

>>>>>>> CENTRAL MESSAGE

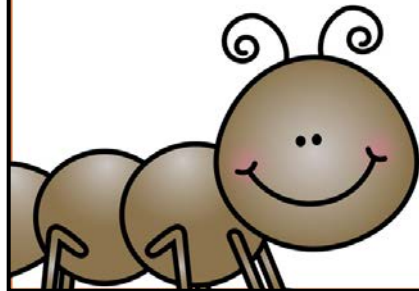
The **central message** is the lesson or moral in the story that the author wants the reader to learn.

>>>>>>> CENTRAL MESSAGE

"There is a time for work and a time for play" is a **lesson** or **moral** from the famous fable "The Grasshopper and the Ant" by Aesop.

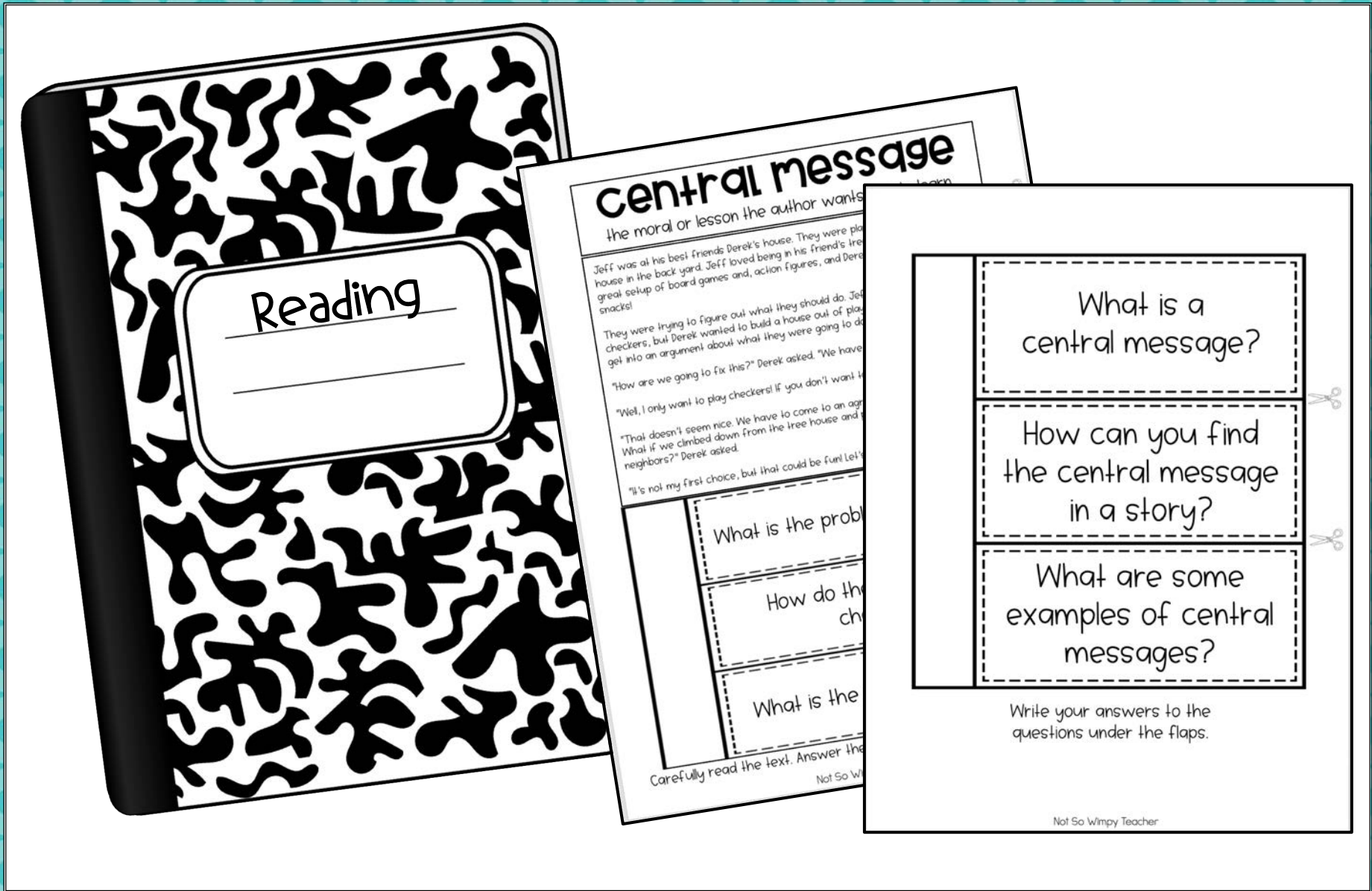
>>>>>>> CENTRAL MESSAGE

Have you ever heard the saying, "There is a time for work and a time for play"?



What do you think the saying means?

PowerPoint to Introduce the Skill



2 Interactive Notebook Activities

Fiction CENTRAL MESSAGE



CENTER ONE

Read the passage on the card carefully. Recount the story by finding the problem and the solution, and then look to see how Laney changed. Determine the central message. Write your answers in the recording book.



CENTER TWO

Read each story. Figure out the central message, or moral, of the passage. Match the story with the central message card. Write your answer in the recording book.



CENTER THREE

Read each story card carefully. Figure out the answer to the question stated on it. Write your answer in the recording book.



CENTER FOUR

Read the story in your recording book. Answer each question card. Circle the answer in the correct color in the recording book.



CENTER FIVE

- Choose a fiction picture book, and carefully read the text. Follow the directions on the center card.
- Read a new book, and answer the same question for the second book.



5 Centers with a Recording Book

WRITE ANSWERS

What problem in the story helped you
b message?

CENTER
ONE



problem you

Laney was wanting to try something new. She saw that a lot of kids in her grade were playing soccer at recess. She had never played soccer and was too scared to play with them.

"Jay, can you teach me about soccer please? Everyone at school plays, but I don't know how," Laney asked her older brother.

"Sure thing, sis! I love soccer! Let me grab my cleats and a ball, and we can go to the park!" Jay said.

They gathered their gear and went to the local park. Jay explained the point of the game and what she had to do.

Laney tried kicking the ball, but she kept missing. "This is too hard! I can't do this! I don't like this. Let's go home!" she whined.

"It's okay to not be able to do something right away! You are learning something new! It sometimes just takes longer to learn something new, but that's okay! Let's take a break and drink some lemonade, and we can try again," Jay said.

"Okay, you're right! I remember when I was learning to ride a bike. It took me a whole week to do it on my own! I won't give up!" Laney said.

2 MATCHING

CENTER
TWO



3

WORK TOGETHER.

NEVER GIVE UP.

5

Lee was making a clay pot for her mom. She was having a hard time figuring it out. She kept trying. Eventually, she got it just right. 3

A new teammate joined the basketball team. The whole team welcomed her! 5

3 WRITE THE ANSWER

CENTER THREE



4

It was Saturday. Holly woke up and was upset because they all had to go to her older brother's baseball game. She didn't want to go to the game because she didn't like baseball. Her mom kept reminding her how important family is and how they have to be there for each other . . . just like how her brother went to her piano show last week. Holly knew she was right, her brother was pretty great.

5

1

How

6

2

What is the central message?



4 COLOR ANSWERS

The Lion and the Mouse

One day, a great and mighty lion was sleeping. A little mouse came running through and saw him

CENTER FOUR



Who are the characters?
Underline the answer in blue.

How did the lion treat the mouse?
Underline the answer in green.

What is the title of the story?
Underline the answer in red.

50 READING RESPONSE

Book: _____

Recount the story.	Look at the characters.
Problem:	How did the character(s) change in the story?
Solution:	
<u>Central Message:</u>	

CENTER FIVE

- Choose a fiction picture book, and carefully read the text. Follow the directions on the center card.
- Read a new book, and answer the same question for the second book.

Recount the story, and tell how the character(s) changed. Figure out the central message. Write your answer in the recording book.



CHECK

- I completed the question.
- I restated part of the question in my answer.
- I used evidence from the text to prove my answer.
- I edited my work for spelling and punctuation.



The Bowl

Central Message

Molly hopped excitedly into her grandma's car. She loved spending time with her grandma. Every time they always made a new recipe together. They were going to make pasta tonight. Molly's grandma's house, they went straight to the kitchen to prepare.

"Have I ever shown you these bowls? My mother gave them to me when she was young. Use them tonight!" Molly's grandmas asked her. Molly admired the bowls in the garden for fresh basil.

Molly started to fill a pot with water for the pasta. She spilled some water on the floor and grabbed a kitchen towel to clean up the mess.

CRASH! Grabbing the towel somehow had knocked a bowl off the table. Molly's heart started racing. She opened her overnight bag and her grandma's bowl fell out. Her grandma came back into the house with the basil. There were no bowls. Molly hoped that her grandma wouldn't notice that one was missing. For the rest of the night, her stomach. It was then time for ice cream.

"No, thanks," Molly mumbled. She just wanted to go home. She couldn't tell her grandma.

"Are you okay?" her grandma felt her forehead. Suddenly, Molly spilled the bowl out of her bag. She couldn't keep it a secret anymore.

"I am so sorry. It was an accident," Molly said through her tears.

"Oh, Molly! Accidents happen. I am glad you were honest with me. Let's make a new recipe together. You can always tell me anything," her grandma said and Molly smiled.

1. What problem did Molly face in the story?

2. How did Molly change?

- a. helpful to mean
b. unkind to kind
c. lying to telling
d. kind to unkind

3. What's the central message of the story?

not so wimpy teacher

Swordfish and Seahorse

Central Message

Once upon a time, there was a speedy swordfish that lived in the ocean. He knew how fast he was. He bragged to all the other sea animals about his speed, challenging the other fish to races.

"I am the fastest fish in the world!" he boasted. "There is no one faster than me!"

"I challenge you," said a small seahorse bravely. "I want to race you!"

Swordfish laughed at Seahorse but agreed to the race. The two set a race path with Sea Turtle. Dolphin went to the finish line.

"Ready, set, RACE!" Sea Turtle yelled. Swordfish sped ahead of Seahorse. When he noticed a cave, Swordfish decided to stop to rest.

"That silly seahorse never should have challenged me," Swordfish thought. "I'll win the race." Swordfish fell asleep in the cave. Meanwhile, Seahorse kept swimming. Taking a break. An hour later, Swordfish woke from his nap.

"How long have I been asleep?" Swordfish wondered. Swordfish saw Seahorse approaching the finish line. There was no time for him to catch up.

"Seahorse is the winner!" Dolphin yelled loudly enough for all the other sea animals to hear. Seahorse swam back to his cave in embarrassment. The steady wins the race.

1. How did Swordfish act toward Seahorse?

2. What's the central message of the story?

- a. Be kind
b. Slow and steady wins the race.
c. Be a good friend
d. Work hard

3. How does the story's solution help you understand the central message?

not so wimpy teacher

The New PE Teacher

Central Message

George loved everything about the first day of school. He especially loved seeing Mr. Anderson the PE teacher. George couldn't wait to talk to Mr. Anderson about his baseball team's summer championship.

Mr. Anderson usually stood in the hallway outside the gym in the morning. George rushed through the front doors. He didn't see Mr. Anderson. Instead, George saw a dark-haired woman standing by the gym. George's stomach dropped. Where was Mr. Anderson? George hoped that he was just absent today.

After lunch, it was PE time. The woman was still standing by the gym door. George scowled at her.

"Hi I am Ms. Stone, the new PE teacher. Mr. Anderson got a new job in California," she said energetically.

The students started to play kickball. Ms. Stone played using different rules than Mr. Anderson. George purposely messed up when the ball came near him. He pretended that he couldn't hear Ms. Stone's directions. At the end of class, Ms. Stone called to George. He shuffled over.

"I heard you're a great baseball player. I played softball in college. What position do you play?" she asked.

"Catcher," George mumbled. He was surprised that she wasn't yelling at him for being disrespectful.

"No way! That was my position! I would love to come watch one of your games," Ms. Stone said. All of a sudden, George felt really guilty. He had been so unkind to Ms. Stone.

"I am sorry, I was being rude in class today," George said.

"Change can sometimes be scary. It can make us act a little out of it. Let's try again tomorrow. What do you say?" Ms. Stone asked as she reached for a high five. George smacked her palm and nodded his head.

1. Why was George being rude to Ms. Stone?

2. How did George change in the story?

3. What's the central message of the story?

- a. Work together.
b. Change is okay.
c. Be a good friend.
d. Be kind to others.

not so wimpy teacher

3 Passages/Assessments