



SAMPLES OF STANDARDS STUDENTS ARE LEARNING THIS NINE WEEKS:

2nd Grade ELA

STANDARDS: RL.2.1, RL.2.2, RL.2.3, RL.2.5, RI.2.2, RI.2.3, RI.2.8

"Playing at Horses," from Baby Chatterbox, Anonymous author

The copies and the lessons
Are finished for to-day,
And out the happy children
At "horses" come to play.

Conny, and Frank, and Archie,
With doggie "Trim," are there;
Conny and Frank are harnessed,
And Archie drives the pair.

Away, away they scamper,
Across the breezy park;
And doggie runs beside them
With merry happy bark.

For breath they pause a minute,
Then off they start again,
For they pretend they're going
To meet papa's down train.



CCSS RL.2.1

- Why are the children playing “horses”?
 - a. They’re going to meet their father at the train station
 - b. School is out, and they want to have fun
 - c. They want to buy a horse
 - d. They can’t play “dogs” because they have a dog with them

Answer: b

- What is the dog’s name?
 - a. Conny
 - b. Frank
 - c. Archie
 - d. Trim

Answer: d

- How many children are there?
 - a. 1
 - b. 2
 - c. 3
 - d. 4

Answer: c

CCSS RL.2.2

- What is the central message of this story?
 - a. To tell a story about children playing after school
 - b. To tell a story about a dog named “Trim”
 - c. To explain why the children are going to the train station
 - d. To explain why they have horses

Answer: a

- What do the children do that shows they know about horses?
 - a. They pretend to ride horses of different breeds
 - b. They actually ride horses like adults do
 - c. They seem to know how to harness a pair of horses to a carriage due to what each child pretends to do
 - d. They know how to *neigh* like horses

Answer: c

CCSS RL.2.3

- How do the children feel now that lessons are over?
 - a. Tired and grouchy
 - b. Happy and playful
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. None of the above

Answer: b

- How does the dog feel about playing with the children?
 - a. Happy
 - b. Scared
 - c. Bored
 - d. Tired

Answer: a

CCSS RL.2.5

- What happens at the end of this story?
 - a. The children ride horses
 - b. The children pretend they are going to meet their father's train
 - c. The dog barks happily
 - d. Two of the children are harnessed

Answer: b

- How does the author start or introduce this story?
 - a. The author tells us that the children like horses
 - b. The author tells us that the children have a dog
 - c. The author tells us that lessons are over for the day.
 - d. The author tells us that the father is out of town

Answer: c

RI.2.2

The **main topic** is what a text is mostly about. The **key details** in the text tell more about the main topic.



Look carefully at this example. Then follow the instructions below:

Have you ever patted a dog or a cat? Dogs and cats are domestic animals. Domestic animals depend on people for food, water, and shelter. All pets are domestic animals.

- ▶ To find the main topic, look for a sentence that tells what the text is mostly about.
- ▶ Look for the details. What information tells more about the main topic?

Think about what most of the details describe. This will help you find the main topic of a text.

Emperor Penguins

by Jo Pitkin

Emperor penguins live in icy Antarctica (ant ARK ti kuh). Like all animals, the penguins change as they grow. The changes are called a **life cycle**.



What is the life cycle of a penguin? First, a female lays an **egg**. Then she leaves to hunt for food.

The male penguin takes care of the egg. He holds the egg on top of his feet and keeps it warm. He stands holding the egg for two months. Then the mother returns. She takes the egg, and the father goes to eat.

Finally, the chick, or baby bird, hatches. Both parents care for the chick. Soon, the chick grows new feathers. Now the chick is a **fledgling**, or young penguin. At five or six years old, the penguin becomes an **adult**, or fully grown. An adult can start its own family.

Close Reader Habits

How does a penguin change after it hatches? **Underline** words and phrases that help you understand how a chick becomes an adult penguin.

Why does the female penguin leave her egg?

- A** so the egg can begin to hatch
- B** so she can hunt for food in the sea
- C** because the male rolls the egg away
- D** because the egg does not need much care

Why does the male penguin stand for two months without eating or hunting?

- A** When he cares for the egg, he doesn't feel hungry.
- B** He is too far from the sea to hunt.
- C** The female will bring him food when she returns.
- D** If he moved to hunt, the egg could get cold or break.

What do the words "egg," "fledging," and "adult" in dark print help you understand?



When I read this passage, I'm going to look carefully at the words in dark print. They must be important.

RI.2.8 – Describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in a text.

Johnny Appleseed

The Story

The story of Johnny Appleseed has been around for a long time. Most people who have heard about Johnny Appleseed picture him wearing a cooking pot on his head as a hat. That picture can be found in many books and museums. As the story goes, he walked for many miles west across the country. He did not wear shoes. He ate apples and then threw the cores over his shoulder. These cores grew into trees.

His Real Life

The story of Johnny Appleseed is based on a real man named Jonathon Chapman. He was born in the early fall of 1774. He grew up in Massachusetts. He had eleven brothers and sisters. Johnny cared for plants and animals a lot. When he was 18, he knew farmers would need fruit trees. Apple trees are a good way for people to get food. They can also be fed to farm animals.

Becoming Famous

Johnny Appleseed owned an apple orchard in Ohio. An orchard is a place where trees are grown. But, he did not just stay at home. Every year he walked many miles. He went to trade, sell, and plant his apples. He took seeds and small trees with him. These small trees were just a few inches tall. He traded for other foods or for a place to sleep.

He also showed farmers how to plant apples. He taught them how to take care of an orchard. He knew how important trees were. Trees give shade and food to people and animals.

And that is how people remembered him—as the man who spread apple seeds

What details does the writer show that Jonathon Chapman likes apples? Write a paragraph using details from “Johnny Appleseed” to help your answer.
