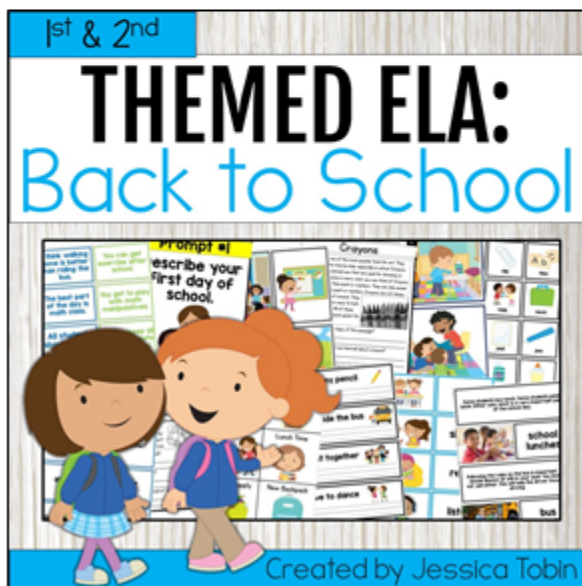


# Back to School ELA

**This 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Themed ELA set is all about back-to-school! There are multiple activities for each domain that you can add into your ELA block.**

**Each domain will have 3-4 activities. The domains are Reading Literature, Reading Informational, Writing, Speaking and Listening, Language, and Foundational Skills. There will be a mix of hands-on partner, whole group, and independent activities.**



**This resource is an add-on to the ELA units I have created for Common Core. All of these activities are standards-based activities. What makes these unique is that they are themed to a holiday or a season!**

# RL Passages

RL= Reading Literature (Fiction)

## RL Passages

### Practice Activity: Illustrations (RL.1.7, RL.2.7)

Teacher will display one picture card at a time under the document camera. The students will turn to a partner and discuss the character, setting, and events based only off what they see in the illustration.



### Passage 1: Ask and Answer Questions (RL.1.1, RL.2.1)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



### Passage 2: Point of View (RL.1.6, RL.2.6)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



### Passage 3: Story Elements (RL.1.3, RL.2.3)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



### Passage 4: Character: Challenge & Response (RL.1.3, RL.2.3)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Meeting New Friends

Today was my first day at a new school. My family had to move during the summer. I didn't know anyone in this new town. I was worried about how the first day of school would go. I left my old friends behind. I was worried I would not be able to make new friends. My teacher had the kids introduce themselves. We shared our names.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Class Jobs

Calvin sat down for his first day back to school. His teacher assigned classroom jobs for the first day. Calvin was picked to be the weather reporter. He would have to give the weather report to the class. Calvin feared that he would mess up his report. Calvin went up to the window on the first day and took a deep breath. He told himself he could do it. He marked down the weather. Calvin explained it to the class as well. He was relieved to do a great job and he loved it!

1. What classroom job did Calvin get assigned?
2. How did Calvin feel before giving the report?
3. How did Calvin end up feeling about it?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### First Day

This was the first day of school for the 1<sup>st</sup> grade class. None of her students had been there before. STEM labs are classroom jobs that involve learning. The STEM teacher asked each pair of students to work together. Lance and Taylor were partners. They were given rubber bands, sticks, and supplies. They would have to do something with them. Then, they would have to show the class how to do it. Lance and Taylor had so much to do.

1. Where does the story take place?
2. Who are the characters?
3. What were the students asked to do?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Lost in the Hall

Today was Marley's first day of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. She started her day by walking to school with her brother. She remembered her way around the kindergarten hallway. So, she walked down the hallway and dropped him off. She then tried to find her classroom. She went down a different hallway. The kids in that hallway seemed too tall. She was lost! She tried another hallway. These kids seemed too short. In the last hallway, she saw a lot of last year's classmates. She saw her room number on the wall. Then, she went in and met her teacher!

1. What did Marley do first when she got to school?
2. What was Marley's problem or challenge?
3. How did Marley solve her problem?



# RI Passages

## RI= Reading Informational (Nonfiction)

### RI Passages

#### Practice Activity: Main Topic (RI.12, RI.22)

Students will work in groups of 3-4 students. They will read the paragraph together, then match the best fitting image and the main topic. There will be four sets with a paragraph, main topic, and image.



#### Passage 1: Ask and Answer Questions (RI.11, RI.21)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



#### Passage 2: Point of View (RI.16, RI.26)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



#### Passage 3: Main Topic (RI.12, RI.22)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



#### Passage 4: Ask and Answer Questions (RI.11, RI.21)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Teacher should read text aloud to students while students track. Then, invite to chorally read.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Students read text with a partner 2-3 times before answering questions.



Some students buy lunch. Some students bring lunch. Either way, lunch is a very important part of the school day.



Following the rules on the bus is important. Students should always sit still in their seats and not yell either. This will help the driver drive safely.



You can store your paper supplies in a backpack. Teachers can store their supplies in a backpack, too.



All students should get some recess every day. One way to do this is to have 10 minutes of recess a day. This gives students a chance to run, play, and have fun.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Teachers

Teachers are people who help students learn. They help them understand and learn new things. They can work in elementary schools. Being a teacher is very important. They help the children learn about math, reading, writing, and other important subjects. Teachers must go to college before they can teach. They will learn the best ways that students learn for at least four years. Teachers spend lots of time working outside of the classroom. They write lessons and prepare materials.



1. What do teachers do?

2. Where do teachers work?

3. How do teachers prepare to become a teacher?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Helpful

A backpack is a sack used to carry things. It is used every day to carry books, papers, and supplies. It is easier to use a backpack than to carry books by hand. That way, you won't get tired and messy. Backpacks are organized. They can help you carry things you need. They can take important things like homework home in your backpack.

1. How does the author describe a backpack?

2. Why are backpacks helpful?

3. What is one way to use a backpack?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Crayons

Crayons are one of the most popular tools for art. They are used all the time by kids, especially in school. Crayons are sticks of colored wax that are used for drawing and writing. They come in every color you can think of. They are less messy than paint or markers. They are also easy to clean up than paint or markers. Crayons are not so they can't hurt anyone. They are small and very easy to hold while being used. All of these reasons make crayons great for kids and students.



1. What is the main topic of this passage?

2. What is one detail you learned about crayons?

3. How do crayons compare to markers?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### School Lunches

Lunchtime at school is one of the most important parts of the day. Lunchtime gives students a break from being in a classroom. It helps break up the day. This helps students focus later in the day. Eating gives the students nutrition. This way, they are focused and ready to go after lunch. Lunchtime also provides a time for students to talk and spend time together. Being able to socialize helps students in many ways. Lunch at school helps students in many different ways.



1. How does the lunchtime break help later in the day?

2. How does eating lunch help students?

3. How do students grow as people during lunchtime?

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# W Activities

W = Writing

## Writing Activities

### Activity 1: Partner Narrative Sequencing (W.1.3, W.2.3)

Students will use four picture cards to put a sequenced event in order. Then, they will order their "first, next, then, last" transition word cards to verbally retell their narrative story. Repeat with second story set.



### Activity 2: Independent Narrative Writing (W.1.3, W.2.3)

Teacher will put the prompt on the board for students. Students will brainstorm on their prewriting worksheet, then they will turn that into a writing piece.



### Activity 3: Partner Opinion & Supporting Reasons (W.1.1, W.2.1)

Students will work with a partner to read opinion cards and reason cards aloud. Then, they will work together to try to match the opinions and reasons together.



### Activity 4: Independent Opinion Writing (W.1.1, W.2.1)

Teacher will put the prompt on the board for students. Students will brainstorm on their prewriting worksheet, then they will turn that into a writing piece.



First

Next

Prompt #1

Describe your first day of

Narrative Writing

Draw what happened first.

The best school lunch is pizza.

It tastes good.

I think walking home is better than riding the bus.

You can get exercise after school.

I think recess should last 45 minutes.

Recess helps you get energy.

The best part of the day is math class.

You get to play with math manipulatives.

My favorite special is art class.

Using markers is fun.

All students

should keep all

Prompt #2

What is the best part of the school day?



Brainstorming Page

Illustrate your favorite part of the school day.

What is the best part of the school day?

One reason...

One reason...



# RF & L Activities

RF= Reading Foundational Skills, L= Language

## Language & RF Activities

### Activity 1: Fix the Sentences (L12a, L22a)

Students will work with partners to draw a sentence strip. The sentence strip will have incorrect capitalization and missing punctuation. Students will rewrite the sentences correctly.



### Activity 2: Verb Matching (L11e, L21d)

Students will work with a partner to match the verb to the matching picture. After they match all the verb sets together, they will check their matches with a nearby group.



### Activity 3: Short and Long Vowel Sort (RF12a, RF23a)

Students will work with a partner to draw a card and sort it into the correct category. They will draw a word card and read it aloud. Then, they will determine if it has a long or short vowel and sort it on the correct mat.



### Activity 4: Syllable Sorting (RF13.d/e, RF23.c)

Students will work independently to complete a syllable fold-and-snip book. They will fold along the bold line, then snip the dotted lines. Then, they will cut and glue the words under the correct category flaps.



here is my pen

do you ride the

we sit together

my book bin is

is the door open

I love the book no

**Short Vowels**

**Long Vowels**

read

chair

light

bus

tub

meet

blocks

mat

clock

globe

shoe

clay

wash

clean

walk

line

clip

files

paint

help

lunch

desk

pad

pen

**Syllable Sorts**

**1 Syllable Words**

**2 Syllable Words**

# SL Activities

SL= Speaking and Listening

## Speaking & Listening Activities

### Activity 1: Building Conversations (SL.1.1, SL.2.1)

Students will play a "Would You Rather" game all about school. Teacher will read the prompt aloud. Students will turn and talk with a partner. During the game, students will focus on carrying out conversations and giving each other time to answer and respond.



### Activity 2: Listening to Read Alouds (SL.1.2, SL.2.2)

Teacher reads aloud a fictional text about back-to-school. Then, page by page, students will discuss the story. After each page is read, students will turn and talk to one another about what events happened on each page.



Suggested Reads: How to Get Your Teacher Ready, If You Take a Mouse to School, Don't Let Pigeon Drive the Bus, The Day You Begin

### Activity 3: Conversations (SL.1.4, SL.2.4)

Students will Mix-Pair-Share for each talking card. Students will mix up around the room. When the teacher says stop, they will pair up with the closest person and share. Students will share their personal experience with the card that the teacher displays on the board. Each student gets 30 seconds to share, then mix up again.



Would you rather eat school lunch or pack a lunch?



Would you rather use crayons or markers?



Would you rather walk home or ride the bus?



Would you rather have a backpack or supplies?



Would you rather go to gym class or clean the classroom or class pet?



Would you rather clean the classroom or class pet?



Would you rather clean the kitchen or classroom?

How did the character feel about the event?

Getting to School



Finding

Special Areas



Favorite Book



What key details were important to the story?

Meeting the Teacher



Lu

Made a Pal



Being Kind



What is one thing you still like about school?

Favorite Supply



New

Felt Happy



Felt Nervous



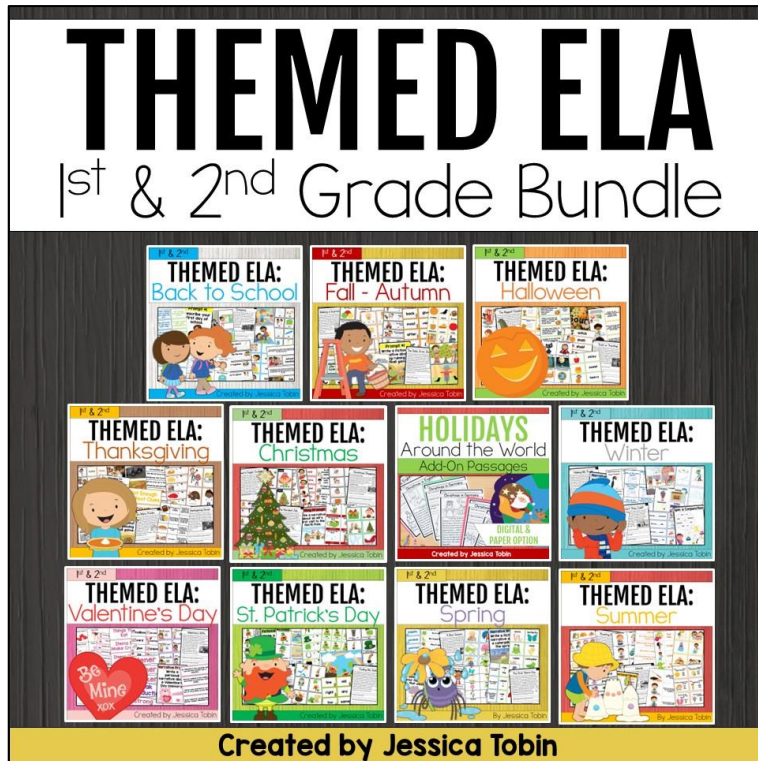


# Bundle Opportunities

Like this unit and looking for more like it?

The bundle of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Themed ELA contains add-on activities for many holidays and seasons. The All-Year ELA is the curriculum that this Themed ELA accompanies.

Themed ELA Bundle



-or-

All 6 ELA Domains



All 6 ELA Domains

