

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES

PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

CANE Toads

Name: _____

When beetles started to damage sugar cane crops in Queensland, Australia, in the 1930s farmers knew that something had to be done. In 1935, the Department of Agriculture decided that instead of using chemicals, they would bring cane toads from Australia.

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES COMPARE AND CONTRAST

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES Scavenger Hunt

Name: _____

Find examples of each text structure in books or science magazines.

Some birds eat meat only, so they have hooked beaks. They

can fly silently. They sneak up on their prey like to eat a mouse. If they are hungry, though, it will eat a mouse, or squirrels.

They like small prey like lizards, mice, rabbits, and cats like raccoons.

When they are awake. Owls hunt mostly at night and hunt during the day. They are



GIANT PANDAS

Giant pandas may be one of the cutest animals in the world. In China, they are thought to be a national treasure. These animals are easy to recognize with their white and black fur. Scientists think that pandas have been around for millions of years.



Although pandas used to be found in many lowlands across

Informational Text Structures CAUSE AND EFFECT

To show *why* something happened and *what* happened

"If a starfish loses its leg, it can grow a new one."



SIGNAL WORDS: so that, due to, this led to, as a result, since, so, for this reason, in order to...

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES

To show the similarities and differences between seals and sea lions...

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES

To explain the life cycle of a kangaroo...

2 Which text structure would you choose?



3RD GRADE
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

5 PASSAGES

WITH NO TEXT STRUCTURE LABELS


GIANT PANDAS

Name: _____

Giant pandas may be one of the cutest animals in the world. In China, they are thought to be a national treasure. These animals are easy to recognize with their white and black fur. Scientists think that pandas have been around for millions of years.

Although pandas used to be found in many lowlands across Asia, their numbers have decreased for a variety of reasons. In fact, there are thought to be about 2,000 pandas left in the wild.

One reason there are fewer pandas is that mother pandas may live for 20 years in the wild but only have four or five cubs over their lifetime. Most pandas mothers give birth to one cub at a time. If they have two babies, there often isn't enough milk to feed both cubs. Also, once a cub is born, the mother panda takes care of it for almost two years. Only then is the cub ready to leave the mother.




CANE Toads

Name: _____

When beetles started to damage sugar cane crops in Queensland, Australia, in the 1930s farmers knew that something had to be done. In 1935, the Department of Agriculture decided that instead of using chemicals, they would bring cane toads (giant toads from the Amazon rainforests) into the country to eat the beetles. Scientists warned them not to bring cane toads into Australia because it would upset the balance of nature, but their warnings were ignored. The arrival of the cane toads did not eliminate the beetle problem but caused many new problems of their own. For example, cane toads are poisonous and can hurt people and pets. They can also poison animals that eat frogs, tadpoles, and frogs. Cane toads also eat large numbers of honey bees, which harms crops and the beekeeper's business. In addition, cane toads compete with other Australian animals, like skinks, for the same types of food.

Once the cane toads were introduced to Australia, they spread quickly. They are now found in many parts of the country.



Florence Nightingale

Name: _____

Florence Nightingale was born on May 12, 1820, in Florence, Italy while her parents were on a tour of Europe. She was named after the city where she was born. Florence's father was very wealthy and owned land in England. Her father taught her many subjects, such as Greek, Latin, French, German, Italian, history, and math. This learning was not to prepare Florence for a job, however. In those days, wealthy women were expected to marry, and care for their homes, and possibly do volunteer work. However, Florence was unhappy with this idea and wanted to do something different with her life.

Florence often helped care for needy or sick people in the village near her family's home while growing up. At age 17, Florence felt God was leading her to become a nurse. Her parents, however, did not like this idea. Most nurses then were uneducated, and it was not a well-respected job. Hospitals were also very dirty. Many people who went to hospitals to get better were not well-respected. Florence was determined to become a nurse. In 1850 she went to a hospital in Alexandria, Egypt, where she could be much better than in England.

Finally, in 1851, her parents allowed Florence to volunteer her time to run a hospital in Turkey. When she arrived, she found the hospital was very crowded and dirty, and soldiers had to live in the hospital. Many of the soldiers who came to the hospital were very sick. Florence kept things clean and helped the soldiers. When she returned to England, the government, which she used to open



The Naked Mole Rat

Name: _____

Although there are about thirty different kinds of mole rats, the best known is probably the naked mole rat. This almost hairless, pink, and wrinkly three-inch-long rodent is actually more closely related to porcupines, chinchillas, and guinea pigs than they are to moles or rats.

Naked mole rats find places to build their homes with lots of underground roots so their long teeth come in handy as they use them to dig. Their teeth are so strong that they can dig through concrete. Surprisingly they will even eat mole rat source of protein.

East Africa, which can be very hot during the most of their time underground, so they don't get too hot. Occasionally, they come out of their burrows to get chilly at night, mole rats huddle together to keep warm.

Naked mole rats are blind, and while it is true that their tiny eyes still see a little bit. Instead of using their sense of sight, smell, and touch. Naked mole rats also (of them) like whiskers to help them feel what's around them. They sweep soil behind them when they are digging.

There are 20–100 mole rats. Their underground home is made by mole rats who dig with their long teeth. They have many rooms called chambers, and each chamber has a queen, workers, and even a bathroom.

The queen is in charge and is the only mole rat who can lay eggs. She lives until her death or until she is challenged by another queen. There are workers, food scavengers, and babies (about 100 per year), called pups. They grow from snakes or other predators. They send out signals and then they attack with their sharp teeth.



GIANTS of the sea

Name: _____

One of the most interesting starfish is called the Giant Sea Star. This starfish can grow up to three feet across and lives for about 20 years. It comes in a variety of colors, such as brown, green, red, or orange. Giant sea stars, like many starfish, have five arms and are able to re-grow an arm that is broken off or eaten by a sea otter.

This sea creature lives in the Pacific Ocean, off the coast of North America from British Columbia in Canada to Baja, California. Giant sea stars make their homes at the bottom of the ocean, where it is sandy or rocky, but they do not like to live where the water is too deep. They prefer to live closer to the shore in ocean depths of up to about 300 feet. Besides living on the sand or in the rocks, you can often find them on the sea floor in kelp (seaweed) forests.

Giant sea stars usually eat mussels, snails, and barnacles, but they may also feed on shellfish, sea anemones, fish, and even other starfish. To eat animals that live inside a shell, like a mussel or a barnacle, the giant sea star grabs it with its feet, brings it towards its mouth, and then pushes out its stomach to eat it.

The giant clam is very large, as its name suggests. It can grow up to four feet long and weigh more than 500 pounds. Like the giant sea star, it comes in many colors and lives in the bottom of the ocean. You can find giant clams in both the Indian and South Pacific Oceans. Unlike the giant sea star that moves around, the giant clam attaches itself to a spot on a reef and stays there for its entire life.

Giant clams eat the sugars and proteins that are made by the algae that live on them. They also eat tiny creatures in the ocean's water called plankton. Clams eat plankton by sipping water and filtering it.

Unlike the giant sea star, giant clams are an endangered species. Many people use the clam for food, for shells, and for aquarium pets, which has decreased their numbers dangerously.


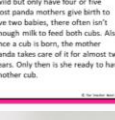




GIANT PANDAS

GIANT PANDAS may be one of the cutest animals in the world. In China, they are thought to be a national treasure. These animals are easy to recognize with their white and black fur. Scientists think that pandas have been around for millions of years.

Although pandas used to be found in many lowlands across Asia, their numbers have decreased for a variety of reasons. In fact, there are thought to be about 2,000 pandas left in the world.

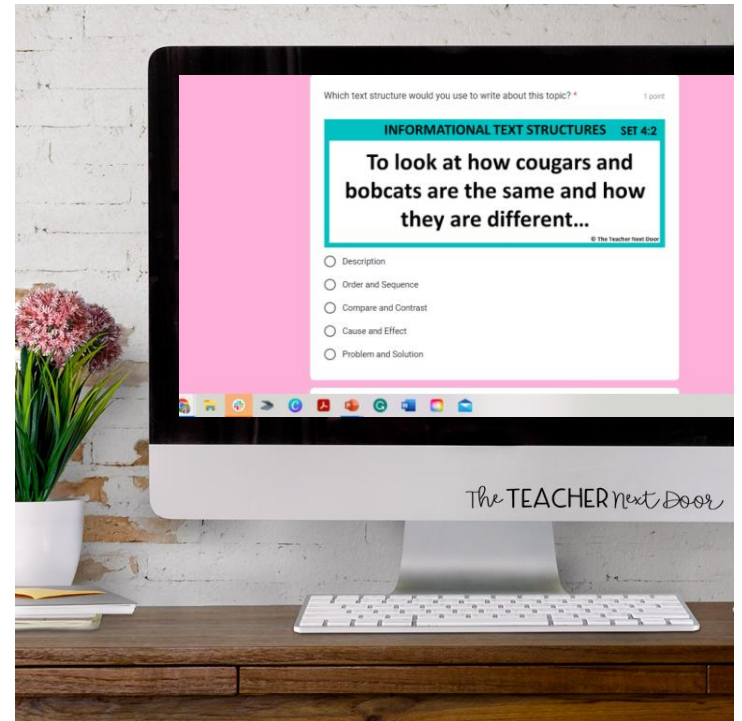
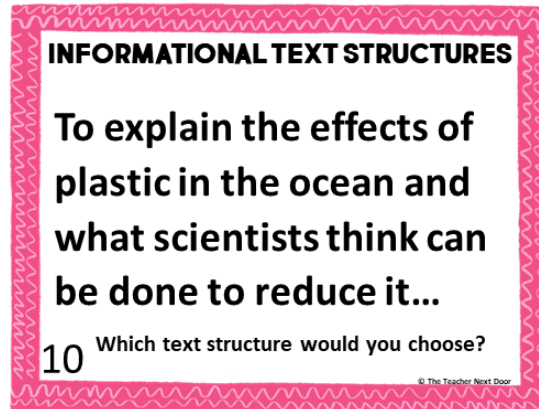
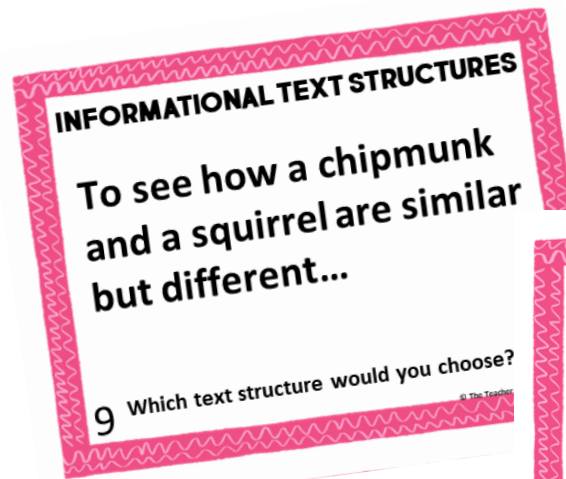
One reason there are fewer pandas is that mother pandas may live for 20 years in the wild but only have four or five cubs over their lifetime. Most pandas mothers give birth to one cub at a time. If they have two babies, there often isn't enough milk to feed both cubs. Also, once a cub is born, the mother panda takes care of it for almost two years. Only then is the cub ready to leave the mother.



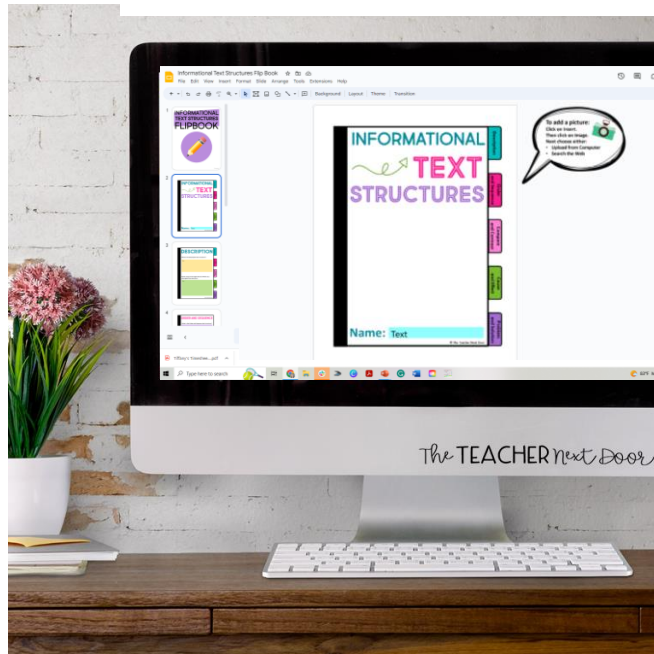
WORKS WELL FOR:

- Independent Work
- Partner Practice
- Reading Centers

32 TASK CARDS AND A FLIPBOOK



FLIPBOOK:
To reinforce
each text
structure!



Can be used for:

- Small groups/partners
- Independent Work
- Review

POSTERS & GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS TO REINFORCE LEARNING

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES:

Informational Text Structures

ORDER AND SEQUENCE

Informational Text Structures

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Informational Text Structures

DESCRIPTION:

To tell about something

**"The starfish has five legs and
lives in the ocean."**



SIGNAL WORDS: ~~all~~

Informational Text Structures

CAUSE AND EFFECT

To show *why* something happened and *what* happened

"If a starfish loses its leg, it can grow a new one."



AL WORDS: so that, due to, and to, as a result, since, so, for this reason, in order to...

Informational Text Structures

PROBLEM AND SOLUTION

To tell about a problem and show a solution

"A population explosion of starfish is damaging the Great Barrier Reef, but scientists are finding ways to solve this issue."



SIGNAL WORDS: concern, solve, challenge, help, prevent, so that, the answer, one reason is...

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES
 ○nē TOPIC, (Fivē) STRUCTURES
 the same topic, write a sentence focusing on that






Directions: Using the same topic, write a sentence focusing on that topic using the five text structures.

Topic =

1. Description:

2. Order and Sequence:

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES

STRUCTURE	MEANING	SYMBOL
Description	To tell about something	
Order and Sequence	To show events or procedures in time order	
Compare and Contrast	To show how two or more things are alike and different	
Cause and Effect	To show why something happened and what happened	
Problem and Solution	To tell about a problem and show a solution	

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES

Name: _____

Directions: Look for informational text structures in books or science magazines. Record the source, the topic, and the text structure.

Description = D Order and Sequence = OS Compare and Contrast = CC
Cause and Effect = CE Problem and Solution = PS

SOURCE	TOPIC	TEXT STRUCTURE

© The Teacher Next Door

Ideal For:

- **Interactive notebooks**
- **Posting on classroom walls**

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1

Which classrooms would benefit from this informational text structures unit? This resource is for you if your **reading curriculum is lacking** and you find yourself consistently **searching for activities to supplement** and fill in the gaps. If you'd like to **provide focused, engaging practice** for informational text structures, this resource is for you.

2

What age is best suited for the Informational Text Structures Unit? It is perfect for most students in **3rd grade**. The resource can also be used with **older students in need of extra practice** or **younger students who need enrichment**. Teachers, homeschool educators, and tutors have used the materials successfully.

3

How could this resource be used in my classroom? This informational text structures unit has teaching pages, passages, task cards, posters, and activities and is **extremely versatile**. You can use it to introduce and reinforce informational text structure concepts. The materials are perfect for **reading lessons, centers, partner practice, small groups, whole-class games, test prep, or as a review**. The possibilities are endless!

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

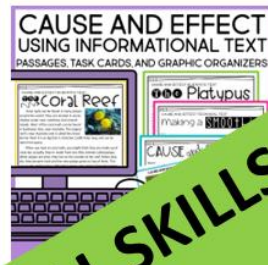
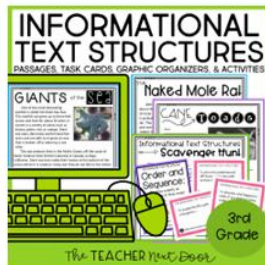
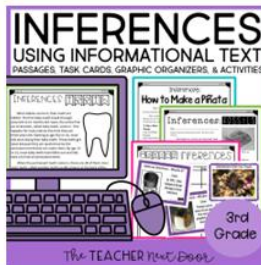
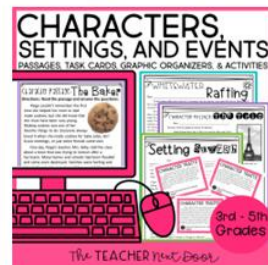
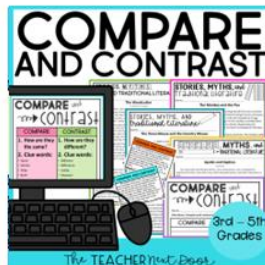
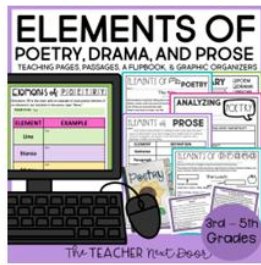


Save more and get more when you purchase the Reading Bundle

CLICK [HERE](#) to take a look!

More Reading Resources:

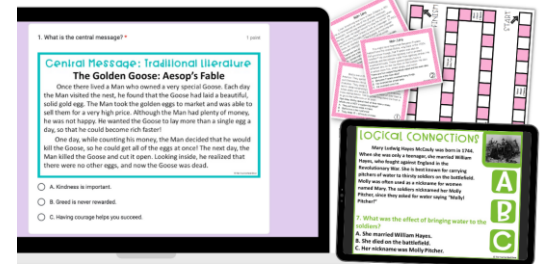
ULTIMATE READING SKILLS COMPANION



THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

10 ESSENTIAL SKILLS
3rd GRADE

READING CENTERS MEGA BUNDLE



FLEX FORMATS ALL SKILLS
3rd GRADE

CLICK [HERE](#) to take a look!

KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS



MEGA BUNDLE
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR 3RD GRADE

CLICK [HERE](#) to take a look!

THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR