Inferences and Predictions Worksheet



Working out what is not said, and what happens next.

MASTERED BY
Simple picture inferences from about 4

ITEMS
61

Name: _____ Date: _____

An inference is an answer the text or the picture does not give you directly. "The girl is holding an umbrella and her coat is wet" does not say it is raining, but that is the answer. A prediction is the same skill pointed forwards: what is about to happen, given what you can already see. Both need the child to hold several clues at once and put them together, which is why they come after literal WH-questions rather than beside them.

What to expect: A child who is not ready usually says "I do not know", or takes the clue literally - asked why the boy is rubbing his tummy, they may say it is itchy. That is not a wrong answer so much as a sign the child has not yet joined the clues together. Say the clues back in a row and let the child make the last step: "his plate is empty, and he is rubbing his tummy..." Expect the guess to arrive before the reason does, and the reason to come with practice.

Picture: The Board Game

Look at the whole scene. Ask what might be happening and which details support the idea. Accept another sensible answer with evidence.



1. Why did the game stop? Find the clue that the others are looking for.

2. The girl in purple is leaning down and pointing. What has she found? How do you know?
3. The boy is holding a game piece and smiling. Whose turn do you think it is, and why isn't he upset?
4. The girl in yellow has her chin in her hands. How do you think she feels about waiting? What clue tells you?

Picture: The Backpacks

Let the child compare details before answering. A useful answer names the clue, not just a guess.



5. The two blue backpacks look almost the same. How could two children tell which one is theirs?
6. Why might someone have clipped a charm onto a backpack?
7. Look at the yellow coat. Which boots probably go with it? What clue helps?
8. All the coats are on the hooks and the boots are under the bench. Where are the children probably?

Picture: At Recess

Ask for a possible idea and the visual clue. The children could have different plans, so let the answer stay uncertain.



9. Who probably drew the hopscotch? How can you tell?
10. The girl is holding the jump rope out toward the boy. What might she be asking?
11. The boy may want to do something else. What is it, and what clue tells you?
12. How could they plan it so they both get to play what they want?

Picture: The Art Table

Talk about what each child can see. Predict what may happen next and how the group could respond.



13. Which paint spilled? How do you know?
14. Who has not noticed the spill yet? What clue tells you?
15. Why is the boy reaching up to the shelf?
16. Why is the girl on the right lifting the corner of the paper?

Picture: The Squirrel

Look at the whole picture first. Ask what the squirrel and the bird might be thinking, and which clues tell you.



17. The squirrel already has an acorn. Why might it still want the bird feeder?
18. Look at the ground. Has the squirrel been here a while? What are the clues?
19. The feeder looks empty. What might have happened to the seeds?
20. Look at the little bird. How does it feel about the squirrel, and how can you tell?

Picture: The Quiet Corner

There is no single correct guess about the reader. Ask what the reader can and cannot hear, and how the builder could find out what he want



21 The girl is holding a block house and talking toward the reader. Can the reader hear her? What clue tells you?

22 Why might the reader have picked the beanbag corner with headphones?

23 Who might the empty blue chair be for?

24 What could the builder do so the reader knows he is being asked?

Who Am I?

Read one short clue card aloud. Ask who it might be and which detail helped. Accept another answer when the clues support it.

25 My hands are dusty with flour. I take warm rolls out of an oven before the shop opens. Who am I?



26 I put a sticker on a book, then tell you when to bring it back. I help people find books. Who am I?



27 My truck stops at many houses. I put letters into little boxes by the doors. Who am I?



28 I bring tools to fix a pipe that drips under the sink. Who am I?



29 I look at a dog's hurt paw, then tell its family how to help it heal. Who am I?



30 I wear a helmet and climb a ladder when an alarm rings. I help keep people safe. Who am I?



31 People tell me where they need to go. I drive a bus and stop to let them on. Who am I?



32 I look at teeth with a little mirror and ask you to open wide. Who am I?



Where Am I?

Read one short clue card aloud. Ask where it might be and which clue helped.

33 I see a huge screen. The lights go down and people stop talking. Where am I?



34 I give someone my card so I can take a book home. Tall shelves are all around me. Where am I?



35 I put my shoes in a cubby. I hear splashing and smell the water. Where am I?



36 I wait on a bench with my bag. A train sounds its horn before it reaches me. Where am I?



37 I put my backpack away. A bell rings and everyone takes out pencils. Where am I?



38 I sit at a table and look at a menu. Someone writes down what I want and brings me my food. Where am I?



39 I feel sand in my shoes. I hear waves before I see the water. Where am I?



40 I hold a ticket. A big wheel turns above me and I hear people cheering. Where am I?



What Am I?

Read the short riddle aloud. Ask what it might be and which clue helped.

41 I follow you on a sunny day. When you move, I move too. What am I?



42 I keep your head dry when rain falls. You can fold me when the sun comes out. What am I?



43 I ring when it is time to wake up. You can press a button to make me quiet. What am I?



44 I have pages and pictures. You can borrow me and bring me back. What am I?



45 I soak up water from your hands. I hang near the sink. What am I?



46 I have two wheels and pedals. You may wear a helmet to ride me. What am I?



47 I carry the food you bring to school. You open me when it is time to eat. What am I?



48 I melt if you leave me in the sun. I make your drink colder. What am I?



When Is This?

Read one short clue card aloud. Ask when it might be and which detail helped.

49 The sky is pale. I am eating breakfast before the bus arrives. When is this?



50 Orange leaves blow across the path. Everyone zips their coats. What season might it be?



51 The last bell rings. Children put their papers in bags and head for the door. When is this?



52 Candles are on a cake. Friends gather to sing to one child. What might they be celebrating?



53 The sun is low. Streetlights come on while we finish dinner. When is this?



54 New notebooks are by the door. School starts again tomorrow. When is this?



What Happens Next?

Read a short situation aloud. Ask what might happen next and why. Accept another sensible prediction supported by the clues.

55 Dark clouds cover the picnic. One person folds the blanket while another grabs the basket. What might happen next?



56 A cup is full to the top. A dog lies across the path to the table. What might happen next?



57 The block tower leans to one side. A child puts one more block on top. What might happen next?



58 Someone left the door open. The family cat stands beside it, looking outside. What might happen next?



59 A kite dips toward a tree. Its string pulls tight. What might happen next?



60 A child carries a tall stack of books. One book starts to slide from the bottom. What might happen next?



61 A ball rolls toward a puddle. A child runs after it in clean shoes. What might happen next?



Answer Key

Picture: The Board Game

1. The dice fell off the table; it is on the rug by the table leg
2. The dice; it is on the rug, and she is pointing right at it
3. Probably his turn; he is ready to move and knows the dice will be found soon
4. Happy and patient; she is smiling while she waits

Picture: The Backpacks

5. By the charms: one has a star and one has a heart
6. So they can find their own bag fast and nobody takes the wrong one
7. The yellow boots; they match the coat
8. Inside, in the classroom; they took off their coats and boots when they came in

Picture: At Recess

9. The boy; he is holding a piece of chalk next to it
10. If he wants to jump rope with her
11. Play hopscotch; he drew it and is kneeling beside it with the chalk
12. Take turns: jump rope first, then hopscotch

Picture: The Art Table

13. Blue; the cup is tipped over and blue paint is running across the paper
14. The girl on the left; she is still painting and looking at her brush
15. To get paper towels to wipe up the paint
16. To keep the blue paint from running onto more of the painting

Picture: The Squirrel

17. It wants different food, or more food; the seeds may taste better
18. Yes; there are lots of broken, empty acorn shells, so it has been eating
19. The squirrel, or other animals, may have eaten them already
20. Upset or worried; it is chirping with lines around its head and watching the squirrel

Picture: The Quiet Corner

21. Probably not; the reader is wearing headphones
22. He wants a quiet break to read or listen to a story
23. A friend who could come and build, maybe the reader

24. Walk over, wait for him to look up or gently tap his arm, then ask

Who Am I?

25. A baker
26. A librarian
27. A mail carrier
28. A plumber
29. A veterinarian
30. A firefighter
31. A bus driver
32. A dentist

Where Am I?

33. At the movies
34. At the library
35. At a swimming pool
36. At a train station
37. At school
38. At a restaurant
39. At the beach
40. At a fair

What Am I?

41. A shadow
42. An umbrella
43. An alarm clock
44. A book
45. A towel
46. A bicycle
47. A lunchbox
48. Ice

When Is This?

49. Morning
50. Fall
51. The end of the school day
52. A birthday
53. Evening
54. Just before school starts

What Happens Next?

55. They may leave before it rains
56. The person may step around the dog or spill the drink
57. The tower may fall
58. The cat may go outside
59. The kite may get caught in the tree
60. A book may fall unless the child catches it
61. The ball or shoes may get wet