

Print these **Lexia Skill Builders®** to use as pencil and paper practice activities that will reinforce and extend skills acquired online.

Level	Activity	# of pages
Core5 L12	Passage Comprehension 1	7
	Total	7



- 1 Read and underline the definition** of the word below. Knowing this word and its definition will help you complete the following activities.

develop (verb) To develop is to grow, learn, or change.

- 2 Reread the informational text** on the next page, “Becoming a Frog.” Informational texts give facts about a topic.
 - Use the glossary** to help you with the meaning of unfamiliar words.
 - Explore the diagram** to help you understand the written information.
- Informational texts have main ideas. The main idea of this text is in bold print in Paragraph 1. Go back to the text, and **put a star (★) next to the main idea**.
- Write the main idea** below.

main idea	
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- Informational texts also have key details that support the main idea. Three key details are underlined in the text. Go back to the text, and **put a checkmark (✓) next to each key detail**.
- Write the three key details** below.

key detail 1	
key detail 2	
key detail 3	

- Write a question** about one of the key details in the text or the diagram. For example, you might ask, *How does a tadpole’s body change?*

- Write an answer** to your question using your notes above and details from the text.

- ★ Create a poster that illustrates and explains what you learned about how a frog develops.**



Becoming a Frog

1 What looks like a fish, swims like a fish, and gets air like a fish—but is not a fish? The answer to that riddle is a tadpole. **A tadpole is not a fish. A tadpole grows and changes to become a frog.**

2 Tadpoles begin their lives in water. Tadpoles hatch from eggs laid by an adult female frog. A tadpole has a round head and a tail. It breathes through gills, like a fish. The newly hatched tadpole rests at first. Then, as its tail grows bigger and stronger, the tadpole uses it to swim about. Its main food is bits of water plants.

3 Over time, the tadpole's body changes. The changes may take weeks, months, or even years. The tadpole begins to grow legs. The hind legs appear first, and then the front legs. A tongue forms in its mouth. Inside its body, lungs take shape. Lungs are what land animals use to breathe on land. The tadpole's gills disappear.

4 Finally, the animal leaves the water. It may still have a tail, which begins to shrink. The animal is not a plant eater anymore. It uses its long tongue to catch insects. The tadpole has become a frog.



GLOSSARY

gills (noun, plural) Gills are what fish use to breathe in water.

lungs (noun, plural) Lungs are what animals use to breathe air.

shrink (verb) To shrink is to get smaller.



- 1 **Read and underline the definition** of the phrase below. Knowing this phrase and its definition will help you complete the following activities.

take care of (verb) To take care of others is to be helpful and kind.

- 2 **Reread the poem** on the next page, “Anything for You.” Poems use the sound, as well as the meaning, of words to express feelings and ideas.
- 3 Poets use words to help readers form pictures in their minds. Go back to the poem, and **underline three examples of taking care of a friend** by being helpful and kind.
- 4 The poem gives many examples of taking care of a friend. **Write three examples from the poem in your own words.**

example 1	
example 2	
example 3	

- 5 Poems often have words that rhyme. This poem uses rhyme to connect the many examples of taking care of a friend. Go back to the poem, and **circle the word at the end of each line.**
- 6 **Write the rhyming words** below.

rhyme 1	
rhyme 2	
rhyme 3	

- 7 Poems also often have rhythm. Rhythm is like a drumbeat that goes with groups of words. **Read the poem aloud, and listen for the rhythm.**
- 8 **How do you know that this is a poem and not a story?** Use specific examples from the poem to support your answer. Write on another page.

★ **Circle the first letter of every line. What word do you see? This kind of poem is called an *acrostic*. Choose a word that has special meaning to you—like your name—and write your own acrostic poem.**



Anything for You

Forget that it's your birthday? Never!

Reveal your deepest secrets? No way!

Include you in my plans? Forever!

Encourage you to dream? Okay!

Need a helping hand or hug? I'm there!

Don't have your lunch today? I'll share!

Sweet friend, I hope you know I care.



- 1 **Read and underline the definition** of the word below. Knowing this word and its definition will help you complete the following activities.

moral (noun) The moral of a story is the lesson it teaches about life.

- 2 **Reread the fable below**, “A Dog’s Mistake.” Fables are short stories with a moral.
- 3 The characters in a fable are often animals. **Circle the name of the main character.**
- 4 Characters in fables often make mistakes. How does Dog lose his meat? The major events in the fable are underlined.
 - a **Put a checkmark (✓) next to the major event at the beginning of the fable.**
 - b **Put a checkmark (✓) next to the major event in the middle of the fable.**
 - c **Put a checkmark (✓) next to the major event at the end of the fable.**
- 5 Fables have a moral. **Put a star (★) next to the moral** at the end of the fable.

A Dog’s Mistake

- 1 Dog had found a piece of meat. Now he was heading home with it.
- 2 Dog came to a log bridge that crossed a stream. On the bridge, he looked down at the water. He was surprised to see a dog looking up at him, and that dog had meat in his mouth!
- 3 “That dog’s meat looks better than mine,” Dog said. “And I want it!” He dropped his own meat and leaped into the water. The stream carried off Dog’s meat.
- 4 There was no other dog. When Dog had looked down from the bridge, he had seen himself in the water. The water was like a mirror.
- 5 Dog said sadly, “Now I have no meat at all.”
- 6 The moral is *Be happy with what you have.*



- 1 Complete the definition of the word below.

moral (noun) The moral of a story is the _____ it teaches about life.

- 2 Reread the fable below, “The Fox and the Crow.”
- 3 Circle the names of the two main characters.
- 4 Characters in fables are often tricked by other characters. How does Crow lose her cheese? The major events in the fable are underlined.
 - a Put a checkmark (✓) next to the major event at the beginning of the fable.
 - b Put a checkmark (✓) next to the major event in the middle of the fable.
 - c Put a checkmark (✓) next to the major event at the end of the fable.
- 5 Put a star (★) next to the moral at the end of the fable.

The Fox and the Crow

- 1 Fox looked up in a tree and saw Crow. She held a chunk of cheese in her beak. Fox wanted that cheese, and he had a plan to get it.
- 2 Fox said, “What a fine bird I see on the branch! Her black feathers gleam in the sun. She looks beautiful!” As Fox spoke, Crow felt proud.
- 3 Fox went on. “That bird is so fine-looking. It is a shame that she cannot sing.”
- 4 Crow wanted Fox to hear her sing. “CAW, CAW,” she sang.
- 5 When she opened her beak, Crow dropped the cheese, and it fell to the ground. Fox picked up the cheese and trotted off with it.
- 6 The moral is *Don’t trust anyone who gives too many compliments.*

Name: _____



1 Complete the chart below. Use the markings you made on each text to help you.

	“A Dog’s Mistake”	“The Fox and the Crow”
main characters		and
major event 1 (beginning)	✓	✓
major event 2 (middle)	✓	✓
major event 3 (end)	✓	✓
moral	★	★

2 How are “The Fox and the Crow” and “A Dog’s Mistake” alike? How are they different? Use your notes and examples from the fables to support your answer. Write on another page.

★ Choose one of the fables to read aloud to a partner. Practice speaking in a different voice for each character and the narrator (the voice telling the story).