

MAIN IDEA

task cards

Main

Becoming an astronaut requires a lot of education and training. Candidates must have a degree in science and they need related work experience. They also need a physical fitness test. Today, only Russian astronauts are chosen for the handoff to the International Space Station.

What is the text mainly about?

- Only scientists can become astronauts.
- NASA is in need of astronauts.
- Astronauts must be able to handle a lot of stress.
- It takes skill and training to become an astronaut.

17. Main Idea

The Eiffel Tower in Paris is a famous fixture. It was built as an exhibit for the 1889 World Fair and was supposed to be taken down after the fair. However, the tower's structure was so strong that it was never taken down. The tower's structure would make an excellent example of a strong structure.

What is the main idea?

- The 1889 World Fair was held in Paris.
- The Eiffel Tower took more than two years to build.
- You should go to Paris to see the Eiffel Tower.
- The role of the Eiffel Tower is to be a tourist attraction.

Main Idea & Details



Main Idea & Details

Turkana Boy is the name given to a 1.6 million year old skeleton from Kenya. The skeleton reveals that he was a young boy. His teeth and jaw show that he had been fairly healthy but he was also a bit of a scavenger. The mud helped turn his bones into fossils.

Answer Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Card #	Answer	Card #	Answer
1.		16.	
2.			

What is the main idea?

Scientists learned that Turkana Boy was a young boy who lived about 1.6 million years ago.

12. Main Idea & Details

Public libraries are an important part of our communities, and they provide resources such as books and research. Libraries are safe places for children to learn and explore. In some areas, many public libraries are being forced to close so they can stay open. Books, volunteer, or research.

Main Idea & Details Challenges

Write 1-3 supporting details for each passage.

2nd & 3rd Grade



20. Main Idea & Details

Contrary to what you may have heard, snakes cannot actually dislocate their jaw. Instead, the bones and ligaments around the snake's skull and jaw are flexible. They stretch freely around the snake's prey. This allows snakes to eat animals that look much larger than the snakes are. Small snakes can swallow an egg or a mouse. Large snakes have been known to swallow deer, pigs, and crocodiles.

What is the main idea?

- a. Snakes have flexible bones in their jaw and skull.
- b. Not all snakes have to eat live animals.
- c. There are many myths about snakes.
- d. Snakes are adapted to swallow large prey.

29. Main Idea & Details

Sitting Bull was chosen to become chief of the Sioux tribes in 1868. They made peace with the US government that same year. A treaty said the land in South Dakota belonged to the Native Americans. But that peace ended when gold was found in the Black Hills. White men rushed into South Dakota in search of gold. The government allowed them onto Native land. Sitting Bull led the Sioux people in defending their land.

What is the main idea?

- a. The US government didn't keep its promise.
- b. Gold has caused many conflicts throughout history.
- c. The Sioux tribes chose Sitting Bull as their chief.
- d. Sitting Bull led the Sioux during a hard time.

30. Main Idea & Details

Schools that follow a five-day schedule have costs for each of those days. They use heat and electricity five days a week. They have to pay bus drivers, custodians, and cooks for five days of work. If the school district cut one day a week, it could save money by cutting down on these costs. School districts would only have to pay for four days of bills. They wouldn't have to pay bus drivers, custodians, and cooks as much as they do now. Teachers could still use the fifth day to work from home.

What is the main idea?

- a. There are advantages to a 4-day school week.
- b. School staff get paid too much for working 5 days.
- c. Students would prefer a 4-day school week.
- d. It is very expensive to run a school.

Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Card #	Answer	Card #	Answer
1.	b	16.	b
2.	d	17.	d
3.	a	18.	
4.	b	19.	
5.	c	20.	d
6.	a	21.	c
7.	d	22.	b
8.	b		c
9.	c	24.	d
10.	c	25.	a
11.	a	26.	c
12.		27.	b
13.		28.	c
14.	c	29.	d
15.	d	30.	a

17. Main Idea & Details

The Eiffel Tower in Paris was never meant to be a permanent fixture. It was built as an exhibition for the 1889 World Fair. After more than two years of construction, the tower was unveiled. It was supposed to be taken down after the Fair, but then the newly-invented radio became popular. It was decided that the tall metal structure would make an excellent radio tower. Now, it is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the world.

What is the main idea?

- a. The 1889 World Fair was held in Paris.
- b. The Eiffel Tower took more than 2 years to build.
- c. You should go to Paris to visit the Eiffel Tower.
- d. The role of the Eiffel Tower changed over time.

18. Main Idea & Details

Want to ride the world's tallest roller coaster? Then visit Six Flags in Jackson, New Jersey. It's home to Kingda Ka. It takes riders high into the air and then drops them 418 feet down the track. The coaster reaches a speed of 128 miles per hour and is over in less than a minute. Only time will tell if Kingda Ka will keep its title. Skyscraper in Orlando, Florida has announced plans for a new ride called Skyscraper. It will drop riders 570 feet from a tower.

What is the main idea?

- a. One roller coaster can reach speeds of 128 mph.
- b. Jackson, New Jersey is a fun place to visit.
- c. Kingda Ka is the tallest roller coaster in the world.
- d. The world's tallest roller coaster is Skyscraper.

19. Main Idea & Details

Lots of schools no longer teach cursive writing, but it's a skill everyone should learn. Doing so will keep the knowledge alive. If people stop learning and using cursive, we might someday forget how to use it. Historical documents will become impossible to read. Cursive is fun to learn and beautiful to look at. It's also faster than printing once you get good at it.

What is the main idea?

- a. There are many reasons to keep teaching cursive.
- b. People don't use cursive because they use electronics.
- c. Many historical documents are written in cursive.
- d. Cursive is faster to write than printing.



Main Idea & Details Challenge

Write 1-3 supporting
details for each passage.



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- b Jackson, New Jersey is a fun place to visit
- c Kingda Ka is the tallest roller coaster in the world
- d The world's tallest roller coaster is Skyscraper

17.

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15.

Main Idea & Details

Lunch from the school cafeteria offers a lot more variety than lunch from home. Most cafeterias offer a different special each day. It might be meatloaf or tacos or chicken. There are usually other options to choose from as well. Many schools offer pizza, hamburger, chicken patty, PB & J, or yogurt lunch every day. When students pack a lunch at home, they might not have that many different options during the week. Usually it's the same turkey and cheese sandwich every day.

What is the main idea?

- a Save money by packing your own lunch for school
- b Students love delicious school lunches
- c School lunches are healthier than lunches from home
- d School lunches have more variety than bag lunches



Main Idea & Details



Ways to Use Task Cards

1. **Centers**
2. **Scoot:** Pass out one card for each student. Set a timer and say, “scoot!” when the timer goes off. Students move seats to the next card. They continue to rotate until they are back at their original seat.
3. **Scavenger Hunt:** Hide cards around the room. Students search for cards and answer them.
4. **Jenga:** Number Jenga blocks. Students stack the blocks, then take turns pulling blocks. Students answer the corresponding number card.
5. **Whole class practice:** Teacher displays card on the projector. Students answer on mini white boards.
6. **Exit Tickets:** Give each student a task card at the end of the lesson. Have them answer on a sticky note.

1.

Main Idea & Details

Dolphins use their senses. They search for food with a type of sonar called echolocation. This involves making clicking sounds. When the sound waves hit an object, they bounce off it and come back to the dolphin. This tells the dolphin the object's location, shape, size, and speed. Dolphins also have sharp eyesight. They can see well both under and above water. On the other hand, dolphins have a poor sense of smell. They also have a poor sense of taste.

What is the main idea?

- a. Dolphins are interesting.
- b. Dolphins use their senses.
- c. Dolphins have sonar.
- d. Dolphins do not have a strong sense of smell.

**2.**

Main Idea & Details

Becoming an astronaut is a difficult process. It takes years of education and training. It also takes a lot of skill and some luck. Candidates must have a degree in math, science, or engineering. Then, they need related work experience. All astronaut candidates must pass a physical fitness test. Today, astronauts must also be able to speak Russian. Anyone who meets those requirements might be lucky enough to be chosen for the handful of spots in NASA's astronaut program.

What is the text mainly about?

- a. Only scientists can become astronauts.
- b. NASA is in need of astronaut candidates.
- c. Astronauts must be able to speak Russian.
- d. It takes skill and training to become an astronaut.

**3.**

Main Idea & Details

March Madness is a college basketball tournament. It takes place every year in March. It's a month-long event. The tournament starts with 68 teams. The teams are from colleges across the United States. Teams compete for a chance to be crowned the national champion. During the event, each team plays several games against different opponents. The teams that win advance to the next round. This eventually leads to the Final Four and the championship game, where a single team is crowned the winner and the champions of college basketball!

What is the main idea?

- a. March Madness is a college basketball tournament that happens each year.
- b. Only the best teams make it to the Final Four.
- c. Fans can print a blank bracket form online to use.
- d. Basketball is a fun sport.

**4.**

Main Idea & Details

The American flag is a symbol of the United States. It symbolizes unity and freedom since our nation began. The design of the flag has changed to show our evolving nation. Today, the 13 red and white stripes of the flag represent the original 13 colonies that formed the United States. The blue square with 50 stars stands for the current 50 states. The flag has been a symbol of national pride and unity for more than two centuries.

What is the main idea?

- a. The United States was once thirteen colonies.
- b. The American flag is a symbol of our nation and history.
- c. The flag has one stripe for each state.
- d. The American flag should never change.



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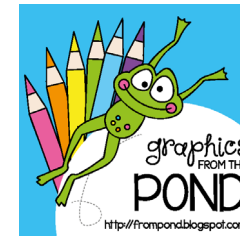


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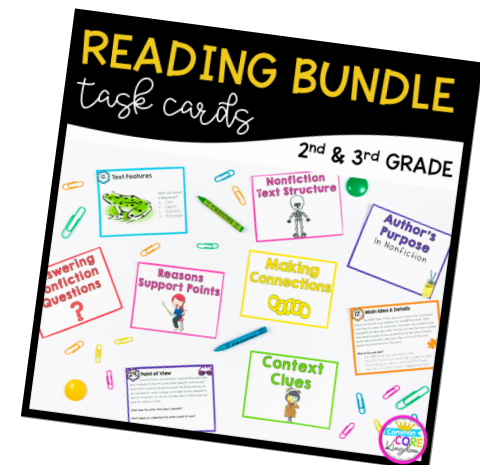
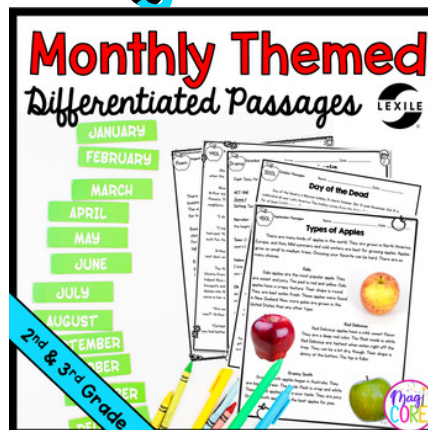


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