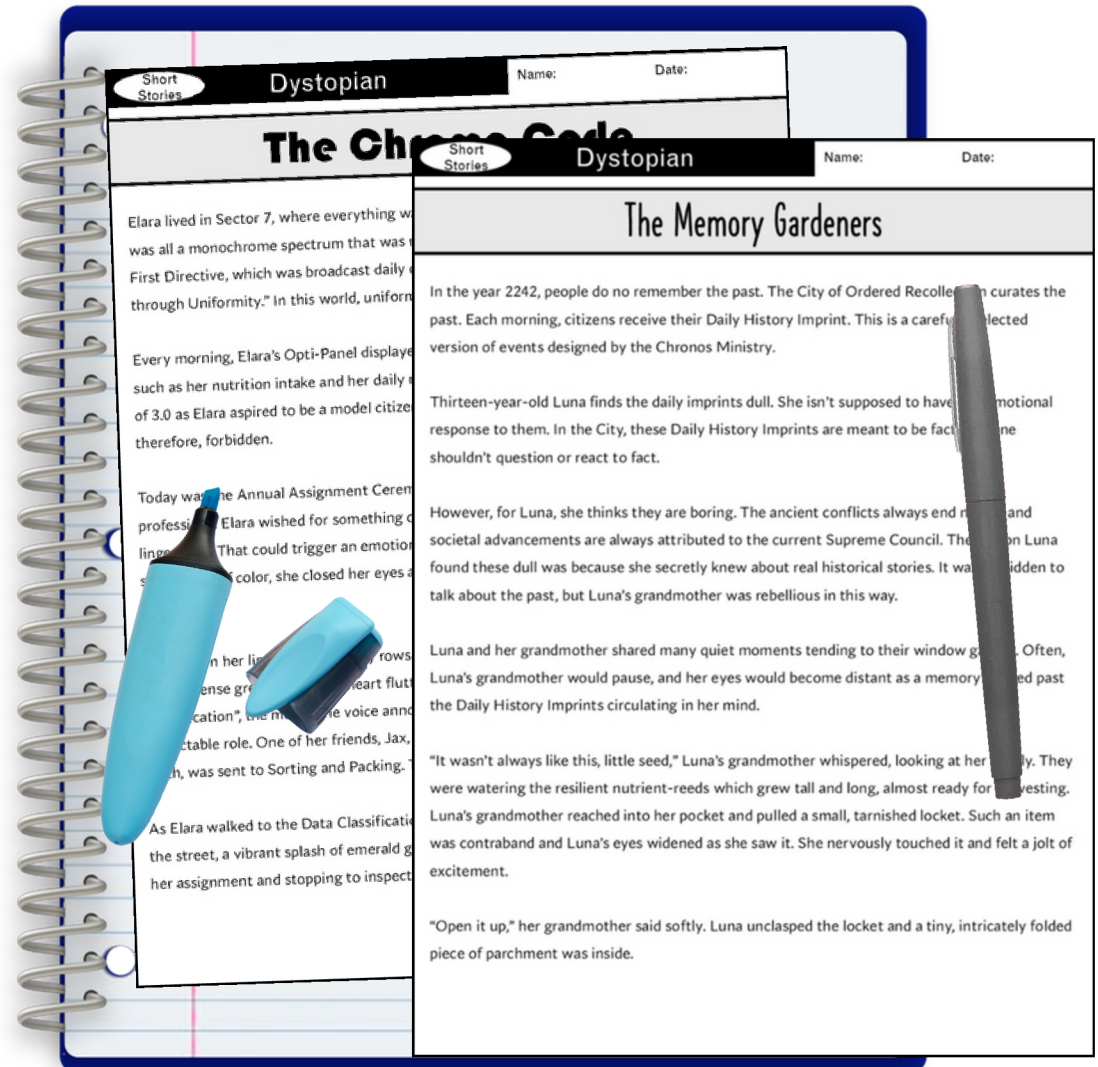


Engaging Reading Resource

- Captivating short stories for students
- Dystopian society theme
- Explore ideas around futuristic and dystopian societies



Four Short Stories

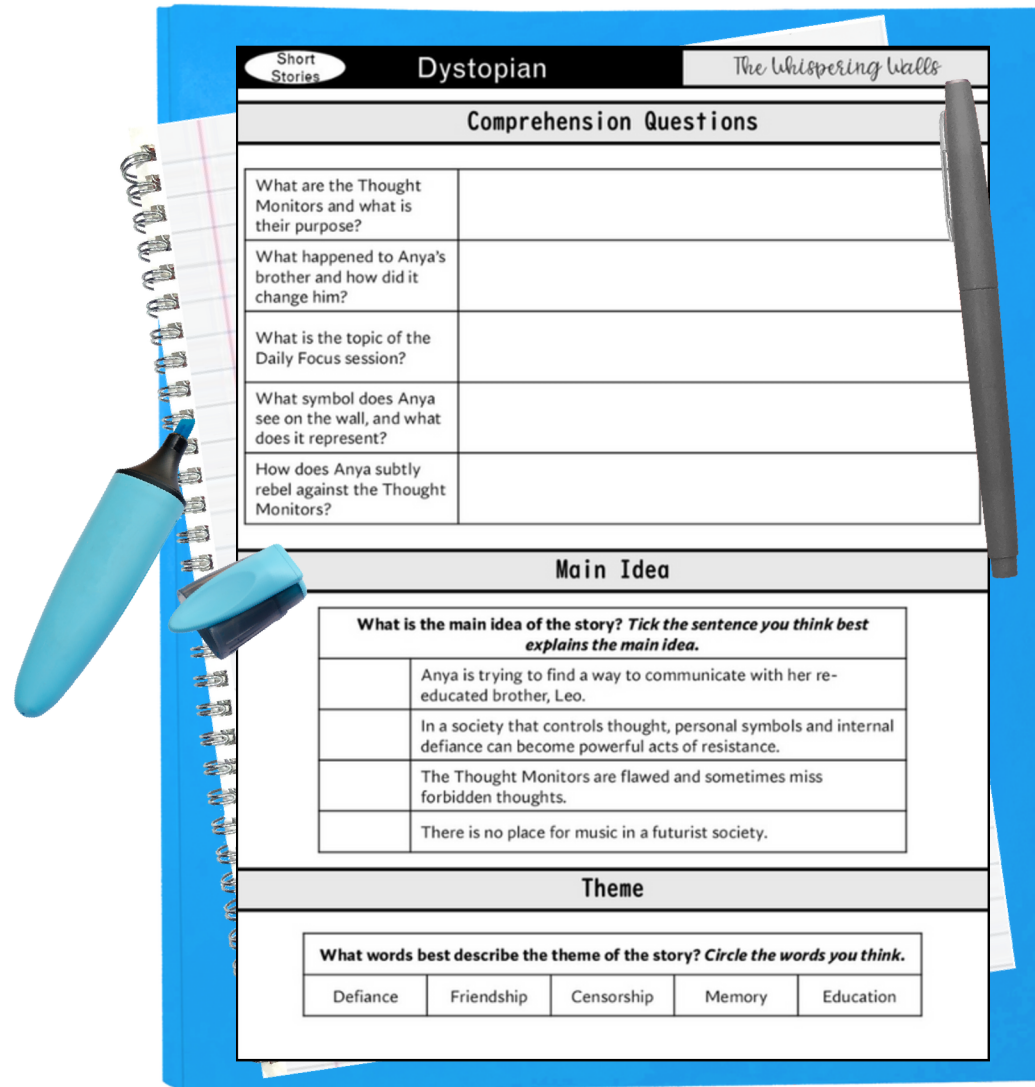
- 4 short stories (300-400 words each)
 - The Chroma Code
 - The Whispering Walls
 - The Echo of Laughter
 - The Memory Gardeners

Short Stories	Dystopian	Short Stories	Dystopian	Short Stories	Dystopian
The C	The	The M	The Chroma Code		
Elara lived in Sector 7, where everything was all a monochrome spectrum that First Directive, which was broadcast through Uniformity." In this world, un Every morning, Elara's Opti-Panel displayed her schedule. It showed other important details, such as her nutrition intake and her d of 3.0 as Elara aspired to be a model d therefore, forbidden. Today was the Annual Assignment C professions. Elara wished for somethi linger long. That could trigger an em she dreamt of color, she closed her e existed in. Standing in her line, surrounded by the immense grey screen. Her heart Classification", the monotone voice predictable role. One of her friends, Anth, was sent to Sorting and Pack As Elara walked to the Data Classif the street, a vibrant splash of emer her assignment and stopping to ins	In the year 2242, people do no rem past. Each morning, citizens receiv version of events designed by the Thirteen-year-old Luna finds the d response to them. In the City, the shouldn't question or react to fact However, for Luna, she thinks the societal advancements are always found these dull was because she talk about the past, but Luna's gra Luna and her grandmother shared Luna's grandmother would pause, the Daily History Imprints circulat "It wasn't always like this, little se were watering the resilient nutriti Luna's grandmother reached into h was contraband and Luna's eyes w excitement. "Open it up," her grandmother said piece of parchment was inside.	In the year 2242, people do no reme past. Each morning, citizens receive the version of events designed by the Chro Thirteen-year-old Luna finds the daily response to them. In the City, these D shouldn't question or react to fact. However, for Luna, she thinks they are societal advancements are always att found these dull was because she sec talk about the past, but Luna's grandr Luna and her grandmother shared m Luna's grandmother would pause, an the Daily History Imprints circulating "It wasn't always like this, little seed were watering the resilient nutrient Luna's grandmother reached into he was contraband and Luna's eyes wid excitement. "Open it up," her grandmother said piece of parchment was inside.	Elara lived in Sector 7, where everything was grey. The buildings, the clothes, and even the sky. It was all a monochrome spectrum that was meticulously regulated by the Central Authority. The First Directive, which was broadcast daily over the intruding speak system, was "Harmony through Uniformity." In this world, uniformity meant dull. Every morning, Elara's Opti-Panel displayed her schedule. It showed other important details, such as her nutrition intake and her daily mood rating. This was always a perfectly neutral score of 3.0 as Elara aspired to be a model citizen. Displays of extreme emotion were inefficient and, therefore, forbidden. Today was the Annual Assignment Ceremony, where twelve-year-olds received their lifelong professions. Elara wished for something creative, but she didn't let these hopes and thoughts linger long. That could trigger an emotional response, which would prove inefficient. Whenever she dreamt of color, she closed her eyes and pinched her fingers, remembering the world she existed in. Standing in her line, surrounded by rows of other twelve-year-olds, Elara saw her name flash on the immense grey screen. Her heart fluttered momentarily. "Elara-7, assigned to Data Classification", the monotone voice announced over the speaker system. This was a safe, predictable role. One of her friends, Jax, was assigned to Water Reclamation. Her other friend, Anth, was sent to Sorting and Packing. They wouldn't see each other much w. As Elara walked to the Data Classification hub, a flicker caught her eye. Behind a loose panel in the street, a vibrant splash of emerald green peeked. She immediately felt t between obeying her assignment and stopping to inspect the color.		



Comprehension Activities

- 4 comprehension questions per story
- Identify main idea and theme
- Summarizing prompts
- Extension activity ideas



Short Stories	Dystopian	The Whispering Walls		
Comprehension Questions				
What are the Thought Monitors and what is their purpose?				
What happened to Anya's brother and how did it change him?				
What is the topic of the Daily Focus session?				
What symbol does Anya see on the wall, and what does it represent?				
How does Anya subtly rebel against the Thought Monitors?				
Main Idea				
What is the main idea of the story? <i>Tick the sentence you think best explains the main idea.</i>				
☐	Anya is trying to find a way to communicate with her re-educated brother, Leo.			
☐	In a society that controls thought, personal symbols and internal defiance can become powerful acts of resistance.			
☐	The Thought Monitors are flawed and sometimes miss forbidden thoughts.			
☐	There is no place for music in a futurist society.			
Theme				
What words best describe the theme of the story? <i>Circle the words you think.</i>				
☐ Defiance	☐ Friendship	☐ Censorship	☐ Memory	☐ Education



Explore Dystopian Society

- Each story explores a dystopian setting
- Reading activity to complement dystopian literature
- Inspire students to image futuristic worlds and dystopian society



Short Stories	Dystopian	The Chroma Code
Comprehension Questions		
What is the First Directive in Elara's world?		
What information is displayed on Elara's Opti-Panel?		
What does the daily mood rating suggest about Elara's society?		
What does Elara discover in the loose panel in the street?		
What does color represent for Elara? How do you know this?		
What is the main idea of the story?		
	Elara is unhappy with her life.	
	Even in a highly controlled society, there is still hope and a desire for freedom.	
	The Central Authority is oppressive and controls the population.	
	Elara enjoys going to the underground.	
What words best describe the story?		
Conformity	Fantasy	

Short Stories	Dystopian	THE ECHO OF LAUGHTER
The story continued.		
Today, while Finn was carefully using his 50 units to go through the digital device, he stumbled upon a corrupted file. The file was tricky to open, and he had to be careful how he hacked into it, making sure he didn't consume too many units. This file intrigued Finn. It showed blurry images of children. The children who were around his age weren't in bleak, dull uniforms. They were wearing colorful clothes and playing in a strange place. The children's feet were running on an impossibly green space. There was a vibrant blue expanse above them. Was this the true outside? The children had colorful, round objects that were being passed around and sometimes kicked with their feet. Then, Finn heard it again. An unmistakable sound, even though it was faint. The children were laughing. It was a bubbling, joyful noise. It was definitely laughter. Even though it was short-lived, the file immediately corrupted further. It vanished from the system before Finn could rectify it. However, the echo of laughter remained in Finn's mind. Normally, Finn would stop at one file and make sure he saved his remaining 50 units. But the sound of laughter intrigued him, and Finn wanted to find more fragments of it hidden within the files. He used another 40 units rummaging through the system. His precious Personal Allocation time was running out, but it was worthwhile. He didn't find another instance, but he knew there were more files embedded within the system that had it. He would use tomorrow's Personal Allocation units to find more. And then the next day. He wouldn't give up searching for that sound. It became a powerful, albeit risky, ambition to uncover more laughter. Finn had to stop himself from feeling too eager for his new mission, knowing he had only 10 units of his daily effort quota remaining. He allowed himself to imagine himself in a world where there was no quota and he could laugh freely. Then he returned to his reality in the City of Endless Tiers.		

Complete Activity

- Ready to print resource
- 4 short stories
- Comprehension questions and activities
- Extension prompts for early finishers

Short Stories **Dystopian** *The Memory Gardeners*

Comprehension Questions

What is the purpose of the Daily History Imprint?	
What do Luna and her grandmother do while secretly talking?	
What is inside Luna's grandmother's locket?	
Why is the contents of the locket dangerous and significant?	
What is the role of a Memory Gardener?	

Short Stories **Dystopian** **THE ECHO OF LAUGHTER**

Summarize the Story

Who is the main character?	
Describe the setting.	
What is the main problem?	
What is the resolution?	

Write a paragraph summarizing the story.

Extension Activities

Poetry	Imagery	Daily Schedule	Report Writing
Write a poem about laughter. Think about things that make people laugh and how people feel when they laugh.	Imagine the corrupted file that Finn sees. Draw a visual representation of it and write about it from Finn's perspective.	Write a Daily Schedule for Finn, showing how he allocates his 1000 Daily Effort Quota units. Include his secret search.	Imagine you are the creator of the Effort Quota system. Write an explanation report justifying why it necessary for society.



Multiple Uses

- Independent reading activity
- Group reading task
- Intervention group work
- Whole class reading activity
- Homework task

