

Scaffolded ELL Reading Comprehension

Informational Passages (Gr 4–7)

Level 1: Emerging

Level 2: Developing

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- 10 High-Interest Topics (Animals, Science, Culture)
- 2 Differentiated Language Levels Per Passage (20 Total)
 - Vocabulary Pre-Teaching Activities
 - 5 Types of Graphic Organizers
- Comprehension Questions & Answer Keys

1

Animals

The Secret Life of Honeybees

1. Vocabulary Pre-Teaching
2. Level 1 Passage (Emerging)
3. Level 2 Passage (Developing)
4. Graphic Organizer
5. Comprehension Questions

Vocabulary: The Secret Life of Honeybees

1 Colony

A group of animals living together.

2 Nectar

A sweet liquid made by flowers.

3 Pollinate

To move pollen from one flower to another.

4 Hive

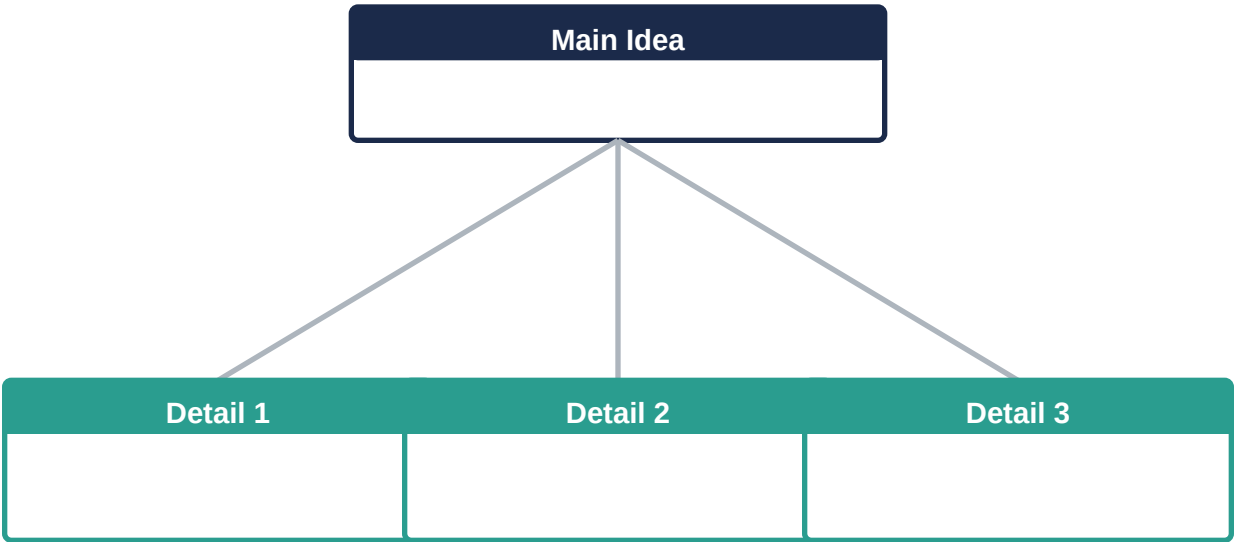
A home built for bees.

Honeybees are amazing insects. They live in large groups called colonies. A colony lives in a hive. Each bee has a job. The queen bee lays eggs. Worker bees find nectar from flowers. They drink the nectar and bring it back to the hive. They turn the nectar into honey. Bees also pollinate flowers. This helps new flowers and fruits grow. Without bees, we would not have many foods we love.

Honeybees are fascinating insects that live in highly organized colonies inside hives. Each colony has three types of bees: a queen, workers, and drones. The queen's only job is to lay eggs, while the worker bees do everything else. Worker bees fly from flower to flower collecting nectar, a sweet liquid produced by flowers. They bring the nectar back to the hive and turn it into honey to feed the colony. While collecting nectar, bees also pollinate flowers. Pollination happens when bees carry pollen from one flower to another. This process is essential for the growth of many fruits, vegetables, and nuts. Without honeybees, our food supply would be in serious danger.

Graphic Organizer: The Secret Life of Honeybees

Main Idea & Details



Read the questions carefully and write your answer in complete sentences.

1 Where do honeybees live?

2 What do worker bees bring back to the hive?

3 Why are bees important for flowers and fruits?

Read the questions carefully and write your answer in complete sentences.

1 Describe the roles of the three types of bees in a colony.

2 Explain the process of how bees make honey.

3 Why is pollination crucial for our food supply?

2

Science

Volcanoes: Earth's Fiery Giants

1. Vocabulary Pre-Teaching
2. Level 1 Passage (Emerging)
3. Level 2 Passage (Developing)
4. Graphic Organizer
5. Comprehension Questions

Vocabulary: Volcanoes: Earth's Fiery Giants

1 Magma

Hot, melted rock deep inside the Earth.

2 Lava

Magma that has come out of a volcano.

3 Eruption

When a volcano pushes out lava and gases.

4 Crater

A bowl-shaped hole at the top of a volcano.

A volcano is an opening in the Earth. Deep inside the Earth, it is very hot. Rock melts into magma. Sometimes, the magma pushes up. It finds a weak spot in the Earth's crust. When the magma comes out, we call it lava. The volcano erupts. Hot lava, rocks, and ash fly into the air. It is very dangerous. But after a long time, the lava cools down. It turns into hard rock. This makes new land. Some islands were made by volcanoes.

Volcanoes are openings in the Earth's crust where magma escapes to the surface. Deep within the Earth, temperatures are so intense that rock melts into a thick substance called magma. Because magma is lighter than solid rock, it rises toward the surface. When pressure builds up, an eruption occurs. During an eruption, the volcano expels magma (now called lava), ash, and gases. While volcanic eruptions can be destructive and dangerous, they also play an important role in shaping our planet. When lava flows cool and harden, they create new landforms. In fact, many islands, such as the Hawaiian Islands, were formed entirely by volcanic activity over millions of years.

Answer Keys

For Teacher Use Only

Answers: The Secret Life of Honeybees

Level 1: Emerging

1 Where do honeybees live?

Answer:

They live in large groups called colonies inside hives.

2 What do worker bees bring back to the hive?

Answer:

They find and bring nectar from flowers back to the hive.

3 Why are bees important for flowers and fruits?

Answer:

Bees pollinate flowers, which helps new flowers and fruits grow.

Level 2: Developing

1 Describe the roles of the three types of bees in a colony.

Answer:

The queen lays eggs, workers collect nectar and make honey, and drones mate with the queen.

2 Explain the process of how bees make honey.

Answer:

Worker bees collect nectar from flowers, bring it to the hive, and turn it into honey to feed the colony.

3 Why is pollination crucial for our food supply?

Answer:

Pollination is crucial because without it, many fruits, vegetables, and nuts would not grow, putting our food supply in danger.

Answers: Volcanoes: Earth's Fiery Giants

Level 1: Emerging

1 What is magma, and what does it become when it comes out?

Answer:

Magma is hot melted rock inside the Earth; when it comes out, it is called lava.

2 What happens when a volcano erupts?

Answer:

Hot lava, rocks, and ash fly into the air.

3 How can volcanoes make new land?

Answer:

When lava cools down, it turns into hard rock, creating new land like islands.

Level 2: Developing

1 Why does magma rise toward the Earth's surface?

Answer:

Magma is lighter than solid rock, so it naturally rises toward the surface.

2 What is the difference between magma and lava?

Answer:

Magma is inside the Earth, while lava is magma that has escaped to the surface during an eruption.

3 Explain the positive and negative effects of volcanic eruptions.

Answer:

Eruptions are destructive but also create new landforms over time, such as the Hawaiian Islands.

Answers: The History of Chocolate

Level 1: Emerging

1 Who first used cacao beans to make a drink?

Answer:

The Maya and Aztec people in Central America.

2 How was the first chocolate drink different from ours?

Answer:

It was bitter and spicy, not sweet.

3 What did people in Europe add to make the chocolate drink sweet?

Answer:

They added sugar.

Level 2: Developing

1 How did the Aztecs and Maya prepare their chocolate drink?

Answer:

They ground cacao beans into a paste, mixed it with water, and added chili peppers.

2 What changes did Europeans make to the chocolate recipe, and why?

Answer:

Europeans added sugar and vanilla because they did not like the bitter taste of the original drink.

3 What invention changed chocolate from a drink into a solid bar?

Answer:

New machines were invented in the 1800s that allowed people to make solid, creamy chocolate bars.

Answers: Deep Sea Creatures: Living in the Dark

Level 1: Emerging

1 Why is the deep ocean so dark?

Answer:

Because sunlight cannot reach the deep ocean.

2 What is bioluminescence?

Answer:

It is the ability of a living thing to make its own light.

3 Name one adaptation that helps deep sea creatures survive.

Answer:

Big eyes to see in the dark or bioluminescence.

Level 2: Developing

1 Describe the environmental conditions of the abyss.

Answer:

The abyss is totally dark, freezing cold, and has crushing pressure.

2 How do deep-sea creatures use bioluminescence to survive?

Answer:

They use it to lure prey, find mates, or startle predators.

3 Explain why adaptations are necessary for life in the deep ocean.

Answer:

Adaptations are necessary because the conditions are too extreme for normal animals to survive.