

# KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS

## THE RED FOX

Red Foxes are found in many places throughout North America as well as parts of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. They live in a variety of habitats from grasslands, to deserts, mountains, forests, tundra, and even suburban areas, but they prefer wooded areas the most. Usually, they sleep in the open but during breeding season, foxes will build or find dens and stay in them. Red foxes are solitary animals and do not live in packs like wolves.

Red foxes are the largest fox species. They have dense fur that may be a pale yellowish-red or a deep reddish-brown. They have long snouts, pointed ears, a slender body,



# 5TH GRADE NONFICTION

## MORE CAUSE AND EFFECT *from inventions*

Directions: Match the cause or effect puzzle piece to the related cause or effect about inventions from the Bronze Age.

CAUSE  
Wood ashes and animal fats were boiled together in Babylonia.

EFFECT  
Soap was invented.

CAUSE  
The potter's wheel was invented.

EFFECT  
Pottery was made more quickly.

## VOCABULARY *from the text*

Directions: Look at the vocabulary word in the top box. Place a star below the box with the correct definition.

insulate

protect from heat or cold

escape

alloy

to bother someone

a metal made from two or more metals

efficient

brightly lit more effective

occupation

job or career

hobby

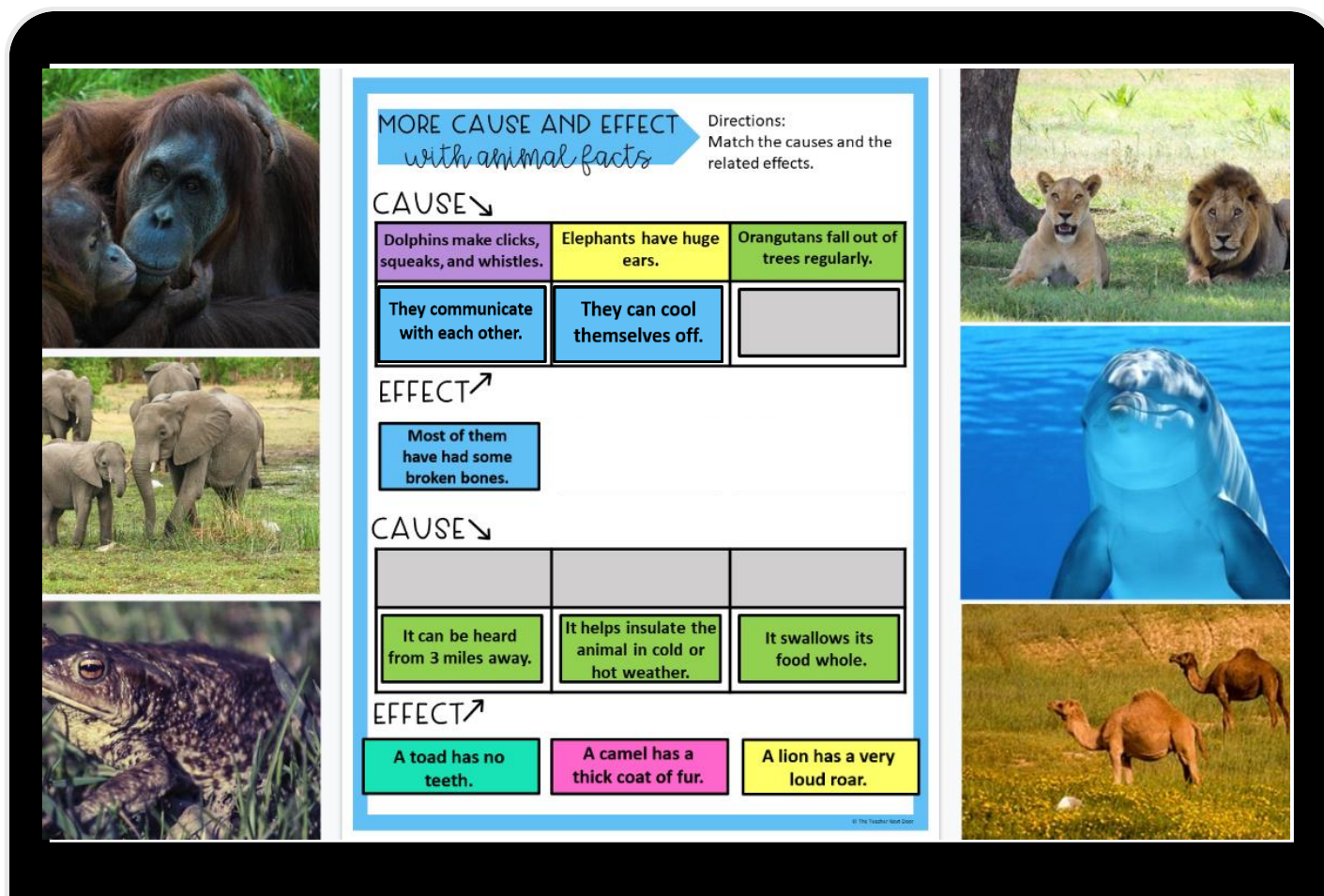
# CAUSE & EFFECT

## THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

# DIGITAL FORMAT

**DRAG AND DROP – INTERACTIVE**  
**NO-PREP, EASY TO ASSIGN**

**JUST CLICK AND SEND!** 



**MORE CAUSE AND EFFECT**  
*with animal facts*

Directions: Match the causes and the related effects.

**CAUSE ↘**

Dolphins make clicks, squeaks, and whistles.	Elephants have huge ears.	Orangutans fall out of trees regularly.
They communicate with each other.	They can cool themselves off.	

**EFFECT ↗**

Most of them have had some broken bones.		
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**CAUSE ↘**

It can be heard from 3 miles away.	It helps insulate the animal in cold or hot weather.	It swallows its food whole.

**EFFECT ↗**

A toad has no teeth.	A camel has a thick coat of fur.	A lion has a very loud roar.
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**THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR**

# TWO PASSAGES

READING SKILL FOCUSED

HIGH-INTEREST STORIES

THAT KEEP STUDENTS ENGAGED!

## THE RED FOX

Page 2

Foxes have an excellent sense of hearing. In the winter when food is scarce, foxes are still able to find mice under the snow. They stand motionless and listen intently to rodents as they squeak and dig underground. When the fox locates a mouse, it dives head first and pounces on its prey.

Between March and May every year, female red foxes usually give birth to a litter of one to five babies, called kits. Occasionally, litters can be up to twelve in size! Fox babies are born blind but open their eyes in about ten days. Newborn babies are born with dark gray fur but grow their reddish coat in a few weeks. The kits stay with their mother until the fall, when they're able to hunt on their own. When red foxes are about ten months old, they leave their parents and look for their own territory. Some foxes have been known to travel over 150 miles to find a new home.

Red foxes face dangers from predators like coyotes, wolves, bears, eagles, and mountain lions. Red foxes have an average lifespan in the wild of 2 – 4 years. In captivity, where there are no predators, red foxes live from 10 - 12 years.



USE FOR  
CENTERS OR  
INDEPENDENT  
WORK



THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR



# VOCABULARY

TARGET WORDS IN CONTEXT  
FROM THE PASSAGE  
WITH INTERACTIVE PRACTICE!

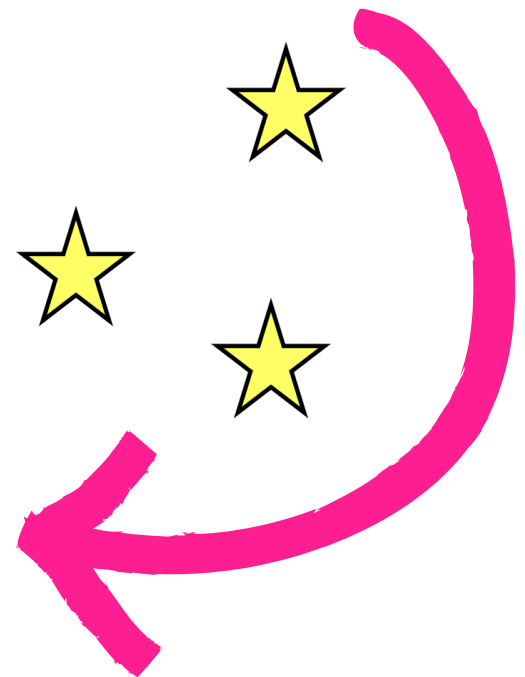
**VOCABULARY**  
*from the text*

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insulate	
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★	

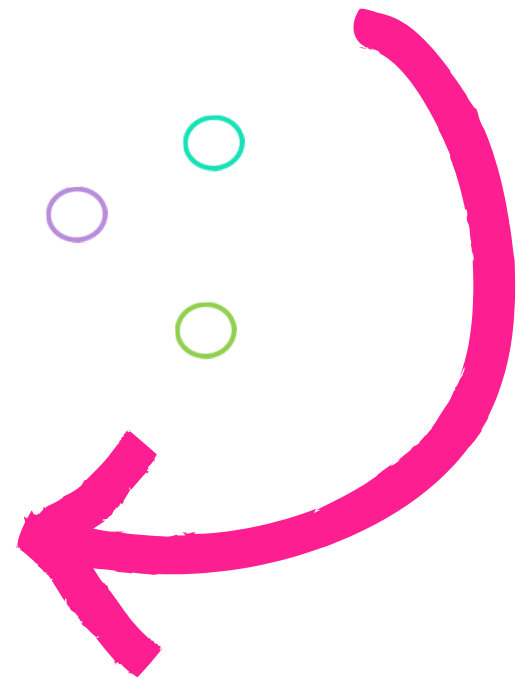
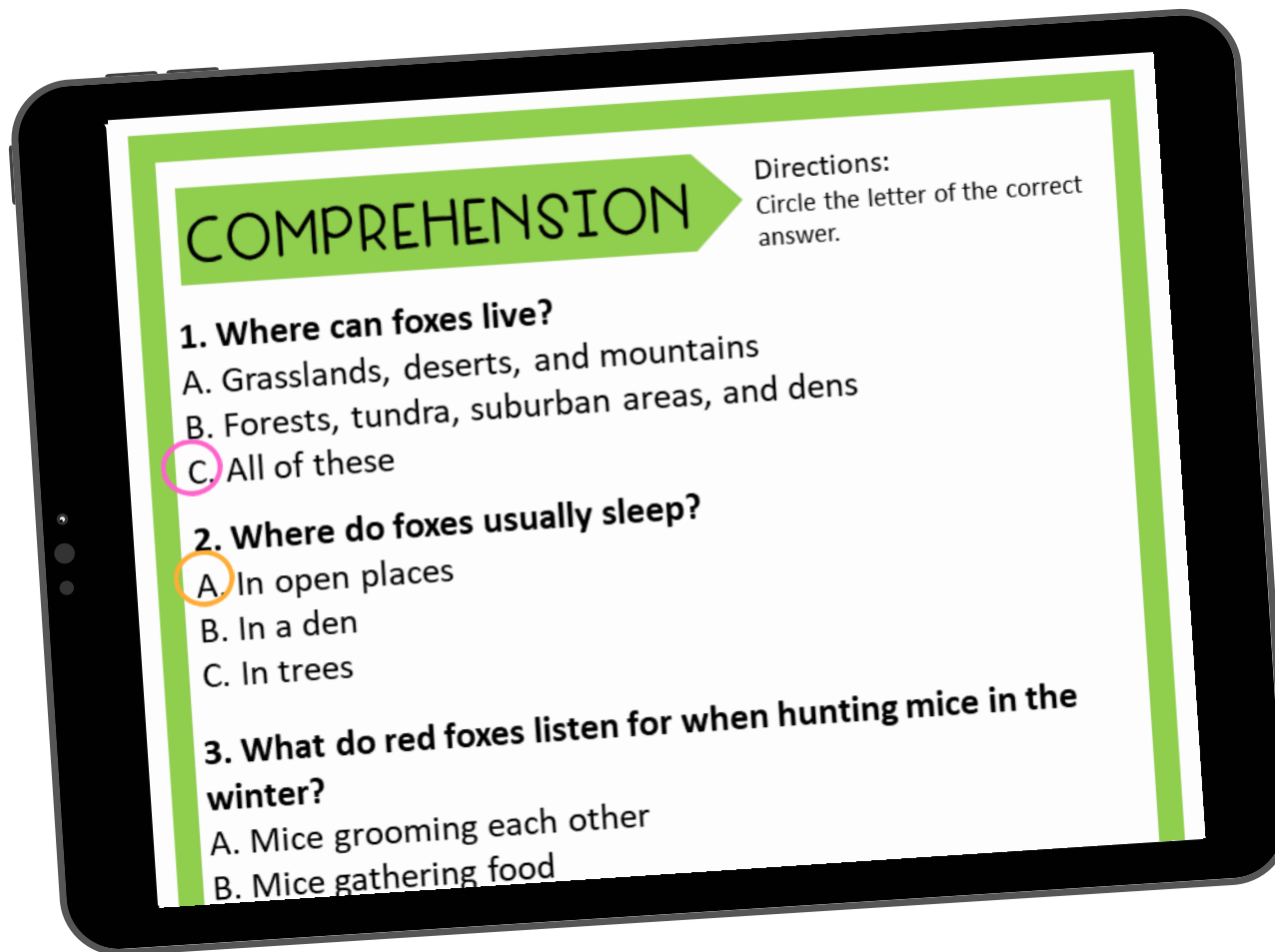
alloy	
to bother someone	a metal made from two or more metals
	★

efficient      occupation



# COMPREHENSION

**STUDENTS PRACTICE  
DIGGING INTO THE TEXT  
TO SHOW UNDERSTANDING!**



# SKILLS FOCUSED

## REINFORCE THE

## CAUSE AND EFFECT CONCEPT USING A VARIETY OF APPROACHES!

### CAUSE AND EFFECT *from the text*

Directions:  
Match the cause or effect to  
the related cause or effect.

CAUSE	EFFECT
1. They made tools out of copper.	The tools weren't strong enough.
<b>They mixed copper with tin.</b>	2. They made bronze.
3. Once they discovered metal, they didn't hunt and gather like they used to.	
	4. Farming was improved.
5. They covered roofs with mud and turf.	
	6. The Iron Age began.

They started farming.

The bronze plow and the wheel were invented.



# ASK THE EXPERTS

**"AN AMAZING RESOURCE  
FOR CAUSE AND EFFECT  
PRACTICE!"**

– M. K., 5TH GRADE TEACHER

**"INCREDIBLY HELPFUL IN  
TEACHING READING  
SKILLS!"**

– AMBER, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

**"REALLY ENJOYED  
USING THIS  
RESOURCE!"**

– KELLY, 5TH GRADE TEACHER

**THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR**

# KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS FAQ

## Which classrooms would benefit from a Digital Reading Cause and Effect Unit like this?

This set of Cause and Effect Knowledge Builders is for you **if your reading curriculum is lacking** when it comes to focused reading skills practice or your students could benefit from more content knowledge. If you'd like to **stop endlessly searching for high-interest reading activities** that align with this reading standard and are looking for **easy-to-use** reading activities, this resource is for you.

## What age is best suited for this Knowledge Builder?

This digital reading unit is **aligned to 5th grade reading standards**. It can also be used with **older students in need of extra practice** and support or for **enrichment for younger students**. Teachers, homeschool educators, and tutors have used the materials successfully.

## How can this resource be used in my classroom?

This resource is **extremely versatile**. Many teachers will use the knowledge builder as part of their weekly literacy stations. You can also use the digital unit for independent work, partner practice, test prep, and for whole-class lessons. Our **best recommendation is to use them for independent or partner work while you meet with small groups to differentiate**.



# WHO IS TTND?

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 time-saving tips and standards-aligned resources.

**We can't wait to help you get started.**

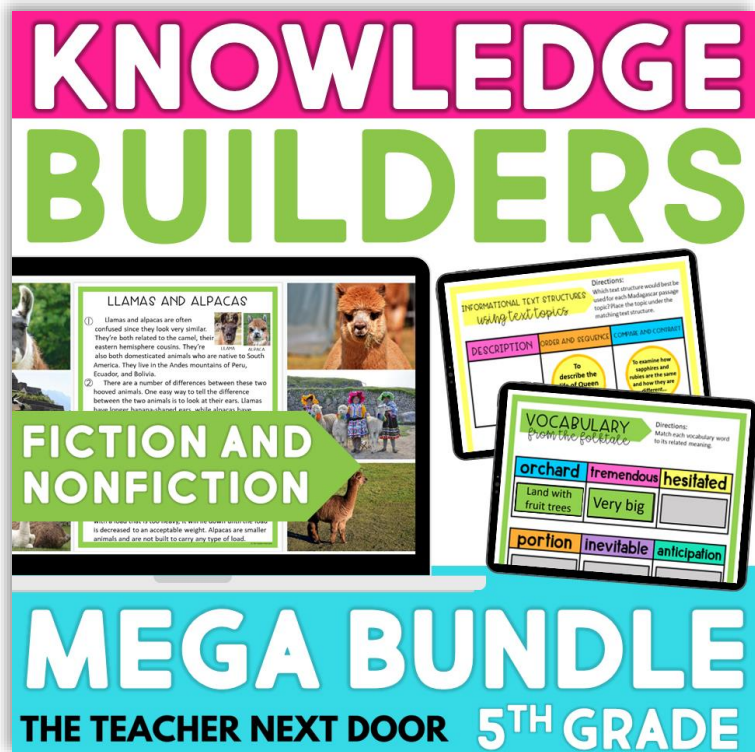
**A NOTE ABOUT OUR CEO AND FOUNDER:** Jenn Larson is the creator and founder of The Teacher Next Door. With over 20 years of experience in the classroom and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Jenn specializes in creating resources for upper elementary students. Her goal is to support teachers 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](mailto:contact@the-teacher-next-door.com)**



**THE TEACHER  
NEXT DOOR**

# TAKE BACK YOUR TEACHER TIME!



**BUY NOW**



**NO MORE HOURS OF LESSON PLANNING!**  
**YOUR FUTURE TEACHER-SELF WILL**  
**THANK YOU, YEAR AFTER YEAR.**

**THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR**