



FOLLOWUP RESOURCES for GRADES 3-5

Thank you for participating in Studio Time ELA with Mr. B! Here are some ideas you can use with your students to keep the lessons we learned together fresh in their brain when test time comes! Don't forget that you can watch the song your students created ANYTIME on YouTube using the link your Arts Rep was provided!

JELLYBEAN or STARBURST?

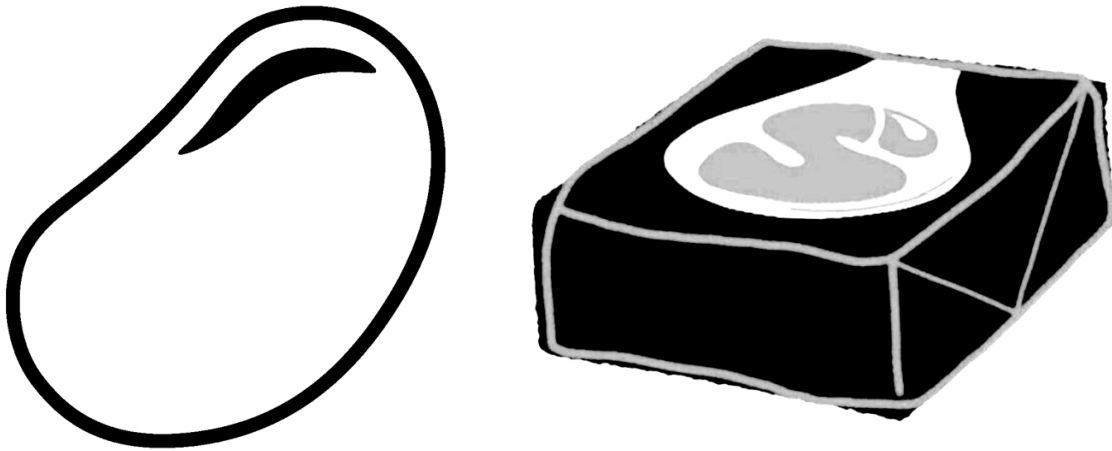
There are only two types of questions your students will ever be asked in ELA:

- 1) **A JELLYBEAN** – This means the answer has already been given to them, they just have to find it in the text. Examples of this include:
 - a. Questions which require them to check their spelling with words in the text.
 - b. Questions which ask them to refer back to the text to find their answers.
 - c. Any other question that they can find directly in the text without any inference required.
- 2) **A STARBURST** – These questions require them to “unwrap” an idea or concept before arriving at the final answer. Examples of this include:
 - a. Using context clues to discover the meaning of a word or phrase.
 - b. Visualizing what's happening in the text.
 - c. Figuring out the theme of a story.
 - d. Any other question that they must dig deeper to answer rather than simply copying their answer from the text.



FRAMING THEIR RESPONSE

To help them begin to internalize this, you can use icons before each question. This will tell them whether their answer is already provided in the text, or if they need to think deeper to come up with a conclusion on their own.



EXAMPLE

- What types of animals does Old Mr. B have on his farm? _____
- ☐ Why did Mr. B decide to help the chicken cross the road? _____

Using these icons tells your students HOW to approach the question before even attempting to SOLVE the question. Once you feel they have a good understanding of which questions are jellybeans and which are starbursts, have them tell you.

- _____ What types of animals does Old Mr. B have on his farm? _____
- _____ Why does Mr. B decide to help the chicken cross the road? _____

Having them draw the icons lets you see what their mindset is while attempting to answer the question. If the icon is incorrect, you already know that they don't understand what they are being asked or how to approach the question.

Using this system is like taking a peek inside their brains as they take a test. You can see exactly where their mental process is working correctly, or where it is getting off track so you can adjust your teaching as needed!