

3rd Grade

STAAR Test Prep

Practice Test



Materials Developed by Nancy Bruen for A+ Literature Guides.

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Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

The New Student

by Nancy Bruen



(1) Andy woke up and refused to get out of bed. He didn't want to go to school. He told his mother that he didn't have any friends. He said they made fun of him. They laughed at his dinosaur lunch box. Andy loves dinosaurs. His classmates think playing with dinosaurs is babyish.

(2) "Why can't I meet one person who likes dinosaurs? It's not fair."

(3) "You'll make friends," said his mother. "Things will get better. It will just take time."

(4) "No, it won't. They don't like me, and they never will," said Andy.

(5) "Well, I'm sorry about that, but you still have to go to school," said mother.

(6) When Andy walked into his classroom, he noticed that everyone was excited. He was curious. He wanted to know why everyone was talking at once. His teacher, Miss Penny, warned the class to be quiet. Then, she introduced the new student. That's why everyone was excited! It's not every day that his class gets a new student.

(7) "Hi. I'm Nick," said the new student. Everyone started cracking up.

Nick was from another state, and he talked funny. The way he spoke was different than the way they spoke. Miss Penny warned the class to watch their manners. Andy didn't think it was funny. He knows what it feels like to be laughed at. Nick sat down with tears in his eyes.

(8) During lunch, Nick was sitting at a table all by himself. He was afraid to talk to anyone. He didn't want them to laugh at him again. Andy came over and introduced himself. He said he liked the way Nick talked.

(9) Nick smiled and took out his lunch box. Andy put his lunchbox on the table at the same time. They both looked at the lunch boxes, and then looked at each other. They had matching dinosaur lunch boxes!

(10) "You like dinosaurs?" asked Andy.

(11) "Of course," answered Nick. "Who doesn't?"

(12) "Mom knows what she is talking about," Andy thought to himself.
"Things are getting better already!"

Circle the correct answers.

1. What problem does Andy have?

- A He is too tired to go to school.
- B He is too sick to go to school.
- C He doesn't have any friends.
- D He wants a new dinosaur.

2. Why was the class excited?

- F They got a new teacher.
- G The got a new lunch time.
- H They were given new seats.
- J They got a new student.

3. How did Nick feel when the class laughed at him?

- A sad
- B angry
- C happy
- D excited

4. Which sentence from the story shows how Nick feels?

- F The way he spoke was different than the way they spoke.
- G Miss Penny warned the class to watch their manners.
- H Andy didn't think it was funny.
- J Nick sat down with tears in his eyes.

5. What does the word "noticed" mean from Paragraph 6?

- A to look or become aware of something
- B to become angry at someone
- C to make a lot of noise
- D to make fun of someone

6. The word “curious” is used in Paragraph 6.

When you are “curious” you -

- F are learning something.
- G want to know something.
- H are leaving someplace.
- J want to eat something.

7. Which words from Paragraph 6 help you define the word “curious”?

- A He was curious.
- B He wanted to know . . .
- C His teacher, Miss Penny, warned the class
- D . . . to be quiet.

8. What happened directly AFTER Andy and Nick put their lunchboxes on the table?

- F The class laughed at Nick.
- G Mother said things would get better.
- H Nick and Andy went to lunch.
- J Nick and Andy talked about dinosaurs.

9. How did the story end?

- A Miss Penny yelled at the class.
- B Andy bought Nick a new lunch box.
- C Nick said he came from another state.
- D Andy realized his mother was right.

Answer Key – The New Student

1. What problem does Andy have?

- A He is too tired to go to school.
- B He is too sick to go to school.
- C He doesn't have any friends. RL.3.5**
- D He wants a new dinosaur.

2. Why was the class excited?

- F They got a new teacher.
- G The got a new lunch time.
- H They were given new seats.
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3. How did Nick feel when the class laughed at him?

- A sad RL.3.3**
- B angry
- C happy
- D excited

4. Which sentence from the story shows how Nick feels?

- F The way he spoke was different than the way they spoke.
- G Miss Penny warned the class to watch their manners.
- H Andy didn't think it was funny.
- J Nick sat down with tears in his eyes. RL.3.1**

5. What does the word “noticed” mean from Paragraph 6?

- A to look or become aware of something RL.3.4**
- B to become angry at someone
- C to make a lot of noise
- D to make fun of someone

6. Part A – The word “curious” is used in Paragraph 6.

When you are “curious” you -

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G want to know something. RL.3.4

H are leaving someplace.

J want to eat something.

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D . . . to be quiet.

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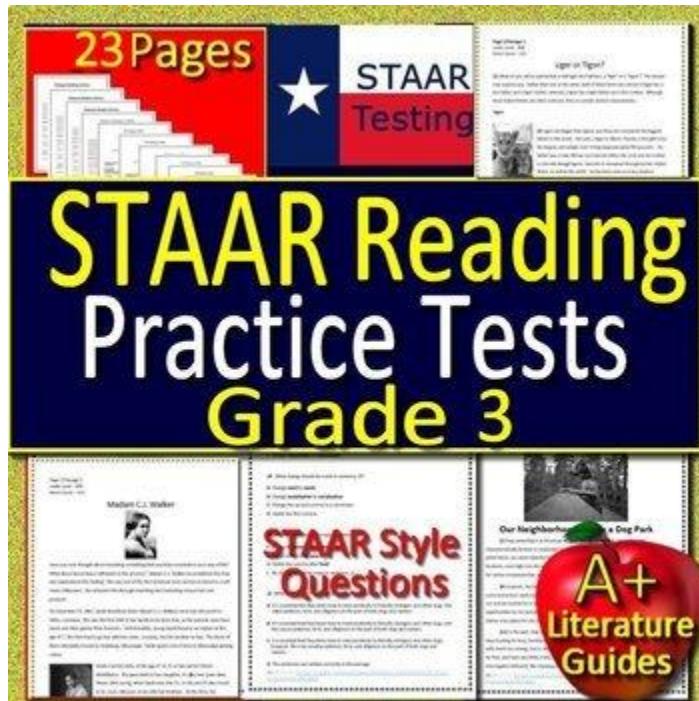
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C Nick said he came from another state.

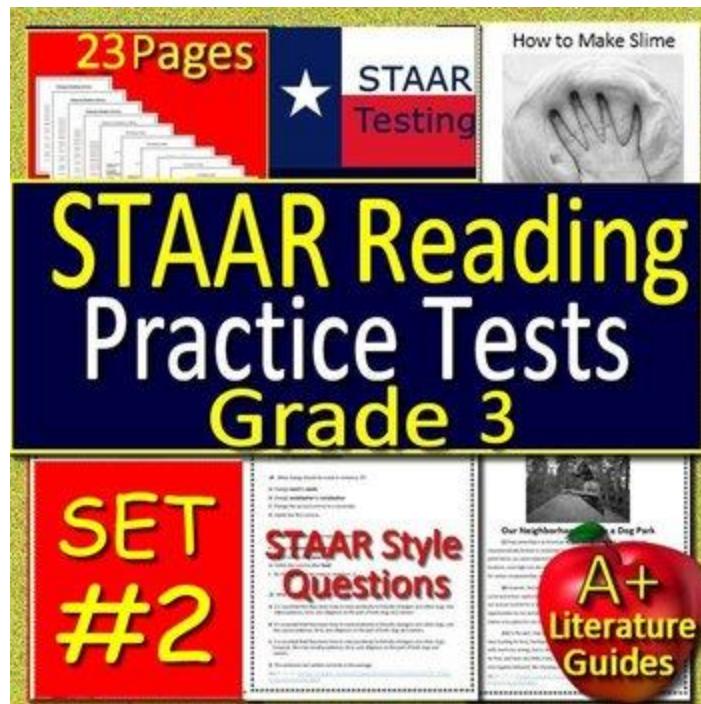
D Andy realized his mother was right. RL.3.2

Thank You

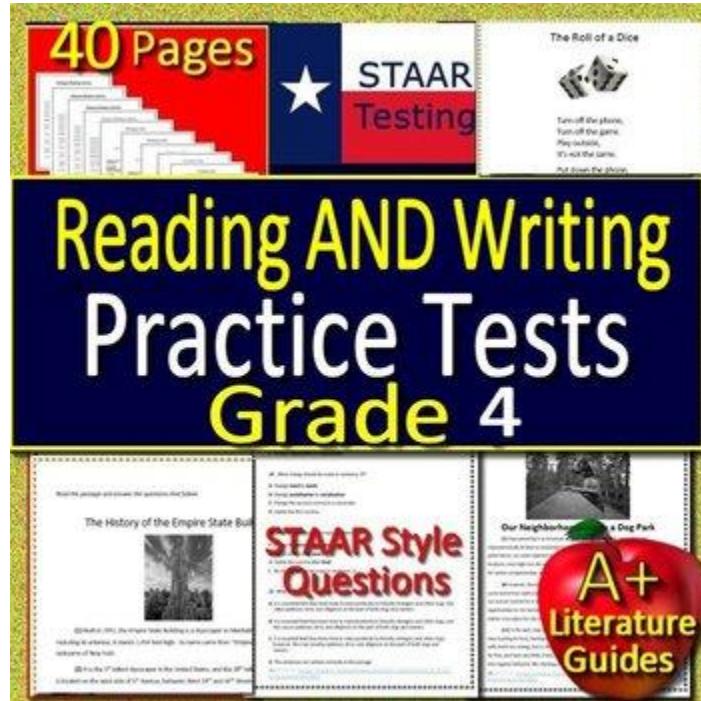
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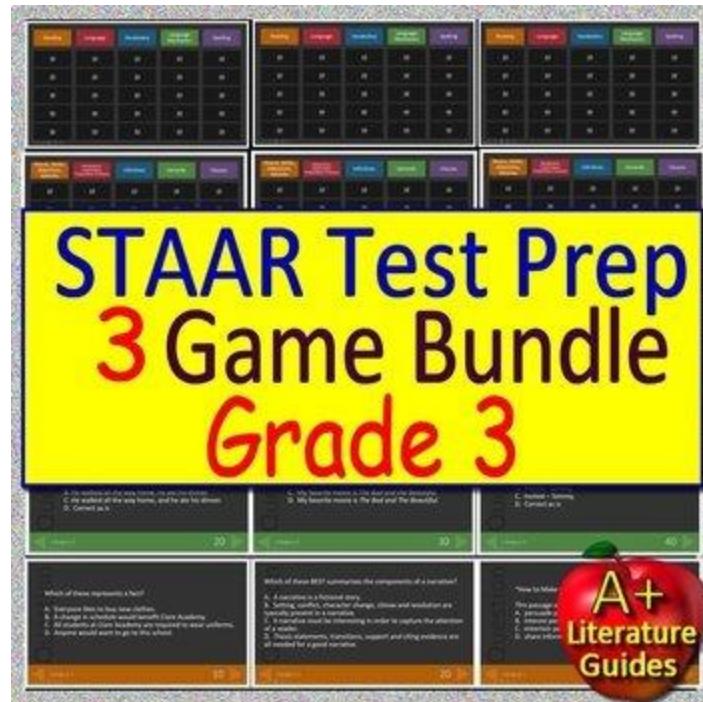
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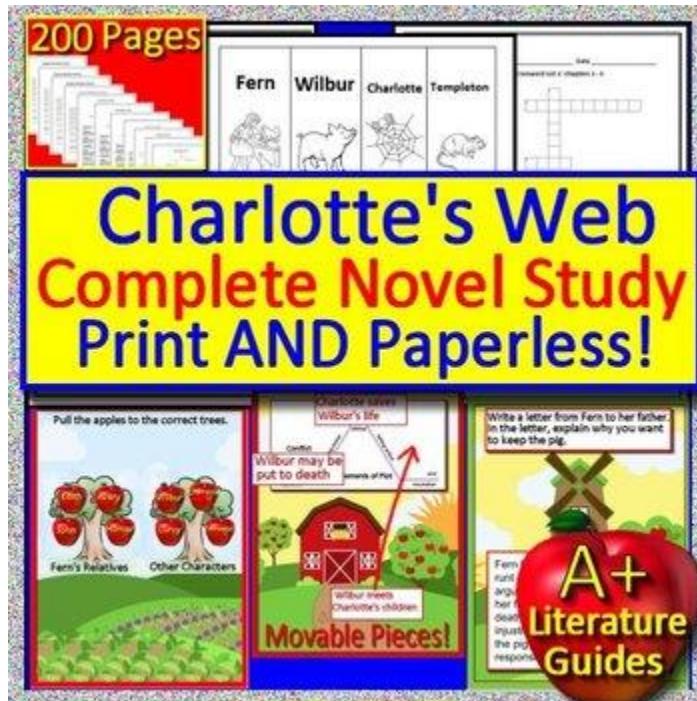
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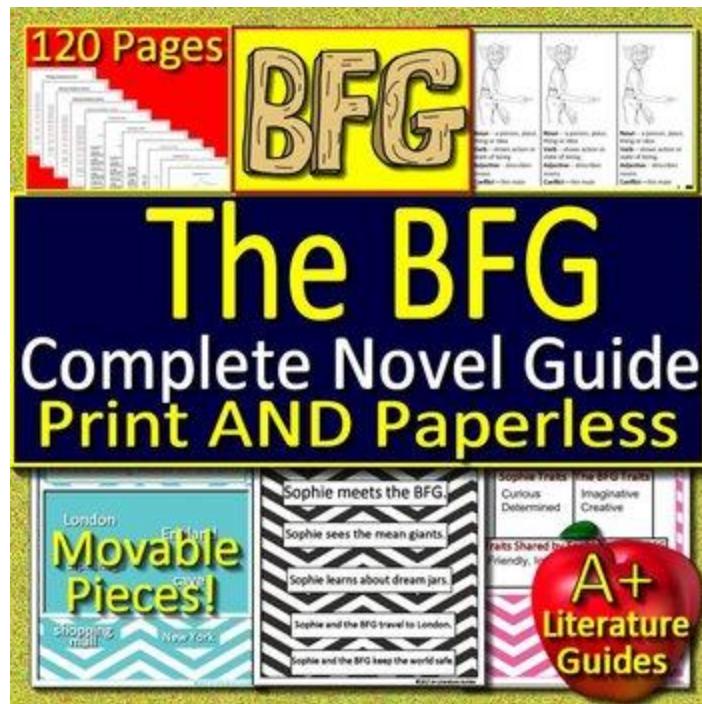
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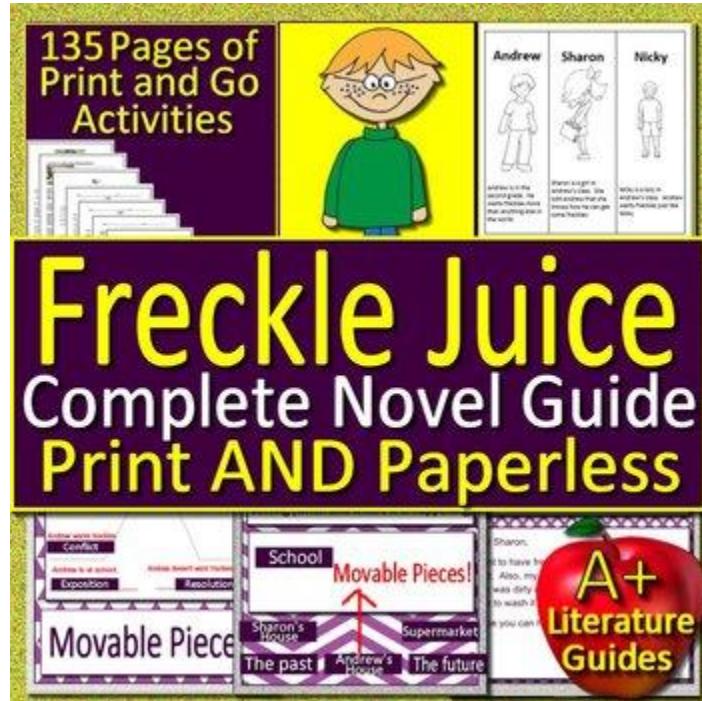
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