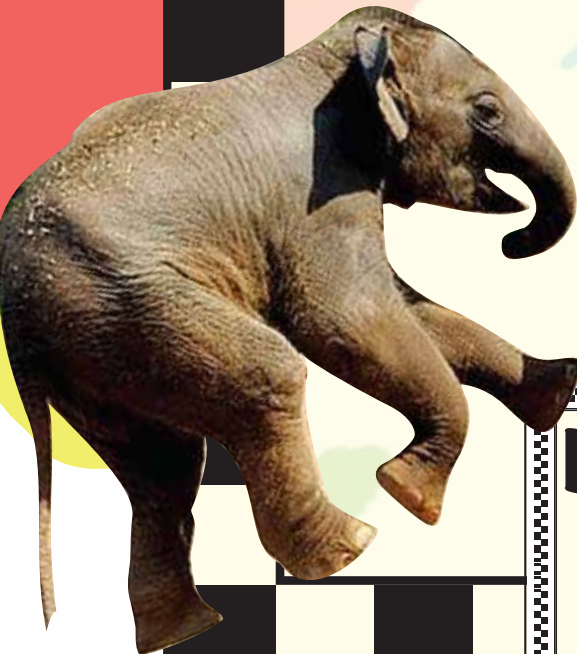




FAMILY

FUN!

PACKET



Imagine That!
Stories
Free Supplemental
Lesson Pack 2

HELPFUL ADVICE

These are *Imagine That!* and Visualizing and Verbalizing® (V/V®) workbook stories that can be used with any program of instruction to develop imagery for language comprehension, and can be used with the Visualizing and Verbalizing program. Although these stories have been written at specific grade levels, you can use them with other grade levels as you feel is appropriate. Each story features a main idea or topic to be imaged, and then provides detailed imagery for the topic. While sentences or paragraphs may contain much concrete detail that can be imaged, others contain abstract concepts.

It is recommended that you start with the vocabulary to help students both with decoding and with imaging new words and concepts. While reading the story, be sure to ask imagery questions to elicit detailed imagery from the student. Some example imagery questions have been provided for you.

Once you have completed each story, move on to the imagery-stimulating questions. These are main idea, inference, conclusion, evaluation, and prediction questions. The order of the higher order thinking questions is such that they stimulate students' thinking first about the gestalt and then about the details of the story. Some questions may include contrast or introduce additional information, from which the students can extend their thinking about the story. It is not necessary to ask every question, but be sure you ask enough that your student has the gestalt of the story.

Additional activities are provided in the form of puzzles, pictures, and further exploration of the subject or topic.

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For more information on the Visualizing and Verbalizing program, *Imagine That! Stories*, and other Visualizing and Verbalizing products, go to GanderPublishing.com.

Preread words for each story:

1	robust intact undaunted	sideshow remarkable	4	mythical invincible warrior	struck ordinary
2	mahouts staged steer	commands college	5	cockpit astronaut ignite	atmosphere orbit
3	burrows venom daring	tourists fangs	6	keepers staring paintbrushes	canvas

Study and visualize the vocabulary:

robust: very healthy, with lots of energy (*adj.*)

intact: whole, not broken or damaged (*adj.*)

undaunted: determined, not scared off by difficulty or danger (*adj.*)

sideshow: a small show, fair, or circus (*n.*)

remarkable: worthy of attention, easily noticed (*adj.*)

mahouts: people who work with, ride, or take care of elephants (*n.*)

staged: put on a show for an audience (*v.*)

steer: to control the direction of a car or animal (*v.*)

commands: orders or directions to do something (*n.*)

college: a school for higher learning, often after high school (*n.*)

burrows: holes or tunnels in the ground where animals build their homes (*n.*)

venom: poison in some animals such as snakes, insects, and scorpions (*n.*)

daring: adventurous, risky, or courageous (*adj.*)

tourists: people who travel to another place for pleasure or vacation. (*n.*)

fangs: large, sharp teeth (*n.*)

mythical: occurring in legends or stories, not real (*adj.*)

invincible: too strong to be killed or harmed (*adj.*)

warrior: a trained soldier or fighter (*n.*)

struck: to be hit by (*v.*)

ordinary: regular or normal; having no special features (*adj.*)

cockpit: the front area of a spacecraft, often where the pilot sits (*n.*)

astronaut: a person who pilots a spacecraft into outer space (*n.*)

ignite: start a fire or an engine (*v.*)

atmosphere: the layers of gases that surround planet Earth (*n.*)

orbit: go around an object in space in a circular path, as a planet goes around a sun or a moon around a planet (*v.*)

keepers: people who take care of animals (*n.*)

staring: looking at someone or something for a long time without looking away (*v.*)

paintbrushes: a brush used to apply paint to another surface (*n.*)

canvas: a strong, rough cloth used for sails, tents, or paintings (*n.*)

Tip: Use *Picture to Picture* or *Word Imaging* steps to reinforce vocabulary.



Mike the Headless Chicken

Mike the rooster lived a dull but comfortable life on a farm until one day in 1945 when his owner tried to chop off his head. Mike had grown into a large, robust bird, and his owner went out one night to kill him for dinner. The farmer tried to chop off Mike's head with an axe, but he swung too high on the neck. The blow left one ear and Mike's brain stem intact. To the farmer's surprise, Mike was still alive, though he was missing most of his head. Mike stood up, shook out his feathers, and strutted into the barn. For the next eighteen months, Mike the headless chicken lived a life of fame.

Mike's owner felt guilty for what he had done to the rooster. He had scientists from a nearby university examine Mike, and they reported that the bird was very healthy and pain free. He could continue to live a fairly normal life without his head, though the farmer would need to feed Mike grain and water using an eyedropper. Rumors of the headless chicken spread through the local town of Fruita, Colorado. Residents flocked to catch a glimpse of the amazing bird. They were shocked to see the undaunted rooster "peck" at grain scattered on the ground. Mike would even groom his own feathers with the top of his neck.

Since Mike was drawing such a crowd, the farmer took him on tour. People would travel for miles and pay twenty-five cents each to see the rooster, now nicknamed Miracle Mike. But one night, as Mike was resting from a long day starring in a sideshow, he started to choke. Sadly, Mike died that evening, and his now-loving owner was devastated. Mike's death also saddened the residents of Fruita, Colorado. The town has since decided to hold a festival every May to celebrate the life of the remarkable rooster. People play games and eat great food in honor of brave Mike, the headless chicken.

From what you pictured...

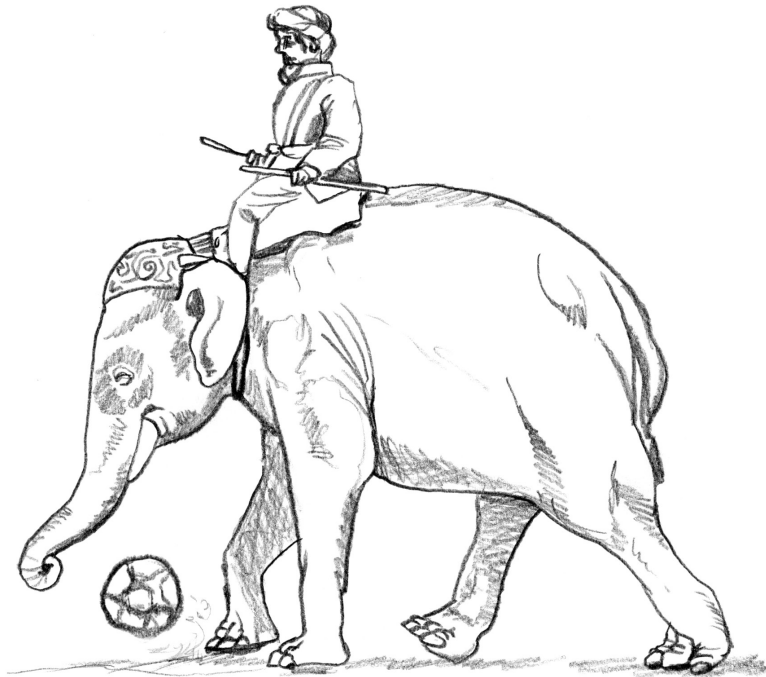
1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Why do you think the farmer did not try to kill Mike again, as soon as he saw that his first ax blow had not killed him?
3. Why do you think the farmer had to feed Mike with an eyedropper?
4. Why do you think so many people wanted to see Mike?
5. Why do you think Mike would still "peck" and groom himself even though he was missing his head?
6. Would you have wanted to see Mike the headless chicken? Why or why not?

Thunder Kicks

Just for fun, a college in Thailand staged a soccer game of students against elephants. Men known as *mahouts* sat on the necks of the elephants and shouted commands to steer them. The college students played barefoot and tried to keep the oversized soccer ball away from the beasts. The elephants often “cheated” by picking up the ball with their trunks and carrying it across the field to kick it at the goal. The game ended in a tie, the teams scoring three points each.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Why do you think they played the game with an oversized ball?
3. Do you think the elephants would have done as well in the game without the mahouts? Why or why not?
4. Why do you think the students played barefoot? Why not wear cleats?
5. Why do you think it would be important for the students to keep the ball away from the elephants? Do you think this was hard? Explain.
6. Do you think the students ever picked up the ball and carried it during the game? Why or why not?
7. Do you think the students were scared when they tried to take the ball away from the elephants? Why or why not?



A Leggy Mouthful

People in Cambodia think fried jungle spiders make a tasty snack. Spider hunters dig the hairy black creatures from their burrows. They stuff the palm-sized spiders in a sack and carry them to town. There local cooks first squeeze the venom out of the spider's fangs. Then they fry the spiders whole in a sweet sauce over a wood fire. The cooks walk down crowded streets carrying trays piled high with fat, piping-hot spiders. They sell them to other locals and a few daring tourists, who nibble the crispy legs and bite into the soft, squishy bodies.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Why do you think locals buy fried spiders?
3. Do you think the cooks sell a lot of spiders, or just a few? Explain.
4. Why do you think the cooks squeeze the venom from the spiders' fangs?
5. Why do you think they fry the spiders in a sweet sauce?



Achilles' Heel

Strong Achilles was a mythical Greek hero who could not be killed in battle like ordinary men. Legend says that soon after Achilles' birth, his mother held his heel and dipped her baby into a magic river. The water made him invincible, except for the heel his mother had held him by as she dunked him in the water. Achilles grew up and joined the Greek army, where he became famous as an unbeatable warrior. He won all battles until a single arrow struck his heel, the only spot not safe, and the hero fell dead.

From what you pictured...

1. Why do you think Achilles' mother dipped him in the river?
2. Do you think Achilles' mother wanted him to be a warrior?
3. Why do you think Achilles' heel wasn't protected by magic?
4. Do you think Achilles liked being invincible? Why or why not?
5. Why might Achilles have become a Greek hero?
6. Why did it only take one arrow to kill Achilles?



Trip Into Space

A space shuttle sits on a launch pad, ready for its next space mission. It points up at the sky, attached to a tall orange fuel tank and two thin white rockets. The crew of astronauts sit strapped in their seats in the shuttle's cockpit. Each astronaut wears an orange space suit and a helmet. The pilot talks on his radio to the people in launch control. At the end of a countdown, the rockets ignite. The shuttle blasts off the launch pad and thunders up into the sky.

The space shuttle roars up through Earth's atmosphere and out into space. On the way, the two white rockets die out and fall off. Then the shuttle flies with its own rocket engines, using all the fuel in the orange tank. Then the tank pops off and falls back to Earth. The speeding shuttle then shuts down its rockets and begins to orbit the earth. The astronauts float out of their seats and change into simple flight suits. They laugh and play as they get ready to work, kicking off walls to fly through the air.

The space shuttle opens its cargo bay doors and docks with the International Space Station. The shuttle crew and the station crew greet and pass back and forth through an airtight tunnel. They move fresh food and supplies from the shuttle to the station. Then they move trash from the station to the shuttle. They also work on science projects together for days. Then the shuttle crew says goodbye and leaves the station.

The shuttle astronauts shut the cargo bay doors and strap into their seats, ready for the trip home. The shuttle drops toward Earth and enters the atmosphere. It streaks through the sky, slowing down as it heads to a long runway. The pilot steers the shuttle and lowers the landing gear. The shuttle touches down and speeds along the runway. A small parachute opens behind it. At last the shuttle rolls to a stop, and the crew's trip is over.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. What do the astronauts move through the tunnel?
3. Why does the space shuttle need two rockets and a fuel tank to launch?
4. From what you pictured, why does the tunnel connecting the space shuttle and space station need to be airtight?
5. Why do the crews move trash from the station to the shuttle?
6. Are the astronauts happy or sad that their trip is over? Explain.

Elephant Fun!

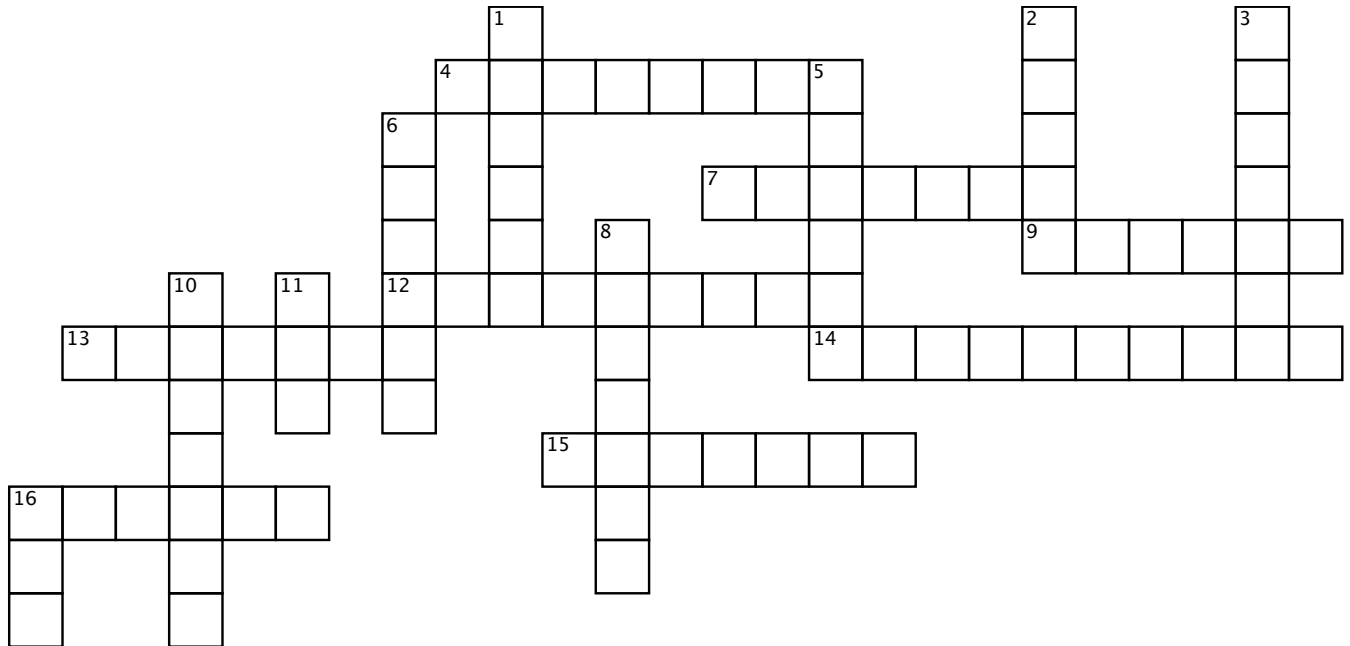
In a zoo, keepers saw the elephants standing and staring at the walls of their pen all day. So the keepers put some carrots inside a plastic ball and rolled it out to them. The elephants kicked the ball around the pen until it broke open, then they ate the treats that were stuck inside. Then the zookeepers gave the elephants some paint and paintbrushes. Holding the brushes with their trunks, the elephants painted on a big canvas.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. From what you pictured, why were the elephants standing and staring at the walls of their pen?
3. Why did the zookeepers put carrots inside the ball?
4. Did the elephants like having things to do? Why or why not?
5. Why is the title of this story "Elephant Fun!"?



Family Fun Crossword Puzzle



Across

4. Orders or directions to do something
7. To look at something very closely
9. Moved in a certain path by turning over and over
12. A large, light sheet strapped to a falling person or object that causes the load to fall slowly
13. To firmly press together from more than one side with one's fingers or hands
14. Severely shocked or sad
15. An important job that is done by one or more people, and involves travel
16. Very well-known by people, renowned

Down

1. A game where two teams of 11 players kick a round ball with their feet into square nets on each end of the field
2. To control the direction of a car or animal
3. A school for higher learning, often after high school
5. Put on a show for an audience
6. Placed into liquid, like water, for a short moment
8. Gaining points or goals in a game
10. Holes or tunnels in the ground where animals build their homes
11. A small area of land that is surrounded by a fence to keep animals in
16. Cook in a very hot, fatty substance like butter or oil

Family Fun Word Search Puzzle



staged
soccer
rolled

steer
fry

commands
squeeze

college
dipped

burrows
famous

devastated
mission

examine
parachute

scoring
pen

DRAWING ACTIVITY

More Elephant Fun!

Try drawing a picture an elephant might want to draw on the canvas below.

