

# Specific Skill Builders

Level 2

## Teacher's Guide

The *Specific Skill Builders Story Cards - Level 2* series was created to give students targeted practice with key comprehension skills. By focusing on one comprehension skill at a time, struggling readers will have an opportunity to master that skill and improve overall reading and comprehension skills.

This Teacher's Guide includes a **Reading Progress Chart**, a blank **Answer Key Template** for each *Specific Skill Builders* boxed set, as well as a list of **Topics**, **Reading Levels (RL)**, **Word Counts (WC)**, **Genres**—fiction (F), nonfiction (NF), or realistic fiction (RF), and **Words to Know** for each story.

---

### Contents

Reading Progress Chart.....	1
<b>Getting the Main Idea (REM 2006B)</b>	
Reading Levels & Word Counts .....	2
Words to Know .....	2
Answer Key Template .....	3
<b>Using the Context (REM 2007B)</b>	
Reading Levels & Word Counts .....	4
Words to Know .....	4
Answer Key Template .....	5
<b>Finding the Facts (REM 2008B)</b>	
Reading Levels & Word Counts .....	6
Words to Know .....	6
Answer Key Template .....	7
<b>Detecting the Sequence (REM 2009B)</b>	
Reading Levels & Word Counts .....	8
Words to Know .....	8
Answer Key Template .....	9
<b>Drawing Conclusions (REM 2010B)</b>	
Reading Levels & Word Counts .....	10
Words to Know .....	10
Answer Key Template .....	11
<b>Identifying Fact &amp; Opinion (REM 2011B)</b>	
Reading Levels & Word Counts .....	12
Words to Know .....	12
Answer Key Template .....	13



Story #	Topics	Genre	RL	WC
1	Last Day of Summer	F	3.7	152
2	North Pole & South Pole	NF	3.2	155
3	Hoover Dam	NF	4.2	147
4	Helicopters vs. Airplanes	NF	4.2	150
5	Air Traffic Controllers	NF	4.3	149
6	Changes in Clothing Styles	NF	3.0	152
7	Surprising Facts About Pigs	NF	3.2	148
8	Trying Out for JV Basketball	F	3.2	149
9	Stray Dog in the Woods	F	3.0	154
10	Devil Toad	NF	4.2	147
11	Click Beetles	NF	4.0	145
12	Peabody Duck March	RF	4.4	154
13	Yellowstone Park	NF	4.4	152
14	Bush Babies	NF	3.8	146
15	Jordan Romero	NF	4.4	152

### Words to Know

Story #1	carefree	noticed	refreshed			
Story #2	similar	opposite	area	continent	climate	northernmost
Story #3	control	dam	crops	valuable	overflow	constructing
Story #4	runaway	fairly	fuel	load	rescue	supplies
Story #5	aircraft	constantly	approval	depends	controllers	
Story #6	ancestors	attention	daring	floppy	common	
Story #7	snuggle	nursing	domestic	surprising	joystick	
Story #8	nervous	dribbling	guarding	prevent	junior varsity	
Story #9	wander	crouched	frightened	concerned	thrilled	
Story #10	armor	fierce	fossils	task	prey	snatch
Story #11	tropical	springs	appears	acrobats		
Story #12	according	lobby	fountain	retiring		
Story #13	wild	natural	geysers	bison	remain	
Story #14	shrubs	often	kangaroos			
Story #15	motivational	peaks	mission	unique	summits	message inspire

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Getting the Main Idea

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. (A)

5. (A)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Getting the Main Idea

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. (A)

5. (A)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Story #	Topics	Genre	RL	WC
1	Lost Treasure	F	3.1	149
2	Geronimo	NF	4.5	152
3	Dog Chased by Coyotes	F	3.3	143
4	Riding the Rapids	F	3.7	147
5	Giant Squid	NF	4.4	147
6	Chuck Yeager	NF	3.6	151
7	Charter Fishing	F	3.3	142
8	Early George Washington	NF	4.4	148
9	Skunk Ape in Everglades	F	3.7	150
10	Young Thomas Edison	NF	4.3	151
11	Fighting a Forest Fire	RF	4.0	147
12	Pirate Anne Bonny	NF	4.1	151
13	Indy Car Race	F	3.7	151
14	Invention of Post-It Notes	NF	3.9	147
15	Exploring an Egyptian Tomb	F	4.5	149

### Words to Know

Story #1	compass	swamp	hollow	swatted		
Story #2	warrior	magical				
Story #3	snarling	gathered	snapped	yelped	zipped	
Story #4	rapids	wet suit	properly	paddle	guide	soaked
Story #5	tentacles	creatures				
Story #6	force	accomplish	announced	feat		
Story #7	opportunity	reeled				
Story #8	military	career	succeed	necessity	attacked	
Story #9	swamp	growled	figure			
Story #10	bored	decided	experiments	discoveries	inventors	lab
Story #11	hotshot	crew	clearing	swooped	retardant	flickered
Story #12	respected	bravery	record	adventurous		
Story #13	examined	accelerator	surged	official	squeezed	blur
Story #14	formula	slightly	removed			
Story #15	ancient	pharaoh	entryway	hieroglyphs	spotted	glittering tomb

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Using the Context**

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

3. (A)

(B)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

(C)

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Using the Context**

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

3. (A)

(B)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

(C)

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Story #	Topics	Genre	RL	WC
1	Max Makes a Change	F	3.3	147
2	Wild Animal Park	NF	4.3	145
3	Michelle Obama	NF	4.4	139
4	Visiting Washington D.C.	RF	4.0	149
5	North American Rain Forest	NF	4.1	155
6	Sea Turtles Hatching	RF	3.9	152
7	Times Square in New York	NF	3.4	146
8	Summer Camp Counselors	F	3.9	143
9	Making Maple Syrup	RF	4.0	152
10	Desert Animals	NF	3.9	146
11	A Haunted Lighthouse	F	4.0	146
12	A Trip Back in Time	F	3.1	151
13	Starting a Band	F	3.4	154
14	Making Roast Chicken	F	4.2	150
15	Different Kinds of Fabrics	NF	3.4	150

### Words to Know

Story #1	doodling	text				
Story #2	roam	safari	surround			
Story #3	degree	mentor	national	symbol		
Story #4	exact	gigantic	structure	monuments		
Story #5	tropics	amount	crumble			
Story #6	section	disturb	hatching	hatchlings	patiently	emerge
Story #7	digital	posts	variety	crossroads	stroke	
Story #8	counselors	settle	rescuing	task		
Story #9	trade	taps	collect	sap	reward	
Story #10	extreme	burrow	prowls	survive	scorching	shade
Story #11	lighthouse	haunted	foghorn	alerts	foggy	
Story #12	museum	exhibit	mending	tends	reeds	display
Story #13	tacks	members	instrument			
Story #14	roasting	snip	pantry	sprinkles	drizzles	
Story #15	fabric	cocoons	alpacas	flax		

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Finding the Facts

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

3. (A)

(B)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

(C)

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Finding the Facts

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

3. (A)

(B)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

(C)

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Story #	Topics	Genre	RL	WC
1	Josia Thugwane	NF	4.5	149
2	Adopting a Dog	F	3.8	149
3	Lemonade Stand	F	3.1	147
4	Visiting Faneuil Hall Market	RF	4.4	146
5	Becoming an Astronaut	NF	4.3	152
6	Being a Stuntman	NF	4.5	150
7	Planning a Party	NF	3.1	142
8	Life Cycle of Frogs	NF	3.0	151
9	The Titanic	NF	4.0	152
10	Making a Commercial	NF	4.3	151
11	Beth Takes a Driving Test	F	3.7	153
12	Family Movie Night	F	3.9	145
13	Eleanor Roosevelt	NF	4.3	151
14	Boxcar Children	NF	4.5	151
15	Making a Pizza	NF	3.7	155

### Words to Know

Story #1	afford	banned	apartheid	marathon	professionally
Story #2	require	expensive	control	decision	housebroken
Story #3	squeezed	pitcher	customers	strollers	boomed earnings
Story #4	subway	allow	boarded	comfortable	
Story #5	applicants	shuttle	simulators	trainees	gravity
Story #6	risky	developing	prepare	coordinator	
Story #7	guest	invitations	charades	obstacle	relays decorations
Story #8	fragile	gills	interact	process	emerge wiggle
Story #9	luxurious	squash	disaster	iceberg	unsinkable
Story #10	advertisers	script	convince	editing	exactly commercials
Story #11	license	application	safety	vision	
Story #12	figure	cozy	option	ingredients	
Story #13	advocate	finishing school			
Story #14	boxcar	runaways	Depression-era		
Story #15	several	mozzarella	sprinkle		

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Detecting the Sequence

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

3.

---

---

---

---

---

4.

---

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Detecting the Sequence

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

3.

---

---

---

---

---

4.

---

---

Story #	Topics	Genre	RL	WC
1	Safe Skateboarding	F	3.6	152
2	Buying a Gift for Mom	F	3.8	149
3	The Championship Game	F	3.3	152
4	Wolf Packs	NF	4.2	146
5	Not Studying for a Test	F	3.4	148
6	Desert Plants & Animals	NF	4.0	150
7	Saving for a Computer	F	3.7	147
8	Jenny & Her Pets	F	4.2	148
9	Choosing a Career	NF	4.5	149
10	Tasmanian Devils	NF	4.5	147
11	Making Applesauce	F	4.4	150
12	Trees that Walk on Water	NF	4.0	149
13	Not Eating the Right Foods	F	3.8	151
14	A Reluctant Babysitter	F	3.0	148
15	Science Class	RF	4.3	148

### Words to Know

Story #1	steep	grimly	hastily	limping	damaged		
Story #2	skimmed	delivery	disappointed				
Story #3	relentlessly	upset	sailed	grabbed			
Story #4	consists	offspring	rank	alpha	behave	disagreement	
Story #5	instantly	announced	disappeared				
Story #6	extend	climate	burrows				
Story #7	service	unfortunately					
Story #8	attend						
Story #9	groomer	designer	consider				
Story #10	eerie	prey	pouches	provide	crunch		
Story #11	measured	frowned					
Story #12	marshland	stilts	anchor	coastal	creeping	tangled	
Story #13	slumped	concentrate	alert				
Story #14	gruffly	stomped					
Story #15	circuit	atom	electrons	protons	neutrons	glancing	eager

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Drawing Conclusions

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. (A)

5. (A)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Drawing Conclusions

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. (A)

5. (A)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Story #	Topics	Genre	RL	WC
1	Being First Kid	NF	3.9	145
2	Getting Stitches	F	3.5	152
3	Making a Mango Smoothie	NF	4.2	146
4	Renaissance Fair	NF	4.2	153
5	Clown College	NF	4.0	151
6	Visiting Vancouver, B.C.	NF	4.5	149
7	Red-Eared Turtles	NF	3.2	145
8	Coqui Frogs	NF	3.6	151
9	Dara Torres	NF	4.2	148
10	Stevie Wonder	NF	4.1	146
11	Visiting Tanzania	RF	4.4	143
12	Visiting the Sculpture Garden	RF	4.0	148
13	A Family Cruise	F	3.9	149
14	Tennis at Wimbledon	NF	4.4	148
15	Hadlock Field	NF	3.8	146

### Words to Know

Story #1	dorm	drawbacks	curious	advantages	disadvantages
Story #2	require	motionless	numb		
Story #3	choice	delicious			
Story #4	mock	operate	costumes	dungeon	
Story #5	applied	accepted			
Story #6	aquarium	surrounded	border		
Story #7	frequently	predators	bask		
Story #8	native	dusk	dawn	webbed	ignore
Story #9	competitive	scholarship	siblings		
Story #10	melodies	remarkable	impressive		
Story #11	skimming	enormous	perched		
Story #12	spouting	canopy			
Story #13	destination	miniature			
Story #14	traditions	spritzers	tournaments		
Story #15	entertaining	league			

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Identifying Fact & Opinion

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

3. (A)

(B)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Identifying Fact & Opinion

Story # \_\_\_\_\_

1. (A)

2. (A)

3. (A)

(B)

(B)

(B)

(C)

(C)

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_