

THEME



TASK CARDS

What is the theme? * 1 point

THEME SET 3:6

Jax turned off the light and closed the door to the lab. He had been working that day, as he had for many days before, trying to perfect a new type of ice cream container that wouldn't allow the ice cream to start melting until it was opened.

Jax had worked on this project each day for the past two years and was determined to keep going. Each time he tried one type of material that failed, he felt he was one step closer to his goal. Maybe tomorrow would be the day it finally worked.

What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door

- Be true and loyal to those you love.
- Never give up.
- Money is the most important thing.
- Be yourself.

What is the theme? * 1 point

THEME SET 2:1

Rochelle begged and begged her mom for a new pet. Her mom was hesitant at first, since this was Rochelle's first pet but agreed in the end since Rochelle promised to take care of it.

Rochelle brought her new puppy home from the pound and named it Patches. Patches was an active, sweet puppy but very untrained. On the first day, he chewed up Rochelle's new shoes and made chew marks on her furniture. Rochelle quickly learned that having a puppy wasn't everything she thought it would be.

What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door

- Be careful what you wish for.
- Sacrifice brings reward.
- Accept other's differences.
- You can do anything you put your mind to.

THEME

Sarah's room was a mess. She had books and papers all over her desk, and toys were scattered across the floor of her room. There were clothes stuffed in the dresser drawers that she almost never looked at. Her assignment was to look everywh/ but it was now

THEME

James was a person everyone seemed to love. He went out of his way to help anyone that needed help. If someone dropped something, he was there to help pick it up. If a new kid came to school, he made sure to include that person at recess. Then one day, James was playing soccer and broke his leg. He came to school on crutches, but carrying his backpack and band instrument everywhere was a pain. The funny thing was that no matter how hard James wanted to be funny, everyone

THEME

Molly got a brand new puppy from the pound. She named him Max. Molly's parents said she could have a dog if she cared for it. So Molly fed Max and gave him water each day. She played with him and brushed him too. The only thing she forgot to do, was to close the back fence when he went outside one day. That was the day Max got lost, and it was the hardest day Molly had ever experienced.

What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door

3



4TH - 5TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

32 TASK CARDS TO REINFORCE THEMES

THEME

Trevor stood at the edge of the mountain and looked down. He knew how dangerous a fall would be, but he made up his mind that he would have to carefully climb down a little to reach his sister, who had slipped a few seconds before. No matter how much Trevor's heart raced, he knew that his sister was in trouble and that she needed him.

4

What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door

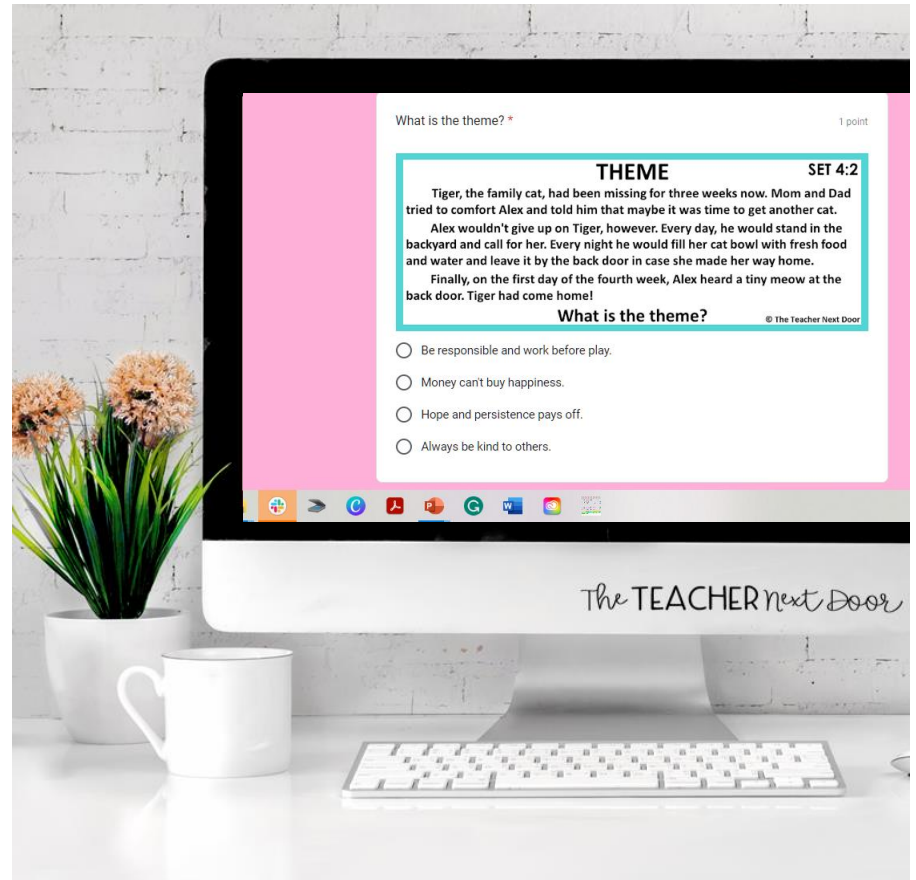


THEME

As Alice walked down the sidewalk to school, she noticed that Ryan dropped a twenty-dollar bill without noticing it. As he continued walking to school, Alice bent down and picked up the twenty-dollar bill. She imagined all the things she might spend it on and how fun it would be to go shopping with her friends. Then she thought about Ryan and how he would feel when he found the money missing. Sighing, Alice hurried to catch up to Ryan and give him his money back.

5

What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door



Can be used for:

- **Small groups/partners**
- **Independent Work**
- **Whole Class Games**
- **Test Prep**

PRINT AND DIGITAL FOR FLEXIBILITY

Self-grading in Google Forms™

THEME

From the time Alexis was eight years old, she dreamed of being a dentist. She decided to study science like never before. After high school graduation, she went to college and then to dental school. She studied many nights until she almost fell asleep, and she often gave up a chance to do something fun if she had a test the next day. Finally, Alexis became a dentist and had the life she had once imagined.

7

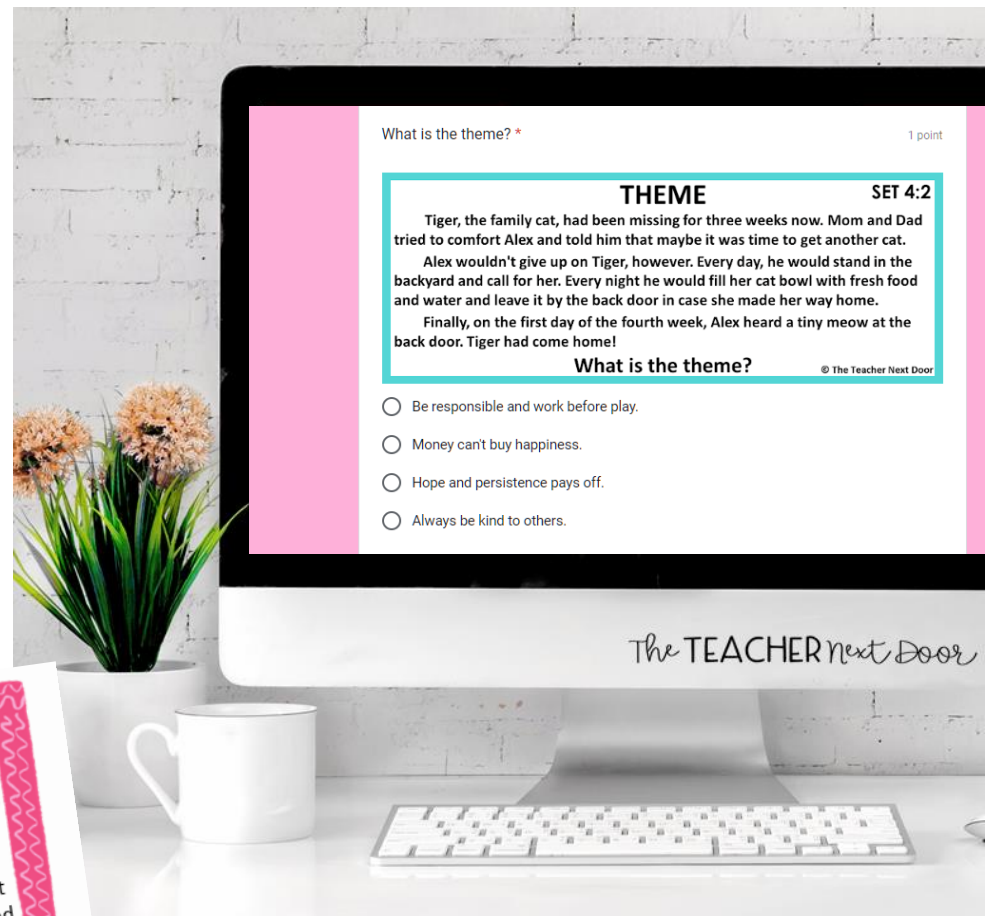
What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door

THEME

Elliot could feel the anger rising in him. He wanted to go to a friend's house for a birthday party, but his mom asked him to stay home and watch his little brother. Elliot stormed downstairs to talk to his mom about it again, but he only got the same answer. Elliot was so mad that he ran upstairs and slammed the door to his room, knocking a family picture off the wall. The picture fell on the wooden floor with a crash, and glass went everywhere. Now he not only had to miss the party but he was also grounded for a week.

8

What is the theme? © The Teacher Next Door



WORKS WELL FOR:

- Independent Work
- One-to-One Instruction
- Assessments

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1

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

2

What age is best suited for the Theme Task Cards? It can be used effectively with students in **4th and 5th grades**. The task cards can be scaffolded to support students with a wide range of reading abilities. The theme task cards 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 set of task cards is **extremely versatile**. You can use it to introduce and reinforce identifying the theme. The task cards are perfect for **lessons, centers, independent work, small groups, whole-class games, test prep, assessment, or as a review**. The possibilities are endless!

TASK CARDS FOR REPEATED PRACTICE

THEME

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9 **What is the theme?** © The Teacher Next Door

THEME

Mark was the new kid in school, mostly kept to himself. He was born with a large birthmark on his face that made him feel self-conscious, so he often thought avoiding people was easier than being rejected by them.

Tyler was in Mark's class. Of course, he noticed Mark's birthmark, but he also saw that Mark never played at recess but just sat alone under a tree until the bell rang. Tyler decided to invite Mark to join him and his friends in a basketball game.

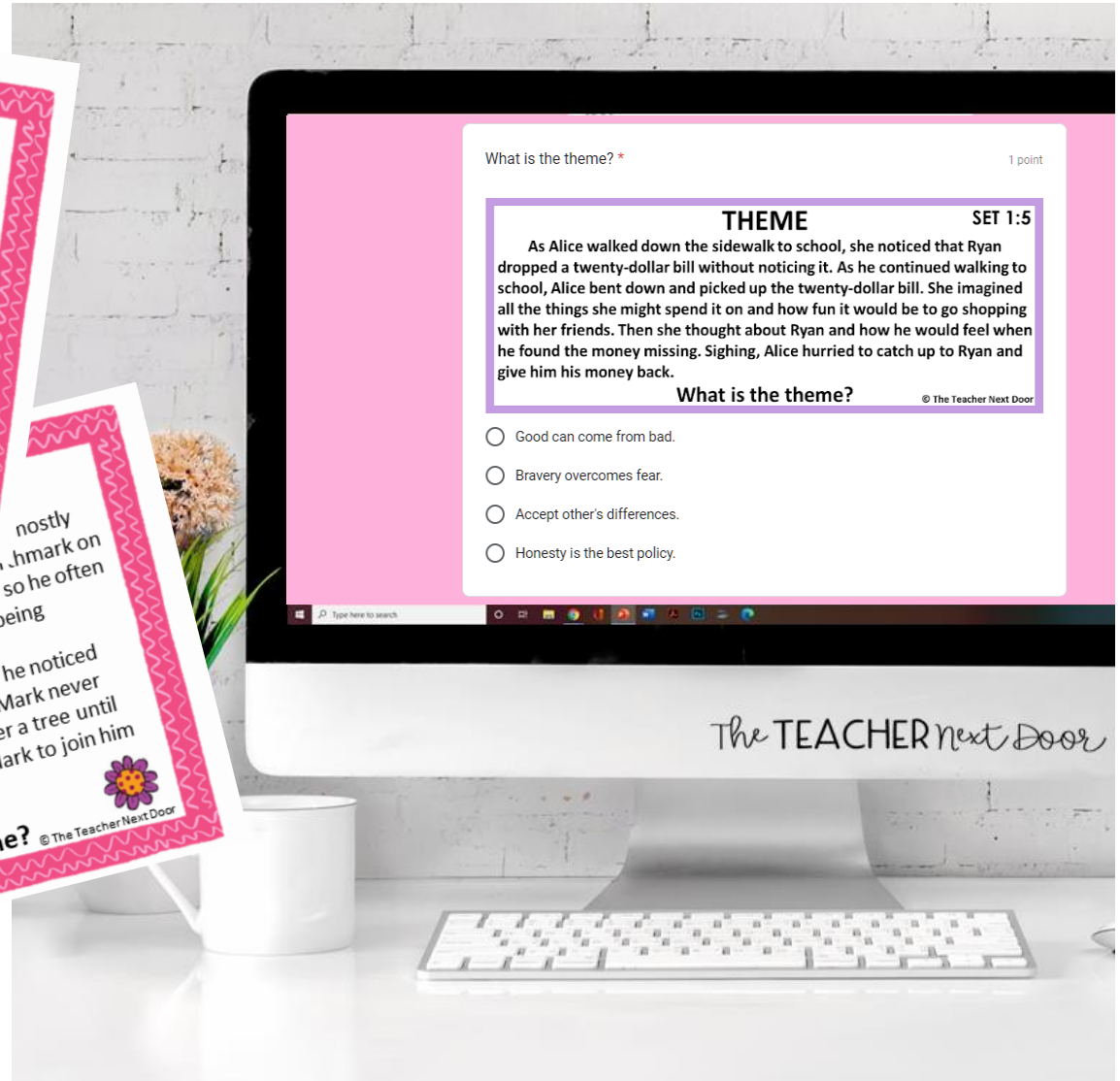
10 **What is the theme?** © The Teacher Next Door

THEME

Samantha hated the fact that her parents moved the family in the middle of the school year. She had no friends at school and none in the neighborhood either. Her only sister left for college the year before, so she felt all the more alone.

Samantha retreated into her bedroom each day and wrote poetry in her journal to pass the time. She wondered what it would be like to have a real friend.

11 **What is the theme?** © The Teacher Next Door



- **Whole-Class Games**
- **SCOOT**
- **Scavenger Hunts**

TEACHERS ARE SAYING THIS:

This was very easy to use. My students were completely engaged and it was an excellent supplemental activity to support my theme lessons.
(Pamela S.)

The passages really got my students thinking and the product was easy to use. Thank you!
(Sandy W.)

These short passages are great to get my students thinking through and discussing themes quickly-- much practice in a compact time frame.
(Stephanie W.)

Theme is one of the toughest skills for my students, but the resource has really helped bring it together for my students.
(Saadia C.)



SAVE more and get MORE when you purchase the **Reading Bundle**

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

ULTIMATE READING SKILLS COMPANION

MAIN IDEA
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

4th/5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

COMPARE AND CONTRAST
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

3rd - 5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

ELEMENTS OF POETRY, DRAMA, AND PROSE
TEACHING PAGES, PASSAGES, A FLIPBOOK, & GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

3rd - 5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

THEME
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & POSTERS

4th/5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

TEXT EVIDENCE USING INFORMATIONAL TEXT
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, AND GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

4th - 5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

4th/5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

INFERENCES USING LITERATURE
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

3rd - 5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

INFERENCES USING INFORMATIONAL TEXT
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

4th/5th Grades
The TEACHER Next Door

CHARACTERS, SETTINGS, AND EVENTS
PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

The TEACHER Next Door

CAUSE AND EFFECT USING INFORMATIONAL TEXT
Passages, Task Cards, Posters, and Graphic Organizers

The TEACHER Next Door

10 ESSENTIAL SKILLS
GRADES 4 & 5

More Reading Resources:

KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS

FICTION AND NONFICTION

VOCABULARY
COMPREHENSION

MEGA BUNDLE
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR 4TH GRADE

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

KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS

FICTION AND NONFICTION

VOCABULARY
COMPREHENSION

MEGA BUNDLE
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR 5TH GRADE

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

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

