

# Making Inferences

REM 4003

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



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## INTRODUCTION

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The exercises in this book provide valuable practice of a specific reading skill so important to comprehension. The short stories lack some facts that the reader must assume from inferences given in the text in order to detect certain details. Comprehension questions following each story test student's ability to recognize information that is implied but not directly given.

Included are a pre/post test, answer key, and bonus writing activities related to the various text topics.

***Making Inferences*** was designed for use in grades 4-5 and with students in grades 6-12 whose reading skills are below grade level. Readability is at the 3rd-4th grade level.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Sometimes people seem to know something without being told. How do they know? Read each story carefully. Think about the answer choices. On the line, write the sentence that tells how they know.**

### The Visitor

Jan came home from school to find a note taped to the front door. "Sorry I missed you," it said. "I'll come again tomorrow." The note was neatly written but unsigned.

"I'll give Katie a call later to tell her what time to come," Jan said to herself.



**Jan knew who had left the note. How did she know?**

The note was neatly written.  
Jan recognized the handwriting.  
The note was taped to the front door.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

### Little Rascal

Josh walked into his bedroom and found his closet door open. He noticed that his baseball and glove were on the shelf, but they were muddy. Josh looked into his little brother's room. Dirty shoes and clothes were piled in a corner.

"Mom," Josh called, "Mike took my ball and glove without asking."

**Josh knew who had taken his ball and glove. How did he know?**

Josh's closet door was open.  
Mike was not in his room.  
Mike's clothes were dirty.



2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Bonus:** Recall a time when something mysterious happened and you had to use clues to explain the mystery. Write several sentences telling about it.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

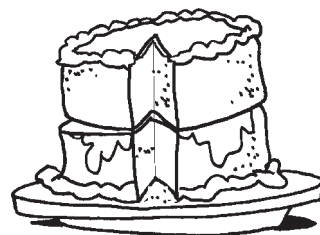
**Sometimes people seem to know something without being told. How do they know? Read each story carefully. Think about the answer choices. On the line, write the sentence that tells how they know.**

## Let Them Eat Cake

Mom was ready to set the table for dinner. When she went into the dining room, Jim's book was on the table. It had brown fingerprints on it. She moved his things and went ahead and set the table. After dinner, Mom went to get the chocolate cake she had baked for dessert, but there was a huge piece missing! When she went back into the dining room, she looked at everyone seated around the table. Then she asked Jim how he liked the cake.

**Mom knew who had eaten the cake. How did she know?**

There was a piece of caking missing.  
She looked to see who had eaten the least for dinner.  
She remembered the brown fingerprints on Jim's book.



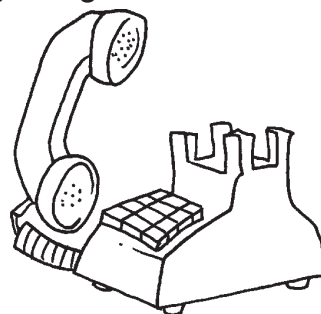
1. \_\_\_\_\_

## Who's Calling?

The four children shouted goodbye to their dad as they left for a friend's house. They were all going to ride their bicycles. Later, Dad went into the garage to get the rake and noticed that one of the bikes had a flat tire. In a while, Mom yelled out to him that one of the children had called and needed a ride home. Before Mom told him which one of the children called, Dad said, "I'll go pick up Maria."

**How did Dad know Maria needed a ride home?**

Maria had told him she would need a ride before she left.  
The bike in the garage with the flat tire was Maria's.  
Maria's bicycle had been stolen.



2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Bonus:** Give three reasons Maria's bicycle could have a flat tire. Use complete sentences.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Sometimes people seem to know something without being told. How do they know? Read each story carefully. Think about the answer choices. On the line, write the sentence that tells how they know.**

### The Laundry

One of Lee and Kim's chores is to do the laundry. They are supposed to sort, wash, dry, fold, and hang the clothes. One day, their mom noticed a lot of clean laundry crumpled in a pile on the bed. As soon as she put her hand on the pile, she realized it had been there only a moment and Lee or Kim would soon finish their job.



**How did their mom know the laundry had been there for only a moment?**

She felt with her hand that the laundry was still warm from the dryer.  
The clean laundry was on the bed.  
The laundry was crumpled in a pile.

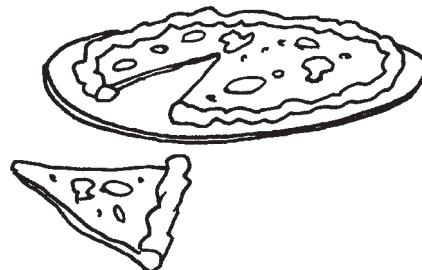
1. \_\_\_\_\_

### Pizza

Lee and Kim agreed with their mom that they would heat a small pizza in the oven when they got home from school. After they had eaten the pizza, they would clean up. Then they would go to the park with friends. Later that afternoon, their mom came home from work. As she walked into the kitchen, she saw no sign of any mess. "Hmmm," she said, "the children have eaten and they've gone out to play."

**How did their mom know the children had come home, eaten pizza, and gone out to play?**

She came home at 4:00 P.M.  
She could smell the aroma of pizza.  
The oven was still warm.



2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Bonus:** Do you have jobs to do at home? Write at least three complete sentences about your least favorite jobs.