

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Text Features & Structure

Read the short story and answer each question.



Why Recess Should Be Longer

Many schools are reducing recess time, but I believe that's a mistake. In my opinion, recess should be longer—not shorter. Kids need more time to move, play, and take a break from learning.

Studies show that physical activity helps the brain. When students get fresh air and run around, they return to class more focused and ready to learn. I think having enough time to recharge makes a big difference in how well we do in school.

Recess also helps kids build social skills. Playing games and solving problems with friends teaches cooperation, patience, and teamwork. These skills are just as important as math and reading.

Of course, learning time matters too. But recess shouldn't be seen as a break from learning—it's part of it. I believe that longer recess leads to healthier, happier, and more successful students.



Name: _____

Why Recess Should Be Longer

1. What is the author's opinion in this passage?

- A. Recess should be longer because it helps kids learn and grow.
- B. Recess is not needed if kids finish their work.
- C. Only older students need recess.
- D. Teachers should skip recess and teach more.

2. How does the author support their opinion?

- A. By explaining how recess helps focus and builds social skills
- B. By telling a story about one student
- C. By listing every playground game
- D. By describing a lunchroom

3. Fill in the blank:

The author says recess is part of learning, not just a _____ from it.

4. What are two reasons the author gives to support a longer recess?

5. What words or phrases show you how the author feels about this topic?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: O

Lexile Level: 590L-740L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Persuasive / Informational Hybrid

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a nonfiction passage where the author shares an opinion about recess. As we read, we'll practice identifying the author's point of view and look for the reasons and word choices that show how they feel."

Vocabulary: recharge, cooperation, focused, successful, social skills

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do you feel about recess?
 2. What do you think recess helps you do or learn?
 3. What might someone say if they wanted more time outside?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What is the author's opinion about recess?
 2. What facts are shared to support their point of view?
 3. What kinds of words show the author's strong feelings?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How does the author's tone show they believe recess is important?
 2. Do you agree with the author's point of view? Why or why not?
 3. What might be a good solution for schools that want more learning time and more recess?
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Activity Idea

Have students write a short persuasive letter to their principal with the title "*Why Recess Matters*." They should include at least two reasons and use facts or examples from their own experience, just like the author of the passage.

