

# KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS



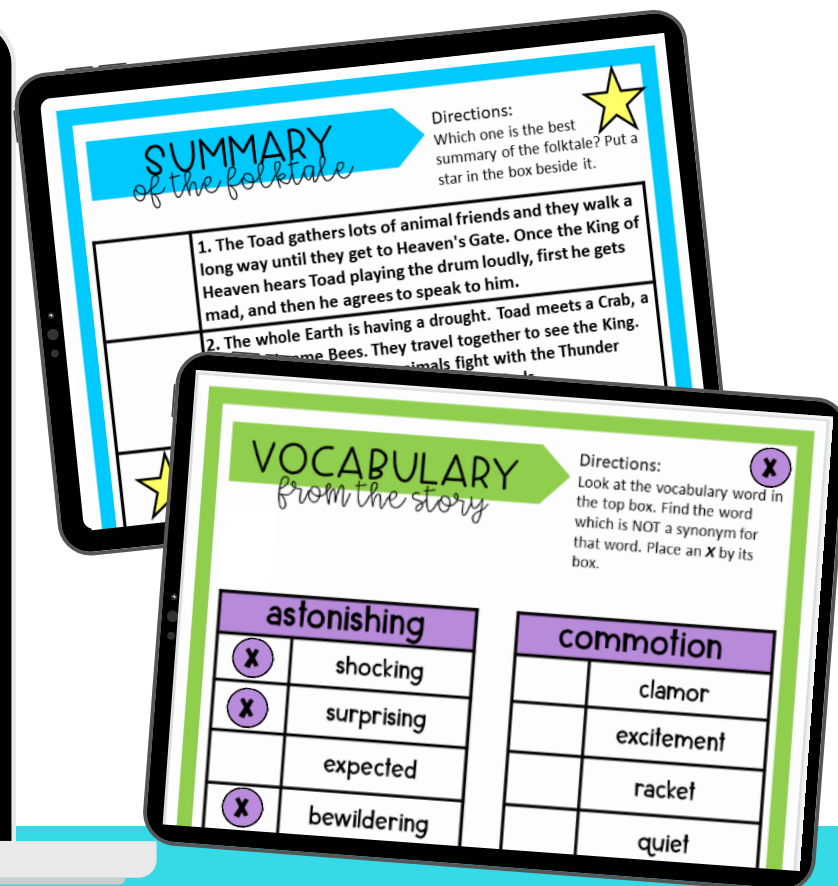
**TOAD IS THE UNCLE OF HEAVEN**  
*Vietnamese Folktale*

Long ago, the Earth was suffering from a terrible drought. The sun beat down on the dry, cracked ground, plants withered and died, and water was hard to find. Animals and people were losing hope and prayed for the day that the rains would come again.

At that time, there was a Toad who lived in a pond which was almost dry. He realized that while things were bad, they might become worse. So, Toad decided to set out on a journey to meet the King of Heaven. Once he saw the King face to face, Toad was determined to ask him to send down the rains once again. As he started walking, he met a Crab who agreed to travel with him.

noise! The King was angry and ordered two of his Thunder Gods to stop them.

## 4TH GRADE FICTION



**SUMMARY**  
*of the folktale*

Directions: Which one is the best summary of the folktale? Put a star in the box beside it.

1. The Toad gathers lots of animal friends and they walk a long way until they get to Heaven's Gate. Once the King of Heaven hears Toad playing the drum loudly, first he gets mad, and then he agrees to speak to him.
2. The whole Earth is having a drought. Toad meets a Crab, a Toad, and some Bees. They travel together to see the King. The animals fight with the Thunder Gods.

**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.

astonishing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	shocking
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	surprising
<input type="checkbox"/>	expected
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	bewildering

commotion	
<input type="checkbox"/>	clamor
<input type="checkbox"/>	excitement
<input type="checkbox"/>	racket
<input type="checkbox"/>	quiet

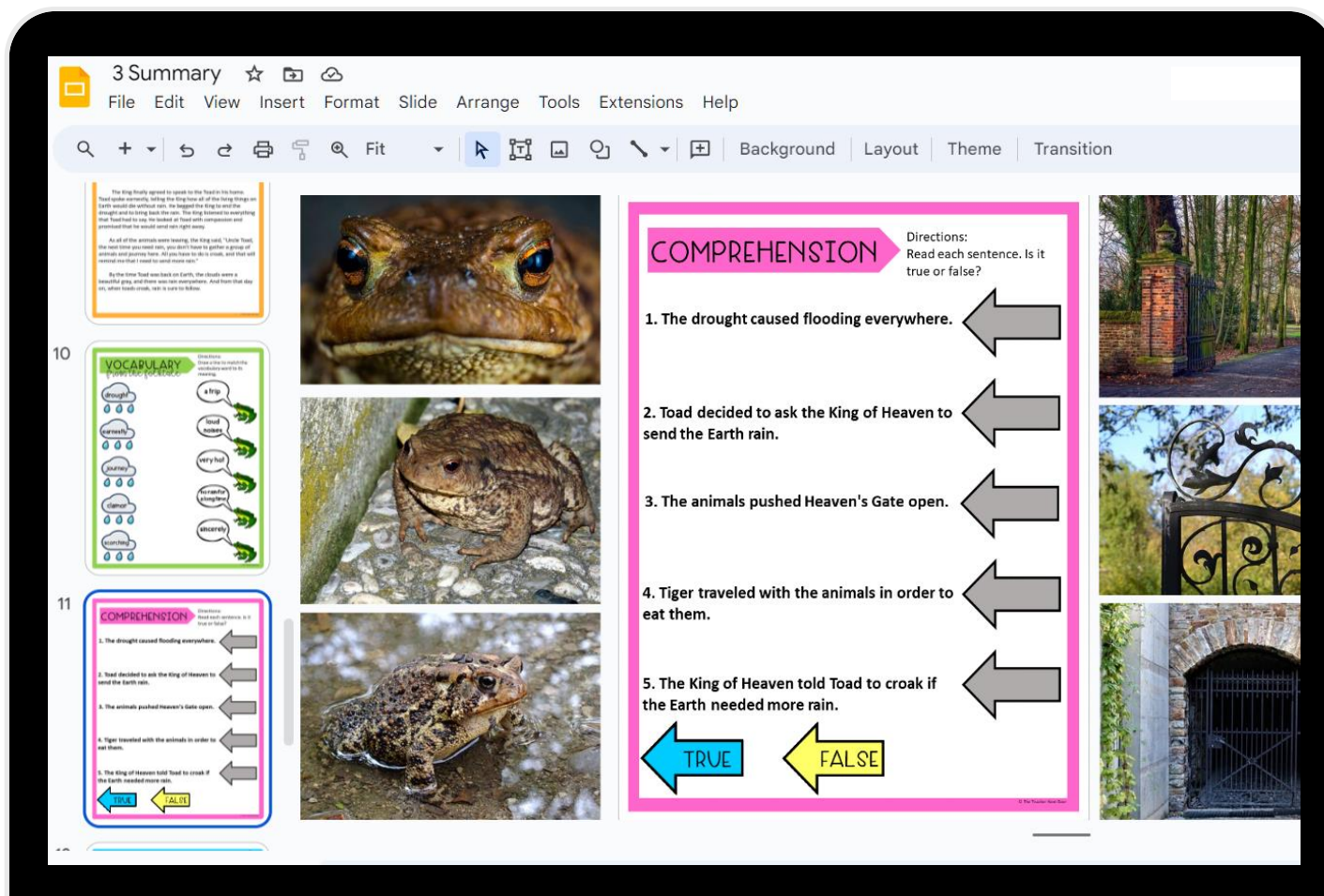
# SUMMARY

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

# DIGITAL FORMAT

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

**JUST CLICK AND SEND!** 



The screenshot displays a digital presentation interface with a menu bar at the top (File, Edit, View, Insert, Format, Slide, Arrange, Tools, Extensions, Help) and a toolbar below it. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a sidebar with a search bar and a list of slides, including '3 Summary', '10 VOCABULARY', and '11 COMPREHENSION'. The middle column features three images of toads. The right column displays a 'COMPREHENSION' slide with the following text:

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

1. The drought caused flooding everywhere.
2. Toad decided to ask the King of Heaven to send the Earth rain.
3. The animals pushed Heaven's Gate open.
4. Tiger traveled with the animals in order to eat them.
5. The King of Heaven told Toad to croak if the Earth needed more rain.

At the bottom of the slide, there are two buttons: 'TRUE' (blue) and 'FALSE' (yellow). A large pink arrow points from the 'COMPREHENSION' slide to a computer monitor icon in the bottom right corner.

**THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR**

# TWO PASSAGES

READING SKILL FOCUSED

HIGH-INTEREST STORIES

THAT KEEP STUDENTS ENGAGED!



**THE VISITOR**

I guess you could say that my family is a cat family! We've had cats as long as I can remember. It's not that we don't like dogs, we do. Cats are just easier when everybody is so busy. You can leave out food and water for them for a few days, if you go out of town. Plus, they don't have to be let outside to go to the bathroom. It's true that they can sometimes be finicky, but we enjoy them.

Right now we have three cats, a fussy tabby named Lola, a sweet calico named Callie, and a very old tuxedo cat (black and white), named Willie. All three of them are cats we got at different times from rescue centers. Most of the time, the cats stay inside. Sometimes though, they like to go outside. One day, we decided to put in a cat door that allows them to go out and come back in whenever they want to. There's also a lock on the cat door, so we can keep them inside if we need to, like at night when cats tend to fight.

One night, we went to sleep but forgot to lock the cat door. In the middle of the night, we heard a commotion downstairs. We were confused because usually the cat door was locked at night, and the cats are fairly calm while we sleep. I got out of bed and tiptoed to my parent's room. I quickly tapped on my mom's shoulder and asked if she had heard that noise.

My mom was sound asleep, but as soon as she heard the word *noise*, she sat up in bed quickly and said "Shhh...let me listen."

USE FOR  
CENTERS OR  
INDEPENDENT  
WORK

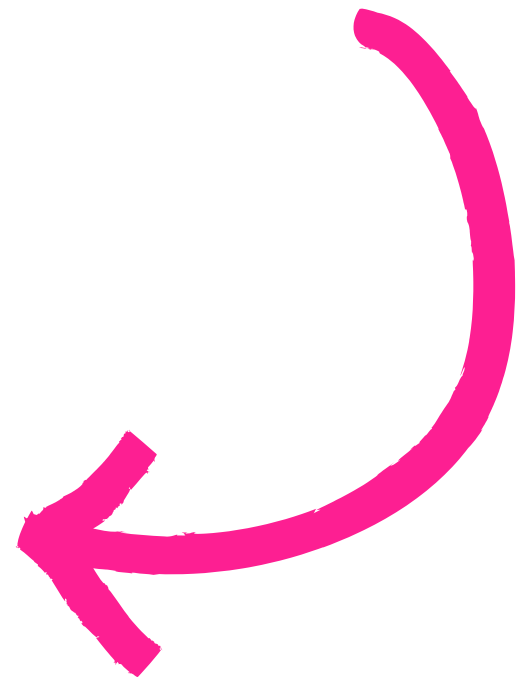
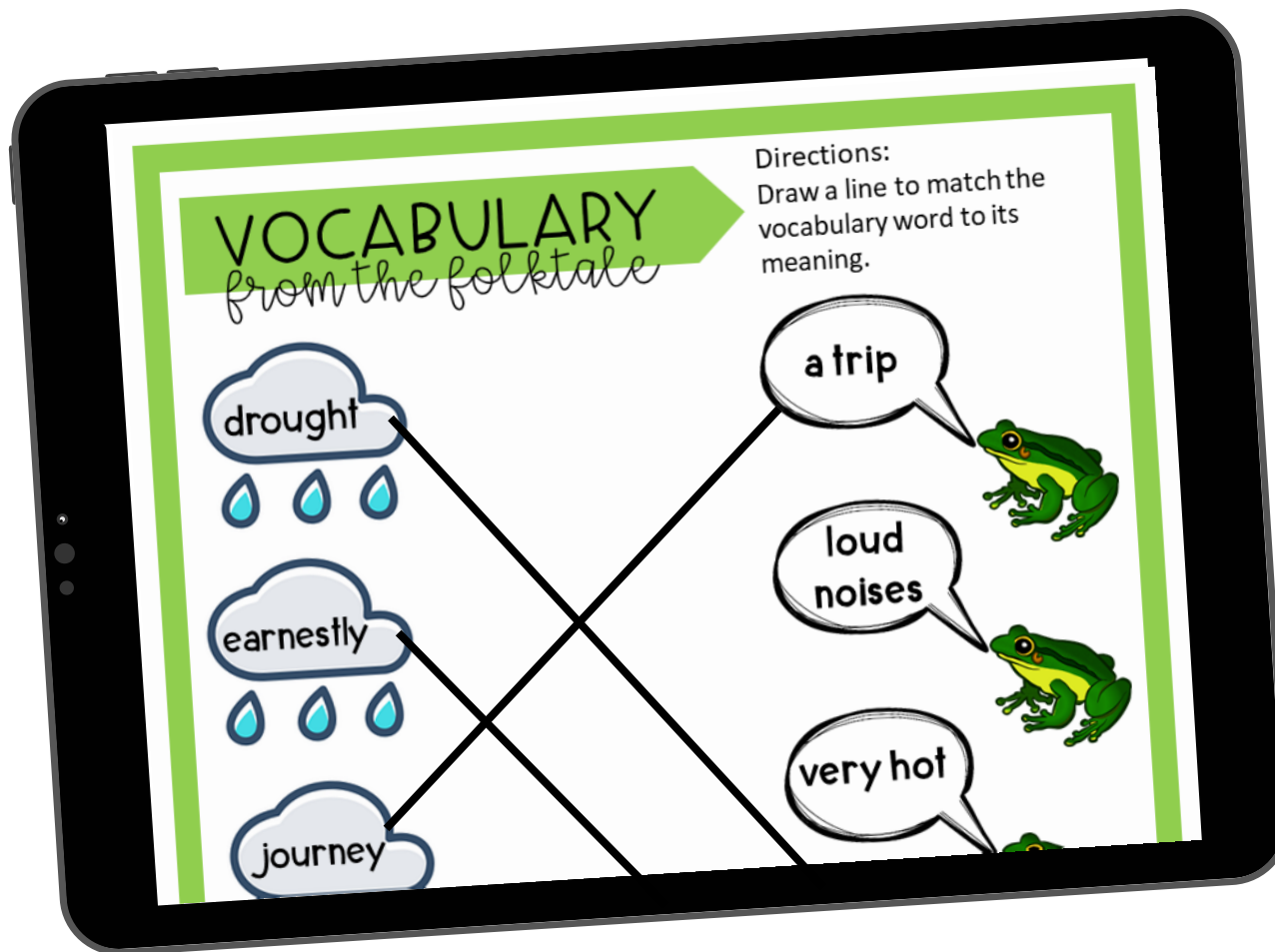


THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR



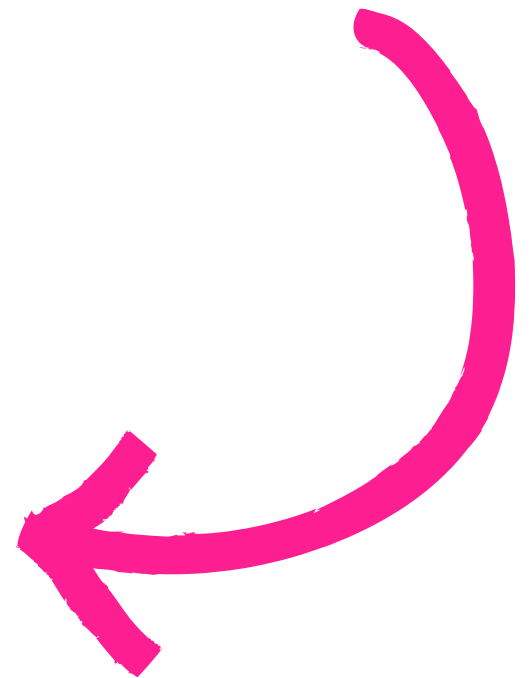
# VOCABULARY

TARGET WORDS IN CONTEXT  
FROM THE PASSAGE  
WITH INTERACTIVE PRACTICE!



# COMPREHENSION

STUDENTS PRACTICE  
DIGGING INTO THE TEXT  
TO SHOW UNDERSTANDING!



# SKILLS FOCUSED

## REINFORCE

## SUMMARY CONCEPTS

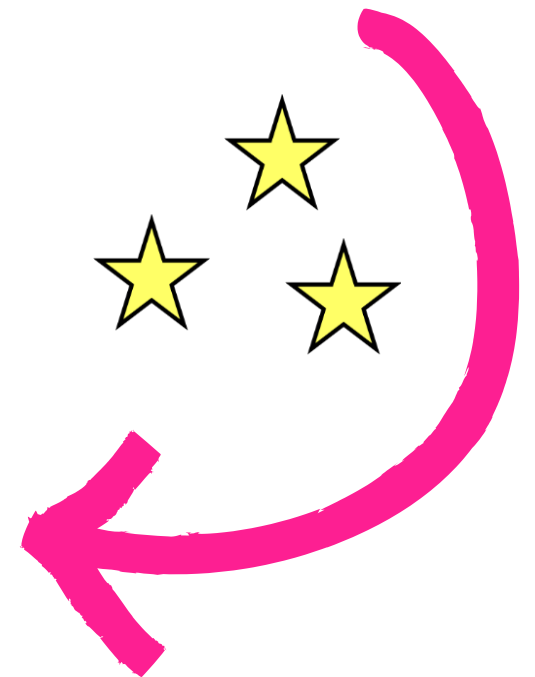
## USING A VARIETY OF APPROACHES!

SUMMARY <i>of the folktale</i>	
	1. The Toad gathers lots of animal friends and they walk a long way until they get to Heaven's Gate. Once the King of Heaven hears Toad playing the drum loudly, first he gets mad, and then he agrees to speak to him.
	2. The whole Earth is having a drought. Toad meets a Crab, a Tiger, and some Bees. They travel together to see the King. Once they get there, the animals fight with the Thunder Gods. The animals defeat the Thunder Gods.
★	3. There is a terrible drought. Toad and a group of animals travel to see the King of Heaven to ask him to send rain. The King finally agrees to send rain, but tells Toad to croak from then on, to let him know the Earth needs rain.

Directions:  
Which one is the best summary of the folktale? Put a star in the box beside it.

SUMMARY <i>of a pyramid poem</i>	
	1. The Toad gathers lots of animal friends and they walk a long way until they get to Heaven's Gate. Once the King of Heaven hears Toad playing the drum loudly, first he gets mad, and then he agrees to speak to him.
	2. The whole Earth is having a drought. Toad meets a Crab, a Tiger, and some Bees. They travel together to see the King. Once they get there, the animals fight with the Thunder Gods. The animals defeat the Thunder Gods.
★	3. There is a terrible drought. Toad and a group of animals travel to see the King of Heaven to ask him to send rain. The King finally agrees to send rain, but tells Toad to croak from then on, to let him know the Earth needs rain.

Directions:  
Which one is the best summary of the poem? Put a small star beside it.



# ASK THE EXPERTS

**"MY STUDENTS LOVED  
USING THIS RESOURCE  
AND SO DID I!"**

– SLOANE, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

**"EASY TO USE  
AND ENGAGING!"**

– KAREN, 5TH GRADE TEACHER

**"I LOVE USING THESE  
RESOURCES WITH MY  
STUDENTS!"**

– SHARON, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

# KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS FAQ

## Which classrooms would benefit from a Digital Reading Summary Unit like this?

This set of Summary for fiction 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

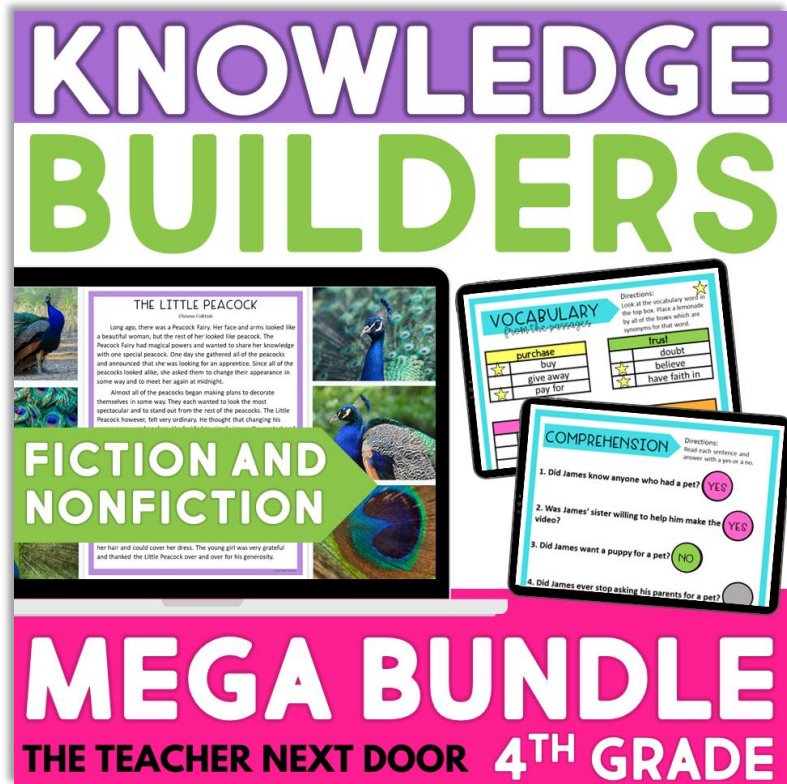
**A NOTE ABOUT OUR CEO AND FOUNDER:** Jenn Larson is the creator and founder of The Teacher Next Door. With over 20 years of experience in the classroom and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Jenn specializes in creating resources for upper elementary students. Her goal is to support teachers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