

KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS



THE HARE AND THE LION

Tanzanian Folktale

One day Soongoo'ra, the hare, was famished! He decided to take a walk through the forest to look for food. As he was walking, he came upon a large calabash tree which had a colony of bees. The hare knew that the tree belonged to Simba, the lion, but he was thrilled, thinking about the honey. He started walking towards town to find someone to help him get the honey.

Soon, he noticed Boo'koo, the big rat, sitting on his porch. Soongoo'ra greeted him warmly, so Boo'koo invited him in. Once they sat down, Soongoo'ra put on his saddest face and told Boo'koo that his father had died and had left him a hive of honey. The hare asked him to go with him and to help him eat it. Boo'koo excitedly agreed, and they left at once.

At the calabash tree, Soongoo'ra and Boo'koo took some straw and

Simba grabbed the rat as soon as he was down and asked Boo'koo who was up there with him. The rat told him that it was Soongoo'ra, but he was gone. With that, the lion ate the rat.



Straw



Calabash Tree



Beehive

4TH GRADE FICTION

CHARACTER TRAITS from the folktale

Directions: The farmer in this folktale showed several character traits. Read the character traits and place them under the correct heading.

CHARACTER TRAITS	NOT THE FARMER'S CHARACTER TRAITS
KIND	PLAYFUL
TRUE	

SETTINGS and stories

Directions: Match the stories to the most likely settings.

CASTLE	OCEAN	FOREST
The Queen is visited by a wise wizard.		A fox tries to trick a rabbit.
UNDER A MUSHROOM	ANOTHER PLANET	WILD WEST

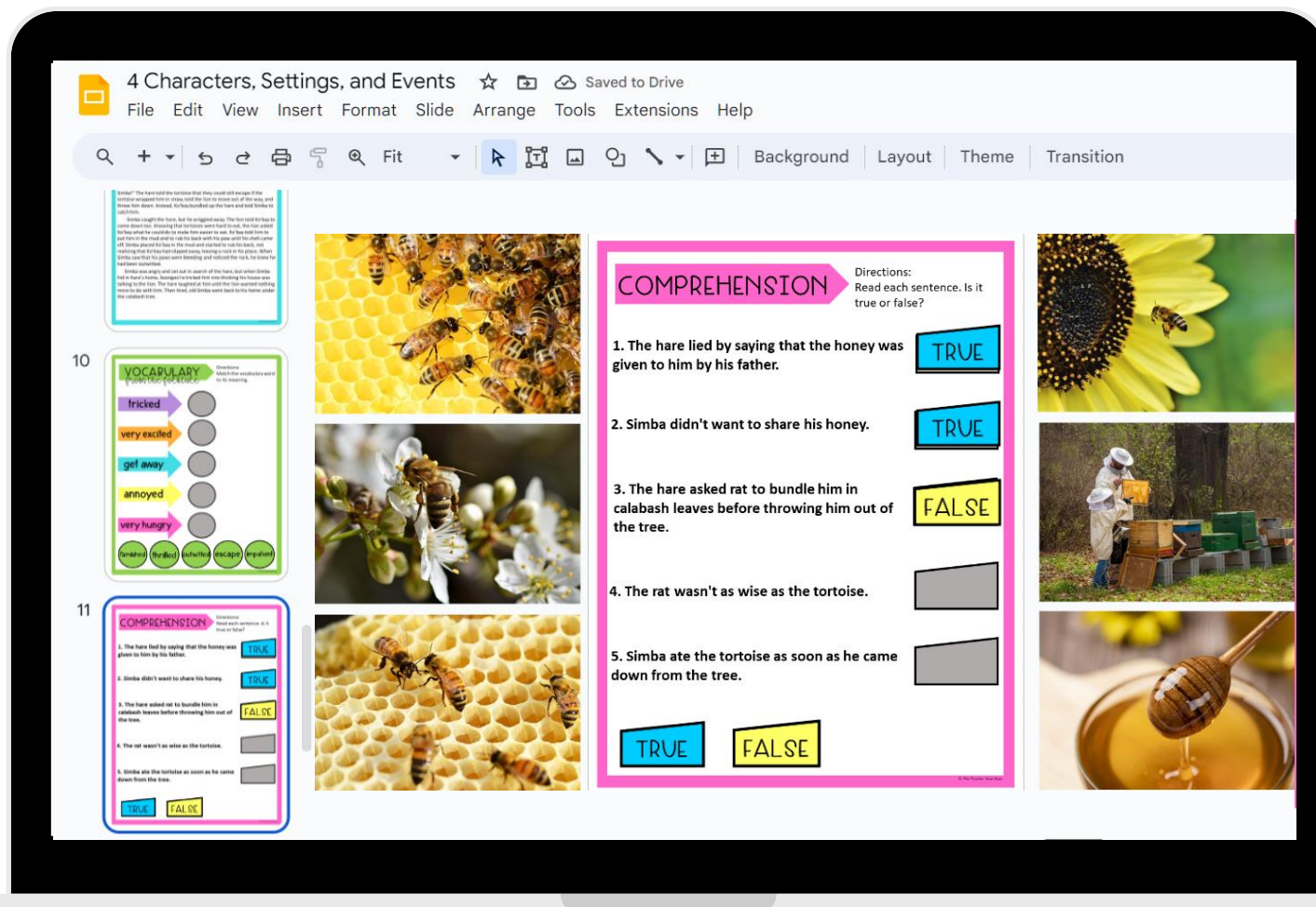
CHARACTERS

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

DIGITAL FORMAT

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

JUST CLICK AND SEND! 



4 Characters, Settings, and Events ☆ 📁 Saved to Drive

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10

VOCABULARY Directions: Match the vocabulary word to its meaning.

Word	Meaning
Tricked	<input type="radio"/>
very excited	<input type="radio"/>
get away	<input type="radio"/>
annoyed	<input type="radio"/>
very hungry	<input type="radio"/>

11

COMPREHENSION Directions: Read each sentence. Is it true or false?

1. The hare lied by saying that the honey was given to him by his father. **TRUE**
2. Simba didn't want to share his honey. **TRUE**
3. The hare asked rat to bundle him in calabash leaves before throwing him out of the tree. **FALSE**
4. The rat wasn't as wise as the tortoise. **TRUE**
5. Simba ate the tortoise as soon as he came down from the tree. **FALSE**



THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

TWO PASSAGES

READING SKILL FOCUSED

HIGH-INTEREST STORIES

THAT KEEP STUDENTS ENGAGED!

THE FARMER

Myanmar Folktale

Long ago, a large rock fell down from a small hill and landed in the middle of a well-traveled road. The next day, a villager was driving a cart, pulled by two bulls. As he traveled down the road, he came to the large rock which was blocking the middle of the road.

"Why doesn't anyone move this rock from the road? People are so lazy!" the villager complained. He tried to drive around the rock, but the road was so narrow, that the bulls were scratched by the thorny bushes on the side of the road.

Later that day, a group of travelers with bull-carts and horses were on the same road. When they saw the large rock in the middle of the road, they were dismayed.

"Why doesn't anyone move this rock from the road? People are so lazy!" they grumbled. When they tried to go around the large rock, some of the bulls were scratched. One of the carts overturned and had to be repaired.

A few weeks later, a farmer who lived in a small village was driving his bull-cart on the same road. Soon, he came to the large rock which sat in the middle of the road. The farmer looked at the rock and thought about all of the travelers whose bull-carts must have been damaged because of it.



USE FOR
CENTERS OR
INDEPENDENT
WORK



VOCABULARY

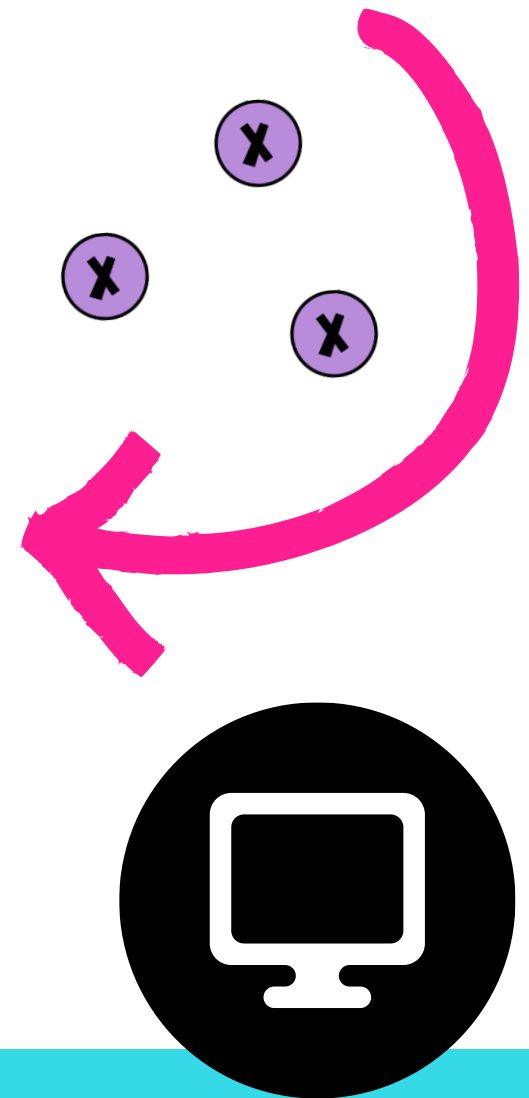
TARGET WORDS IN CONTEXT
FROM THE PASSAGE
WITH INTERACTIVE PRACTICE!

VOCABULARY
from the story

Directions: Look at the vocabulary word in the top box. Find the word which is NOT a synonym for that word. Place an X by its box.

dismayed	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	upset
<input type="checkbox"/>	joyful
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	saddened
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	discouraged

grumbled	
<input type="checkbox"/>	complained
<input type="checkbox"/>	muttered
<input type="checkbox"/>	ate
<input type="checkbox"/>	groaned



COMPREHENSION

STUDENTS PRACTICE
DIGGING INTO THE TEXT
TO SHOW UNDERSTANDING!



THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

SKILLS FOCUSED

REINFORCE STORY

ELEMENTS CONCEPTS

USING A VARIETY OF APPROACHES!

4 Characters, Settings, and Events ☆ 📄 ☁

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A CHARACTER from the folktale

Directions: The hare is a trickster! Circle the letter of the sentence which best shows this character trait.

THOUGHTS	A. Hare was hungry. B. Hare knew the tree belonged to lion.
WORDS	C. Hare told rat to be quiet. D. Hare told rat and tortoise that the honey was a gift from his father.
ACTIONS	E. Hare told rat to wrap him in straw and throw him out of the tree. F. Hare used smoke to calm the bees.

EVENTS of the folktale

Directions: Place the events of the folktale in order by putting one in the box for first, two for second, and so on.

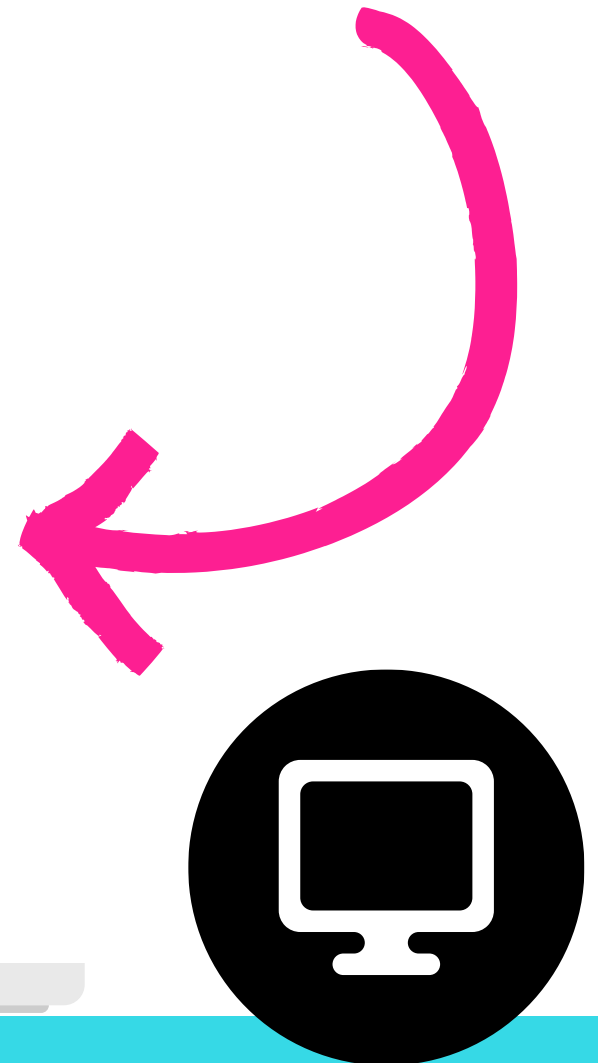
1	2	3	4

The lion was tired and went back to his home.

The rat threw the hare out of the tree.

Tortoise realized the honey belonged to Simba.

The hare found a colony of bees in Simba's calabash tree.



THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

ASK THE EXPERTS

**"VERY HELPFUL! THESE
ARE A LIFESAVER. I HIGHLY
RECOMMEND!"**

– ELAINE, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

**"GREAT RESOURCE TO GET
STUDENTS THINKING ABOUT HOW
STORY ELEMENTS WORK TOGETHER!"**

– BARBARA, 5TH GRADE TEACHER

**"I LOVE THE
VERSATILITY OF THESE
ASSIGNMENTS!"**

– SHARON, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

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KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS FAQ

Which classrooms would benefit from a Digital Characters, Settings, and Events Unit like this?

This set of Characters, Settings, and Events 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 4th 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.

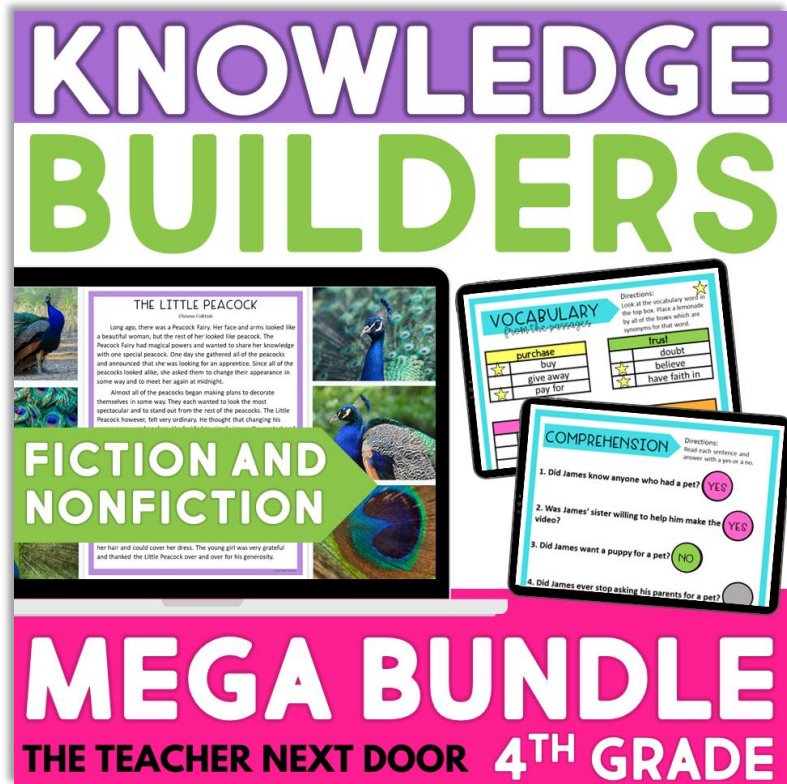
A NOTE ABOUT OUR CEO AND FOUNDER: Jenn Larson is the creator and founder of The Teacher Next Door. With over 20 years of experience in the classroom and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Jenn specializes in creating resources for upper elementary students. Her goal is to support teachers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



**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.

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