

FREE FALL-THEMED READING GAME FOR 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS

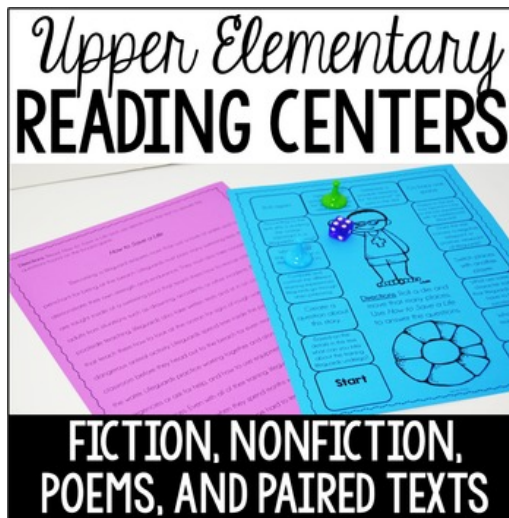


ABOUT THIS FREEBIE

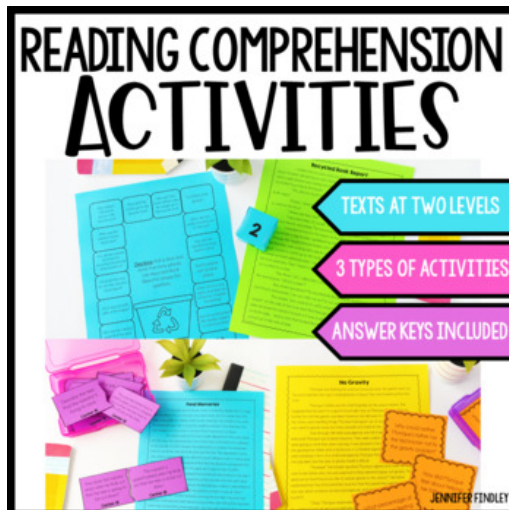
This exclusive free resource includes a nonfiction reading game on the topic of fall. The text is written at a 4th/5th grade reading level and the questions are general comprehension questions.

WANT MORE READING GAMES AND CENTERS?

[Reading Centers- This set reviews grade level skills and standards, such as theme, text structure, etc.](#)



[Fiction Reading Comprehension Activities - This set includes fiction stories and asks general reading comprehension questions.](#)



Options for Use

Option 1: Copy the passage, and give the copies to the students at the beginning of the week. Have the students read the passage prior to going to the center. Then when they come to the center, they are ready to play the “game”. The passage could even be read as a whole group, sent home for homework, or read in a small group.

Option 2: This option works well if the students will have a chance to go to the center three times a week. On the first day or two, students will read the passage and discuss it. On the second or third days, the students will “play” the game.

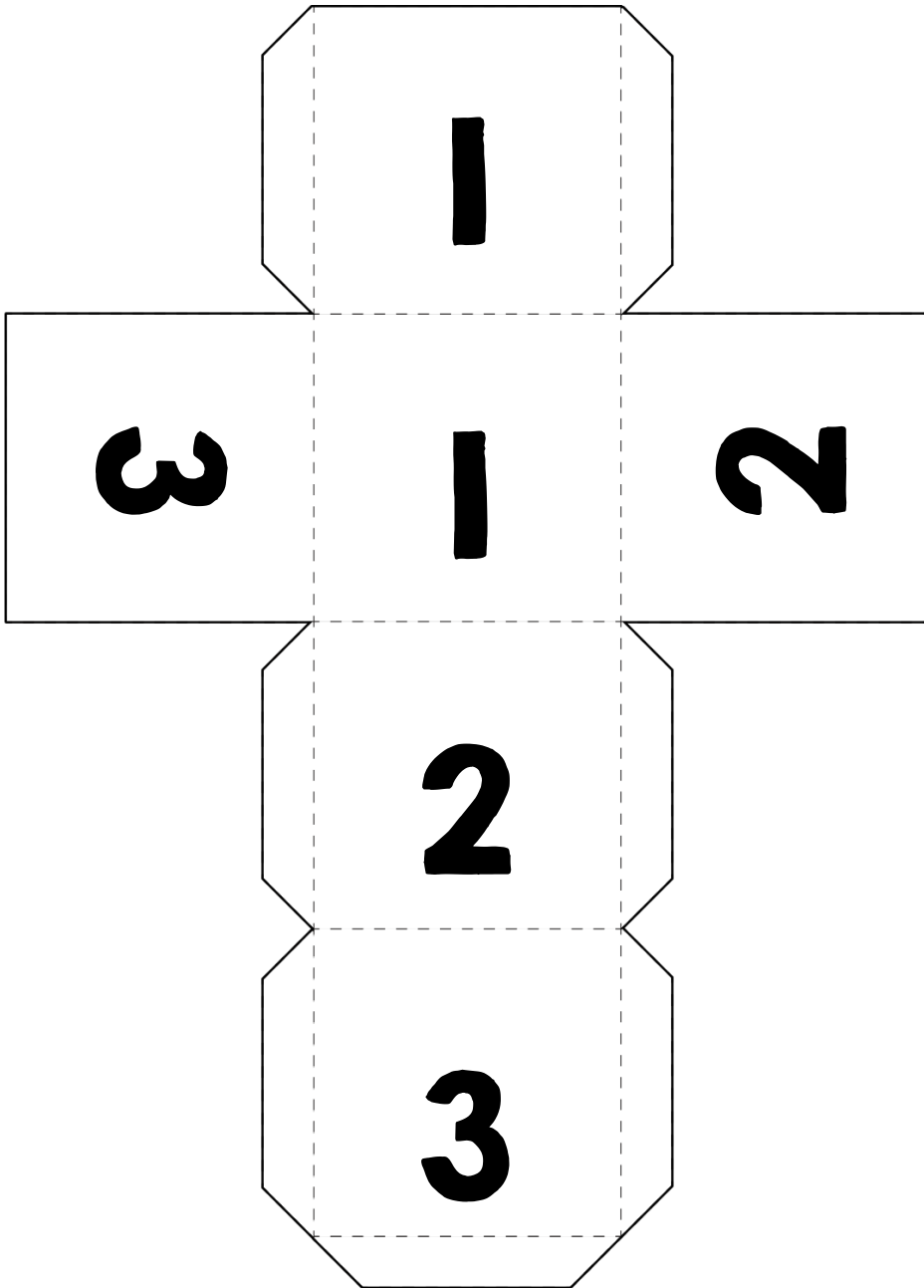
Options for Playing the Game

Option 1: Have the students take turns rolling and moving that many places. Have the student who rolled answer the question, while the other student listens and adds to the answer before checking the answer.

Option 2: Have the students take turns rolling and moving that many places. However, have both students answer the question in a written format before discussing.

Option 3: Have both students roll and move that many places. Then both students write the answers to their questions at the same time before discussing with each other.

**Use the cube on the following page to have the students move more slowly across the board, answering more questions.



Use this die if you want your students to move more slowly across the board.

Fall

People love fall for different reasons. Some people love Halloween and Thanksgiving. Others love the fiery leaves. Some people just like switching from shorts to sweaters when the crisp air rolls in.

Fall begins on the autumnal equinox. This is one of the two times a year when the Sun crosses the Equator (the other is the first day of spring). On an equinox, the day has 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness. Some people think that this always occurs on September 21. It's always around this date, but the equinox isn't a set date. Why? It's because Earth's voyage around the Sun isn't *exactly* 365 days. This imprecision means that our calendar has to shift accordingly.

The terms *fall* and *autumn* are used pretty interchangeably. However, "fall" is more common in the United States, and "autumn" is more common in Britain. "Autumn" is popular in the US for a different reason. It's been in the top 100 baby names for decades. "Autumn" comes from the ancient Roman name for the season. "Fall", meanwhile, comes from just what you think... People referred to the time of harvest as the "fall of the leaf". This was eventually shortened to "fall".

Before both of these terms arrived, "harvest" was the most common word for this season. It was, after all, when crops were harvested. For a long time, most people were farmers. When this started to change, so did the name.

Fall's most striking feature is the fiery colors of the leaves. Where do they come from? Well, it's not simply that these new colors show up in the fall. It's that the green pigment disappears. As temperatures drop and less light is available, leaves produce less chlorophyll. This reveals the oranges and yellows that we associate with autumn (or fall or harvest, whichever you prefer).

What term is more popular for this season in Britain?

For what other reason is Autumn popular in the United States?

Where does the term "fall" come from?

Go back one space.

What term is more popular for this season in the United States?

What was the most common term used for the season before fall and autumn?

What happens on an equinox?

What does the author mean by "fiery colors of the leaves"?

When does fall begin?

Directions: Roll a dice and move that many places. Use the text to answer the questions.

Switch places with another player.

Go ahead one space.

What evidence from the story suggests that leaves don't actually change color?

What are some reasons why people love fall?

Create a question that could be answered using the text.

START

FINISH



Fall

Fall: Recording Sheet

Fall

Name: _____ Date: _____

Question	Answer
What are some reasons why people love fall?	
When does fall begin?	
What happens on an equinox?	
What term is more popular for this season in the United States?	
What term is more popular for this season in Britain?	
For what other reason is Autumn popular in the United States?	

Fall: Recording Sheet

Fall

Name: _____ Date: _____

Question	Answer
Where does the term "fall" come from?	
What was the most common term used for the season before fall and autumn?	
What does the author mean by "fiery colors of the leaves"?	
What evidence from the story suggests that leaves don't actually change color?	

Fall: Answer Key

Question	Answer
What are some reasons why people love fall?	Some people love the holidays of Halloween and Thanksgiving, while others love the beautiful leaves or the weather change/outfit change.
When does fall begin?	Fall begins on the autumnal equinox, which is around September 21.
What happens on an equinox?	The sun crosses the Equator, and we have 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness.
What term is more popular for this season in the United States?	Fall is the more popular term in the United States.
What term is more popular for this season in Britain?	Autumn is more popular in Britain.
For what other reason is Autumn popular in the United States?	Autumn is popular as a baby name in the US.
Where does the term "fall" come from?	The term "fall" comes from the phrase "fall of the leaf", which is associated with the harvest.
What was the most common term used for the season before fall and autumn?	Before fall and autumn, "harvest" was the most common word used for the season.
What does the author mean by "fiery colors of the leaves"?	The author is referring to the different colors of leaves during the fall. The colors (red and orange) are the colors of fire.
What evidence from the story suggests that leaves don't actually change color?	"Well, it's not simply that these new colors show up in the fall. It's that the green pigment disappears. As temperatures drop and less light is available, leaves produce less chlorophyll. This reveals the oranges and yellows that we associate with autumn."

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