

Topic Detective

Students listen to short informational texts and find the topic and key facts.

ELA.1.R.2 "Reading Informational Text"

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 OWL FACTS _____

a	Bats	Owls	Birds
b	Swim	Hop	Sleep
c	Eyes	Wings	Tails

2 PUMPKIN FACTS _____

a	Apples	Pumpkins	Leaves
b	Vines	Trees	Sand
c	Stone	Cloud	Flower

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each short informational text aloud before students mark the rows. Read every choice aloud, then ask students to tell which words in the text helped them choose the topic or a detail.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • OWL FACTS

SAY “Listen to this informational text: Owls are birds. Many owls sleep in the daytime. At night, they use their big eyes and sharp hearing to find food. For each row, circle your answer, then tell me which words from the text helped you choose.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	What is this text mostly about? Read the choices with me: bats, owls, birds. Which word names the topic? Circle it.	Owls
b	What did the text say many owls do in the daytime? Read the choices with me: swim, hop, sleep. Which detail did you hear? Circle it.	Sleep
c	What did the text say helps owls find food at night? Read the choices with me: eyes, wings, tails. Which detail did you hear? Circle it.	Eyes

PART 2 • PUMPKIN FACTS

SAY “Listen to this informational text: Pumpkins grow on vines. A pumpkin starts as a flower. Pumpkins can be orange, white, or green. For each row, circle your answer, then tell me which words from the text helped you choose.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	What is this text mostly about? Read the choices with me: apples, pumpkins, leaves. Which word names the topic? Circle it.	Pumpkins
b	Where did the text say pumpkins grow? Read the choices with me: vines, trees, sand. Which detail did you hear? Circle it.	Vines
c	What did the text say a pumpkin starts as? Read the choices with me: stone, cloud, flower. Which detail did you hear? Circle it.	Flower

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Part 1 answers are Owls, Sleep, and Eyes. Part 2 answers are Pumpkins, Vines, and Flower; accept an oral explanation that connects each selected fact to its text topic.