

# HIGH-INTEREST NONFICTION

REM 1031

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**A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM**



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# INTRODUCTION

**High-Interest Nonfiction** is a content-rich resource featuring 49 engaging nonfiction stories covering topics that range from the Lost Dutchman Goldmine, to the deadly African mamba, to the D-Day Invasion of World War II. The book is designed for students at or above the fourth grade reading level.

The stories encompass five major themes:

- Hidden Treasures and Other Mysteries
- Creatures of the Earth and Sea
- Inventors and Inventions
- Heroes and Heroines
- American Heritage and History.

This versatile book is ideally suited for use in the differentiated classroom. Each four-page unit in the collection covers a wide variety of skills, while providing activities suitable for differing ability levels.

The following activities are included with each story:

- Preview Words
- A Question in Test Format
- At least two Sentence Writing Questions
- Several Literal Comprehension Questions
- Several Critical Thinking Questions based on Bloom's Taxonomy
- A Research/Writing Activity
- A Review Page in Cloze Format.

You may wish to assign different exercises to students according to their levels of ability. The easiest exercise is the Review Page, followed by the literal comprehension questions, the test question, and the sentence writing activities. The critical thinking questions are more difficult, with the research/writing activity being the most challenging of all.

You will find the accompanying Skills Chart to be a valuable teaching tool. It shows precisely which skills are targeted in every story. The chart will enable you to choose a selection according to the skills it covers, or to simply be informed about the skills you will be teaching with each story.

With today's emphasis on standards, the demand for materials in the nonfiction genre has increased. This multi-purpose book meets the need for such materials. It is also broad enough in scope to be used not only as a supplement in reading class, but in language arts, history, and science classes as well. We are confident that High-Interest Nonfiction will prove to be a valuable addition to your classroom.

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# The Lost Continent

**PREVIEW WORDS****legend****ideal****greedy****experts****conquer****remains**

Seven continents can be found on the earth. But since ancient times, people have told the legend of Atlantis, the lost eighth continent.

Atlantis was thought to be an island in the ocean over 12,000 years ago. Most of its people were happy farmers and fishermen. The kingdom was strong and rich. It was the ideal place to live.

For some reason, things changed. The people became greedy and caused wars. They tried, but failed, to conquer other lands. As punishment, Atlantis was swallowed up by the sea in a day and a night.

It is possible that there was once a land like Atlantis. Nature makes many lands rise from the ocean and others sink. The earth keeps changing in big and small ways.

In 1967, a group of experts was studying the sea near Greece. They found the remains of a place like Atlantis. A volcano had destroyed it over 3,000 years ago. Perhaps the idea for Atlantis grew from this buried city.

Many stories and books have been written about Atlantis. The best-known book is called *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, by Jules Verne.

---

**Fill in the circle next to the best answer.**

1. The remains of a place like Atlantis were found near what country?

- Ⓐ Italy
- Ⓑ Egypt
- Ⓒ Greece

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Lost Continent

2. Write a question about the story for another student to answer. \_\_\_\_\_

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### Finding Facts/Reading for Details

3. What was Atlantis supposed to be? \_\_\_\_\_

---

4. Who wrote a famous book about Atlantis? What was the book called?

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5. According to the legend, what happened to Atlantis?

---

### Cause and Effect

6. What caused the people of Atlantis to be punished?

---

### Classifying Information

7. What group do these belong to?

Asia, Europe, Africa: \_\_\_\_\_

Greece, Turkey, Saudi Arabia: \_\_\_\_\_

### Evaluating Information

8. Do you think Atlantis was a real place? *Why or why not?* \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

9. Write a sentence using one of the Preview Words.

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### Research Activity:

Look up *volcano* in an encyclopedia or a science book. Write several sentences about what you find. \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

**WORDS****Atlantis****continents****legend****swallowed****buried****fishermen****nature****volcano****changing****island****remains****written**

Use words from the box to complete each sentence.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ makes many lands rise from the ocean and others sink.
2. Seven \_\_\_\_\_ can be found on the earth.
3. The earth keeps \_\_\_\_\_ in big and small ways.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ may be the lost eighth continent.
5. Atlantis was \_\_\_\_\_ up by the sea.
6. A place like Atlantis was destroyed by a \_\_\_\_\_ over 3,000 years ago.
7. The people of Atlantis were farmers and \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. Atlantis was thought to be an \_\_\_\_\_ in the ocean over 12,000 years ago.
9. Many stories have been \_\_\_\_\_ about Atlantis.
10. Searchers found the \_\_\_\_\_ of a place like Atlantis.
11. The idea for Atlantis may have come from the \_\_\_\_\_ city found in the sea near Greece.
12. Since ancient times, people have told the \_\_\_\_\_ of Atlantis.