ALIGNED TO LIFE SCIENCE STANDARDS NGSS 3-LS-3.1

3RD GRADE

INHERITANCE OF TRAITS

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

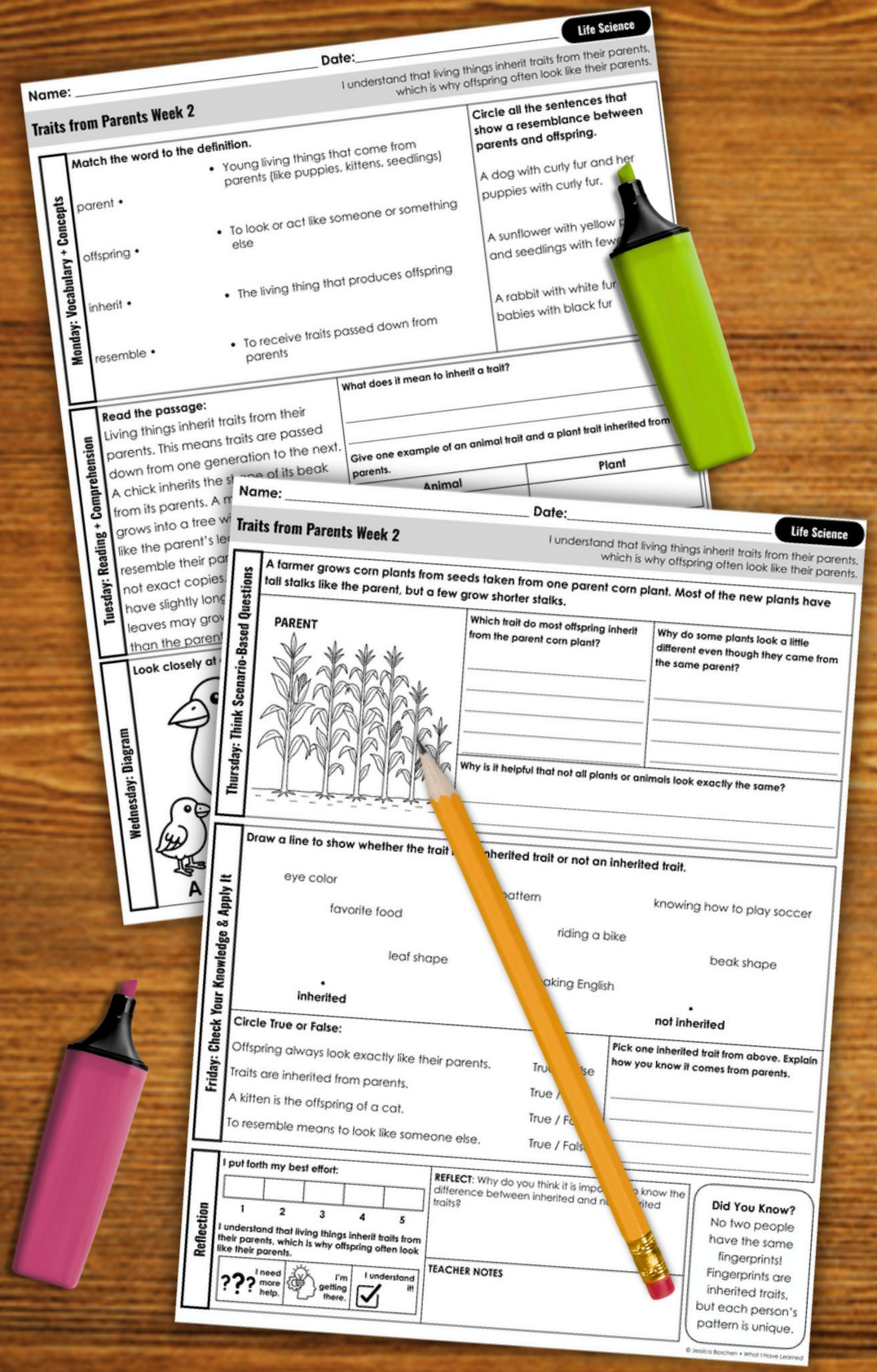
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

📄 **15 Daily Science Reviews**
(3 sets of 5)

🧠 **3 Weeks of Daily Review**

1. Vocabulary
2. Reading Comprehension
3. Diagram
4. Scenario
5. Check & Reflect

💡 **3 "Did You Know?" Science Facts –** Connect forces to real-world examples



3 WEEKS OF REVIEW

Week 1: Traits and Variation

Week 2: Traits From Parents

Week 3: Patterns and Predictions in Traits

Name: _____ Date: _____

Traits and Variation Week 1 — Life Science

I understand that living things have traits they inherit from parents and that hat they can also have varia

Monday: Vocabulary + Concepts

Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

1. A _____ is a feature of a living thing, like the shape of a bird's beak.
2. Kittens are the _____ of cats.
3. Children _____ traits such as eye color from their parents.
4. Not all sunflowers look exactly the same; there is _____ in their height and size.

Word
inherit
offspring
trait
variation

List three examples of traits in hu... and three examples of traits in animals or plants.

Tuesday: Reading + Comprehension

Read the passage:

All living things have traits. A trait is a feature that can be seen or described, like the color o... shape of a leaf, or the length of a rabbit's ears. Offspring inherit many traits from their parer... offspring look exactly the same. For example, puppies in the same litter may all have flopp... colors may be different. This is called variation.

What is a trait? Give two examples from the passage.	How do offspring get many of their traits?	Why might puppie... same litter look b... different?

Wednesday: Visual + Explain

This diagram shows three zebras from the same herd:
Zebra A: Dark black-and-white stripes, short mane
...stripes, long mane
...-white stripes, short mane



What traits do all three zebras share?

What traits are different among them?

Explain how this shows both inheritance (traits passed from parents) and variation (differences within the group).

Name: _____ Date: _____

Traits from Parents Week 2 — Life Science

I understand that living things inherit traits from their parents, which is why offspring often look like their parents.

Monday: Vocabulary + Concepts

Match the word to the definition.

parent •	• Young living things that come from parents (like puppies, kittens, seedlings)
offspring •	• To look or act like someone or something else
inherit •	• The living thing that produces offspring
resemble •	• To receive traits passed down from parents

Circle all the sentences that show a resemblance between parents and offspring.

A dog with curly fur and her puppies with curly...

A sunflower with ... and seedlings wit...

A rabbit with wh... babies with blac...

Tuesday: Reading + Comprehension

Read the passage:

Living things inherit traits from their parents. This means traits are passed down from one generation to the next. A chick inherits the shape of its beak from its parents. A maple tree seed grows into a tree with leaves that look like the parent's leaves... offspring often resemble their parents... they are not exact copies. So... hicks may have slightly lon... or some leaves may gr... maller than the pare...

What does it mean to inherit a trait?

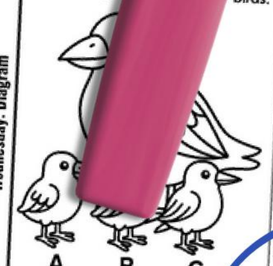
Give one example of an animal trait and a plant tra... parents.

Animal	

Why don't offspring look exactly like their parents?

Wednesday: Diagram

Look closely a... birds.



What trait did all three chicks inherit from the paren...

How does Chick C's beak still show that it came fr...

If Chick C grow... p and has its own offspring, wh... beaks look lik...

Name: _____ Date: _____

Patterns and Predictions in Traits Week 3 — Life Science

I understand that traits tend to follow patterns across generations. This helps me to make predictions about traits in offspring.

Monday: Vocabulary in Action

Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

1. A _____ is a difference in traits within a group.
2. Something repeating in a way we can notice is called a _____.
3. Using clue... uess what might happen in the future is to _____.
4. A _____ is all the offspring born around the same time (like parents, c... and grandchildren).
5. The passing on of tra... parents to offspring is called _____.

Word Bank
generation
heredi...
patter...
predict
variation

Write down a pattern you notic... in animals, plants, or people. Ho... e patterns in traits?

Tuesday: Reading + Comprehension

Read the passage:

Traits can follow patterns acr... generations. A family of horses ... have long tails, but some tails may... lighter or darker. A group of peas fr... the same plant may all be round, but some may be slightly larger or smaller. By examining parents, scientists can often predict certain traits that offspring may inherit. But variation means not all offspring look exactly the same.

What is one example of a trait pattern in horses, mentioned in the passage?

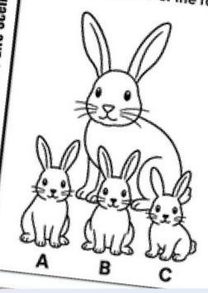
What is one example of a trait pattern in peas, mentioned in the passage?

Why can scientists often make predictions about traits in offspring?

Wh... ll offspring look exactly the same, even if they follow patterns?

Wednesday: Analyze a Real-Life Scene

Look at the picture of the rabbits.



Which baby rabbits ... the parent's trait?

Which baby rabbit shows variation?

If Baby C grows up and has offspring, what ear trait ... generation might you predict?

CONSISTENT WEEKLY STRUCTURE

Vocabulary + Concepts

Think Scenario–Based Questions

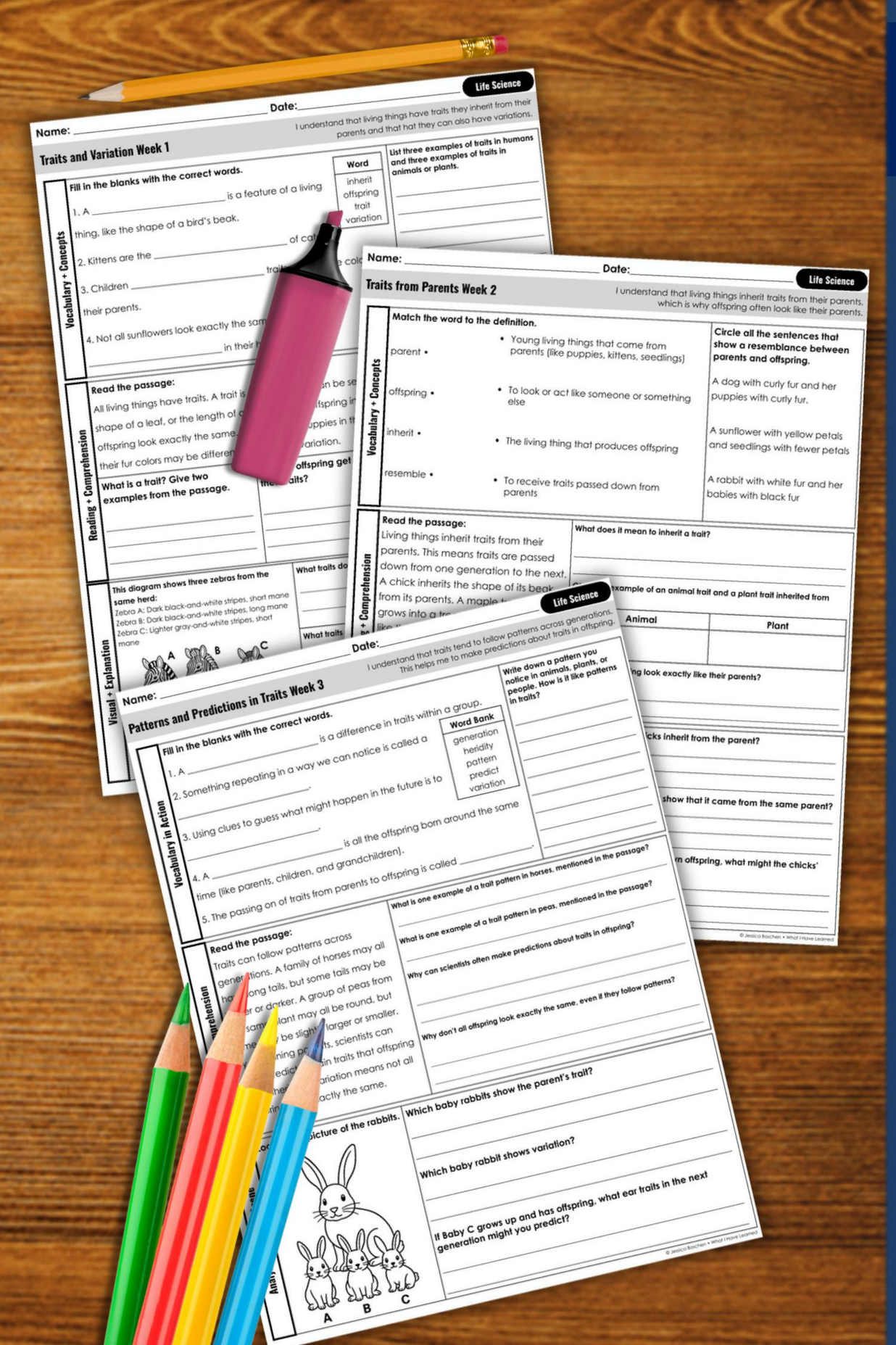
Reading Comprehension

Diagram

Reflection

Check Your Knowledge & Apply It

ALSO COMES **WITHOUT WEEKDAY LABELS**



WAYS TO USE IN THE CLASSROOM

- **Morning Work –** Print one double-sided page per week for bell ringers.
- **Exit Tickets –** Use a single page as a quick wrap-up or reflection.
- **Interactive Notebooks –** Cut and glue into notebooks for review.
- **Formative Assessment –** Quick checks with reflections + true/false questions.
- **Early Finishers –** Standards-based follow-up tasks.
- **Small Groups/Intervention –** Reteach concepts with visuals + prompts.

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE



Step-by-Step Progression

Three weeks scaffold learning—students first explore traits, then compare inherited vs. learned, then predict patterns in offspring traits.



Student-Centered Reflections

Reflections and real-world “Did You Know?” facts connect science concepts to students’ lives, making inheritance meaningful and memorable.



NGSS-Aligned

Directly supports NGSS 3-LS3-1 by exploring, comparing, and explaining how traits are inherited, varied, and observed across generations.



My passion is making learning accessible to all students. I love scaffolding learning, breaking down the concepts and building them up so that students can see the connections. I love figuring out the small components that build up to the big ideas and helping students see it all.



What I have LEARNED