

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

READING ESCAPE



6 PASSAGES

READING #1

...sent Lewis and Clark ... wild west. Then ... Oregon, ... Trails. Many settlers ... gold, riches, and ... roads were already built ... sizes, so nothing ... transcontinental railroad ... in 1830 with Asa Whitney. ... means across a continent. ... a risky way to travel, roads ... dirt and the journey lasted ... s. If a train was able to carry ... more people could make the ... ker with less work and hardship. ... the steam train was introduced ... States. The steam engine was a ... way to travel long distances, and it ... ke a much better way than wagons ... country needed was a railroad track

DECODER

A = G =
 B = H =
 C = I =
 D = J =
 E = F =

READING #2

READING #3

The two companies raced to meet in the middle. Both the Central Pacific Railroad and the Union Pacific Railroad Company were promised land and money for every mile of track their company completed. The railroad companies earned ten square miles of land next to the track for every mile of completed track. They earned ten more miles for the next mile of track - on the opposite side. The railroad companies then sold this land to settlers to earn a profit.

The government gave the Central Pacific \$16,000 for every mile of track built. The Union Pacific was given \$48,000 for every mile of track built.

The companies began work in 1862 because of the progress of the war.

DECODER

READING #4

In 1869, the two crews were getting closer and agreed upon joining their tracks at Promontory Summit in Utah. That point was 690 track-miles from Sacramento and 1,086 miles from Omaha.

DECODER

READING #5

Indigenous groups thought that the "iron horse" (railroad) would interfere with their life. Railroad workers sent sharpshooters to remove the buffalo. Native Americans hunt buffalo for food, clothing, and more. The Cheyenne sabotaged part of the rail line. The Sioux dismantled rail lines. The Union Pacific ultimately hired the Pawnee to force other Indigenous groups away from the track.

Both railroad companies had to find ways to lay their tracks through mountains. The Central Pacific Railroad had to get through the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California and the Union Pacific Railroad had to get through the Rocky Mountains in Wyoming. In order to find ways through the mountains, the workers used dynamite to blast through the rock. They made it, but it was hard work for the men that were working for the railroad companies. They could only blast through about one foot per day.

DECODER

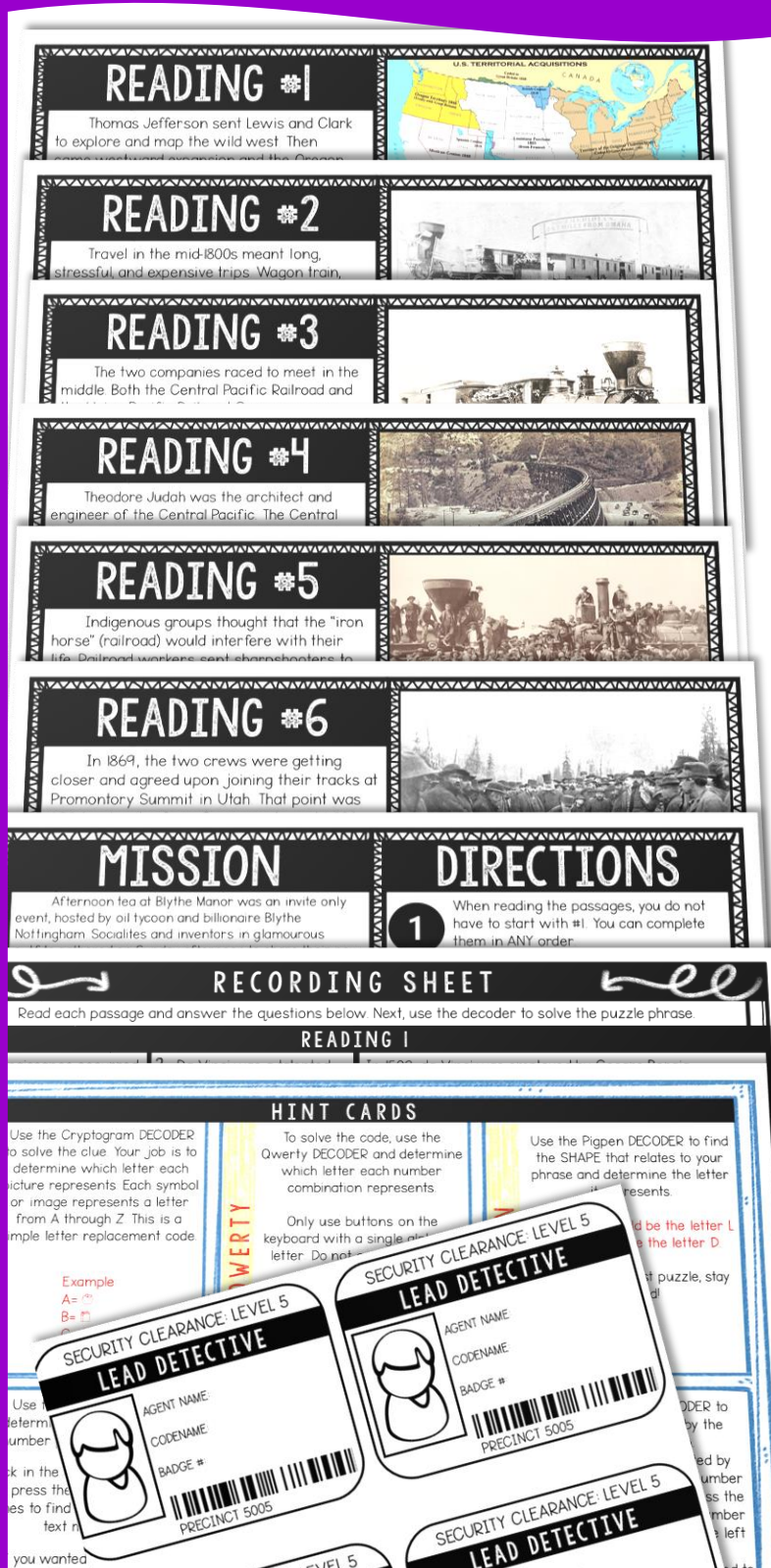
A	B	C	J	K	L
D	E	F	M	N	O
G	H	I	P	Q	R
S			W		
T	U	V	Y	Z	

READING #6

DECODER

1	2	3
D	B	E
K		H
	P	N
T	R	Q
Z	X	V

WHAT'S INCLUDED?



- ✓ 6 Half page passages
- ✓ 6 Puzzle decoders
- ✓ 12 Multiple choice Q's
- ✓ Teacher guide
- ✓ Answer key
- ✓ Student directions
- ✓ Hint cards



PUZZLE TYPES

The image displays a variety of educational resources. On the left, several 'DECODER' cards are shown. One card features a grid of letters: 1 (I), 2 (ABC), 3 (DEF), 4 (GHI), 5 (JKL), 6 (MNO), 7 (PQRS), 8 (TUV), 9 (WXYZ). Another decoder card shows a keyboard layout with examples: 'Example: 3-7 = M' and 'Example: H = R'. A third decoder card is an 'ATBASH WHEEL' with letters arranged in a circular pattern. A fourth decoder card is a 5x5 grid with letters: Row 1: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; Row 2: D, B, E, I, C; Row 3: K, H, J, F; Row 4: P, N, O, M; Row 5: 3, 4, T, R, Q, S; Row 6: 4, T, R, Q, S; Row 7: 5, Z, X, V, W.

On the right, there are reading worksheets. 'READING 1' includes questions: '1. Who sent Lewis and Clark to explore and map the wild west?' (options: Washington, Marshall, Jefferson, Lincoln) and '2. When was the train introduced in the United States?' (options: 1830, 1840, 1850). 'READING 2' includes a question: '4. How long did the Pony Express last?' (options: 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, 2 years). 'READING 3' includes a question: '6. Railroad companies earned ___ per year on the high plains.' (options: \$16,000, \$32,000, \$48,000, \$60,000). There are also some scribbled-out numbers like 'bbb-777-8-777-' and '1-1-2-6-3 E E 3' and '2-4,1-9,1-7'.

Stationery items include a purple and teal pen, a pink highlighter, and a black pencil holder containing several yellow pencils and a red and green marker.

**USE THE
DECODERS TO
SOLVE PUZZLE
PHRASES!**

NO PREP!

u're as smart
ou say you
s solve the
les and I w
urn your pri
money!

ENTER



SCAM



PRECINCT
#5005



HOW IT WORKS

ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1

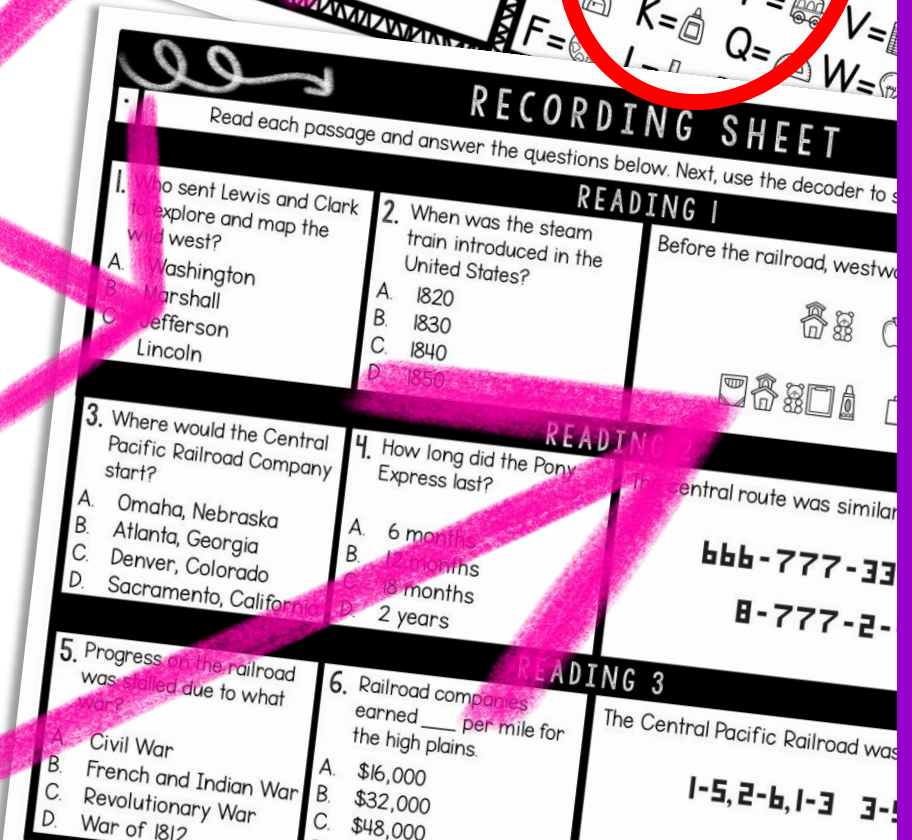
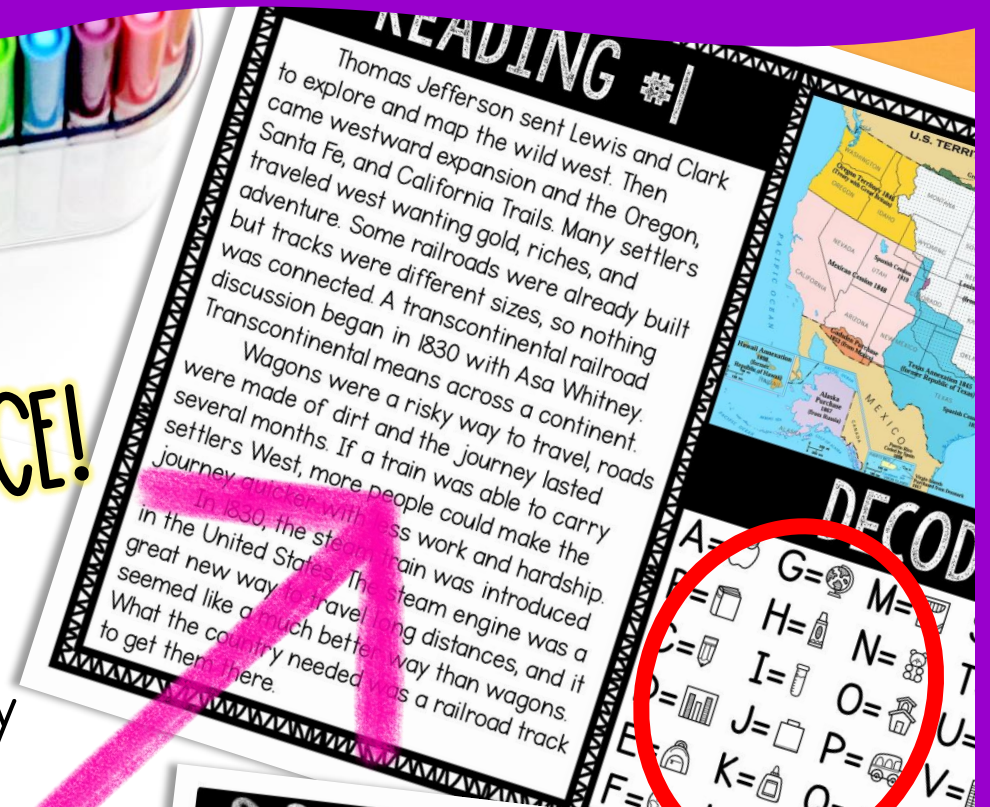
Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit SIX reading stations.

2

Students will answer the questions related to that passage on their recording sheet.

3

Students will use that specific “decoder” to reveal a “clue” about the topic.




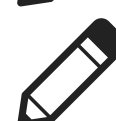


BENEFITS & USE



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  UNIT REVIEW
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  NO PREP
-  PRINT AND GO
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING