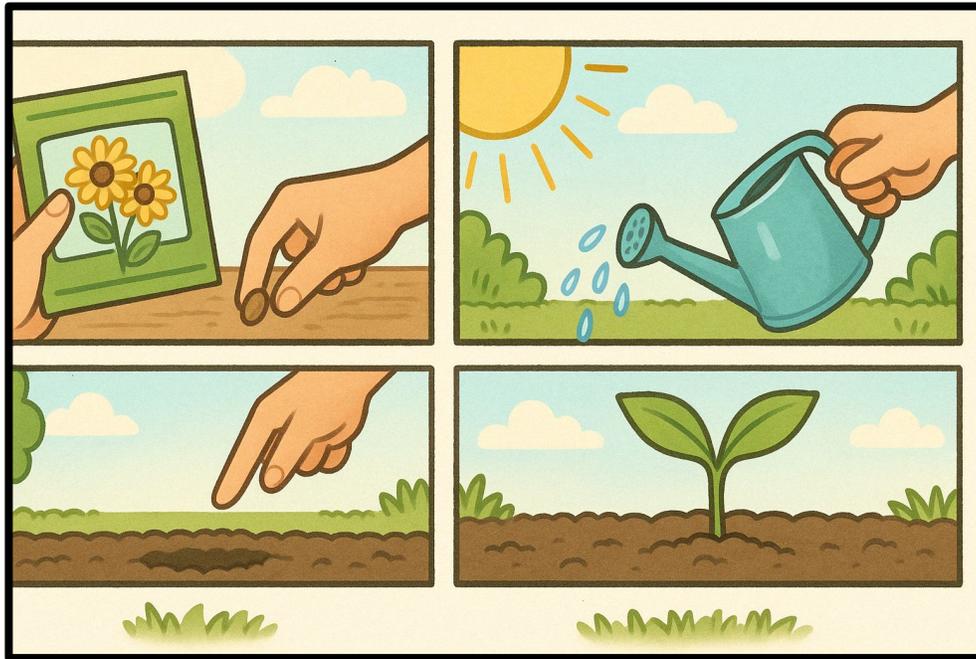


Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Using Text Features

Read the short story and answer each question.



How-to Plant a Seed

Heading: How-to: Plant a Seed

Have you ever wanted to grow a plant? Here are the steps to plant a seed and help it grow strong.

Subheading: Step 1 - Pick Your Seed

Choose a seed you want to grow. It might be a flower, a vegetable, or a tree. Look at the packet to learn more.

Subheading: Step 2 - Find the Right Spot

Seeds need sunlight and space. Find a place with soft soil and sunshine. Dig a small hole with your finger.

Subheading: Step 3 - Water It Gently

After planting, water your seed. Don't flood it! Use just enough water to make the soil damp.

Subheading: Step 4 - Watch It Grow

Now, wait and watch. Your seed will sprout in a few days. Keep watering it when the soil is dry.



Name: _____

How-to: Plant a Seed

1. What is one thing this text teaches you how to do?

- A. Make a sandwich
- B. Ride a bike
- C. Plant a seed
- D. Wash a car

2. What does the bold word "sprout" mean in the story?

- A. To fall over
- B. To start growing
- C. To turn brown
- D. To dry out

3. Fill in the blank:

Seeds need sunlight, soil, and _____ to grow.

4. How do the subheadings help you understand the steps better?

5. Why do you think the author used bold words and a caption?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: K

Lexile Level: 330L-480L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: How-To / Informational

Introducing the Text

“Today we’re reading a ‘how-to’ nonfiction text. These texts give directions and use features like steps, bold print, and pictures. As we read, we’ll pay close attention to the text features and see how they help us follow the directions.”

Vocabulary: seed, sprout, soil, water, sunlight

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever planted a seed before?
 2. What things do you think a plant needs to grow?
 3. What would you include in a how-to guide?
-

During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do the subheadings tell you?
 2. What step are we on right now?
 3. What does the picture show us?
-

After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How did the text features help you follow the steps?
 2. Which feature (bold words, subheadings, captions) helped you most?
 3. Could you follow these steps without the text features?
-

Activity Idea

Give each student a printed version of the text with the text features removed. Then give them the same text with the features included. Ask students to compare both versions and discuss which one is easier to understand and why. Finish by planting a real seed together in class and labeling each step with a heading card!

