

Developing Readers

Grade 5

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Connect, Compare, and Contrast

When reading, it is important to make connections and to compare and contrast ideas, themes, and issues. The reader may need to go beyond the author's words within one or two texts to compare how ideas, themes, and issues are alike and how they are different.

When reading

- Compare – how the two texts are alike
- Contrast – how the two texts are different
- Connect – how the two texts connect to your life



Text #1	Text #2
Facts: Ant gathers food.	Facts: Little Red Hen gathers wheat.
Inferences: Ant is a hard worker.	Inferences: Little Red Hen is a hard worker.
Lesson Learned: Ant will have food for the winter.	Lesson Learned: Little Red Hen will enjoy her bread.
Connections to My Life: I am going to be a hard worker because I want enough food to eat.	

Key Phrases:

- Facts from _____ and _____ are alike/different because _____.
- Inferences from _____ and _____ are alike / different because _____.
- The lessons learned are alike / different because _____.
- The connection to my life in both text is _____.

Additional Practice

Materials: Connect, Compare, Contrast Across Texts Definition Reproducible (DR5-CD)
Guided practice text selection Geese Facts and Flight Plight Reproducible (DR5-CD)
Connect, Compare, Contrast Across Texts Graphic Organizer #2 Reproducible (DR5-CD)

- Display and review the strategy definition.
- I showed you how to connect, compare, and contrast across texts to find similarities, differences, and make personal connections. Now we are going to practice that using Geese Facts and Flight Plight. Remember, this is a complicated skill, so we will break it up into four parts.***
- Display or provide copies of the selection Geese Facts and Flight Plight.
- After I reread the story, be ready to “stop and talk”. Turn to your partner and say, A connection I can make to both stories is _____ because _____.***
- Display the Connect, Compare, Contrast Across Texts Graphic Organizer #2. (DR5-CD)
- Allow students enough time to complete their talk. As they share their thinking, record their answers on the graphic organizer.

Example: Connect, Compare, Contrast Across Texts Graphic Organizer #2

Title: Geese Facts	Title: Flight Plight
<p>Facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Geese fly south for the winter -Flying in a V makes distance flying easier by creating an uplift -Geese take turns flying at the point of the V -When a goose is injured and goes down, 2 others accompany it until it recovers or dies 	<p>Facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Geese fly south for the winter -Geese return to the same nesting area in the spring -Geese take turns flying at the head of the V -Tired geese benefit from the uplift created by the V formation -Geese fly at 30-55 miles per hour -Geese are monogamous
<p>Inferences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Flocks of geese allow recovered geese to join their migration 	<p>Inferences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Flocks of geese allow recovered geese to join their migration
<p>Lesson Learned:</p> <p>Geese look out for one another</p>	<p>Lesson Learned:</p> <p>Geese look out for one another</p>
<p>Connections to My Life:</p> <p>e.g. When my brother and I have a lot to do, we do a better job in less time if we work together.</p>	

George Washington Biography

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. He lived in Virginia. Washington never attended college, but he studied at home.

Washington stood 6 ft. 2 in. tall. His favorite foods were ice cream and fish. He loved fishing and riding horses. As a boy, he had a horse.

In May of 1776, George was elected Commander of the Continental Army. Later he was elected president.

When Washington became president, there were 3,929,214 people in our country. Our flag had sixteen stars when he left the presidency in 1797.

George Washington: A Writer of Letters

George Washington was a talented and frequent letter writer. Below are things in some of his letters.

March 19, 1776

Washington shared how he and his soldiers took a high point above Boston and forced the British soldiers to flee to their ships in the harbor. Washington promised that he was ready to defend the city if the British soldiers left their ships.

March 24, 1776

Washington posted his soldiers at an even higher and nearer position to the Boston Harbor. The British ships did not seem to be leaving the harbor. He vowed to continue to protect the city.

He said he felt that “the position nearer the enemy ships would annoy the fleet and force them to leave.”

After eleven months—the longest single conflict of the American Revolutionary War--the British finally withdrew and the Siege of Boston was over. Congress gave Washington a medal and named him a commander the next May.

Connect, Compare, and Contrast Across Text Quick Check

Earth's Most Powerful Telescope

The Keck Telescope is a 10,400 foot telescope in Hawaii. It is made up of two large telescopes that combine their light as one telescope. Incoming light reaches three types of mirrors that concentrate it to a small area.

There are several things that scientists can now do because of this powerful telescope. They can learn more about how galaxies are formed, and the growth of galaxies over a period of time can be studied. The movement of gas on planets can be measured. And the winds around planets can be studied.

Who knows what may be found next?

What is a Planet?

Mike Brown of Caltech has discovered an object that appears to be larger than Pluto. The new object discovered by Brown is round, about three times as far from the sun as Pluto, and appears to be covered with methane gas.

Not all scientists think Brown discovered another planet. There is a region of objects behind Neptune. This group feels the discovery may be in Neptune's region.

NASA seems to think Brown has found a new planet. One scientist there defines a planet as any object in the heavens that is nearly as large as Pluto.

So the debate continues. What is a planet, anyway?

Troy Aikman—A Biography

1 Troy Aikman, the great Cowboy quarterback, was born in 1966 in West Covina, California. He had to wear casts on both of his feet until he was 13 months to correct a mild form of club feet.

2 After high school, Troy was offered the opportunity to play professional baseball for the New York Mets but chose football. He first played for Oklahoma University but later transferred to the University of California at Los Angeles when Oklahoma installed a more run oriented offense. In 1989, Troy was drafted with the first overall pick by the Dallas Cowboys, and he didn't win a single game his rookie season. Three years later, after a victory in Super Bowl XXVI, he was named the most valuable player on the team.

3 Throughout his NFL career, Troy suffered ten concussions and several injuries. After helping the Cowboys win three Super Bowls and passing for a total of 32,942 yards, he retired. Despite that challenging first season, he still holds the NFL record for wins by a quarterback during any specific decade. He was enshrined in the NFL Hall of Fame in 2006.

Troy Aikman and J.P. O'Neil

4 A Dallas boy named J.P. O'Neil was ten years old in 1993 when he developed a kind of cancer that causes tumors to grow on different parts of the patient's body. J.P. was a sports fan who had pictures of the Cowboys all over his room.

5 During the summer of 1994 Channel 5 heard about J.P. and arranged a trip to the Cowboys' training camp. J.P. met with the players and got autographs. One player, Troy Aikman, was especially kind to J.P. and visited with him for several minutes.

6 As Aikman turned to leave, J.P.'s mother, Kim, touched his sleeve. "Would you do me a favor and throw a touchdown pass for J.P.?" she asked.

7 Aikman looked at her and at J.P. sitting in his wheelchair, wearing a Cowboy cap. The quarterback was touched. "I will do that in a game soon and then I'll send him the ball," he promised.

8 On the night of August 7, the Cowboys did not win, but Troy threw the touchdown pass for J.P. and sent it to him.

9 J.P. died soon after that. The football was in his hands when people came to his funeral. Troy kept his promise.

Flight Plight

It was late August when the gander and his lifetime mate, began their migration. Their lake had begun to freeze and food was becoming hard to find. The pair had been together for many years flying south every winter and returning to the same nesting area every spring.

The gander was bigger and stronger than most of the other geese in the flock so he was the first to take the point position in the ragged V formed by the migrating birds. After flying thirty to fifty-five miles an hour for many miles, the gander began to tire so another large goose replaced him at the point while the gander moved toward the back to rest and take advantage of the uplift caused by the flying wedge.

Suddenly, the crack of a hunter's rifle exploded from the ground. The gander felt burning metal tear through his wing. Down he plummeted to the pond below. In an instant, his mate changed direction, following her life partner to the pond. Seconds later, a third goose broke formation to join the female and her wounded mate.

Together the three stayed hiding in the tall grass near the pond as the gander recovered. The other two geese foraged for food and waited for the gander to return to health.

Every day the gander improved. In early September, he tested his tender wing. His painful but steady wing-beats pulled him up into the clouds. Once the gander felt stronger, the trio watched the autumn sky for another migrating flock. Then one dark fall morning they heard what they had been waiting for--dozens of huge geese flying in a familiar V pattern honking encouragement to each other as they flew overhead.

The gander and his two companions rose into the crisp morning air. The three geese took rear positions in the formation of the welcoming new flock as they winged their way south for another winter.

Geese Facts

Author Unknown

Next fall when you see geese flying along in V formation heading south for winter, consider what science has discovered as to why they fly in this formation.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in V formation the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range, than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front. If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way.

When the head goose gets tired it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point. It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs with people or with geese flying south.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. What do we say when we honk from behind?

Finally, it is important when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshots, and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies, and only then do they launch out on their own, or with another formation to catch up with their group.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other in the same way.



Connect, Compare, Contrast Across Text Graphic Organizer #1

Title 1: _____

Title 2: _____

The stories were alike in several ways.

The stories were different in several ways.

The stories remind me of

Connect, Compare, Contrast Across Text Graphic Organizer #2

Title:	Title:
Facts:	Facts:
Inferences:	Inferences:
Lesson Learned:	Lesson Learned:
Connections to My Life:	

Connect, Compare, and Contrast Reflection

When did you use the strategy?

Why did you use the strategy?

How did you use the strategy?

How did the strategy help you understand the text?