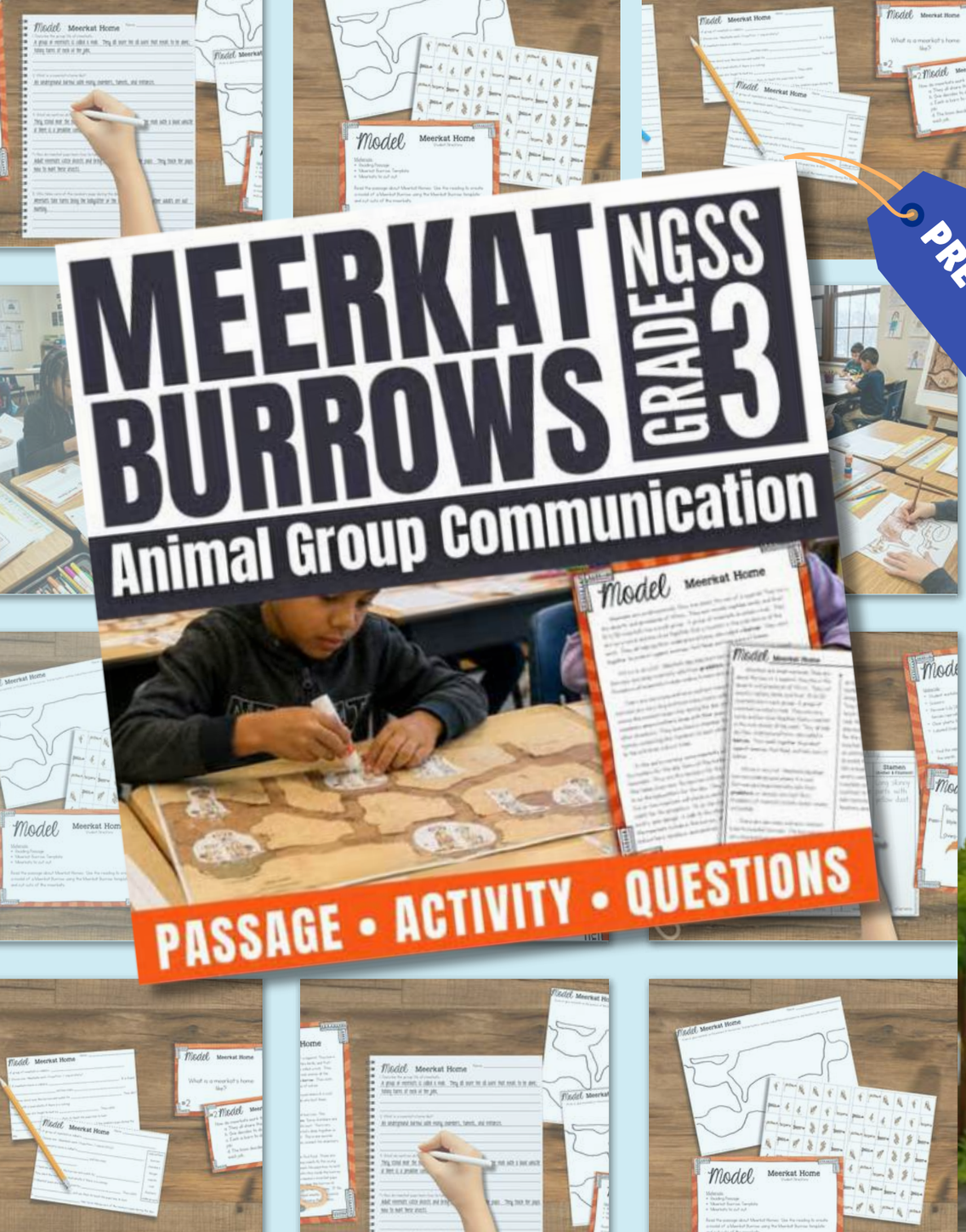


3RD GRADE

See How Meerkats Team Up to Survive!

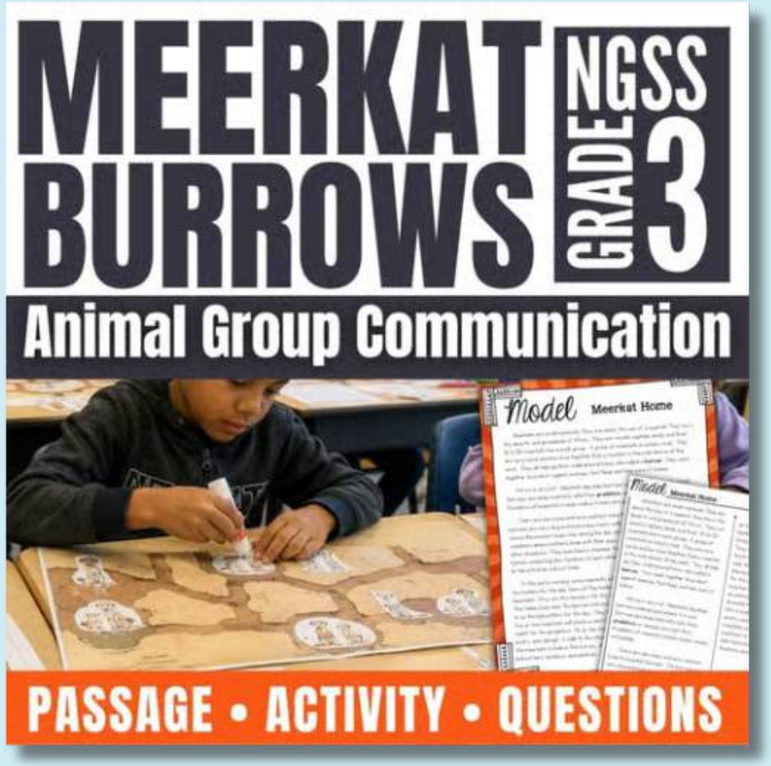
MODEL MEERKAT BURROWS

ANIMAL GROUP

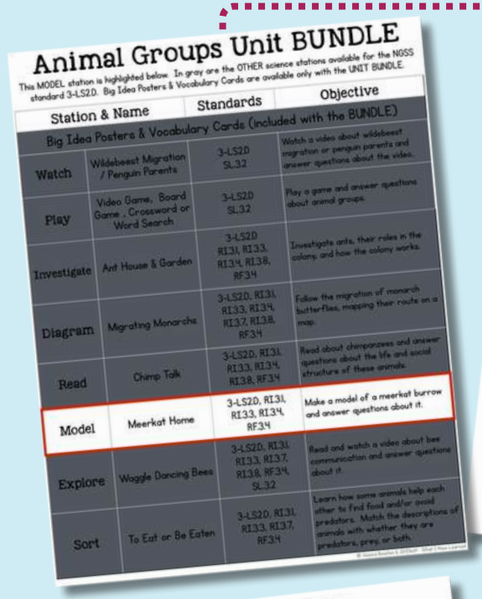
KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!



ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

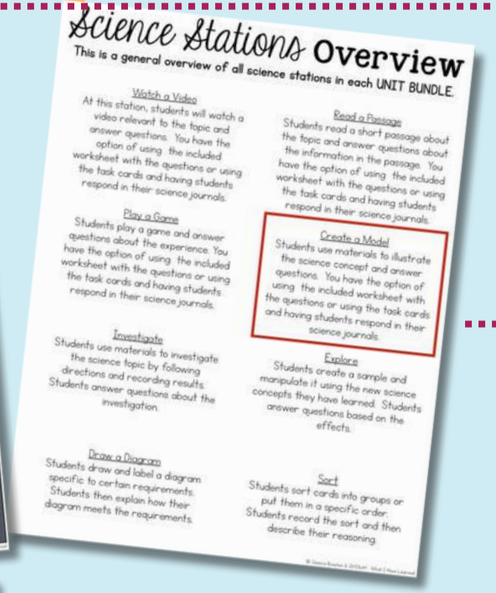


- Your students will read a passage.
- Then your students will create a model.
- Then, lastly, they will answer differentiated questions.


Animal Groups Unit BUNDLE

This MODEL station is highlighted below. In gray are the OTHER science stations available for the NGSS standard 3-LS2D. Big Idea Posters & Vocabulary Cards are available only with the UNIT BUNDLE.

Station & Name		Standards	Objective
Big Idea Posters & Vocabulary Cards (included with the BUNDLE)			
Watch	Wildebeest Migration / Penguin Parents	3-LS2D SL.3.2	Watch a video about wildebeest migration or penguin parents and answer questions about the video.
Play	Video Game, Board Game, Crossword or Word Search	3-LS2D SL.3.2	Play a game and answer questions about animal groups.
Investigate	Ant House & Garden	3-LS2D RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.8, RF.3.4	Investigate ants, their roles in the colony, and how the colony works.
Diagram	Migrating Monarchs	3-LS2D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.7, RI.3.8, RF.3.4	Follow the migration of monarch butterflies, mapping their route on a map.
Read	Chimp Talk	3-LS2D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.8, RF.3.4	Read about chimpanzees and answer questions about the life and social structure of these animals.
Model	Meerkat Home	3-LS2D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RF.3.4	Make a model of a meerkat burrow and answer questions about it.
Explore	Waggle Dancing Bees	3-LS2D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.7, RI.3.8, RF.3.4, SL.3.2	Read and watch a video about bee communication and answer questions about it.
Sort	To Eat or Be Eaten	3-LS2D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.7, RF.3.4	Learn how some animals help each other to find food and/or avoid predators. Match the descriptions of animals with whether they are predators, prey, or both.


Science Stations Overview

This is a general overview of all science stations in each UNIT BUNDLE.

Watch a Video
At this station, students will watch a video relevant to the topic and answer questions. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Play a Game
Students play a game and answer questions about the experience. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Investigate
Students use materials to investigate the science topic by following directions and recording results. Students answer questions about the investigation.

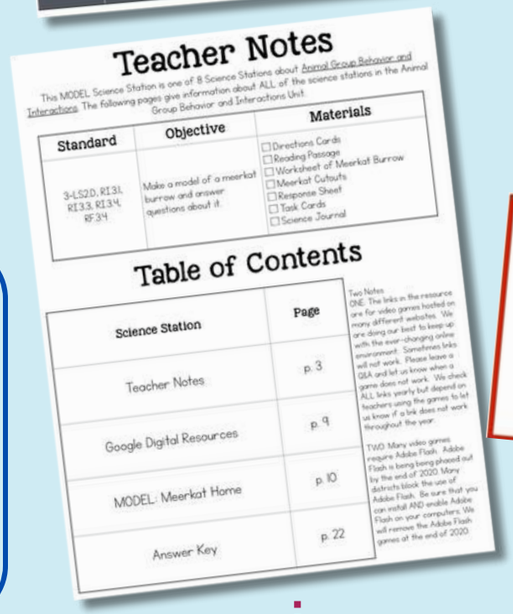
Draw a Diagram
Students draw and label a diagram specific to certain requirements. Students then explain how their diagram meets the requirements.

Read a Passage
Students read a short passage about the topic and answer questions about the information in the passage. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Create a Model
Students use materials to illustrate the science concept and answer questions. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Explore
Students create a sample and manipulate it using the new science concepts they have learned. Students answer questions based on the effects.

Sort
Students sort cards into groups or put them in a specific order. Students record the sort and then describe their reasoning.


Teacher Notes

This MODEL Science Station is one of 8 Science Stations about Animal Group Behavior and Interactions. The following pages give information about ALL of the science stations in the Animal Group Behavior and Interactions Unit.

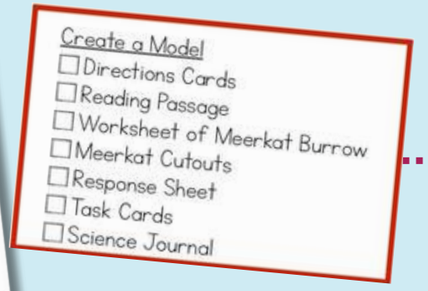
Standard	Objective	Materials
3-LS2D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RF.3.4	Make a model of a meerkat burrow and answer questions about it.	☐ Directions Cards ☐ Reading Passage ☐ Worksheet of Meerkat Burrow ☐ Meerkat Cutouts ☐ Response Sheet ☐ Task Cards ☐ Science Journal

Table of Contents

Science Station	Page
Teacher Notes	p. 3
Google Digital Resources	p. 9
MODEL: Meerkat Home	p. 10
Answer Key	p. 22

Two Notes
ONE: The links in the resource are for video games hosted on many different websites. We are doing our best to keep up with the ever-changing online environment. Sometimes links will not work. Please leave a Q&A and let us know when a game does not work. We check ALL links yearly but depend on teachers using the games to let us know if a link does not work throughout the year.

TWO: Many video games require Adobe Flash. Adobe Flash is being phased out by the end of 2020. Many districts block the use of Adobe Flash. Be sure that you can install AND enable Adobe Flash on your computers. We will remove the Adobe Flash games at the end of 2020.


Create a Model
☐ Directions Cards
☐ Reading Passage
☐ Worksheet of Meerkat Burrow
☐ Meerkat Cutouts
☐ Response Sheet
☐ Task Cards
☐ Science Journal

Unit Overview

Science Station Overview

Materials Checklist

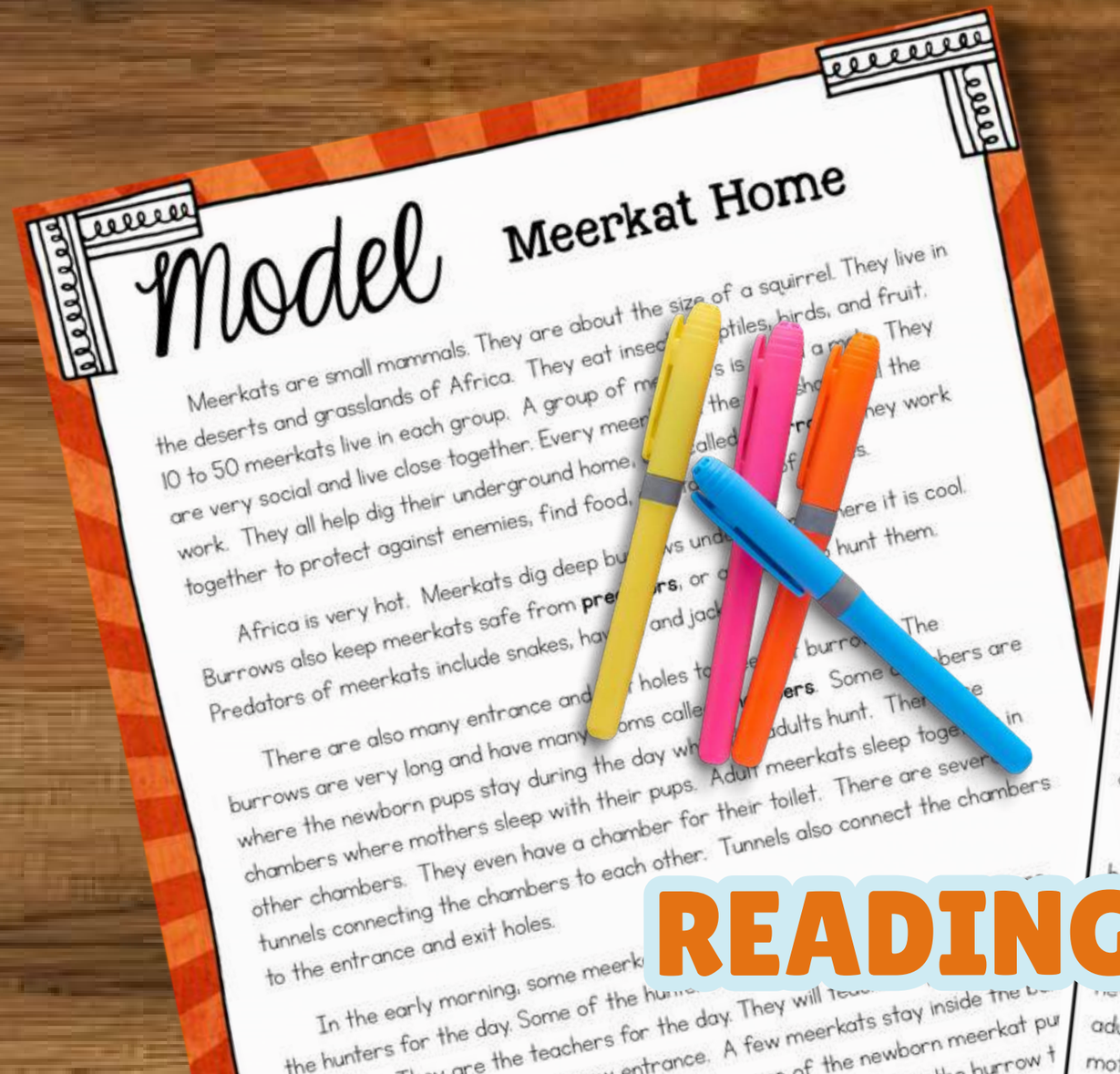
Table of Contents / Teacher's Notes

WHAT'S INCLUDED
MODEL SCIENCE STATION

- **Teacher Notes & Materials List**
- **Student Reading Text** (2 Formats)
- **Student Instructions**
- **Hands-On Activity Sheets**
- **Differentiated Questions**
- **Answer Key**
- **Google Forms™**
- **Google Slides™**



MODEL: READING PASSAGE


Model Meerkat Home

Meerkats are small mammals. They are about the size of a squirrel. They live in the deserts and grasslands of Africa. They eat insects, reptiles, birds, and fruit. 10 to 50 meerkats live in each group. A group of meerkats is called a mob. They are very social and live close together. Every meerkat in the mob shares all the work. They all help dig their underground home, also called a **burrow**. They work together to protect against enemies, find food, and take care of babies.

Africa is very hot. Meerkats dig deep burrows underground where it is cool. Burrows also keep meerkats safe from **predators**, or animals who hunt them. Predators of meerkats include snakes, hawks, and jackals.

There are also many entrance and exit holes to the burrows. The burrows are very long and have many rooms called **chambers**. Some chambers are where the newborn pups stay during the day while the adults hunt. There are chambers where mothers sleep with their pups. Adult meerkats sleep together in other chambers. They even have a chamber for their toilet. There are several tunnels connecting the chambers to each other. Tunnels also connect the chambers to the entrance and exit holes.

In the early morning, some meerkats will go outside to find food. These are the hunters for the day. Some of the hunters will bring living insects to the young meerkats. They are the teachers for the day. They will teach the pups how to hunt. This takes place near the burrow entrance. A few meerkats stay inside the burrow to be the babysitters for the day. They take care of the newborn meerkat pups. One or two meerkats will stand as sentries. A sentry stays near the burrow to watch for for predators. He or she stands tall on back legs to see far away. If the sentry sees danger, it calls to the other meerkats with a loud whistle. This warns the meerkats to hide in the burrow. All meerkats take turns being the hunters, babysitters, teachers, and sentries.

Model Meerkat Home

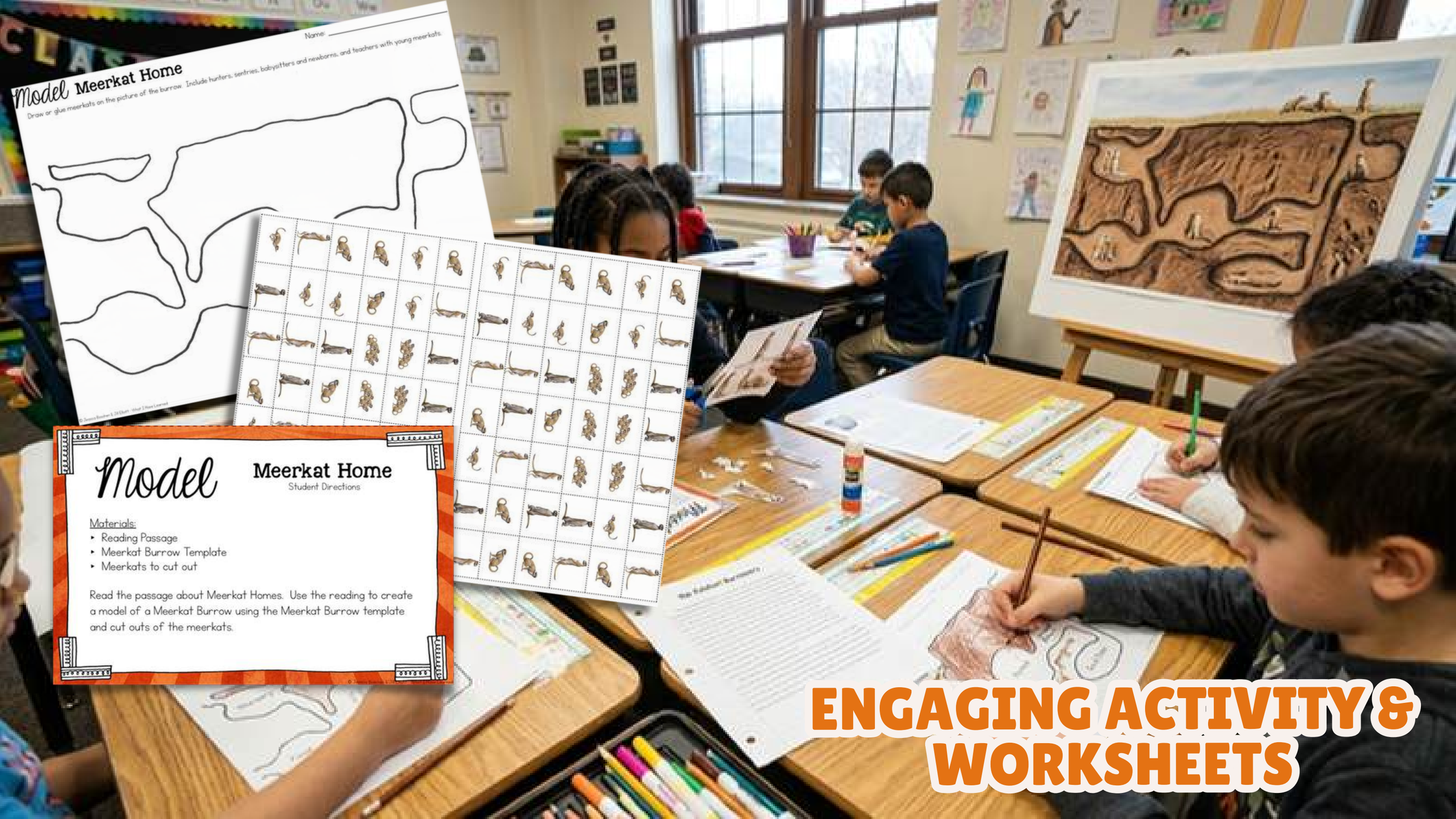
Name: _____

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READING PASSAGE


Name: _____
Model Meerkat Home
Draw or glue meerkats on the picture of the burrow. Include hunters, sentries, babysitters and newborns, and teachers with young meerkats.
Model
Meerkat Home
Student Directions
Materials:
Reading Passage
Meerkat Burrow Template
Meerkats to cut out
Read the passage about Meerkat Homes. Use the reading to create a model of a Meerkat Burrow using the Meerkat Burrow template and cut outs of the meerkats.
ENGAGING ACTIVITY & WORKSHEETS

DIFFERENTIATED QUESTIONS



SHORT ANSWER



FILL-IN-THE BLANK



TASK CARDS: SHORT ANSWER & MULTIPLE CHOICE

Model Meerkat Home

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Model Meerkat Home

Name: _____

1. Describe the group life of meerkats.

A group of meerkats is called a mob. They all share the all work that needs to be done, taking turns at each of the jobs.

2. What is a meerkat's home like?

An underground burrow with many chambers, tunnels, and entrances.

3. What do sentries do?

They stand near the bu… …the mob with a loud whistle if there is a predator com…

4. How do meerkat pups learn how to hu…

Adult meerkats catch insects and bring … …he pups. They teach the pups how to hunt these insects.

5. Who takes care of the newborn pups during the da…

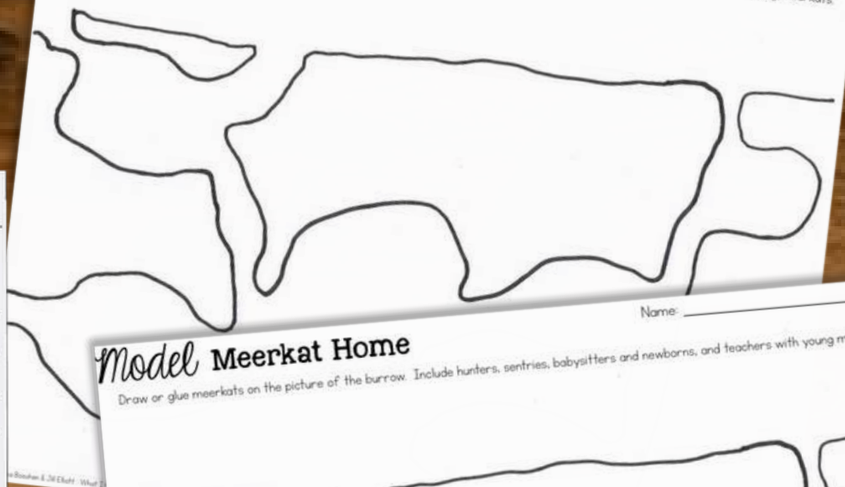
Meerkats take turns being the babysitter of the … …other adults are out hunting.

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Model Meerkat Home

Draw or glue meerkats on the picture of the burrow. Include hunters, sentries, babysitters and newborns, and teachers with young meerkats.

Name: _____

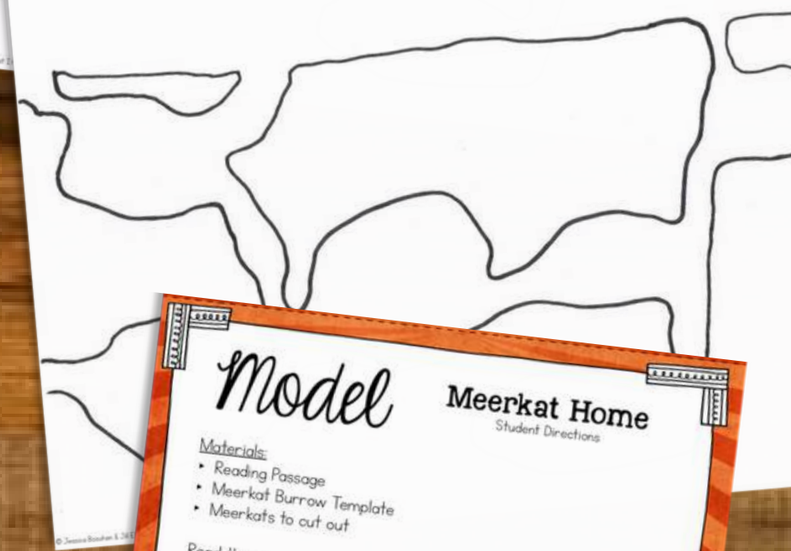


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Model Meerkat Home

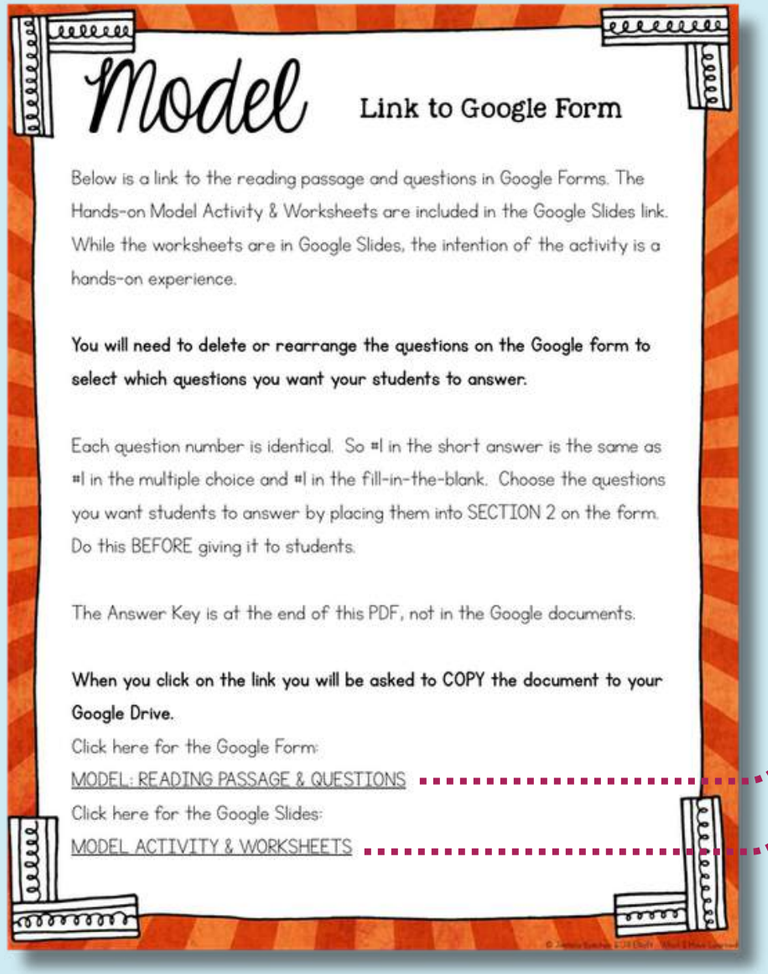
Student Directions

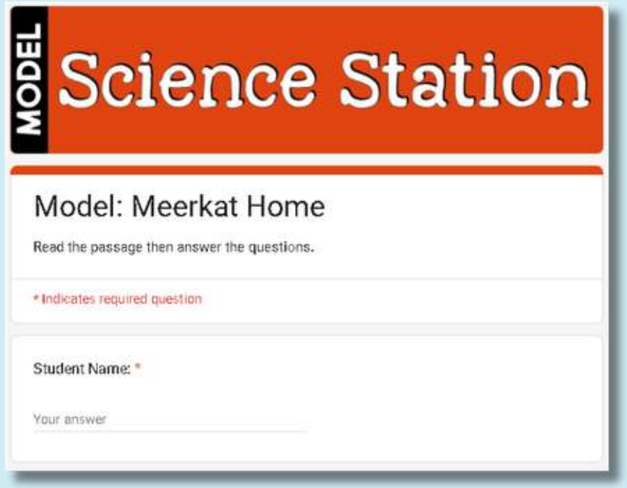
Materials:

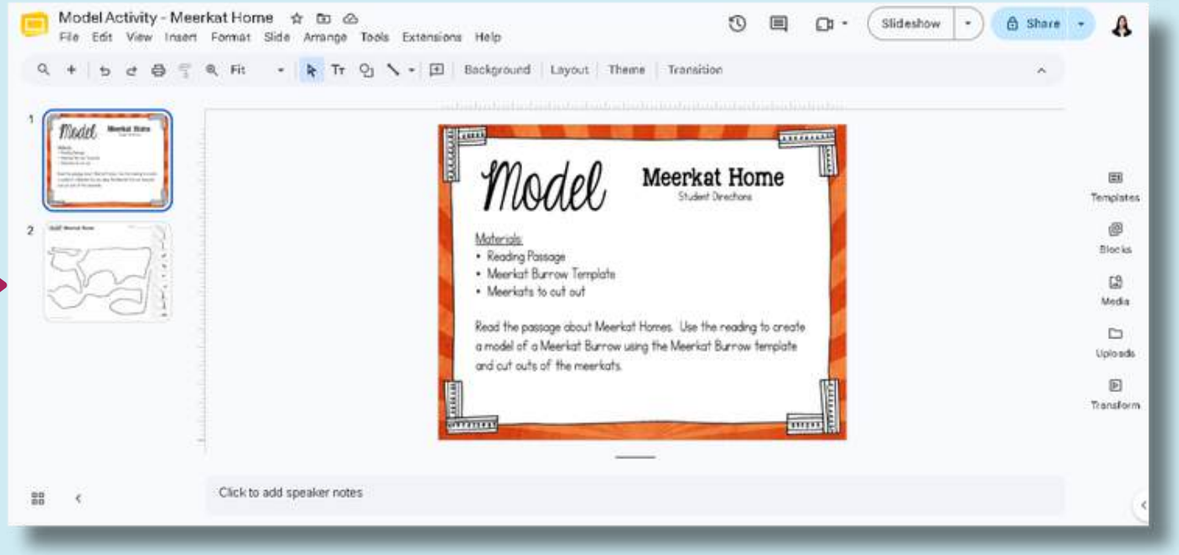
- Reading Passage
- Meerkat Burrow Template
- Meerkats to cut out

Read the passage about Meerkat Homes. Use the reading to create a model of a Meerkat Burrow using the Meerkat Burrow template and cut outs of the meerkats.

DIGITAL VERSIONS





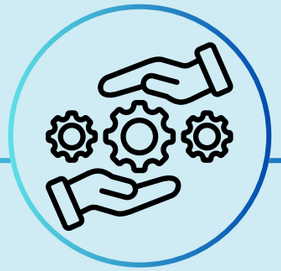


DIGITAL VERSIONS

- ✔ Google Sheet with Activity & Directions
- ✔ Google Form with Reading & Questions

Answer keys provided

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE



Hands-On Modeling

Students build a meerkat burrow model while learning how animals cooperate, communicate, and depend on one another for survival.



NGSS-Aligned Instruction

Informational reading, vocabulary, comprehension questions, and modeling seamlessly connect life science with essential literacy skills.



Print and Digital Support Included

Hands-on learning is supported with Google Forms and Slides for flexible classroom or blended use.

TEACHERS LOVE IT!

My students have fallen in love with meerkats during our unit on ecosystems! What a great extension activity!

Alecia C.



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Download instantly

Leave a Review
to earn Reward Points
to get more resources!

This product is worth the price. I recommend this resource.

Carolyn H.

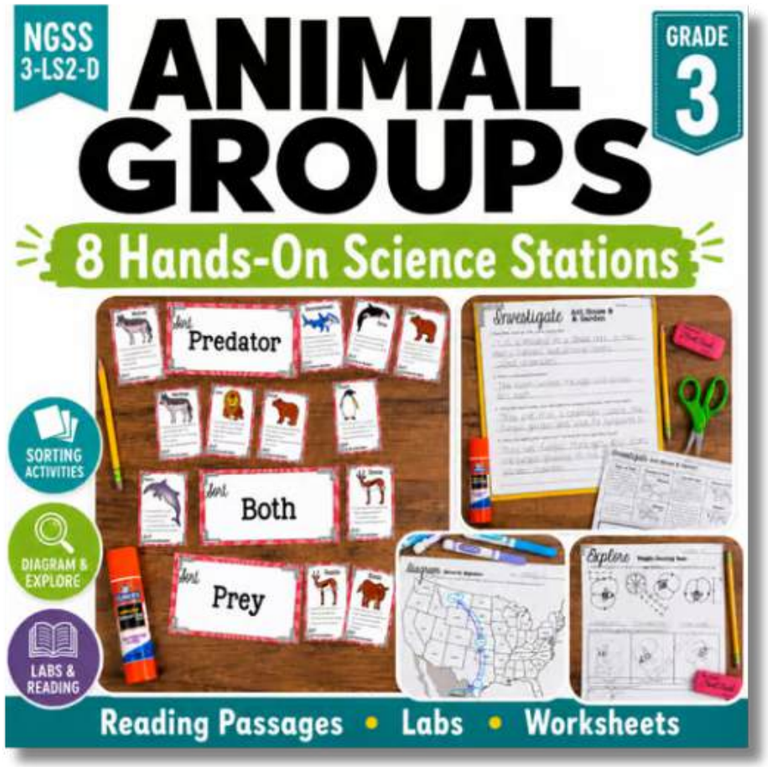


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TOPIC BUNDLE

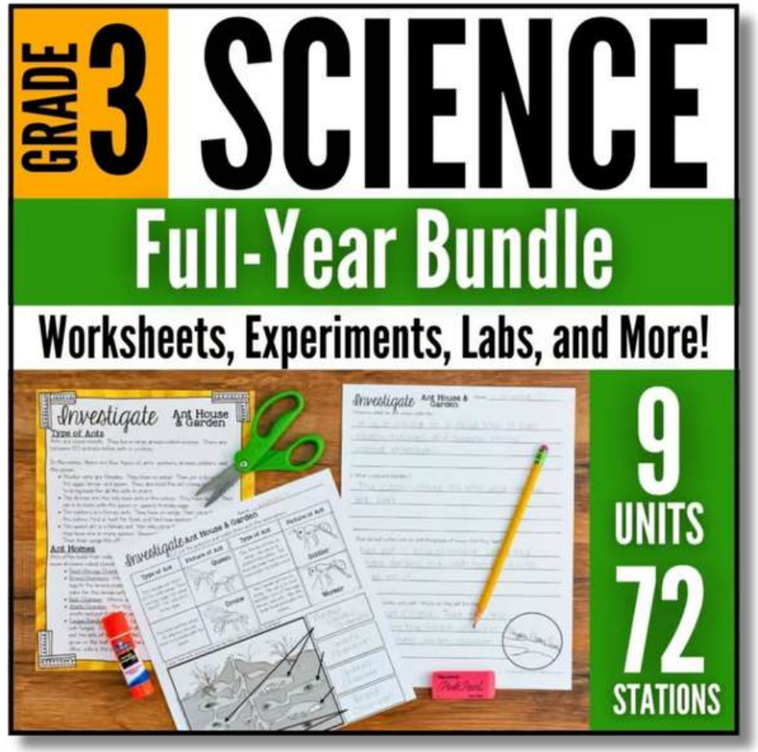
GOOD VALUE



SEE THE BUNDLE

FULL-YEAR BUNDLE

BEST VALUE



SEE THE BUNDLE

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