Checklist for Article of the Week

_____ Create a topic sentence (main idea)

_____ Use at least three supporting details

_____ Use important vocabulary words from the text (article)

_____ Use linking words and phrases to connect sentences

_____ Stay on topic

_____ Create a strong closing statement (sentence)

_____ Paragraph must be indented

_____ Use correct capitalization

_____ Use correct punctuation

_____ Use correct spelling

_____ Use complete sentences

Activity # 1 Article of the Week

- Gather the needed materials included in the folder: article, Somebody, Wanted, But, So, Then reference sheet, paper, and pencil.
- Read the assigned article with your child; discuss any vocabulary words that might be unknown to your child.
- With your Somebody, Wanted, But, So, Then reference sheet, fill in each box with the correct information from the article.
- With your completed reference sheet, use the information to write at least a five sentence summary paragraph on a separate sheet of paper that includes the title, the author of the article, if given, the main idea (the information on your reference sheet will help you do this), supporting details, and a closing sentence.
- After you have written at least a five-sentence summary of the article, you may include an illustration to support your summary.

Activity # 2 Close Read

- Gather the needed materials included in the folder: reading passage, Mark Up the Text reference sheet, questions about the reading passage, paper, pencil, and a highlighter.
- Read the assigned passage with your child.
- Read the assigned passage once again using the Mark Up the Text reference sheet to code the text in the passage. Code the text in the passage with the given highlighter.
- Read the assigned passage for a third time answering any questions that your child might have had during the first two reads.
- After completing the three reads of the passage, answer the questions included. While answering these questions, the student will need to answer in complete sentences, using correct capitalization and punctuation.

Ready to Roll

A tortoise gets around with the help of a classic toy.

A veterinarian in Germany recently solved one tiny tortoise's very big problem. And he used LEGO blocks to do it!

A tortoise named Blade can't walk on his own. He suffers from a bone disease that makes his legs too weak to support the weight of his shell. So his owner went to the local vet for help.

The vet, Dr. Carsten Plischke, borrowed his son's LEGO blocks and wheels. He attached them to Blade's bony underbelly using a special glue.

With the help of his LEGO "wheelchair," Blade can now scoot around on his own. Although the wheels do most of the work, Blade uses his legs to push himself along. That helps build muscle strength.

"This is the best **rehabilitation** we could imagine," says Plischke. He hopes Blade will be strong enough to walk without the wheels in a few months.

On the Move

Here are other animals that get around with a little help.

Mosha, an Asian elephant, wears a fake leg made of plastic and metal. It has to be strong—Mosha weighs around 3,000 pounds!

Winter the dolphin lost her tail in an accident in 2005. Scientists made her a plastic one to help her swim.

Word to Know

rehabilitation (ree-huh-bih-luh-TAY-shun) *noun.* a treatment meant to bring someone or something back to normal after an illness or injury

Picture THIS

Say Cheese!

The stars are smiling! At least that's what it looks like in this photo taken recently by the Hubble Space Telescope. Hubble orbits Earth every 97 minutes, taking photos as it moves. Hubble's powerful lenses can view objects billions of miles away. The eyes and nose of this "smiley face" are distant galaxies, which are huge groups of stars.

ACTION PRESS/ZUMA WIRE/NEWSCOM (BLADE THE TORTOISE); COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF THE ASIAN ELEPHANT (MOSHA); BARRY BLAND/BARCROFT MEDIA/LANDOV (WINTER THE DOLPHIN); NASA/ESA/JPL-CALTECH (STARS)

Summarizing

with .... *Somebody-Wanted-But-So*

One of the hardest things for young children to understand is the difference between ***retelling*** and ***summarizing***. While a ***retell*** is a detailed "play by play" of all the events in a story, told in sequence, a ***summary*** is a brief overview of the story as a whole. The Somebody-Wanted-But-So format is a great way to guide students to give a summary and NOT a retell.

Almost ALL fiction stories can be summarized with

Somebody-Wanted-But-So

(This format is often ended with a "then" statement.)

Example:

Cinderella **wanted** to go to the ball, **but** her evil stepmother wouldn't allow her to go, **so** her fairy godmother showed up and used magic to give her a dress, shoes, and a carriage so she could go. **Then**...she met the Prince, they fell in love, and lived happily ever after.

Created by Beth Banco of Simply SWEET TEAching

Name _____ Date _____

Somebody
Wanted
But
So
Then

Created by Beth Banco of Simply SWEET TEAching

Name _____ Date _____

Somebody Blade, the tortoise

Wanted to be able to walk on his own

But he couldn't because he had a bone disease that caused him to not be able to support the weight of his shell.

So a vet, Dr. Carsten Plischke, created wheels using Lego pieces and attached them to the bottom of Blade's shell underbelly.

Then Blade could move around independently while building strength in his muscles.

Summary:

title of article

The article "Ready to Roll" is about a tortoise named Blade. Blade was unable to walk on his own. — Main Idea

He wanted to walk, but a bone disease caused him to not be able to support the weight of his shell with his legs. So, a Vet named Dr. Plischke used Legos and wheels to attach to Blade's shell underbelly. This helped Blade move around. Then, Blade could move independently while building muscle strength in his legs. — Supporting Details

This is a simple example of how a classic toy was used to help a tortoise. — Closing Sentence

** Please note that the words "wanted" "but", "so", and "then" are used and underlined in the summary. Your child should also do this in his/her summary.

Mark Up The Text

1 2 Number each paragraph.

** Double star important facts.

Circle key words or details you want to remember.

X Put an X over things you don't understand.

? Put a question mark over things you find confusing or have questions about.

Underline unfamiliar words.

! Put an exclamation mark over things you find interesting.

Draw an arrow next to parts you made connections to.

The Statue of Liberty

1 The Statue of Liberty was given to the United States by France in 1884. Although it was presented to the US on July 4th, it didn't arrive in the country until many months later due to the fact that all 350 individual pieces had to be packed into crates and shipped across the Atlantic Ocean.

2 The Statue resides in Liberty Island in New York. The only way to get to the Statue is by ferry. A ferry is a small boat used to travel short distances. Liberty Island makes the perfect setting for this historical statue because it's one of the first things immigrants see when they arrive in the United States. The statue is a symbol of welcome for all the immigrants coming to America. It's also universally known as a symbol of freedom.

3 Auguste Bartholdi was the French sculptor who built the Statue of Liberty. Along with the help of many workers, the statue took nine years to make! The framework was designed by French engineer Gustave Eiffel, who also designed the Eiffel Tower. The Statue stands at 305 feet tall.

4 Approximately three million people visit the Statue each year! Visitors must climb 354 stairs to reach the top, or the crown. The crown contains 25 windows where people can look out from. Only a limited number of people can visit the crown each day, which means overcrowding isn't an issue.

Did you know?
The official name of the Statue of Liberty is 'Liberty Enlightening the World'

5 There are seven spikes on the top of Lady Liberty's crown that represent the seven continents. The Statue of Liberty symbolizes freedom for all.

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Name: _____

Non-fiction

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

Directions: Answer each question below using details from the passage. Be sure and provide supporting evidence that proves your response.

1. Why did the United States not receive the statue as soon as it was presented to them?

The statue was not received until many months after it was presented on July fourth. It had to be shipped across the Atlantic Ocean.

2. Explain why the Statue of Liberty is universally known as a symbol of freedom.

In paragraph two, the author states the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom because it's one of the first things immigrants see when coming to the United States.

3. Why do you think the author of this passage included the definition for "ferry"? In your opinion, is the definition necessary?

I believe the author included the term ferry to help the reader understand how to get to the Statue of Liberty. In my opinion, the definition is necessary because it gives the reader a better understanding of the statue.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 4?

The main idea of paragraph four informs the reader about more details of the Statue of Liberty and what visitors can see and do there.

Juan Ponce De Leon and the Fountain of Youth

One of the sailors who sailed with Christopher Columbus on his second voyage to the New World was a man named Juan Ponce De Leon. This voyage would change his life.

He decided to stay in Hispaniola when Columbus returned. Ponce became very popular and was named governor of neary Puerto Rico then called (Boriquien) in 1508.

While there, he heard many stories of a magical water source. People called it the "Fountain of Youth" and said that drinking its water kept you young. Ponce decided that he must find this water source.

For the next few years, he tried to find out where this "Fountain of Youth" was. He finally believed he knew where it was, and he asked permission from Spain's King Charles V to go in search of it. The king agreed, as long as Ponce agreed to pay for the ships and crew.

The young explorer did so readily, and they were off. It was March 1513. They sailed for Bimini.

They sailed for days but didn't see the island. On March 27, he came within sight of the Florida coast. On April 2, he landed at what he named St. Augustine. This was the first Spanish settlement on the mainland of North America.

He had several adventures along the way, fighting off fierce native tribes and discovering some hidden riches. He did not, however, find the Fountain of Youth. In need of fresh ships and crew, he returned to Boriquien.

He continued to govern the island, and he continued to hear stories of the Fountain of Youth. Finally, in 1521, he set out again. He had gained permission to settle both Bimini, which he still hoped to find, and Florida, which he thought was an island.

He failed to find Bimini again, but he did land on the Florida coast. (No one is really sure where he landed.) While he and his men were building houses for a proposed settlement, they were attacked by native tribesmen. Many of his men died, but Ponce escaped, although he was injured. He boarded his ship and set sail again. He reached Cuba and entered a hospital, where died of wounds from the attack in Florida.

Juan Ponce De Leon never found the Fountain of Youth. Neither did anyone else, at least as far we know.

Source: http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/worldhistory/juanponcedeleon2.htm

Name _____ Date _____

Somebody
Wanted
But
So
Then

Created by Beth Bacon of Lincoln SWEET TEACHING

Vikings & European Explorers
Ponce de Leon

In 1513, a Spanish explorer named Juan Ponce de Leon landed on the east coast of Florida. He was the first European explorer to reach the North American mainland. De Leon claimed the land for Spain so it could set up a colony.

De Leon, however, is probably remembered most for trying to find the Fountain of Youth. In 1512, King Ferdinand of Spain asked Ponce de Leon to explore an island north of Cuba. Legend has it that Juan was more than willing to take on this **mission.**[1] The **legendary**[2] spring was said to restore youth and cure sickness. De Leon thought the fountain lay north, and he wanted to be the first to find it. Historians today aren't sure whether the legend is true. They think de Leon knew about the fountain, but that he was most interested in more land he could govern.

From what people know about de Leon, he was an **ambitious**[3] person. De Leon was born in 1474 near the town of Palencia in Spain. He was from a noble family and held a **respected**[4] position in the Spanish court as a **page.**[5] During this time, he became interested in sailing and exploration. It is believed that he may have sailed with Christopher Columbus on his second journey to the Caribbean. He became a soldier in Española, which is now Hispaniola. In 1508, he moved to the island of San Juan, what is now Puerto Rico. There, he conquered the territory after discovering gold. He became colonial governor of San Juan in 1509.

Ponce de Leon never did find the Fountain of Youth, which doesn't exist. Instead, he discovered something bigger, the North American continent. On April 2, 1513, he anchored off the coast of Florida. That day, he made history.

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[1] **mission** – special job or task
[2] **legendary** – based on a story handed down from earlier times, may not be entirely true
[3] **ambitious** – having a strong will to be successful
[4] **respected** – admired
[5] **page** – a person who runs errands or acts as a messenger

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6. What effect might discovering North America have on an explorer like Ponce de Leon?

_____

_____

_____

7. What day did Ponce de Leon make history?

_____

_____

_____

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

   Ponce de Leon claimed the land for Spain _____ the country could set up a colony.

   a. before
   b. after
   c. because
   d. so

9. Answer the following questions based on the sentence below.

Ponce de Leon became governor of San Juan in 1509 because he conquered the territory and discovered gold.

Who? Ponce de Leon

(did) What? _____

When? _____

Why? _____

10. **Vocabulary Word**: legendary: based on a story handed down from earlier times, may not be entirely true.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: _____

_____

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_____ Use correct punctuation
_____ Use correct spelling
_____ Use complete sentences