Comprehension Passages

Out of this World LITERACY

LEXILE

Text Features

2 DIGITAL FORMATS!

TEXT FEATURES #1 Name: Date:

READ: Text features are special elements in the text that help readers understand the most important parts of the text. Text features include words in bold, subheadings, text boxes, illustrations, captions, and more. Read the passage and follow the directions below, then take the challenge!

Penguins

Penguins are an interesting kind of bird. Their wings are more like flippers, because penguins do not fly through the air. They swim through water. Their black and white feathers help keep them warm in the ice cold water.

Penguin Habitats

Most penguins live south of, or below, the equator. The equator is the middle line around the earth. Usually, people think of penguins living in Antarctica. However, many penguins live in **temperate areas** that are not quite as cold. Wherever penguins live, they must be near water. Even if their habitat is more temperate, the water is usually much cooler. The water is where penguins find their food to eat—fish and other sea life. Scientists say that penguins live half of their lives on land and half in the sea.

Habitat: *the natural home of an animal or plant*



Species of Penguins

All penguins are similar in many ways, but there are many different **species of penguins**. These different species are all penguins, but they have slightly different characteristics. The largest species of penguins are the emperor penguins. They can be as tall as three feet seven inches and weigh 77 pounds. The smallest species of penguins are the little blue penguins, who are also called the fairy penguins. They are about 16 inches tall and weigh only about two pounds.

RESPOND: Answer the following questions after reading. *drag the apples to the correct answers*

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Penguin Habitats'?
a. what penguins like
b. penguins' habits
c. where penguins live
d. what penguins look like

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?
a. "The equator is the middle"
b. "Most penguins live south of…the equator"
c. "feathers help keep them warm"
d. "All penguins are similar"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Species of Penguins'?
a. penguin feathers
b. different kinds of penguins
c. what penguins eat
d. where penguins live

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?
a. "'they swim through water"
b. "black and white feathers"
c. "half of their lives on land"
d. "there are many different species of penguins"

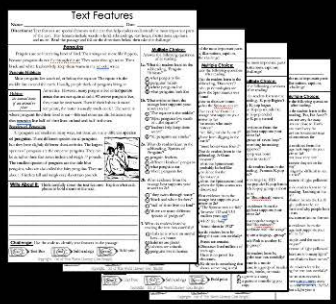
3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?
a. a habitat is where an animal lives—its home
b. habitats are plants
c. habitats are animals
d. penguins live in homes

WRITE: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text. *Type here:*

CHALLENGE: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.
**** drag the colors to words that match in the text.*

blue — Text Box
red — Subheadings
green — Bold print

4 TEXTS



PRINTABLE!

Hello There!

I am so excited to be bringing you this set of comprehension passages, where everything you and your students need to practice a specific comprehension skills is on ONE page!

What Is Included:

1. 4 comprehension passages focused on text features.
2. 4 complete answer keys.
3. 2 Google Drive digital versions (horizontal and vertical)
4. Lexile and F&P Levels

Ideas to Use the Passages:

1. As a mentor text during a whole group lesson on text features.
2. In a small guided reading group.
3. In a comprehension center.
4. As independent practice after a lesson on text features
5. As a homework review.
6. Practice for taking standardized texts.

CLICK THE IMAGE BELOW to see the Mini Units for Mastery!



Thank you so much to these amazing artists, whose work is found in this resource!







GOOGLE™ LINKS FOR STUDENTS

Click each link to assign work to students each day!

Penguins
(Level M)

Spinosaurus
(Level Q)

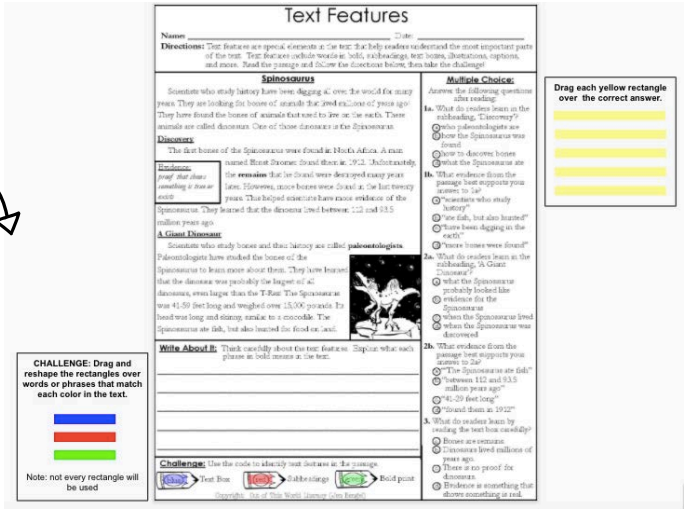
Korean Pop Music
(Level Y)

Stars
(Level Z)

ANSWER KEYS

DIGITAL VERSION #1

VERTICAL PAGES



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ANSWER KEYS

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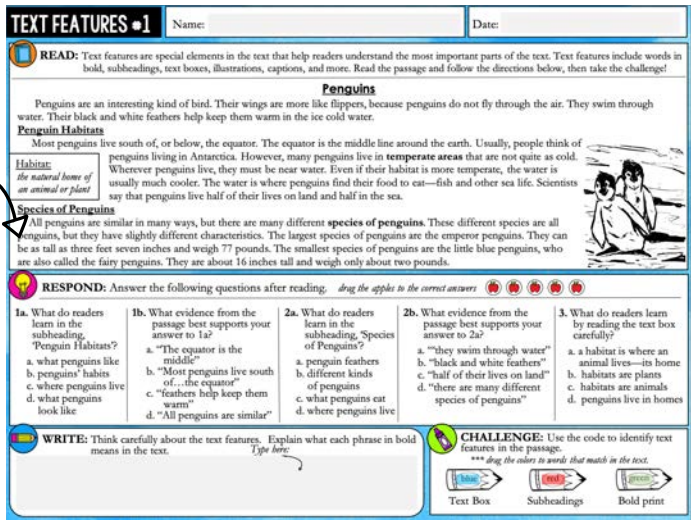

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Penguins

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Penguin Habitats

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Habitat: *the natural home of an animal or plant*

Species of Penguins

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RESPOND: Answer the following questions after reading. *drag the apples to the correct answers*

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Penguin Habitats'?
a. what penguins like
b. penguins' habits
c. where penguins live
d. what penguins look like

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?
a. "The equator is the middle"
b. "Most penguins live south of…the equator"
c. "feathers help keep them warm"
d. "All penguins are similar"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Species of Penguins'?
a. penguin feathers
b. different kinds of penguins
c. what penguins eat
d. where penguins live

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?
a. "'they swim through water"
b. "black and white feathers"
c. "half of their lives on land"
d. "there are many different species of penguins"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?
a. a habitat is where an animal lives—its home
b. habitats are plants
c. habitats are animals
d. penguins live in homes

WRITE: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text. *Type here:*

CHALLENGE: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.
*** *drag the colors to words that match in the text.*
blue Text Box
red Subheadings
green Bold print

Text Features

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Text features are special elements in the text that help readers understand the most important parts of the text. Text features include words in bold, subheadings, text boxes, illustrations, captions, and more. Read the passage and follow the directions below, then take the challenge!

Korean Pop Music

Do you like a certain type of music? There are many different kinds of music, like rock, country, hip-hop, jazz, and pop. One kind of music that has become popular in the United States is Korean pop music, or K-pop for short.

K-pop Begins

K-pop first started in 1992. The music is from a country called South Korea. One of the first K-pop bands wrote a song called "I Know". After that, many more bands started copying their genre of music and dance moves. K-pop was born and became very popular. K-pop groups would **dance in unison** for music videos and concerts. They timed their dancing perfectly together. This singing and dancing was only popular in South Korea at first. Then South Korean music started becoming popular in many other countries.

Genre:
a category of music, books, or movies that are similar

Famous K-pop Artists

One of the most popular K-pop bands today is called BTS. They are a group of seven boys. Their most popular song is "Boy With Luv". Black Pink is another K-pop group that is **rising to fame.** They are a singing and dancing group of four girls. One of their most popular songs is called "Boombayah". Both groups are popular for their catchy songs and amazing dance skills. Their moves are planned out very carefully with the songs.



Write About It: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Challenge: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.

blue → Text Box red → Subheadings green → Bold print

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Multiple Choice:

Answer the following questions after reading:

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'K-pop Begins'?
- (a) why K-pop began
- (b) what K-pop sounds like
- (c) how K-pop ended
- (d) how K-pop started

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?
- (a) "a group of seven boys"
- (b) "something interesting happened"
- (c) "K-pop was born"
- (d) "dance in unison"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Famous K-pop Artists'?
- (a) how to sing like BTS
- (b) about popular K-pop bands
- (c) which K-pop group is most popular
- (d) what 'Boombayah' means

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?
- (a) "'most popular songs' called 'Boombayah'"
- (b) "coordinate with the songs"
- (c) "they are a singing…group"
- (d) "Black Pink is another K-pop group"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?
- (a) a genre is a movie
- (b) a genre is a group of similar movies, books, or music
- (c) a genre is a song
- (d) a genre is something you copy

PASSAGE FOR SPECIFIC SKILL

A/B QUESTIONS

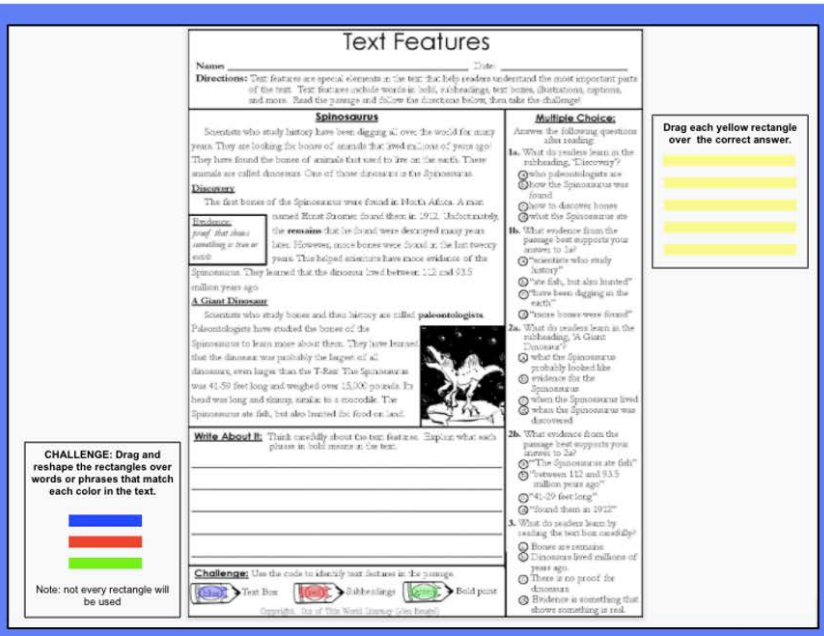
CUSTOM ILLUSTRATION

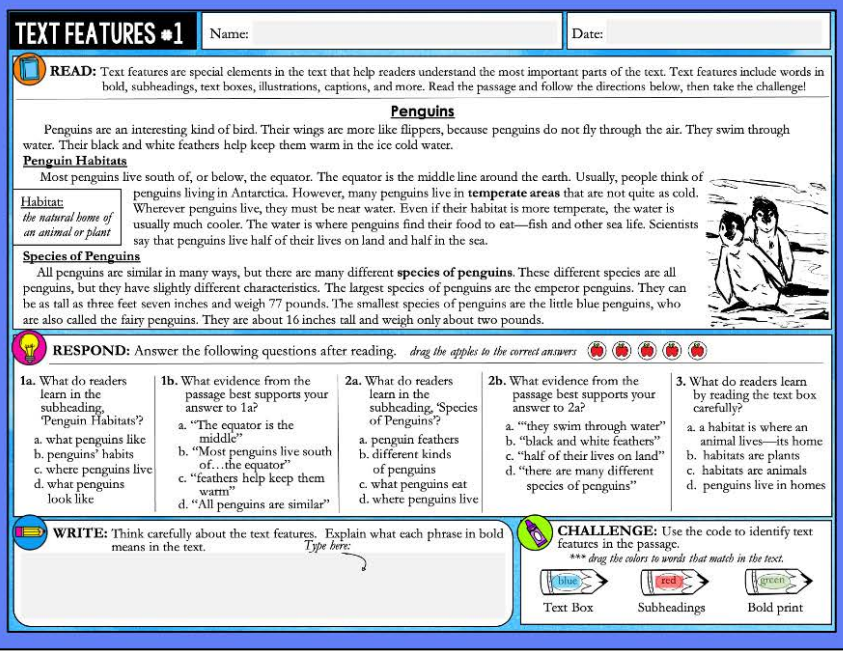
WRITTEN RESPONSE

IDENTIFY EVIDENCE IN THE TEXT

CHOOSE FROM 2 DIGITAL FORMATS!

VERTICAL VERSION





HORIZONTAL VERSION

GOOGLE™ LINKS FOR STUDENTS

Click each link to assign work to students each day!

Penguins (Level M)

Spinosaurus (Level Q)

Korean Pop Music (Level Y)

Stars (Level Z)

ANSWER KEYS

DIGITAL VERSION #1
VERTICAL PAGES



GOOGLE™ LINKS FOR STUDENTS

Click each link to assign work to students each day!

Penguins (Level M)

Spinosaurus (Level Q)

Korean Pop Music (Level Y)

Stars (Level Z)

ANSWER KEYS

DIGITAL VERSION #2
VERTICAL PAGES



GOOGLE DRIVE READY!

4 ORIGINAL PASSAGES

PROFESSIONALLY LEVELED!

CUSTOM ILLUSTRATIONS

Passages and Reading Levels

Below is a list of titles included in this set of comprehension passages

Passage Title	Word Count	Genre	Comprehension Skill	Lexile Level	F&P Level	Grade Level
Penguins	229	NF	Text Features	550L	M	3.0
Spinosaurus	232	NF	Text Features	710L	Q	4.2
Korean Pop Music	204	NF	Text Features	990L	Y	7.1
Stars	234	NF	Text Features	1040L	Z	7.9

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The Standards: Grade 2

	Common Core State Standard	TEK Standard
Passage 1: Penguins	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5 Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.	2.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features and graphics to locate and gain information.
Passage 2: Spinosaurus	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5 Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.	2.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features and graphics to locate and gain information.
Passage 3: Korean Pop Music	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5 Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.	2.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features and graphics to locate and gain information.
Passage 4: Stars	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5 Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.	2.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features and graphics to locate and gain information.

The Standards: Grade 3

	Common Core State Standard	TEK Standard
Passage 1: Family Movie Night	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.5 Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.	3.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as sections, tables, graphs, timelines, bullets, numbers, and bold and italicized font to support understanding.
Passage 2: Farah's Family Dinner	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.5 Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.	3.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as sections, tables, graphs, timelines, bullets, numbers, and bold and italicized font to support understanding.
Passage 3: McDonald's	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.5 Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.	3.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as sections, tables, graphs, timelines, bullets, numbers, and bold and italicized font to support understanding.
Passage 4: The Piano	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.5 Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.	3.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as sections, tables, graphs, timelines, bullets, numbers, and bold and italicized font to support understanding.

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The Standards: Grade 4

	Common Core State Standard	TEK Standard
Passage 1: Penguins	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	4.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as pronunciation guides and diagrams to support understanding.
Passage 2: Spinosaurus	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	4.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as pronunciation guides and diagrams to support understanding.
Passage 3: Korean Pop Music	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	4.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as pronunciation guides and diagrams to support understanding.
Passage 4: Stars	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	4.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as pronunciation guides and diagrams to support understanding.

The Standards: Grade 5

	Common Core State Standard	TEK Standard
Passage 1: Penguins	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	5.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as insets, timelines, and sidebars to support understanding.
Passage 2: Spinosaurus	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	5.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as insets, timelines, and sidebars to support understanding.
Passage 3: Korean Pop Music	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	5.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as insets, timelines, and sidebars to support understanding.
Passage 4: Stars	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	5.9dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as insets, timelines, and sidebars to support understanding.

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The Standards: Grade 6

	Common Core State Standard	TEK Standard
Passage 1: Penguins	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	6.8dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as introduction, foreword, preface, references, or acknowledgements to gain background information.
Passage 2: Spinosaurus	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	6.8dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as introduction, foreword, preface, references, or acknowledgements to gain background information.
Passage 3: Korean Pop Music	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	6.8dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as introduction, foreword, preface, references, or acknowledgements to gain background information.
Passage 4: Stars	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	6.8dii Recognize characteristics and structures of informational text, including features such as introduction, foreword, preface, references, or acknowledgements to gain background information.

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TEXT FEATURES #1

Name:

Date:

READ: Text features are special elements in the te[illegible]hat he[illegible]eaders understand the most important parts of the text. Text features include words in bold, subheadings, text boxes, illust[illegible]ons, [illegible]tions, [illegible]d more. Read the passage and follow the directions below, then take the challenge!

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Penguins are an interesting kind of bird. Their [illegible]ngs are more li[illegible] flippers, because penguins do not fly through the air. They swim through water. Their black and white feathers help keep them warm in the i[illegible]old water.

Penguin Habitats

Most penguins live south of, or below, the equato[illegible] is the middle line around the earth. Usually, people think of penguins living in Antarctica. H[illegible]wever, many penguins live in **temperate areas** that are not quite as cold. Wherever penguins live, they must be [illegible] water. Even if their habitat is more temperate, the water is usually much cooler. The water is [illegible]guins find their food to eat—fish and other sea life. Scientists say that penguins live half of their [illegible]s on [illegible]lf in the sea.

Habitat:
the natural home of an animal or plant



Species of Penguins

All penguins are similar in many ways, but there are m[illegible]y different **spe[illegible]es of penguins**. These different species are all penguins, but they have slightly different characteristics. The larges[illegible] of penguins are the emperor penguins. They can be as tall as three feet seven inches and weigh 77 pounds. T[illegible]est species of penguins are the little blue penguins, who are also called the fairy penguins. They are about 16 inche[illegible]y about two pounds.

RESPOND: Answer the following questions after readi[illegible]

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Penguin Habitats'?
- a. what penguins like
- b. penguins' habits
- c. where penguins live
- d. what penguins look like

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?
- a. "The equator is the middle"
- b. "Most penguins live south of…the equator"
- c. "feathers help keep them warm"
- d. "All penguins are similar"

[illegible] learn in the subheading [illegible]cies of Peng[illegible]
- a. pe[illegible]ers
- b. [illegible]erent k[illegible]s
- c. what pengu[illegible]
- d. where penguins live

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?
- a. "'they swim through water"
- b. "black and white feathers"
- c. "half of their lives on land"
- d. "there are many different species of penguins"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?
- a. a habitat is where an animal lives—its home
- b. habitats are plants
- c. habitats are animals
- d. penguins live in homes

WRITE: Think carefully about the text features. Explain wh[illegible]ach [illegible]ase i[illegible]old means in the text.

CHALLENGE: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.

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green — Bold print

SAMPLE

Text Features

Name: Answer Key Date: _____

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Write About It: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text.

Temperate areas: places where penguins live that are not too hot and not too cold.

Species of Penguins: different types of penguins, having different characteristics

Challenge: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.

blue → Text Box red → Subheadings green → Bold print

Multiple Choice:

Answer the following questions after reading:

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Penguin Habitats'?

(a) what penguins like
(b) penguins' habits
(c) where penguins live
(d) what penguins look like

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?

(a) "The equator is the middle"
(b) "Most penguins live south of…the equator"
(c) "feathers help keep them warm"
(d) "All penguins are similar"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Species of Penguins'?

(a) penguin feathers
(b) different kinds of penguins
(c) what penguins eat
(d) where penguins live

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?

(a) "they swim through water"
(b) "black and white feathers"
(c) "half of their lives on land"
(d) "there are many different species of penguins"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?

(a) a habitat is where an animal lives—its home
(b) habitats are plants
(c) habitats are animals
(d) penguins live in homes

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Text Features

Name: Answer Key Date: _____

Directions: Text features are special elements in the text that help readers understand the most important parts of the text. Text features include words in bold, subheadings, text boxes, illustrations, captions, and more. Read the passage and follow the directions below, then take the challenge!

Spinosaurus

Scientists who study history have been digging all over the world for many years. They are looking for bones of animals that lived millions of years ago! They have found the bones of animals that used to live on the earth. These animals are called dinosaurs. One of those dinosaurs is the Spinosaurus.

Discovery

The first bones of the Spinosaurus were found in North Africa. A man named Ernst Stromer found them in 1912. Unfortunately, the **remains** that he found were destroyed many years later. However, more bones were found in the last twenty years. This helped scientists have more evidence of the Spinosaurus. They learned that the dinosaur lived between 112 and 93.5 million years ago.

Evidence: *proof that shows something is true or exists*

A Giant Dinosaur

Scientists who study bones and their history are called **paleontologists**. Paleontologists have studied the bones of the Spinosaurus to learn more about them. They have learned that the dinosaur was probably the largest of all dinosaurs, even larger than the T-Rex! The Spinosaurus was 41-59 feet long and weighed over 15,000 pounds. Its head was long and skinny, similar to a crocodile. The Spinosaurus ate fish, but also hunted for food on land.



Write About It: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text.

remains: small amounts of an animal that have left over for a long time.

paleontologists: people who study bones and their history.

Challenge: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.

blue → Text Box red → Subheadings green → Bold print

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Multiple Choice:

Answer the following questions after reading:

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Discovery'?
- (a) who paleontologists are
- (b) how the Spinosaurus was found
- (c) how to discover bones
- (d) what the Spinosaurus ate

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?
- (a) "scientists who study history"
- (b) "ate fish, but also hunted"
- (c) "have been digging in the earth"
- (d) "more bones were found"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'A Giant Dinosaur'?
- (a) what the Spinosaurus probably looked like
- (b) evidence for the Spinosaurus
- (c) when the Spinosaurus lived
- (d) when the Spinosaurus was discovered

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?
- (a) "The Spinosaurus ate fish"
- (b) "between 112 and 93.5 million years ago"
- (c) "41-29 feet long"
- (d) "found them in 1912"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?
- (a) Bones are remains.
- (b) Dinosaurs lived millions of years ago.
- (c) There is no proof for dinosaurs.
- (d) Evidence is something that shows something is real.

Text Features

Name: Answer Key Date: _____

Directions: Text features are special elements in the text that help readers understand the most important parts of the text. Text features include words in bold, subheadings, text boxes, illustrations, captions, and more. Read the passage and follow the directions below, then take the challenge!

Korean Pop Music

Do you like a certain type of music? There are many different kinds of music, like rock, country, hip-hop, jazz, and pop. One kind of music that has become popular in the United States is Korean pop music, or K-pop for short.

K-pop Begins

K-pop first started in 1992. The music is from a country called South Korea. One of the first K-pop bands wrote a song called "I Know". After that, many more bands started copying their genre of music and dance moves. K-pop was born and became very popular. K-pop groups would **dance in unison** for music videos and concerts. They timed their dancing perfectly together. This singing and dancing was only popular in South Korea at first. Then South Korean music started becoming popular in many other countries.

Genre: *a category of music, books, or movies that are similar*

Famous K-pop Artists

One of the most popular K-pop bands today is called BTS. They are a group of seven boys. Their most popular song is "Boy With Luv". Black Pink is another K-pop group that is **rising to fame.** They are a singing and dancing group of four girls. One of their most popular songs is called "Boombayah". Both groups are popular for their catchy songs and amazing dance skills. Their moves are planned out very carefully with the songs.



Write About It: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text.

dance in unison: a group of people who do the same dance moves together at the same time.

rising to fame: about to be famous, becoming very popular.

Challenge: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.

blue → Text Box red → Subheadings green → Bold print

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Multiple Choice:

Answer the following questions after reading:

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'K-pop Begins'?

(a) why K-pop began
(b) what K-pop sounds like
(c) how K-pop ended
(d) how K-pop started

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?

(a) "a group of seven boys"
(b) "something interesting happened"
(c) "K-pop was born"
(d) "dance in unison"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Famous K-pop Artists'?

(a) how to sing like BTS
(b) about popular K-pop bands
(c) which K-pop group is most popular
(d) what 'Boombayah' means

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?

(a) "'most popular songs is called 'Boombayah'"
(b) "coordinate with the songs"
(c) "they are a singing…group"
(d) "Black Pink is another K-pop group"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?

(a) a genre is a movie
(b) a genre is a group of similar movies, books, or music
(c) a genre is a song
(d) a genre is something you copy

Text Features

Name: Answer Key Date: _____

Directions: Text features are special elements in the text that help readers understand the most important parts of the text. Text features include words in bold, subheadings, text boxes, illustrations, captions, and more. Read the passage and follow the directions below, then take the challenge!

Stars

The sun has finally set and the sky is becoming darker and darker. You look up and see a night sky. Then you see tiny dots of light all over the sky—stars! Have you ever wondered about how we can see the stars?

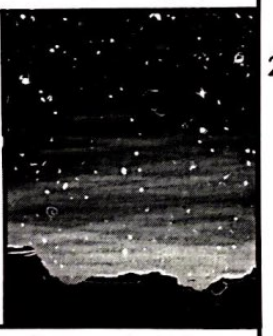
Far, Far Away

Stars look very tiny in the night sky, but they are actually very large. They only look tiny because they are so far away. They are so far away that astronomers had to measure the distance in **light-years.** A light-year is how far light can travel in one year. It is extremely far! In fact, it is truly hard to imagine just how far a light-year is. Stars are many, many light-years away, so it would take a very long time to travel to a star.

Astronomer: *a scientist or expert who studies outer space*

Looking at the Stars

In the city, it might be difficult to see the stars. This is because of **light pollution.** There are too many lights in the city and they block out the light of the stars. The stars are much brighter in the country because there are not as many lights there. Before there were so many cities, people used the stars to navigate. Travelers used constellations to figure out which direction they were going. Constellations are groups of stars that make a picture or pattern in the sky. Many constellations have names, like the Big Dipper.



Write About It: Think carefully about the text features. Explain what each phrase in bold means in the text.

light-years: how far light can travel in 1 year.
light pollution: when too many lights are in a city they can block out the light of the stars.

Challenge: Use the code to identify text features in the passage.

blue = Text Box red = Subheadings green = Bold print

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Multiple Choice:

Answer the following questions after reading:

1a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Far, Far Away'?

- (a) Stars are very far away.
- (b) Stars are close to Earth.
- (c) Stars travel very far.
- (d) Stars are sometimes near and sometimes far

1b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 1a?

- (a) "Stars look very tiny"
- (b) "because they are so far away"
- (c) "it might be difficult to see the stars"
- (d) "because of light pollution"

2a. What do readers learn in the subheading, 'Looking at the Stars'?

- (a) Pollution harms the Earth
- (b) Light pollutes the air
- (c) Where and why people look at stars
- (d) How constellations formed

2b. What evidence from the passage best supports your answer to 2a?

- (a) "people used the stars to navigate"
- (b) "because of light pollution"
- (c) "There are too many lights"
- (d) "constellations have names"

3. What do readers learn by reading the text box carefully?

- (a) what an astronomer is
- (b) where astronomers study
- (c) astronomers work at NASA
- (d) what a light-year is