Hello there!

Hi, I'm Jen Bengel, the creator behind the Out of This World Literacy™ curriculum. I started developing these resources in 2012 while working as a Literacy Collaborative Coordinator, driven by a passion to support teachers with meaningful, research-based materials.

At the time, I was leading a lot of theory-heavy professional development, but the teachers I worked with were craving practical, ready-to-use support. So, I spent that summer—yes, in my pajamas!—writing the very first reading and writing unit. And just like that, Out of This World Literacy™ was born!

I specialize in designing literacy resources for older students who need continued support with foundational reading skills. My materials are thoughtfully created to be age-appropriate, respectful, and engaging—never babyish. My goal is to empower striving readers by helping them build confidence, strengthen their skills, and experience success without shame. I believe every learner deserves the dignity of materials that honor where they are and support where they're going.

My Educational Background Includes:

1. A **Bachelors Degree** in Elementary Education (K-8)
   *** University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh*
2. A **Graduate Degree** in Reading Education (K-12)
   *** University of South Alabama*
3. A **Post-Graduate Degree** as a Literacy Collaborative Coordinator.
   *** I trained with Irene Fountas and her colleagues at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA*

Ever since I began OOTWL, my motto has always been...

Every student who learns from a resource I've created is MY STUDENT too.

I deeply value the responsibility of supporting teachers as they educate students around the world. It's truly an honor to partner with you, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to help make this your best year yet!

Happy Teaching!

Jen Bengel



Professional Development Inquiries

https://www.youtube.com/@JenBengel

@OutofThisWorldLiteracy

@OutofThisWorldLiteracy

Jenbengel.com

@teachwithjenbengel

PHONICS
FOR OLDER READERS
WITH COMPREHENSION

Silent e Makes Long e

Rule: When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, Circus Adventure. Go back and read parts of the story for help!

Circus Adventure

One **serene evening**, a group of friends went to
circus show. They were eager to see
vene if something went wrong on
lly the daring **trapeze** act.
performers from many cultures,
anese juggler and a graceful

1. Where did the friends go on the **serene** evening?
   - (a) To a park
   - (b) To a circus
   - (c) To a library
   - (d) To a restaurant

2. What kind of act did the performers do on the **trapeze**?
   - (a) A dance routine
   - (b) A balancing act
   - (c) A high wire stunt

22 PAGES!

Out of this World LITERACY

4 PASSAGES

Out of this World LITERACY

2 Fiction
2 NF

- ☑ PHONICS
- ☑ COMP.
- ☑ VOCAB.

e-Consonant-e

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule**: When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Big Race Eve. Go back and read parts of the story for help!

The Big Race Eve

It was the night before the school's big race, also known as **Race Eve**. All the students were excited, but one **athlete**, Mia. She was especially nervous. Mia wanted to **compete** and do her best.

Coach Daniels reminded the runners, "If you **adhere** to the rules and give your best effort, you will feel proud no matter what."

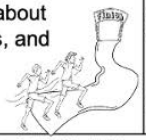
The next day, Mia stood at the starting line. The track was made of smooth **concrete**, and the crowd cheered loudly. What a noisy **scene**!

The race began, and Mia remembered the **theme** of the event: "Finish what you start." Step-by-step, she pushed forward. "I must **complete** the race," she told herself.

When she grew tired, she thought, "I'm **here** for a reason. I won't quit." She ran past signs that said encouraging things like, "Believe in your **genes**—you are built strong!"

Finally, Mia crossed the finish line. She didn't win first place, but she felt proud. She smiled and whispered, "I would never want to **delete** this memory."

On that day, Mia learned an important lesson: It's not about winning. It's about doing your best, following the rules, and finishing strong. "**These** are the moments I'll never forget," she thought.



1. What special event was Mia preparing for on Race Eve?
   - (a) A birthday party
   - (b) A school race
   - (c) A concert
   - (d) A circus show

2. What advice did Coach Daniels give the **athletes**?
   - (a) Run as fast as possible
   - (b) Adhere to the rules
   - (c) Win at all costs
   - (d) Don't worry about finishing

3. What was the **theme** of the race?
   - (a) Finish what you start
   - (b) Run faster than everyone else
   - (c) Winning is everything
   - (d) Believe in your team

4. How did Mia encourage herself during the race?
   - (a) By saying she should quit
   - (b) By thinking she was too tired
   - (c) By reminding herself she was here for a reason
   - (d) By wishing the race would end

5. What lesson did Mia learn at the end?
   - (a) Winning is all that matters
   - (b) It's about doing your best and finishing strong
   - (c) She should delete her memories
   - (d) She would never race again

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

24 PHONICS/VOCAB. WORDS

e-Consonant-e

BUILD VOCABULARY WHILE STUDYING PHONICS

Out of this World LITERACY

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule:** When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each sentence. Circle **True** if it is correct. If it is not co
Circle **False** and then rewrite the sentence so it makes sens

1. The word **serene** mea
2. The **evening** comes a
3. If you **intervene**, you
4. A circus performer sw
5. To **precede** means to
6. A **stampede** is when a
7. A **centipede** is a kind
8. A **severe** storm is ger
9. **Extreme** means very
10. The word **Chinese** is re

Co

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule:** When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____

Study the words by reading eac
each word in you

Word	Definition	Sen
serene	calm, peaceful, and quiet	The lake look the sun set be
evening	the part of the day after the afternoon and before night	We went for a park in the **ev**
intervene	to step in to stop something from happening or to help in a situation	The teacher h when the two argued.
trapeze	a swinging bar used by circus performers to do tricks in the air	The circus pe through the a **trapeze**.
Japanese	related to Japan, its people, or its language	Sushi is a pop comes from **J** culture.
precede	to come before something else	The opening the main conc
stampede	a sudden rush of animals or people moving quickly together	The loud nois **stampede** of field.
centipede	a bug with many legs	A **centipede** across the sid
severe	very serious or harsh	The storm wa that school w
extreme	very great, strong, or intense	The mountain **extreme** cold
concede	to admit that something is true or to give in after a disagreement	The player ha that the other team won fairly.
Chinese	related to China, its people, or its language	We learned to say "hello" in **Chinese** during language class.

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule:** When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each sentence carefully. Use the word bank to fill in the blanks with the correct words.

serene	evening	intervene	trapeze
stampede	centipede	severe	extreme

1. The garden was so _____ there.
2. We ate dinner in the _____
3. The coach had to _____
4. The circus performer swung high above th
5. Sushi is a popular dish from _____
6. The welcome speech will _____
7. The loud noise startled the horses and cau
8. A _____ crawled acros students jump.
9. The storm was so _____
10. The mountain climber faced _____ mountain.
11. After a long game, the player had to _____ team won.
12. We learned how to write numbers in _____ class.

Copyright: Out of This World

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule:** When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Think carefully about each question. Make a decision then share your answer in the space provided.

1. Would you rather sit by a **serene** lake all day or explore a noisy, busy city?
2. Would you rather go to a carnival in the morning or in the **evening**? Why?
3. Would you rather have a superhero **intervene** or figure out the problem yourself?
4. Would you rather fly through the air on a **trapeze** or walk on a tightrope?
5. Would you rather learn to cook a **Japanese** meal or a **Chinese** meal? Why?
6. Would you rather have your favorite song **precede** you when you enter a room or play after you leave? _____
7. Would you rather be stuck in a **stampede** of wild animals or a crowd of people rushing for free pizza? _____
8. Would you rather have a giant talking **centipede** as a pet or a tiny flying dragon?
9. Would you rather be caught in a **severe** thunderstorm or an **extreme** snowstorm?
10. Would you rather have to **concede** and let someone else win a game or keep arguing until you lose anyway? Explain. _____

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

APPLY SKILLS IN WRITING

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule:** When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each question carefully. Take a moment to think, then write your best answer in the space below.

Q Describe a time when the weather was very **severe**. What happened?

A _____

Q Think of a

A _____

Q Write abo

A _____

Q Imagine y experienc

A _____

Silent e Makes Long e | **Rule:** When a word has an e-consonant-e pattern, the first e makes the long vowel sound, and the last e is silent.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each question carefully. Take a moment to think, then write your best answer in the space below.

Q Write about a time you had to **adhere** to rules, like at school or at a game. Why was it important?

A _____

Q Imagine you are a famous **athlete**. What sport do you play, and what is your biggest achievement?

A _____

Q Tell a story about a time you had to **compete** in a game, contest, or race. How did it feel?

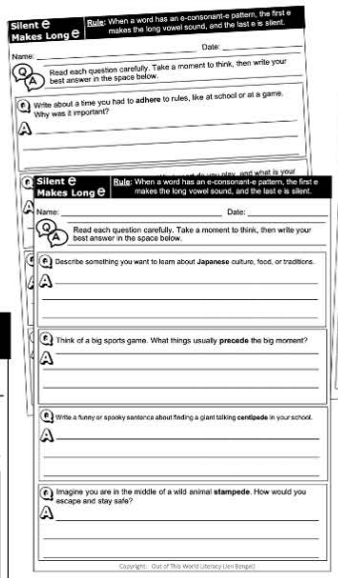
A _____

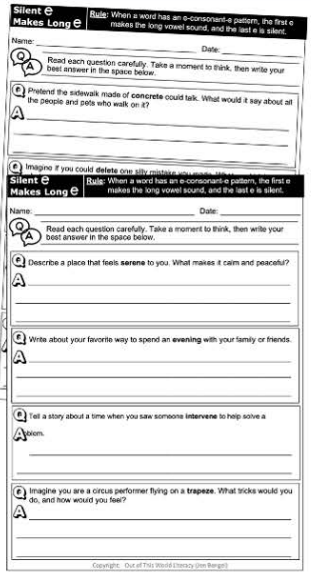
Q Write about something you were proud to **complete**, like a project, puzzle, or goal.

A _____

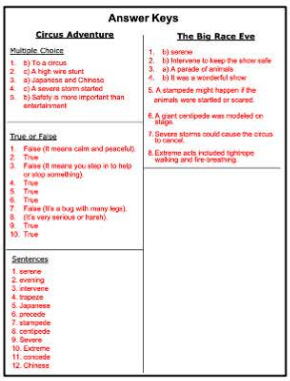
Out of this World LITERACY

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)





ANSWER KEYS TOO!



Answer Keys

Circus Adventure

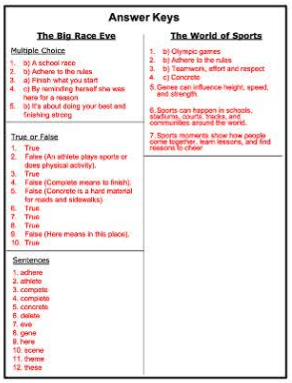
Multiple Choice
1. b) To a circus
2. c) A high wire stunt
3. a) Japanese and Chinese
4. c) A severe storm started
5. b) Safety is more important than entertainment

True or False
1. False (It means calm and peaceful).
2. True
3. False (It means you step in to help or stop something).
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. False (It's a bug with many legs).
8. False (It's very serious or harsh).
9. True
10. True

Sentences
1. serene
2. evening
3. intervene
4. trapeze
5. Japanese
6. precede
7. stampede
8. centipede
9. Severe
10. Extreme
11. concede
12. Chinese

The Big Race Eve

1. b) serene
2. b) Intervene to keep the show safe
3. a) A parade of animals
4. b) It was a wonderful show
5. A stampede might happen if the animals were startled or scared.
6. A giant centipede was modeled on stage.
7. Severe storms could cause the circus to cancel.
8. Extreme acts included tightrope walking and fire-breathing.



Answer Keys

The Big Race Eve

Multiple Choice
1. b) A school race
2. b) Adhere to the rules
3. a) Finish what you start
4. c) By reminding herself she was here for a reason
5. b) It's about doing your best and finishing strong

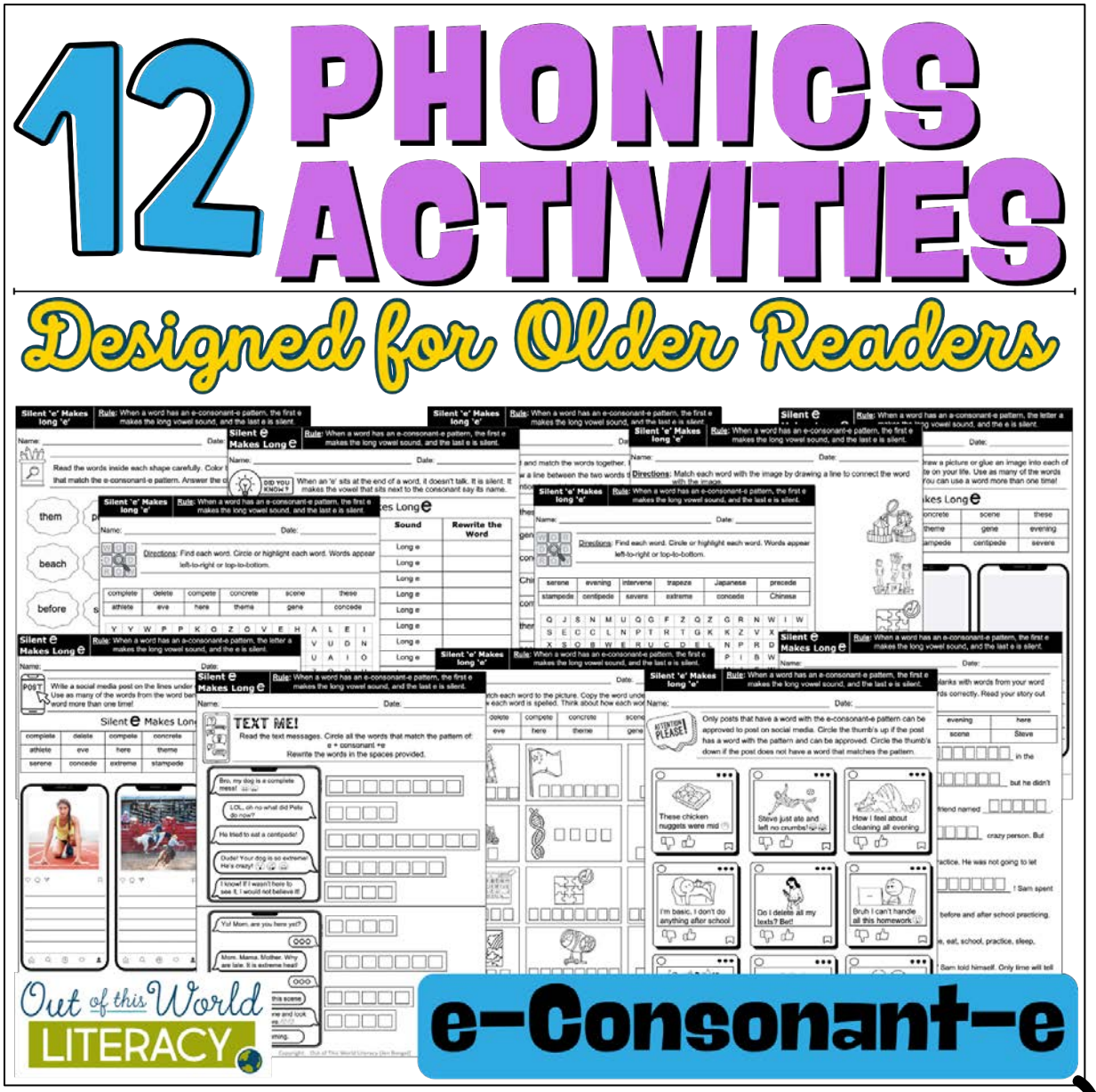
True or False
1. True
2. False (An athlete plays sports or does physical activity).
3. True
4. False (Complete means to finish).
5. False (Concrete is a hard material for roads and sidewalks)
6. True
7. True
8. True
9. False (Here means in this place).
10. True

Sentences
1. adhere
2. athlete
3. compete
4. complete
5. concrete
6. delete
7. eve
8. gene
9. here
10. scene
11. theme
12. these

The World of Sports

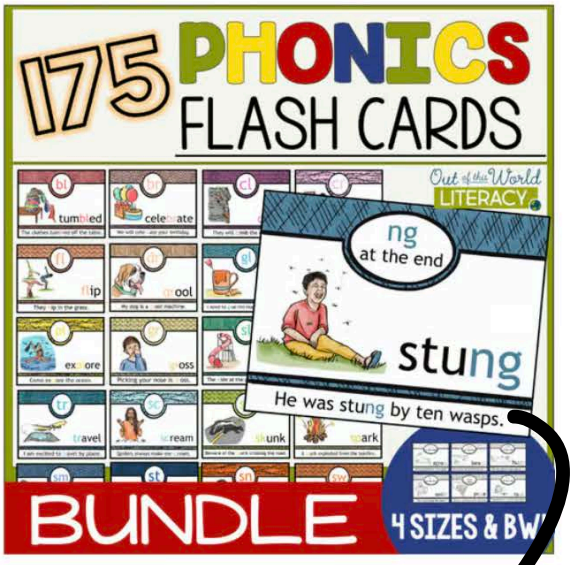
1. b) Olympic games
2. b) Adhere to the rules
3. b) Teamwork, effort and respect
4. c) Concrete
5. Genes can influence height, speed, and strength.
6. Sports can happen in schools, stadiums, courts, tracks, and communities around the world.
7. Sports moments show how people come together, learn lessons, and find reasons to cheer

Phonics Worksheets for Older Readers

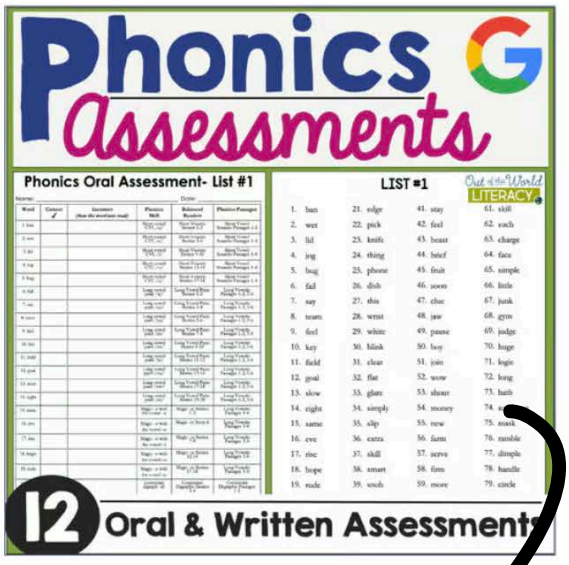


CLICK HERE

Looking for more help?

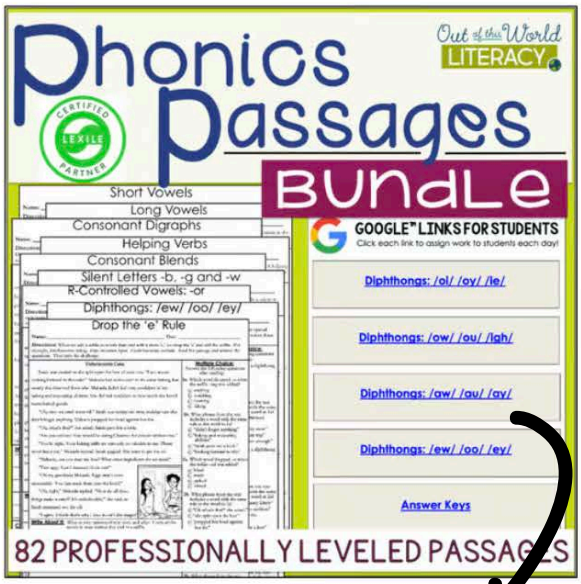


CLICK HERE

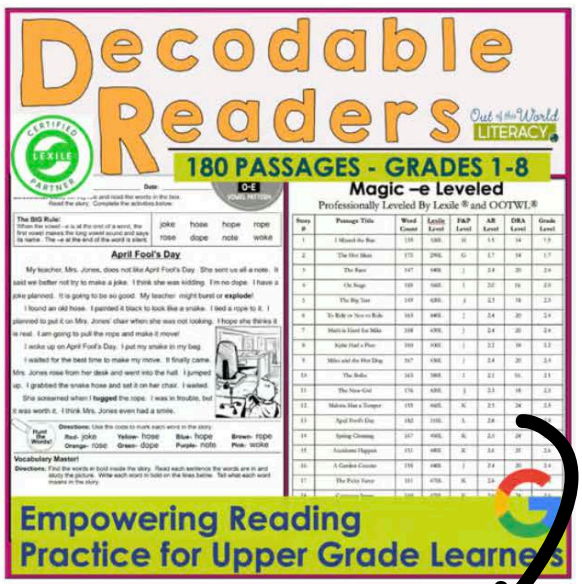


CLICK HERE

Phonics Support for Older Readers

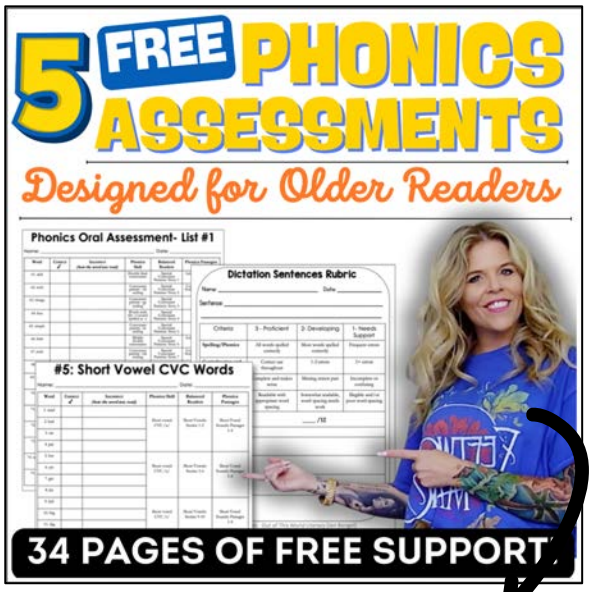


CLICK HERE

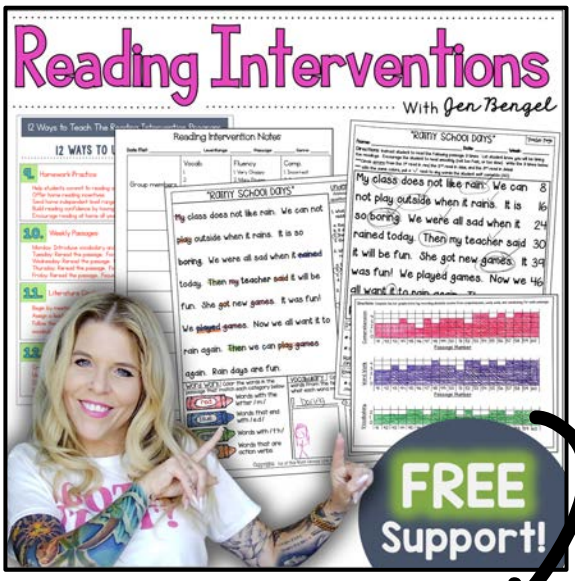


CLICK HERE

Looking for free support?

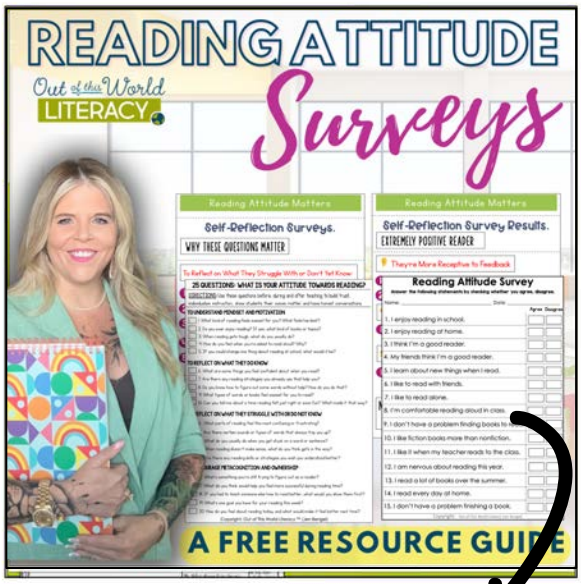


CLICK HERE

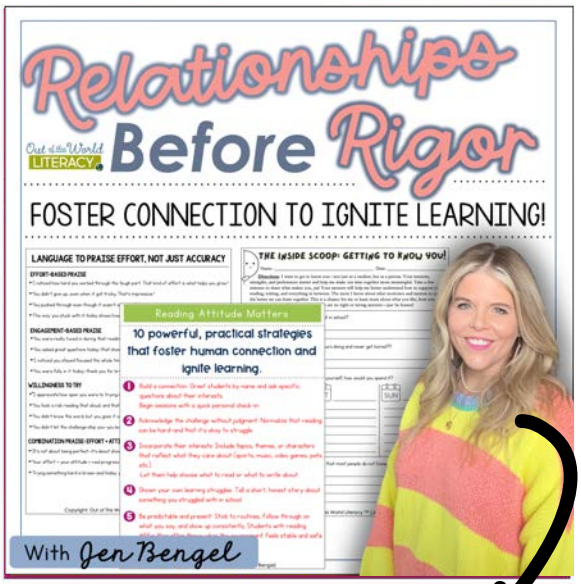


CLICK HERE

FREE Support to Help Older Readers



CLICK HERE



CLICK HERE