

Comprehension: Inference **Grade: 5**

LESSON INFORMATION	PASSAGE INFORMATION
<p>Goal: Students learn and practice making inferences.</p> <p>Time: 20 minutes</p> <p>Class Size: Small group</p> <p>Sample Passage Title: Reggie Hunts for Berries</p> <p>Materials Needed: Copies of the passage and graphic organizer</p>	<p>Genre: Literary</p> <p>Grade: 5</p> <p>Passages: When selecting passages, be sure that they include rich content and are on the higher end of the qualitative and quantitative text complexity continuum for the grade level.</p>

Introduction (2 minutes)

1. Preview the text

- Provide a brief explanation of the text.



We are going to read a new passage today. It is about a wolf named Reggie who is a vegetarian.

2. Explain the skill

- Provide a brief explanation of the target skill for the lesson.



We are going to practice making inferences today. Making an inference means using evidence from the story to make a conclusion that the author doesn't say. We need to make inferences so that we can understand the whole story.

Close Reading (25 minutes)

1. Model the skill

- Read the text as a group. Randomly call on students to read portions of the text. Ensure your pattern of calling on students is unpredictable so all students continue to read along.
- When you come to a portion of the text that requires an inference, pause and describe the necessary inference.



After reading page 1. Look, something is missing here. The author explains how the other wolves would make fun of Reggie Wolf, calling him Veggie Wolf, but the author never really says why. We need to make an inference. Let's use our graphic organizer to make the inference. I read that Alpha Wolf would bring meat to the pack and all of Reggie's siblings would eat it so I'll write that in the "What I Read" section of my graphic organizer. I also read that Reggie is a vegetarian who likes to eat salads and berries.

From my background knowledge, I know that wolves are meat-eaters. I'll write that in the "What I Know" section.

I can put what I know and what I read together to make my inference. Reggie's brothers likely made fun of him because it's considered normal to eat meat but being a vegetarian is different and maybe strange. The author didn't tell us exactly why Reggie was made fun of, but we can make an inference to figure out why.

2. Practice the skill

- Continue reading the text as a group.
- When you come to a portion of the text that requires an inference, pause, have students turn and talk to share the inference, and then state the inference for the group.

Possible Inferences

Page	Inference Question	Inference Instruction
3	Why did Reggie want the rabbit to be able to safely retreat into the woods?	<p>What I Read: Reggie wants to be the rabbit's friend.</p> <p>What I Know: Rabbits and wolves don't usually get along.</p> <p>Inference: The rabbit might want to run away from Reggie because he is afraid of wolves.</p>
3	Why was Hidalgo suspicious?	<p>What I Read: Reggie wants to be friends with Hidalgo, and is sharing berries with him.</p> <p>What I Know: Wolves don't usually try to be friends with rabbits.</p> <p>Inference: Hidalgo probably is still scared because wolves tend to eat rabbits; they don't try to give them food.</p>
4	Why would Reggie promise that neither he nor his brothers would eat Hidalgo?	<p>What I Read: Reggie wants Hidalgo to help him find berries. Reggie's brothers are meat eaters.</p> <p>What I Know: Rabbits are scared of wolves. If you want someone to help you, it often helps to give them something in return.</p> <p>Inference: Reggie wants Hidalgo to keep helping him find berries.</p>

3. Ask text-dependent questions



Now that we read the whole story and learned to make inferences. Let's keep using what we learned to answer some questions. Use the graphic organizer to help you if you need to!

Question	Possible Answer
What is Reggie's brother's name?	His name is Alpha Wolf.
What is a vegetarian?	Someone who doesn't eat meat.
Why does Reggie need the rabbit's help?	He is out of berries, and the rabbit seems to know where there are more berries.
What is Reggie's favorite type of berry?	His favorite berry is the red berry.
Why didn't Reggie eat any of the blueberries?	He was going to use all of them to lure the rabbit to him.
Other than the red berries, what else could Hidalgo show Reggie?	He could also show where the asparagus is.
What does <i>delectable</i> mean?	Delicious and enjoyable

Wrap Up (3 minutes)

1. Encourage use of the skill outside of the lesson

- State the target skill and explain its importance.



Today we practiced inferences. Knowing when and how to make inferences will help you understand a story or text when the author leaves something out.

Common Core Anchor Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.1

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

INFERENCE

