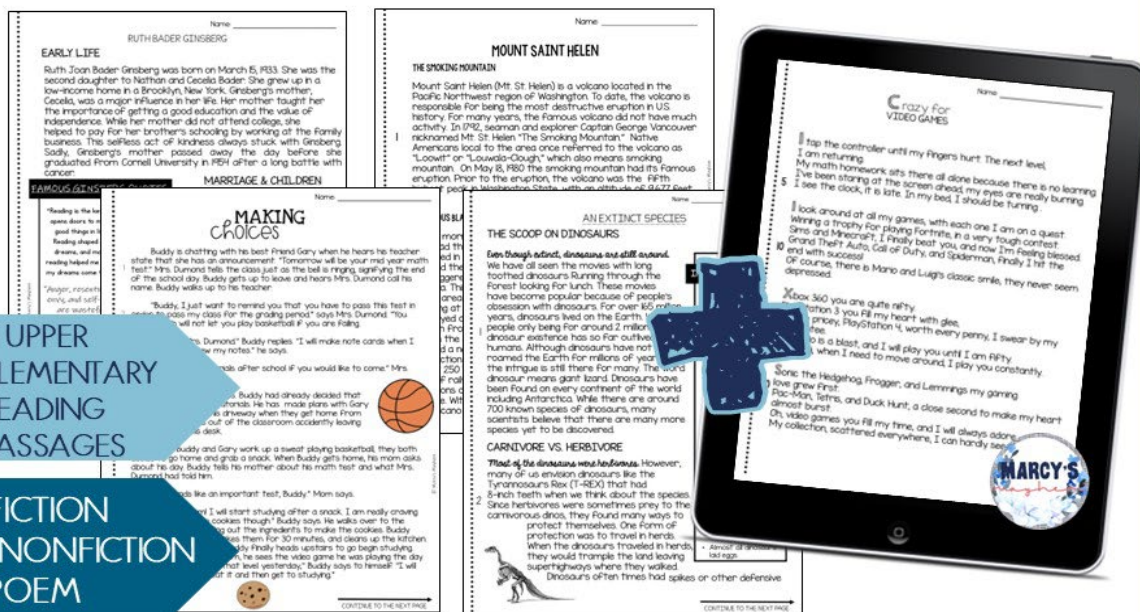


# MAIN IDEA

## READING COMPREHENSION PASSAGES



5 UPPER  
ELEMENTARY  
READING  
PASSAGES

1 FICTION  
3 NONFICTION  
1 POEM

PRINTABLE  
& DIGITAL

FIND THE MAIN IDEA &  
DETAILS IN THE TEXT

Use these main ideas and supporting details worksheets to see if students understand this skill. These reading passages will work best with your upper elementary students (3rd, 4th & 5th) to find the main topic in the text.

## What's included?

- ✿ 5 upper elementary reading passages (3 nonfiction, 1 poem, and 1 fiction).
- ✿ Each passage has 5 comprehension questions for the student to answer.
- ✿ The printable version includes a short answer option, multiple-choice, and a writing reflection page.
- ✿ Digital version: Uses Google Forms, and the teacher receives an instant grade.
- ✿ The teacher will find that each question is geared towards finding the main idea or details.

# 5 UPPER ELEMENTARY READING PASSAGES: 3 NONFICTION, 1 FICTION & 1 POEM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

RUTH BADER GINSBERG

**EARLY LIFE**

Ruth Joan Bader Ginsberg was born on March 15, 1933. She was the second daughter to Nathan and Cecelia Bader. She grew up in a low-income home in a Brooklyn, New York. Ginsberg's mother, Cecelia, was a major influence in her life. Her mother taught her the importance of getting a good education and the value of independence. While her mother did not attend college, she helped to pay for her brother's schooling by working at the family business. This selfless act of kindness always stuck with Ginsberg. Sadly, Ginsberg's mother passed away the day before she graduated from Cornell University in 1954 after a long battle with cancer.

**FAMOUS GINSBERG QUOTES:**

"Reading is the key that opens doors to many good things in life. Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true."

"Anger, resentment, envy, and self-pity are wasteful reactions. They greatly drain one's time. They sap energy better devoted to productive endeavors."

"Work for the things you care about."

**MARRIAGE & CHILDREN**

Ruth met Martin Ginsburg in 1950 at Cornell University when they were both students. Later, they got married. They have two daughters, Judith and Cecilia.

**INTERESTING DINO FACTS:**

- The Pegomastax is one of the oddest dinosaurs known. It looks like a cross between a porcupine, with a beak and teeth that sharpened.

**MT SAINT HELEN**

St. Helen) is a volcano located in the state of Washington. To date, the volcano is the most destructive eruption in U.S. history. The famous volcano did not have much of a warning. An explorer Captain George Vancouver called it "The Smoking Mountain." Native Americans once referred to the volcano as "The Smoking Mountain." The volcano was the fifth largest in the state, with an altitude of 9,677 feet.

**MAKING CHOICES**

Buddy's best friend Gary when he hears his teacher's punishment: "Tomorrow will be your mid-year math test just as the bell is ringing, signifying the end of the semester." Buddy's mother reminds him to study hard.

"Buddy replies, 'I will make note cards when I get home.'"

"After school if you would like to come," Mrs. Dumond says.

Buddy had already decided that he would study. He has made plans with Gary to study together when they get home from the classroom accidentally leaving their books.

When they work up a sweat playing basketball, they both get a snack. When Buddy gets home, his mom asks him to study for his math test and what Mrs. Dumond says.

"I agree mom! I will start studying after a snack. I am really craving some chocolate chip cookies though," Buddy says. He walks over to the pantry and begins pulling out the ingredients to make the cookies. Buddy prepares the cookies, bakes them for 30 minutes, and cleans up the kitchen. An hour has passed and Buddy finally heads upstairs to go to bed. When he walks into his room, he sees the video game he was playing the day before. "I almost beat that level yesterday," Buddy says to himself. "I will quickly see if I can beat it and then get to studying."

**MT. SAINT HELEN**

With the landslide ever since the volcano blast of ash and major impact rumbles. Every hour, it is covered in ash. Forests have been destroyed. It traveled 15 miles. Some of the people killed, bridges, 15 miles of highway were destroyed. The ash from the volcano covered the Earth.

**Crazy for VIDEO GAMES**

I tap the controller until my fingers hurt. The next level, I am returning. My math homework sits there all alone because there is no learning. I've been staring at the screen ahead, my eyes are really burning.

5 I see the clock, it is late. In my bed, I should be turning.

I look around at all my games, with each one I am on a quest. Winning a trophy for playing Fortnite, in a very tough contest. Sims and Minecraft, I finally beat you, and now I'm feeling blessed. Grand Theft Auto, Call of Duty, and Spiderman. Finally I hit the end with success!

10 Of course, there is Mario and Luigi's classic smile, they never seem depressed.

Xbox 360 you are quite nifty. PlayStation 3 you fill my heart with glee.

15 A little pricey, PlayStation 4, worth every penny, I swear by my guarantee.

Nintendo is a blast, and I will play you until I am fifty. While Wii, when I need to move around, I play you constantly.

Sonic the Hedgehog, Frogger, and Lemmings my gaming love grew first. Pac-Man, Tetris, and Duck Hunt, a close second to make my heart almost burst.

20 Oh, video games you fill my time, and I will always adore, My collection, scattered everywhere, I can hardly see my floor.

The printable version of the product includes an option to use multiple-choice, short answer, and a writing reflection page for each passage.

The digital version uses Google Forms. The teacher will receive an instant grade upon completion.



# MULTIPLE CHOICE & SHORT ANSWER OPTIONS

1. How are the subtitles in the passage helpful to the reader?

A. The subtitles help the reader focus on the words.  
B. The subtitles are bolded sections of the selection.  
C. The subtitles help the reader understand what each section is about.  
D. The subtitles help the reader know if they will enjoy reading the story.

2. The photograph of the volcano and the information in paragraph 2 does not support which of the details below?

A. On the morning of May 18<sup>th</sup> the area had the largest landslide ever recorded in history.  
B. The landslide reduced the summit of the volcano and triggered a lateral blast of ash and lava.  
C. The ash from the blast traveled 15 miles in the air and completely covered a nearby lake.  
D. Within 15 days, the ash from the volcano encircled the Earth.

3. The author wrote the paragraph "Warning Signs" mainly to -

A. Let the reader know that people should have been more prepared for the eruption.  
B. Help the reader to understand some of the warning signs that the volcano gave.  
C. Help the reader to understand which months each of the events happened.  
D. Let the reader know that an earthquake occurred before the volcano erupted.

4. Which idea is best supported by details in this selection?

A. Mt. St. Helen did not any activity for years. Prior to the eruptions, there were many warning signs that interested scientists. After the eruption, recovery did not take as long as some people thought.  
B. Mt. St. Helen was originally nicknamed the Smoking Mountain. When the volcano erupted ash quickly scattered to parts of the area and eventually made it around the world.  
C. Mt. St. Helen is a volcano that showed little activity for many years. While it is still considered an active volcano, there are no warning signs that it will erupt anytime soon.  
D. The selection gives the reader information on what hot lava is and why destruction happened so quickly.

5. Which section of the text would the detail below best fit in?

The volume of debris that occurred from the initial landslide is said to be the size of one million Olympic sized swimming pools.

A. The Smoking Mountain  
B. The Famous Blast  
C. Warning Signs  
D. Recovery & the Volcano Today

1. How are the subtitles in the passage helpful to the reader?

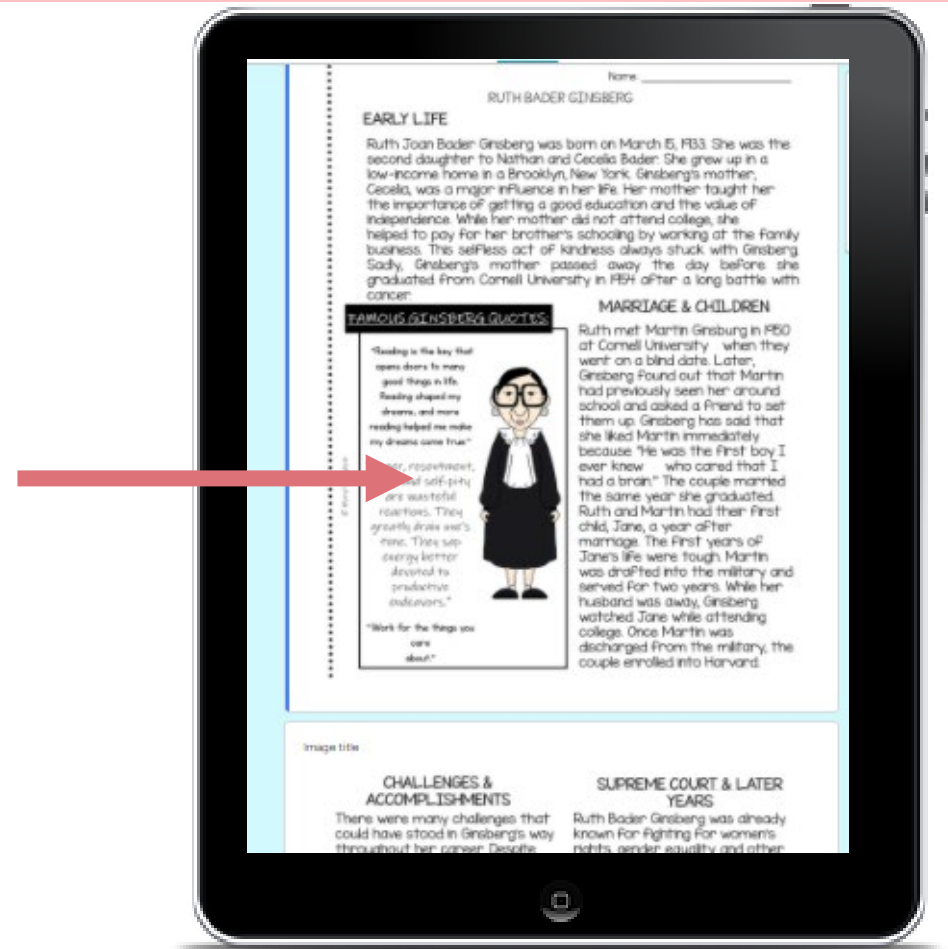
2. The photograph of the volcano and the information in paragraph 2 does not support which of the details below?

3. The author wrote the paragraph "Warning Signs" mainly to -

4. Explain what the idea is in the selection based on the details provided.

5. Which section of the text would the detail below best fit in?

The volume of debris that occurred from the initial landslide is said to be the size of one million Olympic sized swimming pools.



DIGITAL GOOGLE FORMS  
(TEACHER RECEIVES IMMEDIATE  
GRADE)

# EACH QUESTION IS GEARED TOWARDS FINDING THE MAIN IDEA & DETAILS.

1. How are the subtitles in the passage helpful to the reader?

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C. The subtitles help the reader understand what each section is about.  
D. The subtitles help the reader know if they will enjoy reading the story.

2. The photograph of the volcano and the information in paragraph 2 does not support which of the details below?

A. On the morning of May 18<sup>th</sup> the area had the largest landslide ever recorded in history.  
B. The landslide reduced the summit of the volcano and triggered a later eruption.  
C. The ash from the blast traveled 15 miles in the air and completely covered the lake.  
D. Within 15 days, the ash from the volcano encircled the Earth.

3. The author wrote the paragraph "Warning Signs" mainly to -

A. Let the reader know that people should have been more prepared for the eruption.  
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4. Which idea is best supported by details in this selection?

A. Mt. St. Helen did not have any activity for years. Prior to the eruption, there were warning signs that interested scientists. After the eruption, recovery took as long as some people thought.  
B. Mt. St. Helen was originally nicknamed the Smoking Mountain. When it erupted, ash quickly scattered to parts of the area and eventually covered the world.  
C. Mt. St. Helen is a volcano that showed little activity for many years. It was considered an active volcano, there are no warning signs that it is about to erupt.  
D. The selection gives the reader information on what hot lava is and how it happened so quickly.

5. Which section of the text would the detail below best fit in?

The volume of debris that occurred from the initial landslide is said to be the size of one million Olympic sized swimming pools.

A. The Smoking Mountain  
B. The Famous Blast  
C. Warning Signs  
D. Recovery & the Volcano Today

## 5 READING COMPREHENSION PASSAGES TOTAL

- 3 Nonfiction
- 1 fiction
- 1 poem

## FUN HIGH-INTEREST TOPICS FOR KIDS TO READ!



# EXTENDED PRACTICE INCLUDED

## Reflection Page

What do you think was the authors main purpose For writing "Mount Saint Helen"?  
What did you like or dislike about the reading passage?

A WRITING  
REFLECTION PAGE  
IS INCLUDED AFTER  
EACH PASSAGE

ECR FORM IS INSIDE  
TO HELP STUDENTS  
FIND TEXT EVIDENCE  
OF THEIR ANSWER  
CHOICES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Text Evidence 1	Text Evidence 2
Reason 1	Reason 2
Explain 1	Explain 3
Conclusion:	



USING TEXT EVIDENCE

# PROVE IT!



Use one of the sentence starters below for the conclusion in your ECR.

**When you find proof DIRECTLY  
stated in the text.**

- According to the text...
- The author stated....
- Based on what I read....
- On page \_\_\_\_\_, the text says....
- In paragraph \_\_\_\_\_, it said....
- This sentence supports my answer because....

**When you find proof NOT  
directly stated in the text.**

- I inferred that.....
- For example....
- From reading \_\_\_\_\_ I know that....
- After I read \_\_\_\_\_, I concluded that.....
- I think \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- I know \_\_\_\_\_ because....

# ECR- Extended Constructed Reply Included

Use to help students find text evidence when they read.



- Worksheets are editable
- Sticky Note template and printable examples to practice finding text evidence
- Text Evidence examples to use when stated directly in the text and when students need to infer.

# Dig deeper into reading!

ECR- Extended Constructed Reply

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT EVIDENCE 1

TEXT EVIDENCE 2

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

1. Print the Sticky Note Template (next page).

STICKY NOTE TEMPLATE

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

USING TEXT EVIDENCE  
PROVE IT!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the central idea or the question you need to answer? (Write it below.)

TEXT EVIDENCE 1

TEXT EVIDENCE 2

REASON 1

REASON 2

EXPLAIN 1

EXPLAIN 2

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

Where in the text did you find a reason to support your question?

Explain why this reason can support your question.

Write a conclusion stating why your answer is correct using the text evidence above.

STICKY NOTE TEMPLATE

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

ECR- Extended Constructed Reply Sticky Notes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Layer your sticky notes below.

Find proof of text evidence to support your answer.

Where in the text did you find a reason to support your question?

Explain why this reason can support your question.

Write a conclusion stating why your answer is correct using the text evidence above.

CONCLUSION:

It can help with reading comprehension understanding.

# Click on any of the links below to view.

This product is available at 20 % OFF when you purchase the MAIN IDEA BUNDLE.

For more SKILL-BASED products, try these:

- 1.Author's Purpose Worksheets
- 2.Context Clues/Vocabulary Practice
- 3.Making Inferences Practice & Reading Comprehension
- 4.Identify the theme