MILESTONE READING SKILLS

FREE LESSON

# Citing Text Evidence

## Task cards: find the proof

GRADES 3-6

CLAIM

EVIDENCE

12 TASK CARDS | PASSAGE + KEY | ANCHOR CHART

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- Teacher page: goal, 15-20 minute plan, standards
- Illustrated anchor chart: Does it PROVE the claim?
- Guided story with think-aloud notes (Level A)
- Nonfiction passage: Curiosity: A Robot on Mars (Level B)
- 12 find-the-proof task cards + 6 challenge cards
- Recording sheet, exit ticket (two per page) and answer key

LESSON 1 · 15-20 MINUTES TEACHER PAGE

# Find the proof

## LEARNING GOAL

I can find the sentence that PROVES a claim and quote it exactly.

## THE 15-20 MINUTE LESSON

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 min | **Hook** | Anchor chart (page 3): which sentence SHOWS that Maya was cold? Why is the cold drink not proof? |
| 8 min | **I do** | Read Where Is Pip? aloud (page 4). Think aloud with the notes for sentences 4, 5, 8 and 15. |
| 5 min | **We do** | Partners: which sentence proves that Pip was happy at the park, 10 or 12? Sentence 10 has park; sentence 12 shows the feeling. |
| 3 min | **Check** | Exit ticket (page 9), two per page. |

Next day, centers or small groups: the Curiosity passage (page 5), 12 find-the-proof task cards and 6 proof-or-not challenge cards (pages 6-7) and the recording sheet (page 8). Answer key: page 10.

> **Say: A claim is an idea about the text. Evidence is the proof, in the text's own words. Same words are clues, not proof: ask, does it SHOW the claim?**

## LISTEN AND LOOK FOR

- Students point to the exact sentence and read it aloud.
- Students explain why a sentence with the same words is not proof (sentence 8: worried is what Dad said, not what Ana did).
- Students check the passage before they accept a quote (challenge card 17).

## STANDARDS (WORDING CHECKED AGAINST THE OFFICIAL COMMON CORE TEXT)

**RL.3.1 / RI.3.1** Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

**RL.4.1 / RI.4.1** Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

**RL.5.1 / RI.5.1** Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

**RL.6.1 / RI.6.1** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Common Core's reading standard 1 uses the same wording for literature (RL) and informational text (RI) at each grade; this unit uses both text types, so either prefix applies. Check your state or district document for its own wording. Written for grades 3-5; grade 6 classes can use it as a quick review.

## WHERE THIS LESSON FITS

Lesson 1 of the Citing Text Evidence Complete Unit (Grades 3-5); page 11 shows real pages from it.

# Citing Text Evidence

**Does it PROVE the claim?**

## CLAIM

A claim is an idea about the text.

Ask: which sentence PROVES it? Point to the words.

**CLAIM**

**Maya was cold.**

## EVIDENCE

Evidence is the proof, in the text's own words.

Copy it exactly, inside quotation marks.

**EVIDENCE**

**“Maya shivered and pulled her coat tight.”**

### NOT PROOF (TRICKY!)

1. Same words are not proof. “Maya had a cold drink” has the word cold, but it does not show that Maya was cold.
2. Proof comes from the text, not from what you know. “Winter is cold” may be true, but the story does not say it.
3. Prove the whole claim: “cold and hungry” needs proof for both parts.
4. Quote exactly, word for word. Your own words get no quotation marks.

Name _____

Date _____

LESSON 1 · GUIDED

# Find the proof

**Follow along as your teacher reads and thinks aloud. Then, with a partner, find the proof that Pip was happy at the park: is it sentence 10 or sentence 12?**

## Where Is Pip?

● **Level A · 170 words**

1 Ana opened the back door when she got home from school. 2 Her little dog, Pip, did not run to meet her. 3 His bowl of food still sat full on the floor. 4 The gate to the yard was open a crack.

5 Ana ran up and down the street, calling Pip's name again and again. 6 She looked under parked cars and behind the bushes. 7 Her hands shook as she taped a sign to a pole. 8 Her dad told her there was nothing to be worried about. 9 He said Pip was a smart dog who knew his way home.

10 Then Ana heard a loud bark coming from the park. 11 Pip was rolling in the grass by the swings. 12 His tail wagged so fast that it looked like a blur. 13 Ana scooped him up and hugged him tight.

14 That night, Ana put a new latch on the gate. 15 She checked it twice before she went to bed. 16 Pip curled up on her feet and fell fast asleep. 17 Ana smiled and rubbed his soft ears.

### THINK ALOUD

**4 Not what I know**
I know dogs can dig under fences. The story does not say that. It says the gate was open.

**5 Find the proof**
Claim: Ana was worried.
Proof: she ran up and down the street, calling his name.

**8 Same words only**
Sentence 8 has the word worried, but it tells what Dad said. It does not prove Ana was worried.

**15 Quote it**
Claim: Ana wanted Pip to stay safe. She “checked it twice before she went to bed.”

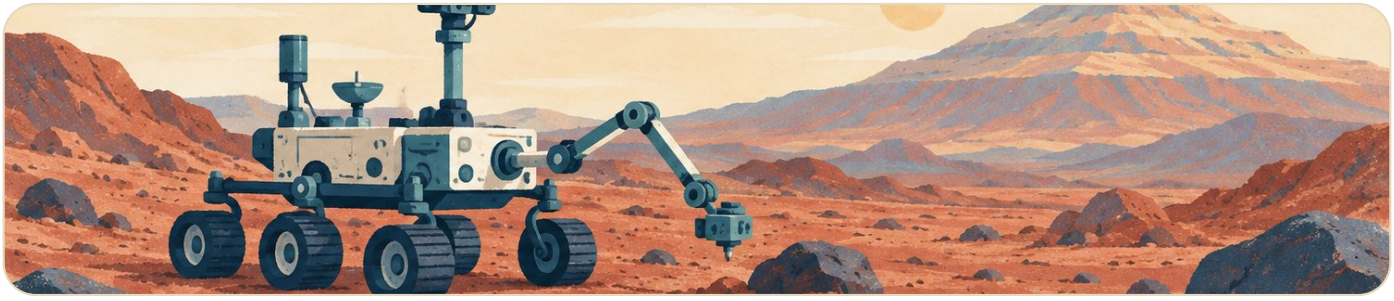
Name _____

LESSON 1 · TASK CARDS

# The passage

Date _____

Read the passage. Use its numbered sentences for the task cards.



## Curiosity: A Robot on Mars

Level B · 256 words

[1] (1) Mars is a cold, dusty desert world. (2) People often call it the Red Planet. (3) Iron in the dirt on Mars rusts. (4) The rust makes the ground look red. (5) Strong winds can stir up dust storms that cover much of the planet.

[2] (6) In 2012, a rover named Curiosity landed on Mars. (7) A rover is a robot that can drive around on another world. (8) This rover is about the size of a car. (9) It is about as tall as a basketball player. (10) When it left Earth in 2011, it was the largest rover ever sent to Mars.

[3] (11) Curiosity has 17 cameras. (12) Its arm is about 7 feet long. (13) The arm can hold tools close to rocks. (14) A drill on the end of the arm grinds rock into powder. (15) Tools inside the rover study the powder to learn what the rock is made of. (16) A laser on the rover can zap tiny spots on rocks that are far away to study them. (17) A weather station on the rover sends a weather report each day.

[4] (18) Scientists sent the rover to answer a big question. (19) Did Mars ever have the right conditions for tiny living things called microbes? (20) The rover hunts for rocks that formed in water. (21) Early in its trip, its tools found signs that parts of Mars once had the right conditions for microbes. (22) NASA missions have found lots of evidence that Mars was much wetter and warmer long ago.

[5] (23) The rover landed in a crater called Gale Crater. (24) Since then, it has driven up the slope of a mountain called Mount Sharp.

Name _____

Date _____

LESSON 1 · TASK CARDS

# Find the proof

Cut apart the cards. Read the claim. Find the ONE sentence in Curiosity: A Robot on Mars that proves it. Write its number and the proof words.

**1** **Claim: Mars looks red because of rust.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**2** **Claim: The rover can learn about a rock without touching it.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**3** **Claim: The rover landed in a crater.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**4** **Claim: Long ago, Mars may have had places where microbes could live.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**5** **Claim: A rover does not need a driver sitting inside it.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**6** **Claim: Curiosity has many cameras.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**7** **Claim: Long ago, Mars had more water than it has today.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**8** **Claim: Dust storms can cover a lot of Mars.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**9** **Claim: The rover has gone uphill since it landed in the crater.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**10** **Claim: The rover reports on the weather.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

Name _____

LESSON 1 · TASK CARDS

# Cards 11–18

Date _____

Cards 11–12: find the proof. Cards 13–18: does the evidence prove the claim?

**11** **Claim: Curiosity is not the only rover that has gone to Mars.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

**12** **Claim: Iron is part of the dirt on Mars.**

Which sentence proves the claim?

FIND THE PROOF

## CHALLENGE CARDS: PROOF OR NOT?

**13** **Claim: The rover can test rocks.**

> "Tools inside the rover study the powder to learn what the rock is made of."

Does this evidence prove the claim?

PROOF OR NOT?

**14** **Claim: The rover can take a rock back to Earth.**

> "When it left Earth in 2011, it was the largest rover ever sent to Mars."

Does this evidence prove the claim?

PROOF OR NOT?

**15** **Claim: Mars is not a warm place today.**

> "Mars is a cold, dusty desert world."

Does this evidence prove the claim?

PROOF OR NOT?

**16** **Claim: The rover is named Curiosity, and it landed in 2012.**

> "In 2012, a rover named Curiosity landed on Mars."

Does this evidence prove the claim?

PROOF OR NOT?

**17** **Claim: Curiosity has six wheels.**

> "Curiosity rolls across Mars on six wheels."

Does this evidence prove the claim?

PROOF OR NOT?

**18** **Claim: The rover has a long arm and a weather station.**

> "Its arm is about 7 feet long."

Does this evidence prove the claim?

PROOF OR NOT?

Name _____

Date _____

LESSON 1 · TASK CARDS

# Recording sheet

**Cards 1-12: write the sentence number and copy the proof words exactly. Cards 13-18: circle YES or NO; for a NO, write the reason: same words, not in text, or only half.**

**1** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**2** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**3** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**4** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**5** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**6** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**7** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**8** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**9** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**10** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**11** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**12** Sentence ☐
Proof words: _____

**13** YES NO If NO, why?
Reason: _____

**14** YES NO If NO, why?
Reason: _____

**15** YES NO If NO, why?
Reason: _____

**16** YES NO If NO, why?
Reason: _____

**17** YES NO If NO, why?
Reason: _____

**18** YES NO If NO, why?
Reason: _____

LESSON 1 · EXIT TICKET

## Does it prove the claim?

Name _____

1. **Claim: Omar was sleepy.**

   > "Omar yawned three times and rubbed his eyes."

   Circle one: **YES** **NO** If NO: ☐ same words ☐ not in text ☐ only half

2. **Claim: Rosa likes to swim.**

   > "Rosa's swim bag was too heavy to carry."

   Circle one: **YES** **NO** If NO: ☐ same words ☐ not in text ☐ only half

3. **Write a claim about Ana or Pip. Copy the sentence that proves it, in quotation marks.**

   Claim: _____

   Proof: _____

_____

cut

MILESTONE READING SKILLS · CITING TEXT EVIDENCE

LESSON 1 · EXIT TICKET

Does it prove the claim?

Name _____

1. **Claim: Omar was sleepy.**

   > "Omar yawned three times and rubbed his eyes."

   Circle one: **YES** **NO** If NO: ☐ same words ☐ not in text ☐ only half

2. **Claim: Rosa likes to swim.**

   > "Rosa's swim bag was too heavy to carry."

   Circle one: **YES** **NO** If NO: ☐ same words ☐ not in text ☐ only half

3. **Write a claim about Ana or Pip. Copy the sentence that proves it, in quotation marks.**

   Claim: _____

   Proof: _____

_____

ANSWER KEY

# Lesson 1

TEACHER PAGE

## CARDS 1-12: FIND THE PROOF (SENTENCE NUMBER AND WHY)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Card 1** | **4** | Sentence 4: The rust makes the ground look red. |
| **Card 2** | **16** | Trap: Sentence 15 shares more words (learn, rock), but its tools study rock powder. The laser in 16 studies rocks from far away. |
| **Card 3** | **23** | Sentence 23: The rover landed in a crater called Gale Crater. |
| **Card 4** | **21** | Trap: Sentence 22 shares long ago, but it is about water. Only 21 is about the right conditions for microbes. |
| **Card 5** | **7** | Trap: Sentence 15 shares rover and inside, but only 7 says a rover is a robot, so no one sits inside to drive. |
| **Card 6** | **11** | Sentence 11: Curiosity has 17 cameras. |
| **Card 7** | **22** | Sentence 22: NASA missions have found lots of evidence that Mars was much wetter and warmer long ago. |
| **Card 8** | **5** | Sentence 5: Strong winds can stir up dust storms that cover much of the planet. |
| **Card 9** | **24** | Trap: Sentence 23 shares landed and crater, but only 24 says it has driven up the slope of a mountain. |
| **Card 10** | **17** | Sentence 17: A weather station on the rover sends a weather report each day. |
| **Card 11** | **10** | Trap: Sentence 6 shares Curiosity, rover and Mars, but only 10 (the largest rover ever sent) shows other rovers went too. |
| **Card 12** | **3** | Sentence 3: Iron in the dirt on Mars rusts. |

## PROOF-OR-NOT CARDS 13-18: A NO NEEDS ITS REASON

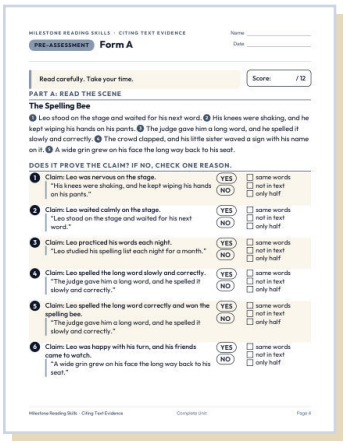
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Card 13** | **YES** | proof: its tools study rock powder |
| **Card 14** | **NO - same words** | It shares rover and Earth, but leaving Earth does not show it can bring a rock back. |
| **Card 15** | **YES** | Only Mars matches the claim's words, but cold proves it is not warm. Proof can use other words. |
| **Card 16** | **YES** | proof of both parts: the name and the year |
| **Card 17** | **NO - not in text** | It shares Curiosity, six and wheels, but the passage never says it. Evidence must be words the text prints. |
| **Card 18** | **NO - only half** | It shares arm and long, but it proves only the arm. The weather station needs its own proof (sentence 17). |

## EXIT TICKET (WHERE IS PIP? ONLY)

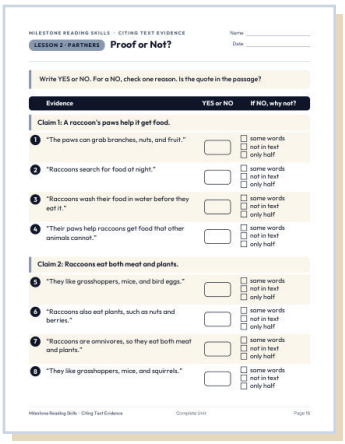
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | **YES** | Only Omar matches the claim's words, but yawning and rubbing his eyes show he was sleepy. |
| **2** | **NO - same words** | It shares Rosa and swim, but a heavy bag does not show that Rosa likes to swim. |
| **3** | **Sample** | Claim: Pip did not eat his dinner. Proof: “His bowl of food still sat full on the floor.” |
| **Cards** | **Scoring** | Accept the sentence number with words copied exactly from that sentence; accept another sentence only if the student shows how it proves the whole claim. |

# Citing Text Evidence Complete Unit · Grades 3-5

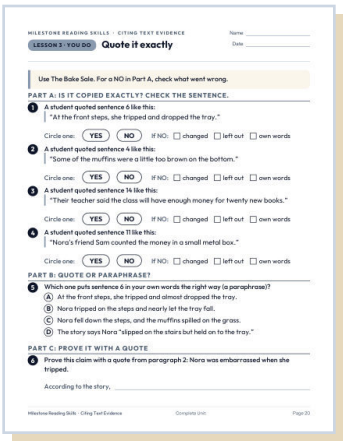
Real pages from the unit (reduced):



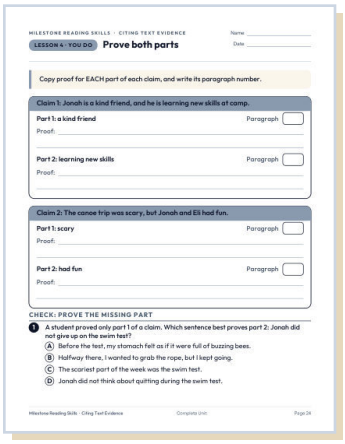
**Pre-assessment, Form A**



**Lesson 2: Proof or Not? chart**



**Lesson 3: quote it exactly**



**Lesson 4: prove both parts**

**Lesson 5: Level C passage**

**24 more task cards**

## WHAT THE FULL UNIT ADDS TO THIS LESSON

- 4 more lessons in gradual release: proof or not, quote it exactly, prove both parts of a claim, and a show-what-you-know finale
- 6 more original passages at three measured reading levels (150 to 270 words), level and length printed; the finale puts one topic at all three levels
- Pre- and post-assessment in parallel forms (12 points each) with a class tracker
- 24 more task cards with a recording sheet, including trap cards where the same words mislead
- 3 small-group reteach cards for the most common mix-ups, mapped to the test items
- Exit tickets for Lessons 1-4 and an answer key for every page

**Explore the complete unit on Milestone Teachers:**

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**TOMORROW: THE THREE MIX-UPS AND WHAT TO SAY**

**Same words.** Ask: does this sentence SHOW the claim, or does it only share a word? Read the claim again, then the sentence.

**Not in the text.** Ask: can you point to these exact words? If not, it is what you know, not evidence.

**Only half.** Ask: how many parts does the claim have? Find proof for each part.

**Next step.** Sort the exit tickets into got it, almost and not yet. Give the almost pile one new claim and two sentences to choose from, aloud.


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