

OCTOBER

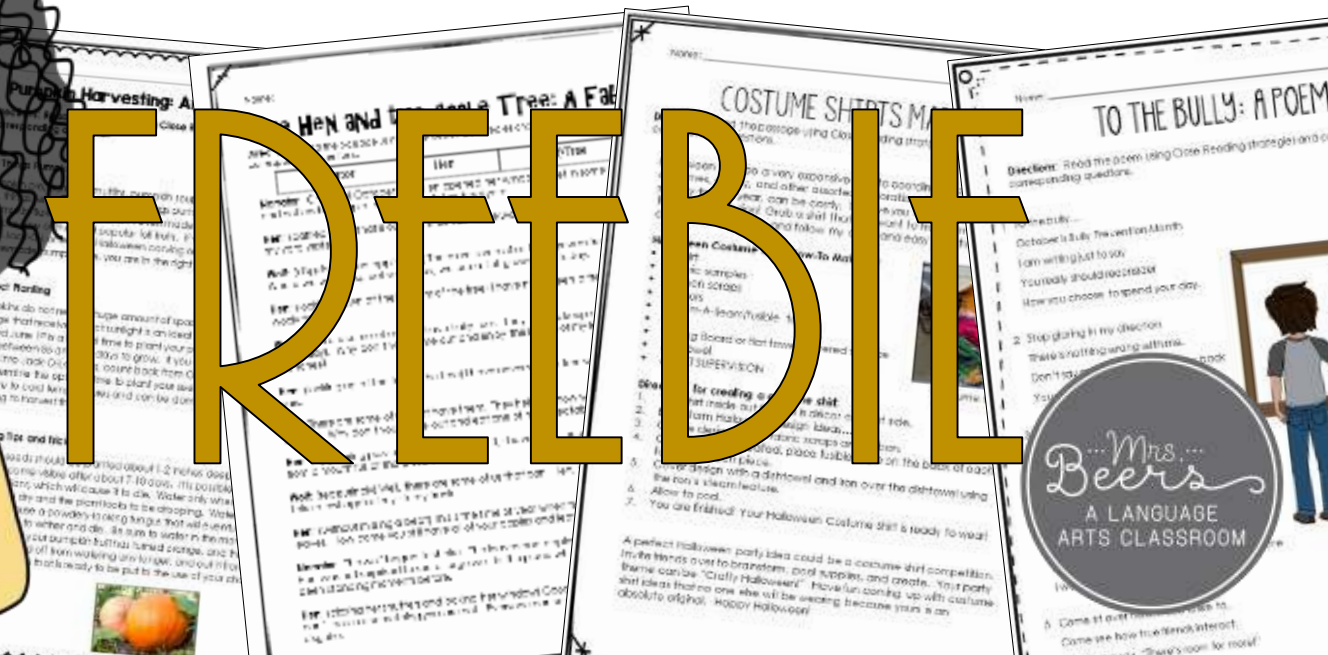
CLOSE READS

for

BIG KIDS



FREEBIE



Name: _____

THE HEN AND THE APPLE TREE: A FABLE

Directions: Read the passage using Close Reading strategies and complete the corresponding questions.

Narrator	Hen	Wolf/Tree
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Narrator: One cool October day, Hen opened her window to let in some fresh air and noticed an apple tree growing in her backyard.

Hen: (baffled) Now that is odd, I am certain there was no apple tree growing in my yard yesterday.

Wolf: (disguised as an apple tree) There are some of us that grow extremely fast. Where we were a sprout yesterday, we are a full-grown tree today.

Hen: (looking down at the bottom of the tree) I have never seen a tree with wooly toes.

Wolf: There are some of us that have hairy toes. They help to keep us in place on windy days. Why don't you come out and enjoy the shade of my leafy branches?

Hen: (looking up at the top of the tree) I have never seen a tree with two pointed ears.

Wolf: There are some of us that have them. They help us know when a storm is coming. Why don't you come out and eat one of my delectable apples?

Hen: (appearing puzzled) Come to think of it, I have never heard a tree speak from a mouth full of sharp teeth.

Wolf: (reassuringly) Well, there are some of us that can. Hen, come outside and take a rest against my sturdy trunk.

Hen: (without missing a beat) This is the time of year when trees lose all of their leaves. How come you still have all of your apples and leaves?

Narrator: The wolf began to shake. The leaves and apples fell to the ground. Hen was not surprised to see a large wolf in the place where an apple tree had been standing moments before.

Hen: (closing her shutters and locking her window) Good try, Wolf! Just a tip: you can't pose as something you are not. Everyone can see right through your disguise.

Name: _____

THE HEN AND THE APPLE TREE: A FABLE

Directions: Use the selection to answer the questions.

1. What does the phrase, "Everyone can see right through your disguise," mean?

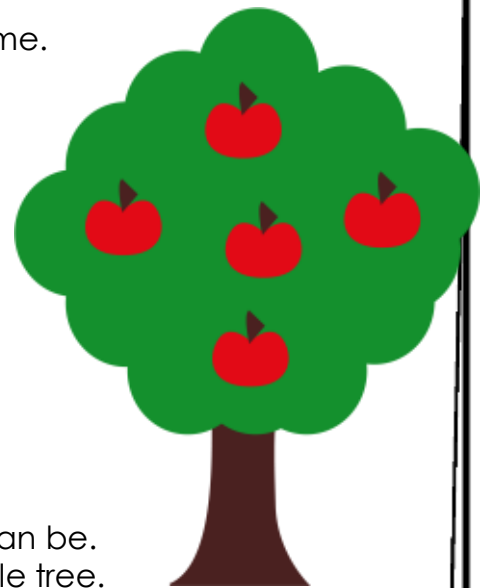
- A. Costumes can't cover one's true personality.
- B. Apple trees turn into scary wolves.
- C. Trees are invisible.
- D. The wolf was wearing an invisible apple tree costume.

2. What does the idiom, "without missing a beat," mean?

- A. Not making any noise.
- B. Not hitting a drum.
- C. Not getting trapped.
- D. Not wasting a minute.

3. What is the author's purpose for writing this selection?

- A. To entertain readers with a humorous story.
- B. To persuade readers to stay in their houses.
- C. To explain to readers how dangerous apple trees can be.
- D. To inform readers about a wolf disguised as an apple tree.



4. Why do you think is important for individuals to stay true to who they are? How does the wolf prove that you don't win when you try to pretend to be something you are not? Support your response with specific examples and evidence from the text.



THANK YOU!



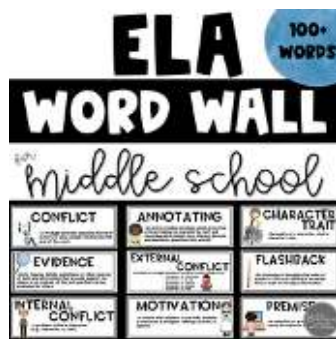
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