

What's included?

Fiction passage

Reading passage Fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

Kip the Curious Koala

High in the canopy of the Australian bush lived a young koala named Kip. His thick, ash-grey fur blended perfectly with the bark of the eucalyptus trees, and his sharp, alert eyes missed very little. Unlike many koalas, who were content to rest for long hours, Kip was endlessly inquisitive. He spent his days navigating the treetops, gripping rough branches with his powerful claws, and feeding on the leathery eucalyptus leaves that made up his specialised diet.

One warm morning, Kip climbed higher than usual into the crown of a towering gum tree. As the branches narrowed, the bush below opened into view. From his lofty perch, Kip spotted a mob of kangaroos moving across the grassland. They bounded effortlessly through the sun-dried vegetation, launching forward in enormous leaps. Kip watched in awe, fascinated by their strength and speed. They moved so differently compared to his slow, deliberate movements.

A sudden burst of sound echoed overhead. A flock of rainbow lorikeets swooped through the sky, their shrill calls cutting through the still air. Flashes of green, red, and blue shimmered as their wings caught the sunlight. Their movement and colours mesmerised Kip.

As the lorikeets disappeared into the distance, a single feather drifted downward, spiralling gently through the air. Kip edged carefully along a thin branch, stretching as far as he could, trying to reach it. He thought it would float to the ground, but just as the feather brushed past him, he caught it. Then...crack!

The branch snapped under his weight. Kip tumbled downward, crashing through leaves and twigs as the scent of eucalyptus filled the air. His heart raced, but his fall slowed as the branches grew thicker. With a heavy thump, Kip landed safely on a sturdy limb. Nearby koalas stirred and chuffed with amusement. Kip blinked, then grinned. Holding the vibrant feather high, he decided the adventure had been worth it after all.

Non fiction passage

Reading passage Non-fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

About Koalas

Koalas are arboreal marsupials that are native to Australia. They are most commonly found in eucalyptus forests along the eastern and southern coastlines. Although they are often mistaken for bears, koalas are not bears at all. They belong to a unique group of mammals called marsupials, which carry and raise their young in a pouch.

Koalas have adapted extremely well to life in the treetops. Their strong forelimbs and sharp, curved claws allow them to climb and grip tree trunks securely. Each koala has two opposable digits on its front paws, helping it grasp branches with precision. Thick fur protects koalas from both heat and cold, while also cushioning them as they rest on hard branches for long periods.

A koala's diet consists almost entirely of eucalyptus leaves. These leaves are tough, low in nutrients, and toxic to most animals. However, koalas have a specialised digestive system that allows them to break down the toxins and extract the energy they need. Because eucalyptus leaves provide very little energy, koalas conserve it by sleeping or resting for up to 18-20 hours a day.

Koalas have a highly developed sense of smell, which helps them choose the safest and most nutritious leaves. They usually feed at night, moving slowly and deliberately through the canopy. Although koalas appear calm and gentle, they can move quickly when threatened and have powerful claws for defence.

Today, koalas face several threats, including habitat loss, bushfires, disease, and climate change. Protecting eucalyptus forests and reducing human impact on the environment are essential to ensuring the survival of this iconic Australian species.

Reading fluency

Reading fluency Fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

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Words 1st Reading 2nd Reading 3rd Reading

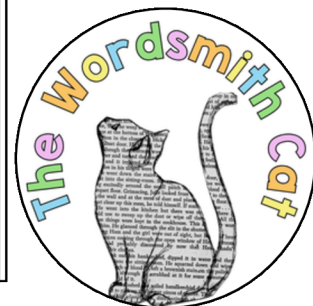
Comprehension questions

Reading Comprehension Fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

Kip the Curious Koala

Comprehension Questions

	Where does Kip live?	
Literal understanding	What type of leaves does Kip eat?	
	What animals does Kip observe from the gum tree?	
	What causes the branch to break?	
	Where does Kip land after he falls?	
Inferential thinking	Why does Kip climb higher than usual in the tree?	
	How can you tell that Kip is more curious than other koalas?	
	Why do the other koalas laugh after Kip falls?	
Vocabulary	What does the word canopy most nearly mean in this story?	
	Which word best describes Kip's personality: cautious, inquisitive, or lazy? Use evidence from the text.	



Why you'll love it.

- ✓ 1 fiction & 1 nonfiction passage
- ✓ Pre & post reading comprehension
- ✓ Fluency tracker with word count
- ✓ 10 comprehension questions
per passage
 - 5 literal
 - 3 inferential
 - 2 vocabulary

Paired Text Comprehension Name: _____ Date: _____

Koalas: Fiction & Non-Fiction

Compare the Texts	
Write 3 similarities between the texts.	Write 3 differences between the texts.
•	•
•	•
•	•

Compare and Contrast		
Feature	Fiction text	Non-Fiction text
Purpose of the text		
Type of information		
Characters		
Setting		
Type of language (factual/descriptive)		



Comprehension skills.

→ Explore vocabulary meanings

→ Make connections

→ Ask questions

→ Summarize

→ Synthesize

→ Visualize

Reading Comprehension Fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

Kip the Curious Koala

Understanding the Text	
Who is the main character?	
Where does the story take place?	
What problem or events happen in the story?	

Synthesize	
One sentence summary:	
Something I learnt from the story:	
My opinion of the story:	

Visualize	
Draw a picture from the story:	

Comprehension Fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

Kip the Curious Koala

Comprehension Questions

Where does Kip live?	
How many leaves does Kip eat?	
What does Kip observe in the gum tree?	
Does Kip observe the branch to break?	
Does Kip land after he falls?	
Does Kip climb higher than in the tree?	
Does Kip tell that Kip is as fast as other koalas?	
Do other koalas laugh at Kip?	
What word describes Kip in this story?	
Kip's personality: cautious, inquisitive, or lazy? Use evidence from the text.	



Ways to use this product.

- ✓ Independent reading practice
- ✓ Supplement explicit reading strategies
- ✓ Intervention task
- ✓ Homework activity
- ✓ Small group reading

Reading Comprehension Non-fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

About Koalas

Comprehension Questions

Literal understanding	What type of animal is a koala?	
	Where are koalas most commonly found in Australia?	
	What do koalas eat?	
	How many hours a day do koalas usually rest or sleep?	
Inferential thinking	Name two physical features that help koalas climb trees.	
	Why do koalas need to conserve energy?	
	How does a koala's sense of smell help it survive?	
Vocabulary	Why might eucalyptus leaves be dangerous for most animals?	
	What does the word arboreal mean in this passage?	

Reading Comprehension Fiction Name: _____ Date: _____

Kip the Curious Koala

Vocabulary

Word	Meaning	Sentence
Eucalyptus		
Specialised		
Vibrant		
Inquisitive		

Find out Facts about Koalas

Habitat	
Diet	
Appearance	
Adaptations	

Match the Word to the Meaning

I think this story (Kip the Curious Koala) will be about...



Teach reading!

Engage students in reading comprehension.

Help students find evidence in the text on each page.

Make reading comprehension feel achievable.

Reading Comprehension Non-Fiction		Name: _____	Date: _____
About Koalas			
Understanding the Text			
What is the main topic of this text?			
List two facts you learned about koalas.			
Synthesize		Summarize	
One key fact from the information.		Write a summary of the information.	
Something I learnt from the information.			
My thoughts on the topic.			

Reading Fluency FICTION		Name: _____	Date: _____
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