

PAIRED TEXTS BY THE SEASON

PAIRED TEXTS FOR FALL
FICTION TO NONFICTION

PAIRED TEXTS FOR WINTER
FICTION TO NONFICTION

PAIRED TEXTS FOR SPRING
FICTION TO NONFICTION

From Pumpkins to Pies

Pumpkin Vocabulary

The History of Pumpkin Pie

The history of pumpkin pies has to begin with the history of the pumpkin. Researchers have found that pumpkins were first grown in South America more than 7,000 years ago. Pumpkins then spread to all parts of the Americas. Soon, Native Americans started growing pumpkins and using them in a number of ways.

They cut the pumpkin shells into strips, dried them, and made them into mats. They scooped out the insides of pumpkins and used them as bowls. They sometimes boiled them or roasted them by the fire before eating them. Pumpkins were also used as medicine. When European explorers traveled to the New World,



How Wool is Made

People have always needed protection and warmth to survive. The earliest people made clothing from animal pelts. As early as 4000 BC, Babylonians developed some basic methods and tools to make clothing from wool. For centuries, wool was made in homes and small farms. Today, wool is a worldwide industry. Australia is the largest producer of wool in the world. Other top suppliers include the United States and New Zealand.

To manufacture wool, sheep are sheared (given a haircut) once a year, mainly during spring. There is a definite art to shearing sheep. Shearers must avoid nicking the sheep and must try to keep the fleece in one piece if possible. Skilled shearers do this quickly and may shear up to 200 sheep in one day.



My Grandma's Sheep Farm

My grandma passed away before I was born. Everyone said what a shame it was that I never met her. I was born in New York. After graduation, she wanted to move away from the city and start a new life. She moved to a sheep farm when she was a child, and it was there that she met my grandma. My grandma and I love to spend time with the sheep. I can't wait to go when my grandma and she told me that it was shearing time. We'll start with the sheep in the big green barn.



Sheep Vocabulary



The Snowshoe Hare

Underground burrows, and in the dense woods, snowshoe hares can be found from parts of the United States to the Arctic Ocean, and even in New Mexico. Snowshoe hares are not exactly large. Hares are larger than rabbits, usually 1.20 inches long and usually a little smaller than females. They have feet which act as snowshoes in the winter time and they have fur on the soles of their feet, which provides



SNOWSHOE HARE: Paired Texts Questions

Text Title	Genre	Genre Evidence
The		

SNOWSHOE HARE NARRATIVE WRITING

Write a story about a snowshoe hare who outsmarted a predator. Make sure your story has a strong beginning, middle, and an ending.



4TH - 6TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR



4TH - 6TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR



4TH - 6TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

FALL, WINTER, AND SPRING:

NON-HOLIDAY, SEASONAL RESOURCES

INCLUDES A TOTAL OF:

- 24 ENGAGING PASSAGES
- READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE
- COMPARE AND CONTRAST
- VOCABULARY PAGES FOR EACH PASSAGE
- WRITING PROMPTS

PRINT
AND
DIGITAL

PAIRED TEXTS FOR FALL FICTION TO NONFICTION

From Pumpkins to Pies

Name: _____

When I was about ten, I s
every fall. Back then, I s
house on a big piece of land
it wasn't too hard to convin
that land to make my own pu
would start by tilling the fie
dirt. Then we made little mou
to put each set of seeds. We
spread pretty far apart (four

The History of Pumpkin Pie

Name: _____

pumpkin pies has to begin with the
researchers have found that
in South America more than
ns then spread to all parts of the
Americans started growing pumpkins
er of ways. They cut the pumpkin
em, and made them into mats. They
of pumpkins and used them as
boiled them or roasted them by the
Pumpkins were also used as medicine. When European
New World, starting mainly in the 1400s, they discovered the
back to Europe.



Pumpkin Vocabulary

Name: _____

Match the meaning to the vocabulary word:



The History of Pumpkin Pie

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Pumpkin Paired Texts Questions

Name: _____

1. What genre was the passage called *The History of Pumpkin Pie*?
2. Summarize *The History of Pumpkin Pie* in two to three sentences.



PUMPKIN NARRATIVE WRITING

Name: _____

Use your imagination to write a story which includes a pumpkin in some way. Make sure to include a strong beginning, middle, and ending.



4TH - 6TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

8 PASSAGES: A TOTAL OF 4 PAIRED TEXTS!

Historical, Scientific,
Biographical, and Technical
Text

Comprehension Questions
for EACH Passage
Fiction to Nonfiction

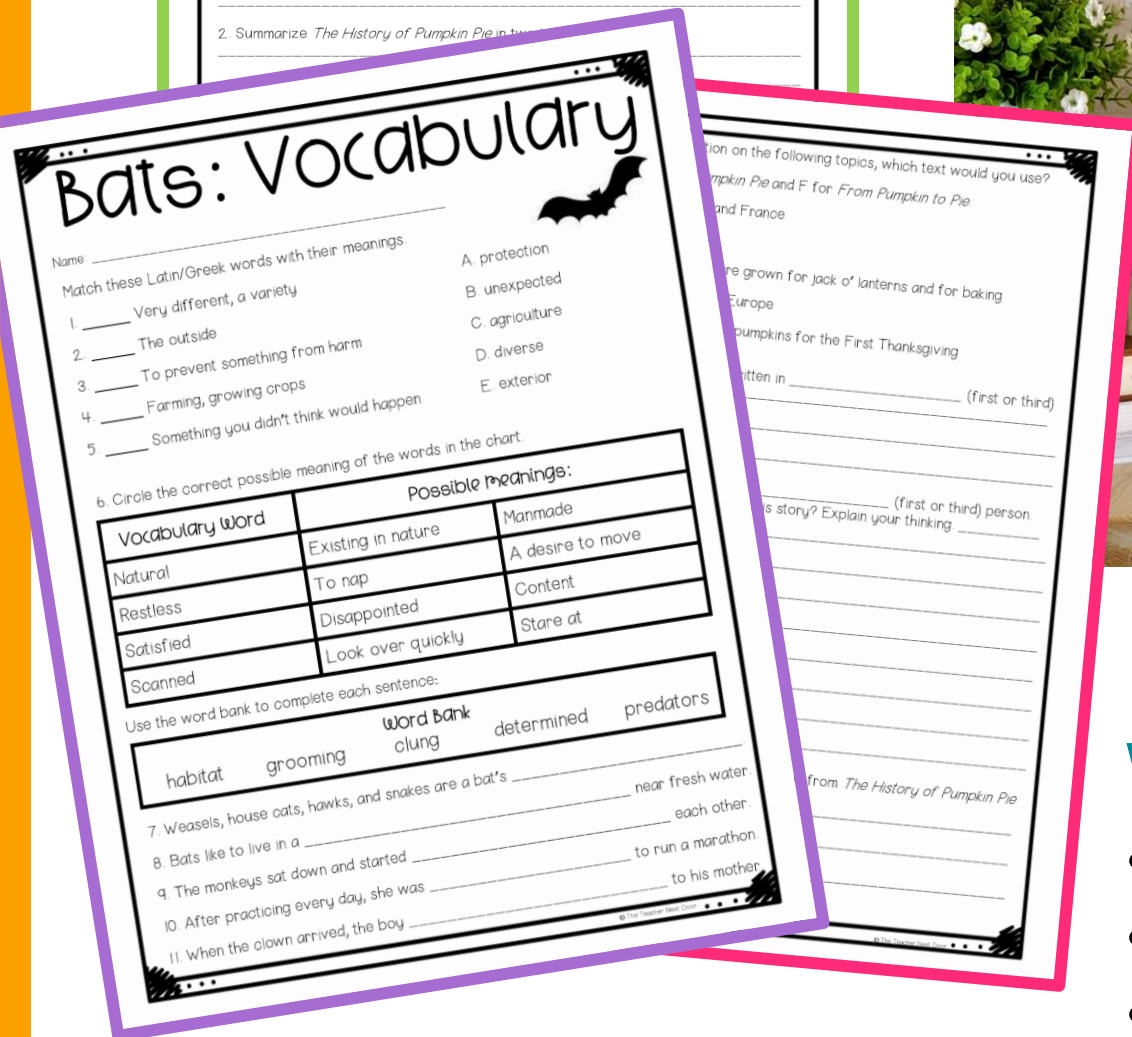
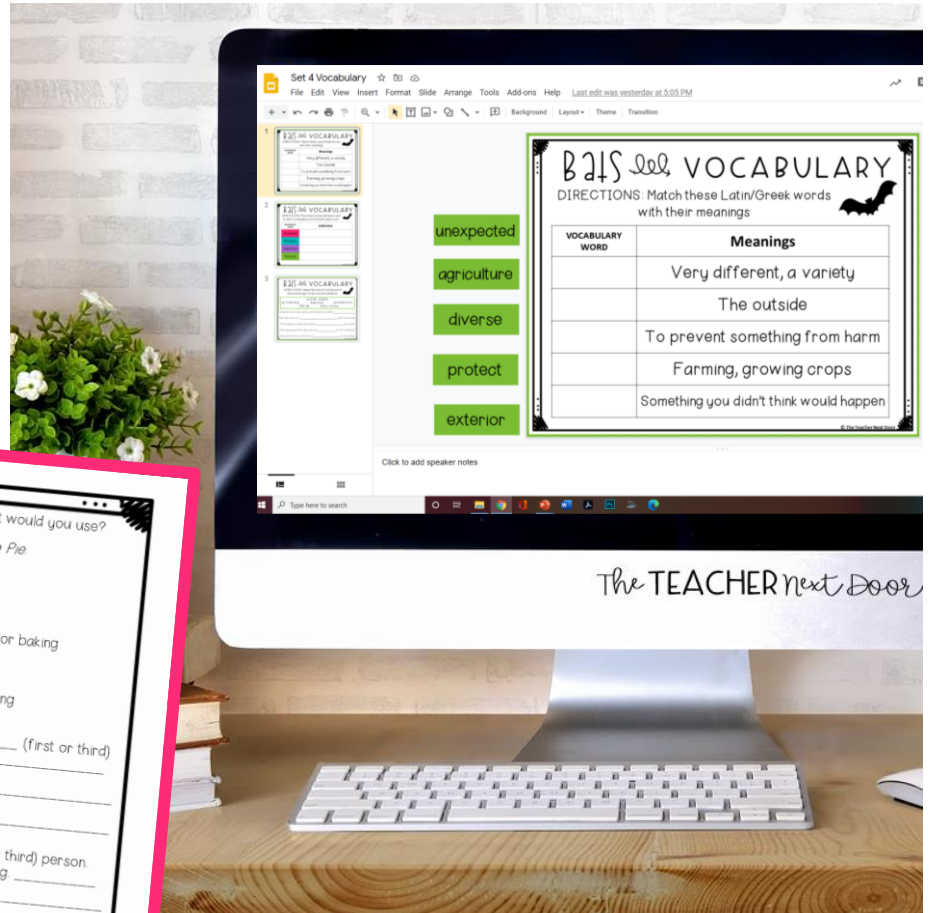


Perfect for:

- Guided Reading
- Independent Work
- Small groups/partners

INCLUDES VOCABULARY AND QUESTIONS

Synonyms and antonyms, matching, and more!

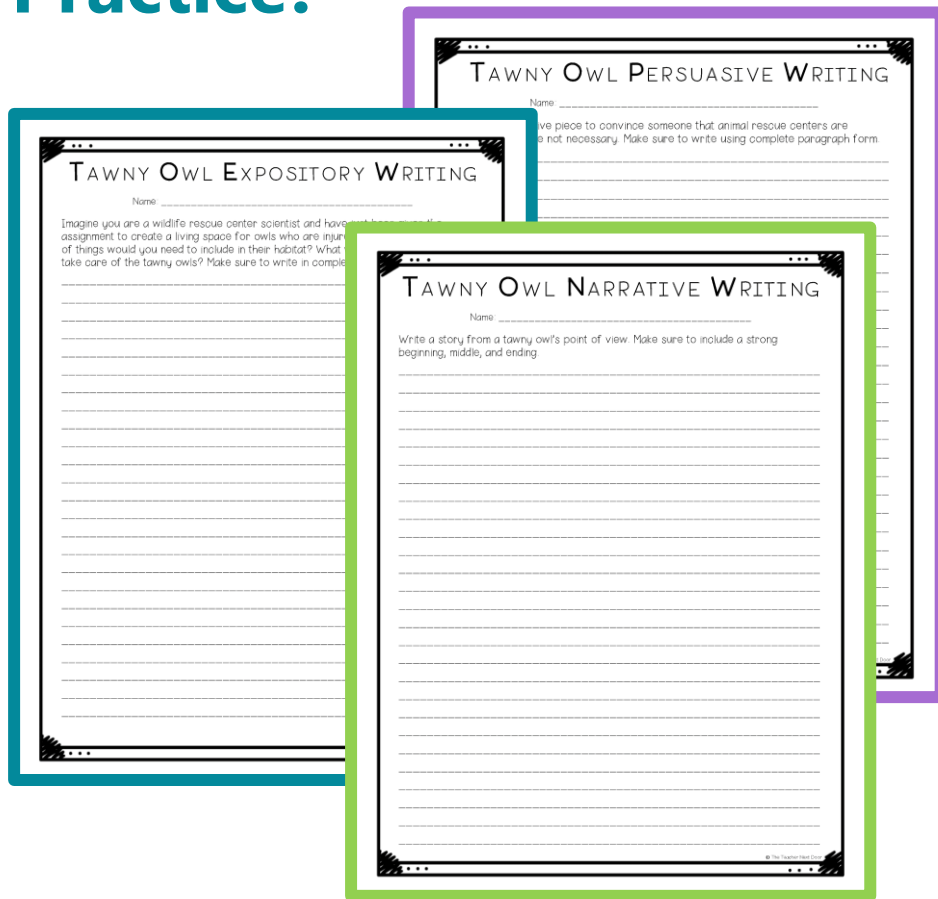


Works well for:

- Guided Reading
- Small groups/partners
- Independent Work

3 WRITING PROMPTS FOR EACH SET

**Narrative, Expository, and
Persuasive Writing
Practice!**



Can be used for:

- **Whole Class Lessons**
- **Writing Centers**
- **Independent Work**

**Incorporate writing into
your reading block!**

TEACHERS ARE SAYING THIS ABOUT THE FALL PASSAGES:

Thank you! I have been searching for perfect paired texts and this set is amazing!!! Vocabulary, comprehension, graphic organizers and open-ended questions make it a perfect resource for teaching 5th and 6th grade :)
(Shanel M.)

This is a great resource!
The paired passages are interesting and the writing prompts that go with them are thought-provoking.
(Jamie V.)

This is one of my favorite resources to use to prepare my students for testing.
(Keante M.)



PAIRED TEXTS FOR WINTER FICTION TO NONFICTION

The Lion and the Hare

A Fable from India

Name: _____

Once, in a beautiful meadow, a group of animals would have been playing. The Lion wandered about, killing and slaying.

The animals were not happy. They decided to put an end to this. They told the Lion, "We are truly proud to have you here, however, think that it is fitting for this day forward, we, your humble subjects, are fit for a king."

The Lion, enjoying this show, was true to their word and agreed.

The SNOWSHOE Hare

Snowshoe Hare vocabulary

Name: _____

Match these words with their meanings.

1. _____ in a sneaky way

A. forage

2. _____ to look for food

B. tyranny



in underground burrows, and in the dense undergrowth of the forests. Snowshoe hares can be found throughout Canada and in the northern parts of the United States as far north as the Arctic Ocean, and as far south as the Rocky Mountains in New Mexico.



Similar to rabbits, hares are not exactly the same. Hares are larger than rabbits, usually a little smaller than females.

They have large, hind feet which act as snowshoes in the winter time and they have fur on the soles of their feet, which provides them with extra traction. Their feet also give them extra speed as they run.

The SNOWSHOE Hare

While rabbits prefer living in underground burrows, snowshoe hares live above ground in the dense undergrowth of the forests. Snowshoe hares can be found throughout Canada and in the northern parts of the United States. They can live as far north as the Arctic Ocean, and as far south as the Rocky Mountains in New Mexico.



Even though they look similar, hares are not exactly

SNOWSHOE HARE: Paired Texts Questions

Name: _____

I. Fill in the chart:

Text Title	Genre	Genre Evidence
The		



SNOWSHOE HARE NARRATIVE WRITING

Name: _____

Write a story about a snowshoe hare who outsmarted a predator. Make sure your story has a strong beginning, middle, and an ending.



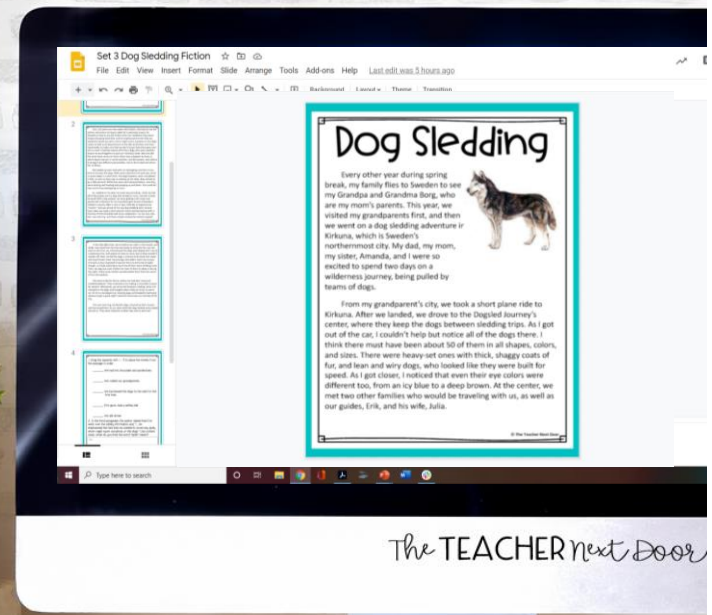
4TH – 6TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

8 PASSAGES:

A TOTAL OF 4 PAIRED TEXTS!

Historical, Scientific,
Biographical, and
Technical Text

Comprehension Questions
for EACH Passage
Fiction to Nonfiction



- Perfect for:
- Guided Reading
 - Independent Work
 - Small groups/partners

INCLUDES VOCABULARY AND QUESTIONS

Synonyms and antonyms, matching, and more!

SNOWSHOE HARE: Paired Texts Questions

Name: _____

1. Fill in the chart.

Text Title	Genre	Genre Evidence
The Snowshoe Hare		
The Lion and the Lamb		

SLEDS: VOCABULARY

Name: _____

Match these Latin/Greek words with their meanings.

1. _____ to take somewhere	A. decrease
2. _____ a scientific or mathematical relationship	B. increase
3. _____ to become smaller, less	C. transport
4. _____ relating to the Middle Ages	D. medieval
5. _____ to become larger, more	E. formula

6. Circle the correct possible meaning of the words in the chart.

VOCABULARY WORD	POSSIBLE MEANINGS:	
Wandering	Thinking about	Walking around
Era	To hear a noise	A time period
Occupy	Something empty	To take up space
Originally	The first one/time	Something modern

Use the word bank to complete each sentence:

friction mass force gravity velocity

7. When you throw a ball in the air, it comes down because of _____.

8. A marble has a small _____.

9. The brakes on cars work because of _____.

10. When something gives a push or a pull, this is an example of _____.

11. The racecar won the trophy due to the driver's skill and the car's high _____.

Valley Forge VOCABULARY

Name: _____

Match these Latin/Greek words with their meanings.

A. strategy
B. temporary
C. dissatisfied
D. rival
E. honored

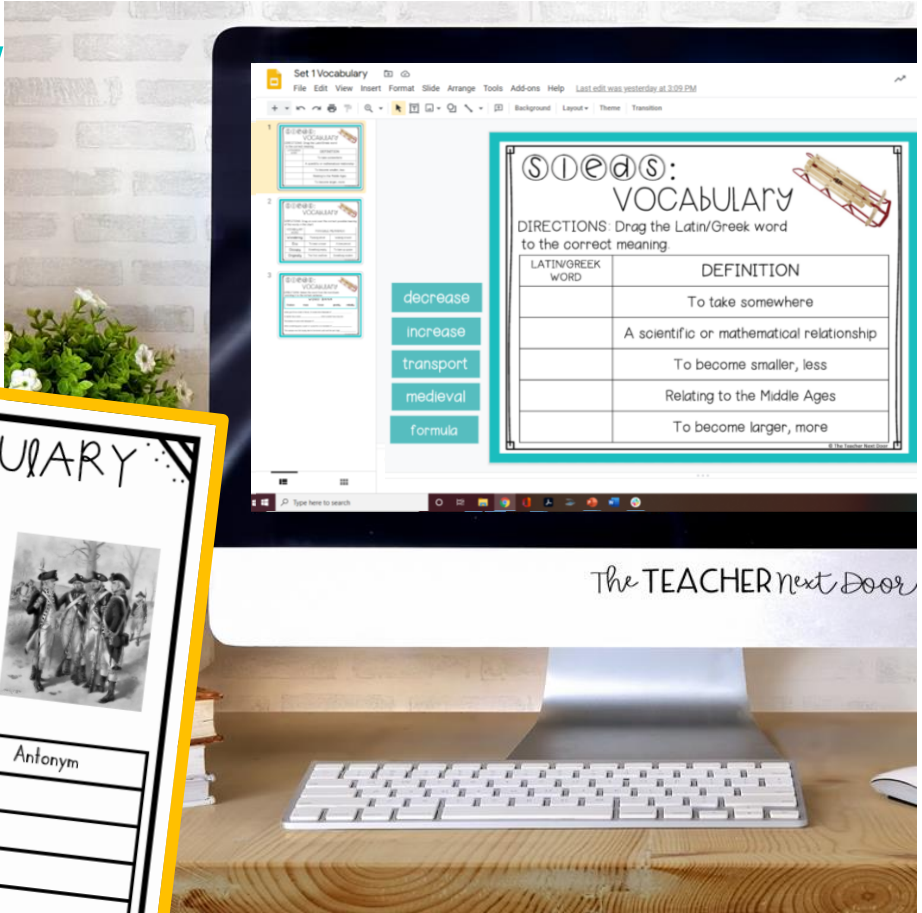
and an antonym for each.

Synonym	Antonym

_____ patriotic luxuries

_____ for the food drive.

_____ that were _____.



Works well for:

- Guided Reading
- Small groups/partners
- Independent Work

3 WRITING PROMPTS FOR EACH SET

Narrative, Expository, and
Persuasive Writing
Practice!



SLEDS NARRATIVE WRITING

Name _____

Imagine you have a brand new sled and decide to use it in the snow. The sled however, is not an ordinary sled. When you get on... what happens? Write a story about your experiences. Make sure to include a strong beginning, a middle, and an ending.

SLEDS EXPOSITORY WRITING

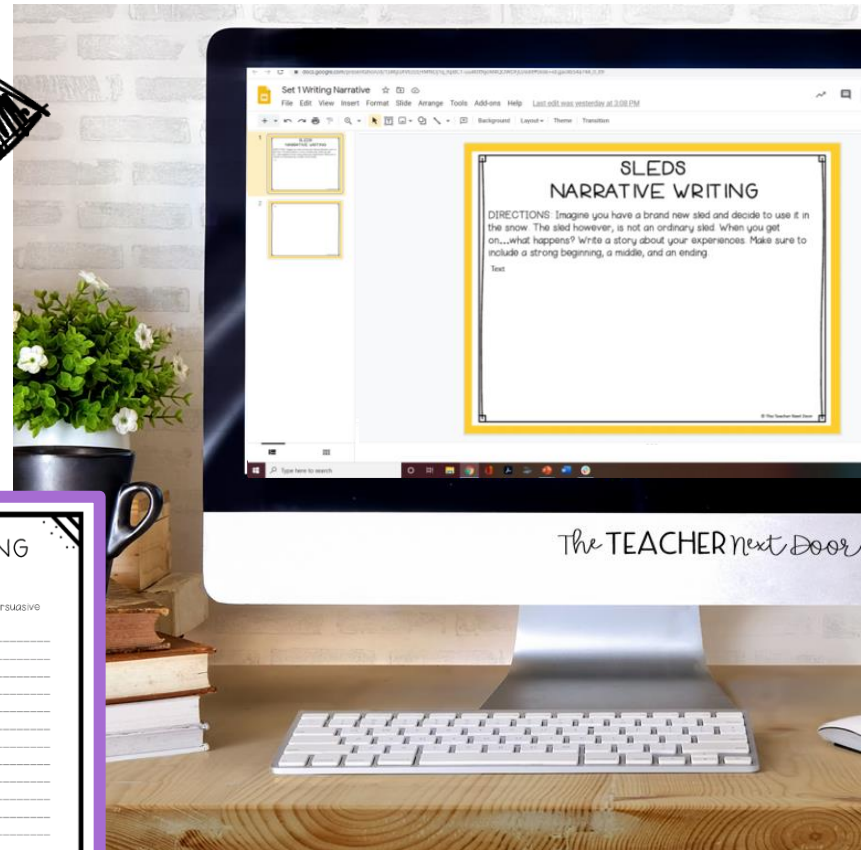
Name _____

Sledding in the winter is fun but is winter your favorite season? Write a paragraph telling which season is your favorite and why. Make sure to write using good paragraph form.

SLEDS PERSUASIVE WRITING

Name _____

Many skiers, snowboarders, skaters, and bicyclists wear helmets. Write a persuasive piece about whether people on sleds should wear helmets or not.



Can be used for:

- **Whole Class Lessons**
- **Writing Centers**
- **Independent Work**

**Incorporate writing into
your reading block!**

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

TEACHERS ARE SAYING THIS ABOUT THE WINTER PASSAGES:

I love the structure of these passages. They pair passages but split the questions up, just as I teach my students to do on their exams. I also like the vocabulary focus and emphasis on free-response answers. (Juliette R.)

Great resource to prepare for upcoming state assessments. Like the complex wording of the question sets. (Michael G.)

Best spiral review and paired texts I have found on TpT. Every product I have purchased from this seller is great! (Jeanne L.)



PAIRED TEXTS FOR SPRING FICTION TO NONFICTION

How Wool is Made

Name: _____

People have always needed protection and warmth to survive. The earliest people made clothing from animal pelts. As early as 4000 BC, Babylonians developed some basic methods of shearing sheep. For centuries, wool was made in homes and on small farms. Today, wool is a worldwide industry. Australia is the leading supplier, producing about one-fourth of the world's wool. Other top suppliers include the United States and New Zealand.

To manufacture wool, sheep are sheared (given a haircut) once a year, mainly during spring. There is a definite art to shearing sheep. Shearers must avoid nicking the sheep and must try to keep the fleece in one piece if possible. Skilled shearers do this quickly and may shear up to 200 sheep in one day! Most sheep are still sheared by hand, but some farms use robot controlled arms to do the clipping.

Once the sheep has been shorn, its fleece is cleaned and sorted by its quality. When wool is graded, it is given a number and a letter to describe its quality.



My Grandma's Sheep Farm

Name: _____

My grandpa passed away before I was born. Everyone said what an amazing person he was and I really wished I knew him. He and my grandma lived in Albany, in New York. After grandpa died, she wanted to move away from the city to live on her dream, which was to own a sheep farm when she was a child, and it was in the mountains of Connecticut. She bought a sheep farm, called Three Bags Full. It has about 50 acres, where she raises sheep. Sheep come in a variety of colors and patterns, like brown, tan, white, and black (spotted), and black. They also have long coats of wool. My grandma and I love to spend time with the sheep. I can't wait to go when the weather starts getting warm in the late spring. Shearing is my grandma and she told me that it was shearing time, and the weather starts getting warm in the late spring. Shearing is a fun activity to do with the sheep.



Sheep VOCABULARY


Name: _____



How Wool is Made

People have always needed protection and warmth to survive. The earliest people made clothing from animal pelts. As early as 4000 BC, Babylonians developed some basic methods and tools to make clothing from wool. For centuries, wool was made in homes and on small farms. Today, wool is a worldwide industry. Australia is the leading supplier, producing about one-fourth of the world's wool. Other top suppliers include the United States and New Zealand.

To manufacture wool, sheep are sheared (given a haircut) once a year, mainly during spring. There is a definite art to shearing sheep. Shearers must avoid nicking the sheep and must try to keep the fleece in one piece if possible. Skilled shearers do this quickly and may shear up to 200 sheep in one day!




SHEEP: Paired Texts Questions

Name: _____

1. The *How Wool is Made* passage has 8 paragraphs. Write a *one word main idea title* for each paragraph.

Paragraph	Main Idea Title	Paragraph	Main Idea Title
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	



SHEEP: EXPOSITORY WRITING

Name: _____

Some people count sheep to fall asleep. Write a paragraph about what a person should or shouldn't do, to fall asleep quickly, but don't include counting sheep! Make sure to write in complete paragraph form.



4TH - 6TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

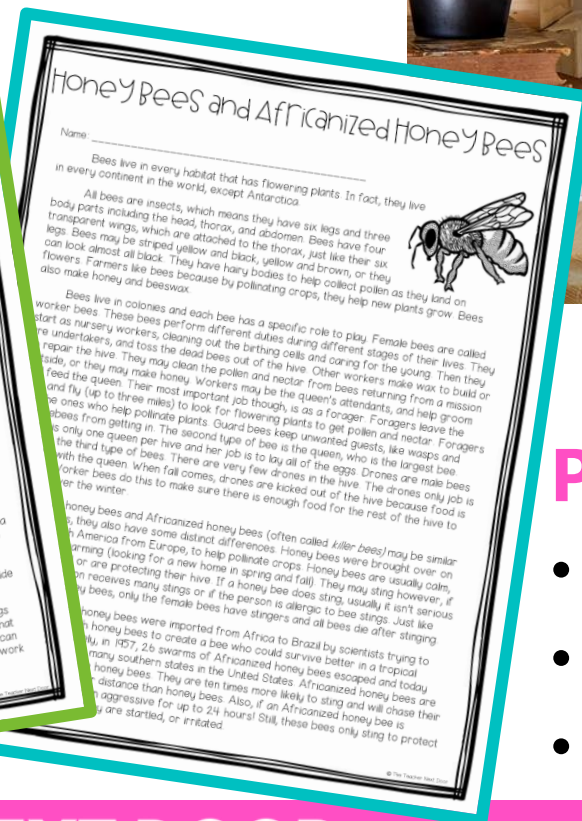
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- Small groups/partners

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

INCLUDES VOCABULARY AND QUESTIONS

Synonyms, Summaries,
Latin/Greek Words...

SHEEP: Paired Texts Questions

Name: _____

1. The *How Wool is Made* passage has 8 paragraphs. Write a *one word main idea title* for each paragraph.

Paragraph	Main Idea Title	Paragraph
1		5
2		6
3		7
4		8

2. Stories which are fiction usually have a theme, what the readers to take away from the story.

My Grandad's Sheep Farm

A. Follow

Bee Vocabulary

Name: _____

Match the meaning to the vocabulary word

- _____ A helper
- _____ To search for food
- _____ The middle section of an insect
- _____ A feeling of satisfaction
- _____ Created or made
- _____ To take care of something

Use the word bank to write the word in the boxes next to its clue.

Word bank: insulation, transparent, swarming, colony, agitated

- Clear, see through
- A group of bees who live together
- Groups of bees moving to a new place
- Irritated, bothered
- A layer of warmth

Birds: Paired Texts Questions

Name: _____

John James Audubon?

from the *John James Audubon* passage in order using 1 for the first second and so on.

_____ shed his first book

_____ very good at math or navigational skills

_____ to France

_____ birds and painted them

_____ passage in order using 1 for the first event and 2 for

_____ to buy bird feeders.

_____ ornithology class.

_____ ins to go birding



- Works well for:**
- **Guided Reading**
 - **Small groups/partners**
 - **Independent Work**

TEACHERS ARE SAYING THIS ABOUT THE SPRING PASSAGES:

I used this virtually and in person.

What a great resource and time saver. The articles were interesting and easy to use.

Thank you!

(Susan G.)

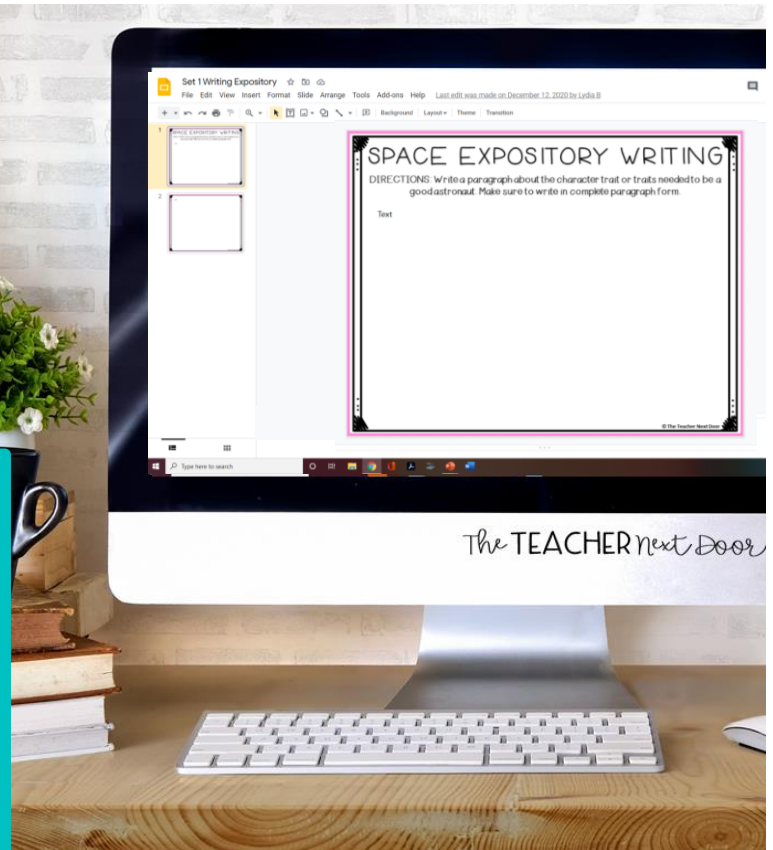
I like that this resource comes with text, questions, and a variety of writing prompts. I think this is perfect for reviewing for the state testing. Thanks!
(That Gal Teaches)

This resource uses interesting, relevant topics that interest my students.
(Jamie D.)



3 WRITING PROMPTS FOR EACH SET

Narrative, Expository, and
Persuasive Writing Practice!



Can be used for:

- Whole Class Lessons
- Writing Centers
- Independent Work

Incorporate writing into
your reading block!

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1

Which classrooms would benefit from this Paired Texts for Spring Fiction to Nonfiction Unit? This unit is for you if **your students need reading comprehension practice**, particularly with comparing and contrasting related texts but **your reading curriculum is lacking**. Also, if you've spent countless hours trying to piecemeal texts together and want to **stop endlessly searching** for paired passages that work, this resource is for you.

2

What age is best suited for this Paired Passages Unit? This reading set works well for most **4th – 6th grade students**. The resource can also be used with **older students in need of extra practice and support** or **younger students who need enrichment**. Teachers, homeschool educators, and tutors have used the materials successfully.

3

How could this Paired Texts for Spring Unit be used in my classroom? This resource is **extremely versatile**. It has passages with their own comprehension questions, question pages to compare the passages, vocabulary pages, and writing pages for each paired set of texts. You can use the print or the digital versions for **centers, small groups, partner practice, review, and test prep too**.

At **The Teacher Next Door, we know that you strive to be an effective reading teacher while maintaining a healthy work-life balance. In order to do that, you need resources that are impactful yet simple. The problem is that most reading resources and curriculums out there are far from simple. The pages upon pages of daily lesson plans are just plain overwhelming. We believe teachers should be living their lives outside the classroom and not spending hours lesson planning and searching for resources.**

Now, more than ever, teachers need space to be themselves, which is why we create and support teachers with timesaving tips and standards-aligned resources.

We can't wait to help you get started.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR CEO AND FOUNDER: Jenn Larson is the creator and founder of The Teacher Next Door. With over 20 years of experience in the classroom and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Jenn specializes in creating resources for upper elementary students. Her goal is to support teachers by providing ready-to-use resources that target standards and help students grow in amazing ways.

REACH OUT AT: contact@the-teacher-next-door.com

