Making an inference

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

A parent or tutor should read to the student and help the student to record their answers.

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To make **inferences**, you use what you *already know,* in addition to what the *story says.*

Making **inferences** helps you understand a story better.

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Listen to the story. Use what you *already know* to understand the story better.

> Calvin looked at the different-shaped pieces on the table. He spread them all out so they weren't on top of each other. He noticed that only some of the pieces had one side that was straight. He picked out all of those pieces and put them on one part of the table. Some of the pieces that had straight sides were light blue. He tried putting those together first. Soon, he had a whole line of blue pieces all put together.

Use what the *story says* and what you *already know* to pick the best answer to each question.

1. What is Calvin doing?

working on a puzzle	drawing a picture	having a snack

2. Where will the line of blue pieces probably fit on the puzzle?

in the middle	on the top	on one side

Listen to more of the story. Use what you *already know* to understand the story better.

> Calvin worked on fitting the pieces together until he had a complete square frame. Many of the rest of the pieces were partly light blue and partly white. Calvin worked on those blue and white pieces until the picture of the sky was finished. Then he worked on the red pieces until he had put together the picture of the barn.

Use what the *story says* and what you *already know* to pick the best answer to each question.

3. Why are the sky pieces partly light blue and partly white?

In the picture, it is night time.	In the picture, there are clouds in the sky.	In the picture, there is a barn.

4. What color is the barn?

light blue	white	red

5. When Calvin finishes the puzzle, what will the picture be?

a school	a farm	a bowl of fruit

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6. How did you use what the *story says* and what you *already know* to understand these stories better?
    (Use the answer key to briefly discuss the answers to each of the 5 questions.)

Answer Key

1.   working on a puzzle

2.   on the top

3.   In the picture, there are clouds in the sky.

4.   red

5.   a farm

6.   Discuss how we can use *what we know* to understand stories better.
     For example:

     - Question 1. The story doesn't <u>say</u> that Calvin is working on puzzle. But we know
       that puzzles have a lot of different shaped pieces that you spread out on a table.
       We also know that the edge pieces of a puzzle have one straight side.

     - Question 2. The story doesn't <u>say</u> that the light blue pieces are parts of the sky in
       the picture. But we know that the sky is usually light blue, and that the sky is
       usually at the top of a picture.

     - Question 3. The story doesn't <u>say</u> that there are clouds in the sky. But we know
       that when a light blue sky is partly white it means that there are clouds in the sky.

     - Question 4. The story doesn't <u>say</u> that that the barn is red. But the story says that
       the red pieces went together to make the picture of the barn.

     - Question 5. The story doesn't <u>say</u> that the finished puzzle is a picture of a farm.
       But we know that barns are usually on farms.