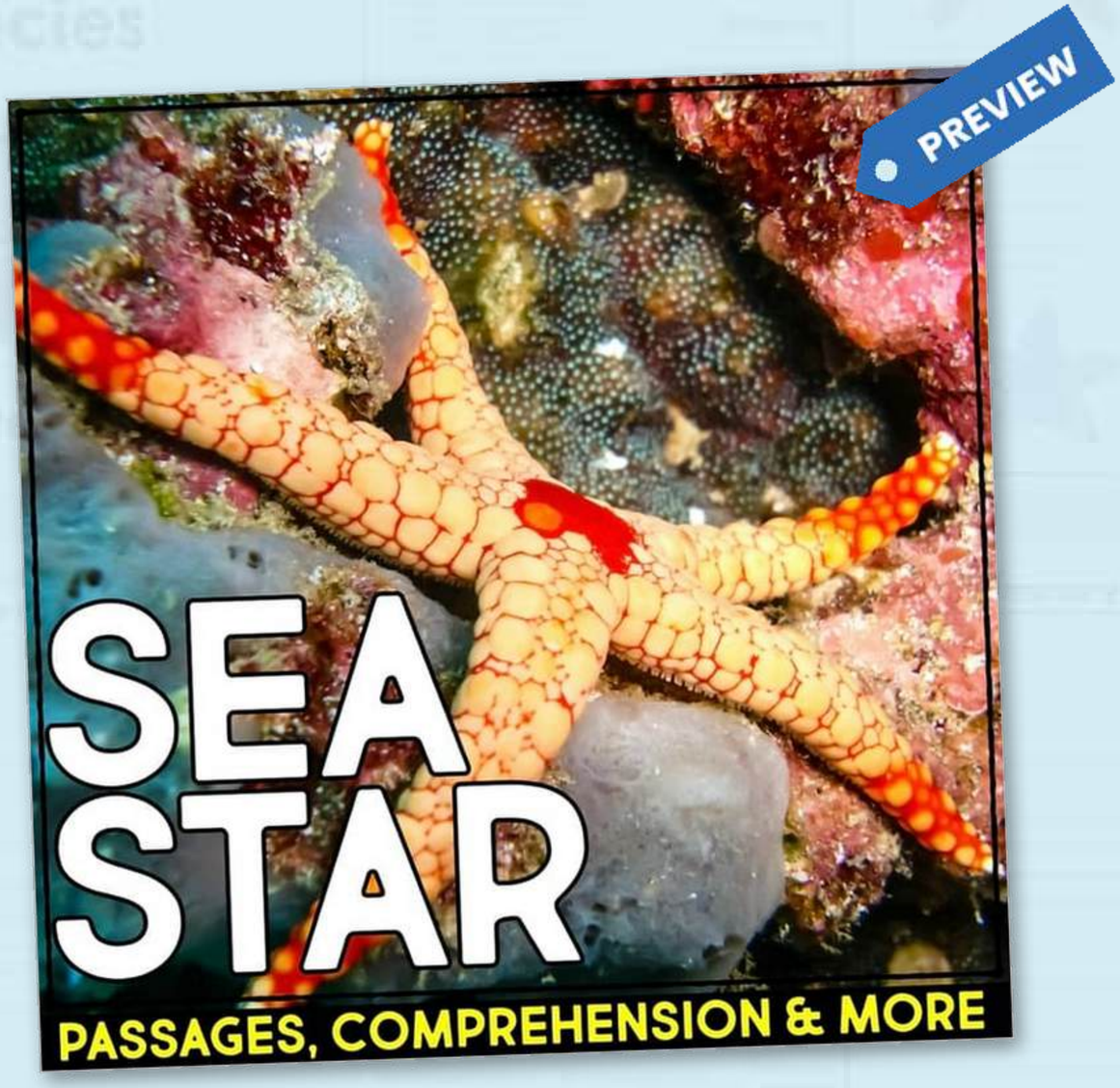
GRADES
2–3



READ, RESEARCH, AND WRITE

SEA STAR

ANIMAL RESEARCH

Informational Articles, Activities, and Writing

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

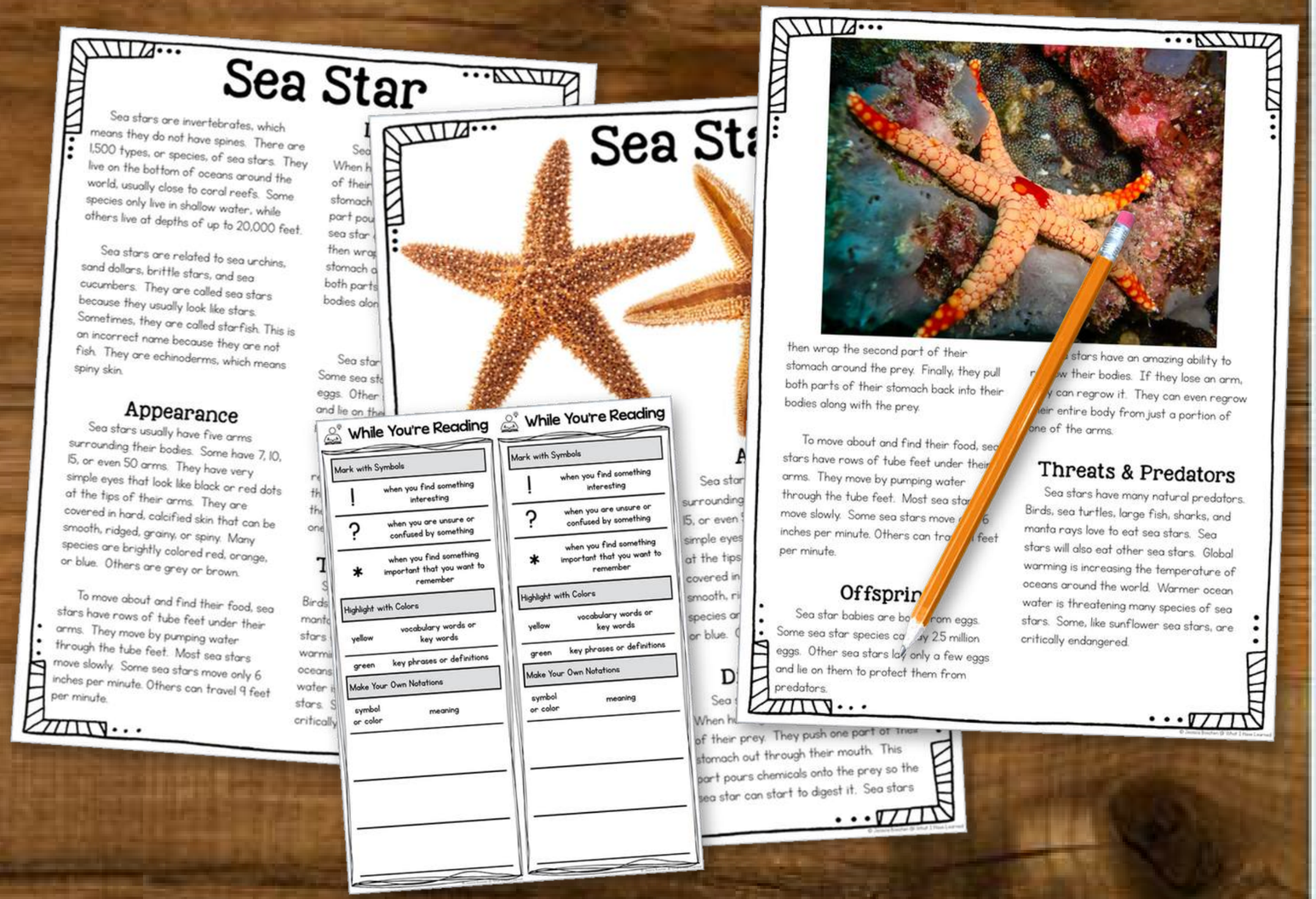
WHAT'S INCLUDED

Read, research, and write

- 1-page and 2-page informational articles
- Vocabulary cards and cut-and-paste activities
- Note-taking organizers and comprehension questions
- Fact sort activities
- Informational writing pages
- Answer keys included
- QR codes for safe video research



READ



Article comes in two formats.

Meet an animal in its habitat

1 ARTICLE

Students read a clear informational article about sea star.

2 NOTICE DETAILS

Students look for facts about the sea star's appearance, habitat, diet, and behavior.

3 DIFFERENT FORMATS

Teachers choose the article format that fits students' reading needs.

RESEARCH



Research pages make independent fact gathering manageable

Gather facts about sea star

1 WATCH AND RESEARCH

Students use one QR-code page to find a safe video source for research about sea star.

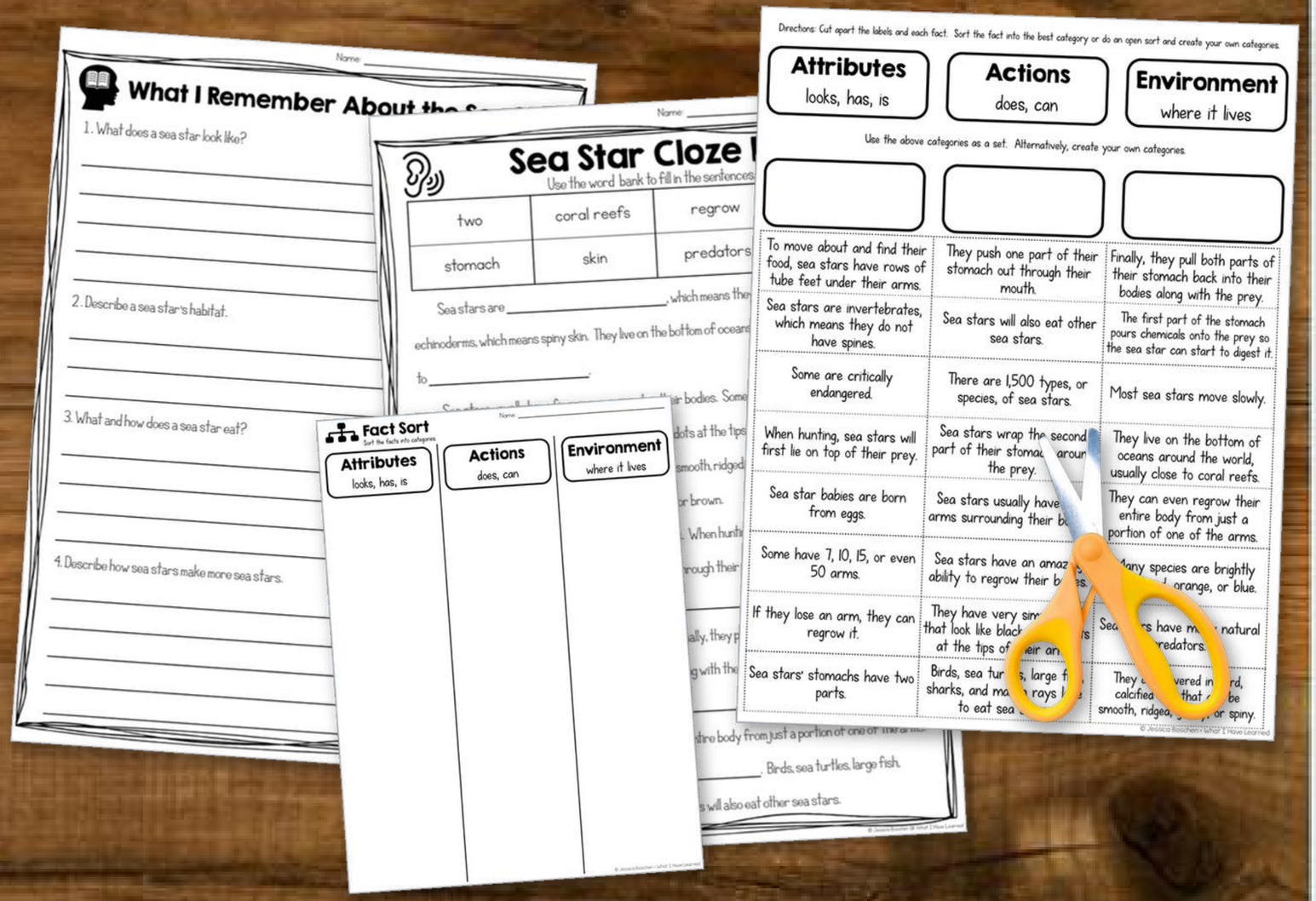
2 TAKE NOTES

Students record facts about the sea star's body, habitat, behavior, and life cycle.

3 BUILD VOCABULARY

Students use picture cards and activities to practice important animal words.

ORGANIZE



Comprehension and sorting pages prepare students to write

Sort facts about sea star

1 REMEMBER

Students recall important facts after reading about sea star.

2 CHECK UNDERSTANDING

Students complete a cloze activity using key vocabulary and facts.

3 SORT FACTS

Students organize information into clear categories before writing.

WRITE



From organized notes to a finished informational report

Turn notes into an sea star report

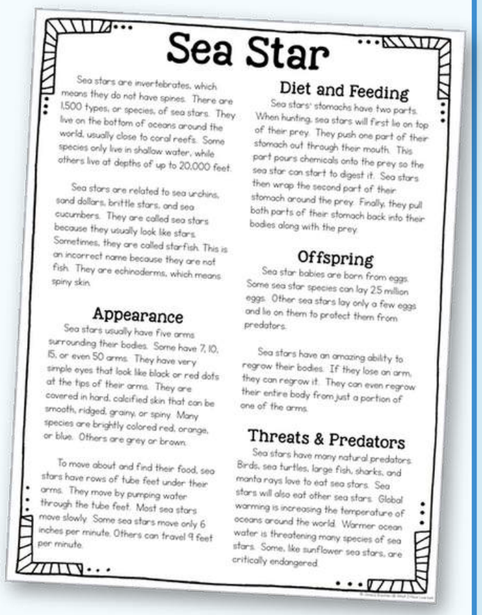
1 PLAN
Students use note-taking pages to collect and organize research.

2 SUMMARIZE
Students turn facts into a focused summary about sea star.

3 WRITE
Students use report pages to explain what they learned.

FROM READING TO ANIMAL RESEARCH WRITING

READ


Sea Star

Sea stars are invertebrates, which means they do not have spines. There are 1,500 types, or species, of sea stars. They live on the bottom of oceans around the world, usually close to coral reefs. Some species only live in shallow water, while others live at depths of up to 20,000 feet.

Sea stars are related to sea urchins, sand dollars, brittle stars, and sea cucumbers. They are called sea stars because they usually look like stars. Sometimes, they are called starfish. This is an incorrect name because they are not fish. They are echinoderms, which means spiny skin.

Appearance

Sea stars usually have five arms surrounding their bodies. Some have 7, 10, 15, or even 50 arms. They have very simple eyes that look like black or red dots at the tips of their arms. They are covered in hard, calcified skin that can be smooth, ridged, grainy, or spiny. Many species are brightly colored red, orange, or blue. Others are grey or brown.

To move about and find their food, sea stars have rows of tube feet under their arms. They move by pumping water through the tube feet. Most sea stars move slowly. Some sea stars move only 6 inches per minute. Others can travel 9 feet per minute.

Diet and Feeding

Sea stars' stomachs have two parts. When hunting, sea stars will first lie on top of their prey. They push one part of their stomach out through their mouth. This part pours chemicals onto the prey so the sea star can start to digest it. Sea stars then wrap the second part of their stomach around the prey. Finally, they pull both parts of their stomach back into their bodies along with the prey.

Offspring

Sea star babies are born from eggs. Some sea star species can lay 2.5 million eggs. Other sea stars lay only a few eggs and lie on them to protect them from predators.

Sea stars have an amazing ability to regrow their bodies. If they lose an arm, they can regrow it. They can even regrow their entire body from just a portion of one of the arms.

Threats & Predators

Sea stars have many natural predators. Birds, sea turtles, large fish, sharks, and manta rays love to eat sea stars. Sea stars will also eat other sea stars. Global warming is increasing the temperature of oceans around the world. Warmer ocean water is threatening many species of sea stars. Some, like sunflower sea stars, are critically endangered.

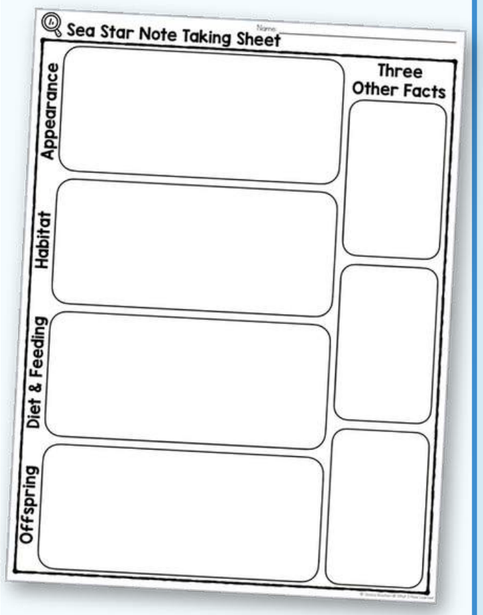
Read an informational article about sea star in a format that fits your students.

LEARN



Build vocabulary with picture cards and activities about sea star features and habitats.

RESEARCH


Sea Star Note Taking Sheet

Name:

Appearance

Habitat

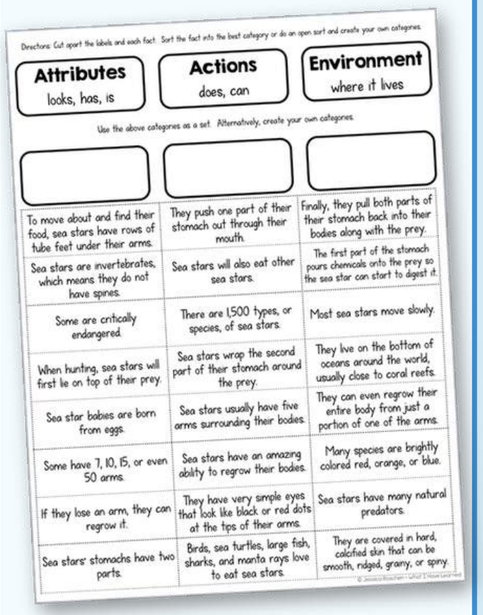
Diet & Feeding

Offspring

Three Other Facts

Gather facts about the sea star's appearance, habitat, diet, and behavior.

ORGANIZE


Directions: Cut apart the labels and each fact. Sort the fact into the best category or do an open sort and create your own categories.

Attributes looks, has, is

Actions does, can

Environment where it lives

Use the above categories as a set. Alternatively, create your own categories.

To move about and find their food, sea stars have rows of tube feet under their arms.	They push one part of their stomach out through their mouth.	Finally, they pull both parts of their stomach back into their bodies along with the prey.
Sea stars are invertebrates, which means they do not have spines.	Sea stars will also eat other sea stars.	The first part of the stomach pours chemicals onto the prey so the sea star can start to digest it.
Some are critically endangered.	There are 1,500 types, or species, of sea stars.	Most sea stars move slowly.
When hunting, sea stars will first lie on top of their prey.	Sea stars wrap the second part of their stomach around the prey.	They live on the bottom of oceans around the world, usually close to coral reefs.
Sea star babies are born from eggs.	Sea stars usually have five arms surrounding their bodies.	They can even regrow their entire body from just a portion of one of the arms.
Some have 7, 10, 15, or even 50 arms.	Sea stars have an amazing ability to regrow their bodies.	Many species are brightly colored red, orange, or blue.
If they lose an arm, they can regrow it.	They have very simple eyes that look like black or red dots at the tips of their arms.	Sea stars have many natural predators.
Sea stars' stomachs have two parts.	Birds, sea turtles, large fish, sharks, and manta rays love to eat sea stars.	They are covered in hard, calcified skin that can be smooth, ridged, grainy, or spiny.

Sort facts into appearance, habitat, behavior, and life cycle categories.

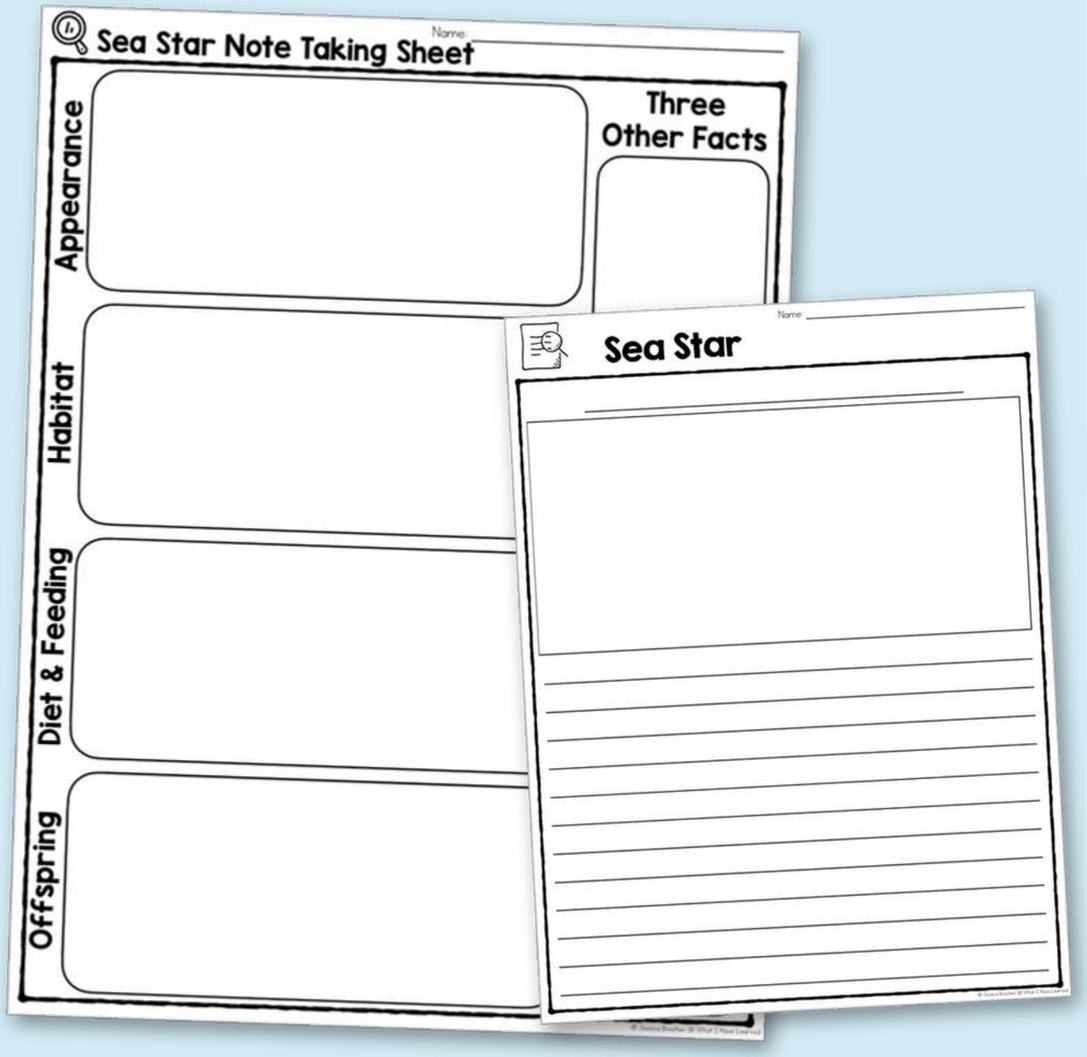
WRITE


Sea Star

Name:

Use the writing pages to turn notes into an animal research report about sea star.

WAYS TO USE THIS RESOURCE



1

ANIMAL STUDY

Use the articles and vocabulary pages during a science or nonfiction unit about sea star.

2

GUIDED READING

Choose the article format and comprehension pages that fit your readers.

3

ANIMAL RESEARCH

Use QR-code research and note-taking sheets to collect facts from multiple sources.

4

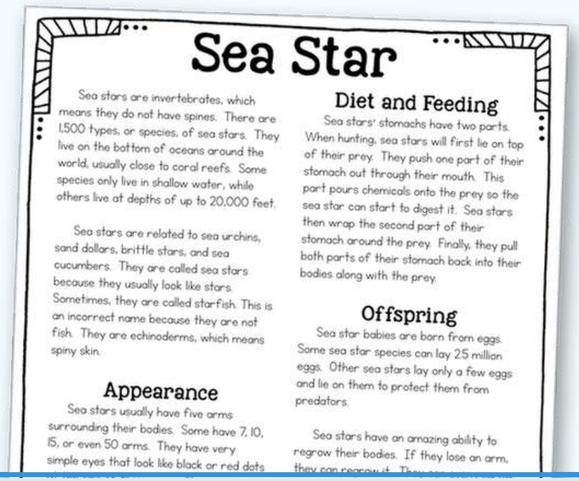
INFORMATIONAL WRITING

Move from organized notes to a clear report about sea star.

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE

PERFECT FOR SCIENCE AND ELA

Students read, write, sort, and research while learning about sea star adaptations and habitats.


Sea Star

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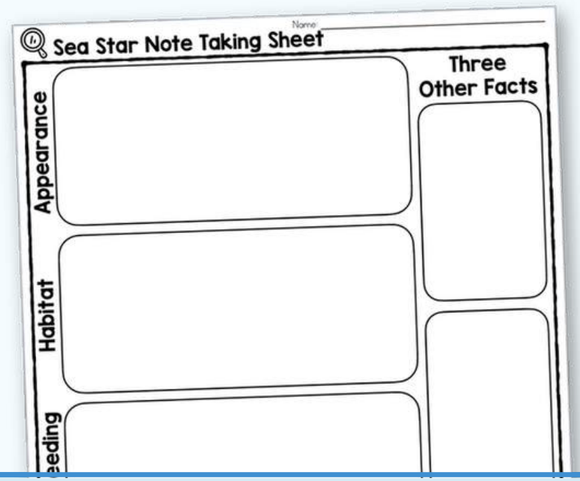
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SAVES TIME WITH CONSISTENT LAYOUTS

Clear article, activity, and writing pages make planning simple and support independent work.


Name:

Sea Star Note Taking Sheet

Three Other Facts

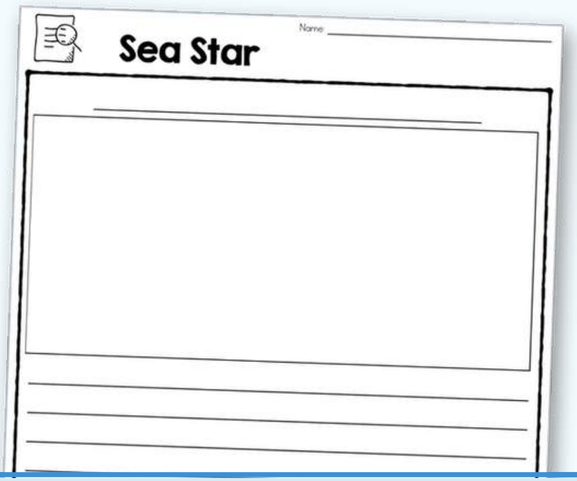
Appearance

Habitat

eeding

SUPPORTS ANIMAL RESEARCH

Vocabulary cards, fact sorts, and note-taking organizers help students prepare an informational report.


Name:

Sea Star

TEACHERS LOVE IT!

★★★★★

Excellent product! This introduces my students into research in a very kid-friendly way!

Fun and Games in First

★★★★★

My students LOVED this! Excited to use again

Nanci C.

★★★★★

Wonderful!

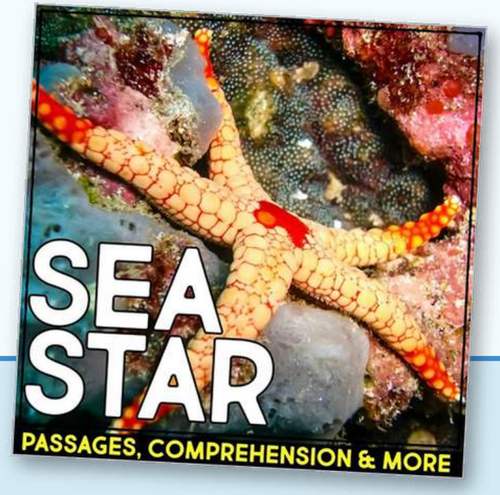
Allison Harris





READY FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

- **Informational articles in two formats**
- **Vocabulary, comprehension, and research activities**
- **Note-taking and informational writing pages**



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.



teach MATH | teach SCIENCE | teach READING | teach WRITING

What I have LEARNED