



★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - So many comprehensive readings for all science fields. PDF and DOCX versions included so they can be edited if needed. Each one includes short answer questions at the end, the first set are easy to find the answers to in the readings, the second set require a bit more critical thinking. Includes an answer key. Great to use to fill in time or for sub plans.

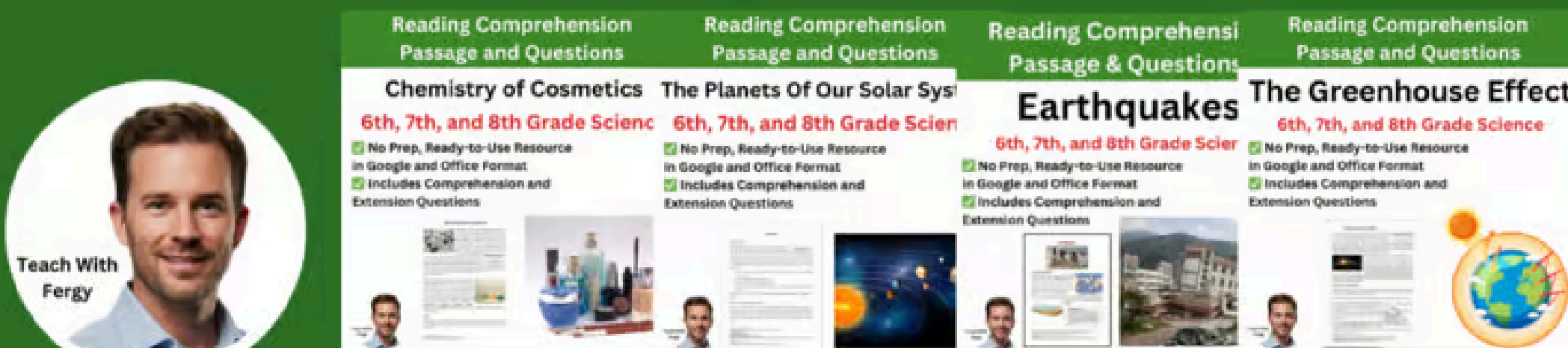


SCROLL
to take a look inside!

6th, 7th, 8th Grade Reading Mega Bundle

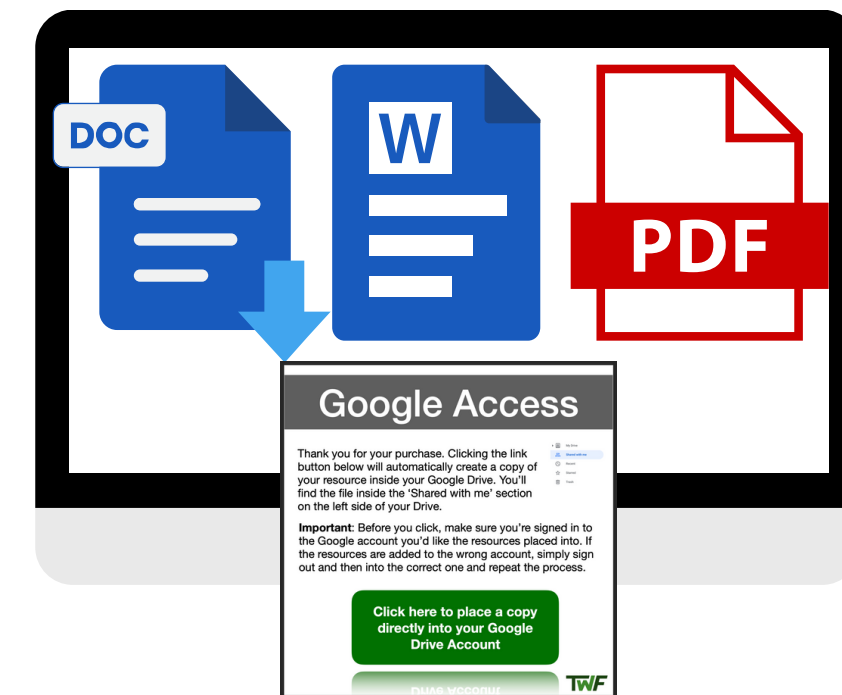
Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

- ✓ Over 115 Readings! Covers all Science Topics
- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions

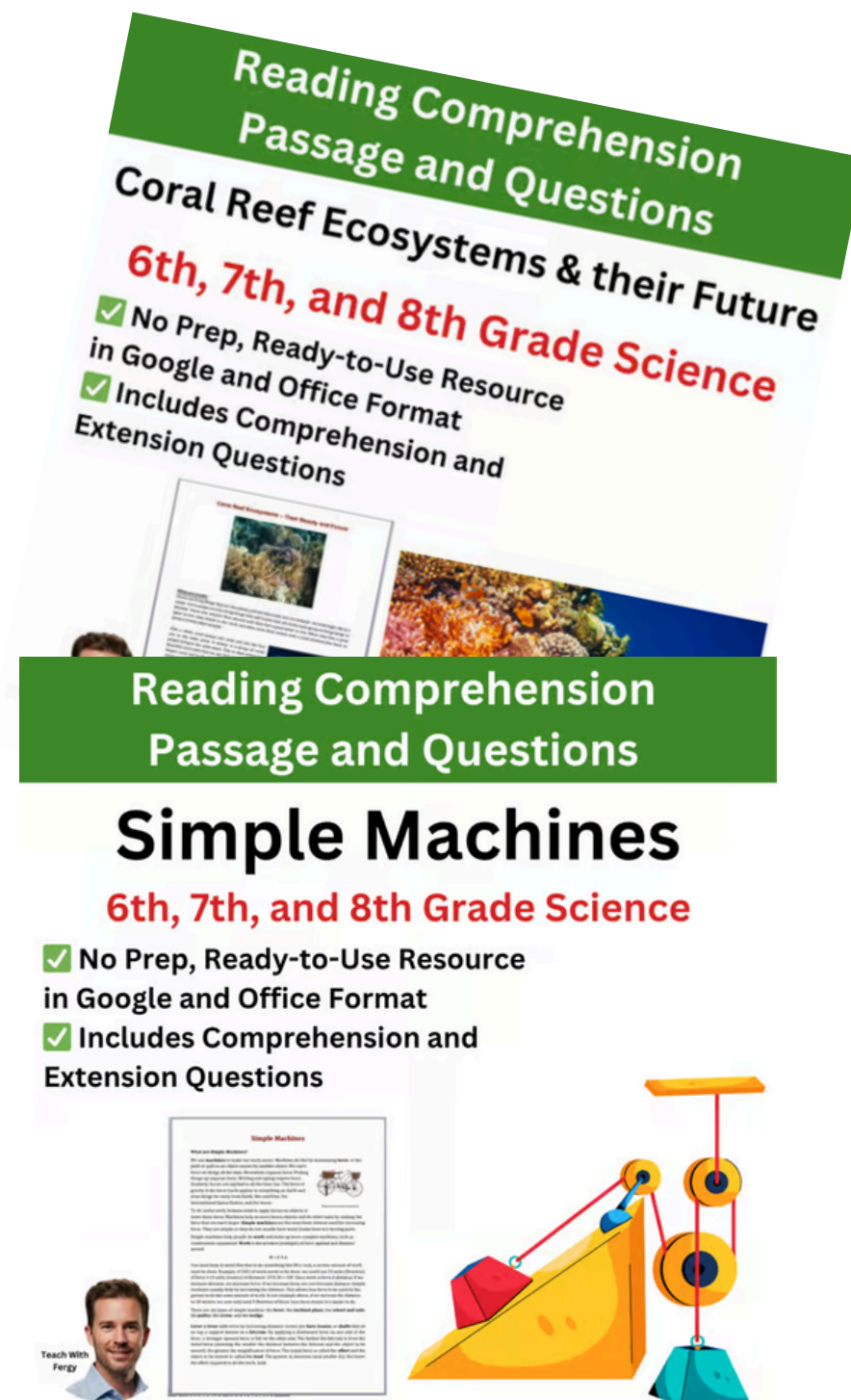
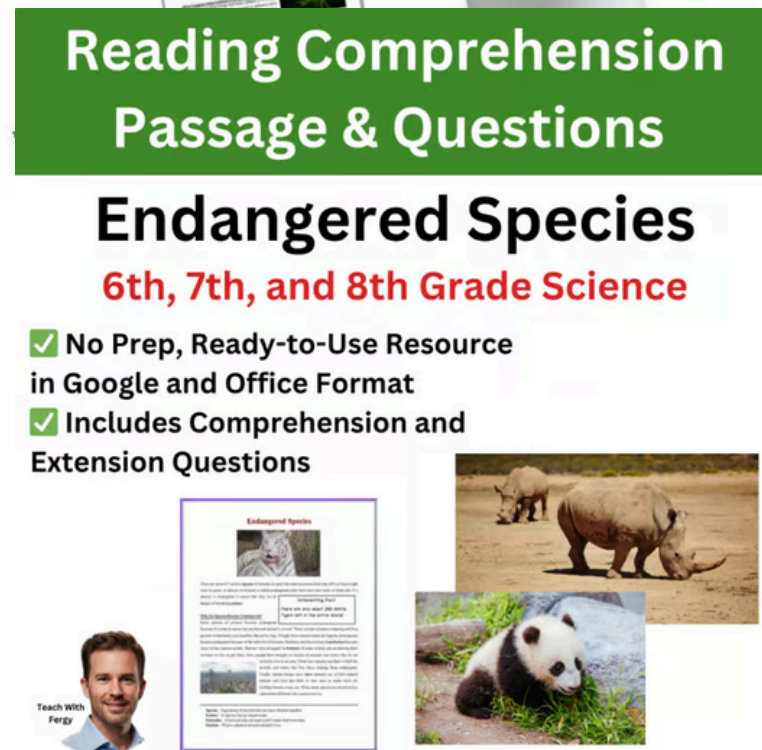
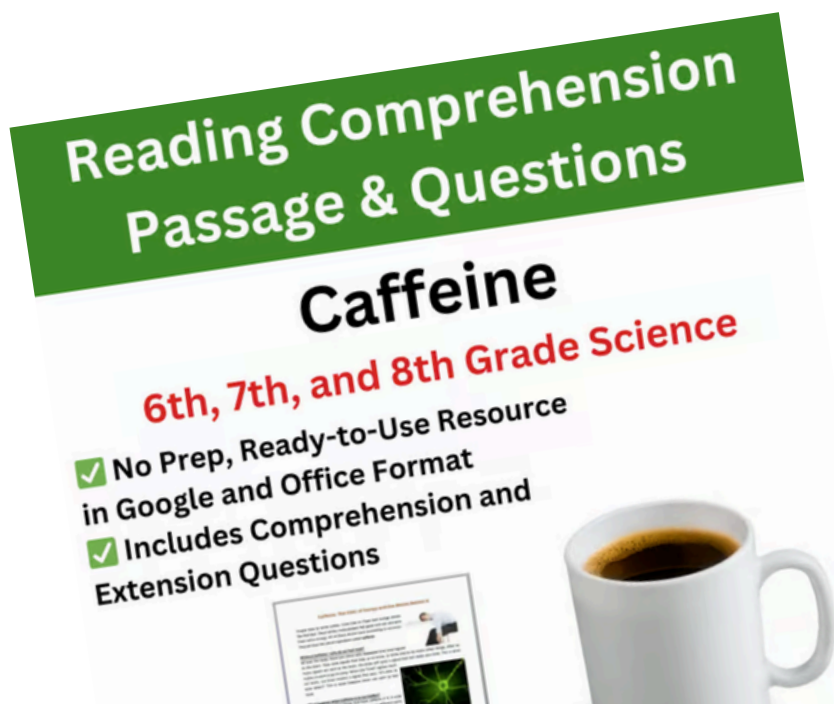


THE PROBLEMS THIS BUNDLE SOLVES

- **Need for Emergency or Sub Plans:** These readings serve as perfect, standards-based emergency plans that keep students productive.
- **Lack of Time for Prep:** This bundle is completely no-prep and ready to assign in any format.
- **Difficulty Integrating Literacy into Science:** These passages bridge the science-literacy gap effortlessly.
- **Limited Resources for Differentiation:** With 115 leveled readings designed for grades 6–8, teachers can easily meet diverse student needs and reading abilities.
- **Challenges with Digital Learning and Access:** Each article is ready to Print, Google Classroom, Microsoft Word, or PDF without formatting issues.
- **Engagement and Relevance Issues:** These passages use accessible, current science examples to keep students interested.



115 Engaging Readings



Readings Cover ALL Science Topics



Created for 6th, 7th, 8th Grade Reading Levels



Perfect for

i) Introducing a topic

ii) Reviewing and Assessing

iii) Leaving as a Sub Plan



Completely NO-PREP

HAPPY TEACHERS SAID...

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - Super fun activity for students. very engaging and easy to use. No prep!

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - I'm re-filling my drawer of 'emergency plans' for sub days, unannounced schedule changes, and "oh crap! The wi-fi is down" days. Seeing that I teach Reading while co-teaching Biology, Physical Science, and English, I need a wide variety of resources for that last-minute pull from the drawer. Thank you.

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - Thank you for yet another wonderful resource! This was easy to differentiate for a variety of learners and had much of the info I was hoping to convey.

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - Great resource! My students really enjoyed this! Kept them engaged and challenged them where needed.

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - Great way to include literacy into science!

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - Perfect for my sub! Thanks.

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - This was a great resource. I had to be out before starting our Paper roller coaster project and this was the perfect activity to leave with my sub to introduce the roller coaster topic to my students!

✓ 2-3 Page Reading

✓ 8-10 Reading

Comprehension Questions
and Extension Questions

✓ One-Click Google Drive
Upload

Each Reading
Includes

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - This was a great resource. I had to be out before starting our Paper roller coaster project and this was the perfect activity to leave with my sub to introduce the roller coaster topic to my students!

Caffeine: The Elixir of Energy and the Myths Behind It

People love their caffeinated beverages like coffee, Coca-Cola, Pepsi, and energy drinks like Red Bull. These drinks make people feel good and can also give them extra energy. All of these drinks have something in common. They all have the secret ingredient called **caffeine**.

Without Caffeine—why do we feel tired?

All over the body, there are nerve cells (**neurons**) that send signals to the brain. They send signals that help us to move, to think and to do many other things. After so many signals are sent to the brain, the body will send a signal that will make you tired. This is what makes us want to go to sleep. When the “tired” signals reach our brain, our brain creates a signal that says, “It’s time to slow down!” This is what happens when we start to feel tired.

What happens when Caffeine is in our bodies?

When we eat or drink things that have caffeine in it, it ends up in our blood. The caffeine then travels to different parts of our body, and some of it ends up in our brain. In the brain, it will stop the signal that tells us to be tired. As a result, a person does not feel tired when they normally would. But caffeine doesn’t only keep us from getting tired. But also causes the brain to send a signal that will cause us to be extra excited or extra alert. So not only does caffeine prevent “tired” signals from reaching your brain, it also causes more “awake” signals to be sent.

Too good to be true: Debunking the myth

Some of the effects of caffeine people may think are good. But, the use of caffeine can cause harm to our bodies. It may keep you awake, alert, and cause you to feel full of energy, but after a while, it wears off and you feel extra tired. The caffeine blocks the signals from being received by the body but it does not stop the “tired” signals from being sent. So there ends up being extra “tired” signals just waiting to be received. When the caffeine leaves the body (half will be gone in 3-5 hours), all of the extra, or backed up, tired signals, are finally received by the body and it makes a person feel extra tired.

Caffeine: An ingredient found in many types of plants that make us feel awake. It is a part of coffee, a popular drink.

Neuron: Cells that control your movement and thinking. Neurons are found all over your body and make up the main type of cell in your brain.

Caffeine side effects:

Caffeine has the following side effects:

- A person may be jittery
- Increased heart rate
- Headaches
- Stomach aches
- Feeling extra thirsty
- Trouble falling or staying asleep
- Feeling extra tired

Children should not drink coffee and teens should drink very small amounts (no more than 1 cup per day). People with anxiety disorders, heart conditions, or other health problems, or are taking certain medications, should not drink a lot of coffee either. Caffeine is also considered a drug because people can end up being addicted to it. So while it’s okay to enjoy that new Starbucks latte or just a plain cup of coffee, too much of it can be bad for your health.

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. What is caffeine and what does it do?
2. Give three examples of drinks that have caffeine as an ingredient.
3. What happens when we eat or drink something that has caffeine?
4. What are two good effects of caffeine on our bodies?
5. About how long does it take before our bodies start to get rid of caffeine?
6. What are some of the negative side effects of caffeine? Give three side effects.

Extension Question

7. If you were a doctor, how would you advise a patient on caffeine? how caffeine relates to sleep, energy, medication, and other health problems?
 - a) If the patient were a child ...
 - b) If the patient were between 13-17 years old ...
 - c) If the patient was an adult ...
8. Perform some research into caffeine addiction. What is it? What are the dangers?

Reading Comprehension Questions: Answer Key

- 1) How have human beings caused animal species to become endangered? **Humans have polluted, which has endangered many species. They have also used pesticides that damage some animals’ habitats, have illegally hunted animals, and have taken away many natural habitats to make room for cities.**
- 2) What is a habitat? **A habitat is the natural living environment of an animal.**
- 3) What natural events can lead to a species becoming endangered? **Storms or volcanic eruptions can cause a species to be endangered.**
- 4) What are the reasons why the Mountain Gorilla is endangered? **The Mountain Gorilla is endangered because people have damaged their habitats to make charcoal and to build towns, hunters have poached them, and they have gotten diseases that caused some of them to die.**

How did the Tasmanian tiger become extinct? **The Tasmanian tiger became extinct mostly due to hunting and habitat destruction.**

Extension Questions:

What is something people could do to help endangered species? How would this help? **Answers will vary. They may include protecting animals’ natural habitats, stopping poaching, and reducing pollution or the use of pesticides. These measures will help endangered species because these are the things that are causing the animals to become endangered.**

Research the effects of poaching on endangered animals. Create a brochure for hunters teaching them about the dangers of poaching.

There are many endangered animals not included in this article. Research another endangered animal and make a poster teaching others about it.

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Thank you for your purchase. Clicking the link button below will automatically create a copy of your resource inside your Google Drive. You’ll find the file inside the ‘Shared with me’ section on the left side of your Drive.

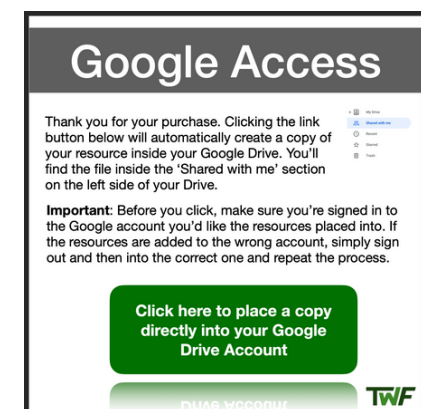
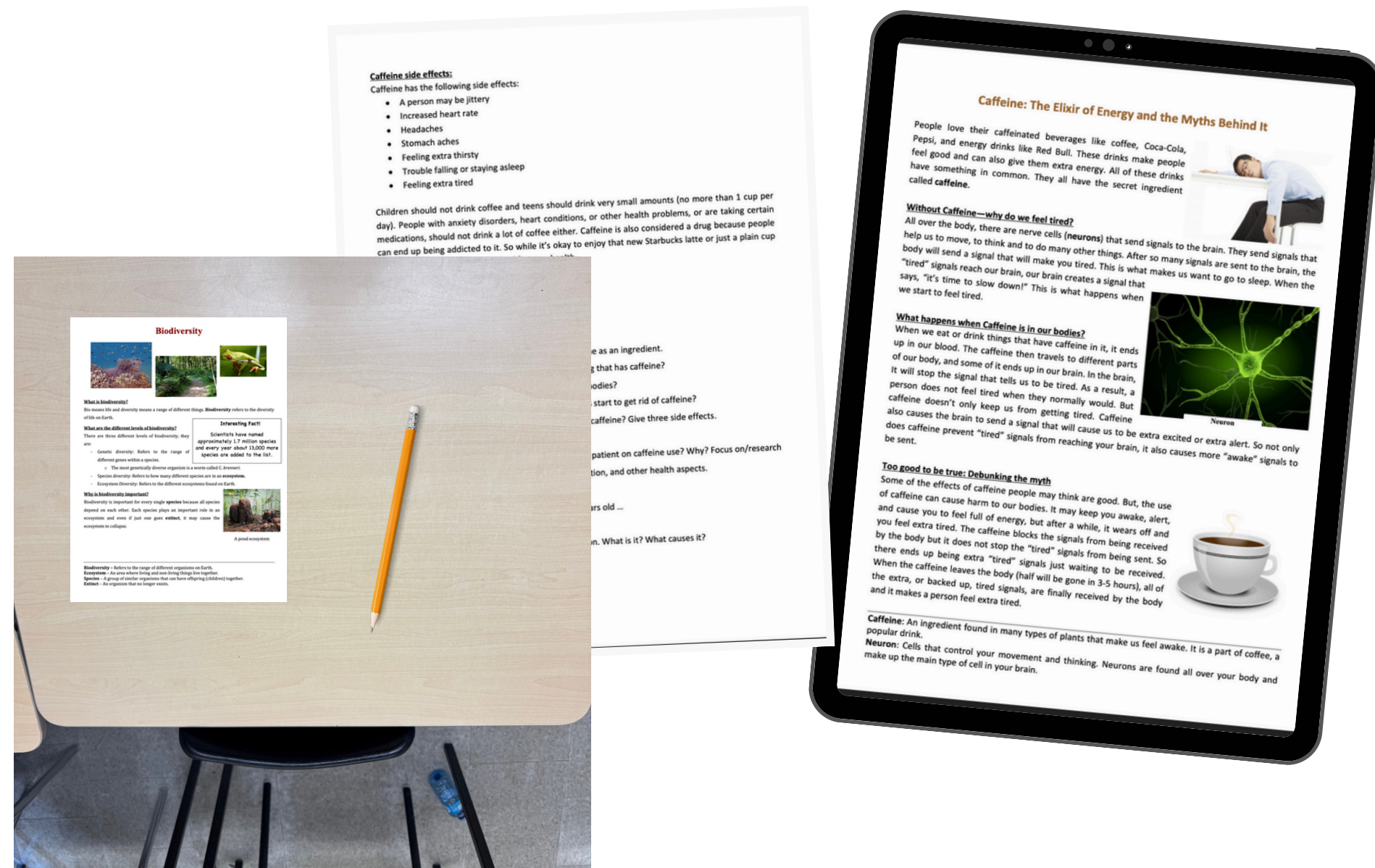
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Click here to place a copy directly into your Google Drive Account

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CLASSROOM READY

- **No Prep, Ready-to-Use:** Print or assign digitally with Google Docs, Microsoft Word, and PDF formats for flexible classroom use
- **Includes Varied Question Types:** Knowledge, thinking, connecting, application, and open-ended questions.
- **Questions and Answer Key**



Article Details

Articles discuss key concepts at the appropriate reading level

Includes Reading Comprehension Questions to check for understanding AND Extension questions which require outside research

Roller Coasters – History, Design, and Function

History and Design

There are two basic kinds of roller coasters: **wooden** and **steel**. The first coasters were wooden. Walt Disney opened the first steel roller coaster, the Matterhorn Bobsled, at Disneyland in



Roller coaster cars have three sets of wheels

Anaheim, California, in 1959. To hold onto the track, roller coaster cars have three sets of wheels. One set sits on top of the track, one runs along the sides of the track, and the third runs along the bottom of the track.

Did You Know?
The idea of roller coasters began in Russia in the 1400s as ice sledding. In the 1700s, people decided they didn't want to stop sledding in the summer, so they built wooden hills with grooves and put wheels on their sleds.

Wooden: Wooden coasters are made of a **laminated**¹, or layered, wooden track with steel **running rails**². The wood is treated and painted to keep it from falling apart. Wooden tracks are held up by large, strong frames with crossed beams. These frames are supported by **"bents"**³ which support the structure. In roller coasters, bents are made of pairs of evenly-spaced boards attached to the main supports. These main supports are attached to concrete foundations on the ground. Wooden roller coasters have many parts. For example, the American Eagle coaster at Six Flags Great America in Illinois is made of:

- 2,000 concrete foundations
- 1.6 million feet of wood
- 69,720 bolts
- 30,600 pounds of nails
- 9,000 gallons of paint

Wooden tracks are built to move as cars r them scarier. Wood is not as flexible as s wooden coasters have gentler curves, usual slower than steel coasters. New designs, loops to modern wooden coasters.

Steel: Steel roller coasters are usually one of



a thin, crossed-frame structure, like wooden coasters. In the other, the support structure is thick and tubular. Steel tracks are usually pairs of round steel tubes made in sections that are then put together on site. Like wooden coasters, they require a lot of materials. The Pepsi Max Big One at Blackpool Pleasure Beach in England is made of:

- 1,270 **piles**⁴ (support beams anchored in the ground)
- 2,215 tons of steel
- 60,000 bolts
- 7,000 gallons of paint

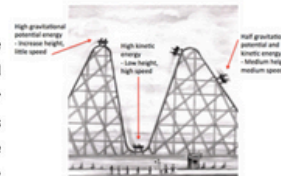


Pepsi Max Big One

The sections of steel track are made by heating and bending the steel tubes into shapes. Because steel can handle more strain than wood, steel coasters can be higher and steeper, with more loops and tighter curves. In addition, the wheels of steel coaster cars are usually made from polyurethane or nylon, which last longer than steel wheels and glide easier for a faster ride.

How they work – Energy conservation

Roller coaster cars don't have a motor. To begin the ride, the car is either pulled to the top of the first hill by a chain or cable or pushed by a magnet. The car gains **gravitational potential energy**⁵ as it gets higher off the ground. Once the car is released at the top, it runs the rest of the track without any more outside forces. This is possible because the potential energy stored in the car as it went up is changed into **kinetic energy**⁶ (the energy of movement). The higher the first hill, the more potential energy is stored and the faster it can go. This change of potential to kinetic energy drives the car the rest of the way. As the car runs along the track, energy is continually changed from gravitational potential energy (when it goes up) to kinetic as it glides down. Since potential energy increases as you go higher, the higher the first hill, the longer the track can be. As the car gets closer to the ground, it goes faster as more potential energy is changed to kinetic energy.



Roller coasters move due to potential and kinetic energy.

⁴ Piles: support beams anchored in the ground.

⁵ Gravitational potential energy: energy in an object due its height off the ground. The high the object is from the ground, the more potential energy it has.

⁶ Kinetic energy: the energy of movement

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. What are machines?
2. What are simple machines?
3. What is the equation for work?
4. If you need to create 500 J of work and you have a force of 50 N, what distance (in m) must you use?
5. Regarding question #4, if you were to double the distance, how much force would be needed?
6. Regarding question #4, if you were to quadruple (4X) the distance, what force (as a fraction) would you need to apply?
7. What are the six types of simple machines?
8. How does a lever work? Give 3 examples.
9. Using what you've learned about levers, explain why the lighter mass is able to balance the heavier one is shown in the picture.
10. How do inclined planes work? Give 3 examples.
11. How do wheels work? Why are they better than simply pushing the object? Give 3 examples.
12. How do pulleys work? Give 3 examples.
13. How do screws work? Give 3 examples.
14. How do wedges work? Give 3 examples.
15. What are compound machines? Give 3 examples.



Extension Questions:

16. What types of simple machines have you used?
17. Choose one of the simple machines outlined above. Create a pamphlet explaining, with diagrams, how it works. Include 3 examples not covered in this reading. Check out canva.com for templates.

Answer Key Included

Health and Wellbeing

Ecology

Physics

Chemistry

Biology

Natural Disasters

and Weather

Get ALL 150 & save!

Reading Comprehension Passage and Questions

Energy Use and Conservation

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

Exercise and its Importance for Overall Health

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage and Questions

Natural Disasters: Earth, Water, & Space

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions

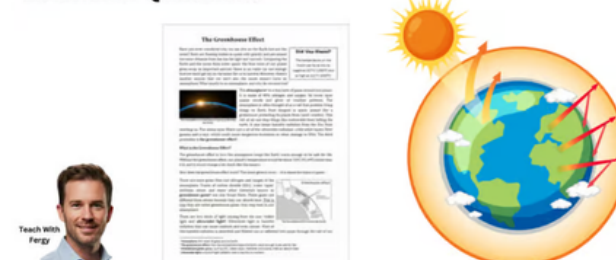


Reading Comprehension Passage and Questions

The Greenhouse Effect

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
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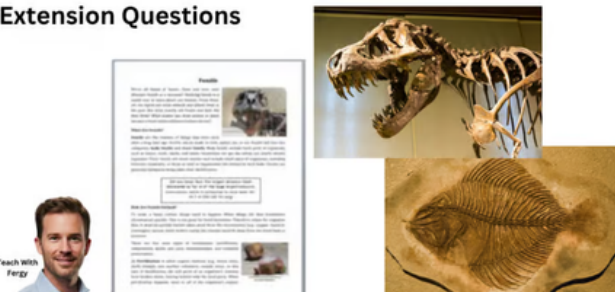


Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

Fossils

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

How Weather Works

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

Endangered Species

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

Caffeine

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage and Questions

How Do Ships Float?

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage and Questions

Simple Machines

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

The Chemistry of Cooking

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage and Questions

The Science of Roller Coasters

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Roller Coasters Reading

Roller Coasters – History, Design, and Function

History and Design

There are two basic kinds of roller coasters: **wooden** and **steel**. The first coasters were wooden. Walt Disney opened the first steel roller coaster, the Matterhorn Bobsled, at Disneyland in Anaheim, California, in 1959. To hold onto the track, roller coaster cars have three sets of wheels. One set sits on top of the track, one runs along the sides of the track, and the third runs along the bottom of the track.



Did You Know?
The idea of roller coasters began in Russia in the 1400s as ice sledding. In the 1700s, people decided they didn't want to stop sledding in the summer, so they built wooden hills with grooves and put wheels on their sleds.

Wooden: Wooden coasters are made of a **laminated**¹, or layered, wooden track with steel **running rails**². The wood is treated and painted to keep it from falling apart. Wooden tracks are held up by large, strong frames with crossed beams. These frames are supported by **"bents"**³ which support the structure. In roller coasters, bents are made of pairs of evenly-spaced boards attached to the main supports. These main supports are attached to concrete foundations on the ground. Wooden roller coasters have many parts. For example, the American Eagle coaster at Six Flags Great America in Illinois is made of:

- 2,000 concrete foundations
- 1.6 million feet of wood
- 69,720 bolts
- 30,600 pounds of nails
- 9,000 gallons of paint

Wooden tracks are built to move as cars roll along the tracks to make them scarier. Wood is not as flexible as steel. Because of this, wooden coasters have gentler curves, usually don't loop, and are slower than steel coasters. New designs, however, are adding loops to modern wooden coasters.



Steel: Steel roller coasters are usually one of two types. The first is



¹ Laminated wood: wood glued together in layers or glued to other materials in layers.
² Running rails: where the wheels run on a coaster track
³ Bents: a framework that supports a structure

a thin, crossed-frame structure, like wooden coasters. In the other, the support structure is thick and tubular. Steel tracks are usually pairs of round steel tubes made in sections that are then put together on site. Like wooden coasters, they require a lot of materials. The Pepsi Max Big One at Blackpool Pleasure Beach in England is made of:

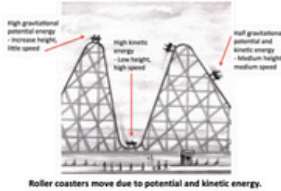
- 1,270 **piles**⁴ (support beams anchored in the ground)
- 2,215 tons of steel
- 60,000 bolts
- 7,000 gallons of paint

The sections of steel track are made by heating and bending the steel tubes into shapes. Because steel can handle more strain than wood, steel coasters can be higher and steeper, with more loops and tighter curves. In addition, the wheels of steel coaster cars are usually made from polyurethane or nylon, which last longer than steel wheels and glide easier for a faster ride.



How they work – Energy conservation

Roller coaster cars don't have a motor. To begin the ride, the car is either pulled to the top of the first hill by a chain or cable or pushed by a magnet. The car gains **gravitational potential energy**⁵ as it gets higher off the ground. Once the car is released at the top, it runs the rest of the track without any more outside forces. This is possible because the potential energy stored in the car as it went up is changed into **kinetic energy**⁶ (the energy of movement). The higher the first hill, the more potential energy is stored and the faster it can go. This change of potential to kinetic energy drives the car the rest of the way. As the car runs along the track, energy is continually changed from gravitational potential energy (when it goes up) to kinetic as it glides down. Since potential energy increases as you go higher, the higher the first hill, the longer the track can be. As the car gets closer to the ground, it goes faster as more potential energy is changed to kinetic energy.



⁴ Piles: support beams anchored in the ground.
⁵ Gravitational potential energy: energy in an object due its height off the ground. The high the object is from the ground, the more potential energy it has.
⁶ Kinetic energy: the energy of movement

Energy Loss

A lot of energy is lost to friction as the wheels rub on the track. Even more energy is lost when air resistance pushes back on the car as it rushes along. When the car loses energy, it slows down. During the ride, the different wheel types keep the ride as smooth as possible. The running wheels (on top of the track) guide the car. The friction wheels (on the sides) control the side-to-side motion. Finally, the wheels that sit on the bottom of the track lock the car onto the track even when it is upside-down. At the end of the ride a braking system (either compressed air, friction, or magnetic) stops the car by removing the remaining energy. No energy, no movement.

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. Describe the wheel setup on a roller coaster car.
2. How does the ride differ between wooden and steel roller coasters?
3. What was the first steel roller coaster and where is it located?
4. What are the two advantages to using polyurethane or nylon wheels on steel cars?
5. Explain how energy is changed from one form to another during a roller coaster ride.

Extension Questions:

6. If the first hill of track A is 100 m high and the first hill of track B is 200 m high, which will produce a faster ride, assuming everything else is equal? Explain your answer.
7. What is the largest roller coaster in your area? What is its maximum height? How fast does it go?
8. Compare your answer in #7 to The Incredible Hulk Coaster in Orlando that raises you up 150 feet (46 m) and reaches 67 mph (108 km/h).

Reading Comprehension Questions: Answer Key

1. Describe the wheel setup on a roller coaster car. **Roller coasters have three sets of wheels: one sits on top of the track, one runs along the sides of the track, and the third runs along the bottom of the track.**
2. How does the ride differ between wooden and steel roller coasters? **Wooden coasters are mostly non-looping, softer banked, and slower than steel coasters.**
3. What was the first steel roller coaster and where is it located? **Matterhorn Bobsled at Disneyland in Anaheim, California**
4. What are the two advantages to using polyurethane or nylon wheels on steel cars? **They last longer than steel wheels and glide easier for a faster ride.**
5. Explain how energy is changed from one form to another during a roller coaster ride. **Gravitational potential energy (GPE) is created by pulling the car to the top of the tallest hill. The GPE is converted into kinetic energy (KE) as the car descends and picks up speed. As the car rises up smaller hills, that energy is converted back into GPE and so on.**

Extension Questions: Answer Key

6. If the first hill of track A is 100 m high and the first hill of track B is 200 m high, which will produce a faster ride, assuming everything else is equal? Explain your answer. **Track B because more GPE is created with the greater rise that converts to more EK and thus, more speed later on.**
7. What is the largest roller coaster in your area? What is its maximum height? How fast does it go? **Various answers.**
8. Compare your answer in #7 to The Incredible Hulk Coaster in Orlando that raises you up 150 feet (46 m) and reaches 67 mph (108 km/h). **Answers will vary.**

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Answer Key and References

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - I used this resource in my sub plans when I couldn't be in school for a few days. It was a great activity for my students to review what was learned in class.

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - This was a great resource. I had to be out before starting our Paper roller coaster project and this was the perfect activity to leave with my sub to introduce the roller coaster topic to my students!

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - This resource was helpful as a learning visual for my students.

★★★★★ Extremely satisfied - Great way to link science and literacy. Thanks!

Would You Like to Try a Reading Activity FREE?

Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

Climate Change

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

- ✓ No Prep, Ready-to-Use Resource in Google and Office Format
- ✓ Includes Comprehension and Extension Questions



Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

Why Bees Are Important

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science

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