Read Between the Lines





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Answers aren't always right or wrong in this series. It's all about thinking things through and exercising reasoning skills. This workbook is about storytelling and filling in the gaps!

Read passages aloud with your child and have him practice his reading.

As you go through the Making Inferences and Cause & Effect pages with your child, help explore why he, or she, came to the conclusions that he did.







What is happening in each picture? Circle your best guess.



The chef is happily cooking a spaghetti dinner. The chef is preparing breakfast for his family.

The plane is taking off from the airport. The plane is landing after a 14 hour flight.



The fisherwoman returned the fish to the sea. The fisherwoman caught a fish for dinner.

The man dug up an old tree. The man planted a beautiful new tree.





The bird returned to his nest with food. The bird is preparing to fly and go find food.



Arrrggghhh, matey! Can you piece together these pictures from beginning to end to show the pirates discovering a great treasure?

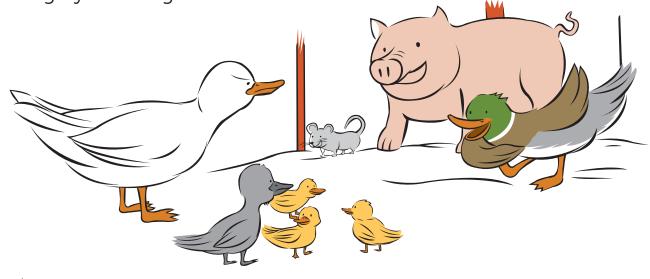
Write each phrase below onto the appropriate picture.



THE UGLY DUCKLING

It was a beautiful spring morning on a small farm near the woods. In a cool, shaded corner, a duck built a warm nest to sit on her four precious eggs. Strangely, one of the eggs was much larger than the rest. To her excitement, the eggs started to rumble and crack. One, two, three eggs popped open, and three little ducklings poked their heads into the world. At the same time, the oddly large egg began to crack as well. To the mother's surprise, a big gray duckling stumbled out of the egg. Although he was different, and not as cute as the other ducklings, she loved him nonetheless. The next day, the duck introduced her family to the other animals on the farm. Seeing the strange gray duckling, the pig, duck and mouse burst out laughing.

The poor duckling bowed his head in shame as he felt he didn't belong. That night, as his family slept near the barn, the gray duckling decided to leave on a journey to find himself. Before long, he ran into a kind old woman, her rooster, and her cat. She invited him into her home, and they all treated him like family. Over the year, the little gray duckling began to grow. Although he was happy, he always felt something was missing. One day, as he stared out on the pond, he saw a family of beautiful swans wading in the cool breeze. Something inside him wanted to go swimming with the swans. As he approached the pond, he saw his reflection for the first time. The ugly gray duckling had grown into a beautiful swan! From below, the cat and rooster happily watch their friend fly high in the sky. Finally, the little gray duckling had found himself.



Oh no, the story has been all jumbled up. It's up to you to cut out the images and make the story make sense again.

Bonus Activity: Color in the images with your favorite colors.



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CAUSE & EFFECT

A cause is the reason why something happens. An effect is what happens.

Cause Because Rachel studied,



Effect she got an A on her test.

Circle the best way to end each sentence.

Kevin has a fever

The cat is happy



because he played in the rain. because he stayed home yesterday.



because she is going to eat. because she is going to the doctor.

because they forgot to make dinner.

Because the team won the game,



the fan was hungry. the fan was happy.

because they were full.

they were dry and weak.

they were strong and healthy.

he had to see the dentist often.

The family ordered a large pizza



Because the flowers were not watered,



Because Joe always brushed his teeth,



The man went for a bike ride because



the weather was good. he was tired.

he never had a cavity.



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CAUSE & EFFECT

Read the stories. Underline each sentence that tells why something happened.

1.) Sammy's mother told her that dinner was almost ready. Sammy was very hungry and decided to eat some sweets before dinner. When dinner was ready, Sammy was feeling too sick to eat.

Why didn't Sammy eat dinner?



She didn't like what her mom cooked.

She ordered a pizza instead.

She felt sick after eating sweets.

2.) Ben went out for a guick bike ride. Since he wasn't going too far, he decided not to check his tires. As he was getting close to home his front tire went flat. He checked to see if he ran over a nail, but did not see any damage.

Why did the front tire go flat?



It was a cheap tire.

Ben forgot to check it before he left.

The tire was too hot.

3.) Walter waters his lawn every week. His kids like to play on the fresh grass. He also puts fertilizer on the grass to make sure it stays healthy. If he forgets to water the lawn, the grass and bushes would become unhealthy and dry.

What keeps Walter's lawn healthy?

His kids playing on it



Forgetting to water it

Watering and fertilizing it

4.) Benny the cat was sleeping soundly at home. Suddenly, a little mouse squeaked by him. Even though he was tired, Benny the cat opened his eyes.

Why did Benny the cat wake up?

He was late for an appointment.

He was hungry.

A mouse squeaked by.





Look at each set of pictures and try to figure out what happened. Circle your answer.



The baseball broke the window.

The man stole the ball from the kid.

The man found his old baseball.





The policeman crashed his patrol car.
The red car was speeding.
The red car ran out of gas.





The girl baked a tasty chocolate cake. The girl bought a

chocolate cake.

The girl cooked dinner.







Read each story beginning. Then, circle the sentence ending that makes the most sense.



Ben was walking home from school when he found a wallet full of money. His parents had always taught him to be honest. Ben picked up the wallet and...

- kept on walking.
- tried to find the owner.

Sammy woke up to a giant snow storm. She checked the temperature gauge on the wall and it was 10 degrees Fahrenheit. Sammy decided to wear...

- her heavy coat and boots.
- a light jacket and sneakers.





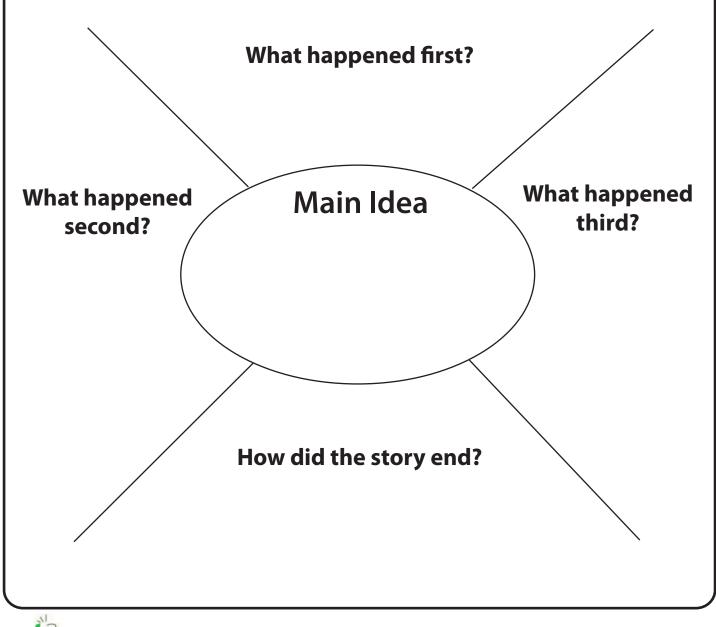
Chris has been practicing all year for the big game. His pitching has really improved over the season. On the first pitch of the game, he...

- threw a nice curveball.
- kicked the ball to the batter.

Map the Story

Read the story below. Using what you've read, fill in the **story map**.

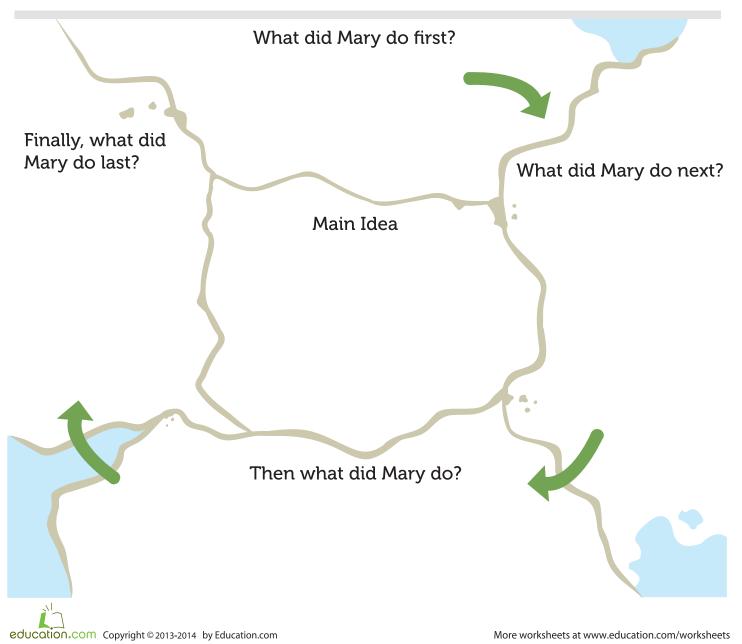
Mila wanted to ride her bike. Her mother told her to put on her knee pads. Mila didn't like to wear knee pads, so she didn't put them on. While riding down the sidewalk, Mila fell off of her bike and scraped her knee. She went home and apologized to her mom, promising to wear her pads from now on.

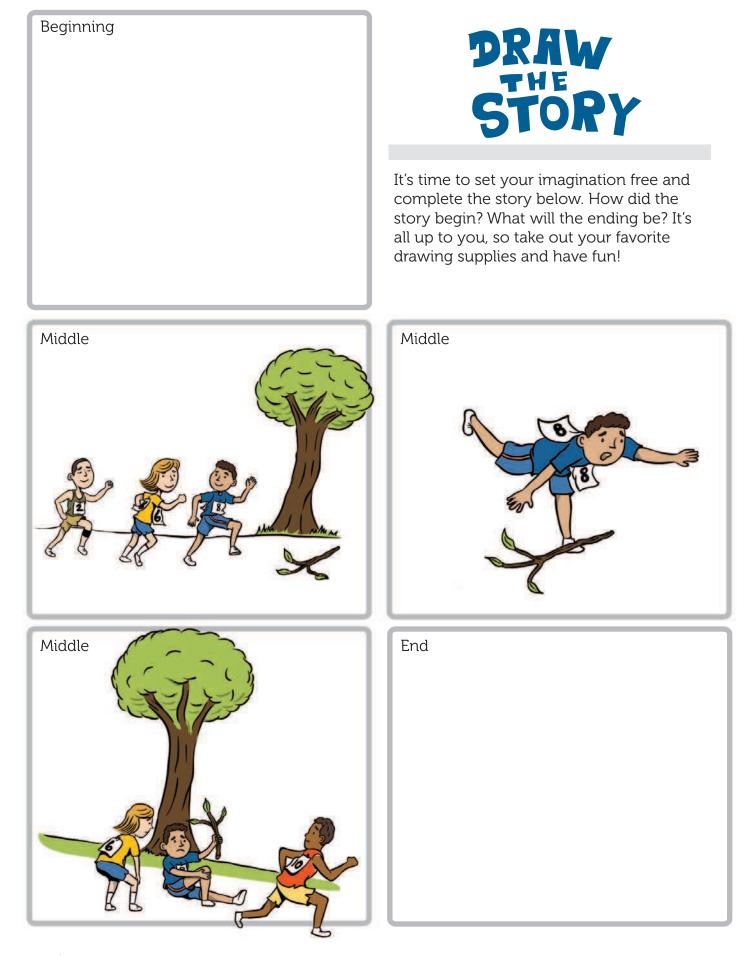




Read the story below. Using what you've read, fill in the story map.

"Mary was excited! Today was the day of her tea party lunch! She had invited three friends to join her for tea and sandwiches, so she knew she had to get busy in the kitchen before her guests arrived. Mary decided to make her favorite lunch... peanut butter and jelly sandwiches! First, she spread peanut butter on four slices of bread. Next, Mary began to spread grape jelly (her favorite) onto the peanut butter. Then she remembered that two of her friends did not like grape jelly. Quickly, she found the strawberry jam in the cupboard and spread it on to the last two peanut butter slices. Mary covered each sandwich with a second slice of bread and then cut each sandwich in half. She placed them on a tray right next to her beautiful china teapot. Suddenly the doorbell rang... Mary's tea party guests had arrived, and just in time for lunch!"







Complete the story by writing in the empty boxes below.



BEGINNING

Sara and her brother Kevin were getting ready to fly to Texas to visit their grandparents. This would be the first time either of them flew without their mom or dad. Before they left, Sara's mom said, "Make sure to look after your brother and your bags!"

MIDDLE 1

MIDDLE 2

After they reached their gate, Sara's brother said he was hungry. Since there was still a lot of time left before their flight left, Sara took her brother to get something to eat.

MIDDLE 3

Their plane was getting ready to take off, and they still had not found their missing bags!

END





The **main idea** is the most important idea of a story or paragraph. The main idea tells what the story or paragraph is mostly about. Read the stories below carefully and circle the correct main idea of each.

Susie threw the Frisbee for Pete. The Frisbee landed in a tall tree. It was stuck in the branches. Pete barked and barked. Then a gust of wind blew the Frisbee loose. Pete finally caught the Frisbee. He stopped barking and started wagging his tail instead.

What is the main idea?

- 1. Pete barks at squirrels in the tree
- 2. Pete is excited to play fetch with his toy.

The three little birds patiently waited for their mom to return with lunch. Their stomachs grumbled as they thought about their favorite food: worms! It was a windy day so it took their mom longer to return. They played a game to keep their minds off of lunch. When their mom returned, they quickly ate up the worms.

What is the main idea?

- 1. The little birds were very hungry.
- 2. It was a windy day.





Scott was having a very busy day. He needed to write a report, answer the phone and check his email. His boss came by and dropped off some papers. At noon, he quickly ate his lunch. When he returned to his desk he checked his messages and got back to work.

What is the main idea?

- 1. Scott ate his lunch after work.
- 2. Scott is having a very busy day at work.

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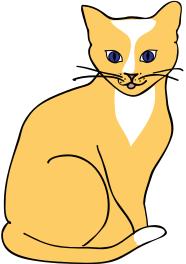
Find The Main Idea

The *main idea* is the most important idea in a paragraph. Sometimes, the main idea is the first sentence. Sometimes the main idea is in the middle or at the end. Read the paragraphs carefully. Circle the main idea.

Kittens need special care. You have to feed kittens twice a day. They have a lot of energy. You need to play with them often. Kittens will chew on almost anything they find. You have to watch them closely.

What is the main idea?

- 1. Kittens will chew on almost anything.
- 2. Kittens need special care.



The puppy began to eat, but then he stopped. He yawned and stretched. He chased his tail. He rolled over and

barked. He licked his paw. Finally, he went back to his dish and finished eating.

What is the main idea?

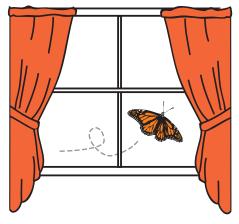
- 1. The puppy likes to eat.
- 2. The puppy takes a long time to eat.



What Happens Next?

Read the story. Decide what might happen next.

Adi's mom asks Adi not to open the window. If he does, bugs might fly into the house. It's very hot inside. Adi opens the window just a little. Then sees a butterfly flying toward the window.



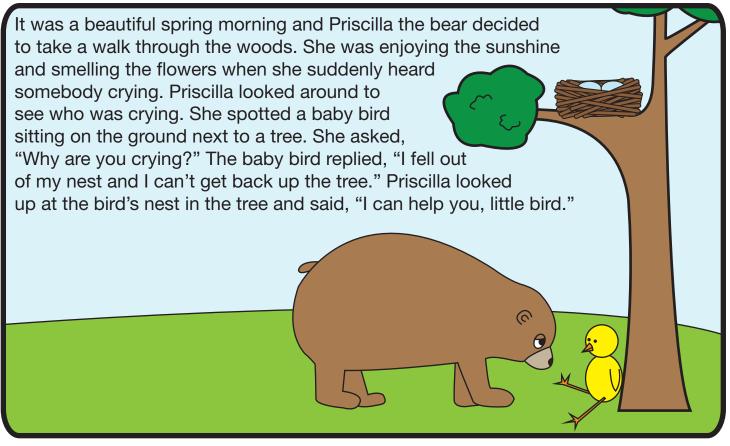
Draw a picture of what you think will happen next.

Write what you think will happen next.

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And Then What Happened?

Read the story and predict what happens next!



What do you think happened next? Write the end of the story here.

What do you think Priscilla was thinking when she heard the baby bird crying?

How do you think the baby bird felt when he fell out of the nest?



AND THEN WHAT HAPPENED?

Read the story and predict what happens next!

A space mission from Earth landed on a faraway planet named Bogo. As the astronaut began exploring the rocky planet, he heard what sounded like two people talking. Confused, he walked closer to the source of the noise. It seemed like the conversation was coming from behind a giant rock. He picked up the large rock an was amazed at what he saw: two little green aliens!



What do you think happened next? Write the end of the story here.

Who do you think was more surprised, the astronaut or the aliens?

What do you think the two aliens were talking about before they were discovered?

What would you do if you were the astronaut?

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Ben's parents bought him a new football for his birthday. His mom warned him not to throw the ball inside the house. When Ben's friend came over to watch a football game, they couldn't resist testing out the new football. As Ben threw the ball to his friend, he realized it was heading straight towards his mother's favorite vase!

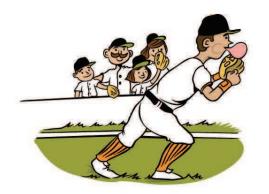
Draw a picture of what you think will happen next.

Write what you think will happen next.

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READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE

Read the paragraphs. Draw a circle around the correct answer to each question.



My family went to the first baseball game of the season. We sat near the field and the action was very close. Suddenly, the ball came towards us. Luckily, my sister and I brought our gloves.

What most likely happened next?

They caught the ball.

The ballgame ended.

They went to go buy popcorn.



Rob loves his dog Dougie very much. Every morning he fills up his food bowl. Then he gives him a bath. In the afternoon, he takes Dougie for a walk in the park. Dougie is a very happy and well-loved dog!

What is the first thing Rob does for his dog every morning?

He walks Dougie.

He buys him treats.

He fills up his food bowl.

The countryside is very calm. The water flows gently. Birds happily chirp as the calm breeze cools the air. A man quietly naps in his row boat.

What is the main idea?

The countryside is crowded

The countryside is peaceful.

The man is lazy.



