

Text Evidence Lesson Script

Script

Welcome to ELS 100 where we discuss our basic English Language Arts skills.

For today's less we're discussing text evidence, which is how we answer the question "How do we know our answer is right when we ask a question?"

Let's start by talking about the three little pigs. If someone were to ask, "how did the wolf knock down the little pigs' homes" what would you answer?

We know the wolf huffed and he puffed and he blew the first two houses down, but he wasn't able to knock down the last house. We know this because the story tells us this. This is an example of text evidence.

Text evidence is information from the text that proves our answer to a question is right. Some examples of text evidence include what the text says, illustrations/pictures, captions, and any graphics they include like timelines and maps.

The best way to cite text evidence is to use sentence stems like, "According to the text,..." "The author says..." "In the illustration," "On page _____, the author says,..."

Now let's read the Tale of Peter Rabbit to practice answering questions with text evidence.

Once upon a time there were four little Rabbits, and their names were—

Flopsy,

Mopsy,

Cotton-tail,

and Peter.

They lived with their Mother in a sand-bank, underneath the root of a very big fir-tree.

"Now, my dears," said old Mrs. Rabbit one morning, "you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don't go into Mr. McGregor's garden: your Father had an accident there; he was put in a pie by Mrs. McGregor."

"Now run along, and don't get into mischief. I am going out."

Then old Mrs. Rabbit took a basket and her umbrella and went through the wood to the baker's. She bought a loaf of brown bread and five currant buns.

Now let's answer the question, Why did Peter's mom tell her children to stay away from the garden?

If I look back at the story I can answer by saying, "According to the text, Peter's mom said this because Mr. Rabbit, Peter's dad had an accident there and ended up in a pie."

Now let's answer some questions together so we can practice using text evidence. Remember to use text evidence in your answer.

"Where did Peter's mom go?"

(Pause to allow students time to find the answer)

Now how will we start our answer?

(Pause)

That's great! Yes we can start our answer with "On page 1, it says"

So our answer should say, "On page 1, it says that she went through the wood to the baker."