soon after dinner because we were all tired from walking. Tomorrow, we will have another long walk. We will reach the top of the mountain before dark. I have never stood on a mountaintop before. My dad says that I will be able to see forever. I think I'll like that. Maybe I will be able to see my friend Ginny's house back home. I will wave to her and shout hello. I'll hear the echo and pretend that she shouted back at me. But, that is tomorrow, and my dad says that even the night is part of the journey. So, I will close my eyes and listen for the owls, the wind in the trees, and the sound of my dad snoring. I love this place!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the story on page 12. Then, answer the questions.

1. In the first paragraph, what does it mean when the narrator describes the pine trees as looking “like arrows”?

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2. How does the narrator feel about the family hike?

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3. What details in the story support your answer to question 2?

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4. Compare and contrast how the narrator, Ben, and the narrator’s parents feel about the hiking trip. Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

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 **Reflect**

The narrator’s parents say things like “you don’t need words to be part of the forest,” “our destination is the hike itself,” and “even the night is part of the journey.” How do these phrases explain how they feel about the hike?

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Read. Then, answer the questions on page 15.

## Sailing in a Storm

Tia and her dad loved to go sailing together. One summer, they decided to sail to High Island. They put the boat in the water in Charlevoix, Michigan, around six o'clock on a Thursday night. They planned to dock the boat, shop and eat in town, and then set out for the island in the morning. Unfortunately, the marina didn't have any available docks for their boat. They had no other choice but cross the lake to the island that night.

Mr. Peters and Tia motored the 23-foot sailboat through the channel and out onto Lake Michigan. It was a quiet evening. The sky was clear, and there was no wind. Mr. Peters put up the sails, but they just flopped lightly in the calm air. The motor pushed them across the wide water. They listened to music and ate cheese and avocado sandwiches.

Around ten o'clock, a brisk wind picked up suddenly. They turned off the motor and sailed with the wind. Very quickly, the wind grew too strong and the waves became large. The small boat leaned over and raced through the water as the wind filled the sails.

When water started splashing into the boat, Mr. Peters shouted, "We have to take down the sails! I can't handle this much wind!" Tia was scared. Her dad wanted her to go up on deck and take down the sails. She was afraid that a wave might wash her overboard or that she might lose her balance. She decided to stay back and steer the boat instead. But, Tia didn't like that either. It was hard to control the boat in the strong wind.

Mr. Peters went up on deck to take down the sails. Tia was shivering. The cold water was soaking her each time the boat crashed through a wave. But, she was shaking more from fear than cold. What would she do if her dad fell into the water? She didn't think she could turn the boat around to get him. She wondered if they would ever make it to the island.

Once Mr. Peters had tied up the sails, he took over the steering. Soon, the waves grew smaller, the wind died down, and several stars appeared in the sky as the clouds moved away. They motored ahead in silence.

When the island came into sight, Tia sat on the bow of the boat and watched. She thought nothing had ever looked so beautiful as the island with its sheltered bay. They anchored the boat in the bay and put up a mooring light. They unrolled their sleeping bags inside the cabin and fell quickly to sleep.

