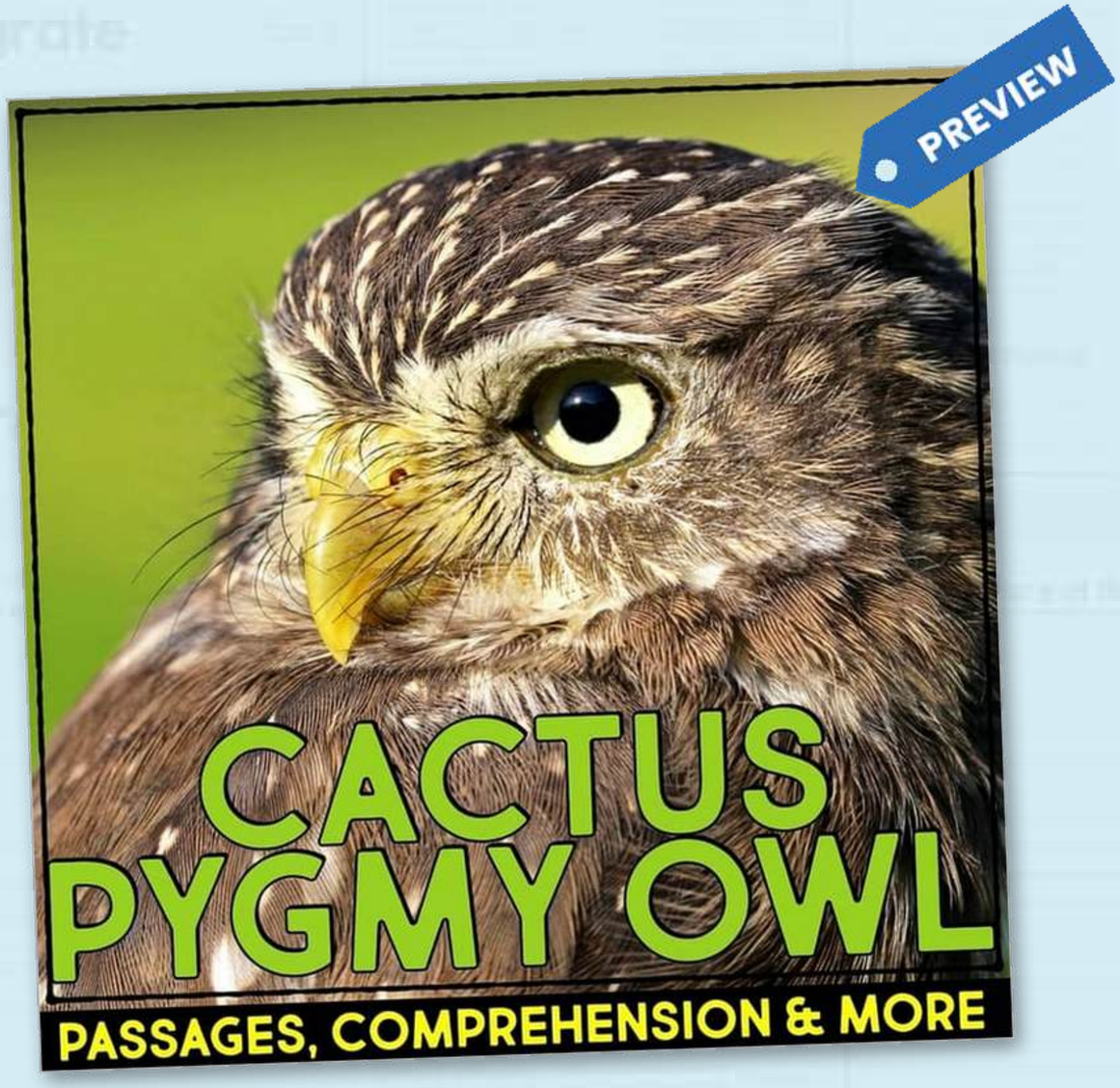
GRADES
2–3



READ, RESEARCH, AND WRITE

CACTUS PYGMY OWL

ANIMAL RESEARCH

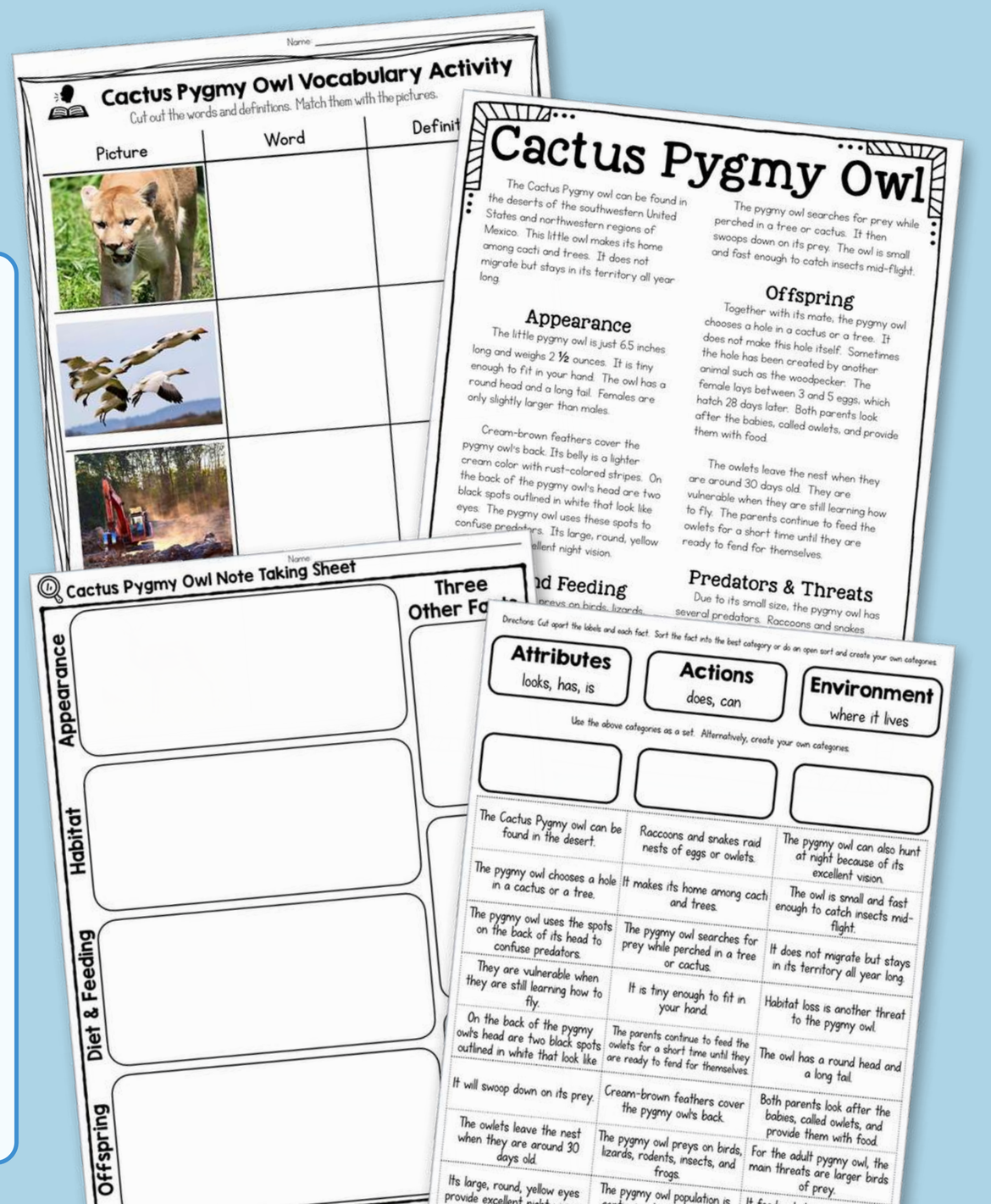
Informational Articles, Activities, and Writing

KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!

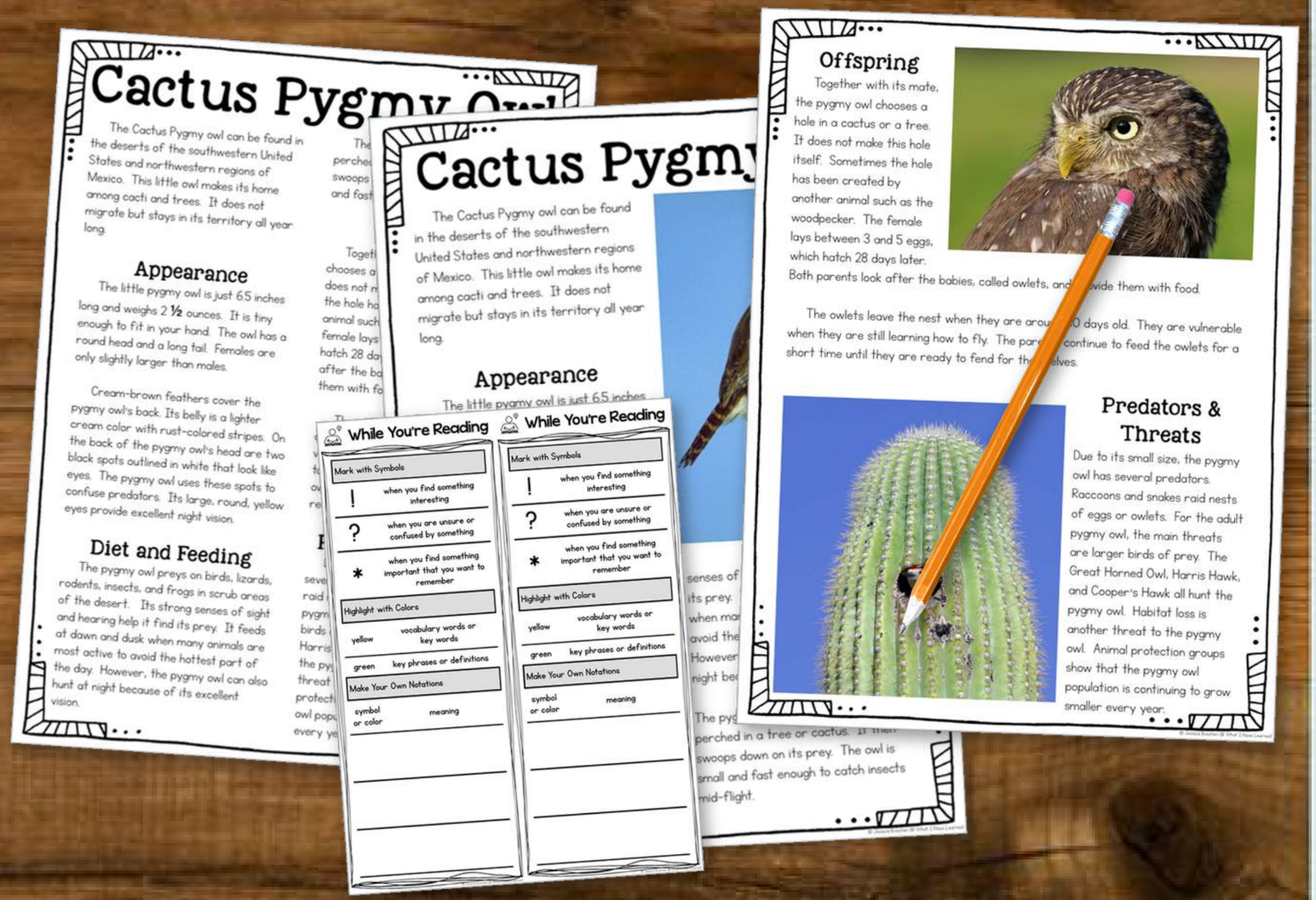
WHAT'S INCLUDED

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 cactus pygmy owl.

2 NOTICE DETAILS

Students look for facts about the cactus pygmy owl'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 cactus pygmy owl

1 WATCH AND RESEARCH

Students use one QR-code page to find a safe video source for research about cactus pygmy owl.

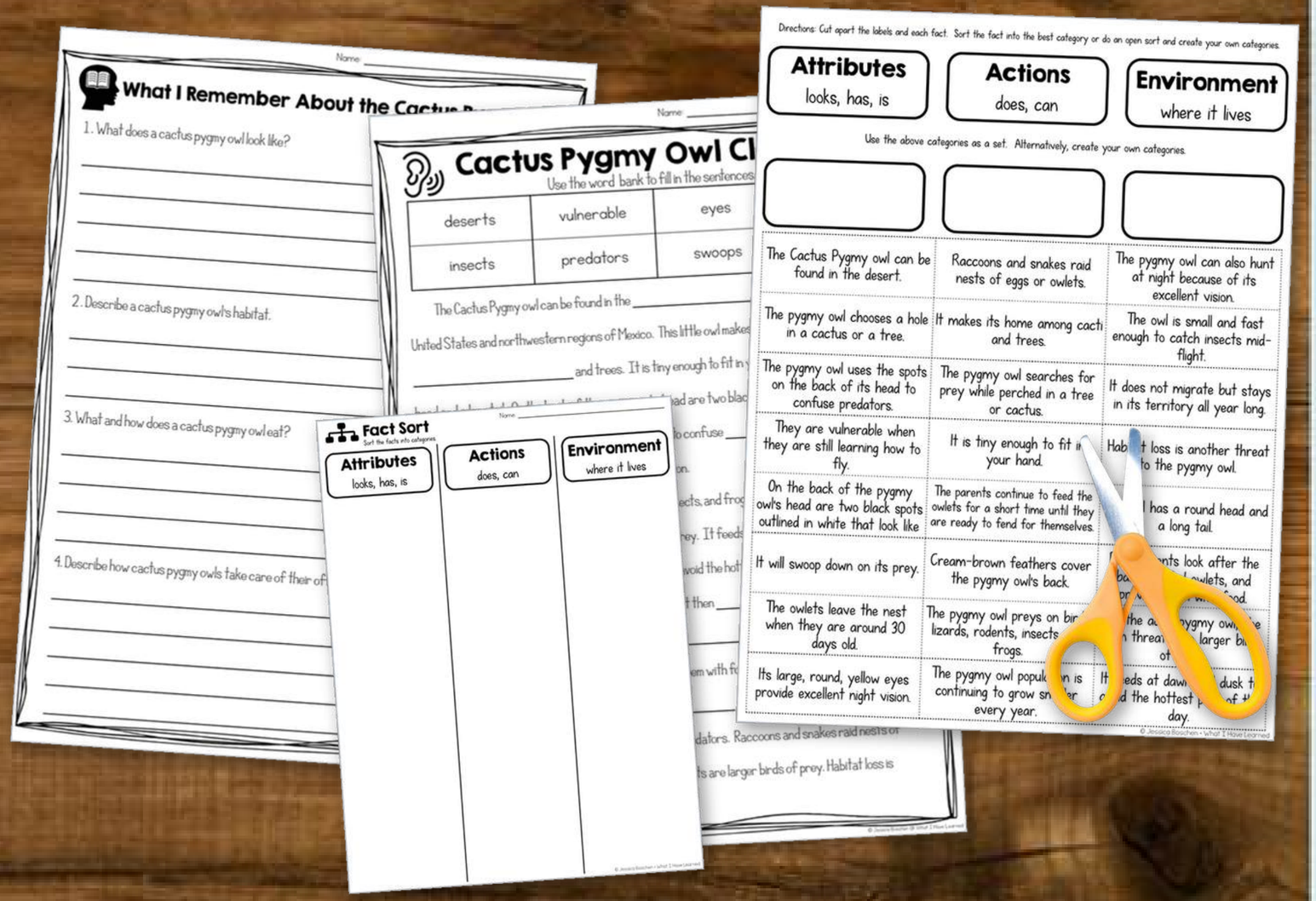
2 TAKE NOTES

Students record facts about the cactus pygmy owl'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 cactus pygmy owl

1 REMEMBER

Students recall important facts after reading about cactus pygmy owl.

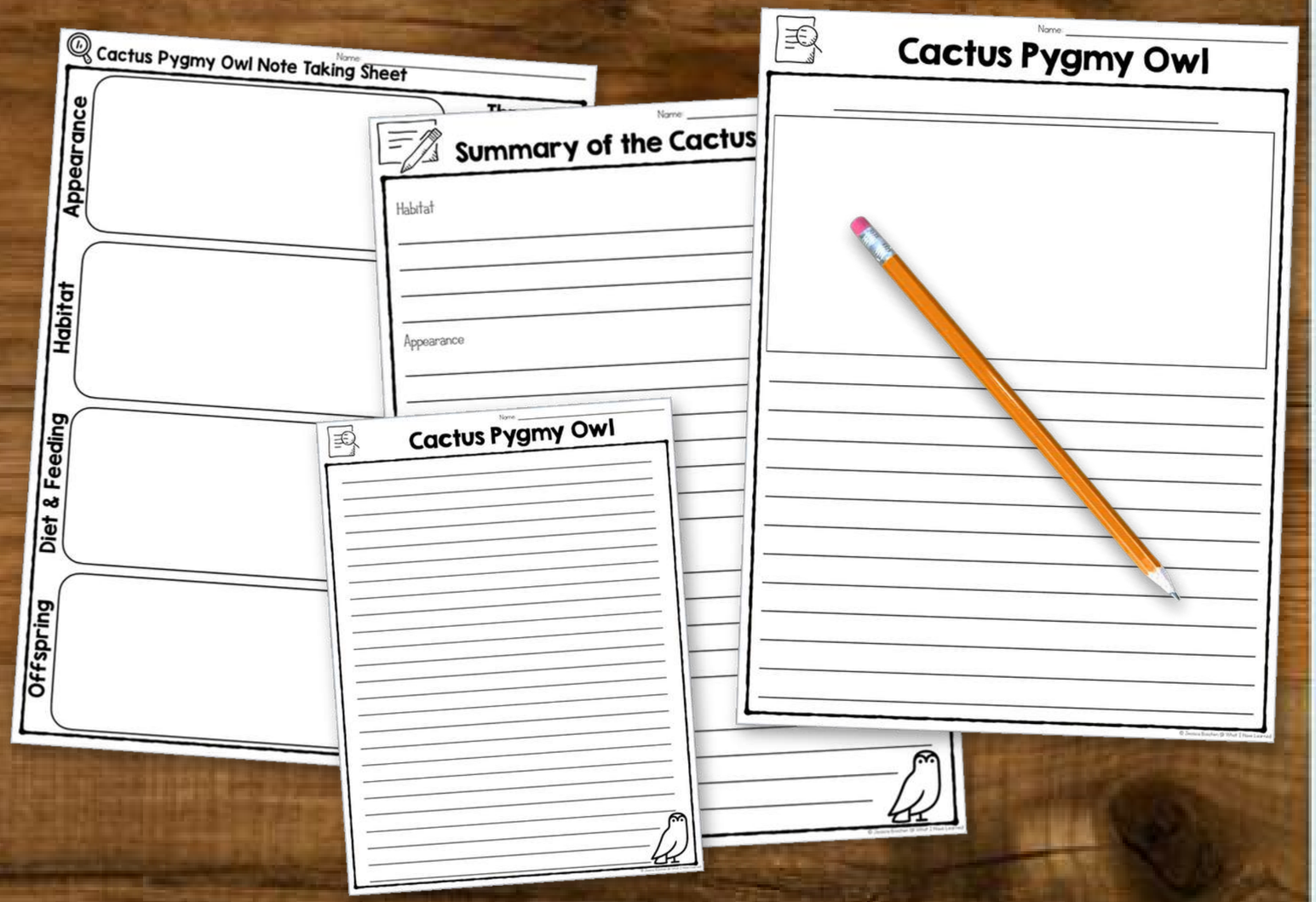
2 CHECK UNDERSTANDING

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 cactus pygmy owl report

1 PLAN

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

2 SUMMARIZE

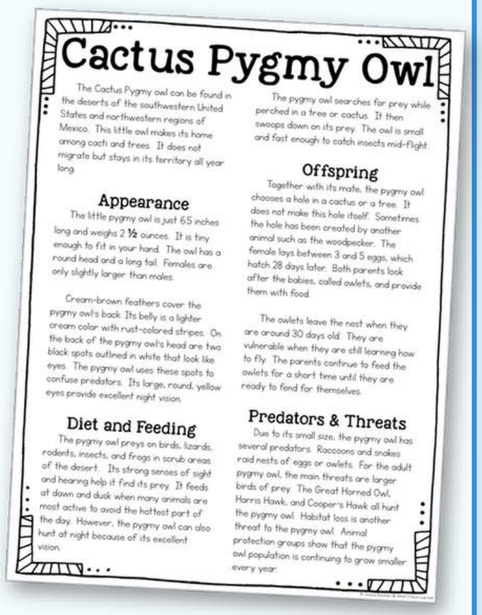
Students turn facts into a focused summary about cactus pygmy owl.

3 WRITE

Students use report pages to explain what they learned.

FROM READING TO ANIMAL RESEARCH WRITING

READ


Cactus Pygmy Owl

The Cactus Pygmy owl can be found in the deserts of the southwestern United States and northwestern regions of Mexico. This little owl makes its home among cacti and trees. It does not migrate but stays in its territory all year long.

Appearance

The little pygmy owl is just 6.5 inches long and weighs 2 ½ ounces. It is tiny enough to fit in your hand. The owl has a round head and a long tail. Females are only slightly larger than males.

Cream-brown feathers cover the pygmy owl's back. Its belly is a lighter cream color with rust-colored stripes. On the back of the pygmy owl's head are two black spots outlined in white that look like eyes. The pygmy owl uses these spots to confuse predators. Its large, round, yellow eyes provide excellent night vision.

Diet and Feeding

The pygmy owl preys on birds, lizards, rodents, insects, and frogs in scrub areas of the desert. Its strong senses of sight and hearing help it find its prey. It feeds at dawn and dusk when many animals are most active to avoid the hottest part of the day. However, the pygmy owl can also hunt at night because of its excellent vision.

The pygmy owl searches for prey while perched in a tree or cactus. It then swoops down on its prey. The owl is small and fast enough to catch insects mid-flight.

Offspring

Together with its mate, the pygmy owl chooses a hole in a cactus or a tree. It does not make this hole itself. Sometimes the hole has been created by another animal such as the woodpecker. The female lays between 3 and 5 eggs, which hatch 28 days later. Both parents look after the babies, called owlets, and provide them with food.

The owlets leave the nest when they are around 30 days old. They are vulnerable when they are still learning how to fly. The parents continue to feed the owlets for a short time until they are ready to fend for themselves.

Predators & Threats

Due to its small size, the pygmy owl has several predators. Raccoons and snakes raid nests of eggs or owlets. For the adult pygmy owl, the main threats are larger birds of prey. The Great Horned Owl, Harris Hawk, and Cooper's Hawk all hunt the pygmy owl. Habitat loss is another threat to the pygmy owl. Animal protection groups show that the pygmy owl population is continuing to grow smaller every year.

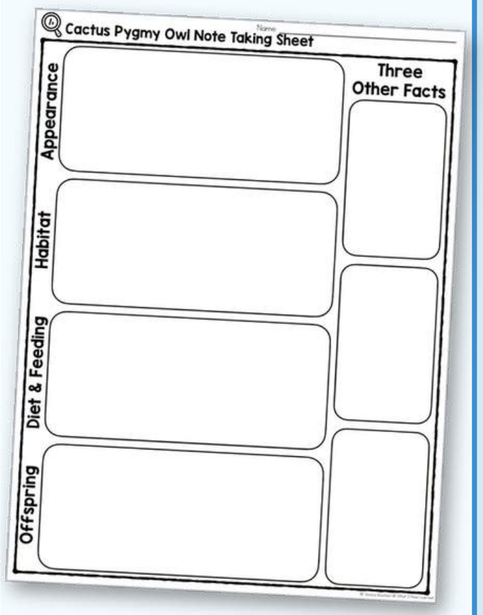
Read an informational article about cactus pygmy owl in a format that fits your students.

LEARN



Build vocabulary with picture cards and activities about cactus pygmy owl features and habitats.

RESEARCH


Cactus Pygmy Owl Note Taking Sheet

Name:

Appearance

Habitat

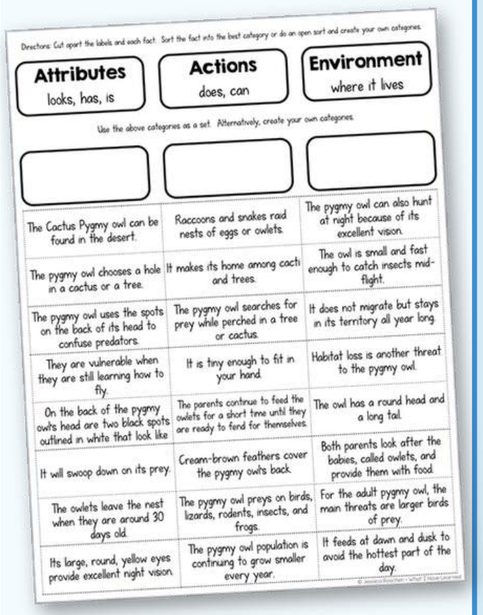
Diet & Feeding

Offspring

Three Other Facts

Gather facts about the cactus pygmy owl'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.

The Cactus Pygmy owl can be found in the desert.	Raccoons and snakes raid nests of eggs or owlets.	The pygmy owl can also hunt at night because of its excellent vision.
The pygmy owl chooses a hole in a cactus or a tree.	It makes its home among cacti and trees.	The owl is small and fast enough to catch insects mid-flight.
The pygmy owl uses the spots on the back of its head to confuse predators.	The pygmy owl searches for prey while perched in a tree or cactus.	It does not migrate but stays in its territory all year long.
They are vulnerable when they are still learning how to fly.	It is tiny enough to fit in your hand.	Habitat loss is another threat to the pygmy owl.
On the back of the pygmy owls head are two black spots outlined in white that look like	The parents continue to feed the owlets for a short time until they are ready to fend for themselves.	The owl has a round head and a long tail.
It will swoop down on its prey.	Cream-brown feathers cover the pygmy owl's back.	Both parents look after the babies, called owlets, and provide them with food.
The owlets leave the nest when they are around 30 days old.	The pygmy owl preys on birds, lizards, rodents, insects, and frogs.	For the adult pygmy owl, the main threats are larger birds of prey.
Its large, round, yellow eyes provide excellent night vision.	The pygmy owl population is continuing to grow smaller every year.	It feeds at dawn and dusk to avoid the hottest part of the day.

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

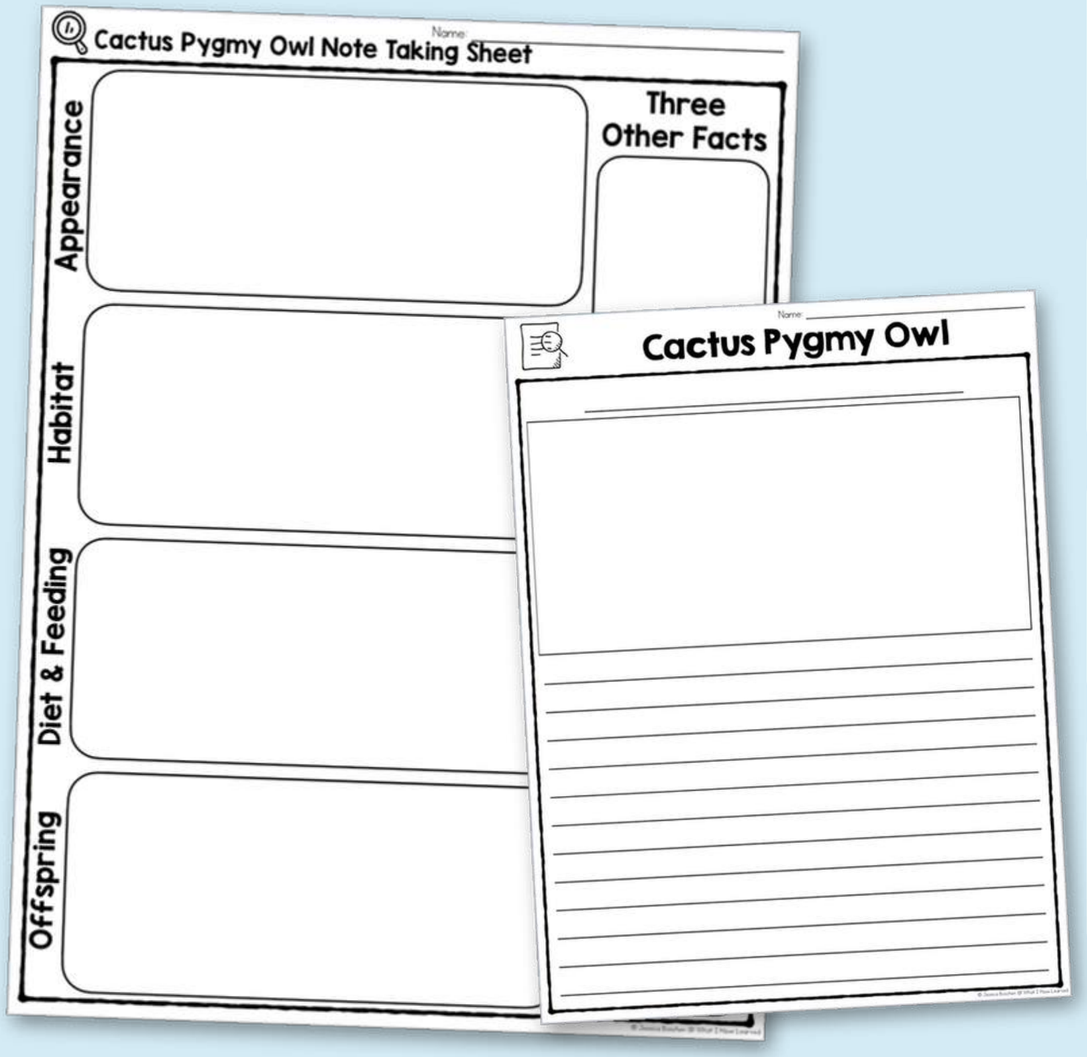
WRITE


Name:

Cactus Pygmy Owl

Use the writing pages to turn notes into an animal research report about cactus pygmy owl.

WAYS TO USE THIS RESOURCE



1

ANIMAL STUDY

Use the articles and vocabulary pages during a science or nonfiction unit about cactus pygmy owl.

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

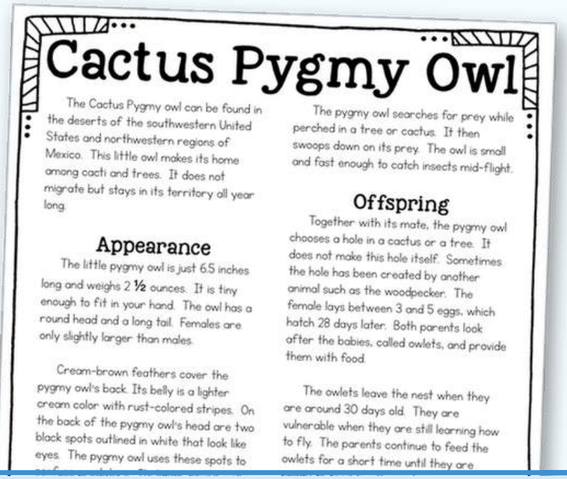
INFORMATIONAL WRITING

Move from organized notes to a clear report about cactus pygmy owl.

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE

PERFECT FOR SCIENCE AND ELA

Students read, write, sort, and research while learning about cactus pygmy owl adaptations and habitats.


Cactus Pygmy Owl

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The pygmy owl searches for prey while perched in a tree or cactus. It then swoops down on its prey. The owl is small and fast enough to catch insects mid-flight.

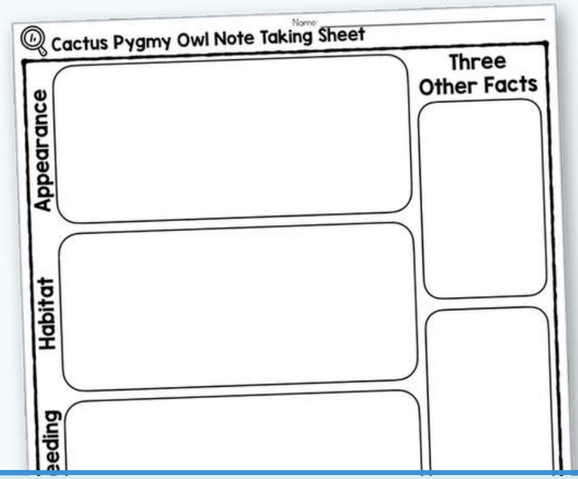
Offspring

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The owlets leave the nest when they are around 30 days old. They are vulnerable when they are still learning how to fly. The parents continue to feed the owlets for a short time until they are

SAVES TIME WITH CONSISTENT LAYOUTS

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


Name:

Cactus Pygmy Owl Note Taking Sheet

Three Other Facts

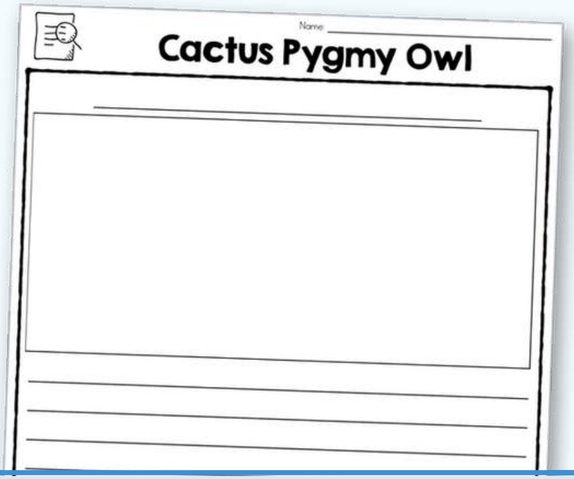
Appearance

Habitat

eeding

SUPPORTS ANIMAL RESEARCH

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


Name:

Cactus Pygmy Owl

TEACHERS LOVE IT!

★★★★★

Great Resource that aligns with standards and curriculum

Shelby N.

★★★★★

Loved using this resource with my students to support them with their information report writing.

The Introverted Teacher

★★★★★

Great! Thank you

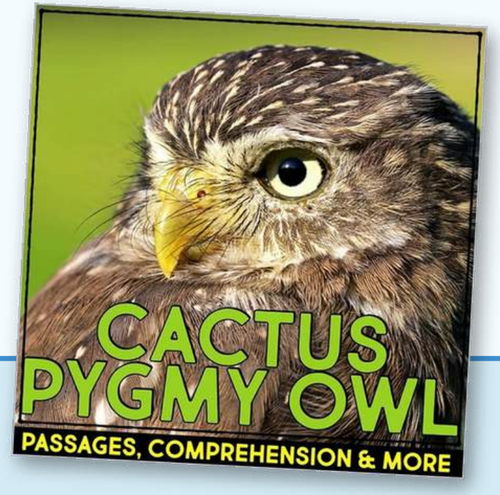
Carlene Y.





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