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# Features Of Nonfiction Assessment

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## LYNN TOWNSEND

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Reading Framework for the ... National Assessment of Educational Progress Pembroke Publishers Limited

This book is the richest, most comprehensive guided reading resource available today and the first systematic offering of instructional support for guided reading adherents.

**Hatching Chicks** Bearport Publishing

The book you are about to read is destined to be the first, middle, and maybe even the last word on nonfiction writing for young, young children. It is certainly a text that you will return to over and over again as you do with a beloved cookbook. —from the Foreword by Tomie dePaola Over eighty-five percent of the reading and writing we do as adults is nonfiction, yet most of the reading and writing in K-3 classrooms is fiction or personal

narrative. In *Is That a Fact? Teaching Nonfiction Writing K-3*, Tony Stead shows you how to open the door to the rich world of nonfiction writing that goes beyond what I did in narratives and animal reports. And he convincingly demonstrates the importance of introducing nonfiction writing in the primary grades. Nonfiction inspires enthusiasm in young children because they can choose topics that are of interest to them personally. *Is That a Fact?* explores a variety of authentic purposes for writing nonfiction, such as describing, explaining, instructing, persuading, retelling, and exploring relationships with others. You will learn how to introduce each purpose using a variety of forms, including letters, reports, poetry, captions, directions, and interviews. Part One provides a complete overview of teaching nonfiction writing in the primary grades and includes: practical ways for organizing nonfiction resources within the classroom; how to assist children in collecting information for

research; ideas for helping children keep their sense of voice when writing nonfiction; a chapter on spelling, with examples of how to guide students at each stage of spelling development; strategies for assessment and evaluation that guide teaching and learning engagements. Part Two provides five different explorations that were implemented in actual K-3 classrooms. Each focuses on a specific purpose for writing nonfiction and features: examples of whole-class, small-group, and independent instructional engagements; a comprehensive assessment rubric that will help teachers tailor instruction to the needs of all learners; an extensive resource section that includes lists of books in the exploration, grouped by readability levels; answers to the most commonly asked questions about teaching nonfiction writing. The appendixes include a self-assessment questionnaire, reproducible pages for exploring specific writing forms, and letters to parents. Children need to be introduced to the different purposes of nonfiction writing. They need to know how to plan, compose, revise, and publish nonfiction beyond narrative. *Is That a Fact?* guides you in achieving these goals with your students.

*Complete Comprehension* Scholastic Inc.

Describe the natural habitat, physical characteristics, diet, and behavior of sharks.

**When Lunch Fights Back** Graphic Arts Books

While learning how to locate, access, interpret, record, publish, and share information, students also consider ways to activate their voice and make their nonfiction writing clearer, more authoritative, and better organized. Designed around a consistent mix of explorations some are extended units of study that engage

primary writers in the complete writing process and others are targeted minilessons that expose students to various forms of nonfiction writing. Explorations in Nonfiction Writing is easily adaptable and will support you whether you are integrating nonfiction writing into your established literacy block or developing a new nonfiction writing program that supports your entire academic curriculum.

Teaching Text Features to Support Comprehension Corwin Press  
Offers twenty-four reproducible passages from "high interest" non-fiction sources, and provides a prereading question to assist students to focus on what they read, along with a standardized practice test for grades six through eight

*A Severe Mercy* Millbrook Press

The Fox is after Rosie, but Rosie doesn't know it. Unwittingly, she leads him into one disaster after the other, each funnier than the last. To enjoy Rosie's walk as much as Rosie does, just look inside!

*5 Kinds of Nonfiction* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Join award-winning science writer Seymour Simon in this completely updated edition of *Our Solar System*, as he takes young readers on a fascinating tour through space! With beautiful full-color photographs and spacecraft images, including many taken by the Mars rovers and Hubble Space Telescope, this nonfiction picture book teaches young readers all about the solar system, including the sun, the eight planets, and their moons. Covering all the latest discoveries in space, young astronomers will be over the moon about the fun facts, fascinating science, and incredible photographs. A must-have for every child interested in outer space! This book includes an author's note, a

glossary, an index, and further reading suggestions. An excellent choice for classrooms and homeschooling, *Our Solar System* supports the Common Core State Standards. Check out these other Seymour Simon books about the universe and space: *Comets, Meteors, and Asteroids* *Destination: Jupiter* *Destination: Mars* *Destination: Space* *Exoplanets* *Galaxies* *Stars* *The Sun* *The Universe*

[The Nonfiction Now Lesson Bank, Grades 4-8](#) Heinemann Educational Books

Foreword by Colby Sharp In the decade since the first edition of *Still Learning to Read* was published, the prevalence of testing and the Common Core State Standards have changed what is expected of both teachers and students. The new edition of *Still Learning to Read* focuses on the needs of students in grades 3-6 in all aspects of reading workshop, including reading workshop, read-aloud, classroom design, digital tools, fiction, nonfiction, and close reading. The book stays true to its original beliefs of slowing down and knowing our readers, but it also takes into account the sense of urgency that changing times and standards impose on classrooms. This edition examines current trends in literacy, includes a new section on intentional instructional planning, and provides expanded examples of mini-lessons and routines that promote deeper thinking about learning. It also includes a brand new chapter on scaffolding for reading nonfiction and showcases the authors' latest thinking on close reading and text complexity. Online videos provide glimpses into classrooms as students make book choices, work in small groups, and discuss their reading notebooks. Expanded and updated book lists, recommendations for digital tools, lesson cycles, and sections specifically written for

school leaders round out this foundational resource.

[Reading Nonfiction](#) Macmillan Children's Books

A kid favorite of life in the far north, *Recess at 20 Below* is now repackaged in a new design with bonus content from the author! Experience from a kid's perspective what it is like playing during recess when it is really cold: how the world sounds outside, how it tastes outside, how it looks, and even how it smells when the thermometer says it's 20 below. Learn about the layer after layer of clothing you have to put on to avoid frostbite before you could hit the playground, the tiny ice crystals you could just see in the air, the loud crunch, crunch, crunch sound your boots make when you walked. Photographs of real kids with words by award-winning teacher Cindy Lou Aillaud have made this book popular all over North America because all the kids want to know what happens at 20 below zero. This revised edition also includes the author's answers to real questions she has received from kids everywhere about what life and school are like in Alaska.

[Nonfiction Readers: Grade 7: Assessment Guide](#) Simon and Schuster

Audisee® eBooks with Audio combine professional narration and sentence highlighting to engage reluctant readers! The octopus spies a nice, tasty mantis shrimp. It swims over for a closer look at the small creature. Then—WHAM!—the mantis shrimp strikes a nasty blow with its hammer-like forelimb. The octopus shrinks back, defeated. That wasn't such an easy meal after all . . . In nature, good defenses can mean the difference between surviving a predator's attack and becoming its lunch. Some animals rely on sharp teeth and claws or camouflage. But that's only the beginning. Meet creatures with some of the strangest

defenses known to science. How strange? Hagfish that can instantaneously produce oodles of gooey, slippery slime; frogs that poke their own toe bones through their skin to create claws; young birds that shoot streams of stinking poop; and more.

### **Graphic Organizers for Reading Comprehension** Teacher Created Materials

The Assessment Guide for TIME FOR KIDS®: Nonfiction Readers offers an exciting mix of support materials for science, mathematics, and social studies lessons plans. Developed by one of the leading experts in reading research - Timothy Rasinski - this Assessment Guide provides researched-based methods to boost student reading skills. The Assessment Guide features fluency and writing rubrics, comprehension assignments for each reader, as well as teacher best practices.

#### Our Solar System Hill and Wang

As nonfiction books become more sophisticated, they challenge students' ability to synthesize and accumulate information and sustain comprehension. Longer texts require readers to be more skilled around the goals of: Determining the main idea of sections, chapters, and the whole book Identifying and separating key details from extraneous information, and understand the relationship between facts Figuring out the meaning of content-specific, technical vocabulary by using the text and features Using text features to support and deepen understanding. Jennifer Serravallo's Complete Comprehension: Nonfiction supports growth in these goals, all of which contribute to whole-text comprehension and engagement. Complete Comprehension provides everything you need to: assess a student's whole-book comprehension via each of the four goals evaluate their facility

with the component skills of each goal to plan instruction teach reading strategies directly matched to the needs you identify. For those familiar with Jen's work, this Assess, Evaluate, Teach framework is connected to the comprehension progressions she defined in Understanding Texts & Readers and to the instructional ideas in The Reading Strategies Book. In Complete Comprehension, these three pillars of the framework each receive their own teaching guide. Assess Complete Comprehension includes 28 authentic trade books (two each at levels J to W) by award-winning and beloved authors on topics of interest to young readers. A student chooses from among the texts, then reads independently. As they read, labels affixed in the book cue them to pause their reading and write their answer in response to open-ended prompts on a provided response form. No instructional time is required to obtain these written assessments: Students read and answer prompts on their own while teachers can continue working with other students who are not engaged in the assessment. The Assess guide includes instructions on how to introduce the assessment to the whole class, how to gather and prepare your resources, how to administer the assessment with individual students, how to support book selection, and how and when to assess students. All of the prompts for all 28 books are also included for easy reference. Evaluate Once you've received a student's response form, Jen's commonsense rubrics in the Evaluate guide help you make sense of the responses and pinpoint opportunities for growth. Spend a short amount of time with these rubrics and your student's response form in hand, typically 10 to 15 minutes when you first start getting to know the rubrics, and as little as 5

minutes with increased proficiency. Sample student responses from Jen's own field research, keyed to the progressions she shared in *Understanding Texts & Readers*, help you determine whether a reader is approximating a skill, is proficient with it, or demonstrates exceptional understanding. Once you've evaluated each response on the form, use the Planning Form, a quick tally sheet, and the if-then table that recommends clear next steps pinpointed to the reader's strengths and needs. The Evaluate guide includes a 4-step protocol for evaluation, suggestions for getting the most out of the rubrics, summaries of each included trade book, guidance on what to look for in students' responses, and sample student responses. Teach Teachers love *The Reading Strategies Book*, and *Complete Comprehension* provides 100+ strategies in the Teach guide: 75+ strategies unique to *Complete Comprehension* and 20+ variations on some of the most foundational strategies from *The Reading Strategies Book*. Each strategy is on its own page, and formatted just like those in *The Reading Strategies Book*, with classroom charts, lesson language, and mentor text suggestions. Organised with a chapter for each of Jen's four comprehension goals for nonfiction and one for reader engagement, the Teach guide makes selecting the most beneficial strategy for a student easy.

*Still Learning to Read* Stenhouse Publishers

58 color reproducible graphic organizers to help your students comprehend any book or piece of literature in a visual way. Our graphic organizers enable readers to see how ideas fit together, and can be used to identify the strengths and weaknesses of your students' thought processes. Our graphic organizers are essential learning tools that will help your students construct meaning and

understand what they are reading. They will help you observe your students' thinking process on what you read as a class, as a group, or independently, and can be used for assessment. They include: Story Maps, Plot Development, Character Webs, Predicting Outcomes, Inferencing, Foreshadowing, Characterization, Sequencing Maps, Cause-Effect Timelines, Themes, Story Summaries and Venn Diagrams.

*Readicide* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

*The Assessment Guide for TIME FOR KIDS®: Nonfiction Readers* offers an exciting mix of support materials for science, mathematics, and social studies lessons plans. Developed by one of the leading experts in reading research - Timothy Rasinski - this Assessment Guide provides evidence-based methods to boost student reading skills. The Assessment Guide features fluency and writing rubrics, comprehension assignments for each reader, as well as teacher best practices.

**Nonfiction Reading Power** Macmillan Education AU

Targeted teaching through ongoing assessment in the upper-elementary grades.

*Nonfiction Passages with Graphic Organizers for Independent Practice* Evan Moor Educational Publishers

When K-5 students understand how to read text features like diagrams, bullets, insets, and tables, they are reading the whole page--essential for deep comprehension of nonfiction and fiction text. In this revised edition of *Reading the Whole Page: Teaching and Assessing Text Features to Meet K-5 Common Core Standards*, seasoned educators Michelle Kelley and Nicki Clausen-Grace show you how to explicitly teach K-5 students to read text features, use them to navigate text, and include them in their

own writing. The classroom-proven mini-lessons, activities, and assessment tools in Teaching Text Features to Support Comprehension help you: teach relevant Common Core State Standards and grade-level expectations; diagnose, monitor, and meet student needs with one of two level-appropriate assessments; evaluate knowledge with a unique picture book that can be downloaded that illustrates all the text features; and monitor and guide differentiated instruction with a convenient class profile. Sixty mini-lessons for teaching print, graphic, and organizational features provide ample choices for meeting the standards while adapting to students' needs. Flexible lessons, which follow the gradual release of responsibility model and increase in difficulty, can be used within the typical 90-minute reading block, during content-area instruction, in small groups, and as part of independent practice opportunities like literacy centers. Each lesson offers concept review, suggestions for differentiation, assessment options, and technology connections, requiring students to find, explore, manipulate, and create text features in their own writing. Even more activities--from text feature walks to scavenger hunts--help students integrate text feature knowledge as they read. The downloadable materials provided online include important resources and convenient lesson supports, such as interactive thinksheets that can be filled out directly on the computer, visual examples of each text feature.

### **Mush!** Firsthand Books

All But My Life is the unforgettable story of Gerda Weissmann Klein's six-year ordeal as a victim of Nazi cruelty. From her comfortable home in Bielitz (present-day Bielsko) in Poland to her miraculous survival and her liberation by American troops--

including the man who was to become her husband--in Volary, Czechoslovakia, in 1945, Gerda takes the reader on a terrifying journey. Gerda's serene and idyllic childhood is shattered when Nazis march into Poland on September 3, 1939. Although the Weissmanns were permitted to live for a while in the basement of their home, they were eventually separated and sent to German labor camps. Over the next few years Gerda experienced the slow, inexorable stripping away of "all but her life." By the end of the war she had lost her parents, brother, home, possessions, and community; even the dear friends she made in the labor camps, with whom she had shared so many hardships, were dead. Despite her horrifying experiences, Klein conveys great strength of spirit and faith in humanity. In the darkness of the camps, Gerda and her young friends manage to create a community of friendship and love. Although stripped of the essence of life, they were able to survive the barbarity of their captors. Gerda's beautifully written story gives an invaluable message to everyone. It introduces them to last century's terrible history of devastation and prejudice, yet offers them hope that the effects of hatred can be overcome.

The Organization of Prose and Its Effects on Memory Scholastic Inc.

The Assessment Guide for TIME FOR KIDS®: Nonfiction Readers offers an exciting mix of support materials for science, mathematics, and social studies lessons plans. Developed by one of the leading experts in reading research - Timothy Rasinski - this Assessment Guide provides evidence-based methods to boost student reading skills. The Assessment Guide features fluency and writing rubrics, comprehension assignments for each

reader, as well as teacher best practices.

*Catherine, Called Birdy* Teacher Created Materials

When K-5 students understand how to read text features like bullets, insets, and bold print, they are reading the whole page essential for deep comprehension of non-fiction and fiction text. In *Reading the Whole Page: Teaching and Assessing Text Features to Meet K-5 Common Core Standards*, seasoned educators Michelle Kelley and Nicki Clausen-Grace show you how to explicitly teach K-5 students to read text features, use them to navigate text, and include them in their own writing. The classroom-proven mini-lessons, activities, and assessment tools in *Reading the Whole Page* help you: -Teach relevant Common Core Reading Standards and grade-level expectations; -Diagnose, monitor, and meet student needs with one of two level-appropriate assessments; -Evaluate knowledge with a unique picture book on CD that illustrates all the text features; and - Monitor and guide differentiated instruction with a convenient class profile. Sixty mini-lessons for teaching print, graphic, and organizational features provide ample choices for meeting the standards while adapting to students' needs. Flexible lessons, which follow the gradual release of responsibility model and increase in difficulty, can be used within the typical ninety-minute

reading block, during content-area instruction, in small groups, and as part of independent practice opportunities like literacy centers. Each lesson offers concept review, suggestions for differentiation, assessment options, and technology connections, requiring students to find, explore, manipulate, and create text features in their own writing. Even more activities from text feature walks to scavenger hunts help students integrate text feature knowledge as they read. The included CD provides important resources and convenient lesson supports, such as interactive thinksheets that can be filled out directly on the computer, visual examples of each text feature, rubrics, the assessment picture book, and readers' theatre scripts.

*Rosie's Walk* Capstone

Not mighty in size, but mighty in resourcefulness and industry, the ant has crawled the earth since prehistoric times. It has dwelt in rainforest tree trunks and acorns of oak trees, beneath logs, and under sidewalks. It has protected forests by capturing insects, cleared weeds away from acacia trees, and by growing gardens has released important nutrients into the soil. Seed lifters, dirt diggers, social beings, ants have the most advanced brain of all insects! So watch where you step, especially on a warm day: a small but mighty ant may be underfoot.