ALIGNED TO LIFE SCIENCE STANDARDS NGSS 3-LS-3.2

3RD GRADE

ENVIRONMENT & TRAITS

Name: _____ Date: _____ Life Science

Inherited vs. Learned vs. Acquired Traits Week 1

I understand that traits can be inherited, learned, or influenced by the environment.

Monday: Vocabulary + Concepts

Match the word to the definition.

- Inherited Trait • • A physical change caused by the surroundings (like a scar or suntan)
- Learned Trait • • To affect or change something
- Acquired Trait • • A trait you are born with and receive from your parents
- Environment • • The place and conditions where an organism lives
- Influence • • A skill or behavior gained through practice or teaching

What is the difference between an inherited trait and a learned trait?

Read the passage:

living things have traits. Some traits are inherited from parents, like eye color or leaf shape. Other trai

Thursday: Scenario-Based Thinking

Scenario 1: A child practices piano every day for five years and becomes very skilled.
Is this trait inherited, learned, or influenced by the environment?

Explain your reasoning using evidence.

Scenario 2: A boy spends a lot of time outdoors in the summer and develops a tan.
Is this inherited or influenced by the environment?

What environmento caused the cha

Scenario 3: An Arctic fox is born with thick white fur. In winter, an Arctic fox's fur appears thicker and fuller than it does in summer. ability to grow thick fur erited, influenced by seasonal changes, or both?

How does cold weather affect the Arctic fox's fur?

Circle True or False.

Eye color is influenced by vironment. True / False

Learning to swi lit. True

A lea ait o t pra True

trait. True

Which trait was influenced by the environment?

Label the traits: inherited (I), learned (L)

eye

the your

Freckles that appear darker after sun exposure _____

Speaking two languages _____

Tuesday: Real-World Application + Explanation

Two identical tomato plants are grown:
Plant A receives full sunlight and regular water. Plant B receives little sunlight and

Plant A Plant B

t inherited trait is the same in both plants?

trait is different?

Friday: Quiz It

Did You Know?

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

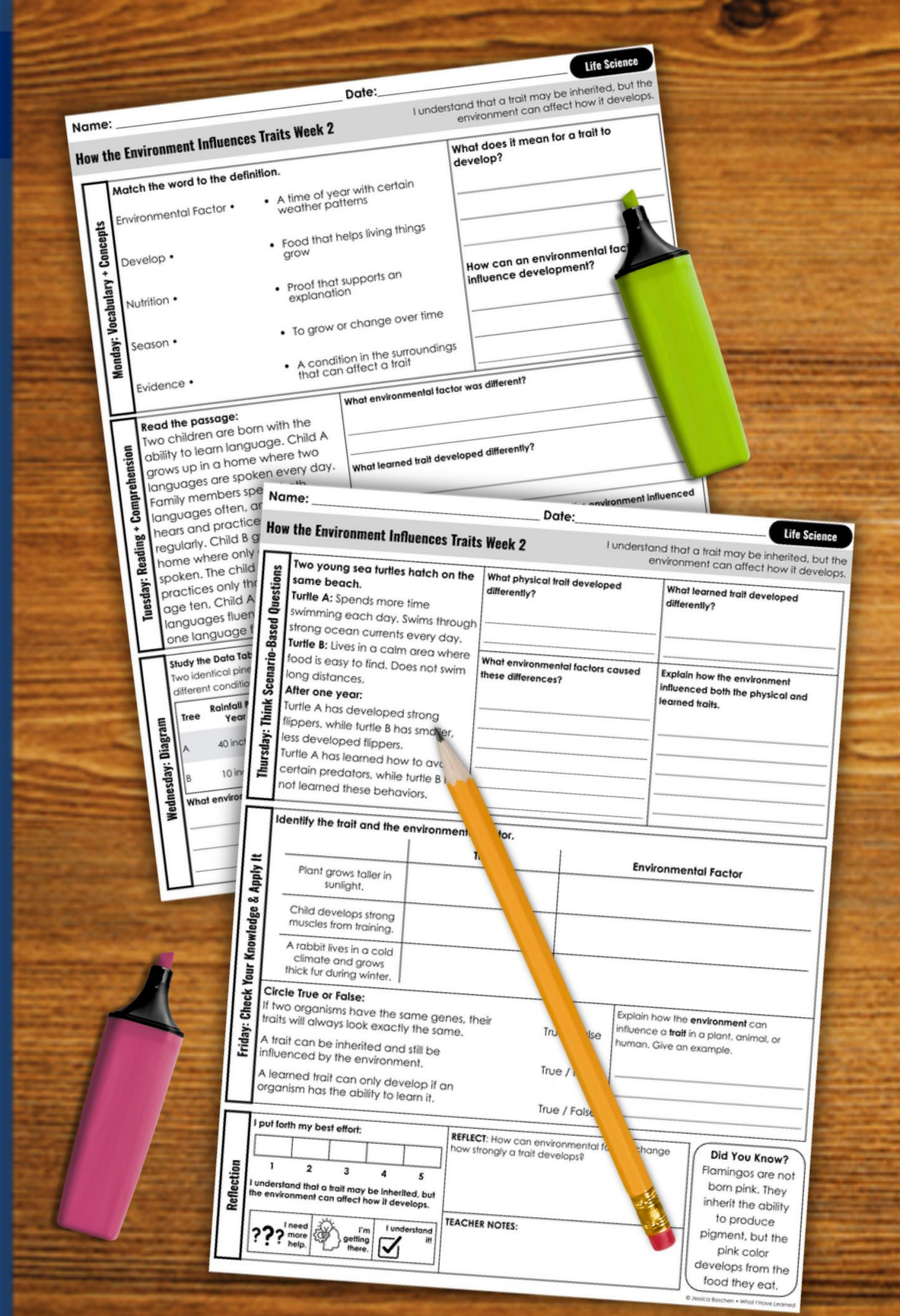
📄 15 Daily Science Reviews

🧠 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

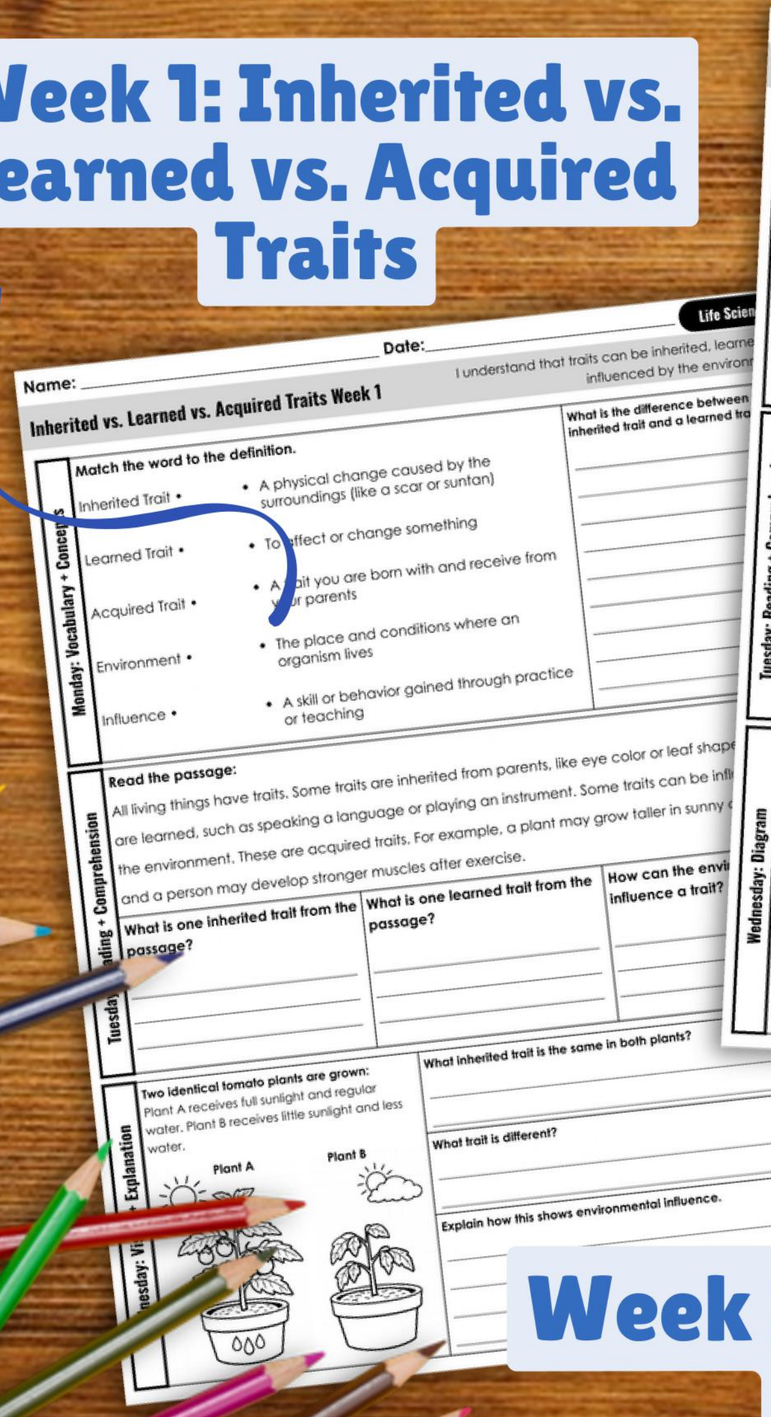


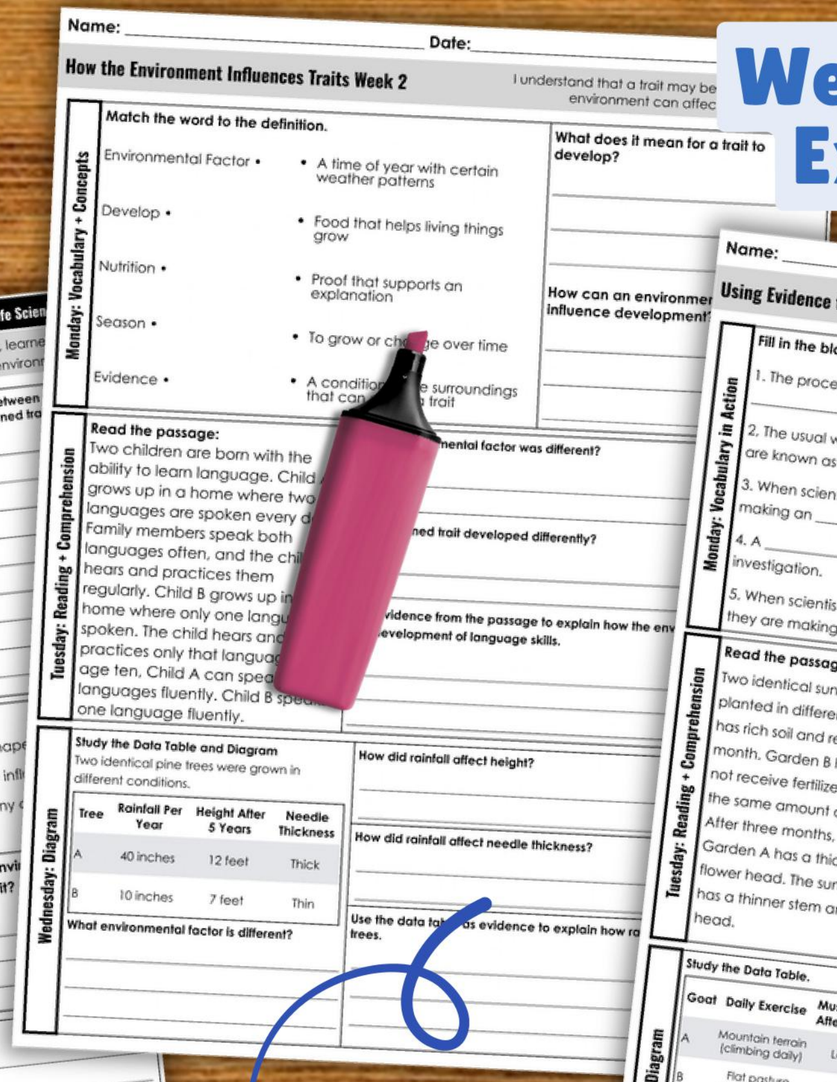
3 WEEKS OF REVIEW

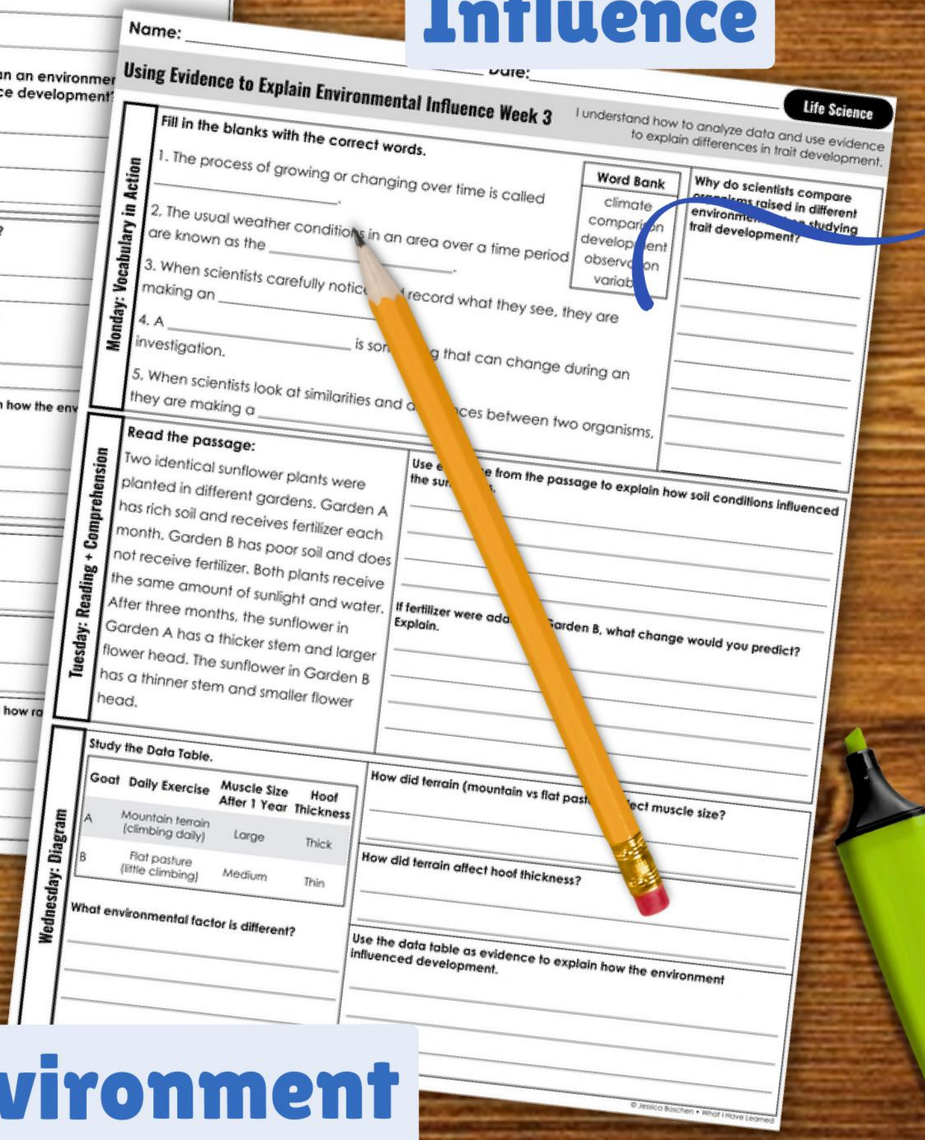
Week 1: Inherited vs. Learned vs. Acquired Traits

Week 2: How the Environment Influences Traits

Week 3: Using Evidence to Explain Environmental Influence







CONSISTENT WEEKLY STRUCTURE

Vocabulary + Concepts

Think Scenario–Based Questions

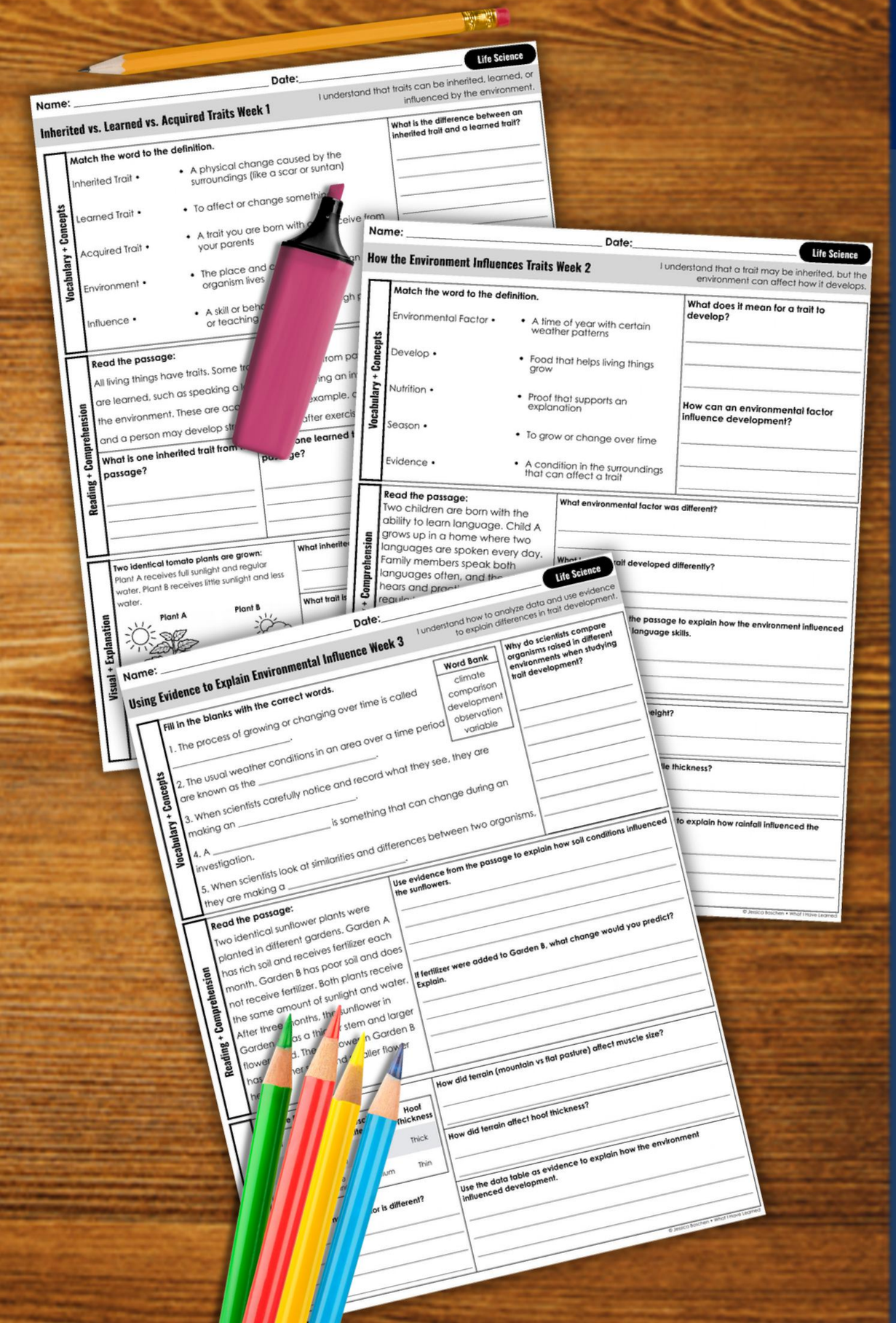
Reading Comprehension

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 move from observing to comparing to explaining, ensuring students develop science understanding in logical, scaffolded steps.



Student-Centered Reflections

Built-in self-assessments encourage students to track effort, apply concepts to real life, and reflect on growth and understanding.



NGSS-Aligned

Directly aligned to NGSS 3-LS3-2 with structured progression that builds conceptual understanding week by week.



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